THE PUBLIC BE SERVED

EDITORIAL PAGE

OUR COUNTRY FIRST

The News Scimitar

PUBLISHED BY THE MEMPHIS NEWS SCIMITAR COMPANY

Entered as Second-Class Matter at the Postoffice of Memphis, Tenn., Under the Act of March 3, 1879

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—By carrier, 15c per week. By mail, postage paid, 1 month, 50c; 3 months, $1.00; 6 months, $1.80; 6 months, $2.50; 12 months, $5.00.

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PAUL BLOCK, INC., Special Representative, 225 Madison avenue, New York; Century Building, Chicago; Little Building, Boston; Kresge Building, Detroit.

MODERATION

"Let your moderation be known to all men," exhorted the Apostle Paul in his epistle to the Philippians.

If there were excesses in that day that needed to be reproved, how much more important is it that someone with authority should sound the warning note of caution at this time, when all things appear to extend from one extreme to another.

In the past few years the fires of human passion have been kindled to white heat. There has been no lack of fuel.

This country went from the extreme and absurd position of "peace at any price" to the necessary extremity of victory at any price.

Only a few years ago the South was peddling its proudest product under the banner of "buy a bale," at a price that has risen from 10 to 20 times what it was in 1914.

A few years ago houses were a drug on the market. The old ones were vacant and the new ones were to be had at the buyer's price. Now the old ones are filled and the new and old alike are sold at any price asked.

The price of foodstuff a few years ago was so small that the farmer fed it to his cattle or burned it in the field, and now it brings a price that makes it almost beyond the financial reach of any but the rich to afford turnip greens and field peas on the same occasion.

The German kaiser, back in those days with their excessive quiet, looked about him and saw the German empire was too small for his ambitions to have full sway, and set about to conquer the world, to get a place in the sun.

Now he is confined in an ancient castle in Holland—an old, moss-grown, damp, moat-surrounded, cold, dark asylum. Instead of the indomitable sword he uses a hand saw. When physically exhausted he sits astride a chair, and swaying upon it thinks of the day when he was a war lord astride a famous charger.

The German people in the revulsion from the excess of the Hohenzollern rule turned to the extreme of the peasant. There is no such thing in revolutions as the moderation Paul said should be known to all men.

A few years ago liquor was to be had on nearly every uptown block of every city. Occasionally there was a man known as a moderate drinker, but the man who drank to excess brought the business into disrepute, and nothing even resembling respectability was left to the saloon before it finally was abolished. Moderation was not the rule.

And as an excess of liquor or food, or excessive ambition and unrestrained passion have brought misery and unhappiness to countless numbers, so have unrestrained tempers, unfair accusations and unjust opinions accomplished immeasurable harm.

For almost a year the senate of the United States and the president have been at cross purposes. Perhaps both were immoderate in their demands upon the other. At least there was no surrender, no disposition to compromise and reach an amicable adjustment.

The senators have been charged with every mentionable crime because they, or a large majority of them, were not in accord with the president. The president has been assailed by political enemies also. They have seen no good in him. Perhaps they admired him exceedingly for his stand on other questions. Now they are excessive in their condemnation because they are not in agreement with him on one question.

There is not enough moderation in food and drink, in thought and language; not enough moderation in the judgment of the neighbor, and not enough moderation in the manner of living and moving.

Lack of moderation shows itself in worry. It shows itself in disposition, appetite and complexion. It is responsible for nervousness and indigestion. The physician can recommend it but he can not enforce it.

If there were more moderation nearly everyone would live longer and be happier, think better of his neighbor and be thought of better by his neighbor.

LITTLE

A dispatch from Washington says the failure of the senate to confirm the appointment of Bainbridge Colby as secretary of state has caused a suspension of the issuance of passports. There are between 800 and 900 applications daily for passports.

This is merely one of the routine matters that passes through the office of the secretary of state, when there is one, which may be of vital consequence to those making the applications. There are scores of other details quite as important, but for the present receiving no attention, because there is no secretary of state.

There is no reason why the senate should refuse to confirm the appointment of Mr. Colby. There is no reason why the confirmation should be delayed. The Democrats should not oppose him because he is the choice of a Democratic president; the Republicans should not reject him because he is a Republican; and the Progressives, if there is yet remaining a trace of the breed, should raise no objection because Mr. Colby was one of the last to leave the sinking ship.

