

The True Democrat.

Vol. XXIII

St. Francisville, West Feliciana Parish La., Saturday, April 25, 1914.

No. 13

DANGER OF REDUCING LETTER POSTAGE.

Burton, one of the few Aldrich reactionaries remaining in the United States senate, has a bill before congress to reduce first-class postage from two cents to one cent, and he has asked President Wilson, to get behind it.

The first result of one-cent postage would be a huge deficit in the post-office department.

This deficit is greatly desired by big business. The postoffice department is altogether too good a demonstration of efficient government ownership to please "The System."

The postoffice department is reaching out for government ownership of the telegraphs and telephones as a very natural sequence to the very successful parcel post.

If government succeeds with the wires the next step is government ownership of railroads.

The easiest way to help the wire monopolies and the railroads—the easiest way to stop progress all along this line—is to create a big postal deficit.

Hence Burton's plan!

Cut the revenue from first-class postage in two!

Make the postoffice a monumental example of government failures, instead of a constant argument for government ownership.

Ninety-five per cent of the American people would benefit only a few pennies per year through one-cent postage, because most persons write only an occasional letter.

To save these few pennies a year would mean to surrender the opportunity to get cheaper telegrams, cheaper telephones, cheaper passenger fares and cheaper freight rates.

Two-cent postage burdens no one.

The amount of postage used by a person or business house pretty accurately measures financial standing. One of the biggest banks of the United States pays hundreds of dollars a day for two-cent stamps. Burton's plan is subsidy for a few—very few—big concerns like this bank and chloroform for progress.

SAVING IN YOUR MIND.

Every man would be forehanded if he could save his next month's salary this month. We seem to know about fifty young men who are the purest models of prudence and economy in the matter of saving money they have not yet received. With precise care they will figure out to a cent how much less than their incomes their expenses are going to be—after the first of next July.

Your mental economist is always eagerly hopeful of ways to make more money. Yet he constantly overlooks one of the most brilliant opportunities for profit in the world. We can show him how to pile up profits at a percentage that would make the most voracious loan shark green with envy.

In the three months from July first to September thirtieth, say, you will save twenty-five dollars a month. You have it figured down to the last cent. It is absolutely certain. Very well, then; just discount it by putting a ten-dollar bill in the savings bank to-day.

Strange as it may seem, it is a mathematical fact that five dollars put in the savings bank this very week will come to more than five hundred to be saved next year. Indeed, saving this very week is the only kind that ever comes to anything.

BRAVE LIFE.

We know the price that all have paid Who fell around us;
We know how soon the laurels fade That one day crowned us;
We know the cheapness of all Fame For prince or drover—
Yet, by the rod, we'll play the Game Until it's over.

We'd rather win, but when defeat Comes grinding, crushing,
We heed its lesson as we meet Fate's next wild rushing;
Not for Fame's crest to stand upon, In blazoned order,
But for the thrill of fighting on Beyond the border.

We've felt the stab of foe and friend, And now forsaken,
No star shines for us at the end Of roads we've taken;
But when the last dim lamp is lit, By land or water,
No man can ever say we quit Or called for quarter.

—Grantland Rice in Collier's.
Latest popular sheet music 10c per copy, at the Royal Pharmacy.

WHY DON'T YOU ASK YOUR UNCLE SAM?

In the current issue of Farm and Fireside, Herbert Quick, the editor, says that we citizens pay our scientists and experts, but that few of us use them as we might. There is not a worm, a bug, a blight, a disease, or a problem of the soil which is not studied by these hired men of ours and about which they are not anxious to tell us. Mr. Quick goes on in part, as follows:

"At the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington almost any question will be answered by experts free of charge. In such cases not even a stamp is required for reply. They will examine diseased plants and tell what the remedy is, if there is one. Some one has said the way to tell a toadstool from a mushroom is to eat it—if you die it's a toadstool; but these experts will save you the trouble of dying, and tell you in case of doubt, if you will send them the specimen.

"The number of things an observant farmer—especially a young one—wants to know is simply illimitable. And he can be sure if there is an answer it will be sent him. The country teacher who wants to ruralize her school might well ask for these problems to be brought to the school and sent thence to the experts. Such a policy will do much to bring the government closer to the farms, and to make the pupils feel it is really their government."

EFFECTS OF FOODS.

The following effects of some specified foods are well worth knowing:

1. Vegetables are the specific food for producing a good quality of blood which results in a spotless skin.

2. Fresh juicy fruits take the place of stimulants, such as alcohol, beer, tobacco, and so on.

3. Animal foods (meat, game, fowl, fish, dairy food) nourish the brain.

When we have mastered the secret of eating we will have reached a higher development, both mentally and physically. The time is not far distant when we will no more take food indiscriminately than we would now take medicines.

