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TRADE COUNCIL

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1920.

From The Argus of March 24, 1920.

The Argus heretofore will be considered as an independent newspaper, published by the people of the city and for the people of the city.

A teaspoon is an instrument used largely for dipping into your cup and finding no sugar in it.

Fact is, Russia behaved a lot better under the white czar than it behaves under the red czar.

Dispatches from Great Britain tell of an attempt that is being made to bar automobiles with left hand drives on the other side.

Those Texas cattlemen who want Villa extradited should know he stands about as much chance of being punished as does Herr Hohenollern.

It will not be many more weeks now until those lake and seaside correspondents will have to write about something besides one-piece bathing suits.

It is a hundred-to-one shot that in 10 years from now Poland will be doing the business at the old stand and the bolsheviks will be numbered among the nightmares of the past.

Some shoe dealers are advertising that they have a new process for "breaking" shoes so they will be comfortable to wear when they are first put on.

The question of "blowouts" and a "dead engine" may be solved for motorists in the near future.

Preserve the Native Grandeur.

The tame herd of American bison, or buffalo, in Yellowstone park is to be made to pay for its keep.

Possibly the plan is all right. The animals are tame and must shed their winter coats annually anyway.

These parks and reservations are property of the American people.

It is only by hard fighting, unceasing vigilance and extraordinary

effort on the part of a few unselfish persons that they have been saved from the looters and depredators and made great playgrounds for the people to be preserved forever inviolate.

There is a bill now before congress that is aimed at destroying these parks. It doesn't pretend to have such a purpose; it is camouflaged as an internal improvement measure.

It would permit the construction of dams within these national playgrounds ostensibly to store water for irrigation purposes.

The benefits to agriculture would be trivial but the damage to the parks would be immeasurable.

It is backed by those who believe parks of any kind are mere waste space, that waterfalls are no good unless attached to powerplants, and that trees are a nuisance unless saved up into lumber.

It is unthinkable that such a vicious measure should be even considered by congress.

The Michigan Scandal.

It matters little to the people of Michigan, apparently whether the supreme court waits for the election returns or reaches a decision in the case of Senator Newberry, convicted of violating the election laws.

Newspapers like the Kalamazoo Gazette and the Detroit News are hammering away at the gang which supported him, some of which have the temerity to enter the present campaign.

Newberry is evidently a pretty unpopular word in Michigan these days.

The gang whose operations led to the humiliation of the governor of Illinois in the Republican national convention not long ago, went into the Missouri primaries back of a state ticket.

The Republicans of that state did exactly what the Republicans of Michigan will do to the ticket in this state which has the support of those who were connected with the extraordinary expenditure of money in a senatorial election.

Some of those under conviction are reported active in this campaign. If their support should result in the nomination of a Republican whom they favor, this state will go Democratic this year, even though it is presidential year.

All of which is very wholesome reading for those who want to respect the people of Michigan. Unfortunately, however, it does not undo what Newberry and his bought-and-paid-for election did to the treaty of peace.

If he had not gotten into the United States senate, a different sort of a report would have come out of the senate committee and the treaty would have been ratified.

So, the interest in Newberry's shame is not confined to his home state.

Russia's Soviet Rule and Commerce.

The New York Times in a recent issue published the text of the soviet government's answer to the British questionnaire on trade.

It is made clear in that interesting document that there can be no commerce with anybody in Russia except the soviet authorities.

Foreign commerce is declared to be a government monopoly, and the national commissariat of foreign commerce the only body with which business can be done.

No contracts made with concerns or bodies or agents of any kind other than those authorized by the government will be recognized as legal, and no responsibility will be assumed by the government for contracts made with bodies which do not recognize its authority.

The right of foreigners freely to enter, reside in and depart from Russia, it is declared, cannot be granted until there is a general peace.

Only such persons will be admitted and allowed to remain as the soviet government thinks well to tolerate. Censorship will be maintained over all communications by mail, telegraph or wireless, until peace is made.

Contracts pertaining to matters in Russia will be subject to soviet law, and the employment of labor in Russia for the performance of contracts will be subject to the soviet labor code.

