

### The Seattle Star

By mail, out of city, 50c per month; 5 months \$2.50; 6 months \$3.75; year, \$7.00. In the State of Washington, outside of the state, 75c per month, \$4.50 for 6 months, or \$9.00 per year. By carrier, city, 15c per week.

Subscription Association and United Front Service

Published Daily by The Star Publishing Co. Phone Main 604.

### Home Brew

#### OUR DAILY FICTION

Once upon a time there was a man and his wife who were friends also married. Friend Husband had participated in a hard night's work at the Tuesday Evening club, but had emerged seven dollars and six bits to the good, having had the good fortune to hold three aces against three kings. So the next day Friend Wife suggested that they have dinner at the Bungalow or at the Butler.

"Nay, nay," replied Friend Husband. "I don't like to go where the entertainers wear such short skirts."

Man finds old vest with \$25 in it and is complimented for honesty when he rushes the find to Seattle police headquarters. Huh! We stand unconvinced until we know what he'd done if he had found an old pair of pants with something in the hip pocket.

His head was bald, his face was wrinkled.

His teeth were gone, he was rheumatic.

He had the palsy, he had the ague, His liver acted quite erratic; But he was only ninety-eight.

Was Hiram Ebenezer Grubb, And so they voted him a member Of the Young Men's Republican club.

#### UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, NO ONE WOULD SEEK KEYHOLE SUFFERING, OR EVEN WINDOW PANES

"Deaivus is terrible when he's angry. I've seen him fight. He broke a man's jaw with one blow. No man in Grand Avenue would have dared pass thru a keyhole or climb ladders to watch Fred."—From interview with witness in Sullivan divorce suit.

A girl I hate Is snippy Lizzie. She always says, "The line is busy."

Another one Is Cynthia Grey. With "You may not" Or "You may."

The steamship Wenatchee is reported to have a bathroom adjoining every stateroom. But the question of the moment is: Has it a bar?

They're mourning now Young Tommy Soused. He didn't know the gun was loaded.

Oh, sad's the fate Of Armstrong, Hal; The cork popped out And spilled the gal.

Poor Louis Hart, The pgl tax raker, Peeved Johnny Manning, The undertaker.

Ty Cobb says it isn't fair for the newspapers to expect too much of him this season. We're not expecting much of you, Ty. All we expect is one fight a week.

"I noticed the other day," post-carded E. W. D., "that Wilson G. Smith said, 'Erstwhile obtrusiveness became highly colored relatively.' I have always contended that this was so but never before have I found any authority for it. Einstein, in his words on relativity, ignores the point altogether."

We found in Uncle Warren's inaugural address that he stood for "conciliation, mediation and arbitration" and Washington is trying to guess whether or not he is for "conciliation." Here's a chance for the jinglers.

Conciliation is vexation, Mediation is the same—

## Advertising the City

### A Sample Comes to Light in the Dallas Journal

#### UNDER THE CAPTION, "Up in Seattle," the Dallas Journal of March 4 prints the following editorial:

Speaking of street car fares—and it seems like we have heard something on that subject of late—there's the case of Seattle. Seattle owns her own traction system. But Seattle hasn't paid for it. In fact, there is a little balance of \$15,000,000 due. And then there's the interest on that.

So far the income from fares hasn't met that interest, to say nothing of the principal or the wages of the men. So the city of Seattle is using tax money to pay the interest and is paying the street car men with warrants, which a bank discounts at 6 per cent. The worst of it is the grand jury investigated that \$15,000,000 valuation and found that \$10,000,000 of it was water. But the city contracted hard and fast to pay it.

Perhaps Dallas is not the most unfortunate city in the world, after all.

Outside of the fact that no part of the principal is due on Seattle's railway until March, 1922, when the city should, and no doubt will, be able to pay it; outside of the fact that the railway has paid every installment of interest promptly when due; outside the fact that not a cent of taxpayers' money went to pay any part of the purchase price or operating costs of the system purchased from the Puget Sound Traction Co. until after Mayor Caldwell came into office, when \$83,000 was taken from the general fund as a loan, and which will be paid back as rapidly as efficient management of the system can be secured; outside the fact that labor has received its wages promptly; outside the fact that in order to show a substantial loss for the railway, a bookkeeping charge is made of \$672,000 a year as depreciation, while at the same time the railway has been spending more than \$1,200,000 a year for maintenance, equipment and replacements; outside the fact that the city hasn't invested a nickel in the enterprise, and therefore is paying 5 per cent interest to bondholders, which had it made any capital investment of its own, would be figured as profit; outside the fact that the railway is making a clear profit now over and above interest charges and depreciation charges, and that it will be on a solid cash basis from now on; outside the fact that the grand jury made no investigation of the value of the property, but took the prejudiced estimate of ONE unknown "expert," who was hired to make an unfavorable report by the mayor's lawyer-prober; outside the fact that the municipal railway is a better paying proposition than many other city departments and other state and county enterprises, such as county ferries, and aviation fields, and golf links, and highway construction; outside of these few facts, the Dallas Journal had a correct picture of the situation here.

