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SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 20, 1921.

Experience is a jewel, and it had need to be so for it is often purchased at an infinite rate.
—Shakespeare.

We Do Not Want to be Coddled

It was from the intermediate country that Mr. Paul P. Hastings made his greatest advance toward the top of the railroad ladder—from Prescott and Phoenix. It might have been supposed that Mr. Hastings then learned the needs of the intermediate country and sympathized with them. It is with regret and disappointment that we learn that he is foremost among the railroad men who are urging a ruinous discrimination against this region.

He washed his hands of us at the Chicago hearing by declining "to act as wet nurse for the industries of the Middle West." We are not asking for the ministrations of a wet nurse. So far we have been "raised by hand" or hardly "raised" at all but rather "jerked up" and by a rather rough railroad hand. Nothing has come to us which the railroads could very well withhold from us. We have certainly never been coddled. We do not expect now to nurse at the breasts of the railroad. We desire only the right to exist and be free. We shall not be if the plans of the transcontinental railroads to lower transcontinental rates on a large variety of commodities.

Mr. Hastings when questioned as to the rates of the intermediate region told the Interstate Commerce examiner that they were "reasonably low." In the next breath he told the examiner that the proposed transcontinental rates would be "reasonably compensatory." In that case a layman would suppose that the intermediate rates, being much higher than the proposed through rates would be unreasonably and extravagantly compensatory to the railroads.

If the proposed rates are not compensatory why should the roads desire to put them in? They tell us, to meet water competition. But if it can be met only at a loss, or without profit, what is the sense in meeting it? But Mr. Hastings assures us that there will be no loss to the roads. If then the through rates are compensatory why should intermediate points be mulcted by higher rates for shorter hauls?

If the so called through rate was a through rate in fact, to meet water competition objection to it would be robbed of a part, but not all of its force. But we who are not railroad experts cannot understand how water rates can be in competition with rail rates between Chicago and coast points; why the rate from Chicago to any point west of Kansas City and east of the Pacific should be higher than to a Pacific termnal.

At the hearing on Friday mention was made of the rail and water rate from Chicago as in competition with the all rail rate. There is of course such a competition as to many commodities out of Chicago, but there are extremely few commodities which would be shipped east to New York and thence to the Pacific by water, though the combined rate were lower than the rail rate.

This combined rate was mentioned in connection with the shipment of pianos. We remember several years ago at an interstate commerce hearing in Phoenix, before Examiner Lyon, who by the way is now representing a steamship line in opposition to the proposed through rate, the piano was mentioned then as a commodity in competition. The statement was made and was admitted to be true that pianos were never shipped by water when it was possible to ship them by rail, on account of the deteriorating effect of sea travel. It is so with many other commodities, which could not be shipped by time consuming sea routes and would never be so shipped regardless of rates.

We of the intermountain and Mid-west region have no interest in the fight between the steamship lines and the through roads. We care comparatively little about the rates except that they shall not discriminate against us and we want them only low enough so that our commodities may be moved to the markets. But the main thing so far as concerns us of the intermountain region is that we shall not become victims of discrimination in favor of the Pacific coast just as it is the desire of the Mid West region that they shall not be chained to Chicago territory.

Trade Associations

Secretary of Commerce Hoover has just demonstrated that there is a reliable short cut to justice by using the plain, simple process of asking questions. Undoubtedly the secretary of commerce is a remarkable questioner. He seems to possess an occult genius for getting straight at the heart of a proposition and of ascertaining the essential facts without red tape or lost motion.

