

Ocala Evening Star

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Everybody knows the ocean and our shipping board has the fact that it is also wide.

Why call on Attorney Daugherty there is no such decision.

The Miami Herald says that the coast mosquito is in the holes. Unfortunately, it doesn't stay at home much.

There will not be many of July celebration at used The people of that festivity up all their gunpowder murder.

There was once a woman who had all the clothes she could wear. A shroud.—Leesburgh this time Awfully warm season of year.

It's the Star's tips off the gerty and Lasker could have G. old P. block. Several put Lasker in the days ago if he had

The Leesburgh, with Star the copy of the K. out credit, then on the night of P. meeting. We like of the 26th. an appreciative

Saw a her saying "Com- ida papers t." Well, what mittee Meadmittee would you commercial. meet for free.

Often n ever be made Beforest first be ridden tick-free politics.—Jack- of ticks sonville be political ticks We f politic exists. as long

discussion is rife Dis is to the caliber of thruanated members of We should say there the and not many 45s. werg of .38s, but more The g else.

he nerves of the Jack- we rise to inform it now and never has been thstate authorities to re- convicts to the news- is information the pas- sed to gather for them-

nd Telegram approves ly: "There is much value stion made by the Ocala name of one of the most nds' of watermelons in the anged from 'Tom Watson' ing suggestive of excel- the exception of a few duded Georgia voters, this will meet with general ap-

St Augustine Record says the are now saying (just out of three-mile limit) tee-hee, the Star is of the opinion it ic- We believe Editor Benja- ist with the emphasis on h every now and then a sh of their destination— urando Reporter-Star.

Be we will have those wild wave well analyzed before long

ola Journal approves of decisions of the supreme nited States should not co- s made by a three- ty. The supreme court

consists of the members, and as three-quarters nine is six and three-fourths, do not see how such a majority is to be had. Besides, the supreme court being the supreme court, with no right above it to appeal to, is competent to make a decision on every case that comes before it. If any minor court could defeat its decisions, it would be of no use.

A BEAUTY SPOT

Orlando Reporter-Star says: "Ocala has so many beauty spots that by nature that there has been a tendency on the part of nature to prize them too lowly. It is not until people from less favored localities come in and go into ecstasies over these places that their real worth becomes apparent. Ocala's awakened to the value of Silver Springs is late tardy, but nevertheless commendable. California would have capitalized such a place with much more promptness. However, the effort on the part of Ocala citizens to beautify the place and build a hotel that will give a credit to the place is a right start that ought to bear fruit. Silver Springs in its natural, crystal beauty can be made a beautiful place. The old buildings that now encumber the ground around there makes the place look more like a western mining town than a resort community. Silver Springs, connected up as it is by rivers and lakes, makes a wonderful place for a few days' outing and many tourists from places like Orlando and Gainesville would avail themselves of that pretty spot and the boat trip both summer and winter."

Because of lack of space last week mention of the arrival, the brief stay, and the departure of J. H. Benjamin, editor of the Ocala Star, at the office of the Gazette, had to be omitted—more's the pity. Brother Benjamin dropped into the office with the softness of a "Pussyfoot Johnson," apparently having foot a hunt for the same substance that "P. J." is continually seeking. Sir Benjamin resembles good old Horace Greeley. He is peaceable—unless there is good opportunity to be perverse; argumentative rather than pacifying; absolutely non-hypocritical; is as tender as an old maid; and as touchy as a kid with the hives; don't givadam what he says—or how he says it; and is careful how and when he used his brain because of the expense of upkeep. Except through the columns of his paper I'd never met him—but in ten minutes I had borrowed his last two dollars, and told him he'd better meander towards his home, for it was a long drive. Somewhere or other he had picked up a car and a companion—and, although he didn't bring her in I know he is an excellent judge. Seriously speaking, J. H. Benjamin has made the Ocala Star a paper upon which dependence can be placed—and it was a pleasure for the force of the Gazette to entertain him—even for the brief period he was on the payroll.—Thorn in the Kissimmee Valley-Gazette.