As for statesmanship, it is not remotely suspected that Mr. Colby was chosen with the idea that he would become a dominant and coercive figure in the cabinet. He not only possesses the required "single track" mind, but, what is much more to the point, it is a narrow-gauge at that.

Mr. Colby has done but little harm in this world. His capacity for doing evil is not large. He is a gentleman who has given but small offense to his fellow man, and while he may not be disliked or liked exceedingly well, it would seem that his record would entitle him to a sufficient amount of indifference on the part of the senators to warrant an immediate consideration and a hasty confirmation of his appointment.

SO LONG, HI

In the course of an address delivered a few days ago in South Dakota, Senator Hiram Johnson made this remarkable statement, which, as a campaign straw, has been given wide circulation:

"I have back of me no great corporation, no trust, no powerful financial interests. In this commonwealth I am pitting whatever of ability, of courage, of energy and of character God has given me against the wealth, the influence and the power of organized politics and organized big business in politics."

Assuming the senator has correctly interpreted the situation, and that conditions are as he described them, and viewing them with a due regard for history, not as they should be, but as they unfortunately are, we should say that his chances for obtaining the nomination are very slim.

When a Feller Needs a Friend—By Briggs

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THE HASKIN LETTER

WET BUT NOT WILD

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

HAVANA, Cuba, March 20.—The impression which has gone abroad that this city is a crowded carnival of revelry, drunkenness and vice is largely mistaken. There are many visitors, but not more than the city can accommodate, and much liquor, but not many drunks. The general effect is one of spaciousness and quiet rather than of crowdedness and noise. The life of the old city flows through its many-pillared portals, its narrow shaded streets and brilliant tropical parks in the leisurely fashion of its wont. Fifteen or twenty thousand Americans in a Latin city of nearly half a million are not enough to jar it out of its unhurried Latin ways.

Cuba, it should be added, is undoubtedly in the midst of a great boom. Sugar, tobacco and prohibition have put more money into island pockets than ever they contained before. To the Cubans, no doubt, it seems that their city is roaring with life and prosperity, but its roar is a mere purr beside the voice of almost any American city of the same size.

Liquor is here in astonished abundance and variety. The exiled American whiskies combine with the native products and liberal importations from Europe to make this one of the wettest spots on the face of the earth. Along the Prado, the central square, and other principal thoroughfares, literally every door leads to drink, and the very air is polluted with the breath of the banished demon. Yet drunks are surprisingly few, considering the thousands who are here from arid lands, and who have braved the terrors of travel on southern railroads to get here. The native does not get drunk at all, and the visitor apparently not very often. When he does, the tropical climate lays a soothing hand upon his heated brow, and he generally goes to sleep in some quiet corner of a cafe.

None the less, the presence of unlimited alcohol has undoubtedly influenced a considerable percentage of those who now visit Havana, and the crowds in the hotels, bars and cafes are an interesting collection of the types who seek the fellowship of John Barleycorn. Here is the chap who leans across the bar and stares like a crystal gazer into glass after glass, silent, gloomy, enraptured, caressing the brass rail with a well-accustomed foot. Here is that well-known fellow who haunts cafes the world over, who is persuaded that all the joy of life is where liquor and pretty women and music meet under bright lights. Here is the man who seeks oblivion, and the one who wants merely something to make him laugh and dream and forget hell and taxes. These and many others are here, a veritable gathering of the followers of King John, come to his court of exile. Yet the loud and rowdy drunk is surprisingly scarce, and one cannot but feel that the soothing air is what holds him in check.

The abundance of high percentage refreshment is crudely emphasized by the Cuban barkeepers, who regularly spill about one thousand gallons of bonded goods a day. The native barman evidently thinks that he is not discharging his duties with proper dash and flourish unless he makes a libation to the gods of waste every time he mixes a drink. In concocting a daiquiri, he begins by shaking up too much liquor in the shaker; he then pours it all into the glass and lets it run over on the bar, and the pained customer is forced to loose a little more in conveying the drink to his lips. If a waiter handles it, there is still further leakage as he trots along with his tray gracefully balanced on two or three fingers its decks awash with stuff which is worth more than its weight in gold just ninety miles north. Newcomers from the United States have been known to break down and weep at the spectacle of this waste of a precious substance. It has been estimated that if every Cuban barkeeper could be sent to the interior of North America for six months, he would acquire an attitude toward evil alcohol which would ultimately save millions to his employer.