The government is willing to grant conces-

sions for the exploitation of mines, forests, fisheries and other natural resources, and the preparation of all kinds of raw material.

For these concessions the concessionaire will be required to pay in kind—that is, in the products of his concession.

What is left, the government explains, will be regarded as the personal property of the concessionaire, of which he may dispose in order to reimburse himself for the investment.

This careful explanation that the concessionaire's rights of property will be respected is, perhaps, the most illuminating feature of the document.

Was there ever before a government that had to explain to prospective investors that they would be permitted to retain a portion of their products?

Obviously trading with Russia under existing conditions, involves dealing with the soviet, a commercial recognition of it as the sole economic authority in the country.

Political recognition must follow inevitably. Lenin and Trotsky, a few years ago derelicts without a country, know that hence the quick action eliminating cooperation as Russian agents independent of the government, and the setting up of a soviet monopoly.

Obviously an investment in Russia under Lenin's ultimatum involves risk of quite an extraordinary character.

There will be no rush of investors in business enterprises from the United States, but if there should be any so daring as to take the risks which Lenin has declared they must take, our government will be called upon to keep a large standing army ready to protect them from being robbed, in pursuance of soviet law.

With Other Editors

Quietness.

(Forbes Magazine.)

The individuals and the organizations that accomplish most function smoothly and quietly.

A noisy, boisterous employe usually is a disturber. His loud and incessant talk interferes with the concentration and, therefore, the efficiency of others.

The right kind of quietness often betokens capability. Gabbers frequently are shallow. Have you ever reflected that many of the most powerful forces of nature operate silently?

Thunder booms with the noise of a thousand cannons, but it is the silent lightning which possesses power. The sun, on which all life on this planet depends, operates without suggestion of noise.

Frost tightens its titanic grip or splits mountainous rocks without heralding its approach by suggestion of noise.

That mysterious thing which we call time keeps on the even tenor of its way as quietly as the motionless air. The electric current, the modern miracle worker of miracle workers, indulges in no screeching. It is only the surface of the sea that ever becomes tumultuous; the depths are as silent as the grave.

Paper Clothing.

(Washington Post.)

The movement undertaken by the department of commerce to introduce in the United States the cheap paper suits said to be worn by the people of Germany and Austria is deemed to failure at the very outset.

The department has ordered samples of these suits, which retail at about 60 cents each, and will exhibit them to the people in the hope that they will find vogue here and in some measure help reduce the cost of living.

That is a vain hope. It is on a par with the advice volunteered by the government to reduce the price of roast beef and steaks by eating fish or vegetables or the cheaper cuts of meat.

Paper clothes may be good enough for the people of Germany and Austria, but they are not good enough for the American people.

Americans always have shown a readiness to adopt useful ideas, even if they originated with the Germans, but they have not yet been reduced to the state of poverty and abasement where they feel it incumbent upon themselves to wear clothing made of wrapping paper.

HEALTH BY WILLIAM BRADY M.D.

Some Education.

Stanley, aged fourteen, and his sister, Dorothy, aged thirteen, graduated in the same class from grammar school. Stanley had dropped back a year because of an attack of St. Vitus' dance, from which he had made a perfect recovery in the usual time, under the regular observation and care of the family doctor.

He was a fine type of boy and his sister was a bright, healthy girl with fine prospects. Their parents were justly proud of them and meant to give them the best of educations, each in his own preferred direction.

They had attended the best school in a city of 200,000 population. Yet the training in that school was pretty punk.

The graduating class, together with a few teachers, went off for a class day picnic, which included a ride by boat. While waiting on a little out of the way landing for the boat to pick them up in the evening, Dorothy somehow fell off the landing into deep water. Dorothy could not swim. And it seemed that no one else in the little party, not even the teachers, could swim. A pretty state of affairs, for presumably educated people.

Well, Stanley plunged in to the rescue of his sister, like the little man he was. He even reached her side and endeavored to support her. But in the struggle she clasped him about the neck and while everybody screamed and bustled about on the landing in the settling fog, Dorothy and Stanley drowned—not ten feet from the shore.