We are in the Hall of Fame now, sure enough. We feel more stuck up than when we found one of our editorials in the Congressional Record.

John Lewis, head of the miners' union, sent the telegram which precipitated the orgy of murder and unspeakable brutality at Herrin, and then a few days later Lewis was the invited guest of the president of the United States at luncheon! What sort of a government have we?—St. Petersburg Independent.

A government of politicians for politicians by politicians. But the people permit it.

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MAGICIAN HOUDINI

SCOFFS AT MEDIUMS

(Toronto Mail and Empire)

Harry Houdini, most famous of living mystifiers, is the latest authority to denounce 'spiritist' mediums. He has been scrutinizing them for thirty years. He has attended thousands of seances, and he says he never seen a demonstration that he could not duplicate by mechanical means. He does not deny that it may be possible to pierce the veil; all he says is that he has been unable to find a single scrap of evidence to make him believe that it has been pierced. He has had compacts with seven persons, all of whom have died, to the effect that the one who passed out first would send back a signal to the other if it were possible. One of these friends died twenty-five years ago. There has come no sign. The last to die was his secretary, to whom he was greatly attached, and who said the day before he died: "I am coming back to you, no matter what happens on the other side, providing that there is any way that I can reach you. And if I can come you will know it is I, because I am going to will it so strongly that you cannot be mistaken."

Houdini relates that some years ago he was crossing to Europe on the same ship as the late Theodore Roosevelt, Victor Herbert and several other well known people, of an intelligence and culture above the average. He was asked to give an entertainment in the smoking and consented. He offered to produce the spirits and have them answer any questions. Roosevelt asked where he had been the previous Christmas Day. Houdini had a slate with the usual covering, and a few minutes brought forth a map done in a dozen colors of chalk, which indicated the spot where Roosevelt had been on the famous River of Doubt. That map was an exact duplicate of one that was to appear in Roosevelt's book, which had not yet been published. Houdini had never seen the map and to make the mystery more baffling, the name of W. T. Stead was signed below the map, in a hand that one gentleman present, familiar with Stead's handwriting declared undoubtedly was his. Houdini had never seen Stead's penmanship.

Houdini declines to tell how he produced the map and the signature, but he remarks that if he could deceive that select audience, how much easier it is to deceive an audience that is credulous to begin with and maybe he is probably much weaker in average intelligence. There can be not the slightest doubt that had Houdini elected to call himself a medium there would be millions of people swearing by him. Probably he would have been hailed as the greatest medium in the world and would be cited by Conan Doyle as absolute evidence that we can communicate with the dead. He mentions the case of one medium who was able to speak through a trumpet lying on a table several feet away from him.

If one saw this done he might be pardoned for suspecting some supernatural agency, but Houdini says it was only a ventriloquist trick. He believes that the medium has really a soft time of it, because the majority of people who go to him are either believers in the supernatural or desire to be convinced. They have some longing to communicate with the dead. If they had not, in nine cases out of ten they would not go to the seance. They are practically consenting parties to the frauds that the mediums perpetrate. Many have dreams which they ask the medium to interpret. Given a reasonable amount of credulity, nothing is easier than to interpret dreams. In the vast majority of cases there is no meaning to them. Nothing follows in consequence of them. Nothing occurs to show that the medium has given a wrong translation. Moreover, dreams that agitate usually have to do with warnings. There is something to be feared, something to be avoided in the future, and since the vast majority of things that people fear never happen, the medium is credited with having given the advice that leads to no untoward consequences.