Ever since coming into his important office Mr. Hoover has heard trade associations condemned merely upon the exparte statement of over-zealous prosecutors who seem to have the settled habit of pre-judgment. Mr. Hoover, being a business man and familiar with business practices, was unwilling to accept rumor in regard to trade associations as sufficient ground for general condemnation. So he proceeded to investigate for himself. He did not organize the expensive and cumbersome machinery of inquisition so often used by governmental agencies. He just sent his own trusted men to ask questions, to secure reliable data and report fully upon what trade associations are organized for, what their functions are and what service they perform for industry. And this is what Mr. Hoover has found:

"The trade associations throughout the country have been subject to a great deal of criticism because some very small minority of the associations have undertaken practices that were, in fact or in suspicion, a violation of the restraint of trade acts. A short time ago, a canvass was made of trade associations to find the number that embraced in their category of effort those particular functions that are subject to a suspicion, and it was found that less than 10 per cent of the trade associations of the United States have any function of that character at all; that there were associations that have been created under the name and cloak of trade associations for the purpose of restraint of trade and of combination; that it had brought the whole world of trade associations into some criticism. But that canvass and knowledge of the department of the working of the vast majority of trade associations in this country, convinces me that the objective of these organizations is not in the remotest sense against the public interest; that in fact a study of the trade associations that we made shows something like 30 different lines of activity in which they were engaged, covering a great range of educational subjects, matters of improvement in fundamental practice in the industry as to trade questions, interest in matters of transportation, elimination of waste, foreign trade—some 34 different activities; and of all those activities there had been embraced only two that were at all subject to discussion as to whether or not they were against public interest in even a remote sense, and, as I say, less than a very small fraction of these associations were even engaged in those.

"All are agreed that the purposes and actions of the vast majority of national associations are a constructive contribution to public welfare. Their activity in promotion of better business practices, advancement of technical processes, simplification of production, standardization of quality, extension of foreign trade, commercial arbitration, etc., all make for more efficient industry and business. Many of them collect information as to production, stocks of raw and other material, percentage of industry in active operation, total orders in hand—all of which, when available to the public, contribute both to stability and the increasing efficiency of industry and to the protection both of the smaller manufacturer and the consumer."

Bird Conservation

In another column we are printing the letter of a bird lover, desiring to co-operate with the Boy Scouts in bird conservation. He describes a dearth of song birds which for some months has been unusual in Phoenix. We had observed it but were not quite sure of the cause of it. For years until early in the present fall, in almost every tree with a considerable top there were mocking birds and many other varieties of song birds. There are now very few. We have not seen or heard a mocking bird for many weeks.

Our correspondent ascribes the absence of them to the "air rifle brigade." We are not quite sure that the birds have been so driven away, but we know they are not here now. We also know that the "air rifle brigade" was quite busy last summer and fall, but it had been as busy in previous seasons.

The writer has for some years been engaged in bird conservation in a small way in his immediate neighborhood and has repelled several invasions of not only the air rifle brigade, but of older brutes armed with 22's. But the writer's birds are all gone now—killed, driven away or absent from some other cause. Not only are their cheering songs missed but there has been a multiplication of destructive insects.

There is a way to suppress the bird destroyers and the Boy Scouts can easily find it. They need only to report the shooting or the attempted shooting of song birds and the law will do the rest. They will have the hearty co-operation of the office of the game warden so that every case will be vigorously prosecuted and we are sure that the justices of the peace and the police magistrates will impose such punishment that the bird-murderers will not commit the second crime.

We trust that the Boy Scouts will hasten to perfect the bird-conservation movement. Every good citizen should join it and be an active member.

It will result in making better boys of many who are owners of air rifles and 22's. The average boy is a pretty good boy. He has a good enough heart and enough sense not to shoot at song birds. These offenses are committed by boys and men who are below the average—of subnormal intellect and they need to be taught that bird murder is wrong.

If they are not so taught, their low intellects will lead them blindly into other crimes which will land them into the reform school or later into the penitentiary. Most boys and men who get into these places of restraint are unfortunate in not having been endowed with normal intellects. They have not been given their share of brains.

So the bird-conservation movement will not only save the birds but sub-normal boys.

It has remained for Life to discover that President Harding's golf scores look like his majority a year ago. From what we know of golf this seems to be a slam at his game.

Preliminary, we suppose, to passing around a subscription list in aid of the former kaiser, word comes out of Holland that he has been forced to discharge ten of his servants and hire a cheaper gardener.

