

EVENING CAPITAL NEWS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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THE DELAYED ANSWER.

LIBERALLY waiting as long as possible to the exasperation of the state department, the Carranza government has at last replied to the latter's request for an explanation of the murder of James Wallace near Tampico. Mexico wanted time to form an alibi. That alibi is to the effect that Wallace, while intoxicated, passed a sentry stationed at a so-called dangerous spot and, falling to halt, was shot and killed. The state department can accept the explanation or not. Mexico, apparently, is not interested. There is to be no reply to the second Jenkins note until the supreme court passes on his case. Although the demand of the state department was more or less in mandatory form, Mexico is not in a hurry. That country will answer when Carranza gets around to it.

Secretary Lansing states there is no difference of opinion between President Wilson and the state department with regard to the manner in which the Mexican controversy is being handled. The president has served notice on the senate he resents any interference from that body and is quite capable of handling the situation himself. Here again we have the same crossing of authority which is keeping our foreign policy in a turmoil. In the meantime a new crisis threatens due to the alleged action of the Carranza government in preventing the drilling in new oil in Mexico by American companies. The United States registered protests against this action some time ago, but Carranza has ignored them. He never answered the notes.

Active anti-American propaganda is being circulated in Mexico and this country and the press in particular is being attacked. Louis Cabrera, secretary of the treasury in Carranza's cabinet, is the moving spirit in this. He places the blame on the American press for the strained relations between the two countries. The press of the United States would indeed be lax in its duty to the people if it did not tell the plain facts regarding the treatment of American citizens after they cross the border. The press has repeatedly pointed out that the United States is drifting into intervention unless prompt action was taken at Washington to stiffen the backbone of the administration. All that it forecasted is coming true. If the administration is willing to tolerate persistent insults to Americans who happened to go into Mexico the press is not.

PROFIT FIXING IN CANADA

HIGH prices to the right of us, high prices to the left of us and high prices before us, naturally make many people wonder if there is not a limit somewhere and whether or not profit-fixing is not a reasonable solution. Apparently they think so in Canada. In the Canadian experiment profits were first fixed on foodstuffs, and now the plan is extended to many other commodities. On bacon retailers are restricted to a gross profit of 20 per cent and on most grocery products it is proposed to fix the limit January 1 at 25 per cent.

The difference between regulating gross and net profits is fundamental in attacking profiteering, and the former is the only true plan, since it follows the practice of business. The merchant makes a practice of adding a fixed gross profit to the price of the article. That figure is determined by his business experience. In some lines it is regularly, in normal times, 20 per cent, and in others 25 or perhaps even 30. Within this gross profit he calculates to take good care of his overhead and other costs and his losses, leaving a net profit that, unlike his gross profit, is a varying matter.

Commenting on this the Topoka Capital says: It is because net profits are variable that to attempt profit-fixing at that point would be unsuccessful. Gross profits, on the other hand, are inviolable, under normal conditions. But there is a stronger reason for attempting to meet the evil of profiteering by regulating gross profits. When a merchant fixes his gross profit at a certain rate it is up to him to regulate his costs of business to keep well within that expense. In times when demand far outruns supply, when competition therefore bothers nobody and prices can be fixed at any figure and goods still move, the merchant who has ordinarily done business on a gross profit margin of 20 to 25 per cent can readily boost this figure to 40 or 50 per cent. Therefore he does not especially care what wages he pays or what expenses he adds. He can boost gross

profits to care for every new expense. But if the government places a limit on gross profits what happens is that immediately every merchant and dealer begins to look with the greatest care to overhead, wages and every other cost item. These must be kept down.

In other words regulation of gross profits is the thing that strikes directly at the leading or a leading cause for the rising spiral of high wages, high prices, higher wages, higher prices. It warns all interests in business to economize, to run on the lowest cost. When the employer can not take it out in raising his gross profits he will not listen to demands for higher wages on the ground of the increasing cost of living.

Canada is making this experiment. If it has the effect of checking the rise of prices its adoption in the United States will be universally demanded by the consuming public, which has paid the cost of the war.

THE RESIGNATION OF DR. GARFIELD.