ANOTHER NAME FOR SQUAW.

They were discussing the North American Indian in a rural school, says a British weekly, when the teacher asked if any one could tell what the leaders of the tribes were called.

"Chief," answered a bright little girl, at the head of the class.

"Correct," answered the teacher.

"Now can any of you tell me what the women were called?"

There was silence for a minute or two, and then a small boy's hand waved eagerly aloft.

"Well, Frankie?" asked the teacher.

"Mischief," he proudly announced.

OLD TRUE DEMOCRATS WANTED.

The True Democrat is very anxious to complete its files, and still needs several numbers to complete same. It is highly desirable that every number possible be secured for this purpose, and this paper will appreciate any assistance rendered in accomplishing this result.

Copies of the papers of the following dates are wanted:

1892—Dec. 17.

1893—Dec. 16, 30.

1895—Dec. 7, 14.

1897—May 20; July 17; Aug. 7; Sept. 7, 11, 18, 25; Oct. 2; Dec. 11, 25.

1898—April 23; Aug. 6.

1899—Jan. 28; May 6; Oct. 7; Nov. 4, 25.

1900—Feb. 3, 10; March 3; April 7; May 19, 26; June 16, 23; July 7, 14, 21; all of August and September; Oct. 1; all of November and December.

1901—Nov. 30.

1902—Feb. 8; July 5; Aug. 9, 16; Sept. 20; Oct. 25; Dec. 20. Our papers for this year are in bad condition, and we will welcome all papers of this year, whether of the dates enumerated or not.

1903—Feb. 7, 14, 21; March 21, 28; all of April and May; June 6, 20, 27; July 4; Sept. 12, 19; all of Oct.; Dec. 12. Our papers of this year are also in very bad condition, and we will welcome any papers of this year.

1904—July 16; Aug. 13; Nov. 5, 12.

1905—Jan. 14; Feb. 11, 25; March 11; April 22; June 24; July 1, 8; Aug. 5, 12, 19; Dec. 9, 23.

1906—Jan. 27; April 7; June 2, 30; July 7; Aug. 17; Nov. 3; Dec. 29.

1907—March 2; June 15; July 20, 27.

1908—Aug. 5.

1909—May 15; Sept. 11; Oct. 2.

1910—July 2, 9, 16; Sept. 17; Oct. 29.

1911—June 10; Oct. 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11.

COTTON STILL SOUTHERN KING.

Although the record is not yet made up, it is very evident that the cotton crop of 1913-14 will be almost of record-breaking proportions, indicating that while it may appear that king cotton has lost some of his territory, cotton is to-day the great staple crop of the South, and despite the ravages of the pestiferous boll weevil it is still the money crop. It has never been seriously contended that even in this section, where the boll weevil has done great damage, that cotton should be entirely abandoned. It has been contended, however, that more time should be given other products of the farm; that more attention should be given to raising all things necessary to sustain life—both of man and beast—on the farm and have a small surplus for sale; that the raising of cattle and hogs would be a paying undertaking, but that cotton should not be entirely abandoned.

In the past half dozen years we advocated the planting of a smaller acreage so that the weevils could be picked from the plants. This is still necessary. The land should be made highly productive so that the plant will grow rapidly. The adoption of intensive methods will result in a greater yield on a smaller acreage. In this way cotton can be made in the boll weevil territory, and if proper attention is given to raising feed-stuff for cattle and hogs, the country will reach an era of prosperity heretofore unknown.—Monroe News-Star.

DEAD TIMBER.

Says Supt. Harris in a recent circular:

"We are carrying a great deal of dead timber in all of our school courses; we are using much material that is useless; and we are failing to take advantage of the opportunities that are ours to equip boys and girls to do useful work in the state's different industries.

"Our fields are lying waste with scrub cattle and hogs roaming over them, while we are confining boys and girls in the schools in studies that have no connection with the state's industries, especially its most important industry, agriculture. The boy who is being taught to cultivate the soil successfully and to raise cattle and hogs of the right type is receiving very valuable instructions, and this type of instruction should find its way into all of the schools of the state."

THE GREAT ADVENTURE.

That is The Great Adventure: to find, to choose, to make one's place in human service and to fill it; Adventure of a lifetime, of many successful lifetimes; Adventure never achieved, always rich in the joy of pursuit, the vision of fulfillment; Adventure not consummated in a year or two, nor limiting itself to the happiness of a few, but always opening before us, and carrying help and service to all the world.

All legitimate human work can be that.—The Forerunner.

Get the "Little Ad" habit.

