SAVING IN THE HOME IS ONE WAY TO SOLVE FOOD QUESTION

(BY H. S. H.)

TO INCREASE food production in the United States is an urgent need. Almost equally as urgent is the need to end the wasting of food. The people of the United States have been too extravagant. The department of agriculture estimates the value of the annual waste due to the careless handling of food, improper cooking, waste in preparation, etc., at $700,000,000. That is $7 for each individual of our population, or $28 for a family of four, a sum sufficient, by actual test here in El Paso, to pay the grocery bill of a family of that size for a month. In other words, the elimination of waste would make it possible, if the waste were no greater than the government's figures, to feed the whole country 13 months on the supplies now consumed in 12 months; which is to say that we waste one-twelfth of our food supplies.

It may be that the government's figures on waste are too low by 50 percent. Certainly the full garbage can is as much a part of American life as the full dinner pail. Food is allowed to spoil or is burned or abused in the preparation and thrown out. That occurs in every family. In too many, left over food is never worked over into other and appetizing forms, but is thrown out. The waste in restaurants and in hotel kitchens and dining rooms is very great, both by employes and patrons. People order too much food and leave a large part of it to be thrown into the garbage cans, for good establishments pride themselves on using no left overs. Many a family could be fed with the food thus wasted. The remedy lies partly with employers and their cooks and assistants to prepare food economically and with patrons to reduce their orders to what they can eat without waste. For the patron, that means better health and money saving as well as food conservation, for most people eat too much.

In the homes, servants are almost invariably wasteful in preparing food and averse to utilizing leftovers in preparing another meal. It is easier to throw out untouched portions of meat and potatoes and untouched slices of bread than to save and use them. It is the part of the mistresses of households not only to caution servants against wasteful practices but to show them how such wastefulness may be avoided and then to see that their instructions are obeyed.

In families where there are no servants, housewives often consider themselves economical with food and careful with leftovers, and really are, but often they can surprise themselves with reduction in the grocery and meat bills by more thought and the use of greater care. Some have proved it to their own satisfaction and others can do the same. There are people here in El Paso whose monthly food bills are no larger now than two years ago when most articles were far below their present cost, and yet these families are well fed. Substitution of less expensive foods, preparation of smaller quantities, care to prevent loss through spoiling or burning in the cooking, and the use of leftovers have made that possible.

As a people, we need lessons in thrift. Many thousands have too little food and starvation always looms just ahead of them. The most of the people have plenty and waste more than enough to relieve the want of the remainder. That should not be, but is true and one way in which it can be rectified is to reduce consumption of the majority, eliminate waste, and make larger supplies thus available for sale, which will bring down prices to the point where the very poor can buy enough of the right kind of food to keep them well nourished.

Food production and food saving are national and individual duties now.

The greatest service William Jennings Bryan ever performed for the United States was in not being able to tie us up to a year's deliberation with Germany, as he would have liked to do. Critics of the German government charge the foreign office with having committed a gross blunder for letting pass such an opportunity to handcuff the United States. But Germany didn't see it that way once.

Some of those hundreds in New York and Chicago who jumped into matrimony to avoid war may have something to say about a fish and a frying pan later.

Influencing Juries

IN THE Blancett trial at Santa Fe, counsel for the defence expressed a belief the jury might be influenced by what he termed the "mob spirit" of the spectators who were given, it seems, to loud and prolonged laughter. Inasmuch as the judge has ruled on this point, a word of comment may not be inappropriate as applying to criminal trials in general.

There is no question but that juries in criminal trials are open to influence, consciously or unconsciously, by the crowd of spectators. If public sympathy is with or against a defendant, the jury cannot but sense it in the attitude and acts of that part of the courtroom back of the railing. To prevent such influence, to the detriment of justice, in extreme cases, changes of venue are provided.

If the trial opens with no great display of feeling on the public's part, it lies largely with the attorneys how the public mind is influenced. Counsel can win or alienate juries and spectators according to their methods of obtaining the presentation of the evidence and in their opening and closing arguments. Counsel, then, have only thmselves to hold responsible if court room sentiment goes against their side. In the case of the Blancett trial, the court held that a certain facetiousness on the part of counsel for the defendant was responsible for the attitude of the spectators.