IT is becoming popular at Washington for government officials to resign when the policy that they advocate is not adopted or put into effect. Dr. Garfield, fuel administrator, has placed his resignation in the hands of President Wilson because he disagreed in principle with the coal strike settlement arranged by the government and miners. He believes that through the creation of a commission to handle fuel problems originating from the mining of coal, the price of the black diamonds will be raised to the consumer, and he is unalterably opposed to this.

Dr. Garfield probably has a very good reason for this belief. He was in a position to know and while his resignation is unfortunate, for he proved an excellent administrator, it would be more unfortunate for all concerned if the price of coal was permitted to advance through action of the commission. The consumers expect this commission to act as a buffer between the operators and the public. Dr. Garfield has offered a suggestion in his resignation worthy deep consideration.

STAGES REAL COME-BACK.

URING the past two months America saw a healthy resumption of the grand old autumn game of football. During the war not a great deal of attention was paid to either baseball or football by the majority of people, save as they concerned clashes between rival camp teams, or, after the armistice, in those Homeric contests which were waged among the divisions in France.

Stars who took "time out" to travel across the ocean on Uncle Sam's little tour of France and the Rhine country came back to college this year, however, and many line-ups bristled with husky young men who had been engaged in a much more serious game but a year before. Perhaps that is why this past season has been one of surprise, in which smaller colleges took the measure of larger opponents, in which teams apparently hopelessly outclassed on paper emerged bleeding but victorious.

Experts will rant and rave for some time to come, at space rates, of the claim of rival contenders for an imaginary championship. Harvard and Centre College of Kentucky, Illinois, Penn State and a few others will furnish all kinds of reasons why they should be entitled to the palm. That is neither here nor there, however. The one big thing that stands out is that this fine, rough but virile, dangerous but sportsmanlike, game is still building up the kind of clear-thinking, quick-acting Americans we need if the country is to survive.

Bill Haywood did well to stay out of Detroit, as you never can tell what one of those patriotic towns will do.

The fellow who stole a \$1000 piano from a freight car may be back in a day or two to steal the car.

RIPLING RHYMES

BY WALT MASON.

AN EXAMPLE.

Let us set a good example in these wild excited days, when men mill around and trample on our corns in fifty ways. Let's not join them in their milling, but, by fixing up our shucks, demonstrate that we are willing to get down once more to tacks. Let us shun the noisy clamor of the smiths who wield the jaw; let us argue with the hammer and expound things with the saw. Let us build a stately dwelling for the hens to occupy, while the anarchists are yelling threats and curses at the sky. Let's erect a noble shanty where our cows may chew their cud, while the Russian, wild and ranty, blows the foam from boot-logged suds. All our ills will be adjusted, and the Reds will whoop in vain, if we only can be trusted to be calm and safe and sane. If you'd rail at your condition, if you're victimized by crimes, bending 'neath some imposition, let it slide till saner times. Do not join the angry chorus, but be patient and serene, knowing that the storm clouds o'er us soon will vanish from the scene. We but make the country sicker when we paw around like yaks; and we'll bring good times the quicker if we all sit down to tacks.

PEPS

A WISE CHAP.

Bucolic was his dress and bucolic was his complexion, but wealth radiated from him—from his expensive Stetson to the big diamond on his finger. He sat down for his meal, and the recklessness with which he ordered



commanded the respect of his greedy waiter. "And now," said the waiter, as he brushed off the table, "I suppose you'll have a demi-tasse?" "You bet," said the man from the country. "And while you're back in the kitchen bring me a cup of coffee, too."

HERE'S A REAL FELLOW.

In Boise there lives a good fellow. Who talked through his phone saying: "Hello. Dear CAPITAL NEWS. Do you think you could use for your CAMPAIGN, a green back that's yellow?"

TELEPHONICALLY SPEAKING.

I know the reason why He took a good long slumber. Rip Van Winkle was a clever guy—he was waiting for a number.

Just to show that there is something going on in the world besides war and strikes, a New York man announces he has invented a system of feeding that will enable goldfish to live to the ripe old age of 20 years. Underneath the surface, civilization is slowly but surely advancing.

A government official, who is investigating profiteering, announces that it comes right in the midst of the shortest skirt season we have ever known in this country.

We understand that one Long Island man has accepted the position of chauffeur to his former butler and is getting a larger salary than he ever made before. This may mean little or much, but it sounds significant.