Nearly ten minutes later two automobiles came along. In one was a man and his wife and children. The man heard the cries of the people on the landing and being a swimmer he promptly dived and brought up Dorothy's body. In the class was one boy who had been trained as a Boy Scout to administer first aid to the drowned. This boy immediately began the best resuscitation that could possibly have been applied, namely, artificial respiration by the prone-pressure or Schaffer method.

Any small chance there may have been to revive the spark of life—and there is always a chance if resuscitation has not exceeded fifteen minutes—was ruthlessly brushed away by the grown-ups, who insisted on taking charge, against the boy's mild remonstrance and attempting to "roll the body on a barrel."

Now, isn't it passing strange that presumably intelligent people should be utterly unfit to be of any service in an emergency like that? And isn't it stranger yet to graduate boys and girls from school who cannot swim a stroke and whose "education" fits them only to stand idly by, or worse, to interfere and obstruct, with a struggle to save life being fought?

There are a lot of poor things in most cities. Conducting schools which purport to be fine schools, but which have neither gymnasium, nor swimming pool, is one of them. Education is pretty much a high-brow proposition even today, when pedagogy prides itself on its practical value as a preparation for life. Wonder what a pedagogic thinks of between classes.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Peril Confronting the Profession. William Brady, E. H.

(Degree as Health Engineer, conferred by grateful readers, for no reason, by the Medical Profession claim you as a member.) Dear Sir:

Do so-called nose-pincher eye-glasses impair the function of the nose? In the cases of one physical well is the removal of a deviated septum advisable? (T. O. B. M. E.)

ANSWER—Pinces (pans-nay, as we Irish call them), do not impair the function of the nose, though sometimes they mar its beauty. Deviated septum calls for no treatment unless there's reason to believe it is causing trouble. It is a very common condition, but in only a minority of cases does it cause trouble. Unless I am permitted to use my M. D. degree I must decline with thanks the honor you would bestow. Rather be the flea in the hair on the tail of the dog of the medical profession than drag three-fourths of the alphabet around my homely but adequate name.

Food Containing Much Lime. Please give me a list of foods which are rich in lime salts. How much lime does the body require? (C. C. F.)

ANSWER—The daily need of the body for lime is about ten grains. This amount is present in these articles of diet:

- Turnips 4 ounces
Chocolate 2 ounces
Oatmeal 5 1/2 ounces
Egg yolks 3 ounces
Oranges 2 ounces
Milk 18 ounces
Cheese 2 1/2 ounces
Cabbage 1 1/2 ounces

Remedy for Ivy Poisoning. I wonder if you have ever used a saturated solution of chlorate of potash (all the water will take up) as a remedy for ivy poisoning? I have found that it relieves almost immediately when applied as soon as the first sign of skin irritation appears. (C. E. H.)

ANSWER—It is a good remedy. Thank you for the suggestion.

What's In A Name?

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CLARISSA. Clarissa is purely a literary name in origin, though it enjoys everyday usage. With the interesting significance of "rendering famous," it dates back to the old Latin adjective "clarus" meaning "bright or clear."

St. Clarus was the first bishop of Nantes in Brittany in A. D. 380; another famous Clarus was a hermit near Rouen.

The first feminine of the name was formed in Italy where Chiara appeared as the title of a disciple of St. Francis. Clarice was the next step in the evolution and named the wife of the Roman emperor. This latter was imported to England by ear and spelled by them Clarise. But when the great Richardson called the heroine of his novel Clarissa, all other forms were abandoned and Clarissa became the reigning favorite of the hour.

Curiously enough, the name was re-imported into France as Clarisse in imitation of Richardson—the earlier origin being natively overlooked. Meanwhile Clarissa flourished in England, her greatest vogue occurring during the reign of "precious" literature. Her popularity here has never been disrupted, but she is regarded as a wholesome everyday title and her literary ancestry has almost been forgotten.

The diamond is Clarissa's talisman gem. It will bring her many admirers and a successful marriage, according to an old superstition. Thursday is her lucky day and 2 her lucky number.

Heart Home Problems

by MRS. ELIZABETH THOMPSON

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I will soon be 16 years old. Am I old enough to correspond with boys? I have a boy friend and I like him very much and I know he thinks a lot of me. My folks do not like him and they don't want me to like him, but I can't forget him.