In the principal hotels here you can get almost any kind of a drink known to civilized man for a relatively high price, resembling those paid in New York and other big cities while wartime prohibition was in force, but before the amendment became effective. By going around the corner to a native bar, you can obtain exactly the same drinks for about one-half as much. This puts the visiting bibbler on the horns of a dilemma. The barkeepers in the big hotels are the only ones who speak English. After he has been here about four days, what the American tourist craves above all things is to find someone who can cater to his wants in his own language, while if he wants some drink not generally made in these parts, the English-speaking barkeeper is about his only hope. At the same time, the well-known Yankee instinct for a bargain is on the job, so that he cannot refrain from trying sign language and gestures in the low-rate emporiums. It is really quite a show to watch a man from Detroit, who does not know any more Spanish than a monkey, trying to order a horse's neck from a non-English-speaking Cuban barkeeper. He points at bottles, utters names, goes through motions. The native listens gravely. He is not a mind reader, but he has imagination and is a born gambler. He mixes up seven or eight kinds of liquor, shakes the mixture with ice, adds an olive and a piece of orange peel, and politely offers it to the customer. The customer takes one sip, makes a terrible face, and begins all over again. This time he shouts the names of the ingredients in a loud voice, as though hopeful that mere noise might serve to make an idea penetrate a foreign understanding. The barkeeper, all unflurried, nonchalantly empties his first effort into the slops, and prepares to start all over.

By this time a small crowd of natives has collected—not an amused, laughing crowd, such as an American bar would draw under similar circumstances, but a grave, polite crowd, anxious only that the stranger shall have what he wants. Several interpreters volunteer, each of them equipped with about six words of English, and the very best of intentions. The American by this time is red in the face and cursing the entire island of Cuba, but still determined. He finally gets what he wants, after ruining about a pint of assorted liquors and his own temper, but without having disturbed the polite equanimity of the natives in the least.

An interesting phase of the abundance of alcohol on this and other islands near our own virtuous shores is the small but steady stream of it which flows toward the mainland. While every passenger who lands at Key West is rounded up in a sort of barn and locked until his baggage and sometimes even his pockets have been searched for liquor, nearly every freight vessel that makes port is able safely to bring a good many quarts ashore. This is no discredit to our estimable internal revenue service, for the illicit traffic by water is almost impossible to stop.

"But I thought that they searched every vessel as soon as she made port, and put all alcoholic liquor under lock and key until she sailed again," said the man from the north.

"A steamer is a hard thing to search," explained the man who had spent his life on one. "If necessary we can put the stuff down in the bilge under two feet of water and one foot of oil, and then let the inspector in his hundred-and-fifty-dollar suit dive after it if he wants to."

So it happens that all up and down the sandy coast of the southern part of our great republic, bonded goods may be purchased at prices which include a risk run. While one of the greatest of American prohibitionists was holding forth recently in a certain southern town to a large audience on the triumph of prohibition, almost within sound of his voice a brisk business was being done in good bourbon at ten dollars a quart.

WOOD ASHES AND ITS USES

Clean the bottom of porcelain kettles.

Clean sinks and toilets.

Keep icy front walks from being dangerous.

Remove stains from china teacups.

Grease spots on marble and tiling may be removed with a mixture of wood ashes and water boiled together for one-half hour and thickened to a paste with whiting.

STARS INCLINE DON'T COMPEL — HOROSCOPE — FOR THE COMING DAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 1920.

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Astrologers read this as a quiet day. Neptune rules strongly for good. Uranus and Venus are mildly adverse.

It is a time when the planetary government is believed to make the mind receptive and exceedingly hospitable to religious ideas.

Interest in churches will be aroused by uniting different sects and eliminating old tenets that have been outgrown.

The movement that will affect many denominations has an occult significance little recognized, the seers declare, and is but a preliminary to a world-wide acceptance of a spiritual revelation.

