THE ALMA RECORD

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SOME FACTS ABOUT HOME MERCHANTS

Every now and then we hear some one say some thing about high prices and hint about the advantages of other towns, but there are some facts we must take into consideration when discussing the problems of our home town merchants.

First, they live here, pay taxes for the support of our institutions, contribute toward the upkeep of our churches, schools, lodges and charities.

They are usually the first ones consulted when a contribution is wanted for any cause whatever.

They must either pay rent or maintain their own store buildings, must pay for their good at the end of thirty days, and are often times asked to extend credit over a long period, and as a result suffer more or less loss all the time.

Lincoln, speaking of the foreign market at one time, said "If you buy goods at home the home folks have both the goods and the money, but if you buy goods outside the outsider has the money."

It ought to be plain to all of us that by supporting our home merchants we are helping to build up our own home town and make it a pleasanter place to live.

When a merchant sells an article he makes a certain profit over and above the wholesale cost of the goods, the transportation and the cost of handling. This rule applies the world over.

Suppose the people of this community have $500,000 to spend within a given length of time.

Is it better to keep the profits at home and in circulation among us, or is it wiser to send it all away?

For the purposes of illustration, we will say the dealer's profit is 15 per cent, or $75,000.

If the people send away for this $500,000 worth of goods ALL THE MONEY THEY SEND AWAY WILL STAY AWAY. We will never see it again.

If, on the other hand, the people buy those goods from local dealers the only money to be sent away will be the wholesale cost of the goods and the transportation charges.

The 15 per cent profit will remain at home, as well as the overhead expenses, such as clerical hire, insurance, heat, light, and various other items.

Keeping that money at home does two important things.. It increases the money in circulation at home, and it gives employment to local people.

People who are in the habit of patronizing their home merchants invariably have a better and more prosperous community those who have the catalogue habit.

These are facts worth looking in the face.

THE DUTIES OF PARENTHOOD

It is quite apparent that many people do not fully realize their duty toward their own children. It is quite often the case that the children are allowed to grow as Topsy did, and parental duty ends with furnishing something to eat and wear.

Many times the children have no instruction whatever in citizenship except what they get in the public schools, and while that is good it cannot possibly take the place of parental duty.

Religious training is one of the safeguards of our nation, and that is a duty of the home which is sadly lacking. Dr. Stearns of Massachusetts, speaking of the need of a religious life in the home in a recent article in the Literary Digest uses the following pointed language which should make us all thoughtful of our personal responsibility.

"It is pretty near gone from the family life, unless it is simply an outward expression or manifestation, and it is very difficult to get young people into church or under its influence when the parents stay away and scoff at the church. When one goes into social life there is nothing there to tell a boy that he should believe that womankind as a whole is pure and honest and high-minded and far better than he is, and demands of him, for his own sake and for hers, that he shall live clean and meet her on an equal plane.

"Those are the ideals to which we anchored in our youth; but there is nothing in the painted, barebacked girl that a boy generally meets in modern social life, with all her extravagances and her eccentricities, however, superficial they may be—and I believe that in the majority of cases they are superficial—but there is nothing to indicate to the boy that that is what the woman expects and demands of him. The boy cannot anchor to that.

"I have never talked with boys that they did not come back and come back splendidly, and admit those things. They were ready and glad to do anything they could to establish better and finer standards and ideals and conditions, but they tell me again and again, 'Mr. Stearns, even our parents do not set a proper example; even our parents appear to ignore these things.'

"Gentlemen, that is all I want to leave with you, that if you expect your boys of the coming generation to be the kind of men you would have them be, every one of you then prove a little more that you want to help to set these things right and to re-establish old standards of morality, to which the boys can anchor.. If necessary, be willing to make a little sacrifice, as our parents did for us, that we might be bigger and better, in order that they may enjoy what we enjoy as the result of those same sacrifices on the part of our elders."

OUR OWN FAULT

Reputable people everywhere, especially in our cities, are at a loss to know how to reduce the crime wave that is engulfing this country.

The sea of perplexity in which we find ourselves reminds us of the woman who had a baby tiger for a pet.

It was little, and cute, and harmless in its infancy. But in time it grew strong, and one day it decided that its mistress would make a good meal—and she did.

When crime was at a low ebb we looked upon it as a matter of course, and neglected the precautionary measures necessary to prevent its spread.

Right under our noses it has grown to enormous proportions, and now we are apparently helpless in its grasp.

