

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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Republican Party Leadership

PERHAPS one of the most striking changes at Washington is the emergence of President Harding from his retirement in the executive office as "the leader" of the Republican party.

With the assistance of the vice president, the president, functioning with the titular leader of the senate (Senator Lodge) has succeeded in coming to an understanding with the Republican majority that augurs for better teamwork at Washington in the months ahead.

Here is a notable distinction between the function of the president as the boss of the house and senate. In the senate President Harding has "come to an understanding" with Senator Lodge by the terms of which the two men will run the senate as it should be run.

But in the house there is not a single Republican congressman with brains enough to be a party leader, according to the high administration authority, so the president was compelled to supply the lack by becoming himself the Republican party leader in the lower house of congress.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon has also overlooked Congressman Riddick's activity, strange to say. He notified congress the other day, that they would have to cut down their appropriations by a quarter of a billion dollars during the coming year if he was to get by.

Our Foreign Debtors FOREIGN governments owe the United States government, loans totaling in principle and interest, about eleven billion dollars. This money was spent with us in purchasing goods during the war.

ment, foreign government bonds. Some of these bonds are not worth very much on the cash markets of the world. Some of them are perfectly good. Fortunately, the bulk of them are from countries like Great Britain, Belgium, France, Italy. But there are others of less value in the markets of the world and some of no value at all.

Just imagine the howl that would have gone up from congress if the Wilson administration had asked to be given a free hand to do what they liked with this great debt due the United States without consulting congress. Yet, we believe that such authority should be granted the administration and we hope that the Democrats in congress will not oppose it, though the temptation to do so must be apparent, because the Republicans are now trying to do just what they denounced President Wilson for doing—trying to settle delicate questions of international importance without calling congress and a brass band in to assist in the negotiations.

Some of the senators and even some of the Republican senators, are opposed to this. They seem to distrust their president and party leader and fear that he will be too lenient in the collection of the debt of certain countries they dislike, or that he will not collect the full pound of flesh. For our part, we are willing to trust the president and his secretary of the treasury in this matter. As they will have to give a full accounting later to congress, it will be time enough then to criticize their actions if they deserve criticism.

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AT A DINNER given to the advertising manager of the shipping board, on Thursday evening, Admiral Benson, in a tribute to the guest of honor, described him as the man who made America ship-minded. It is not enough to wish for a first-class merchant marine. Ships and trading in the seven seas must be brought home to the people, and they must put their money on the shipping board's 1,400 vessels to win. It would be the concern of the shipping board to substitute private for government operation by a gradual and effective process. Ships will be turned over to responsible companies on an equitable arrangement, and in the end the companies will own the ships. In thirty Norway, one of the leading trading nations, everybody is interested in ships, cargoes and balances. Stock in shipping companies is widely distributed. It is the pride of the prospering Norwegian to take shares. Otherwise Norway would not be the successful trading nation it is.

The New York Times gives utterance to the above sentiments. It would seem to us that if the

The Haskin Letter

By FREDERICK J. HASKIN

PICTURES BY A WRITER.

Washington, D. C., August 1.—Painting by a well known author are being exhibited here. The urge to paint struck Sherwood Anderson, the novelist, one intense day, and forthwith he sent for paints and a brush and went to work to preserve some of his most colorful thoughts on paper.

As a result he dashed off an intriguing collection of paintings as anyone could wish to moon over. We say intriguing guardedly. The thoughtful observer hesitates to pronounce cubist, semi-cubist, and post-impressionist art beautiful, funny, or hideous. It is even risky to speak of it in the pet language of the critics as vigorous, sympathetic, cold, or brilliant. But in intriguing, the ultra-modern art undeniably is.

After half an hour in company with "Family Reunion," "A Tired Sea," "God's Flyswatter," and the rest of the collection, a person may feel mentally perturbed, but one significant fact is clear enough—namely, that cubism did not die—as many people suppose—when the nude depicted the nude case and passed on. Rather, art uncontrolled is still persistently holding its own against a giggling world.

