

The Seattle Star

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Home Brew



A WORD FROM JOSH WISE
We see an awful big lot of us clouds composed of the number of atoms we are.

D'Annunzio makes his exit, but we still have Charlie Chaplin.

The man who invented fly paper is dead. He not only helped us get rid of a pest, but he upset the ancient notion that the way to succeed was by sticking to a thing.

Not long ago New York's police commissioners told the folk in his town that the crime wave there was due to handouts which wished to buy Christmas presents for their friends. But since Christmas there has been more crime than ever. It may be that the bandits are preparing for best Christmas.

"MILLIONS ARE LIVING WHO WILL NEVER DIE"

The dead Indian arose after the fight, washed his face, and was apparently little the worse for the battle. His condition, however, became serious during the night, and he died from the effects of his poisoning a few days later.—Portage, Wis., Register-Democrat.

It's hard to tell who gets more for a round—Jack Dempsey or a bootlegger.

GETTING READY TO OPEN A QUARRY

H. W. Ridpath, M. D., of Indianapolis, is related to the Ridpaths of this county, of whom he came to inquire, and whose families he is apt to investigate at some future date for geological purposes.—Oskaloosa, Ia., Herald.

Gary blames capital, labor and the tradesmen for the present business depression. He overlooked the children.

"Navy's New Boat Takes to Water"—A New York Tribune headline. What else can it get? We lamp in the newspapers the "state" for Uncle Warren's "cabinet." Uncle should be ready by now to hold a few sessions.

Word comes from the Congo that the girls there are wearing higher-heeled shoes and silk stockings. But no doubt they are still too modest to wear the stylish skirts and waists.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Never throw away the mercury on the back of an old mirror. Save it and use it when making a thermometer.

Coffee grounds can be removed easily from a percolator by using a vacuum cleaner.

Never starch an Oriental rug. An old cushion or pillow placed on the bottom of a kitchen sink will prevent it from being scratched by the dishpan.

An oil painting should be scrubbed once or twice a year with soap and water and then rubbed with brick dust.

From all sides come reports that the problem of taxes is bothering the republican leaders. But their bother is nothing to that of the man who has to pay 'em.

We began to work a month ago.

On our income tax return.

And then forgot it.

We shall begin again next Monday.

And if we have luck.

We'll finish it.

About noon, March 15.

And file it.

About 4 o'clock.

And we shall probably meet you in the Federal building.

As you file yours.

Uncle Warren wants to keep a dog while he is in the White House but he can't decide what breed he should pick. We feel certain everybody will agree with us when we say the most appropriate would be the bull.

Strange, but a company with a lot of water stock nearly always has difficulty in finding a loan.

They're talking now of Hoover for secretary of the interior. He made a great success of that job in Belgium.

SHOULD CAUSE A REDUCTION

Doctor—You have been in the jaws of death, but your strong constitution pulled you thru.

Patient—Please recall that, doc, when you write out the bill.

Is Congress Boss?

When congress passes a law saying this must be done and that must NOT be done, does it mean anything?

That is the question involved in the disposition of half a billion dollars' worth of oil lands, title to which, ostensibly, has passed to the Southern Pacific railroad.

There is no question but that a government patent, signed by a secretary of interior, was granted the Southern Pacific for the lands.

But congress, in the act authorizing the grant of land, specifically provided that mineral lands, excepting coal and iron, should not be included in lands given the railroad. And as oil is a mineral that would seem to cover oil lands.

When oil was discovered on some 165,000 acres of the land patented to the Southern Pacific, a government suit was begun to re-establish the government's title under the reservations made in the granting act. The road, it was provided, would have the right of selecting, in lieu thereof, an equal area of non-mineral lands elsewhere.

But the road didn't wish to substitute. It wanted the oil lands. It fought the suit and won in the California courts.

Attorney General Palmer, who as prosecuting officer of the government was charged with pressing the suit, refused to take it to the U. S. supreme court.

But a private suit, also testing the railroad title on some five sections of this land, remains pending. And a resolution directing the attorney general to interplead for the government in trial of this suit has been introduced in congress.