The tiger is no more dangerous than the criminal with his gun. Both should be rendered harmless before they get beyond control.

Where Your Taxes Go

How Uncle Sam Spends Your Money in Conducting Your Business

By EDWARD G. LOWRY

Author "Washington Close-Ups," "Banks and Financial Systems," etc. Contributor Political and Economic Articles to Leading Periodicals and a Writer of Recognized Authority on the National Government's Business Methods.

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XVIII.

READ LANE'S DIAGNOSIS

In his final report to the President, upon completing his work as secretary of the interior, Franklin K. Lane sketched with a sure hand out of the abundance of his experience the present Washington condition:

The call is for thinking, planning, engineering, statesmanship. For we are quickly passing out of the rough-and-ready period of our national life in which we have dealt wholesale with men and things, into a period of more intensive development, in which we must seek to find the special qualities of the individual unit, whether that unit be an acre of desert, a barrel of oil, a mountain canyon, the flow of a river or the capacity of the humblest of men.

"To conquer and to master—the same old task is ours, but not in the same old way. We have discovered this land and made it ours, but this is not the end of our journey, for now we are to give thought, the deepest thought, to the ways in which it may be made to yield most abundantly in the things which a complex society with a most imperious curiosity demands.

Washington is a combination of political caucus, drawing-room and civil service bureaus. It contains statesmen who are politicians and politicians who are not statesmen. It is rich in brains and in character. It is honest beyond any commercial standard. It wishes to do everything that will promote the public good. But it is poorly organized for the task that belongs to it. Fewer men of larger capacity would do the task better.

Ability is not lacking, but it is pressed to the point of paralysis because of an infinitude of details and an unwillingness on the part of the great body of public servants to take responsibility. Everyone seems to be afraid of everyone. The self-protective sense is developed abnormally, the creative sense atrophies. Trust, confidence, enthusiasm—these simple virtues of all great business are the ones most lacking in government organization.

We have so many checks and brakes upon our work that our progress does not keep pace with the nation's requirements. We could save money for the government if we had more discretion as to how we should use that given us.

For the body of the civil servants there should be quicker promotion or discharge and a sure insurance when disability comes. For the higher administrative officers there should be salaries twice as high as those now given, and they should be made to feel that they are the ones responsible for the work of the department, the head being merely an adviser and a constructor of policies.

As matters are now devised there are too few in the government whose business it is to plan. Every man is held to detail, to the narrower view, which comes too often to be the department view or some sort of parochial view. We need for the day that is here and upon us men who have little to do but study the problems of the time and test their capacity at meeting them. In a ward, we need more opportunity for planning, engineering, statesmanship above, and more fixed authority and responsibility below.

The employment methods of the government could be improved. Under the civil service law of 1883 a good system of competitive examinations and appointments on merit has been built up for the classes of positions covered by the law. But beyond certification by the civil service commission for appointment of those applicants who are proved by examination to be eligible, the merit system is not fully operative even in connection with the positions to which it applies. Haphazard practices in assignments of work and in promotions, over which no central authority has jurisdiction, have brought about inequalities which are discouraging to the workers. This condition and the relatively low salaries paid by the government cause a "turnover" in government forces that could not long be withstood by a private business.

The readjustment of government salaries in the District of Columbia has recently received the attention of the joint commission on reclassification of salaries, which was authorized by a provision in the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation act approved March 1, 1919. The report of this commission is now in the hands of congress and its fate remains to be seen. The report represents many months of work and an effort to present data which will enable congress to understand conditions as they exist.

The present civil service law was enacted to correct the evils of the "spoils system" which had become intolerable. That the plan provided by the law, that of appointments through competitive examinations for certain positions, has been a vast improvement over the old patronage method is generally conceded; but the law failed to be a completely effective instrument by not providing for the application of the merit system to the more responsible and, therefore, the more remunerative positions.

The administrative offices, aside from the cabinet, which do not come within the scope of the civil service law, are postmasters at offices of the first, second and third classes, collectors of internal revenue, collectors of customs; registers, receivers, and surveyors general of the land office; assistant treasurers, surveyors, special examiners, appraisers and naval officers in the customs service; superintendents of mints, assayers in mints, supervising inspectors in the steamboat inspection service, commissioners of immigration and naturalization, assistant secretaries and heads of bureaus of the departments at Washington, etc.—about 15,000 positions in all.