IN FLANDERS FIELD WHERE FLOWERS GROW

(Written for Armistice day by one of the boys who fought overseas and was wounded in action)

O comrade, dear comrade mine, the days are dark
though suns do shine—
In Flanders Field where flowers do blow and summer
winds still come and go.
I know no peace, no joy by day, dear comrade, since
you went away—
At night I sleep not, but repine for you—dear comrade, comrade mine.
Today I roamed the shady dell and sought the flowers you loved so well—
But the wild rose hung its pretty head, the winds were hushed, the birds were fled,
And the river sighed—I pine, I pine for you, dear comrade, comrade mine.

Sweet comrade, dear comrade mine, what e'er betide
my heart is thine—
Where e'er I wander near or far—O! there my sweetest memories are.
You, little knowing, smiled to part—you, little dreaming, broke my heart.
I gave no sign—you did not know—in Flanders Field
where flowers grow.

—HARLAND D. CLARK.

BAD BUSINESS

Father Duffy is credited by the New York World with this after-dinner story:

"An old sexton asked me, 'Father, weren't the Apostles Jews?' I said they were. Puzzled, he demanded: 'Then how the deuce did the Jews let go of a good thing like the Catholic church and let the Eyetalians grab it?'"—The Outlook.

WOMAN'S WORK

"And how is your husband keeping?"
"'E ain't keeping; 'e's on strike, and I'm doing the keeping."—The Bulletin (Sydney).

HATCHING EGGS UNDER DIFFICULTIES

ENTER THE SHOPLIFTER

By Frederic J. Haskin

NEW YORK CITY, Nov. 19.—At this season of the year New York department stores increase the size of their detective forces in order to combat the ever growing number of thoughtful persons who begin their shoplifting early. From now until after Christmas, shoplifting will proceed at a bold and furious pace. The women's court will be kept busy hearing the cases of light fingered ladies caught at inopportune moments, while the large Fifth avenue stores will lose thousands of dollars' worth of goods to others who will successfully get away with it.

This is always the case. The annual depredations of shoplifters are regarded as an inevitable calamity which no mercantile establishment, however successful, can hope to escape. And this year the stores anticipate greater difficulties from this source than ever before because of the new styles in sleeves.

You may have observed that the new feminine sleeve is a voluminous, drooping, bell shaped affair, possessing tremendous possibilities for ladies who are clever with their fingers. It is going to be extremely easy to hide stuff in the recesses of a sleeve which trails obligingly all over the counter when the wearer puts her hand down. We saw it done only the other day. A plump, agile hand, accomanied by one of these dangling sleeves, glided quickly along a counter covered with feminine lingerie, then paused for several seconds while the fingers examined the texture of the silk. When the hand moved again it was in swift upward flight, presumably to adjust a slight discrepany in the owner's lace collar.

"There, you see how easy it is," said the salesgirl who had given the demonstration, as she removed a pink silk undergarment from her sleeve. "You didn't see me do that even thought you were watching, and think how much simpler it would be to stuff my sleeve in the confusion of a Christmas crowd. That's why we've got to be so particular and insist upon customers keeping their arms off the counters."

A Store Detective

The interesting information was corroborated by one of the store detectives, a tall, sleek faced individual who so well looked his part that one did not see how any shoplifter could fail to notice and avoid him.

"There's no doubt but that the new styles are all in favor of the shoplifter," he said. "But, of course, we're gonna watch 'em. And then we've got our own system. They don't get away with as much as they used to."

We pressed for details. "By what astute methods are shoplifters prevented from running off with the store?" we inquired.

"Oh, we get to know a lot of the professionals by their looks," the detective replied. "And there's usually somethin' about them to excite suspicion. One thing and another."

"But your system?" we persisted.

"Well, there's the store aisles, for instance. Notice how wide the aisles are in this store? That ain't for beauty and it ain't for comfort. It's because the light fingered Lizzies don't like them. They prefer the narrow, crowded aisles where they ain't so likely to be seen."

This was all the information we could drag forth. The "system," it seemed, was a secret formula which had to be carefully guarded. If the shoplifters once got wise to it, it would be useless. To make up for his inability to gratify our curiosity in this respect, however, our friend showed an eager willingness to discuss other important matters. He gave us, in elaborate detail, his private views on the disarmament conference; dwelt upon the carelessness with which the mails were handled, and explained the most dramatic plays in the late world series. Finally, when he had talked himself into a good humor and we were nearly in a state of coma, he allowed himself to be steered gingerly back to the subject of his own secret activities.