Who is boss—congress or the administrative officials of the government?

The issue can be settled if congress will pass the Raker resolution ordering the attorney general to "assert on behalf of the United States the claim and right of the United States" to these oil lands given away in violation of the law.

Come on, gentlemen of congress, let's have the showdown! Do you play second fiddle to Uncle Sam's administrative officers, or not?

When you pass a law is it LAW?

The Shorter Life

"The longest average life is in Norway." Maybe! Records of longevity are not generally credited. One reason may be that the farther back one goes into history the longer men are said to have lived. Also the vital statistics were less accurate. There's more than suspicion that connection exists between these two facts.

Thomas Carn is said to have lived longer than any other in modern times. The authority in this case is the parish register of St. Leonard's, Shore-ditch, where he is said to have died at the ripe age of 207.

And there was Old Jenkins! That is, they called him old. But when he died in England he was only 160.

William Wakley, according to the record of St. Andrew's church, Shifnal, Salop, was at least 124 when he departed this world on November 25, 1714.

Mary Yates lived at Lizard Common, Shifnal. It must have been a healthful neighborhood, Shifnal. She married her third husband at the age of 92, and lived to be 127, when she died in 1774.

Every little while someone comes forward with a recipe for long life. But not much attention is paid to it. Nor is there any great rush for Norway. The trend of emigration is in this direction. Eff. dently many persons prefer the sort of shorter life which is lived in the United States.

The Town Our Children Live In

That children may measure a city's "class" is the suggestion of Professor William B. McKeever, of the University of Kansas. McKeever has made careful work among children in many parts of the country a specialty. Recently he has issued a score card by which a city's standards can be figured, based on its environment for children.

There are 19 points included in the score card upon which may be judged the town as a place in which to raise children.

Here they are:

Play for children in parks and playgrounds; industry, including work classes in the schools, vacation chances for it, and the conditions for juvenile employment;

Schools and the method of "connecting them up" with the community;

Health, covering nursing, health inspection and hospitals; Scoutcraft for both boys and girls;

Moral safeguards, such as inspection of movies and dance halls; Sociability, which touches that side of existence known as community life;

Religion, in all its forms;

Service, to include clubs to deal with children's constructive as well as educational problems;

Housing, features of which include its adequacy, sanitation, and comfort.

Joe Miller's Idea

On a hot afternoon many years ago a traveling drummer was driving his "hones an' rig" along a country road near Winchester, Ohio. Noticing a farmer boy working with his jack-knife on a large piece of hardwood under the shade of a wild cherry tree, the drummer reined up his mule-an-hour steed and hitched and climbed over the fence.

The farmer boy explained that he didn't like to lift buggies and heavy wagons when he greased their axles, so he had made a contrivance to do the lifting for him. The drummer loaned the farmer five dollars to take out a patent.

That boy was Joe Miller and his invention was the lifting-jack which in various forms is now used on farms, in factories, and in the building trades, not to mention that no auto tool kit is complete without a jack.

We don't know whether Joe Miller is still alive, but if he is he must get a lot of satisfaction as he looks about and contemplates the work that his simple device has saved in this none too easy world.

It is one of the queer ironies of life that this particular Joe Miller did not become famous, much as he deserved it. Mention the name, Joe Miller, and every one thinks you mean the Drury Lane comedian who two centuries ago was falsely credited with writing that immortal classic, "Joe Miller's Joke Book."

Three Cheers!

Considerable amusement is expressed by members of the interstate commerce commission at the statement recently published by the association of railway managers, telling what fine and noble things the railroads have accomplished since they were returned to private management. Among other things the private managers point to the relocation of 180,000 freight cars and the untangling of congestion of the various freight centers.

The interstate commerce commission derives its amusement from the fact that all this work happens to have been done by the interstate commerce commission.

Last May the railroad managers came to the commission and admitted their inability to meet the difficulties. They begged for aid.

The commission had power under previous legislation to apportion cars and direct traffic and since May the commission has been issuing orders which have brought about the movement of coal and the use of cars where they were needed. Now the railway executives rush into the open and propose three cheers for themselves.