So it is with most criminal trials. Attorneys who omit studied brilliancy, attempts at pathos and such heroics and confine their efforts to bringing out the evidence as plainly and frankly as possible will not lose the sympathy of jurors and spectators, and especially when their cases have a real basis of merit.

Fighting Over The New Army

THE fight in congress over the choice between the selective conscription and the volunteer methods of securing the forces for the new army to be trained for war almost reached a crisis in the decision of the house committee to recommend the volunteer system, despite its history of repeated failures.

The advocates of the war department recommendation for selective conscription have urged that the volunteer system will receive a thorough test in raising about 700,000 men for the regular army and national guard before the conscription of the new army of 500,000 begins. The proponents of the volunteer plan maintain that both forces can be obtained by a call for volunteers.

The war department has been successful in having its plan endorsed by the senate military affairs committee. The conflict was thus brought between the house and the senate, for it appeared likely the house would vote for the volunteer method. The war department's opposition to the volunteer system is based not only on the great doubt whether sufficient men could be obtained, but also on the undesirability of having a great body of untrained men, officers included, thrown upon the hands of the army at one time. If the officers were trained, it would be easier to train the men.

President Wilson is quite right in insisting that the administration's plan be adopted by congress. His determination may win the day in this issue as in others in the past.

Great Britain gets the first war loan. Has this anything to do with the fact that Mr. Balfour's war board saw us first, so to speak?

We have put democracy in every part of our government except the army. It is needed there in the form of universal service for all alike.

If they ever try to make sausage out of those wiry little Arizona burros, the sausage will last a long time.

A REASONABLE QUESTION

By COFFMAN

Abe Martin

You can't make a purse out of a sow's ear, but I'll bet ther makin' lots o' twelve-dollar shoes out o' them. Ther's two sides t' every question—Bryan's an' th' right side.

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Short Snatches From Everywhere

China demanding peace sounds a good deal like a man up in a balloon yelling for more air.—Boston Transcripts.

By assiduous devotion to his flower garden, Nick Romanoff will produce something far better than Bill Hohenzollern has been raising.—Washington Post.

If it would not be ungallant to suggest it, how would it do to retire the mistress of the seas, temporarily, anyway, and try out a mister on the job? —Macon Telegraph.

The estate of the late Maj. Gen. Fred Funston consisted of $20,000 of life insurance and personal effects valued at "not to exceed $10,000." It seems the invariable rule that when brave men carve out their fortunes they do it with their dullest weapons. — Toledo Blade.

HOGWALLOW LOCALS

By GEORGE BINGHAM

On Thursday night Sim Flinders saw a star fall in the vicinity of the Rye Straw store and has left for that point in his wagon. He is expected back with it at any time.

* * *

Atlas Pack predicts that there will be a good supply of shade this summer as the trees are already beginning to sprout leaves.

* * *

Slim Pickens says one of the terriblest things in the United States is when your collar severs relations with the button at the back of your neck and threatens to rise against your ears.

Little Interviews

British Argument For Conscription Applies Here Voluntary Taxation As Fair As Volunteer Enlisting

"THE argument used in England for compulsory military training—'That voluntary taxation is as fair and just as voluntary military service'—applies in the United States at the present time," said Jimmy Hare, of Leslie's Weekly. "It was impressed on the people that compulsory military service was just as much a duty of a citizen to his state as was compulsory taxation. In pointing out this fact, it was explained that if voluntary taxation existed in a government, few if any people would pay their taxes and in a voluntary military service, few men will enlist of their own accord."

* * *

"Every taxpayer who possibly can should attend the mass meeting at the chamber of commerce this evening to hear the address of A. E. James, of New Mexico," said Charles N. Bassett, president of the El Paso County Taxpayers' association. "Mr. James is an expert on taxation matters and his address should prove of the utmost interest to every man in this county who is a taxpayer. The association expects within the next few days to greatly increase its membership through the campaign that has been inaugurated. Taxpayers of the county, whether large or small, should become members of the association. We not only need them for the revenue derived from dues but also for their suggestions in carrying out the proposed work. It is along these lines that Mr. James will speak this evening at the chamber of commerce."