"Let me see," he said cautiously, stroking his long jaw, "the case of Gabrielle Lemaire was in the newspapers, so there can't be no harm in tellin' that. Mind, I don't say it happened in this store, but it shows the kind of schemes every store is constantly havin' put over on it."

Not long ago, it seems, a certain store became aware that it was losing a good deal of valuable merchandise to an extremely clever woman. She was attractive and fashionably dressed, and always made a favorable impression upon the sales force. Representing herself to be the possessor of a charge account, the number of which she gave, she would order goods sent to her supposed address and then, at the last moment, decide to take a few packages with her, "because she could not wait to have them sent."

The goods, later delivered to the true owner of the charge account, were immediately returned, so that the store was not long ignorant of the fact that it had been defrauded. The case was referred to the store detectives, who at once became concerned with one question: How did the young woman know the numbers of other persons' charge accounts? Undoubtedly, she must have an accomplice working in the store.

How Thieves Were Caught

It was a customer who finally brought the accomplice to light. One day, when this lady was amazed to receive a number of unrequested packages from a second store, she called its manager on the telephone.

"I am sorry," that gentleman replied to her complaint. "It is the first case of the kind we have had here, although I understand it has happened a good many times in a neighboring house. The suspect that one of their employes is involved, since only some one connected with the store could know the numbers of so many different accounts.

"Oh," cried the lady, thinking rapidly, "I'll bet it is that nice looking, friendly clerk, who wears such artistic ties. I gave him the number of my account at your store by mistake the other day, and then changed it to the correct number at his store, explaining mymistake."

An investigation proved that the lady was correct in her suspicion. The young man in question had been supplying his attractive young wife with names, addresses and numbers of various charge accounts and directing her shoplifting efforts. For six months the scheme had worked beautifully, and might have continued to do so, had he not made a fatal slip by sending her to the other store. Both the clerk and his wife are now serving a term in Blackwell's island.

Most shoplifters, according to the aforementioned store detective, confine their thefts to feminine lingerie and silk stockings, probably because these articles can be crumpled without injury and are easily concealed. Jewelry of all kinds is also highly favored by the shoplifting sisterhood. One woman, apprehended during the Christmas rush season of last year, had nine strings of beads concealed about her person, each of which was worth about $15. Another woman, arrested for taking an expensive umbrella, told with great gusto how a few days before she had calmly walked out of a store with an unpaid-for suit on, the pockets of which contained a bracelet and a silver vanity case "lifted" from the jewelry counter.

One of the most irritating things about the professional shoplifter, says our friend the detective, is her usually brilliant historic ability. When caught in the act of stealing, she is apt to throw an emotional fit, tearfully appeal to the women shoppers about her, mention her little children who are dependent upon her, speak of the shame her arrest will cause her dear old uncle, who is a clergyman, and otherwise prey upon the sympathies of the crowd until it looks upon the lone male detective as really the guilty party and the shoplifter as his innocent victim.

"It takes nerve to stand your ground in such a situation," he declared, "but then if you didn't have nerve you wouldn't be a detective."

Arizona's Changing Moods

(Edgar Kennison)

By varied shifts from form to form
She drifts and darkles, gleams and glows;
Hers is the passion of the storm,
The tender penance of repose.
Through changing shapes or devious ways,
Through storm or calm, by cloud or flame,
My heart shall follow all my days
Something that I cannot name.

Like sunlight on some maiden's hair,
Or light that gleams in children's eyes,
When rings the laughter, rich and rare,
That greets a gift of glad surprise.
My heart doth know and thrills to know
Some primal presence that it sought;
My soul awakes to find it so,
And cries: "Behold what God hath wrought!"

Sometimes when sudden afterglows,
With spectral lights transform the sky,
I see beyond the gold and rose
The feet of seraphim go by.
Or when the trampling morn walks o'er
The brooding sky or nursing sod,
My awed heart whispers "Ask no more:
'Be still and know that I am God.'"