Having taken a squirt at our own cellar, we will agree that there is a coal famine in this country.

A lot of distant relatives are going to wait in vain for Santa Claus this year.

FIFTY PER CENT MIGHTY.

A million reasons no doubt you have heard. For the widespread unrest; well, here's the last word. And so from the housetops I'd fain yell and holler. 'Tis forsooth, the pursuit of the half-mighty dollar.

—Victor Wynn.

Report declares that more than 70 per cent of the exports of Jamaica come to the United States. Well, we certainly need their ginger.

One defendant in court, charged with cruelty to a goose, claimed that a goose is not an animal but a duck. The judge claimed that a goose is an animal. The judge won.

Before consenting to a uniform divorce law as planned, most people would like to have a look at the uniform.

Every time there is a vacant store-room in any town somebody comes along and starts a moving picture show.

If there were more men working and fewer trying to save the country, the country would be able to save itself in time.

BUT IT WOULD TAKE A SURGEON TO DO THAT.

Solomon Handman has found the following sign: "Rooms to Rent. Inquire Within Jailor."

"Selecting a jury has become one

WHO'S WHO IN CURRENT EVENTS.

SHE CONTEMPLATES BECOMING AN M. P.



Lady Beaverbrook.

Lady Beaverbrook is named as a probable candidate for the British Parliament in succession to Sir Albert Stanley, who is soon to be elevated to the peerage. Lady Beaverbrook, like her husband, is a Canadian. Her husband is the owner of the London Daily Express and is a supporter of Lloyd George.

of the most important features of the modern trial," remarked a well known judge, "and you'd be surprised how difficult it is to get 12 really intelligent and unbiased men together at one time. I recall once when a whole week was spent in selecting a jury to try a killing. Finally one old fellow seemed to fill the bill and would complete the quota. He had no prejudices, was not opposed to capital punishment and was considered a valuable find. So the prosecuting attorney said solemnly, 'Juror, look upon the prisoner; prisoner, look upon the juror.'

"The old man adjusted his spectacles and peered at the prisoner for a full half minute. Then turning to the court, he said: 'Judge, darned if I don't believe he's guilty!'

"That fellow is some hustler. He stays in one place only long enough to borrow money."

"I see. A case of touch and go."

"Son, I don't think that girl will make you much of a wife."

"Oh, you can't tell. Marriage is a lottery."

"There are lotteries and lotteries. Some offer \$100,000 prizes. Others are of the grab-bag variety at 10 cents a chance."

EDITORIAL OPINION OF IDAHO EDITORS

INVASION FROM MEXICO.

So much news that isn't so comes from Mexico that a wary editor fears to give new Mexico stories credence, even though they are issued from some other source than El Paso. When they are vouched for, however, by a United States senator, they call for more serious consideration of Indiana. In a recent address at Indianapolis is quoted as saying that Carranza is preparing to turn over his government to the revolutionists, who have a soviet organization, and who plan to invade the United States and establish a soviet government in this country. "In the state of Colorado, if possible," "in the state of Colorado, if possible. And perhaps the first emotion that will rise up in the hearts of most Americans as they read it will be a hope that it is true."

If the Mexicans would only invade this country, they would contribute much to the simplified settlement of a complicated problem. The United States would have a perfectly good, patent reason for taking Mexico in hand. The invading party, of course, would last about as long as the proverbial snowball in hades. And it would be all the better if the invaders came as Greaser Reds, to establish the blessings of Leninism in our benighted land.

Uncle Sam could dispose of Bolshevism and Greaserism at one swoop, then proceed to install an orderly government in Mexico and make our southern border somewhere as peaceful as our northern.

WHAT THE PRESS OF THE NATION SAY

ENDICOTT DOUBTS HIGHER PRICES FOR SHOES.

In regard to the future course of shoe prices, which it has been predicted would reach higher levels in the spring, Henry B. Endicott, president of the Endicott-Johnson corporation, says: "I hear lots of statements in regard to the future price of shoes which seem to me to be rather strong under the circumstances. These statements which have been called to my attention all claim that during the coming spring and summer shoes will rule very much higher."

"While it seems to me that we can not expect lower prices if they seem that the situation does not warrant expectation of higher prices."