Berlin's Best Joke

A returning American traveler reports that the best joke in the vaudeville theatres of Berlin runs like this:

Hans: "So you're back from the war at last?"

Fritz: "Yes, it took me a long time to get back."

Hans: "You must have been the last one."

Fritz: "No, there is one who isn't home yet."

Thus do the comedians of Germany sneer at the deserting war-lord, while the house roars with ribald laughter.

This is about as good news as has come out of Germany for some time. When a former subject people learn to laugh at their autocrat, it is a sign that they are releasing themselves from the great delusion of hereditary and divine authority.

The rage of the inspired orator shaking his fist at Divine Right is not half as effective as the clown poking Divine Right in the ribs and proving it is only straw.

Marketing Wheat

Sometime about January 10, there will be a big meeting at Washington of all kinds of farmers' co-operative organizations interested in marketing grain. The object is to form a terminal marketing company on a nation-wide scale.

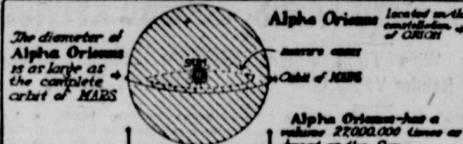
The farmers have watched the citrus growers organize themselves and handle their product from the farm into the hands of the retailer. The farmers see that wheat will always be a subject of speculation and manipulation if they permit it to be marketed by people who do not grow wheat.

Wheat producers finally are getting together to arrange for building their own warehouses at all important terminals and will be able to hold their wheat grade up, clean it, store it, or market it as the market demands.

Attorney General Palmer says he'll be glad to get back into private life. The eyes seem to have it; the eyes have it. It's unanimous.

The next generation will wonder what folks meant when they said, "He's solving his wild oats."

Here's 'Sky Yardstick' Measures Distant Suns



The diameter of Alpha Orionis is as large as the complete orbit of Earth.

Philosophers have always said that the more a man knows the less important he appears to himself. Scientists are demonstrating that this mundane sphere is as insignificant as a pinpoint among the prodigious orbits of the universe.

Above is shown the famous 100-inch telescope which Prof. A. A. Michelson used in connection with his recently perfected device to arrive at the exact dimensions of the orbits unthinkably distant in space. His discoveries have been astounding. He found that Alpha Orionis, hitherto considered more or less a stranger to astronomers, is 300,000,000 miles in diameter. Compare this with the 8,000 mile diameter of the earth, then compare yourself with the Rocky Mountains, and you see where you really stand in the scheme of things.

The sun has always been considered a fairly sizeable object, but Prof. Michelson says Alpha is 200 times as large, and that its diameter is as great as the complete orbit of Mars.

The picture above also shows the Mt. Wilson Observatory near Pasadena, California, at which the experiments were made, together with a drawing showing the size of Alpha Orionis compared with the sun, earth and Mars.

Inquiring Reporter



TODAY'S QUESTION
Why do you think dance halls should not be closed?

ANSWERS

MRS. WILMUTH WOODWORTH, 4215 12th ave. N. E.: "Who said I thought they should not be closed? I'm sure I'm against them because they put the stamp of approval on free and any commingling of perfect strangers."

MRS. NELLIE GRANT, 19th and Greendale: "Because they do give an opportunity for enjoyment, and people in the halls are always under police protection."

MRS. S. L. BURRINGTON, 1521 18th ave. N.: "Because places of amusement are absolutely necessary. The question is not one of closing; it is one of regulation."

MRS. GEORGE LONG, 4214 12th ave. N. E.: "I believe they should be closed. The evils connected with them are too hard to remedy."

MRS. M. B. RODERICK, 205 19th ave.: "Because young working people, girls and boys, are entitled to dance halls. We've got to keep the halls decent, that's all."

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT SEATTLE?