The Dallas paper, of course, mistook a lot of calamity howling, emitted here for political effect, as the real stuff. But the harm was wrought, nevertheless. Seattle has been advertised in Dallas, as it has in New York and elsewhere—advertised for ill it is not enduring, except in the warped minds of political shysters.

## New Use for Discards

NEW uses are being found all the time for material which formerly was discarded.

Straw is being distilled to make gas or gasoline. A similar use is being made of corn-cobs and sawdust.

Whether straw gas can be employed successfully for driving automobiles hasn't been determined, but satisfactory tests have been made of its use for stationary engines. And there's paper. Wood pulp is the chief material. But paper has been made of many other fibers since first it was manufactured from papyrus, a Nile rush, in ancient Egypt.

A new raw material for paper has been found in sugar cane stalks which have been run thru the mill. Paper from sugar cane might be particularly suitable for love letters.

System isn't system if it complicates.

The Jap, by wanting Yap, put it on the Map.

Policite: "Heads I win, tails you lose."

Liquor apparently isn't as dry a subject as a few months ago.

No man doubts nature until he sows garden seeds that never come up.

Maybe Einstein can tell us why the more material in a dress, the less it costs.

The early bird may get the worm, but it's the late riler that limousines to his office.

If everything else fails, why not send an American book agent to collect the German indemnity?

Scientists say comet may hit the earth. Everything's coming down, but this is too much of a good thing.

Young America seems to have no right of self-determination when she wants something at the grocery store.

As cost of living drops, the landlord who doesn't cut rents is in effect raising them, for his dollar steadily buys more.

Toledo judge rules seller blameless if nature puts kick in temperance drinks. Naughty nature was the original breeder and distiller.

### SETH TANNER

What's become of thy little brown shoes that used to hang on a nail on every back kitchen door? Many start, but few finish.

### Letters to the Editor—

#### WHY THE FRENZIED LAMENTATION?

Editor The Star: As I understand and remember them, the press and the public of Seattle knew, such of them as were interested, that the street car lines which they contemplated purchasing were not a good investment. They knew that the actual net earnings on the car lines alone, as operated by the Stone & Webster organization, were not such as to tempt any investor. They knew, and had seen ample proof, that the Stone & Webster organization was unable to operate the lines on a basis satisfactory to the public except at a loss.

Knowing these facts, then, the public, represented by its elected officials, of whom Mr. Caldwell was one, and reassured of its wisdom by the daily papers, entered into negotiations with the Stone & Webster interests for the purchase of the Seattle car lines. The essential incidents of these negotiations were, I believe, an offer by Stone & Webster to sell the lines for something like \$14,500,000, which was not accepted by the city; a counter offer by the city to purchase the lines for \$15,000,000, which was accepted by Stone & Webster and ratified by the people. The purchase of the lines was longy acclaimed as the solution of Seattle's car service.

Now, however, a far different story is told. All these facts, which we read about at that time, were then and now are ACTUALLY TRUE! The street car lines are not a paying investment, and we have had to pay the taxes and street upkeep expenses of the car lines. And so some of us have agitated about, blotted from our minds the casual and optimistic way in which we once discounted these facts, and have turned our righteous wrath upon those who have the courage to fulfill their obligations, however difficult they may be, and upon Stone & Webster for letting us buy the lines.

The exact purpose of the frenzied lamentations is not, on the surface, apparent. If my neighbor offers to sell me his automobile for \$1,500, and after investigation I offer to buy for \$700, do I have any legal redress if my neighbor accepts my offer and I later find that the automobile was not worth the purchase price? In other words, does the law inquire into the adequacy of the consideration where its presence is undoubted?

If relief from the agreement is desired, why not confer with the Stone & Webster officials over the best method of settling the matter? If such a settlement is impossible, why not stand by the guns, and consider on a level-headed manner, decide on the best possible plan of operation, and "carry on"? Why not admit that we made a poor bargain, and make the best of our bargain? Above all, why not cease the discussing flow of insinuations which decide nothing, help no one and injures us all?

If Seattle is to live as the important center of the Northwest, would it not be well to make of it a place where decent men may hold office without having every difference of opinion on their part met by recrimination and abuse from those with whom they differ?