Or dreaming in some canyon, where
The dim walls ring with murmurings,
Where part is music, part is prayer,
And part is rush of angel wings:
Solemn I bow a reverent head,
Amid the shadowed splendor where
The towering peaks and chasms dread
Bear witness all that God is here.

Save the Birds

Editor, Arizona Republican,
Phoenix, Arizona.
Dear Sir:

I have been reading with interest the news that the Boy Scouts are undertaking a bird-conservation campaign in and around Phoenix. Please send some of them out to my end of town to get pledges.

I live at Twenty-third avenue and Monroe. Last year the neighborhood was full of birds—mocking-birds, thrashers, mourning doves, sonora doves, humming-birds, cactus wrens, Abert towhees, blue-birds, meadow-larks, yellow warblers, Audubon warblers, house finches, fly-catchers, Say phoebes, black phoebes, white-crowned sparrows, and others that I don't know or have forgotten to mention. Then came the air-rifle brigade and the bird's-nest collectors, and this fall an occasional distant buzzard or a sparrow hawk is the only bird to be seen for days at a time.

However the trees are full of life; Longfellow's words aptly describe it:

"From the trees spun down
The canker-worms upon the passers-by,
Upon each woman's bonnet, shawl and gown,
Who shook them off with just a little cry."

JOHN A. WOOLSEY.

Questions And Answers

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The Republican Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C. This offer applies strictly to information. The bureau cannot give advice on legal, medical, and financial matters. It does not attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake exhaustive research on any subject. Write your question plainly and briefly. Give full name and address and enclose two cents in stamps for return postage. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

Q. When was the first Christian missionary sent to Japan. U. O. T.

A. The Jesuit Francis Xavier, who was afterward canonized, was the first Christian missionary to Japan. He landed at Kagoshima on the 15 of August, 1549, and remained in Japan until November 20, 1551.

Q. Which country has the largest standing army? B. E. B.

A. China has the largest standing army in the world. It is composed of 1,000,000 men. France is next with a standing army of 800,000.

Q. When was pulverized coal first used?—C. H. T.

A. The experiment of using pulverized coal was made about 45 years ago, when it was tried as a fuel for heating the kilns in which the raw materials for making Portland cement were burned. It was not successful at the time, but methods have since been devised that make pulverized coal a successful fuel.

Q. Will a pebble thrown overboard reach the bottom of the ocean if it is six miles deep? W. T. L.

A. The hydrographic office says that a pebble thrown overboard will reache the bottom of the ocean at any depth.

Q. Who discovered oxygen? R. W. W.

A. The American Chemical society says that Joseph Priestley, an Englishman who came to America in 1794, discovered not only oxygen but also ammonia, hydrogen chloride, sulphur dioxide and nitrous oxide. In the course of his various manipulations of vapors, he isolated chlorine, which is now extensively used in the arts and in the manufacture of military gases.

Q. How large is an orang-outang? H. M. O.

A. The orang-outang, the name being Malay for man of the woods, is shorter and broader than a man. The adult male stands about four feet high and sometimes weighs as much as 250 pounds.

Q. What can be put in a refrigerator to keep it free from odors?—W. L. S.

A. Frequent washing of the ice box is important. A small saucer of air-slacked lime set in the bottom of the refrigerator will absorb odors caused by food.

Q. How many telegraph poles are there per mile of railroad track?—T. E. L.

A. The number of poles to the mile depends upon the number of wires carried. When there are six wires or less, there are 30 poles to the mile; 7 to 60, there are 41 poles; 61 to 70, 53 poles; 71 to 80, 59 poles; in places that are particularly exposed to wind and sleet, many more poles are used.

Q. Are more children attending school and there were a few years ago? G. S.

A. The 1920 census shows an increase of 5.1 per cent of children between the ages of 5 and 20 who attend school. This would not include young men and women over 20 who are attending institutions of higher education. Practically all colleges have a record attendance and many are forced to reject students for lack of facilities for a larger attendance.