AN ATTRACTIVE SUMMER SCHOOL.

There is no reason why summer school work should not be made attractive. Some of the means of doing this are as follows: Hold but one session per day, working during the cool hours and closing at 1:00 P. M.; offer courses in tennis, hockey and volley ball in the late afternoon; teach the students games and plays for them to use when they go back to their schools; have stereopticon lectures and musical entertainments with the phonograph; offer motion picture entertainments on Saturday evenings; teach the ladies to swim, and provide a suitable lake for the men to use daily; have a good table, furnish pure water, and protect the bed-rooms against mosquitoes by screens; and above all hold the expenses down. All these things the State Normal School at Natchitoches is providing for its 1914 summer school students.

TWO POINTS OF VIEW ON STYLES OF WOMAN'S DRESS.

Says the Jackson, Miss., News:

"While cherishing a profound sympathy for Messrs. Morrison, Walker, Nabors, Jones of Franklin, and other zealous dress reformers in the lower house, we can not refrain from remarking that, if any or all of these gentlemen had consulted us, they would have kept their mouths shut on this delicate subject. For many years in common with other newspapers of this country, the Daily News has been discussing dress with the women folks, and thus far they have adopted nearly an idea we have advanced on the question. More in sorrow than in anger, we are forced to admit that we have failed miserably in our effort to induce the fair sex to wear more clothes. The more we write, the less they wear, and the broader the smile that adorns their dear faces."

On the same subject an unidentified exchange says:

"I notice that all the pious old hypocrites of the country are loudly condemning the split skirt," observed a brother editor, after he had quit rubbering at a flash of green petticoat that fitted by the window. "Personally," he said, "the sight of a graceful ankle is a much more pleasing sight than the bustles and hoop skirts the ladies once wore, and for the life of me, I can't figure out why the sight of a lady's shank should retard civilization. The new fangled skirts, at least, don't encroach on the street sweeper and make the fine collection of microbes and street sewerage that the long skirts the women used to wear did. As near as I have been able to figure it out the fashions in feminine clothes were started in an imbecile asylum, and it has only been in late years that old Mr. Common Sense has had anything to do with them. Despite the knockers, none of whom incidentally, ever shut their eyes at the 'turrible' sight, I contend that nothing as graceful and pretty as a feminine ankle was ever meant to be covered up and deprived of sunlight and ventilation. The slit skirt, in fact, is but another step, in my humble judgment, towards the glorious day of woman's emancipation now near at hand."

TORRENS SYSTEM OF LAND REGISTRATION EXPLAINED.

Norfolk Virginian-Pilot:

The chief advantages of the Torrens system are that it makes for economy and stability of title. When land is once registered under this system, the title is settled once and for all time, the state being behind it as guarantor, and the cost of subsequent transfers is minimized; while the special proceedings necessary to secure such registration are simple and no more expensive than those attaching to each and every conveyance under the methods now obtaining.

Briefly summarized, the special procedure is this: The owner of real estate makes known to the clerk of the court of the county or city in which the real estate is located his desire to have the title of the land certified and registered. Whereupon the clerk issues a summons, running in the name of the State, to all persons who may be interested in the real estate to come forward and protect their rights and interests therein, if any they can show.

After their summons has run due length of time, the examiner of titles for the district in which the land is situate, a duly appointed public official, takes the petition, goes to the records and makes careful and exhaustive investigation. Upon completion of the investigation, he makes report to the judge. Whereupon the judge sets a day for hearing and all parties claiming an interest in the title under investigation are notified to appear in court and set forth the nature and extent of their claims.

The title having been established to the satisfaction of the court, a decree is handed down certifying that the petitioner has title in fee in the land in question, the boundaries of which are registered, and an order is entered directing the clerk to make an entry of the title upon a book set apart for the purpose, as a registered title secured by the guarantee of the state.

Thereafter for all time the certificate of registration stands as a guarantee of the soundness of the title no matter how often the land may change hands or how much it may be subdivided, no further examination of the title, with the always greater or less expense attaching thereto, is ever required.

PARABLE OF THE FOOLISH WIFE.

(Life.)

There dwelt in Harlem a certain wife, unto whom her husband came, saying:

"Lo, 'tis the day to cast the vote into the box. Alone must I go, without thee, O Jewel of my Flat. And I sorrow much that thou canst not accompany me, for, verily, great things be at stake. There be corruption in high places and a multitude of wrongs and many things that bear heavily on thee as on me. And much couldst thou do to better evils by the casting of the vote, O wife."

But the woman shrugged her shoulders, saying:

"Vote thou for me, O husband. Of a truth, everything can I trust to thee and thy sex. Behold, I am loath to shake off my slough and go forth to the polls, so vote thou alone, as in the past. This doth content me."