By way of explanation, I may say that the most I ever received from Stone & Webster was a transfer, and I paid for that. M. F. PUGH.

### Inquiring Reporter.

TODAY'S QUESTION

In your opinion has spring arrived?

ANSWERS

JAMES WILSON, 1623 Monroe ave.: "Wait till I get this chill out of my system and I'll answer you."

M. V. HILL, Edmonds: "It's spring all the time in the State of Washington."

MISS D. HENRY, 1623 Union st.: "You bet. I just can't keep from rising early in the morning."

MISS L. BERKLUIND, 1312 3d ave.: "You must be pretty cautious if you are unable to detect it yourself."

GEORGE PENWICK, 4634 Chicago ave.: "Come out and take a look at my budding flower garden and make your own decision."

### Uncle Sam M.D.

Questions of health, sanitation, hygiene will be answered if sent to Information Department, U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.

The symptoms of eye-strain may be entirely local, such as fading of vision, eye pains, inflamed lids, watering, etc.

They may be reflex in character, appearing as distant pains or disturbances of certain organs.

They may be psychic and make the child appear stupid, when the real trouble is that he cannot see comfortably.

Slobbering and Bed-Wetting

My little son, 3 years and 7 months old, slobbers constantly night and day and wets his bed, alike I take him up during the night.

At his age (as I presume he has finished cutting his temporary teeth) his condition is most apt to be caused by an inflammation affecting the lining of the mouth, some form of nervous or mental defect, or paralysis.

With reference to the bed-wetting, you should have the boy examined by a physician to learn whether there is any disease or local condition that might cause the trouble.

Begin his training during the day by taking him to the toilet every hour for two or three as the case may be, and gradually increase this interval. Follow the same method at night.

Stammerers

Would you approve the marriage of two stammerers who have partially overcome their affliction?

If they are temperamentally adapted in spite of this speech defect, there would seem to be no reason, as far as we are concerned, why they should not marry. It is possible that children born of this union would also have a speech defect. There is a tendency on the part of children to imitate the mode of speech of those about them.

However, in many cities there are clinics and classes for the correction of defective speech.

### GET WHAT YOU WANT

BY WHIT HADLEY

Senator Henry P. Ashurst of Arizona has never believed in the Mi-whether like business of "waiting for something to turn up."

He started life as a cow-puncher and farmhand.

He tried friends he would some day become United States senator or die trying.

They laughed.

In Phoenix he went to work as a hayfield hand.

Then he became a lumber-jack, and a hod-carrier.

He studied shorthand at 19 and worked during spare time as a reporter.

At Williams, Ariz., he worked as a clerk-stenographer in a law office and read law.

In 1878, when 22, he stumped the state for Bryan and had himself elected to the legislature.

He says: "You can get what you want if you want it hard enough."

For good apple pie, go to Gold's.—Advertisement.

### AS OTHERS SEE THE WORLD

Editorials and Comments Reprinted From Various Newspapers

#### CLEAN UNCLE SAM'S DOORSTEP!

(From the Toledo News-Bee)

First impressions sink deepest and last longest. The first impressions that four out of five immigrants to America get is of the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor. The next impression is Ellis Island.

The first represents the hope that has brought these immigrants across the seas. The second represents their first actual contact with American institutions.

Ellis Island is America's doorstep. It is characterized by official inefficiency, inhumanity and heartlessness, by physical filth, hardship, disease—and sometimes—death.

If America had deliberately set out to throttle hope and breed hatred of American institutions in the hearts of the newcomers to our shores, it would have made Ellis Island what it is.

But America is trying to impress the immigrant that Uncle Sam's house is the best in the world and that it wants him to become a useful, loyal and welcome member of his household.

This is the purpose of the Americanization movement, to which many individuals and organizations are devoting their labors and their money. While this movement is putting Uncle Sam's house in order for the immigrant, the government permits its doorstep to belie everything with it.

When the immigrant reaches it what does he find?

First, insanitary quarters. New York health authorities charge that Ellis Island gives the immigrant more germs than he can get in 100 days in 100 days. Drinking water is contaminated. There is a wretched shortage of toilet facilities.

The immigrants are herded like cattle. Many must sleep on floors. Frequently they are held for weeks.

Who's to blame? Dr. Royal S. Copeland, health commissioner of New York, says city health officials have been barred from the island by Commissioner Wallis. Mrs. Helen Hastedo, representing 15 welfare organizations working at the island, blames Wallis. Wallis passes the buck to his superior at Washington and to congress.

There may be doubts as to who's to blame, but there is no doubt about who should start a housecleaning. That is clearly a job for congress. And it should be cleaned up in conjunction with action in pending immigration measures.

We have a new administration in Washington. New brooms have the reputation of sweeping clean.