* * *

"Everything's goin' up excepting salaries," said James L. Finnigan. "The price of foodstuff has materially increased within the past few months. In fact, flour is selling at a dollar more a barrel in El Paso than it did during the civil war. Matches have doubled over prices of 1861, and other foodstuff and household materials have likewise taken a sudden ascent. But the man on a salary is receiving the same compensation for his work that he did several years ago. The situation today to the man on a salary with a family is this: He must receive at least $150 a month to exist. If he does not, he's in an awful stew. It looks to me as though there will have to soon be an awful decrease in marriages."

* * *

"A shortage of tentage for the army has resulted in the erection of wooden cantonments for the candidates for the officers' reserve corps at Leon Springs, Tex.," said Maj. H. L. Laubach, Nineteenth infantry, in charge of the reserve corps training camp of the southern department.

"Carpenters are now at work constructing 180 buildings for occupation by the reserve corps candidates and these will be ready for use by May 8, when the training camp opens. Quarters, instruction halls, kitchens, mess halls and administration buildings are being erected for the training camp."

* * *

"Recently there has been considerable agitation about the draining of the water logged country of the El Paso valley, particularly about the method to be employed. Plans have been arranged for the digging of a big ditch by the government, which will, of course, cause some expense," said J. A. Smith. "Another method had been advocated, that of sinking wells and permitting the water to drain away on the principle that water finds its own level, but the latter method is inadequate to the situation, for when a well is made the water will rise to within a few feet and sometimes inches of the surface, which, of course, will not drain away much water. The expense of the first method over the second is cited as a reason for experimenting with the second, but is it not better to instal the method which is proved than to waste time and money on a method uncertain at the best? It would cost heavily to sink enough wells over the land to drain it through the double strata of gravel and impenetrable clay to the sand 75 feet beneath, providing that it would drain."

* * *

"I do not know who is to blame for the present high prices of foodstuff," said R. L. Dorhandt, "but we all know that the old rule of supply and demand has nothing to do with present prices. We know that a month ago we had enough flour and wheat in this country to last us until the next crop is gathered and in addition we had a surplus of 40,000,000 bushels of wheat. There is no shortage of flour, but the government is permitting the American people to be looted by the speculators in foodstuff. If you have the money to pay their prices you can get ten trainloads of wheat delivered here in El Paso, and it is the same in everything else to eat. So far as the demands of this country are concerned the supply of foodstuff is inexhaustible; but the speculators are compelling Americans to pay what they could get for these supplies laid down in Europe. The same can be said relative to the supply of shoes and cotton goods. Dr. H. B. Stevenson had the right idea when he said the government should take charge of America's food supply."

Roundabout Town

Local Jews To Aid Suffering European Brothers A Circular Auto Tour That Includes the Big Dam

BY G. A. MARTIN.

THE Jewish community of El Paso is getting ready for a mass meeting at an early date to do its share in raising the $10,000,000 war relief fund for the Jews of Europe. The local community has placed $15,000 as the minimum amount which it will raise and already a considerable number of contributions have been made, ranging from $200 to $1000. One of the contributions is for $500 and 10 percent of the amount raised over $10,000. The local Jews are in real earnest in their work and rabbi Martin Zielonka believes that El Paso will reach the mark it has set and probably exceed it.

* * *

A trip that El Pasoans will enjoy, according to M. A. Warner, is to Elephant Butte dam, Hillsboro, Kingston, Lake Valley, Nutt and Rincon, N. M., and back home, making a circular tour that can be made in two days, through a most beautiful, enchanting country.

Mr. Warner and party of friends have just completed the trip and he is enthusiastic over the opportunities it offers for the lover of the country. He made the run the first day to Elephant Butte dam and spent the night there, where hotel accommodations are splendid.

Next day the party motored to Palomas Hot Springs and Hillsboro, then made a side trip up a box canyon to Kingston, a most beautiful drive, and, returning, continued on to Lake Valley and Nutt, then across the valley from Nutt to Rincon, from Rincon east to Detroit ranch, then back to El Paso over the usual route from the dam.