QUESTIONS

1. How many ex-service men and women in Seattle?

2. What percentage of the city's population is native American?

3. How much has the U. S. assay office in Seattle received and paid for gold in the past 20 years? (Answers Monday)

PREVIOUS QUESTIONS

1. One-third of the American vessel tonnage between American and Asiatic ports for 1920 is credited to the Washington customs district, of which Seattle is headquarters and chief port.

2. January of last year showed more arrests than any other month. There were 2,274 arrests in January against 2,250 for November.

3. Seattle city treasury has a balance of \$3,443,923 with which to begin the new year.

SOUVENIR TO MAUD POWELL
Miss Powell died Jan. 8, 1920.

At twilight hour the silver note
Your name has come to me
As sweet as from a bird's pure throat
At mating time in spring.

In tender melody I hear
Your voice has given
The lovely notes of heaven,
The wondrous tones.—Leo R. Loomis.

Within the hour of mourning
The chambers of my heart
Will hold your songs and sympathies
The wondrous tones.—Leo R. Loomis.

IT COMES IN HANDY IN A POKER GAME

Lost—I lost my glass eye at the postoffice. Finder please return to Box 75. I need my glass eye, as I no longer have the eyes of youth.—Advertisement in Fairfield (Ill.) Journal.

banker smites the hand that feeds him. I am not sore on the banks but wish to show up their tactics, that we, the people, may know why the last prop is knocked from under business at this time. I believe in letting the public know why business is dull. People cannot buy if they are called on to meet their loans at the bank. If bankers would reverse the common run of business, help in time of need, then there would be no depression. Help would be kept at work, and practically no suffering at all. V. W. CLOUGH.

In the Editor's Mail

LIGHT BY WIRELESS? QUITE POSSIBLE

Editor The Star: Your editorial giving some of the wonders of "wireless" gave me an idea on which to base a theory that the whole universe may be lighted by "wireless." Now, if it is possible to steer a ship, light an electric lamp or start an automobile by means of this relatively weak current, at a distance of several miles, without wires, what would be the natural result of the centralizing of all the vast number of powerful electric currents on waves which are continually being sent out from every one of the many worlds in this great universe?

The theory is that at the meeting point of these currents will be created a great electric light. That these great lights are the suns which light the universe.

Is it not the wonder of the scientific world that these suns have burned for millions of years without becoming less in volume or power? And would not this theory, after having become one of the proven facts of science, prove to be the explanation of this apparently unexplainable natural phenomenon? WM. McELHINEY, Bremerton.

HE BLAMES DEPRESSION ON THE BANKS

Editor The Star: Who has knocked the last prop and let business fall? Answer: The banker. Who is the first to desert in the fight for business? Answer: The banker. Who is the first to depress business by calling in his loans? Answer: The banker. Money talks, but the bankers are always ready to close these talking traps. When it comes to general business, it is the banker who is the very bugbear of our nation. They are the very enemy of good business. They are the cowardly snapping turtle that pushes out its head and snaps you up when least expected. It would be better for business if every business man would have his own safety vault.

I have done business with banks in my early career, and managed to get all the accommodation I needed, but I was always on my guard so that when depressions came the bankers did not get a chance to squeeze me by calling in their loans. But I have always noticed that when a business man wanted a loan to tide over in a depression like the present, the banks gave practically no help when most needed. The

Star Man Reports to Pres. Harding on the League of Nations

BY H. N. HUCKEY
(Representative of Star and Associated Papers at League of Nations Meeting)

MARION O. Jan. 1.—It was my privilege to give to President-elect Harding the first personal report of the meeting of the league of nations assembly held at Geneva, Switzerland, from November 15 to December 18.

Believing that the president-elect would be interested in getting inside facts as to the assembly meeting from the first man to return to America from Geneva, I advised him of my return and received a prompt and cordial invitation to come to Marion.

The interview, or conference, or whatever it may be called, lasted upward of an hour.

Harding asked me to give him an outline of the workings of the machinery of the assembly.

He interrupted frequently with questions which indicated his keen interest in the more important phases of the assembly activities, especially those phases which had even the most indirect bearing upon any possible future relationship between the United States and the European nations.