The Anderson collection, consisting of about 20 paintings, hangs for the present in the Wayfarers Book Shop. The pictures are small, about 18 inches by 12, and framed simply in narrow wooden frames. They are hung in small groups, at a convenient level, so that a buyer of books can sit on a bench and bask in art while waiting for his change. His impressions, if he is uninitiated into the aims and emotions of cubism are apt to be something like those of a couple bent on getting some sense out of the pictures.

"A Tired Sea"—huh, it does look sort of tired with the waves down falling around on top of each other. Wonder why the whale in the corner is sitting on his spine. He must be tired, too.

"Painter's Pegasus"—this is one of those cubist things. He's got something that would pass for a gray fish with his mouth open in this, too. But I suppose it's not that at all. Maybe an X-ray picture of an emotion. See the way the colors are put on in folds like a twisted scarf—green, yellow, pinkish red—and all tinged with gray. Wonder if that's any clue?

"An American City"—now that's rather attractive. I've seen rows of houses, like that, grimed with smoke and with the sky just that smoky blue color.

"The Queen Walks by the Sea"—well, this wins the hand carved pine cushion. Large streaks of blue and brown—and orange, and turquoise and pale yellow; and two things that might be leaves, if leaves were blue, on one side. If there's a sea in that arrangement of paint, it's completely disguised. Come on.

Thus the world that likes pretty pictures dismisses the subjective art. An adept With Words. Sherwood Anderson's paintings are interesting because, whether he can paint or not, the critics soon time and agreed that he can write. And when a man analyzes human nature as expertly, and writes of it as vividly as Anderson does, it is certain that no vacant mind is back of the weird streaks and blobs of color.

Whether he has achieved real art, however, is another matter. It is unlikely that the painter himself is concerned with this momentous question. He regards his pictures as adventures in form and color. It has given him pleasure to produce them because spontaneous self-expression is always a delight. When the impulse to create comes, he thinks it should be gratified. Even if the result is not art, there is no reason why a man should not paint, dance, or write poetry for the pleasure of expressing himself.

The novelist has at least one convert to his theory. His wife, musician, had, we are told, always regarded the arts as formidable. But, convinced by her husband's arguments and by the interest in his new form of self-expression, Mrs. Anderson has taken up modeling as a pastime.

shiping board desires to make American citizens "ship minded," that is of a mind to invest in ships as a means of making money, they are taking a poor way to do it in presenting a balance sheet showing hundreds of millions of dollars lost in the operation of the ships it has and asking for a government appropriation to make the loss good. People in this country with money to invest are not likely to invest in either ship transport or land transport as long as both shipping and railroads show red ink in big figures on their annual balance sheets. We will become "ship minded" when we see that investments in ships will pay good dividends, and not until that time.

One way to cheat the undertakers: Stand in the sun two minutes and be cremated.—Nashville Tennessean.

Again the kaiser showed that he is like other people. He paid his taxes under protest.—Indianapolis News.

Swiss glaciers are being melted rapidly by the heat. In this way they have nothing on the family iceboxes.—Minneapolis Journal.

About the only thing that cannot be accomplished by wireless now is getting a drink of hard liquor.—Indianapolis News.

Sherwood Anderson's attitude toward art is further explained in a note which accompanies his exhibition: "There are certain things that haunt the mind. They cannot be expressed in words except through the poet who occasionally raises the power of words beyond the real possibility of words.

"I am not a musician, but it is not unlikely that what I have tried to do in form and color is related to the impulse of the musician.

"Some months ago I was in the south and in a very colorful country. Before my house lay a bay—an outlet for the Gulf of Mexico. There had been heavy rains up country and the red soil was washed down into my little bay. The bay became red. The morning and afternoon light falling on it made a color that I had never touched with a brush I sent for brushes and paints.

"The adventures are my inner reason for the things seen about me. They are done in the faith that an impulse needs to be strong enough to break through technical training. In fact technical training might well destroy the impulse.

"To you that may be ugly, meaningless or beautiful. No doubt all of my inner thoughts and impulses—like you to some ugly, to others meaningless, and to you at a convenient level, so that a buyer of books can sit on a bench and bask in art while waiting for his change. His impressions, if he is uninitiated into the aims and emotions of cubism are apt to be something like those of a couple bent on getting some sense out of the pictures.