Is it wrong for us to correspond in secret by his sister sending letters back and forth in her letters? Is it wrong to go horseback riding with this boy and his sister?

Should I allow him to call me pet names such as "Cutie" and "Sweetie"? I never have had a boy friend I liked any better than him—I really love him.

WANDERING JEW. You ought to know without writing to me what answer I would give to your question. A secret correspondence with the boy would be wrong and it would also be wrong to go horseback riding with him against the wishes of your parents.

It is all right for a girl of 16 to correspond with boys if she lets her mother pass judgment on the letters she writes and receives. It is so easy to put into writing things which would be better unsaid. Any girl who lets her mother advise her in this matter is thankful in later years.

"Cutie" and "Sweetie" are such insipid and cheap pet names I should think you would resent them. Besides you are too young to let a boy call you pet names.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am a young girl and have been keeping steady company with a young gentleman for some time. I think a great deal of him. He is a very decent, upright young man, but has a peculiar fault. My parents insist that he leave the house at a certain time, but he seems offended every time I tell him so and pays no attention to it whatsoever. He thinks I am in an awful hurry to get rid of him. I can't make him see it differently.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: My husband does not know how to read or write. I would like to teach him. Will you please tell me how to go about it? What shall I begin with? He is not very old yet. Will I have to buy books to begin with?

THANK YOU. Inquire of the principal of a grade school. There you will receive advice about methods and books to buy. I presume you will need one or two books. They will be inexpensive, however.

"Myrtle F.": Your questions are not in my line. You can find suggestions in books on entertainment and also in the various women's magazines.

Frederic Haskin's Letter

(Special Correspondent of The Argus.)

Housing in St. Louis.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 16.—St. Louis is one of the few cities which has devised and successfully put into operation a practical scheme for relieving the housing shortage. It is building houses—just as fast as it can get the materials with which to build them.

Nearly a hundred brand new homes have already sprung up where a few months ago there were only vacant lots, and it is expected that a hundred more will be ready for occupancy by the end of this year.

St. Louis is a great home city and its citizens are extremely proud of this fact. St. Louis may not be beautiful and it may not be interesting, they are fond of telling you, but as a home city it is a shining example. Thus, you can see how the scarcity of houses, which has been deplored but otherwise ignored by other communities, would stir St. Louis more than any other calamity.

The St. Louis Home and Housing association was the result of this agitation. This is a \$2,000,000 corporation, supported by the Chamber of Commerce and the City Commercial club, for the purpose of building cheap and comfortable homes in various sections of the city and country, wherever the need appears greatest. It was originally intended that the houses would be for the benefit of industrial workers, the manufacturers subscribing to the fund deciding that it would be more practical to club together and build in one group instead of building in separate groups for their different plants.

Workers Do Not Buy. As it turned out, however, the wage-earners of St. Louis have not taken the slightest attempt to take advantage of the houses so far provided. In spite of the fact that they are undoubtedly bargains, at the present cost of building materials, and in spite of the fact that the working man is supposed to be rolling in wealth these days, there has been a surprising lack of response from the working classes. It seems incredible, but the only way to explain it is that the working classes cannot afford to buy the houses.

"Wage-earners have only a small amount of capital and small wages to invest in real estate," explained Nelson C. Cumliff, the St. Louisian who has been placed in charge of the home and housing association. "They used to buy \$2,000 houses, paying \$400 cash and the balance over a long period of years. Now, with the cost of building materials 240 per cent higher than it was before the war, a house which today has cost \$2,000 in 1914 costs today approximately \$7,000 or \$8,000. This is beyond the means of the average working man."

"But the houses are in great demand among the salaried people—the so-called middle class of St. Louis—who are anxious to vacate flats that have undergone a 300 per cent increase in rent. For them these houses are a very good proposition."

Here are some photographs from the drawer of his desk. They show the various types of houses under construction, most of them comfortable, solid looking brick dwellings, with attractive facades and neat back yards extending to an alley. We have seen many more attractive looking houses for eight and nine thousand dollars, but that was in the east, before the war.

