• OUR COMIC SECTION •

FAMILY DISTURBANCE

Judge—I see you've been mistreating your wife. Liquor again?

Seasoned Offender—Well, no, your honor, she licked me this time.

Mad Millinery

First Shopper—Where do you suppose the hat designers get all their ideas?

Second Ditto—Judging by the product, I'd say they get them from each other.

Railroad Rations

Old Lady (at ticket window)—I want to take the train to St. Louis.

Ticket Man (absentmindedly)—Sorry, madam, but we can't spare it.

A Soft One

Teacher—What's the meaning of "average"?

Bright Girl—A hen's nest.

Teacher—Explain your answer.

B.G.—Well, I've often heard people talk about hens laying on an average.

City Hall Blues

Clerk in License office—I'm very sorry, madam, but the dog license will be issued only when your form is filled out properly.

Young Woman (indignant)—Sir, I'll have you know that my dog loves me no matter what I look like!

Learning Etiquette

Mother—And now, Jasper, will you have pie or pudding?

Jasper—Pie.

Mother (trying to teach him manners)—Pie, what?

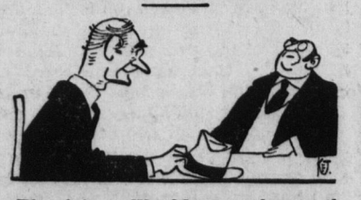
Jasper—Pie first.

Back in the Hills

Visitor—Don't you cut yourself often with that straight-edged razor?

Hillbilly—Naw, I been shaving nigh onto three years and I ain't cut myself either time.

CROSS EXAMINATION



Physician—Would you have the price if I said you needed an operation?

Patient—Would you say I needed one if you thought I didn't have the price?

Nature Study

Dora—I don't know why it's so hard to get this softball game started.

Cora—I do.

Dora—Why?

Cora—Because bats sleep in the daytime.

Naturally!

Jane—Why is it that bald-headed men always seem to have the nicest dispositions?

Joan—I suppose it's because nothing ever gets in their hair!

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

EDUCATION SHOULD ORGANIZE STRONGLY

WASHINGTON. — Biggest industry, by far, in the United States is education.

In plant, this nation has invested $14,223,489,985 (1940 figure from the United States office of education) compared with a paltry $2,750,000,000 in plant of the No. 1 commercial industry, motor vehicles, bodies and parts.

We have put five times more money into the value of education production buildings, from kindergarten through college, than in our vast and fabulous motors production, yet front page readers rarely notice this leading industry, and people generally pay little attention to it, although they own the stock in it.

Annual operating cost of education is $3,203,547,586 (same source, covering 1941-42) which is more than half the total of wages paid in every other industrial area in 1939. Yet practically every day you notice strikes and arguments about industrial wages.

For those we have labor boards, Little Steel formulas and great political agitation and interest. In the nation's largest industry, into which the public actually annually pays $2,671,653,202, there is no comparable interest—and no comparable results.

Not Run by Business Men.

There are other significant distinctions. The nation's largest industry is not run by business men.

County and city officials operate the bulk of it (their taxpayers furnishing $1,826,937,572 for the public schools) while the states furnished $979,539,773; the federal government $83,338,030 and privately controlled schools spent $551,998,864 (all 1941-42 figures).

The federal government, furthermore, acts vigorously to control inflation and deflation in all industries, excepting only this one, the biggest. A great watch is kept on the security, salaries and management of all businesses, except this one.

The school text book concessions must constitute a tremendous business, but no commissions nationally watch it.

Postwar planning for industry is a primary occupation now, but this one is neglected excepting that more federal funds for building more schools are to be provided. The industry is practically unrepresented in Washington except for a few lobbying organizations seeking appropriations, and these are not managed by business men—indeed they could not furnish me with the figures above quoted.

I think it is clearly suggested by the outer evidence that this industry is the least well managed as well as the least attended to.

Wants Government Control.

It is time the stockholders in this business started paying more attention to their investment. It is time also that national leaders, citizens and even government started recognizing the vastness of the industry, its financial influence, its economic effects, as well as the efficiency of its production, rather than leaving all this authority and control spread around loosely and not only uncontrolled but unadvised in various uncoordinated hands.

It is time also that the workers in that industry, the teachers, realize that they are in the largest industry and more aggressively protect their economic rights and defend their leading political and economic position.

I certainly do not mean by this that they should join a union, and particularly not a union nationally or internationally controlled by workers in lesser industries or their leaders, and pay tribute with high initiation fees and dues for the privilege of such leadership, which might be far from the best with which they could provide themselves.

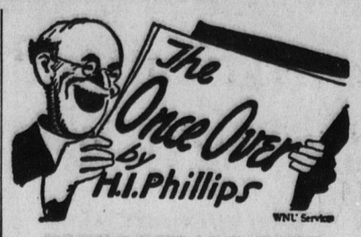
So I think the teachers should seek the wisest possible direction, politically and economically, a democratic leadership based on superiority of ability, rather than placing their cause upon the ground of sheer numbers as unions so often do. They are not masses, but individual personalities, capable of finding a joint expression in a way they will enjoy more and which should better serve their particular interests.

* * *

The straw polls are galluping (CQ) over the country, heralding or drumming up what is called "an overwhelming majority support" for compulsory military education.

"Are you for military training? Should it be universal?"