"The Peoria Transcript (Ind.) declares steadily by the governor, stating that "to defend him would be criminal" and "to defend him unnecessary," concluding "that all that remains for the citizen to do is to reserve judgment, remembering that Len Small is a governor of the state of Illinois and that it is the duty of every good citizen to be loyal to the governor."

In any case, "if disgrace is to come to the state of Illinois," through the conviction of two fictitious men, "the majority of the voters of the commonwealth have themselves to blame," says the Sioux City Journal (Iowa) for "the recommendation of the Thompson-Ludwin card of Len Small should have been warning enough."

After studying the Anderson pictures, this artist found the purely abstract, cubist pictures the most praiseworthy. Why? The artist explained by pointing objects in a post-impressionistic manner, his lack of technique became glaring. Almost any amateur could do similar work.

Regarding the abstractions, Mr. Throckmorton said: "If you admit the modernist premise of creating the spiritual emotion by dissociating art from any concrete form, form, or site, instances he has succeeded—in 'The Queen Walks by the Sea' and the 'Painter's Pegasus,' for example."

He added that the artistic novelist seemed to have a talent for abstract painting, but probably would rank rather high, if he kept on working.

The SPIRIT of AMERICA

DAILY EDITORIAL DIGEST

Prepared Exclusively for The Tribune Today's Subject:

PRESS TRIES GOVERNOR SMALL. Indictment of Governor Small of Illinois for alleged misuse of the state funds when he held the office of treasurer has stirred up comment from the east, west and south, as well as the prairie states themselves. For the most part, the newspapers seem to think that if the facts are as stated, the governor and his associates are bound to suffer political death, whether or not they are found technically guilty of crime.

Whether the indictments are supported or not," says the Philadelphia Public Ledger (Ind.), "they will come as a crippling blow to the staggering Small-Thompson prestige" and "with Chicago turning finally and definitely against Thompson; with the man he made governor under indictment, and the political party that he has led all over the state, 'Thompsonism' is all set for a bad year in 1922." Granting that "an indictment is by no means a conviction," the Roanoke (Va.) Times-News (Dem.) feels that the development will shake the state of Illinois and will quicken the movement gradually taking shape to smash the Thompson machine into junk at the first opportunity."

Regarding the matter from the legal side the Springfield Republican (Rep.) declares that "if the facts are as alleged, Small and Sterling have apparently violated the spirit if not the letter" of the Illinois constitution which plainly asserts that the state treasury shall not "receive for his own use any fees, perquisites or other compensations." If, then it is that he and his companions "have feathered their own nests at the state's expense," whatever the courts may decide "as to the technical legality of the alleged transaction the 'political assassination' which the governor charges is being attempted has been fairly earned. Taking a similar view the Des Moines Capital (Rep.) says that even if the facts are established the accused men may "get out of it on a technicality" but "they will

never establish themselves in public opinion" by such a means. The Chattanooga Times (Ind. Dem.) goes a step further, and while admitting that "Governor Small is entitled to a suspension of judgment" nevertheless "his reputation is marked and his usefulness as a governor will have been seriously impaired."

Minneapolis Tribune (Rep.) also recognizes the fact that the officials may have been "within the letter of the law," but, it asks, "even if, under legal tolerance, they appropriated amounts of money that should have gone in all morals and conscience into the public treasury, what shall be said of their conception of public service?" Though they may have been no "malfeasance" the New York World (Dem.) considers "the methods used in banking the money of Illinois taxpayers revealed by the jury's report are in themselves an invitation to fraud."

The New York Post (Ind.) is of the opinion that merely "unethical" though not illegal practices are enough to give political machine that has arisen in Illinois in a generation.

The fact that this hate exists and because of the bitter fight "between the Landin-Thompson machine and the Lowdenites" cause the New York Times (Ind. Dem.) to feel that "outlander friends of good government, necessarily sympathizing with the opponents of the machine are more bound to be guardedly in their comments on the indictments." Declaring that the concrete cause of the trouble to the lack of sympathy with the governor and his attorney general the Rock Island Argus (Dem.) points out precedents for the "loose methods" disclosed. It says: "If the full facts were brought to light it would be possible to go back over the records of the past years, it probably would be discovered that Messrs Small and Sterling, allowing that they did proceed with treacherous stipulated salaries, did not more than the majority of their predecessors had done, taking for granted they were entitled to appropriate all margins on loaned state money beyond a rate acceptable to the state."

