

**The Seattle Star**  
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## The Caterpillar Menace

**EDITOR THE STAR:** An occasional notice appears in the paper, as the inspired by city authorities, warning people to destroy the tent caterpillars on their premises. I wonder if the people of the city generally realize what a menace they are becoming here, or that the city itself is, to a great extent, one of the worst offenders. The trouble does not lie with the home owners, the people with improved lots. The few nests they can destroy inside their own borders, while a necessary duty, is much in the nature of dipping the river dry with a teaspoon, so far as its effect on the sum total of the hordes is concerned.

There are acres and acres of unimproved land in the city, all grown up to brush and young trees, and other acres and acres of streets belonging to the city, which have never been improved, that are in the same condition. The city does nothing to remedy its own nuisance, and apparently has no power to force owners of unimproved property to remedy theirs.

Each year the pest increases. Where, a few years ago, I found one or two nests on my own shrubbery and trees, there are now dozens, and for the thousands of worms I have destroyed, there are, literally, tens of thousands in view right around in the uncleaned city street within half a block. You can figure what the total must be all around. And next year each of these undestroyed worms will add its myriads.

Two or three years ago, before which the pest did not seem so noticeably bad, an area of a good many acres of uncleaned alder growth land was literally brown with the hideous, crawling things. Afterward every leaf in the entire area was eaten as clean as if fire had run over it. At that time some neighbors and myself took the matter

up with the city, first with the council, afterward with the mayor's office, trying to get something done, but with no result. As we understood it, there was neither an appropriation for the city to fight the pest, nor any authority to force owners of such land to do so. Since that year the trouble has greatly increased in a district extending for miles around the location mentioned, and is being given no more attention.

Last year I noticed, during a trip East, how different the attitude of the large cities there is in regard to such matters. Such a condition would not be tolerated there. The city cares for all the shade trees along the streets, pruning them, spraying them, and even putting a band of "tanglefoot" around the trunks, cuts down brush and weeds, and forces owners of unoccupied lots to pay for the work necessary to keep such uncared-for land from becoming a nuisance to that which is cared for.

The Star takes up so many good fights, I think this is one worthy of its good services, to rouse people to the point of demanding such ordinances as will permit such pests to be taken care of—an appropriation for such work as is necessary to take care of the city's own part and a law authorizing the taxing of uncared-for land for the expense of what the city is obliged to do to protect those owners who try to care for their own. It is most discouraging to those who are trying to make good homes in less settled districts, so improving that district, and increasing land values for the absentees, to have their fight so handicapped.

It may be too late for this year, with bushes and branches everywhere fairly bending under the weight of the crawling brown hordes, but it is a good time, while the public has an object lesson before it, to excite the public to demand means of action in future. L. E. W.

## Letters to the Editor

**DOCTORS "ALTRUISTIC" NOT SO, SAYS WRITER**  
 Editor The Star: I have noticed your editorial on the compulsory medical inspection bill. You speak of the doctors' and nurses' activities for a few hours in one afternoon, securing signatures, as an "altruistic spirit unexampled in other business and professional pursuits."

There is absolutely nothing whatever altruistic about it. It is merely a matter of advertising and a bid for trade such as all commercial bodies employ, in some degree or other, to increase their personal profits. The medical activity, however, differs from the usual advertisement of goods in that in one case perfect freedom is accorded the prospective customer, while in the other case all the responsibility and rivals are not only ignored, but matters so arranged that the physical care of all children should be compelled to lie in allopathic hands alone.

Seattle has many thousand kindergartners, grade and high school pupils. Their innocent, trusting eyes come to school sick. What if some bill 180 falls, those children must be at frequent intervals inspected and treated, one by one. Doctors and nurses have no intention of giving their time and material freely. Somebody must foot the bill. Not only is it a personal matter for them in money, but a personal advertisement and an advertisement of their alumnus and their medical ideals. What is gained over school children by compulsion, may possibly extend to older children and parents. Presently they will want the right to inspect, vaccinate, etc., all city of ficials, government employes, street car motormen and conductors, bank tellers, etc. Why stop anywhere at all, if it's a good thing? If any of us object, it can most "altruistically" be blamed on our necks. What are we to say our neck's our own?

Any one with any age or chance of observation or sound thinking power knows very well that patients with any money have their ailments mysteriously prolonged. They know that after a "dull season" of waiting, inoculations and face masks. Given the chance to inflict disease and fear of disease upon children, it is natural to suppose that they will use that power. A cat may chase a mouse and catch it, but it doesn't sound very convincing to tell the world that you know she's an altruistic cat and won't eat it—especially if she is hungry. Excessive drinking and smoking, the social vices, unlimited child-bearing, long hours, the malnutrition and poor environment that come from overwork, and the tendency toward broken-down physiques and leave both body and mind in fit state to succumb to any accident or disease they might encounter. The doctors are not on the street corners, in the pulpit or press, in their own journals or colleges, or among their own members, individually or collectively fighting these things. All the "altruism" they have you could put in your eye. But when they see that ever-increasing numbers of people have lost all confidence in them and their methods, when other schools of healing use with success, saner, less drastic measures, and dispute the allopath's supremacy, when there's no epidemic on hand to keep them busy and their pockets filled, then, according to The Star, a wave of "altruism" sweeps them, and they hustle out to rope in the kids. Well, as long as America's of the caliber and temperament that can laugh heartily now and then, even at "altruism," I guess we can pull thru! L. M. CLARKE.

