

LOS ANGELES HERALD

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Population of Los Angeles, 319,198

A gentleman is one who never willingly hurts anyone's feelings.

BILLBOARD CENSOR IS NEEDED

THE fact that the council has been wrestling again with the question of the height of billboards leads many of us to ask why they should be permitted at all. There is all this talk and labor and effort over plans for a city beautiful, yet we still are bounded by a horizon of bad pictures and worse advice as to what we should eat, drink and wear. If the billboards must exist why not give the municipal art commission supervision over the illustrations that are to flaunt themselves in the public eye? There are beautiful decorations of palms and acacias and eucalyptus here that have been grown at great expense, and when one glances through such a vista the illusion of the beautiful vanishes when the eye finally rests upon a pictured invitation to lead a happier life in a checkered suit or to insist on getting a particular brand of sardines.

THE DOG AND THE HUSBAND

REV. DR. CHRISTIAN F. REISNER, an American preacher, is being subjected to merited rebukes because he dares to denounce women who lavish affection upon dogs. He declares they even go to the limit of neglecting their husbands and families. We hardly believe that is true in all cases. There are lots of women who speak as kindly to their husbands as they do to the dog. Of course, the husband may object at times to becoming a valet to a dog, but possibly that part of married life is covered by the "love, honor and obey" part of the contract, and he has to submit.

In most cases, however, the possession of a real thoroughbred dog makes the woman more solicitous about the welfare of her husband. She is likely to see to it that her husband walks correctly and is properly groomed and garbed, for it never would do to have a slovenly man on the other end of the leash when the pup goes out for an airing. All proprieties demand that the man shall at least look as well as the dog.

STUDY THE CHARTER CHANGES

IT is the duty of every citizen of Los Angeles to earnestly study the proposed amendments to the city charter which will come before them for vote some time in February. The city council has approved of fifteen amendments, but by a vote of only six to three in a body of nine. That there is room for honest differences of opinion is shown by this vote.

The Herald is not taking the position of endorsing or dissenting from any of the proposed changes at this time. There should be further opportunity for studying the provisions. There doubtless is much to approve and possibly some features to condemn, and a more public discussion of them is needed to bring out the facts.

At the same time the charter revision commission has performed its work honestly and well, and deserves the thanks of the community for its efforts, but the fact that its members were not unanimous in the changes they suggest leaves room for the voter also to study out for himself what is best for the city.

It still is a matter for the voter to determine whether the mayor's term shall be two years or four, and if the longer term is favored, why should the lengthening of the term be delayed two years? The question of whether the council should have power to review the demands of the various departments that are rejected by the auditor is also one to be decided by the voter on lines of whether it would aid or hamper the advancement of the city.

REGULATING FRATERNAL INSURANCE

THE fact that the various legislatures of the country are to be urged to pass a uniform bill for state supervision of fraternal insurance societies should meet with favor everywhere. In many families the only insurance carried is through such organizations, and the fixing of the stability of the various organizations may mean the difference between plenty and want for the dependent ones, and the time to make sure is now. A committee of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and a committee representing the fraternal organizations have agreed to a plan of state supervision. Fraternal organizations in many states are exempt from the rules imposed on regular life companies and the supervision over their business is in a measure informal.

That legislation of this kind has been needed for a long time has been apparent by the troubles into which a number of fraternal insurance associations have fallen. Some of these organizations have been in unsatisfactory condition because of rates which were too low. The aim always is to furnish life insurance as cheaply as possible and in striving to that end the managers often have neglected certain economic laws which were bound to assert themselves in due time.

It is estimated that insurance to the amount of \$7,000,000,000 is carried in these associations. There has never been any sound reason why they should not be carefully supervised by the states, but, on the contrary, every reason why they should have been so supervised. One has only to reflect on the fact that a very large majority of their members come from the ranks of the workers who can least afford to lose insurance which they have paid for during many years of membership.

EFFECTIVE POLICE WORK DEMANDED

CONDITIONS in Los Angeles demand a better police service and more protection for the lives and property of the citizens. Too many crimes have gone unpunished; too often the police are baffled. Members of the police force are not paid to give excuses and talks about the facts that happen to employ their fancies; they are paid to catch criminals and to prevent crime.