While the planetary rule is salutary for all who use the mind, it is not fortunate for emotional persons. Warning is given that great increase in self-control will be demanded in the changed conditions of life in the new era of the world.

As the sun enters Aries for the spring quarter, Mars is rising in Scorpio, Saturn is in the tenth house opposed to Venus and Uranus in the fourth.

The rising position of Mars in square to Jupiter and Neptune points to labor unrest and an increase of Bolshevism.

Epidemics and infectious diseases may be prevalent during the summer months and cleanliness in cities is enjoined.

This should be a lucky direction under which to set out on journeys. Much travel across the waters will mark the coming summer, and Japan will attract many tourists.

Railways come under a planetary rule that is not favorable and there may be a serious slump in stocks that will have a far-reaching effect.

The evening of this day is not an auspicious time for lovers and engagements made today may be unlucky.

Persons whose birthdate it is have the forecast of a most successful and prosperous year, but they should be cautious in all sentimental affairs.

Children born on this day may be much given to society and perhaps too popular with persons of opposite sex. Girls are likely to have romantic careers.

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1920.

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Conflicting influences mark this day, according to astrology. While Venus and Uranus rule strongly for good, Saturn and Mars are adverse.

Uranus is in a place held to cause an unstable condition of mind that is inflammable, easily set fire by radical or critical ideas concerning the established order of things.

There is a sign that seems to indicate loss of power on the part of conservative labor leaders.

During this government of the stars both men and women are supposed to be exceedingly susceptible to romance and sentiment.

It is a lucky wedding day, except in cases where a soldiers is bridegroom.

Married folk should guard against quarrels and misunderstandings during this sway of the planets, for there are sinister signs that forecast great increase of divorce.

The position of Mars in the fifth in square to Neptune and Jupiter denotes much vice and immorality and crimes against women and children, murders and strange transgressions of the law.

Foreign affairs may be most unsatisfactory during the next few weeks and a diplomatic crisis may develop.

Spiritualism is likely to be the cause of a celebrated case in the courts that will involve prominent persons.

The king of Italy continues under an exceedingly threatening aspect that seems to warn him to guard his health and his person. The stars forecast the end of the monarchial system in his country but it will not come immediately.

Earthquakes in France and Italy are presaged by the stars and one of these will cause great loss of life.

Mining accidents are threatened by the aspect of Saturn. A town in the coal regions may suffer serious damage.

Persons whose birthdate is is have the augury of travel and change that will bring success and happiness. The young will court.

Children born on this day may be restless and discontented but these subjects of Aries usually are very prosperous. Their principal ruling planet is Mars.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Have any countries, that had food rationing during the war, investigated its effect upon the health of their people? A. M. D.

A. Denmark estimates that as a result of a system of compulsory rationing during the world war the death rate was reduced 24 per cent. This decided reduction is attributed to the elimination of an over-consumption of fats by the population. Dr. Hindhede, the Danish food expert, says that as a general rule, people consume an excessive amount of fats and other food, and that the continuance of a system of compulsory rationing would prevent many persons from eating themselves to death.

Q. What is the origin of the expression "good-bye?" O. L.

A. This term is a corruption of the phrase "God by with ye," used in Elizabethan times as a valediction.

Q. What are the books of Buddha? E. R. T.

A. The sacred books of Buddism are: The Pitaka, containing the discourses of Buddha; the Dharma, setting forth the doctrines or ethics of the people; the Vinaya, containing the rules for the priests, and the various ceremonies. These books contain 1,200 pages and nearly 20,000,000 Chinese characters. The market price of the Kanjur edition, printed in Chinese, is 7,000 oxen.

Q. How many changes were there in Roosevelt's cabinet during the seven years that he was president? T. M. C.

A. There were 13 changes in Roosevelt's cabinet. Root resigned as secretary of war to become secretary of state. Cortelyou resigned as postmaster general to become secretary of the treasury. Bonaparte resigned as secretary of the navy to become attorney-general. Root afterwards resigned from the cabinet to become United States senator from New York. The other changes were resignations from the cabinet.

Q. Who was Frederic Bartholdi? W. A. S.

A. He was a noted French sculptor who lived from 1834 to 1904. Among his best known works is the statue of liberty in New York harbor, which was given to the United States by France in 1886.

