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A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.

By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily for The Washington Herald.

FOR TODAY. Be guided by your hopes today, And disregard your fears, And let your lips all smiling gay Deny your inner terrors;

Congratulations, Brooklyn! Apparently, the war correspondents have given up Verdun as a bad job. Also, Germany.

"Latest Zeppelin Raid a Failure," says a headline. Have any of them been what might be called a success?

Atrocities continue. The British are shooting down defenseless Zeppelins hovering over London without spreading nets to break their fall.

The Little Father certainly is striving to be an efficient Big Brother to the Little Slavs of Roumania. But the Little Father's efforts are not exclusively beneficent.

With U-boats still sinking merchant ships, Zeppelins still bombing London and the Germans still attacking Verdun, the war bids fair soon to take on the tone of monotony.

If the warring nations continue to borrow money from American financiers, Wall Street may have a louder voice in the peace arrangements than London would desire.

Constantine apparently concluded the allied ways were so thoroughly greased that immobility no longer was possible, in spite of German sand scattered at the starting point.

"St. Paul would have made good, says John D.," a headline reads. The generally accepted belief is that St. Paul made good to a considerably greater extent than Mr. Rockefeller.

"Any dead issue is live enough for Wilson and Hughes to debate," according to Allan L. Benson, Socialist candidate for President. Well, they might debate Mr. Benson's fitness for the Presidency.

"Hold-ups have now received 'the sanction of the judgment of our government,'" is the Chicago Post's comment on the robbery of an express train near Detroit and the passage of the Adamson bill.

Senator Walsh, the Wilson campaign manager at Chicago headquarters, says Hughes could have killed the "eight-hour law." And undoubtedly the Wilson campaign managers wish that Mr. Hughes had done just that.

Railroads operating in a Western State paid into the State treasury \$315,000, representing taxes due in November, because the treasury was running short. They certainly train railroads properly in some Western States.

Chicago has another campaign for reform with its declared object the suppression of open gambling. The usual "higher up," who lifted the lid, is being sought. As usual, he will not be found wanting in self-suppression for the nonce.

A Los Angeles suicide, who shot himself after studying an anatomical chart for certainty's sake, had written a passage from Omar Khayyam before firing the shot that ended his career. Hardly fair to shift the responsibility onto a man who's been dead as long as has Omar.

Even the Filipinos had trouble pronouncing the name of a secret society which maintains its headquarters at Manila. This organization was known as the Kataastaasan Kagalanggalan Katipunan. So persistent were the objections to this style of name that the organization was persuaded to simplify the title, which now is the Kataastaasan Kagalanggalan Katipunan. That's much better.

The aeroplane and submarine truly are American inventions. There seems to be little doubt that an American invented the machine gun the entire British army is using. Peoria, Ill., declares that it gave birth to the terrible English "tanks." Now, if some brave and enterprising American will lay claim to the invention of the Zeppelin the Kaiser may be justified in unclenching up all the horrors of modern war to Charles Sam.

An expert baker in New York figures that 37 1/2 twelve-ounce loaves may be produced from a barrel of flour. If overhead charges are not too heavy, it should be possible to produce an honest loaf at the accustomed price, even at the prevailing rates for flour. In any case, those who are dealing publicly with this problem have no excuse for panic. Wheat is not the only American food crop, and the consumer has never yet had the benefit of the great economies that are incidental to bread-making on a vast scale.—New York World.

A Premium On Dishonesty.

Years may elapse before the real results of the Adamson eight-hour law for trainmen become known to the American people. The law apparently is being discussed in the majority of cases on the same basis as the eight-hour question outside of the railroad business. Such discussions are based on a false foundation for the reason that the railroad business is different from every other kind of activity in which man engages. Without technical knowledge of the inside workings of a railroad, the average man may not be able to fully comprehend the full meaning of the action by Congress in establishing a trainmen's eight-hour day by legislation.

Of course, it is becoming commonly known that Congress cannot reduce the trainmen's workday to an actual eight hours without rebuilding the railroads. The divisions on practically every railroad in this country have been established at about 100 miles and at the division terminals the railroads have built freight yards, repair shops, engine houses and other structures representing values mounting high in the millions.

Around these division terminals villages, towns and cities have grown and both the railroad executives and the trainmen admit that it would not be practicable to disrupt the entire network of railroads in this country by removing the terminals so as to shorten the distances between them and make the eight-hour trainmen's day a possibility. These facts, of course, have become common knowledge since the passage by Congress of legislation which is called the eight-hour law but should be called the increased-pay law.