The new administrative broom should house-clean not only Ellis Island but the whole immigration service.

President Harding has just nominated William Walker Husband to succeed Anthony Caminotto as commissioner general of immigration. But more than personnel is involved. There are fundamental evils in the system that must be corrected. Ellis Island must be made sanitary, wholesome, human—American!

These immigrants, we all hope, will become good American citizens. They should be given such a clean, healthful, kindly and friendly greeting that they will be truly American from the start.

### REMARKABLE REMARKS

"If the United States carries out its military and naval program, other nations will begin to fear us as Germany was feared."—Jane Addams.

"Economic pressure, by capital in the form of a lockout or by labor in the form of the strike, has no place in a democratic form of government."—W. L. Huggins, presiding judge, Kansas Court of Industrial Relations.

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Any breaking out of the skin on face, neck, arms or body is overcome quickly by applying Mentho-Sulphur. The pimples seem to dry right up and go away, declares a noted skin specialist.

Nothing has ever been found to take the place of sulphur as a pimple remover. It is harmless and inexpensive. Just ask any druggist for a small jar of Mentho-Sulphur and use it like cold cream.—Advertisement.

### Are You Old and Tired at 40? Take a Tonic

Why friend, you're just in the prime of life at 40! There's no excuse for your playing out at this age. What you need is a general, all-around tonic up of the system—particularly the blood.

Medical science tells us a person who takes good care of himself or herself should not become infirm with age until around the sixtieth year. Certainly 40 is far too early.

Take care of yourself, friend; that's what is necessary for health. Get plenty of sleep. Eat plain, substantial foods. Exercise in the fresh air. Keep your system well flushed out. And above all things keep your blood pure!

Wholesome blood gives you life and vigor; bad blood makes you dull and listless. Maybe that's exactly what ails you now! Try cleansing the impurities and poisons from your blood stream and see if it doesn't bring back the old-time spring and vigor to your muscles. Thousands have had that experience.

For this cleansing, you will find S.S.S., the famous old herb remedy, excellent indeed. S.S.S. has given a light step and a sparkling eye to hosts of people who thought they were "through" at 40, but who in reality needed only a thorough blood-cleansing to make them feel young again.

Get S.S.S. from your druggist today—right now, while your health is on your mind. Start taking it at once, then write in detail about your physical condition to Child Medical Adviser, S.S.S. Swift Laboratory, Atlanta, Georgia, and he will give you individual expert advice free.

## MAIN STREET MONOTONY

BY DR. WILLIAM E. BARTON

Mr. Lewis has set the literary critics to discussing his book "Main Street." Those of us who were born, as I was, on Main Street in an American town, know that life there is not quite so sordid and uninviting as he describes it, but there is no denying the photographic accuracy of many of his descriptions.

He says: "Nine-tenths of the American towns are so much alike that it is the completest boredom to wander from one to another. There is the same lumber yard, the same railroad station, the same garage, the same creamery, the same box-like houses and two-story shops."

Such a society functions admirably in the large production of cheap automobiles, dollar watches and safety razors. But it is not satisfied till the entire world also admits that the end and joyous purpose of living is to ride in flivvers, to make advertising pictures of dollar watches, and in the twilight to sit talking not of love and courage but of the convenience of safety razors.

The more intelligent young people and the fortunate widows flee to the cities with agility, and, spite of the fictional tradition, resolutely stay there, seldom returning even for the holidays. The most protesting patriots of the towns leave them, if they can afford it, and in old age go to live in California or in the cities. The reason is not a whiskeys rusticity. It is nothing so amusing; it is an unimaginatively standardized background, a sluggishness of speech and manners, a rigid ruling of the spirit by a desire to appear respectable. It is contentment—the contentment of the quiet dead, who are scornful of the living for their restless walking. It is the prohibition of happiness. It is slavery self-sought and self-defended. It is dullness made God. A savorless people, gulping tasteless food, and sitting afterward, coatless and thoughtless, in rocking chairs, pricking with insane decorations, listening to mechanical music, saying mechanical things about the excellence of automobiles, and viewing themselves as the greatest race in the world."

I have selected these sentences from several different pages in order to give the gist of his picture concisely. As I say, I was born on Main Street, and at its intersection with another important thoroughfare, directly opposite the Town Pump, and I know the kind of town and its limitations. It is not quite so deadly monotonous as Mr. Lewis represents.

But we do not make life on Main Street a little more spontaneous, a little more full of natural and reasonable joy, a little less dependent on movies and automobiles for the stuff of life? For these are not the things on which men can live! The kingdom of heaven must be within us; and Main Street must be surveyed straight thru the New Jerusalem.

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