Q. How many flour mills are there in the United States? L. E. B.

A. It is estimated that there are about 7,000 wheat flour mills in this country which, during the last three years, have produced on an average of 118,000,000 barrels of flour annually, or more than one barrel for every man, woman and child in the country. This output of flour has required the grinding of about 550,000,000 bushels of wheat per year.

Q. How long does a copyright run? S. F. H.

A. Copyrights are granted for the term of 28 years. At the expiration of this period, the author, if still living, or his widow, or children, if he is dead, may have the copyright extended for the further term of 14 years. The application for this renewal must be made within six months before the original copyright expires.

Q. In what section of the country is the greatest percentage of illiteracy?—T. G. D.

A. The bureau of census says that there is more illiteracy in the South, due largely to the negro population, than in any other section of the United States. The four states which have the highest percentage of illiterates are Louisiana, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi. Iowa and Nebraska have the lowest rates.

Q. Where is the famous Gretna Green, and for what is it celebrated? A. M. F.

A. The original Gretna Green is a small village, in Scotland, less than a mile from the border which separates England and Scotland. It was famous as a marrying place for eloping couples. There was formerly a Gretna Green in Kentucky where couples were united in matrimony in defiance in parental wishes.

Q. Will there be daylight saving in the United States this summer?—J. H. F.

A. The daylight saving act was repealed by congress last year over the president's veto, and consequently the clocks of the country as a whole, will not be set forward this summer, unless congress re-enacts the law, which is quite unlikely. Several states are considering continuing the daylight saving plan, and a number of cities have already decided to do so.

Q. How many divisions were there in the United States overseas army?—W. L.

A. There were 39 divisions in the A. E. F., in each one of which there were approximately 40,000 men.

Q. Who was Buffalo Bill?—C. G.

A. This cognomen was applied to William Frederick Cody, one, of the most picturesque characters in the life of the West. He was born in Iowa, and became one of the riders of the pony express at its establishment in 1860. Later he became a scout, guide and famous hunter. After the Civil war he contracted with the Kansas-Pacific railroad to furnish buffalo meat to its laborers, thus earning for himself the name of "Buffalo Bill." In 1883 he organized his Wild West show.

Q. Did the Sweet amendment to the war risk insurance act provide for the payment in a lump sum of government insurance?—F. B.

A. This amendment provided that the old insurance policy might be converted into a form which allowed the lump sum payment. It is not so payable unless the holder has had it converted. The war risk bureau issues full instructions to all those who want to know how to convert their insurance.

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The News Scimitar Information bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C. This offer applies strictly to information. The bureau cannot give advice on legal, medical and financial matters. It does not attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake exhaustive research on any subject. Write your question plainly and briefly. Give full name and address and inclose two cents in stamps for return postage. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

THE YOUNG LADY ACROSS THE WAY.

The young lady across the way says Liberty bonds are a good investment even at present prices, though of course when you paid par for them you had more money drawing interest.

Daily Editorial Digest

THIS column is designed to reproduce without bias the latest comment by the leading newspapers and periodicals on the questions of the day.

Why "Melons" Are Not Income

It puzzles lots of people to hear from the supreme court that when a corporation cuts a big "melon" the stockholders do not have to pay income taxes on it. If a man owns stock in a prosperous enterprise which decides to distribute its surplus in the form of a "stock dividend," why should he not have to report such a dividend as taxable income, just as if he had received it in cash?

"The cutting of an apple into four parts instead of two does not increase the size of the apple," says the Boston Post (Ind. Dem.) by way of illustration. "So, the division of a corporation's assets into 100,000 shares instead of 50,000 shares does not increase the value of the shares, nor give the shareholder a larger equity in the assets." In the same way, the Sun and New York Herald (Ind.) points out that "if a man owns a dollar bill and splits it into two silver half-dollars, or into four quarters, or into ten dimes, or divides it as many times as you please, he has not a penny more and not a penny less than when it was in the single dollar bill."

Thus stock dividends represent really capital, and not income, or, as the Chicago Daily News (Ind.) describes it, the "promise or possibility of income. The fact that the stock dividend is a gift—a 'melon'—does not alter the essential feature of the situation, since the gift takes the form of a paper title to dividends, should they be earned." If dividends are paid on the stock, of course, they are taxable.