"It is quite possible that one man's guess is as good as another's, but at the present writing I don't see where conditions justify any such claims."

"I think that hides can be bought today and put into leather that will pay a profit on today's leather prices. I think leather can be bought today and put into shoes and the shoes sold at today's prices at a profit."

"It seems to me that the country is pretty sick of always higher prices. Shoes are very high now and it is my justice that the shoe business should not look for higher prices during the next six months and that, I think, is as far ahead as any one ought to look at the present time."

"I see no reason why there will not be hides enough and leather enough and shoes enough to fill all reasonable demands."

ORIGINAL PUSSYFOOTERS.

The first serious effort to bring about prohibition took place in April, 1908, with the formation of a society at Moreau, New York, consisting of

Three Minute Journeys

By Temple Manning

WHERE PRISONERS ARE CHAINED BY THEIR NECKS IN "GANGS."

To those of us who deeply sympathize with the prisoners of our country and earnestly second every attempt to make even well merited punishment less hard to bear, the condition of the malefactor in far away Zanzibar presents a startling contrast. Our illustration tells the story.

IF I EVER GIT A GOOD LICK AT Y' ONCE—Y' GOL-DARN PUP!



48 members who pledged themselves as follows:

"No member shall drink rum, gin, whiskey or wine, except by advice of a physician or at public dinners, under penalty of 25 cents, provided that this does not infringe on any religious rite."

Either the rules were too elastic or the penalty too small, for the original Society of Pussyfooters disbanded within 10 days.

Drinking at that time was regarded as at its height. Americans attributed it to the English among them whereas Camden, many years before, in apologizing for British hard drinking, wrote: "The English in their long wars in the Netherlands first learned to drown themselves with immoderate drinking and by drinking other's healths to impair their own."

The Dutch ascribed immolation "to long cheerless nights needing solacement in warming fluids."

Benjamin Franklin was one of the first Americans to object publicly to liquor. When he entered a London printing house as an apprentice, he refused to comply with the solemn custom of paying an entry fee by standing drinks to everybody in the shop. He writes: "I came by great annoyance in taking this stand." William E. Johnson will probably concur.

DOMESTICATED ANIMALS

Almost unrecognized the great change has come. Man is becoming the home body and woman the goer. It is barely possible that the actuality of a bone-dry land has something to do with this shifting situation, but the fact remains that the male member of the household is now the bird that keeps the home fires burning.

The man likes to get into his slippers and have a quiet evening with his book or paper and it is the lady who wants to climb into her glad rags for a night of jazz or the movies.

Dancing men are more than ever in demand and neither face nor reputation matters much so long as they can fox trot a lively measure. But the dancing men are ever growing scarce.

Since the women have acquired the vote and man's job the home means less and less in their young lives.

Another generation or so is apt to find the men doing the cooking, sewing and other domestic tasks, while the woman is both the bread winner and the cake walker. Fortunately, by the time most of us will have croaked and won't mind.

Various Disorders.

Nearsightedness and astigmatism should be corrected at once, these things being the frequent causes of eyestrain falling out, turning in and swelling of the cornea, and granulated eyelids. Proper glasses should be worn, and until these can be obtained the disorders may be helped temporarily by using a little of yellow oxide of mercury, two grains in a dram of white vaseline or a saline made of four drams of white vaseline with six grains of ammoniated mercury ointment.

"Pink eye," "red eye" and "conjunctivitis" are names which characterize the bloodshot eye when it is caused by microbes and dust combined. These may be relieved by applications of boric acid water. "Bloodshot" eye, caused by loss of sleep, drinking or some other excess can be relieved by rest and applications of crushed ice. Sometimes this is caused by improper eyeglasses or ignorance of the need of them, artificial light, poor light, constant exposure to darkness or sharp light, to fumes or to wind. Again it may be caused by nose troubles, a deflected septum or swelling in the tris. Also any roughened membrane nearby may cause inflammation of the eyelids.

Simple Protective Aids.

The eyes should be bathed with boric acid water applied with sterilized gauze or absorbent cotton. Never use anything that might contain dust or invisible particles. These may enter the eye and inflame it. When applying any eye wash the head should be thrown back, the lower lid held down and two to four drops of the eye wash dropped upon the eyeball. The eyelids are then gently moved up and down in the same line of power. The eyeball is rotated enough to spread the lotion everywhere.

