

**The Seattle Star**  
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### Marvels of Skill

Have you ever seen a specimen of exceedingly small writing? Certainly, you have. Maybe, at some time or other, you have competed in a contest in which the prize went to the person who could write a certain word the greatest number of times on a postcard.

That used to be sure-fire, in the good old days of letter-copying presses, when every office man had to "write a good hand" to get a job, and master-penmen proudly signed with great flourishes, occasionally working birds and flowers into the ink-work.

The old-time master-penmen all seem to have vanished, along with the fellow who wrote "Jones Brothers, General Store" 3,000 times on a postcard.

But interest in such things is as keen as ever, for man never wearies of admiring that peculiar ability—delicate skill—that underlies our whole civilization.

\* \* \*

For instance, veteran editors—so blasé that they never experience more than one thrill a year—are "all het up" lately by small chunks of lead, souvenirs distributed by the American Type Founders Co. to demonstrate the skill of its machines that cast type from molten metal.

One end of these chunks of lead is five-sixteenths of an inch square—much smaller than the nail on your little finger—and in this space, if you use a microscope, you see the Lord's Prayer engraved with the mathematical accuracy of the headlines of this newspaper.

That seems marvelous, and it is. But John Phin, author on microscopy, has the Lord's Prayer written at the rate of eight complete Bibles to one square inch. This writing was done with a diamond point, on glass, by W. Webb, master-micrographer.

You probably will not believe that scientific truth, so it might be best not to mention the copy of the Lord's Prayer, shown to the London Microscopical Society, done in such minute letters that 23 complete Bibles could be written on a single square inch of glass.

Prof. Richard Whiddington, of Leeds University, England, has a device that measures a 200,000,000th of an inch and a 10,000th of a second.

That would excite the envy of the fine needle-maker who, complimented on his skill by Queen Victoria, borrowed one of her hairs and drilled a needle eyelet thru it.

At the far extreme of all this is the most powerful machine in the world—the Otis testing machine, in the Pittsburg laboratories of Uncle Sam's bureau of standards. It exerts a pressure of 10,000,000 pounds.

These marvels all are the creations of that weak machine, the human brain. Think of these accomplishments when you have an obstacle that you are wondering if you can overcome.

The convention (the armaments conference) has been spoken of as the battle of Washington and pictured as the greatest naval conflict in all history. It was the most expensive and the cheapest; it heralded the greatest victory and proclaimed the worst disaster. All the nations involved in the conflict were triumphantly defeated and the commanding officers congratulated each other on the result. This naval engagement, which witnessed the destruction of more ships and of greater value than were ever sunk in any war, was fought on dry land, without a shot fired, a life lost, or a flag hauled down. All were victors; all were losers.—Representative Hicks (R.), N. Y.

### The Thinking Machine

John Dewey, professor of philosophy at Columbia university, has written a book called "Human Nature and Conduct," which attempts to prove that the seat of knowledge is the muscles.

Prof. Dewey does not mean that might is right. He means that knowledge is acquired by habits. When we know anything, we have formed a habit of reacting to a certain stimulus in a constant way. The more we know, the more habits we have formed, and the more have we strengthened our habits.

Knowledge tends to become automatic in its responses, as muscular action is automatic. The Chinese have a proverb that nobody knows his work until he can do it without thought. That is consistent with Prof. Dewey's argument.

It is notoriously hard to break old habits. It is difficult, for the same reason, to discard old knowledge for new. What was true in the past, because of environmental conditions, may become false in the future, when conditions change. But, habit is habit; and the true change to the false, we continue to abide by it because we have made it a habit.

It has been America's habit in the past to regard world affairs as of no importance to this country. But, the world war has changed America's environment completely. What was true before, is false now. Nevertheless, we cling to the old knowledge, for it is a fixed habit. To change requires effort. Meanwhile, the world waits in suffering for the new knowledge to come.