St. Louis is not only homes, but it loves brick homes, and it has some rigid building restrictions against the use of frame, tile or stucco. Of course, this is the center of the brick industry, and it is only loyal to keep the home fires burning. Anyway, the houses of the St. Louis Housing association have brick walls and contain five or six rooms, with hardwood floors, the bathroom floors, modern toilet and plumbing fixtures, and the most improved kitchen equipment. They are also located on improved streets, so that all kinds of improvements are covered in the purchase price of the house and do not crop up unexpectedly later in the form of special taxes.

The selling price of the houses range from \$5,500 to \$8,900. These prices have been made possible, according to the association, only by instituting the most rigid economies in the buying of land and building. Whenever possible, land was bought on streets which had been improved before the war, for which the association paid \$25 a front foot. Building materials have been bought in huge quantities and at cash, so as to take advantage of all possible discounts. While the association acts as a general contractor and sublets most of its items of construction, it handles its own carpenter work, thereby effecting a saving of 25 per cent on the lowest contract price.

One of the most interesting features of this housing enterprise is the scheme of payment. This calls for 10 per cent cash on the price of the house, and the balance in 12 years. On the 10-year plan the purchaser pays \$11.35 per year, over every thousand of the selling price, after the 10 per cent cash payment has been deducted. On the 12-year plan, he pays \$9.95 per thousand of debt. The association will not permit a man to invest more than 27 per cent of his monthly income in one of their houses—a feature of the transaction which is clearly specified in the deed.

"We figure that a man can easily spare 20 per cent of his income for rent," says Mr. Cumliff, "and 10 per cent for a good investment. If he spends more than this on a home, the payments are apt to prove a strain, and he is likely ultimately to prove a bad risk."

Unique Form of Insurance. Included in the selling price of the house is a unique insurance feature, whereby the purchaser is insured, on a group insurance plan, for the exact amount of his indebtedness to the association during the 10 or 12 year period of payments. Thus, if the purchaser should die or become disabled during this period, the insurance company assumes his indebtedness, immediately pays it off, and the property becomes part of the estate beyond the means of other creditors. Under these circumstances, as the association points out with dignity, it will never be forced to the distasteful task of foreclosing on a widow's mortgage.

While the chief object of the St. Louis Home and Housing association is, of course, altruistic—to provide homes for people who are in desperate need of them—it does not expect to lose money on the proposition. Indeed, it is planning to make a safe 6 per cent on its investment. While 6 per cent is not considered much of a return on a million-dollar investment these days, the association feels that it will be fortunate if it makes that in an enterprise which has failed only too pathetically in other districts where it has been attempted. They place their hopes securely in the character of St. Louis, however—St. Louis, the home city.

Argus Information Bureau

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The Argus Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C. Give full name and address and enclose two-cent stamp for return postage. Be brief. All inquiries are confidential, the replies being sent direct to each individual. No attention will be paid to anonymous letters.)

Q. What is the present status of the work of bringing back the dead soldiers from Europe? A. M. C. All remains in Great Britain, Belgium and Italy are to be brought back, except upon request of nearest relative for permanent burial in these countries. All remains in France are to be returned if requested. All remains in Germany, Luxembourg and North Russia are to be returned unless there are special requests that they be left, or relatives in Germany to whom transfer of remains may be made, the United States government being released of further responsibility concerning disposition of such bodies or maintenance of such burial places.

Q. For whom was Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, named? A. T. E. D. The mansion at Mount Vernon was built by Lawrence Washington, an elder half-brother of George Washington. The estate was named in honor of Admiral Vernon, under whom Lawrence Washington had served in the West Indies.

Q. Where is the largest bell in the world? A. M. W. The largest bell in actual use is in Moscow, Russia.

Q. What are some of the biggest fire losses that have occurred in the United States? A. R. E. G. The four most destructive fires in this country were San Francisco, April 18, 1906, loss \$350,000,000; Chicago, October 9, 1871, loss \$145,000,000; Boston, November 9, 1872, loss \$75,000,000; and Baltimore, Feb. 7, 1904, loss \$50,000,000.