Mind-reading is, of course, a reality, and one suspects it was by means of this that Houdini was able to produce the map of the River of Doubt. Hypnotism is also a reality, and sometimes is quite as powerful. He tells an instance of the power of suggestion which was given in a Kansas hall, and in the course of a performance in which Houdini had been advertised as a medium. He had spent a day or two in the local cemetery getting information as to death, ages, etc., and picked up a considerable amount of local gossip. When he was called on to give his performance he amazed the audience by the accuracy of his answers. He found, too, that if he had to answer at random there was always somebody present ready to assert that the answer had a particular meaning to him. The climax came when he broke off and suddenly exclaimed: "Now, what do I see? What is this coming before me? Why, it is

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a man—a black man. He's lame, and his throat is cut from ear to ear. Who is this man? Why I know him; he is Elfram, Elfram Alexander." At this moment the negroes in the gallery bolted out of the hall, and it is presumed that every one of them would be ready to testify that he had seen a ghost. They had seen nothing whatever, but the power of suggestion, assisted by the gossip that Houdini had picked, made the performance a triumph.

AMERICANS IN HAYTI

(New York Tribune)

The report of the Senate committee charged with investigating the American occupation of Hayti deals frankly with conditions there. It does not slur over the defects in American administration—the most notable of them being too many changes in commanders and unwise extension of the practice of drafting labor for building roads. Some military abuses are admitted in the district in which the Caco insurrection had to be suppressed. It is also acknowledged that the American officials used coercion to get the protectorate convention through the Haytian Congress.

But against these faults many salutary results of the occupation stand out. Hayti has been brought back to order and stability. The natives are now protected in their lives and property. The people in the interior can come to the coast towns in safety. Agriculture has been revived and long abandoned areas have been opened to cultivation. The republic's finances have been straightened out and the foreign debt is being paid off. The country is being lifted out of chronic anarchy and started on the road toward productivity and prosperity.

The work of rescue is not finished. The termination of our occupation would mark the beginning of a relapse. In that case a great civilizing effort would soon go to waste. The United States intervened in Hayti because intervention by Germany was threatened and because under the Munroe Doctrine we were pledged to prevent European intrusion. We did nothing unusual or unwarranted in protecting our own interest and at the same time seeking to improve Haytian conditions. Our responsibility under the protectorate is far from fully discharged.

For these reasons the Senate committee unanimously holds with welcome non-partisanship that the occupation should go on until it has given the people of the republic not only political order, honest government and material prosperity, but put "within the reach of the Haytian masses justice, schools and agricultural instructions." The report does not deal with the Dominican Republic. Different conditions prevail there and make our occupation highly questionable. The committee significantly says that negotiations between our State Department and the Dominican leaders are about to begin, looking to the termination of the present military government in Santo Domingo. This is welcome news. The best service we can do to the Dominicans is to resume as quickly as possible our former restricted functions as a liquidator of the republic's foreign debt.

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- 1 Silver Medal Donated by New Departure Mfg. Co., Bristol, Conn.
- 1 Gold Filled Medal Donated by Eclipse Machine Co., Elmira, N. Y.
- 1 Gold Stick Pin Set Donated by Goodrich Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio.
- 1 Gold Knife and Chain Set .. Donated by Chicago Handle Bar Co., Shelby, Ohio.
- 1 Pair Silvertown Cord Tires Donated by the Torrington Co., Torrington, Conn.
- 1 Pair Handle Bars Donated by Bridgeport Brass Co., Bridgeport, Conn.
- 1 Pair Rubber Pedals Donated by Diamond Chain Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
- 1 Bicycle Lamp Donated by Brigham's Bicycle Store.
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- 1 Front Wheel Donated by Brigham's Bicycle Store.
- 1 Rear Wheel and Coaster Brake Donated by Condon's Bicycle Store.
- 1 Traxel Saddle Donated by Condon's Bicycle Store.
- 1 Pair Vacuum Cup Tires Donated by Condon's Bicycle Store.

Sign entry blanks and get ready for the races. We invite all, young and old, to take part in these races. There is going to be lots of fun. Watch this paper every day for further announcements and adds.

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