

THE YELLOWSTONE MONITOR

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1915

EDITORIAL

TODAY AND THE NEW YEAR.

Dr. Frank Crane in The Butte Miner

The best thing you have in the world is today. Here it is, a wonderful treasure, a marvelous jewel. It's yours, all yours. It's in your hands. What are you going to do with it?

Today is your savior; it is often crucified between two thieves, Yesterday and Tomorrow.

Today you can be happy, not yesterday nor tomorrow. There is no happiness except to-day's.

Most of our misery is left over from yesterday or borrowed from tomorrow. Keep to-day clean. Make up your mind to enjoy your food, your work, your play, today anyhow.

Time is not divided into three parts, past, present and future. There is only one real time: it is now.

You can do anything, if you'll only go at it a day at a time.

If you're bereaved, betrayed, heart-broken, why, take a day off. One day will not matter. Today put away your festering thoughts. Today be a little happy in the sunshine. You can do it. It's the burden of the coming days, weeks, years, that crushes us. The present is always tolerable.

Whoever planned this life of ours did well in giving to us one day at a time. We don't have to live it all at once, thanks be! We've only got to get through till bedtime.

And at the end of every day we are bathed in death. In sleep we go back to our original nothingness. Every morning we are born again.

Why let life oppress you? You don't have to live your life, only a day of it. Come, let's finish our small task manfully. It's not long.

Don't let life mass against you. Attack it in detail and you can easily triumph.

"Oh, but I can't help thinking of the past. And one must plan for the future." To be sure. Only forget not that it is not the past that determines the present; it is the present that determines the past.

The past is what we make of it. It is the temper of the present that qualifies it. It all depends upon how you now consider it, whether it brings you despair or discouragement.

Suck out its wisdom, keep its lessons, utilize its experience, make of all those things elements of present power. But forget its septic qualities. Don't let the past unman you, benumb you with remorse, weaken you with self-contempt.

The poet says we rise by stepping on our dead selves. And as for the future, the best preparation for it is an unafraid today.

Whatever hills you have to climb, whatever bridges you have to cross, whatever enemies are lying in wait for you, whatever crises are to be met, you can be no better equipped for them than by living this day soundly, cheerfully and free from fear.

Apprehensions, premonitions, and worries, these are the poison gases of our foe, the future.

If you are to die tomorrow, the best way to be ready is to discharge faithfully today's duties and to enjoy heartily today's simple pleasures.

Today is yours. God has given it to you. All your yesterdays he has taken back. All your tomorrows are still in his hands.

Today is yours. Take its pleasures and be glad. Take its pains and play the man.

Today is yours, just a little strip of light between two darknesses, just a bit of life between two sleep-deaths.

Today is yours. Use it so that at its close you can say:

"I have lived and loved, today!"

Frisco says: "Don't expect everyone to take you as seriously as you take yourself."

LAWS SHOULD BE ENFORCED.

It would seem that the fact that a certain law was on the statute books ought to be sufficient reason for its enforcement. Yet there are times when public officials do not seem to take such a view, but rather set themselves up as being greater than society itself by saying that they are guided in the enforcement of the law by public opinion.

"I believe in being liberal on such mat-

ters," recently remarked an eastern Montana county attorney when his attention was called to the fact that a certain statute was being violated and that in other sections of the state it was being rigidly enforced. "You have to be guided by public sentiment and I do not propose to enforce the law in this matter unless public sentiment is behind it. And, by public sentiment, I do not mean any body of reformers or any clique. It must be a large public sentiment."

The men with whom he was talking took somewhat the same view as the prosecuting attorney and as none of them deems the acts whereby the law is violated as anything really wrong the enforcement of the particular law in question is not apt to take place in that particular community in the very near future.

Such process of reasoning does not augur well for the safety of society. If the attitude of the authorities in regard to this particular law should be the same in reference to the enforcement of all laws, the safety of human life and the preservation of the community's peace would be threatened. If officials take such a view it is no wonder that among the laymen there are criminals and that our courts are crowded with lawbreakers.

It would seem that, when a state legislature, after due and careful consideration, in response usually to some public demand, enacts a law, it ought to be obeyed. When a man takes a public position he takes oath to uphold the constitution and laws of the state and nation, and how any man who is supposed to see that laws are enforced and violators prosecuted can make his oath and his policy of "being liberal on such matters" jibe is hard for the layman to understand.—Billings Gazette.

The most unique suggestion we have even heard of to raise the extra \$100,000,000 that will be needed in the event of President Wilson's defense plans being enacted by congress, was advanced week before last by the New York World. This estimable paper suggests that the money be raised by everyone paying a dollar, and as there are 100,000,000 people in the United States, presto, the \$100,000,000 will be forthcoming. The proposition reminds us of the old story of the southern colonel who aspired to become a millionaire by the sale of his mule medicine. "You see," said the Colonel, "thar is a million mules in the United States. Ma mule remedy sells for one dollar a bottle, so if every mule uses only one bottle, thar's a million dollars, you see?"

When asked recently by a constituent if he thought it was the right thing for the republicans to do to put up a candidate of unknown quantity against Wilson whose merits are known to the entire country, in the hope of beating him next November, a prominent Montana democrat is reported as replying as follows: "Your question reminds me of the story of the man who once went to a prominent Jewish rabbi and asked him if he thought it was right for a Christian to try to cheat a poor Jew. 'Uv course eet iss not right for a Christian to cheat a poor Jew, but who in de hell can do eet?'"

While the republican papers never fail to mention that the democratic majority in the House of Representatives has been somewhat reduced, they invariably fail to proclaim the fact that the democratic majority in the Senate has been increased, by virtue of the recent elections. The Senate is where we have most needed strength and this has been accomplished by the recent election of democratic senators in the states of California, South Dakota and Wisconsin. As it is, the party will have a fair and comfortable working majority in both branches of congress.

In referring editorially to the recent raids in Butte and Helena, by which a number of time worn evils were corrected by official action, one of the papers said: "It almost invariably happens that the average lawbreaker will do nothing whatsoever to hold the support and the good will of legitimate enterprises and individuals, but will bellow the loudest when he is exposed to the public view for what he really is—a cheap grafter."

At any rate Glendive was not the last Montana city to fall in line on the punch board and gambling nuisance. They were put out of business last week in Lewistown and there are other cities which will also turn over a new leaf along these lines by the first of the New Year.

It matters not how often and how persistently the republican papers continue to tell us of the alleged re-uniting of the republican party, the democrats and the progressives will be entirely "from Missouri" until the election returns, next November, are all in.

Frisco says: "Some people at birth seem to have been endowed for life with 'policies of diplomacy' instead of 'principles of character.'"

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