"Take a double handful of interest in everything. That is the best recipe for happiness," says a noted statesman. Now we know why money lenders are such a cheery crowd!—Exchange.

BRINGS "SANDMAN" IN HURRY

As Sleep-Inducer, Amateur Psychologist Has a Scheme Far Superior to Counting Sheep.

"Counting sheep" used to be the great recipe for going to sleep. You simply closed your eyes, imagined a rail fence with a gap in it and white, woolly sheep jumping through, one at a time. You counted them carefully as they came, and about the time you got to about 296, why, off you dropped to slumberland.

But the amateur psychologist says counting sheep is old-fashioned and impractical now. The trouble was, he explains, the people used their imaginations too much. Instead of confining themselves solely to the sheep, they would imagine a whole pasture, with trees and hills and a sky full of clouds beyond, and their attention was so diffused keeping track of the landscape that they couldn't keep their minds concentrated on the sheep. Presently they lost interest and then old man insomnia camped on their trail for several hours.

The newer and more scientific method for hypnotizing yourself to sleep, says the amateur psychologist, is to find out your particular drowsy obsession and concentrate.

"Whenever I feel a nervous, wakeful night coming on," he says, "I imagine myself in the interior of a vast, dim cathedral. Only a single ray of light filters in and it falls on the crossing aisle. An endless procession of hooded monks is moving slowly down this aisle, and I count them as they pass through the ray of light, one at a time. My mind is wholly engrossed with this slowly moving procession, and the interior of the cathedral is so obscure and dim that it does not disturb me at all. Sometimes I fancy I hear far off strains of a pipe organ. The suggestion of music speeds the sleep inducing process.

"I never have to count more than a hundred monks before the sandman gets me."

Chinese Fossil Teeth.

An European investigator has made a singular collection of fossil teeth from drug stores in various parts of China, where they are sold under the name of dragons' teeth and are valued for their supposed curative powers.

Upon examining them it was found by this investigator that they are the remains of many species of extinct animals, such as the ancestral forms of camels, saber-toothed tigers, three-toed horses and other creatures of ancient times, some of which, like the ancestral forms of camels and antelopes, were supposed to have had their original home in America and in Africa. Judging from the quantities of these teeth sold, the investigator thinks they must exist in enormous numbers in some parts of China.

Doom Century-Old Bridge.

The picturesque covered wooden bridge, near Chester, Orange county, New York, known for nearly a century as Brook's bridge, has been condemned by state highway engineers and will be torn down to make way for a steel and stone structure.

According to tradition, the "Stourbridge Lion," first locomotive built in America, passed over Brook's bridge before it was assembled. The Stourbridge made its trial trip 91 years ago. The first run was at Honesdale, a mile from the bridge.

The structure has not a nail or metal bolt in it. All the timbers are hand hewn and pinned together with wooden pegs, which have held tightly throughout the years. It is said to have been completed in 1820.

Wood-Carving by Sand-Blast.

A process of carving wood by special application of the sand-blast, reported in the Compressed Air Magazine (New York), is said to be giving highly satisfactory results in California, especially when applied to the redwood of that state. We read: "Portions of the surface are covered by protective stencils which leave figures in relief and a uniform background. Very rich effects are produced in paneling the walls of a dining room, hall or den. While much of the work is done in the natural color of the rich, reddish brown wood, striking effects are brought out by the use of paints, deep blues, reds, browns and gilt."

Marine Spectacle.

A captain of an Atlantic liner was bothered by a woman passenger who was always inquiring about the possibility of seeing a whale. A dozen times a day she besought him to have her called if one hove in sight.

"But, madam," the captain asked her rather impatiently, after long suffering in silence, "why are you so eager to see a whale?"

"Captain," she answered, "my desire in life is to see a whale blubber. It must be very impressive to watch such an enormous creature cry."

Very Much Affrayed.

"Goin' in that house over there?" said the first tramp.

"I tried that house last week. I ain't goin' there any more," replied tramp No. 2.

"'Fraid on account of the dog?"

"My trousers are."

"Trousers are what?"

"Frayed on account of the dog."

Excusable Ignorance.

Pompous Profiteer (who wishes to alight at his palatial residence)—Put us down when you come to The Gables, please.

Conductor—You must tell me when you come to it. I'm new to the road and don't know any of the public houses.

When the gentleman who is next on the program says: "I want to add just a word to what has been said," make up your mind to be patient for three-quarters of an hour, or hustle out while he is taking his first glass of water.