Q. How much has the time for crossing the ocean been shortened since the day of Columbus? A. T. E. C. A Columbus, in 1492, crossed from Palos to Salvador in 37 days. The "Savannah," the first steamship to cross the Atlantic, crossed from Savannah, Ga., to Liverpool, England, in 27 days. The "Mauretania" covered the distance from Queenstown, Ireland, to New York City, 3,000 miles, in 106 hours, 41

minutes. The airship "R 10" crossed from Mineola, New York, to Fulham, England, a distance of 3,300 miles in 75 hours, 6 minutes. The seaplane "N. C. 4" crossed from Rockaway, New York, to Plymouth, Eng., 3,900 in 54 hours, 17 minutes. The Vickers' airplane crossed from St. John's, N. B., to Clifton, Ireland, 1,900 miles, in 16 hours, 20 minutes.

Q. What does the name "Zebu" mean? A. N. F. A. Zebu is a North American Indian word meaning "Gem of the Mountains," or "Sunrise Mountains."

Q. How is Scotch woodcock made? A. V. L. M. The ingredients are four hard-boiled eggs, 3 tablespoons flour, 1 1/2 tablespoons flour, 1 cup milk, 1/2 teaspoon salt, few grains cayenne pepper, anchovy sauce. Make a thin white sauce of butter, flour, milk and seasonings; add eggs chopped fine, and season with anchovy sauce. Toast bread on one side serving with woodcock poured over untoasted side.

Q. What are the factors in physical efficiency? A. F. A. H. A. Food, clothing, shelter and habits of life make up the elements upon which physical efficiency is based.

Q. What is the plural of "memorandum"? A. B. M. G. A. While the form generally used for the plural is "memoranda," the newer edition of dictionaries and encyclopedias also give memorandums.

Q. Should cottonseed meal be fed to hogs? A. M. E. R. For use as hog feed, because it contains a poisonous principle which is injurious and often fatal to swine. There are other concentrates having equal feeding value which can be purchased at about the same price.

Q. What of what is air composed? A. E. N. A. Nitrogen and oxygen, in the ratio of 78 to 21 respectively, are the principal constituents of the earth's atmosphere.

THE DAILY SHORT STORY

SAID WITH FLOWERS.

By Mrs. Lydia Lion Roberts. (Copyright, 1920, by Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.)

Lewis Denton stretched himself with a wary sigh and ran his hand through his curly brown hair. He looked with tired satisfaction at the pile of papers on his desk, in his gray eyes the contented light of work well done.

"It's been a hard week," he muttered, "but I've caught up again now. Well, it's Saturday afternoon and I guess I'll take a holiday. I told Bella I'd sure be home early today and call the children out, but I guess I'll call it off."

He reached for the telephone and called his home number.

"Hello, Bella. Mind if I take in a show today? I'll be home to supper with my usual appetite. The children expecting me? Well, I need a change from this eternal grind at the office. That's a good old sport. All right, good-bye."

He hesitated a moment after he hung up, for his wife's voice had sounded wistful, though she had gallantly told him to run away and play as she knew he worked hard.

"A man has to get away and rest his brain," he assured himself, to silence the guilty voice in his heart.

In the pretty suburban home Bella turned slowly away from the phone and faced the eager, anxious glances of the 7-year-old twins.

"No, daddy is not coming home early after all," she said sorrowfully. "Let's put away his dinner and save the surprises for next time."

"His always coming next time," added Roscoe, while Bob gulped and hid his eyes.

"We have such good times when daddy comes, but he doesn't come so often."

"Daddy works very hard and he's always tired," explained their mother, "but he'll have a good time when he comes. We'll take a little holiday today."

home early and have a tea party."

Bella smiled brightly and the little downcast faces lightened in response. She sighed as the children scampered away for their coats, for it had been a full week and the position of housekeeper and mother, wife and nursemaid kept her busy every minute. She had looked forward to the afternoon holiday for the companionship of her husband and the rest he brought by sharing the care of the children.

"Silly woman," she scolded herself as she put on her hat. "You're lucky to have a dear, good husband anyway. There's lots worse things he might do than go to the movies on a Saturday afternoon."

In the theatre, crowded with people, enjoying their half-holiday, Lewis watched and laughed and forgot his business worries.