## SETH TANNER



After a country carpenter has been out of work for three months he usually puts in the first day (Sun) his saws. One thing 'bout Barnyard Golf, you can always find th' boss shoes.

## UNTIL THE DAY

Once upon a time a little family came to the Coast to buy a business in Seattle, which was to them the wonderland of opportunity. After a short search they found something which seemed made for them. To be sure there was a Jap near by in the same business, but when they rearranged their stock, cut their prices and had a general clean-up people would patronize them instead of the Jap.

So they bustled about and fixed things up, but strange to say the customers failed to come in as they expected. And they soon stood in their empty store and saw the Jap busy with the trade. They knew their prices were as low as his and their stock as good. A great wonder filled their hearts. Had the Japs more patriotism than the Americans? For no Jap buys from a white man if there is a Jap merchant near.

Little lines of worry appeared in their faces and, little by little, hatred of Seattle and its people crept in. Then, one morning they heard a thump, thump in the street and a rather shrill voice singing "Tum-tum, to, to" to the tune of "Marching Through Georgia." More noisy children, they thought. But the thump came nearer and looking up they saw in their doorway a little old man. The thump was made by his wooden leg. Over his shoulders hung countless shoestrings, and in his pockets were many bright-hued pencils. But it was his face that gripped them. Surrounded by grizzled hair and beard, seamed with thousands of wrinkles, that face was a bit of God's own sunshine. Smiling, eyes beaming, that little old man radiated the joy of living.

He chatted busily while displaying his wares. "A beautiful day. Seems like folks get a grouch on dark days, but we all must be happy on days like this." They bought from him, altho they needed nothing, and he thumped out, but he left something more than pencils with them: a warm little glow in their hearts that doesn't burn out. And somehow, altho their business is still slow and the Japs continue busy, they feel that some day, the people of Seattle are going to wake up and patriotism will return to them. Then Seattle will be the land of opportunity to Americans instead of the Japs. L. E. N.

school clinic and the "medicos," who, I understand, donate their services to the clinic. Suppose the taxpayer does have to pay a few cents more tax for the upkeep of such a clinic, even if a doctor's salary were included (but I do not think they are paid, isn't that future American citizen worth it? There are so many people who still believe in the "medico" that very few raised objections to the drive. MRS. M. E. BASS.

Good apple pie; go to Bold's—Advertisement.

## REV. M. A. MATTHEWS

Will Preach a Sermon Sunday Morning Entitled "THE WINNING POWER OF CHRISTIANITY" In the Evening He Will Discuss the Subject "SATAN'S KEY TO INFIDELITY" Public Invited FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Seventh and Spring

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## Inquiring Reporter



### TODAY'S QUESTION

What was the most lonesome moment of your life?

**ANSWERS**  
 E. E. SMALL, 217 E. Thomas st.: "When I got caught in the center of a crowd that was pushing in four directions."

C. E. WHITE, 1542 30th ave. E.: "When a jury once brought in a verdict against my client when I had bet the other way."

REUBEN ALLIE, Renton: "When she left me at the station, yes, bo."

CLAUDE A. ESTER, 1212 2nd ave.: "I haven't kept a record and consequently I can't prove I was ever lonesome."

E. SMYTHE, 1415 Fourth ave.: "It's been forever coming, but has never arrived."

Hank Klay remarked to us the other day that the most impossible thing is for a camel to pass thru the eye of a needle. We agree with him and hasten to volunteer the information that next comes a fat woman trying to get a seat on a Broadway jitney during the rush hour.

## According to Einstein

This recent Einstein theory concerning Relativity is actually simple to explain: If you possess the slightest geometrical proclivity You'll quickly get the answer in your brain. You take a line, for instance, and extend it horizontally Away into infinity and then You chase it thru the universe persistently and jauntily And meet yourself on getting back again! Or take a common ray of light refracted by polarity And bend it in the middle, just a bit. And tie it to a comet, you'll observe a slight disparity That makes it rather difficult to fit. The tangents of its radius revolving correlatedly With segments of the apex of a cone Will set the larger molecules in motion syncopatedly —A fact which is not generally known. Take any kind of parallel—you needn't be particular— And run it thru the orbit of a star You get a parabolic curve that's slightly perpendicular You mark it on the chart—and there you are! So that is Relativity in all of its simplicity. —And thus my little dissertation ends— And now I hope that all of you may find a true felicity By lecturing on Einstein to your friends!



## A Lawsuit for the Recovery of Twenty-Two Pearls

Why should the beautiful French actress, Jacqueline Campbelle, insist upon conducting a lawsuit for the recovery of twenty-two pearls when, in their stead, she was offered a pearl necklace valued at 150,000 francs?