Record Directory

FOR READY REFERENCE

President and Congress

President, Warren G. Harding, Ohio. Salary $75,000, with allowance for traveling expenses up to $25,000 extra, and $160,000 more for clerk hire and White House expenses—$260,000 in all. (Subject to change)

Vice-President, Calvin Coolidge, Mass., salary $12,000. President pro tem of senate, Albert B. Cummins, Iowa.

Speaker of House, Frederick H. Gillett of Mass.; salary $12,000. The 96 Senators and 435 Representatives of 67th congress receive $7,500 salary each, with mileage extra at 20 cents a mile each way, each session, figured mileage between their homes and Washington; also $125 extra for stationery, newspapers, etc. Each is also allowed $1,500 a year for clerk hire. Ratio of representation, one member to each 211,877 population.

Party Division in 67th Congress: House 301 Rep., 133 Dem., 1 Soc. Senate 59 Rep., 37 Dem.

U. S. Senators—Chas E. Townsend, Truman H. Newberry.

Representative in Congress—Joseph W. Fordney.

The Cabinet

Arranged in order of presidential succession: Sec'y State, Charles E. Hughes, N. Y.; Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon, Pa.; War, John W. Weeks, Mass.; Atty-Gen., Harry M. Daugherty, Ohio; Postmaster-Gen., Will H. Hays, Ind.; Secy Navy, Edwin Denby, Mich.; Interior, Albert B. Fall, N. Mex. Agriculture, Henry C. Wallace, Iowa; Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover, Calif.; Labor, James J. Davis, Pa. Salary of each $12,000

The Supreme Court

Chief Justice, William Howard Taft, salary $15,000. Associate Justices, salary $14,500 each: Jas McKenna, Calif., (Rep.); Oliver W. Holmes, Mass., (Rep); Wm. R. Day, Ohio, (Rep.); Willis VanDeventer, Wyo., (Rep.); Mahlon Pitney, N. J. (Rep); James McReynolds, Tenn., (Dem.) Louis D. Brandeis, Mass., (Dem.); John H. Clarke, Ohio, (Dem.)

Michigan Government

Governor, Alex. J. Groesbeck, salary, $5,000 Lieut. Gov., Thomas Read, salary, $500.00; Secretary of State, Charles J. Deland, salary, $2500.00 State Treas., Frank E. Gorman, salary, $2500.00; Auditor Gen., Oramel B. Fuller, salary $2500.00; Attorney Gen., Merlin Wiley, salary $5000.00; Supt of Public Instruction, Thomas E. Johnson, salary $3000.00; State Highway Com., Frank S. Rogers, salary $7500.00; Senator of District, Aaron Amon, salary $800.00; Representative of District, David G. Locke, salary, $800.00; Supreme Court Judges, salary $7000.00; Joseph B. Moore, Joseph B. Steere, Howard Wolf, Grant Fellows, John W. Stone, Geo. M. Clark, John E. Bird Nelson Sharp.

County Officers

Circuit Judge, Edward J. Moinet, salary $3500.00; Judge of Probate, James G. Kress, salary, $2450.00; Sheriff, A. T. Wilbert, salary, fees; Clerk, Bernie Case, salary, $1500; Treas., Sidney Evey, salary, $1500; Pros. Atty., Romaine Clark, salary, $2250; Register of Deeds, Chas. Heisler salary, fees; School Com., Howard Potter salary, $1650; Circuit Court Com., Archie McCall, Wm. A. Bahlke, fees; Drain Com. Erva Laycock, salary $1500; Coroners, W. K. Ludwig, Dr. Hall, fees.

City Government

Mayor, Chas. R. Murphy, salary, $300.00 City Commissioners, John C. Chick, Floyd Glass, A. J. Archer, Philip Cresser, salary $200.00; City Manager, Wm. E. Reynolds, salary $3000.00; City Clerk, Francis C Hayward, salary $1650.00; City Treasurer D. W. Adams, salary, $1850.00; City Attorney, Wm. A. Bahlke, salary, $1200.00 Health Officer, Dr. John N. Day, salary, $1500.00; Chief of Police, James R. Campbell, salary $1750.00; Supervisors, 1st ward Jesse B. Fuller, 2nd ward, Nicholas E Sand, 3rd ward, Albert P. Cook, 4th ward Jacob D. Helman, salary, $3.00 per day or actual time.