There is another practical phase of the situation, however, which seems to have largely escaped the attention of the majority of people. This phase hinges on the fact that whether trains run on schedule depends largely on the men operating them. There are numerous methods by which a trainman may deliberately delay a train and still escape responsibility for it. If running the train on schedule means ending work on schedule the trainman has an incentive for properly operating the train. But the increase in pay for overtime that Congress has awarded the trainmen removes this incentive and puts a premium on inefficiency and dishonesty.

It is not to be presumed that the trainmen, as a whole, will take advantage of the opportunity given them by Congress to rob their employers. The trainmen compose one of the finest classes of working men in this nation and their efficiency and devotion to duty is one of the traditions of the service.

But the fact that Congress has, in effect, put the railroads in a position where they can be forced to pay overtime wages for unnecessary delays in the operation of trains seems to be convincing that Mr. Hughes has taken a strong position in demanding investigation before legislation in the place of legislation under threat.

The Fight for the Armor Plate Plant.

Apparently, the citizens of Washington stand united in the campaign to win for this city the proposed \$1,000,000 government armor plate plant. So far as is known, every citizen's association that has taken up the project has endorsed it. The action of the Board of Trade in giving its indorsement to the plan shows that the business men of Washington are unanimous in wanting the plant built here, the Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Merchants' Association previously having put their formal "O. K." on the project.

What value will these indorsements by citizens and business men have in the opinions of the Navy Department officials designated to select a site for the plant? Of course, the fact that the residents of Washington want the plant built here does not in any way improve any of the suggested sites in this city. This apparent unanimity on the part of our citizens will not cheapen the cost of raw materials that will be used in the plant or make the city more secure from attack.

But the indorsements of the campaign by citizens and business men have a highly important value. The indorsements will be accepted by navy officials as proof that there will be no objection to the plant raised by citizens here in the event that this city is designated as the site for the plant. Navy officials, taking cognizance of the fact that the citizens of Washington have no vote, realize that what is known as public sentiment has more power in the District, perhaps, than in any city in the country.

The navy officials are aware that if a majority of business organizations and civic bodies should oppose the erection of an armor plant here it would be unwise to designate the National Capital as the site for such a plant. Therefore, the action of our three business organizations and a number of other bodies in presenting a united front in favor of the plant may prove a strong factor in bringing the plant to this city.

The facts and figures being assembled under the direction of President Moran of the Chamber of Commerce are powerful arguments in the contention that this city is the logical site for the plant and with such a strong foundation for a campaign every resident of Washington who has the welfare of the city at heart should join forces with the men who are working to win the plant for the National Capital.

President Wilson in his speech at Baltimore adhered to the Democratic position on the tariff as stated in his speech of acceptance. That is to say, he substituted for the idea of protection the idea of going out and capturing the markets of the world with American workingmen laboring eight hours a day at high wages in competition with foreign workmen who labor longer hours at lower wages. If the war lasts indefinitely, of course all will be well. The war furnishes protection of the highest tariff ever proposed by any one—its protection is really prohibitive. That seems to be the Democratic attitude. Why tire the country with tariff talk? It will be prosperous so long as the war lasts—may it last forever!—New York Herald.

Friend and Enemy Words.

By ORISON SWETT MARDEN. Did you ever realize that the words you habitually use have a very great influence on your character? Did it ever occur to you that they also leave their mark on other people, that whatever you say to another brings a certain picture to his mind which helps or hinders him?

Some time ago a former instructor of public speaking at Yale University offered a prize of \$100 to the first person who should submit to him a list of 100 English words as inspiring as a list which he himself had prepared.

His list contained such words as indomitable, invincible, dauntless, joyous, triumphant, unflinching, valiant, kingly, sublime, truth, success, etc. Every one of the hundred words, uttered in the right way, gives a thrill of inspiration and conscious power.

There is, perhaps, no other one thing which has more power to make life happy or miserable, prosperous or a failure, than the words which make up one's habitual vocabulary.

We think in images suggested by words. For instance, when in our reading we come across the word "hell," the mind immediately visualizes a horrible picture. When we come across the word "paradise," the mind pictures a place just the opposite. Each creates an image which corresponds to the word. When we come across the word "horse," we do not think merely of the letters composing the word. Incidentally, the picture of a horse comes into the mind.