## Mlle. Jacqueline Threw Away The 150,000 Franc Necklace

The lawsuit and the spurning of this valuable necklace are the high lights in a story which you will find unusually interesting. It will appear next Sunday in

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## From the Congressional Record

**PERSONAL OBNOXIUSNESS**  
 I met in the senate one day a democratic senator just going out of the chamber. He said, "John, I should like to have you vote against the confirmation of a certain man whose name has been sent in for an opinion in my state." I said, "Why? Is he incompetent or dishonest?" He said, "I do not know anything about him in that respect." Then, remembering this absurdity of senatorial courtesy, I said, "Is he personally obnoxious?" He said, "I know nothing about him. I never heard of him before in my life until his name was sent in by President Wilson, but I was not consulted about his appointment." He was a democratic senator, too. I said, "My dear boy, unless you can get up and say in the open senate, according to the traditional formula, that this gentleman is personally obnoxious, I shall vote for him." Four days afterwards that senator rose in his place in this chamber and solemnly assured the senate that "the nominee was personally obnoxious" to him, and the nomination was defeated.—Sen. Williams (D), Miss.

**A NEW ALIEMENT**  
 The only objection I have to the committee on naval affairs is that when some man in gold lace steps into the room of the naval affairs committee and whispers "Tap," straightway every member of that committee gets naval hysterics.—Sen. Pomeroy (D), Ohio.

**MORE DIFFERENTIATION**  
 The difference between a bucket shop and an exchange is about the same difference that did exist between a common beer joint with a plate-glass mirror and a mahogany bar saloon.—Rep. Hudspeth (D), Texas.

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Read My Article in Saturday's Star

**WE BOTH WIN**  
 I am now devoting my entire time to my dental practice. Having now served the people here for twenty years, and made good by doing dental work that I can guarantee, and guarantee good. I do not compete with Cheap Dentists, nor do I operate on your pocketbook or sell you conversation. I give two dollars worth of dental work for every dollar I receive—so you save a dollar, I make a dollar, and you are interested in making—we both win. Open evenings till 7 and Sundays till 12:30 for people who work.  
 EDWIN J. BROWN, D. D. S.  
 Seattle's Leading Dentist  
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## Observations

So this is normalcy?—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

A free Poland seems to be a free-for-all.—Brooklyn Eagle.

It sounds like the Teut's last toot.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Apparently the only way to reduce navies is to have another war.—New York World.

Uncle Sam finds that the Japanese Diet doesn't agree with him.—Washington Herald.

John Barleycorn isn't exactly virtuous, but he's certainly chased.—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

Perhaps Professor Einstein could tell us what we made the world safe for.—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

The foot that used to rock the cradle now steps on the accelerator at street crossings.—Washington Post.

Under the decision of the supreme court it is not a crime to defeat Henry Ford for office.—Toledo Blade.

The man who boasts of having "an open mind" often mistakes a vacancy for an opening.—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

We know that a dollar goes farther than it used to, because we have to go farther to get a dollar.—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

The world's new republics appear to have all the infantile troubles except growing pains.—Boston Shoe and Leather Reporter.

The Germans don't exactly claim to have won the fight, but they're trying to show that they came out of it without a mark.—Brooklyn Eagle.

It is prophesied that the next war will be in the air. It might be remembered in this connection that the present peace also is.—Manila Bulletin.

There has been no element of mystery in the game, "Button, button, who's got the button?" since laundries were established.—Utica Morning Telegram.

**PARABLES of Saged the Sage**  
 THE PARABLE OF THE TROUBLESOME TOOTH  
 I had a Tooth that gave me much trouble. For the Dentist filled it, and filled it yet again; and when the Nerve within it died, then did he treat the Root, and filled it once more.  
 And there were certain years wherein it gave me good service, and I depended upon it when I wanted to come down hard upon the Steak.  
 But there came a day when the Dentist said, There is no more that I can do. And so far as I see, it doth no harm; but the day is not far distant when thou wilt lose it.  
 Now it soon came to pass that the Tooth gave me trouble; but I went not again unto the Dentist, for I said, There is but one thing that he can do for it; and that can never be undone; now, therefore, if I can make it last a little longer, whatever service I now get is Veiled.  
 But the feel of it was not like unto Velvet; for it gave me pain in mine Eye, and pain in mine Ear. And there was a Sabbath Day when it hurt me all the time I stood in the House of God.  
 And on the next morning I woke early, and I was on the step of the office of the Dentist when he came from Breakfast.  
 And what he did to it was a plenty.  
 But when I came away, I spake unto Keturah, saying, Thine husband is a man less wise than men think him; for had I shown half the good sense with which men credit me, then had I done this Two Months ago.  
 And I thought of the way men hold out Bad Habits, that give them discomfort and help them not at all to deal righteously with God or Man; yet how they linger shivering on the Brink, and dread the feeling of the Cold Iron.  
 And unto all such men, I say, Fool not with the matter, nor delay; see that thou have the bad habit removed, and cast it far from thee. And tho' thou feel some sense of Ache and Vacuity, yet shalt this also be for thy Comfort and Good Health.  
 WILLIAM E. BARTON.

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