HARDING EARNESTLY FOR EARLY SOLUTION
I am not at liberty to intimate what views were expressed by Harding.

But it is quite within the proprieties to say that the president-elect convinced me of his earnest desire to meet and solve the vital question of the relationship between America and the rest of the world at the earliest possible time after he is inaugurated.

And further, there is no doubt that Harding realizes that American cannot, if it needs inevitable, be the most artistic and beautiful medal ever minted at an annual rate of 2,750,000,000.

The cent is an industrious worker, as busy as the bee, and ought not to be thrown aside. A hive of them, properly directed, will produce a flow of golden honey.

The little bronze cent now common to us had its beginning in 1854, when a brother two-cent piece, now discarded, was also coined. Our cent, the dates back to 1788, when an act was passed by congress, the act being modeled by that wise man, Thomas Jefferson, to coin a cent, 100 of which were to equal a dollar in value, and the 100 to weigh two and one-fourth pounds. That was the first use of "cent" in our coinage.

The size and weight has been changed a number of times since, but never the name. Yet for 125 years people have in no small number insisted on calling the cent a "penny," an English term. Mint officials, for a great many years, have tried to eliminate the term "penny" to the cent, but have failed.

Director of the Mint Baker says: "They are emphatically not pennies, any more than they are coped, or farthings or yen." Anyhow, give us plenty of them. What is that about the rose smelling just as sweet under some other name?

A Chicago professor has figured out that a star in Orion has a diameter 300 times as large as the sun's. The star is so far away that nobody will be able to contradict him.

with the leading statesmen of many of the nations.

CONFIDENT HARDING FOR WORLD LEAGUE

Harding, who, by the way, is one of the best listeners I have ever met, showed intense interest in my report and interpretation of world conditions as manifested at the Geneva assembly.

Such remarks as he made, indicated that, notwithstanding the multiplicity of his duties, he has been following every development of the world situation very closely.

And not only has he been following it closely, he has also been working out in his mind a plan for the participation by America in world affairs which, when finally formulated, will be made public for thought and discussion by the people of the nation.

While I cannot say so authoritatively, I am certain that immediately after Harding's inauguration the first step will be taken toward the goal of America's participation in world reconstruction.

A CENT

There has always been an unanswered mystery as to what becomes of the great quantity of needles and pins and cents. Factories and mints are kept running continually to keep the supply up with the demand. And then, frequently, the production fails to keep pace with requirements.

Ray T. Baker, director of the United States mint, tells that the mints where cents are made frequently run night and day, turning out the "most artistic and beautiful medal ever minted" at an annual rate of 2,750,000,000.

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The SCANDINAVIAN AMERICAN BANK

CARE OF CHILDREN

A good healthy child is a source of a great deal of pleasure (except when you have to walk the floor with it).
Seattle has promised to care for 1,515 orphans in the Near East. A drive is now on for the 1921 expenses.
Hoover is back of a drive for the United States to save at least a portion of the 1,500,000 starving babies in Europe.
But what would become of your kiddies if you should be killed and left no estate? Would they starve or freeze to death?
A kind lady—Mrs. O. H. Ryther—has been caring for Seattle orphans for the past 37 years. Today she has 97 under her wing. Kiddies from 2 to 12 years old who have no other home. The Ryther Child Home is now asking for help. They want cast-off clothing (any size, they make them over), all kinds of food (no amount too small), bed clothing, furniture, in fact anything that is at all serviceable.
Let each family look in the attic, the old clothes closet and the food cellar and give them something.
Telephone this bank (L. C. Bogardus) or Elliott 1287 if you cannot send it to them at 4418 Stone Way.

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THE SCANDINAVIAN AMERICAN BANK

SEATTLE Branch at Ballard

Rev. M. A. Matthews
will deliver a sermon
Sunday morning
entitled,
**THE CHURCH
AND THE
NEW PROBLEMS**
In the evening he will
discuss the subject,
**SANITY,
SOBRIETY AND
SONSHIP
NEEDED FOR
THE
COMING CRISIS**
GOOD MUSIC
**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
Seventh and Spring