When we think of the word "war" we immediately picture fighting, killing, wounding people. In other words, certain words act as a tonic, and tend to harmonize the functions of the mind and of the body. Others are depressants. They lower the vitality, deplete the energy, depress the spirits and tend to lower the tone of the whole system.

Since words are forces fraught with such tremendous consequences, since they present to the mind images which mould and fashion character and destiny, we should choose our vocabulary as we choose our friends.

We should speak only words of kindness, of helpfulness, of love, of justice, of truth. We should speak words of health and strength, and not words of sickness, weakness or disease. We should speak success words, prosperity words, words of opulence and not words of failure, poverty, lack or want.

We should speak words which carry death and destruction in them, the words which demoralize, which tear down; the discouraging words which leave hideous images in the mind, which be classified as enemies and marked "poison," as drugs are marked. Thus, certain words will be differentiated as "poisonous to ambition," "poisonous to hope," "poisonous to aspiration," "poisonous to manhood," "stranglers of success," "death to endeavor." There will be columns of life and columns of death words.

Mr. Wilson continues to find his entire defense for his extraordinary conduct on a social or alleged sanction of the eight-hour principle. This is begging the question with a vengeance. Small wonder that Mr. Hughes is moved indignantly to protest "against any endeavor to confuse the thought of America by talking about an eight-hour work day when nothing of the sort has been enacted, and the only thing that was proposed or enacted was a change in the schedule of wages."

Any man of ordinary intelligence, who can understand the meaning of plain English, who will take the time to look at the text of the Adamson law, will see at a glance that Mr. Hughes is right and that Mr. Wilson is wrong in his contention. But even were the language abstruse, with room for possible doubt as to its meaning, the average man would have little difficulty in deciding who would be the more competent and reliable interpreter, the acknowledged expert and specialist in analyzing laws and determining their significance, the distinguished ex-justice of the Supreme Court or the amateur and dilettante of the White House.—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

In his speech at Dayton, Ohio, Mr. Hughes lucidly discussed the mis-called eight-hour law which President Wilson forced through Congress. Mr. Hughes is not against an eight-hour law or the advancing of the wages of any employe, but he is opposed to the misnaming of the law passed by Congress, to the sailing under false colors, and he strenuously objects to the passing of any law hastily and under coercive threats. Obviously if any coteries of men representing a considerable number of voters can once intimidate Congress into passing legislation for their benefit, other groups will try the same tactics. Then we shall have not an orderly law-making body but a body of legislators now and then subject to attacks from a group of citizens who demand that laws giving them privileges shall be passed without due deliberation.—Wilmington Morning News.

Twenty-nine millions suffering by the American people to mitigate the sufferings of the victims of the great war in Europe! That is no small charity, and it tells in forceful manner that the spirit of brotherhood exists in our land. When the horrors of the war are cited as proof of the debasement of mankind and the failure of religious teaching, this great gift should be mentioned as the offset. Man may not have lived up to his ideals, but some men at least try to do so and in a measure succeed.—Mobile Register.

ARMY AND NAVY NEWS

Best Service Column in City.

The army ordnance office has opened bids for the delivery of twenty-seven caterpillar tractors intended for use by the Ninth Heavy Field Artillery. The Holt Company, of Peoria, Ill., was the only bidder. This firm supplied the British armored-fighting monsters now used on the Somme front. One thousand of these machines have been sold to the British government.

The Holt Company, however, had nothing to do with the fitting out of the British tractors with armor and machine guns. These armored British tractors, commonly known as "Tanks," have furnished one of the spectacular features in the fighting along the Somme.

Some of the caterpillar tractors, identical with the twenty-seven now to be bought, already are possessed by the United States army. Five of them are in the Hawaiian Department and are used on the Hawaiian Islands for the purpose of forest fire fighting and are declared to have worked with remarkable success. Three of the Holt tractors are in the Hawaiian Department and have been assigned to the new Ninth Heavy Field Artillery.

Besides the three caterpillars in the Hawaiian Department and assigned to the Ninth Field Artillery, there are two other caterpillars in that department, being used experimentally. These are not intended for gun-hauling. They have been armed and armored and are being put through tests similar to the work done by the British "Tanks."

The camp at El Paso, Tex., occupied by troops of the Tenth Provisional Division, has, by order of Brig. Gen. Bell, been named "Camp Owen Blerne," after a sergeant of that name belonging to the Twenty-third Infantry, who was killed in a saloon brawl at El Paso. His duty with the provost guard at El Paso was in jail charged with the murder. The naming of the camp was most unique, for usually army camps are named after Presidents and generals.