The roads were all pronounced good and there is no danger of losing one's way, Mr. Warner says, except possibly coming back to Rincon from Nutt. After leaving Nutt, the road crosses the Santa Fe line, then turns northeast. Two ranches are passed on the way. At the last one, there are three roads. Here is where the average motor party is in a quandary, but Mr. Warner says if the left road is taken, it will soon bring the motorist into Rincon, where, if it is desired to make the trip a three-day one, good accommodations can be secured at the Harvey house for the night. The road out up to Detroit ranch is not bad, Mr. Warner says, and can easily be negotiated by the average motor car.

* * *

There was a time when an El Pasoan thought he had a right to look out upon the scenery or his neighbor's home or yard, but that was before the advent of the modern billboard.

* * *

He (or she) who would have roses and flowers, must be everlastingly on the job fighting green bugs, red bugs, black bugs, bugs visible and bugs invisible, bugs all the time. The old codger who remarked that everlasting vigilance is the price of peace must have been a grower of flowers and must have referred to peace of mind.

* * *

Tom Lea's name hasn't been in the papers for more than a week. He has been out of the city, but he's back again, patriotism, good humor, sincerity and all.

* * *

Herman A. Funke, whose name has a Germanic sound, is evidently not strong for the kaiser, however. He conducts the Aragon hotel at Magdalena, N. M., and on the back of his menu card is a verse about the devil resigning his job because he is too tame a man for the work. One of the verses says:

"I'm down and out," the devil said; he said it with a sob,
There are others that outclass me and I want to quit my job.
Hell isn't in it with the land that lies along the Rhine,
I'm a hasbeen and a piker and therefore I resign."

* * *

Dr. H. A. Magruder says there is no such thing as "a grammatical error." If it is grammatical, it cannot be an error, he says, so he argues, therefore, that those people who refer to a gramatical error should use some other term. We refer him to Dr. J. F. Edgar for consolation.

* * *

Local employes of the Stone-Webster company are all buying the new popular issue of government bonds. The company at Boston bought a big block of these bonds and notified employes that they could subscribe for them in small amounts if they wished.

* * *

The gallery boy says that until a man has dropped in The Herald building recruiting office and held up his hand before the captain in charge, his plea for others to join the army is likely to be met with smiles.

* * *

That feeling is beginning to come over all of us about now, which drags our minds from our desks out to the babbling brook, the wave-swept seashore or the moaning pines in the mountains. In other words, it is almost vacation time and it's hard to keep ones mind on the sordid things of the office, but, after all, except for the old office, we'd be without the wherewithall to satisfy this craving for the great outdoors.

* * *

Adrain Pool made the trip to Elephant Butte dam in four hours the other day in that stripped Flivver of his. He says he made the run to San Marcial in seven hours.

Adrian, as chairman of the good roads committee of the chamber of commerce, wants to have the roads signed about El Paso and in this Adrian is pulling another one of his good suggestions, for if there is anything the roads need, it is signs, particularly directing people to El Paso.

* * *

The chautauqua man told us yesterday the way to get a knocker to work was to start him in as the first to boost a plan. Then he turned right around and asked Dr. R. L. Ramey to get up at the chautauqua in the evening and start the boosting.

HOROSCOPE.

Saturday, April 28, 1917.

ASTROLOGERS read this as an uncertain day. In the morning Saturn and Mars rule strongly for evil. Later Mercury is in a strongly benefic aspect.

There appears to be a sinister warning concerning the financial affairs of the nation. The seers declare that immense drains on the public treasury will suddenly become of serious import, owing to some checkmating move on the chessboard of world affairs.

Saturn is in a place held to presage perils in dark places, surprises by night and accidents where victims are shut in.

Increase of depression and melancholy, with consequent growth of insanity is foreshadowed by the malign planet and as an antidote for mental distresses exceeme activity in congenial lines of work is recommended.

The afternoon of this day should be a most auspicious time for all who depend on publicity of any sort. Advertising is well directed.