We must have a larger police force and we must get more efficiency from those who are already employed. The city council has provided for the appointment of many more policemen and they should be named at once and put to work. More men will be provided by the city if it is proved the present limitations of the force make the proper protection of the city impossible. The new chief of police has it in his power to give the city a better public safety service, and every aid within the power of the city government and the whole body of the citizenry ought to be given to him. His transfers and rearrangement of the police department should be unquestioned so long as he shows ability to fulfill the duties of the post for which he has been chosen.

Chief Sebastian has on his hands the duty of running down and convicting the dynamiters who were criminally responsible for the tragedy of the Times explosion and for the blowing up of the Llewellyn iron works. There also is the bandit who has attacked a half dozen young women and still is at large as a menace to all young girls who may have to be out at night. There are the perpetrators of a dozen other outrages who are still uncaught. Each of these cases breeds only a further contempt of the law by those with criminal intent and the repetition of these crimes shows that the police force as at present constituted no longer has any terror for the evildoer. An example should and must be made of each and every one of these offenders.

At the same time the new chief should remember that the highest efficiency of a police department lies in the prevention of crime rather than in the catching of the criminal after the offense has been committed. The best policemen are the ones who make the fewest arrests, and the best preventive of crime is a policeman walking his beat and never out of the sight of the man who plans a crime.

Therefore, Mr. Sebastian, cut down the special duty details where the officers are merely working out a theory or making grandstand plays in alleged purity and regulation reforms, and put them back patrolling the beats where the very sight of the night stick and the brass buttons are a guarantee to all honest persons of safety and physical warning to crooks that Los Angeles is not a good place for their operations.

It is a heap better to meet the professional criminal when he gets off the train than it is to search for him after he has violated the law. Our detectives, with the aid of the data furnished through the Bertillon system, ought to be able to pick out these men, and there are several on the staff at least who do know them, but as a rule they have been kept so busy looking after the notions of their superiors that they have not had a chance to hunt thieves.

What is needed most is for policemen to get back to real police work.

STANDPATTERS SEE A LIGHT

APPARENTLY the most unstable thing in this session of congress is the "standpat" policy. The pillars of that temple of political belief are crumbling now that Senator Lodge and Senator Aldrich are reluctantly agreeing that a revision of the tariff might help some.

It is only a year and a half ago that Henry Cabot Lodge was declaring that the consumer was a myth, but since then he has discovered that myths have votes and have elected a Democratic governor in his state and a legislature that is not disposed to retain him as the arbiter of elegance in the United States senate.

It is a new Mr. Lodge who is back in Washington. He really has begun to believe that we should have reciprocity with Canada and he also has changed his mind to where he believes the country should have a permanent tariff commission.

The other notable example is in Mr. Aldrich coming to believe that there should be a revision of the tariff by subjects instead of by schedules. He also wants a permanent commission to make possible constant revision pressure.

Of course these commission cries are for delay. The suffering of the public has formed all the investigation that is necessary on a good many subjects for revision, and one of them is meat. What is wanted by the country is quick action with a view to giving instant relief. The sooner the standpatters realize this the less danger there is of them being permanently placed in the "lame duck" class.

The grit that makes the American great is exemplified by Arch Hoxsey's own statement of how he broke the world's altitude record for birdmen by climbing into the skies until he was benumbed by cold and then taking a few more upward circles and one for good measure to cover any possible mistake in his barograph. He came down to discover he had beaten the record by 1000 feet. That at least ought to keep it in Los Angeles for a good while.

It appears that Edna Goodrich has wrecked her matrimonial craft trying to surprise her husband, Nat Goodwin. Many otherwise happy homes have been wrecked by the surprise treatment.

The amateur aviator who turned a complete somersault with his machine at Dominguez field is on the highway to success—if he can do it again.

Although a comedian, Nat Goodwin is called upon with surprising frequency to play "leads" in domestic tragedies.

Dr. Cook says he came home to "get right" with the people of America, but there is a suspicion that he will get left.

Possibly, with a little more practice, Hoxsey will be able to answer that ancient question, "Is Mars inhabited?"

An increase in the number of births during December shows that California is still strongly pro-Roosevelt.

Something Will Be Doing in the Police Department



THE HERALD'S PUBLIC LETTER BOX

CALL FOR LETTERS

There are letters at The Herald office for P. A. Jensen, Channing Severance, Anna P. Hart and Edward W. Dickey.