The effect of this decision is "in the direction of removing hampering burdens and restrictions from capital and freeing it to engage in the development of the country's industries," in the opinion of the New York Mail (Ind.) and the Mail goes on to say:

"To tax investments, in addition to taxing earnings in the form of dividends, is the surest way to discourage enterprise, block expansion, and make the road to prosperity difficult. To realize that fact it is not necessary to go further than the consideration that, in order to pay an income tax on a share of stock given him in lieu of dividend, it would be necessary for the holder to invade his savings from other sources or sell his share, perhaps at a loss."

The far-reaching effect of the decision is illustrated by the Wheeling Register (Dem.), which notes that:

"For instance the American Car & Foundry with a total of $31,324,521 undivided profits is ready to declare stock dividends equal to $104 a share; Morris & Co., packers, are holding $52,823,864, or $1,760 per share; the Standard Oil companies of Indiana, New York and Ohio have big dividends on which the tax as earnings has been paid and can be distributed as stock dividends, while the Republic Iron and Steel, National Biscuit, Pittsburgh Coal and many other industries are in similar positions, which means that the court's decree is bound to send prices sky-high in the market as there will now be sharp buying in order to grab blocks of the common stock of those companies upon which stock dividends are sure to be paid."

But if the correctness of the decision appears obvious from the arguments above quoted, it must be remembered that four of the nine supreme court justices dissented, and held that stock dividends were taxable. Many newspapers agree with the minority of the court. "As judges disagree, so will individuals disagree," observes the Minneapolis Journal (Ind. Rep.).

The decision "is based on neither sound law nor sensible logic," declares the Sioux City Journal (Rep.), which further expresses the opinion that "it will enable every corporation to dodge the payment of income tax on its stock for its stockholders," and the Nashville Banner (Ind.) believes "the decision will undoubtedly prove unpopular." Sharply critical, also, is the Pittsburgh Press (Ind.):

"The supreme court is evidently determined," says the Press, "that wealth must be cherished. . . . The legal pendulum which seemed to be swinging a few years ago strongly against privilege now seems to be swinging back hard."

The Fargo Courier-News (Non-Part. League) dissents so strongly that it is even moved to suggest "some popular curb on the supreme court." It continues:

"A constitutional amendment should be initiated, restoring the original intent of the constitution that congress should be superior to the supreme court, not its inferior. No other nation in the world permits a small legal autocracy to veto at its will the mandates of the elected representatives of the people."

"From now on it is safe to say," predicts the Salt Lake Herald (Rep.), "that capital stock increases and stock distributions will be highly popular and the revenue losses to the government must necessarily increase relatively and have to be made up in some other way," and the Grand Rapids Press (Ind.) add that the decision "involves losses running into many millions in prospective collections and requires refunds of about $35,000,000 in such taxes collected since 1916. . . . The stockholders will be gladdened in the same measure that the revenue collectors is saddened."

Many regret that the decision should have been so close. "It is a margin of one man that determines the sacredness or lack of it in this law," comments the Fresno Republican (Ind.) and the Syracuse Herald (Ind.) notes that "we are witnessing a good many of those close shaves." It cites examples:

"The decision against 2¾ per cent beer under the war-time prohibition act was rendered by a majority of one. So was the decision upholding the legality of the United States Steel corporation, though in this instance the vote was four to three, owing to the abstention of Justice McReynolds, a former attorney-general, and of Justice Brandeis, who had expressed some emphatic opinions derogatory to the steel trust in a congressional investigation before his elevation to our highest bench."

In such a case as the latter, the Toledo News-Bee (Ind.) thinks "proper legislative steps should immediately be taken to make a majority of the supreme court necessary for all decisions," but even this is not enough in the view of the Quincy (Ill.) Journal (Ind. Dem.), which holds that there should be at least a two-thirds vote." The Hartford Courant (Rep.) thinks moreover that "minority opinions of courts should not be made public." The only effect of such publication, it declares, "is to lessen the dignity of the court."

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

"State Department Headless." Was the president out of town?—Boston Herald.