There is a sway held to threaten through the printing press or through the use of ink and the discovery of some system of spying or propaganda inimical to the United States is foretold for next month.

Again warning is given that foreign loans may present serious problems at an early date.

Changes in the alliances of the central powers are prognosticated.

The moon is in a sign today which is not favorable for any important decisions.

According to ancient lore this should be a good planetary rule under which to hire women employes.

It is prognosticated that children born this year in Canada will be more brilliant, more beautiful and more successful in life than those of any other country.

Persons whose birthdate it is have rather a sinister omen. They may lose money and engage in unsuccessful lawsuits.

Children born on this day are likely to be exceedingly rash and headstrong. These subjects of Taurus are usually highly gifted. Venus is their principal ruling planet.—Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

LETTERS to THE HERALD

(All communications must bear the signature of the writer, but the name will be withheld if requested.)

THE RAILROAD SUBWAY PLAN.

Editor El Paso Herald:

The 11th hour action of the outgoing administration in adopting the railroad companies' plan for the solution of the grade crossing nuisance, ought to be carefully examined. A short time ago Gen. Anson Mills, in a published statement, very cogently set forth the reasons why the river front plan is the only proper solution of the grade crossing problem, and assured us that the Chamizal matter is in a fair way of permanent adjustment, thus removing the only valid objection to that plan.

The chief objections to the plan adopted by the late city administration are these: First, the subway would always be a nuisance so far as the noise and smoke are concerned, and with traffic of three roads concentrated in it, would prove to be a veritable volcano in the heart of the city, vomiting forth sooty clouds and emitting an endless din and roar, to the everlasting discomfort of our people and damage to our splendid atmosphere. But our prevailing winds would carry the smoke entirely from the city, and the noise of trains would scarcely be heard if the railroads followed the river.

Second, the continued use of Main street by the Southern Pacific precludes all possibility of that thoroughfare ever coming into its own and serving to link the now divided city, and together with the bridges over the subway would seriously impede the extension of the business district northward.

Third, the adopted plan ignores entirely the benefits that would accrue to the large and rapidly growing eastern section of the city by swinging all railroad traffic around by the river. While we are in this business, why not adopt a plan involving the elimination of all grade crossings within the city limits. Many a life will be sacrificed in the future, as in the past, and some day a wholesale slaughter may result from neglecting to do this. The city has been compelled at great expense to raise its streets in the eastern part of town to meet the railroad grades and of course the intersecting streets as well, and property owners to fill up their lots to the street grades in order to save the railroad companies the far lesser expense of raising their tracks sufficiently to permit the streets to pass beneath them. Moreover, a large area of otherwise valuable residence property has been ruined by a network of tracks which could all be confined to one right of way.

Mr. Lea pleads for the poverty stricken Southern Pacific corporation that its Stanton street property will revert to the original owners, and seems to fear the utter impoverishment and ruin of that giant corporation if this terrible calamity should befall it, so in order to save it, he and his late associates in the city council decree that the city must never be permitted to remove the ugly hiatus now existing throughout its very heart. The Stanton street station itself an eyesore entirely out of keeping with the character of buildings now being constructed in that vicinity, must remain, and the transformation of Main street into a busy and attractive artery of the city's life postponed indefinitely.

No question is settled until settled right. Instead of only permitting the voters to pass on the minor question of closing Buchanan street, give them a chance to vote on the larger question of the river route vs. the subway, and I venture to say the river plan will carry four to one. And let them vote also on the matter of eliminating all grade crossings within the city. If this privilege shall not be accorded the voters, they at least have it in their power to show their preference indirectly by voting down the Buchanan street closing and at the same time give the new administration an opportunity to pass on the matter.

W. L. Rider.

The Daily Novelette

THE GUGGLESNACK MYSTERY

"WE'RE not accustomed to being robbed," complained Darius Gugglesnack, of D. Gugglesnack and Bro., dealers in delicatessen and eatables. "This is the first robbery that has occurred in our 20 years of delicatessening."

"What a coincidence," murmured Sheerluck Bones, the great detective. "Now please run over the delicatessens—or, to use the Latin ending, delicatessa—that were stolen."