PRaise FOR HERALD'S POLICY

Editor Herald: A Pasadena lady, under a spell of anger, has "got on her high horse" and ordered her Herald stopped. Well, I'll wager a dollar to a canceled postage stamp that that lady will read The Herald just the same, and I'll further wager that that self same woman will shortly cancel her objection and resubscribe for the very paper she now condemns. The Los Angeles Herald is an excellent, clean news medium and its Letter Box forum is a most valuable acquisition, appreciated by all classes of intelligent thinkers. READER, Los Angeles, Cal.

WAGES OF CITY LABORERS

Editor Herald: I see it is proposed in the amendments to the city charter to raise the salary of the mayor to \$5000 a year and the councilmen to \$2000 a month, but nothing about raising the pay of the laborers, which should be at least \$3 a day. They should be given a half day off on Saturday and other holidays the same as the big officials. If not, then the working people, who are the great majority, who do the hard work for little Jorty, who are the original producers of all wealth, should get wise and vote those amendments down, all join the Socialists and at the next election elect a workingman for mayor and workingmen for the entire city council, etc. What is fair for the ganders, the big fellows, should be fair for the geese—the working people. Turn about is fair. Milwaukee is first; Los Angeles may be next. I believe in good pay and treating all alike. Let us do away with special privileges and special high salaries for big politicians and starvation wages for working people. J. D. BAILEY, 818 East Fifth street.

IN FAVOR OF SOCIALISM

Editor Herald: The best thing I have read in favor of Socialism comes from Austria. "I have investigated," says Professor Hertzka in his work, "Laws of Social Evolution," published in Vienna some years ago, why labor and time will be necessary to create all common necessities of life for our Austrian nation of 22,000,000. It takes 16,500,000 hectares (two and one-half acres) of agricultural lands, 3,000,000 of pasturage for all agricultural producers. I then allowed a house to be built for every family consisting of five rooms. I then found that all industries, agriculture, architecture, buildings, flour, sugar, coal, iron, machine building, clothing and chemical productions, needed 815,000 laborers, employed eleven hours per day 300 days a year to satisfy every imaginable want for 22,000,000 inhabitants. "These 815,000 laborers are only 12.3 per cent of the population able to

A HEARTY LAUGH

Being the day's best jokes from the news exchange.

Senator Dooliver told of a physician at Fort Dodge, Ia., who had a grave made for a man who was dying, but the man got well, and the doctor was joked about it for many years afterward. Once, in consultation with three other physicians, he attended a patient who died. After the death, one of the physicians said: "Since a quick burial is necessary, we might inter the body temporarily. I understand Dr. X has a vacant grave on hand." "Yes, I have," said Dr. X, "and I believe I am the only physician present whose graves are not all filled."—Judge.

SOCIALISM AND INCOMPETENTS

Editor Herald: Mr. O'Brien is trying to hide behind the worn-out phrase, "There are so many brands of Socialism." There is but one brand of Socialism and that is the one that gives to the producer the full product of what he produces, less what is necessary to care for those unfit to care for themselves. Mr. O'Brien is afraid of being dragged down to the level of "incompetents." This would be impossible under Socialism, as everybody would have an equal opportunity and would have the full product of his own labor and not part of mine and others as under present conditions. Taking part of the product of the laborer by the capitalist, as is done now, is where the capitalist system gets in its deadly work. Fortunately for me, my father was "competent," and I am not compelled to work to live, consequently I am one of those that the Socialists are against. I have lived over 50 years off the earnings of these "incompetents," as Mr. O'Brien calls them, and I expect to do so until the workers, producers or "incompetents" learn how to vote.

DOES THE EGO PERSIST?

Editor Herald: I think those who have tried to answer me. But Mrs. Green misses the point altogether, which is: Not what the ego may be assumed to do, once its persistence (after death) has been proved or granted; but whether its persistence can be rationally demonstrated; while Mr. Jensen yields the point as it affects me by admitting that the case for immortality rests on faith rather than on reason.