Nearly everyone is for "military training," and not one in a hundred thousand people in this country realizes that "universal," in this case, is not being used in its dictionary sense, but to cover with diplomatic language, a bold drafting of 17 or 18 year old youths.



TOKYO BROADCASTER EXPLAINS ALL

Attention! Excuse please! Honorable Japanese give Manila back to Americans. Whole thing done as big surprise. Will surprise them by letting them have Philippines soon. Honorable Japanese now lead world in surprises. Japanese people will please excuse Japanese army and navy if they are surprised also.

—*—

Philippines of no importance. Japanese took them only to hold convention of Japanese amateur photographers. Pictures not turn out too well, please excuse. Emperor decide best subjects for photographic are in homeland. So sorry.

—*—

American General MacArthur very much put out by Japanese behavior. Japanese put out by MacArthur behavior. Honorable Japanese claim a tie. Emperor say co-prosperity sphere going. Not say satisfactory to whom, excuse please.

—*—

Honorable Japanese nation must not ask too many questions, please, about Japanese fleet. Japanese fleet know where it is. We hope, Japanese military leaders now try new tactics. Combine strategic retreat with barrel juggling using silk kimonos in which they look more convincing.

—*—

Bombing of Tokyo imaginary. Excuse please. Completion Ledo-Burma road optical illusion, excuse please. Dictation of peace by Japanese in American White House postponed until further notice. Wet grounds, excuse please, so sorry.

—*—

British and American fleets now off homeland in large numbers, excuse please. Honorable Japanese Ally Hitler who promise Japan fine partnership in ladder juggling act fall off ladder. Excuse please. So sorry. Tokyo - Berlin. Co - prosperity Sphere opened by mistake.

—*—

Honorable Japanese leaders assure honorable Japanese people no cause for worry. Japanese save face. Germans lucky if save face cream. Honorable Emperor wish again to tell Japanese people, excuse please, that Manila of no importance. Emperor say Japanese army was just holding it until called for. Excuse please.

—*—

Forward with honorable ancestors through honorable Japanese deadend street! Excuse please!

* * *

MEAT FOR FISHERMEN

(Fishing fleet crews, deprived of red meat by coupon limitations, are appealing to OPA for relief.—News item.)

A fisherman needs his daily meat,
He slaves amid wintry scenes;
He can't live on hash where nor-easters crash,
And doesn't care much for beans.
He battles the cold and wintry gales,
And harks to the skipper's wish;
His appetite is never quite light,
And, boy, he gets sick of fish!

Oh, tough is the life on a fishing smack,
And hungry the crews do grow;
When hauling a net all icy and wet
For dainties he'll never go;
A fisherman works on a rugged job,
His appetite knows no whims;
He likes a steak thick, and gets very sick
Of any known food that swims.

Oh, hard is the life on the ocean cold,
A little green salad? Bunk!
No cheeses on rye will a fisherman's eye fill,
And eggplant a la king is punk;
So, up with more points for the fishing lads,
And off with the iron lid!
Some meat from a cow makes seafaring chow—
And you keep the codfish, kid!

* * *

Back Home Stuff.

It appears that tripe is coming back. We just read of its reappearance. A recipe called for its being put in a pot and simmered for two hours, then cut into cubes.

—*—

Phooey! Any such preparation would be a violating of the code of the old-fashioned tripe eater. Tripe was a common dish back home in our boyhood. Every butcher market carried it, good times or bad. And we had it in our house at least once a week. But no simmering and no cubes! The orthodox system was to cut it in slabs, bread it or roll it in flour and fry it to a golden brown. We have never been able to explain the decline and fall of honeycomb tripe. But we welcome it back.

* * *

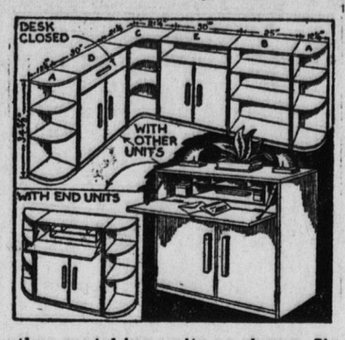
China officially states that it is possible to stand an egg on end on the first day of spring (Chinese calendar time). We will take an egg, on end or not, any time. Our quest is for a slice of bacon on its side or a slab of ham flat on its back.

* * *

We will never think our civilization what it is cracked up to be until we see in front of the blood donor stations lines of Americans waiting as patiently and as long as they sit in front of stores advertising cigarette sales.

Desk That Matches Unit Book Shelves

IF YOU can saw straight and drive a nail you can make this useful desk. Combined with curved end units it becomes an important piece of furniture to fill a wide wall space, or it may be used with



other matching units as shown. Its sleek modern lines also make it perfect for a boy's or girl's room.

Those nicely planned compartments are as easy to make as a box slipped in place and secured from the back. The pattern also shows how to make shelves and compartments underneath for storing files and records.

* * *

NOTE—Pattern 272 gives large diagrams and illustrated step-by-step directions for this desk. A list of all materials required is included. Unit E in the upper sketch is also made with this pattern. Units A and B with Pattern 270. Unit C with Pattern 271. Patterns are 15 cents each postpaid. Address requests for patterns to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Bedford Hills New York
Drawer 10

Enclose 15 cents for each pattern ordered.
Name.....
Address.....