A sense of discomfort in the eyes, headaches, blurred vision, drowsiness, itching and burning, itchy, excessive watering, tremors and oscillations of the eyeballs, all are suspicious of eyestrain and the need for glasses. When they

DO YOU GIVE YOUR EYES THE PROPER REST AND CARE?

By DR. LEONARD KEENE HIRSHBERG. A. B., M. A., M. D. (Johns Hopkins University).

NO matter what knowledge you may have regarding your eyes, and the care of them, if such knowledge is not put to use it is of no real value to you, and you may expect eye trouble just the same as if the knowledge had never been yours.

The eyeball is slightly more than an inch in diameter, and is held in place by the optic nerve, which enters the eye socket behind the eyeball, and a pad of fat between the socket and its outside wall of tissue. The retina or "seeing part" of the eye is situated on the rear inner wall, is a dark photograph film of a self-renewing material, and in it are little tissues called "rods and cones" on a background of purple.

The eyeball is like a camera. The pupil is the slit for the picture and light, the iris is the diaphragm and a lens behind this. The "vitreous humor," a transparent jelly, is in front and behind the lens.

are present and other affections positively excluded the eyes should be examined with diligence and any defect adjusted.

Antistimism has to do rather with the corners or the lens and faulty contour of their surfaces, and little or nothing to do with the whole gross of the eye. An inflammation may be caused by the front surface of the eye being too flat, too bulging or too much corrugated, thus causing the light that strikes the eye to bend differently to be refracted irregularly to each point of the compass. It is one of the common complications of poor vision or "weak eyes," for which eyeglasses are one of the important remedies.

Winking plays a large part in the work of washing the eyeballs as well as keeping out germs, dirt and other nuisances. It keeps the eyeball moist and squeezes the tears inward through the tear duct, which penetrates the nose at the inner corner of the eyelid.

When there occurs some infection or constriction of the tear duct an oculist should be summoned to stretch them a bit and reopen the normal outlets.

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DR. HIRSHBERG

Answers to Health Questions

P. D. Q. Q.—Please suggest a cure for blackheads and pimples.

A—Apply a little of the following to the pimples: Sulphur precip..... 1 dram Poly. camphore..... 15 grains Poly. tragacanth..... 1/2 dram Liquid albolene..... 1 ounce

2—Gentle massage with a sterilized piece of absorbent cotton or chamois, followed by the application of a little paste made up with the following will help your blackheads: Fuller's earth..... 4 drams Vinegar..... 3 drams Glycerine..... 3 drams

MRS. M. M. F. A.—If you will send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your query repeated I will be glad to answer your question.

P. C. F. Q.—Please tell me what to do for body lice.

A—The clothes, bed linens and other apparel must be disinfected thoroughly. The walls, ceiling, floor and furniture should be fumigated with formaldehyde gas, with creosote and kerosene plugs on up. The skin of the infected individual calls for careful application of such poisons as mercurial or blue ointment or tincture of iodoquin.

R. M. K. Q.—Please tell me of a remedy for oily hair.

A—Massage a little of the following into the scalp: Sulphate of quinine..... 1 dram Salicylic acid..... 5 grains Tincture of capsicum..... 1 dram Lanolin..... 1/2 ounce Petroleum..... 1/2 ounce

AN INTERESTED READER. Q.—Can you suggest something for eyes?

A—Have the eyes tested by a careful, painstaking oculist. Meanwhile apply a little of 6 grains of ammoniated mercury to 1/2 dram of white vaseline to the eyes.

E. E. Q.—What can I do for chills? A—

A—Apply a little of the following to the feet or fingers each night: Ichthyol..... 1 dram Tannic acid..... 1 dram Benzoin..... 1 dram Rose water..... 1 ounce

Dr. Hirschberg will answer questions for readers of this paper on medical, hygienic and sanitation subjects that are of general interest. He cannot advise underwrite to prescribe or offer advice for individual cases. Where the subject is not of general interest letters will be answered personally, if a stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed. Address ALL INQUIRIES to Dr. L. E. Hirschberg, in care of this office.