In June, the seven wonders of the world are: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

# POEMS

## for your CRAP BOOK

At Charleston, West Virginia  
(Where John Brown Was Executed, December 2, 1859)  
BY CARL HOLLIDAY

Here old John Brown of Ossawatimie  
 One stand with grined, furrowed face,  
 And viewed the throng who came that day to see;  
 His soul speed from its bourne of time and place;  
 And as he gazed, his face lit with a smile  
 So kind, so grim, that they who came to hate  
 Almost admired the spirit that e'en while  
 It passed in death could aimly welcome fate,  
 And joy to die for cause he deemed most just.  
 Fanatic? Yes; and wrong perhaps in all.  
 But as I look upon our slaves of lust,  
 Time servers, puppets to the mob's least call,  
 I pray God to send us MEN—with strength to be  
 Like old John Brown of Ossawatimie.

# LETTERS to the EDITOR

### Proposes a Job for Chief Seattle

Editor The Star:  
 How strange it is we are compelled to pay such high rent (war rent). Something ought to be said or done to shame those people, if possible. A man is arrested for highway robbery, and I don't see any difference. Mr. Editor, it might be a good idea to hand this letter to Chief Seattle. He says things pretty plain and that is what those people need.

The landlady is just as bad as the landlord. I am renting from a woman. Have asked for reduction; the only reply I get is, "I am very sorry but rent cannot be reduced." Half of the price I am paying would be plenty. I think it is terrible those people get by the way they do. I suppose they will not reduce till they get ready. But in the meantime Chief Seattle can give them some unrest.

MRS. G. G. AUSTIN.

### Suggests Nickel Ice Cream Bar

Editor The Star:  
 Thru your liberal columns may I offer a suggestion?  
 To my estimation the various ice cream companies in Seattle and vicinity should make their bars slightly smaller and retail them for five in place of ten cents. Most children can afford five cents for their prized

luxury. With the price at a dime I believe it is like taking a baby's plaything.  
 If the dealers would try this I maintain that they would sell more bars and make larger profits.  
 Thanking you,  
 SUBSCRIBER,  
 Richmond Beach.

### Knavery in Business Largely Alien

Editor The Star:  
 To put ethics in business and to create international good will; these I understand are two fundamentals of Rotary.  
 Business can stand quite a bit of ethicalizing, tho' I know that American business today is more honest, more efficient, more courteous and more kindly than it was 20 years ago.

changed my wife twice, we wouldn't trust him to sell a dime's worth of onions to a child; you had better feed the heads of his lettuce carefully, and watch him that he doesn't slip a head from the back of the pile after you have made your choice, and if you want to buy mixed nuts for a feast go somewhere else; I don't know how he knows where all the nuts are that have worms in 'em but he sure does, and he buys that kind without fail.

Out in our neighborhood there is an alien fruit vendor who has a big business; he is snave, he is always on the job, nights, holidays and Sundays mean nothing to him, and he has built up a big business from a huckster beginning. This clever, leather-colored gent has short-

One of the biggest stores I know of has made a success by being just a bit fairer with its workers, just a bit more honest with its advertising, just a bit more courteous to its customers than really seems necessary.

# A Letter From AVRIDGE MANN

Dear Avridge Mann:  
 I always read, with joy unfeigned, the articles from pens well trained, that often in The Star appear to bring us teachers all good cheer, and make us feel we've earned our "mon," and so deserve a little fun.

Dear Teacher:  
 A word or two to put you wise: When you wake up beyond the skies, if you should strike a single bird who speaks a mean or hostile word, you'll need no other sign to tell—you've slipped a cog and gone to hell!

For I have read of how we laze thru all the golden summer days; I read about a five-hour day, for which we're drawing ten hours' pay. They talk as if they thought it's true, and wanted you to think so too.

Of course, I understand the breed of those who write this petty screed; and since I know you honest folks are wise to all their little jokes, I lay me down in peace to sleep, and trust the BOARD my job to keep.

And when my race on earth is run, and I the heavenly crown have won, I hope no tax reducers meet to crab about the golden street, and talk about the big expense were apt to be for ages hence.