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Forest Fires Bother Kalispell District

Kalispell, Aug. 5.—Fire Chief Kenneth Wolf, of the local forest office, took a crew of fire fighters to Trego Wednesday night to fight a fire which broke out there Wednesday. The fire started at about 11:30 p.m. and it was feared that the wind would cause it to spread.

A fire on the south fork of the Flathead river was reported to the forestry office Wednesday night and an urgent call for 25 men was sent in, but a later report stated that the fire was under control. However, the crew is being held in readiness should the situation change.

A small fire on Lost creek, 12 miles northwest of Kalispell, broke out Wednesday night and Fire Chief Boorman, of the Northern Montana Lumbermen's association, went to investigate.

Kalispell Astounds Its Rip Van Winkle

Kalispell, Aug. 5.—After an absence of 25 years, A. B. Aley, who was railway mail clerk on the first mail car that ever came to Kalispell—which arrived here on the morning of Nov. 2, 1896—returned to the city Thursday afternoon visiting with the old timers. Mr. Aley made his headquarters in Kalispell for a few years after the inauguration of railway mail service in 1898, to make his home in Spokane. He later left the mail service, but recently returned and came over to Whitefish on a run near Columbia Falls, Thursday afternoon, with his automobile overturned in the ditch. He was found by some telephone linemen who took him to Columbia Falls and notified the garage here.

Dr. Griffin was rushed to the scene and it was stated that Aley was in a serious condition, and might not live. An attempt will be made to bring him to Kalispell.

Auto Overturns; Mechanic Injured

Kalispell, Aug. 5.—Barney Ash, a mechanic in the employ of the Flathead Motor Sales company, of Kalispell, was found lying unconscious on the road near Columbia Falls Thursday afternoon, with his automobile overturned in the ditch. He was found by some telephone linemen who took him to Columbia Falls and notified the garage here.

Dr. Griffin was rushed to the scene and it was stated that Aley was in a serious condition, and might not live. An attempt will be made to bring him to Kalispell.

Dies Despite Special Train to Hospital to Relieve Appendicitis

Special to The Tribune. Conrad, Aug. 5.—A. A. Hunter of Valier, passed away at the Conrad hospital Wednesday morning after a short illness. The previous week he was brought here from Valier on a special at 3 o'clock in the morning. Thursday for Roland Watson, secretary of the Kiwanis club of Idaho Falls, Idaho, whose wrecked automobile was found partially submerged in the river off a thirty foot embankment in Weber canyon. Arrangements were made to close the gates of a dam to lower the level of the stream.

Mr. Hunter was one of Valier's prominent men socially and in a business way. About two years ago he took over the furniture store and undertaking business of G. F. Hunter, his father, retired, now living in Great Falls. Dr. Hunter, a dentist, also living in Great Falls, is a brother. The body was shipped this morning to Great Falls for burial.

CONRAD RESIDENTS BACK FROM GLACIER PARK TRIP

Special to The Tribune. Conrad, Aug. 5.—Ashford Locke of the Orpheum theater and H. E. Richards, county treasurer, returned Wednesday from a two-weeks auto trip to Glacier park. Many different cities in Idaho and Yellowstone park were also visited.

Miss Ann Norvel, of Butte, is spending her vacation at the home of her aunt and uncle, Miss J. Rochester and John Rochester.

To obtain power from tides an American Englishman catches the rising water in basins and makes it operate electric generators when it falls.

SEARCH FOR WATSON. Ogden, Ut., Aug. 5.—Members of the Elks lodge and the Kiwanis club of Ogden, were to assist in the search Thursday for Roland Watson, secretary of the Kiwanis club of Idaho Falls, Idaho, whose wrecked automobile was found partially submerged in the river off a thirty foot embankment in Weber canyon. Arrangements were made to close the gates of a dam to lower the level of the stream.

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