So the man went forth and straightway voted. Then he returned to his wife, saying:

"Of a truth it toucheth me that thou dost trust everything to me. Lo, I will go forth and buy thee a bonnet. So shalt thou shine among the women in the Gates."

And she arose and smote her breasts and wept, and put sackcloth upon her, and begged that he would not do this evil deed.

Then the man marveled greatly, saying:

"Laws that bear on thy children and thee, and on thy sisters who toil, and on the property, wouldst thou trust to me and my sex, yet dost thou rage at a bit of velvet and a dragged feather. Strange, indeed, are thy ways, O woman."

And she answered:

"Not strange, indeed, since I am of the tribe of antis."

And straightway the man understood.

WHY A STANDING ARMY?

A standing army may be depended on to protect a government as long as privileged interests control. But should the government become progressive and meet with violent opposition from Privilege then the fidelity of the army becomes open to question. See recent events in Ireland.

Latest popular sheet music 10c per copy, at the Royal Pharmacy.

PURE WATER SUPPLY NECESSARY.

A pure water supply is one of the most important factors in farm life to-day, as typhoid fever, dysentery, and other disorders may be carried by impure waters. Farm-water supplies are very subject to pollution.

Surface-water supplies should not be used for household purposes or for washing milk cans. They should not even be used for laundry purposes unless no other supply is available. Rain water from the roof is often polluted by dust, leaves, and the droppings from birds. Any person who drinks water from surface supplies endangers his health in such supplies are not adequately protected and then purified.

The safety of water supplies when near sources of possible surface pollution often depends largely on the character and quality of the material in which the well is sunk.

The farm well, especially a shallow-dug well, should be located somewhat above the barnyards and stock pens, at least in such a position that the surface drainage from all possible sources of contamination is away from the well.

If local conditions and prices will permit, it is a good idea to provide impervious floors with water-tight drains for farm buildings and stock pens. Under the same conditions concrete manure pits might well be provided not only to prevent the liquid manure from polluting the neighboring soil, but to save the manure. No garbage, manure, or rubbish should be dumped into sinks or basins in the immediate neighborhood, and these should be fenced off and kept free from polluting matter.

The house should be provided with some safe method of sewage disposal, while slops and garbage from the kitchen should be deposited in tightly covered garbage cans and disposed of by burying in the fields, burning, or feeding to pigs. The use of privy vaults and leaching or overflowing cesspools should be absolutely avoided, since they are likely to be sources of the worst contamination. The farmer should become acquainted with the various types of wells and the best methods of protection, and the well should be so protected as to exclude filth from those sources of contamination which it has been impossible to remove or have been overlooked.

In the selection, location, and sinking of a well it is always a good idea to consider permanence in addition to safety. The well should penetrate to levels below that of the ground-water surface in the driest seasons.

Unpolluted springs are, as a rule, good sources of water supply, since the water usually comes from great depths within the rock or is filtered through many layers of sand and gravel. However, springs are subject to pollution from the same sources as wells and should be closely watched in this respect.

HOW TO BEAT THEM AT THEIR OWN GAME.

It is all right to have honest goods on your shelves for people to buy, but they are likely to remain there unless people are informed you have the goods. That can best be done by advertising in your local paper. One principal way in which mail order houses often get the better of home merchants is through the medium of large illustrated catalogues, that find their way into almost every home two or three times a year. It costs a small fortune to print and mail these catalogues, but the fact that they exist is the surest proof that it pays to have them.

Of course, no local merchant can afford to get out such a catalogue, nor is it necessary. He can secure the same results in his home paper, but to do it he must advertise generously and attractively, and then make good in the quality and price of his goods. In so doing he can beat the mail order houses at their own game.

To be sure, there are in every community people who will always buy of a mail order house even if they get fooled by so doing, as many do, because it is a mania with them. But the great majority of buyers would rather trade at home if assured they can get what they want, and it is up to the local business men to meet the want.—New Iberia Enterprise.

THOSE IDLE WORDS.

It is startling to consider that the newest dictionaries of the English language contain half a million words.

Of course, there are not ideas enough in all the world to keep so many words busy.

And the mischief which even one idle word may do is appalling.—Puck.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Having re-opened my store, I respectfully invite the public in general to come in and look over a lot of odds and ends which I will sell at most any price in order to make room for new stock.

My business will be conducted on a cash basis in the future, and all orders entrusted to me will receive the best attention.

I will carry the International Harvester Company's line of goods; also the leading implements of other makes.

I have come up and gone down with the people of this parish, and in making another start I respectfully solicit your patronage.

CHAS. WEYDERT.