"Well, one dozen agate-brand jelly rolls——"

"Like these?" interrupted the great detective. And he took a large bite out of the mathematical center of a jelly roll and put two other rolls in to his large Manilla-skin bag.

"And six tins of luddlefish——"

"Like these?" And the great detective dropped eight 40-cent tins of imported luddlefish after the jelly rolls.

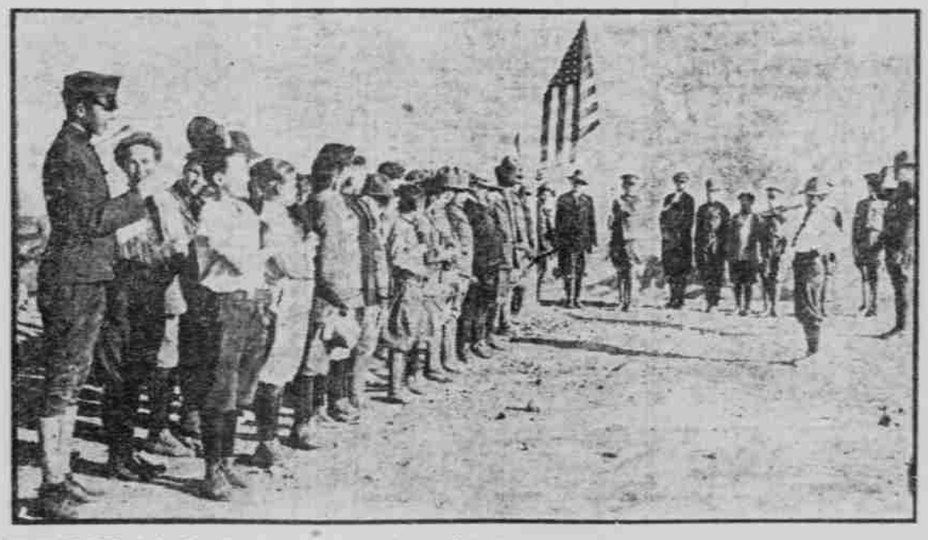
"And," went on D. Gugglesnack apprehensively, "a chock o' bockplates—I mean a box o' chocolates——"

"Like these?" And the great detective dropped eleven boxes of Smith and Wesson non-refillable chocolates after the jelly rolls and luddlefish.

D. Gugglesnack held a hasty conference with his brother W. behind a pyramid of eggplant catsup, after which he said to the great detective, "We beg your pardon, but we have made a mistake. It was not us that was robbed at all. The robbery occurred somewhere in the next block."

With an inscrutable smile, the great detective stowed his bag under his arm and withdrew.

EL PASO BOY SCOUTS AS PATRIOTS



PHOTOGRAPH of the Boy Scouts of El Paso saluting their flag as it is being hoisted to their new flagpole at the high school. The pole was donated by the Michigan ambulance company when it left El Paso through the El Paso Rotary club, which is fathering the Boy Scout movement in El Paso.

Gone to Seed

WITH other graybeards I recline beneath my figtree and my vine, when sounds the evening bell; we gossip, and we're all agreed that this old world has gone to seed, that nothing now is well. "The children of these modern days pursue heir idle, trifling ways," old Gaffer Biffkin cries; "they scoot around in motor cars, turn night to day, smoke rank cigars, and dance, dad bing their eyes." And ever since the world was new, this sort of mournful howdydo came from the ancient bore; no doubt old Noah talked that way, when he reposed at close of day, beside his houseboat door. I well recall when I was young, how every village Solon flung this kind of bunk around; we youngsters were a ribald crew; when we grew up, the graybeards knew, in prison we'd be found. No doubt the tired and crippled steed, so old it cannot chew its feed, regards the colt with scorn; why does it gambol and cavort? Why does it run and kick and snort? It should be plowing corn. The old man's tired of play and fun; his eyes are on the setting sun, sad thoughts disturb his soul; so he assembles at the store with other graybeards, three or four, and springs his rigmarole.

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WALT MASON.

EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND THAT EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 19 years: J. C. Wilmarth is Manager and G. A. Martin is News Editor.

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