After stating that the army felt deeply the outrage of the dastardly deed, Gen. Bell said: "Both during his life and death this splendid soldier exemplified the best traditions of the army. It was not for him to question why he should die. He simply obeyed orders and died. No loftier virtue than this can be attained by any man."

Sergeant Blerne had completed nearly thirty years in the army. He served with distinction in the Cuban and Philippine campaigns and the Boxer uprising. Camp Owen Blerne contains about 28,000 men.

"It is to be hoped that Senator Shepard, of Texas, has no such intention, he has been attributed to him recently, of introducing a bill at the next session of the Senate requiring the War and Navy departments to furnish Congress with a statement of the religious beliefs entertained by commissioned officers and enlisted men of the military-naval establishments," says the Army and Navy Register editorially.

If he really contemplates such an extraordinary question to be asked of him, his better judgment will assert itself and that he will abandon his project; and if he persists in his purpose, it is to be hoped that his associates in the Senate will refuse to entertain a bill of members of that body who will permanently shelve the measure.

"There could be nothing more unprofitable, unfortunate, and unwise than dragging into view, for the object of official record, the religious beliefs of members of the military-naval personnel, who might very properly exercise the right of silence in the presence of such an inquisition."

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT.

AFTER-DINNER POLITICS.

Elected by One Vote.

By DR. E. J. EDWARDS.

The late Charles Levi Woodbury—for many years a leading lawyer of Boston—had the good fortune to live in Washington at the time his father, Levi Woodbury, was Secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet of President Van Buren. It was in the vacation season that Mr. Woodbury as a young man was in Boston at the time of the gubernatorial contest in Massachusetts when Edward Everett was a candidate for re-election as governor and his opponent was Marcus Morton.

"The extraordinary feature of that election," said Mr. Woodbury, in a conversation I had with him in 1888, "was the fact that it required a very careful recount of the vote in order to decide whether Gov. Everett or Marcus Morton was elected. The final recount gave Morton a majority of just one vote. Gov. Everett congratulated his successful rival, and the best of feeling prevailed in both parties."

"This election by one vote has often been spoken of as without any precedent in our political history. Still there have been some very interesting and close elections determined by one vote. For instance, you remember, the electoral commission established by Congress to decide whether Hayes or Tilden received a majority of electoral votes in 1876 did decide that by the one vote of Oregon to which Gov. Hayes was entitled he received a majority of just one in the electoral college."

"No President of the United States, excepting possibly Washington, ever received a unanimous electoral vote. In one case, the electoral vote was a tie, Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr receiving each an equal number of votes. The nearest any Presidential candidate ever came to unanimous election was at the time of the second election of James Monroe. His entire administration was characterized by an absence of partisanship. The United States was busily occupied in building up the country's property. Financial conditions were excellent. There were no troublesome questions of a kind which created party issues. "The result was that Monroe was elected a second time without any opposition excepting that a single electoral vote due to personal reasons was not given for President. I do not recall any other instance in which record was made of the election of the governor of the State by a majority of one vote excepting the now traditional choice of Marcus Morton, of Massachusetts, over Edward Everett." (Copyright, 1916, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

A PLEA FOR DOGS.

Writer Protests Against Cruelties to "Man's Best Friend."

Editor of The Washington Herald: In the Washington Herald of September 28 I read an article in regard to children being "bitten by vicious dogs." The dog never has a fair trial. If he bites any one he is presumed guilty, though it may be in self-defense. Children frequently annoy dogs, but this fact is not noted by the health officer. The proportion of vicious dogs is less than the percentage of vicious men, but no one proposes to hold all men in restraint because some are vicious; nor is the man who attacks another condemned to death without trial, as is the case of the dog—man's most loyal and affectionate friend. It is not the health officer's duty to recommend damage suits. There are plenty of lawyers who make their living collecting "retainers" for

starting dubious or frivolous damage suits.

The writer admits that a few dogs (about 1 per cent) are vicious and should be held in restraint, but by the health officer's edict thousands of harmless licensed dogs are tortured by muzzles. In collusion with the health officer are some of the doctors of agriculture (grouches of alleged experimental science), who are also engaged in vivisection and the publication of articles stirring up hatred against dogs, cats and other animals. The evil that men do against animals is worse than the hell at Somme and Verdun. If there is to be any anti-dog crusade there will be a revival of the old association for the protection of dogs. When women get their constitutional amendment the cruel people in office will either reform or get out. CARRIE L. BARTON. Chevy Chase.



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