Breweries are now making ice, says a news item—but are not cutting much. —Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

The Germans are apt to discover that when Foch holds the watch on the Rhine it's a stop watch.—Philadelphia North American.

Every week will be thrift week by and by.—Chicago News. Not if we buy and buy at present prices.—Detroit Journal.

The chances for ratification of the peace treaty would probably be pretty good if the senators were tongue-tied. —Wichita Falls (Texas) Record News.

"Nobody knows how dry I am" has been sung by thousands, but Gov. Edwards is the first to offer it as a party swan song.—Topeka Daily Capital.

Villa captures and holds the Americans until they tell him all the news. He'll get fooled if he ever captures Col. House.—Toledo Blade.

There are still a lot of good old-fashioned homes in America where the daughter of the house is learning to play the piano instead of the ouija board.—Syracuse Herald.

YE TOWNE GOSSIP

(REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.)

BY K.C.B.

Dear Mr. Casey Bee: The other day a man told me that you were a Scotchman and were very wise and humorous.

I never heard a Scotchman named Casey, and I never heard of a Scotchman who was wise and humorous.

Now, if you are so wise won't you please tell me how much money a man must have to be rich?

One man says he is rich with $10,000, and another man says he is poor with $100,000. What do you say? Yours truly, PAT McC.

New York, Feb. 23, 1920.

MY DEAR Pat.
* * *
THE MAN was right.
* * *
FOR MY folks were Scotch.
* * *
AND I know I'm wise.
* * *
FOR I'VE picked myself.
* * *
A VERY good job.
* * *
THAT LETS me go.
* * *
AND LETS me come.
* * *
WHENEVER I will.
* * *
AND I'M humorous.
* * *
FOR IF I wern't.
* * *
HOW COULD it be.
* * *
I WOULD admit.
* * *
THAT I am wise.
* * *
WHEN I very well know.
* * *
THAT NO man knows.
* * *
IF HE is wise.
* * *
AND ABOUT the wealth.
* * *
THAT ONE must have.
* * *
IF HE'D be rich.
* * *
IT'S VERY true.
* * *
ONE MAY be rich.
* * *
WITH A smaller sum.
* * *
AND ONE quite poor.
* * *
WITH A larger sum.
* * *
FOR IT isn't the sum.
* * *
THAT ONE might have.
* * *
THAT MAKES one rich.
* * *
IT'S THE wants one has.
* * *
AND BECAUSE one's wants
* * *
FAST A certain point.
* * *
ARE FANCIED wants.
* * *
ALL HAVE their birth.
* * *
AND HAVE their being.
* * *
JUST IN one's mind.
* * *
THEN IT must be true.
* * *
ONE'S STATE of wealth
* * *
IS A mental state.
* * *
AND IF that is true.
* * *
IT MUST be true.
* * *
THAT THE happy man.
* * *
IS A wealthy man.
* * *
AND IF you and yours.
* * *
HAVE A place to sleep.
* * *
AND PLENTY of food.
* * *
AND CLOTHES to wear.
* * *
AND HAVE your health.
* * *
AND ASK no more.
* * *
THEN IT must be true.
* * *
YOU ARE counted rich.
* * *
BUT AS for me.
* * *
I'M GOING to admit.
* * *
THAT I'M not rich.
* * *
AND AM going to get.
* * *
ALL I honestly can.
* * *
AND WHEN I get it.
* * *
I'M GOING to spend it.
* * *
AND I have a hope.
* * *
THAT I'LL have wants.
* * *
THAT WON'T be filled.
* * *
UNTIL MY path.
* * *
BRINGS ME no man.
* * *
WHO HAS a want.
* * *
THAT I may fill.
* * *
AND I'LL be rich.
* * *
WHEN THAT day comes.
* * *
AND NOT till then.
* * *
I THANK you.

CUP RACES.

"What are those splendid silver cups there?" inquired the man in the jeweler's shop.

"Those, sir, are race cups, to be awarded as prizes," replied the jeweler.

"Well, if that's the case," said the stranger, taking the largest in one of

his hands, "suppose you race me for this one."

He started off with the jeweler after him, but the stranger won the cup!

Equal parts of wood ashes, salt and water made into a soft paste will fill up the cracks and holes in a stove if applied while the stove is cold.