Q. What is the total value of all the railroad property in the United States? D. G. S.

A. The interstate commerce commission has accepted $10,000,000,000 as a tentative valuation of the railroads.

Q. What is bonded whiskey flavored with? A. P.

A. We quote from Harvel Wiley's textbook "Beverages:" "When whiskey is withdrawn from the still and reduced with water, it is placed in a bonded warehouse in oak containers, which have been previously charred. This is different from the English, Scotch and Irish whiskey, in which countries charred casks are not used. It is claimed that whiskey kept in a burned barrel reaches the proper flavor at four years that would take the whiskey in unburned barrels to reach in eight years. Whether or not the whiskey is improved by the charring of the barrel is a question left for experts to decide."

Q. When did Ty Cobb first play big league baseball? L. B. C.

A. Ty Cobb first played big league baseball in 1905, when he joined the Detroit team. Prior to this he played with Anniston part of the season of 1904 and then went to Augusta, where he stayed until he joined the Detroit team.

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

THE WAY TO FREEDOM:—Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.—John 8:32.

IT TAKES A GENERATION

BY DR. FRANK CRANE
(Copyright, 1921, by Frank Crane)

The real reason why the United States of America abandoned its Allies at the close of the war, would have nothing to do with the movement toward world unity, as represented by the League of Nations, and gave itself up to a sulky and selfish isolation, is that the proposed step was too great for a thorough democracy to make.

Other nations moved fast because they are accustomed to being led by their rulers. America moves slow because it moves only as pushed by its masses.

It is not the Lodges, Harveys, Borahs and Reeds, who, to accomplish selfish ends, manipulated the great reactionary crime, it is not these who are primarily to blame. Their vicious efforts would have been fruitless except they had a mass of popular prejudice, ignorance, and inertia to work on.

We will take our place among the nations of the world, but it will take a generation.

It took a generation for Americans to pull entirely free from monarchy. The people of the colonies, though they fought England, were yet salted with monarchic ideas. It was only afterward that George Coombe could say:

"But the condition of affairs is now changed. The generation trained to obedience under monarchical institutions is extinct; a race occupies the field which has been reared under the full influence of democracy."

The great new thought in the world today is World Unity, just as the great new thought in Washington's day was democracy.

This idea was born into full vigor during the war. The nations had to get together or perish before the attack of Germany.

And they realize now in Europe that they have to stay together if they would avoid other evils.

Russia and red madness confronts them.

Bankruptcy and economic disaster threaten them; and the only remedy for that will be some sort of economic unity, even as military unity was imperative in 1917.

The United States will get around to it when this generation has died off.

For their children are growing up in an atmosphere of World Councils.

Democracies move slowly, and usually very uncomfortably. As Fisher Ames stated:

"A monarchy is like a merchantman. You get on board and ride the wind and tide in safety and elation, but, by and by, you strike a reef and go down. But democracy is like a raft. You never sink, but, damn it, your feet are always in the water."

It took a generation for the New South to get away from the prejudices and passions of the Old South.

It has taken a generation for many an American in the North to realize that the Civil War is over.

It will take a generation to establish Prohibition.

We need not wonder if it takes a generation for America to get hold of the idea of World Unity.

Berton Braley's Daily Poem
Conversation

I'm weary of people who talk about liquor,
And how you can get it, and where;
Who speak about booze as life's fountain of ichor
Whose loss they're unable to bear;
I'm weary of folks who bemoan prohibition
And weep for the by-gone saloon,
Where once they could get in a pie-eyed condition
By four o'clock each afternoon.

I'm weary of talk about bootlegger's whiskey,
And bootlegger's brandy and gin;
I'm fed up on people who get very frisky
On stuff from the flasks they bring in;
I know there are thousands who gleefully chortle;
"To get it is easy enough!"
But I think the average common-place mortal
Is sick of that manner of guff.

I'm fed up on talk about hooch—can you doubt it?
You'd think, to hear some people blow,
That getting a drink and then talking about it
Was all of life's beauty they know;
So talk of diseases or work or the weather
Or any old subject you choose;
There's only one topic I can altogether—
I'm weary of talk about booze!