Ladies, get a box of the Social size Hammermill Bond Stationery, 250 sheets of paper with the same number of envelopes at the Record office.—advertisement

A SEVENTY-YEAR OLD COUPLE

Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Carpenter, Harrisburg, Pa., suffered from kidney trouble. He says: "My wife and I suffered from kidney trouble and had rheumatic pains all through the body. The first few doses of Foley Kidney Pills relieved us, and five bottles entirely cured us. Altho we are both in the seventies, we are as vigorous as we were thirty years ago."

SOLD EVERYWHERE IN ALMA

(Advertisement)

The Strand

THURSDAY and FRIDAY
James Oliver Curwood's
"KAZAN"
Fox News — Pathe Review

SATURDAY
BUCK JONES
—in—
"PARDON MY NERVE"
Punch Comedy

SUNDAY and MONDAY
THOS. H. INCE Presents
HOUSE PETERS and
FLORENCE VIDOR
—in—
"LYING LIPS"
This is an exceptional picture.
—also—
Mack Sennett Comedy

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY
CONSTANCE BINNEY
—in—
"ROOM AND BOARD"

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
GLORIA SWANSON
in Elinor Glynn's
"THE GREAT MOMENT"

Vaudeville
THURSDAY NIGHT

The Story of Our States

By JONATHAN BRACE

XII. NORTH CAROLINA

THE CAPITAL of North Carolina is very appropriately named Raleigh, for it was Sir Walter Raleigh who was responsible for North Carolina's first settlement. It was in 1584 that Raleigh obtained permission from Queen Elizabeth to plant an English colony in America, and the expeditions which he sent established a little colony on Roanoke island. There in 1587 was born the first American child of English parents. She was named Virginia Dare, after the virgin queen. This colony, due to England's war with Spain, could not be properly supported, and after a few years perished. It was not until over a century later that permanent settlements were made. Daring pioneers from Virginia pressed south into the new territory, and these, augmented by a large company of Huguenots from France and a greater number of Germans from the Palatinate, founded the first North Carolina town of Newburn in 1710. By the time of the Revolution the population in North Carolina had increased to such an extent, with an influx of Scotch-Irish and Scotch Highlanders who settled chiefly in the western counties, that it ranked fourth among the original thirteen colonies. Today its population entitles it to twelve electoral votes for president. In area it stands about half way among the states with 52,426 square miles. North Carolina was the twelfth state to adopt the Constitution, the formal ratification taking place in November, 1789. The derivation of the name Carolina, as in the case of South Carolina, came from the Latin Carolus, meaning Charles, and was given originally in honor of King Charles IX of France and retained by King Charles II of England. North Carolina is also known as the Old North state.

(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

BIGGEST AND BEST YET

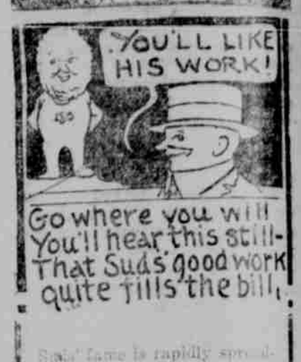
R-N-M White Naptha Soap

Made especially to be used with Rub-No-More Washing Powder. Use them together and save half your soap bill and above all—save your clothes.

AT YOUR GROCERS

Rub-No-More Company
Fort Wayne, Indiana

SUDS AND DUDS
ALMA CITY LAUNDRY
PHONE 233



Suds' fame is rapidly spreading. Duds has done a lot of talking about him and a lot of other folks who are particular about their laundry work are boosting his business. This is the laundry where you are certain to receive sanitary satisfaction.

LOOK FOR SUDS & DUDS

Alma City Laundry

Phone 233

THE French of today are famous as pastry makers, but they would not now think of using the crude methods pictured here that were employed by them some centuries ago. They, like ourselves, must have a

Modern Bakery Equipment

in order to produce the toothsome dainties that are demanded. Our customers tell us that our pastries are always as good and frequently better than the home kind. The secret is baking genius plus modern equipment.

Quality and cleanliness are the twin motives of this bakery at all times.

The Model Bakery

ABC OSCILLATOR

$99-

An Unrivaled Value!

A high grade electric washer, equal in efficiency to any other higher-priced make of its type, for only $99. Heavy copper tub; full capacity; enclosed parts; handsome cabinet; swinging electric wringer; time-tested parts. Guaranteed by a big, reliable maker and ourselves. Terms, if desired. Act quickly—limited supply.

Sold Exclusively by
EARL C. CLAPP'S
Winchester Hardware Store