For when we're all beyond the skies, I hope they'll open up their eyes, and start to learn that all we teachers are just hard-working, honest creatures; and that we'll dwell, when bickering ceases, thruout eternity in peace.

AVRIDGE TEACHER, (S. F. S.)

"Is radio a passing fad?" asks the Digest. It acts more like a contagious disease.

In Oklahoma an escaped lunatic seas found selling oil leases instead of buying them.

One of the racing balloons went up 20,000 feet, but saw nothing of gas prices.

You can't accuse John D.'s granddaughter of marrying for money.

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### LEARN A WORD EVERY DAY

It's pronounced—per-en-ial, with accent on the second syllable.  
 It means—lasting or continuing thru the year, perpetual, unceasing, uninterrupted.  
 It comes from—Latin "per," thru, and "annus," year.  
 It's used like this—"Prohibition enforcement officers say they have some hope of minimizing liquor smuggling into the country but that the supply of domestic moonshine promises to be perennial."

I am sure that the manager of this big store would fire on the spot any clerk he caught selling cotton for wool, and that he would no more be party to a misrepresentation than he would to murder. This store is the sort of a store that is becoming typical of American business in the future.  
 The fake sale, the lying ad, the shifty maneuver will become less and less possible as the public is educated, and the most important business in this country today are those that are more ethical in their relations with the public than the promoters of the average lawn social to secure funds for a new organ.  
 Most of the cheap knavery in American business today is alien knavery. X. Y. Z.

### Communicating With the Dead

Editor The Star:  
 I wonder if any of your correspondents who write so frequently regarding "spiritualism" have ever really thought of the significance of the account of the three persons of whom we read in the Bible who were awakened from death by our Lord Jesus.

We have no record of just how long the son of the Widow of Nain was dead—we do not know just how long Lazarus' little 12-year-old daughter was dead, but we have definite knowledge that Lazarus was dead at least four days. We also read that Lazarus was the friend of Jesus, consequently Lazarus must have been eligible for Heaven. But did any of the three have one word to tell of where they had been or what they had seen? No, they did not, for the reason that they were dead, and the Bible tells us that "the dead know nothing," that "there is neither knowledge nor device in the grave either thou goest," that "the servant is free from his master, that the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." Now what more can anyone want as absolute proof that there is no such thing as communicating with our friends after they are dead?

True, someone will say, "Why, Jesus preached to the spirits in prison, but the succeeding verse tells us who those spirits were, they were the angels who were seduced by Satan and who were dematerialized at the time of the flood and confined in the earth's atmosphere (Tartarus), to be judged at the time of the end of this age. Jesus could not have preached orally, for he was dead, but—by his actions in obeying the Father's will and being highly exalted to be the express image of the Father in contrast to their disobedience and their punishment, for, "Actions speak louder than words." Yours very truly,  
 MRS. L. E. HILLER,  
 4630 Willow St.

### The Hatred of Foreigners

Editor The Star:  
 I read with great admiration the letter written by Martin Duedel in the Monday issue. Permit me, please, to add a few remarks.  
 Hatred of foreigners was never thought of before a few years ago;

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 302 Second Ave.,  
 Seattle, Wash.

Canadian National Railways

On the contrary the foreigners were loved and heartily welcomed to this country not long ago. All the presidents of this country, except Woodrow Wilson, praised them and pointed at what they had done for this country. And why should they not? It is the foreigners who have built the country, the Germans included.

That he never was and never will be any statesman to speak of. The hatred of foreigners was introduced during his reign and lasted with him and should have fallen with him. Wilson, as our country cannot afford to house any hatred of foreigners whatsoever.

While the foreigners enjoyed liberty, freedom and happiness together with the American born, the situation was changed when Woodrow Wilson became president, dark clouds appeared in the sky as far as the aliens were concerned. He never realized what the foreign-born people have performed to this country. Be it true, that he was a pretty fair teacher, we should never forget

There is a wide difference between Americanism and Woodrow Wilsonism. The essence of Americanism is love, justice, righteousness and freedom to all, while the essence of Wilsonism I don't care to state.  
 B. O. CLAUSON.

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