Then comes "Faith" (ominous pseudonym) who finds "flowers" mixed with my logic. I am sorry—I thought I had avoided that. I notice he has blossomed some himself. He speaks of "what a man learns, what he feels and what he is; and he seeks to set apart" the third item as the residuum—the ego that persists—or so I understand him. But a moment's reflection should enable him to realize that that won't do, because what a man is is bound up inseparably with what he learns and feels; is, in fact, chiefly made up of same; only what he is in the material, morphological sense can be said that tentatively considered as distinct from his psychological self; and the mortality of that part (the physical form) is nowhere disputed. Thus we get back to the ego whose persistence or non-persistence is in question, and to my query: "What is the ego—apart from the body which dies?" Is it anything more than I have postulated it—the sum of one's experiences?

Rather than cover a simple issue I will take a bull (an Irish bull) by the horns, trusting to others not to quibble over the term, so long as I make myself understood. To illustrate my point that it is only our diverse individual experience that constitutes each separate ego or personality I will make this statement—an Irish bull: "If two men could have complete identity or unity of experience (mark that word 'complete') there would be complete identity or unity of person—our two men would be but one." (Sounds odd, but I think you will understand.)

Now when the body (the seat of all knowledge, feeling and experience or capacity to know, to feel or to experience) dies, what is left to constitute an ego or separate personal identity? Without the physical, there is no consciousness. With the death of the physical part of us, upon which perforce our whole mentality, character, personality, sense of relation, identity, individual consciousness, ego (I care not by what name you call it) is built; out of which, indeed, it is formed—the ego, it seems to me, must terminate, even as the flame must perish when the candle is consumed. This is no poetical simile or flourish of speech, but an analogy moderately close, for just as surely as the candle makes and feeds its flame (which cannot survive without it), so the physical body and its conditions and relations furnish the experience whose sum constitutes the ego. SPECTATOR.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

T-LOSE LABORATORY SPORTS In addition to the high cost of living it's a little discouraging to learn that 100 cases of rotten eggs are sold here daily, and that of 20 cases of tomato paste confiscated Wednesday an expert reported: "I find that in the 200 cases there are 9,011,000,000,000 bacteria and 208,87,040,000,000 yeasts and spores," he said. "Pretty good for one day's catch."—New York Telegram.

STRANGE THINGS AFIELD

A hunter was about to pick up a rabbit that he had shot when the creature jumped up and ran. Although at this instant the hunter fell dead, the episode could have been no more than a coincidence. It is not supposed that a person capable of being fatally scared by a rabbit would have any tendency to go hunting.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

CONSTRUCTIVE DAMAGES

A woman in Cincinnati is suing a car company for damages because an injury to her shoulder in one of the company's cars has disabled her from arranging her puts and her pompadour. And yet what mere damages could pay for suffering like this?—Baltimore (Md.) American.

THE MOON IS MASCULINE

The moon is a dependable old fellow. All of his monkeyshines, including eclipses, are pulled off on schedule time. How different he is from his more notorious but exceedingly flighty neighbor, one Halley's comet.—Topska (Kas.) State Journal.

GOOD FOR THE THOUGHTLESS

Swiss scientists have a plan for reforming the calendar. They propose to "forget" a few holidays. Many of us have a habit of forgetting days and weeks, so perhaps the new style would be a happy idea.—Philadelphia Evening Times.

THE GENUINE EAU SUCRE

The sugar trust owns the city of New York a half million dollars for water. We should think the trust would be able to obtain from its own securities a sufficient quantity of water to operate its refineries.—Houston (Tex.) Post.

A PERFECT RIGHT, BUT—

Boni de Castillane has a perfect right to start the rumor that he is to marry again, but he is impertinent in trying to drag any American girl into the deal.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

CAN'T EAT PATHOLOGY

James A. Patten gives \$200,000 to the Northwestern Medical school for the study of pathology. Don't care if he does get a corner on pathology—can't eat that.—San Antonio Express.

TWAS EVER THIS

A Kansas woman wants a divorce because her husband throws bricks at her. No man has a right to throw anything at his wife but bouquets.—Duluth News-Tribune.

PRESIDENTIAL PREPARATION

A college professor has crossed Africa, but it is probable that Woodrow Wilson still has the start of him.—Cleveland Leader.

THE ONE DRY SPOT

Marylanders are sobbing prayerfully for rain. It seems to be the only real dry section in the south.—Omaha Bee.

A POEM WORTH WHILE

INVICTUS BY WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY
Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.
In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced or cried aloud;
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.
Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.
It matters not how straight the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.