

What Irvin S. Cobb Thinks about

Personal Indorsements.

HOUSTON, TEXAS.—I used to be a pretty fair hand at indorsing things. But I realize now what a piker I was. I indorsed only one thing at a time.

For the present champions, I offer a suggestion. When that distinguished world traveler ("Bringing Testimonials Back Alive") and that eminent movie star, who lives in Hollywood right next to Live Reading Matter and is authress of "Miss Colddeck Recommends," get through indorsing practically everything else, let them then club in and attain the very highest peak of indorsementology by jointly indorsing the famous society queen who has indorsed more products than they even, or anybody.

Maybe it's a sign of the times that today the most fascinating literature and the most familiar names are found in the advertising sections of a magazine rather than in the table of contents.

Noted Ancestors.

ON THE little Hogg-Dickson ranch at Casa Blanca, Mexico—only 300,000 acres—I met the caporal, or head man, of the cow herd and one famous as a rifle-shot, an upstanding, clear-eyed Mexican, but, I fancied, with some faint indefinable suggestion of the Anglo-Saxon in his facial contours. However, his name, as I caught it, was pronounced "Ernesto Boo-na," which, to my alien ears, sounded Latinesque enough for all purposes.

He knew no English, yet, when I mentioned Kentucky—a thing I've been known to do before—he poured out a rippling flood of Spanish. Louis Kresdorn, the Texas-born manager, translated:

"Ernesto says he has heard of a far-away place called Kentucky. According to a legend in his family, his great-great-grandfather once lived there—was muy valiente, muy vivo, and was the nephew of an even greater Gringo warrior who drove the savages before him like tumble-weeds before a wind."

So I saw a light and I inquired how Ernesto spelled his last name—he spelled it the orthodox way. So, as members of the same stock, a pioneer ancestress of mine having married a kinsman of the great pathfinder, I held a reunion with this mighty huntsman, who is proud that he too, colaterally, is descended from Daniel Boone.

Dachshunds.

I LIKE dachshunds. They've more sense of humor than anything I ever saw that came out of Prussia. I always figured the breed was produced by crossing a rat terrier on a German compound verb, and I still believe you could combine usefulness with their natural comeliness by training them to retrieve collar buttons from under low bureaus.

I indorse the phrase of the mathematical sharp who said a dachshund was half a dog high and a dog and a half long, but I claim Captain Mike Hogg's chauffeur, Mose, coined the best description yet. When Mrs. Hogg brought home the first one Mose ever beheld, his eyes bulged out like twin push-buttons on a mahogany door-jamb.

"Lawsy, Miss Alice!" he exclaimed, "what is this here thing?" "It's a dog."

"Wellum," said Mose, "if you hadn't told me, I'd 'a' said it was a snake on roller skates."

Hunting in Texas.

IT WAS raining so hard even the seagulls were trying to get in the clubhouse. So the ducks went away somewhere, out of the weather. So the hunters, who were less intelligent than the ducks, came back from the blinds dripping like so many leaky hot water bottles.

After being bailed out, we sat down to vittles—nothing unusual, just the customary club dinner. All we found on the menu was beef hash, duck stew, liver and onions, country smoked sausage and homemade headcheese, also hot biscuits, corn pones and rice cakes; likewise turnip greens, rice, sweet potatoes, squash, snapbeans and eye homiry; moreover, six kinds of pickles, preserves, jellies and jams; besides stewed pears, apple pie, papershell pecans and various fruits. Then Mrs. Jacob Smothers, the club hostess, came in to say that, if anybody in the future craved anything special, she'd try to fix it up—and wondered why such of her gorged guests as weren't too far gone uttered feeble laughter.

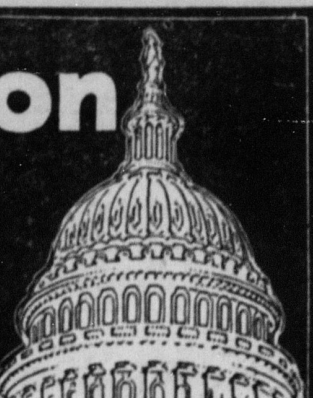
Being now convalescent, I am able to report that Southern Texas is one part of the Union where eating is still being carried on as a regular habit.

IRVIN S. COBB.

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Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted By WILLIAM BRUCKART NATIONAL PRESS BLDG. WASHINGTON, D. C.



Washington.—It is a little early in the new year to become despondent. I suppose, after the manner of a certain radio star, "Bill's" Not Happy I ought to be happy about the whole thing. But I am not. The outlook is too gloomy. Developments of the last few weeks have combined to make me a pessimist of the first water. I hope I am wrong; yet, present conditions force the conclusion that this country faces a condition as serious as that through which it passed in 1932 and 1933. There is no reason evident to me why we should not face the facts, discouraging as they appear.

So, let us consider some of the things that have happened lately, and some that are happening these days. Only in that way, I believe, can we get a correct understanding of this new depression which a thousand government propagandists insist upon calling a "recession."

Four months ago, industry began to lay off men and women workers. There was no market for the goods they were manufacturing. The reduction in payrolls was necessary to avoid bankruptcy. Nobody can afford to pay workers if there is no work to do. Dismissal of workers continued in an ever-growing volume until on January 1, the great General Motors corporation laid off something like 60,000 men at one time and placed its remaining 200,000 workers on a four-day week. That action, while it appears sensational, was illustrative of what had been going on during the four months that I mentioned; it brought public attention and political attention to a focus, but it was sensational only because of the numbers. It made an impression that dismissal of a few or several hundred here and there had failed to make.

During this same period, prices were undergoing a natural and normal reaction. Some were up; some were down. Altogether, they were and are in a topsy-turvy condition.

Government business analysts smelled the mouse. They were watching all of the trends that were evident during those four months. Those officials in high places and charged with responsibility for national welfare were informed of what was in prospect. But government propaganda continued to show bright and smiling faces in the picture. It won't last, they were saying in the written and spoken words. It is a psychological condition, President Roosevelt said—and thereby made the same mistake that President Hoover made when he announced that prosperity was just around the corner in 1931. It is the same old corner and it is the same old prosperity, but apparently the Roosevelt administration is going to have just as much trouble finding either the corner or the prosperity as Mr. Hoover did.

To get back to the sequence of events: the time came when the responsible officials had to say something by way of admitting the existence of the depression "recession." Mr. Roosevelt, it will be recalled, went off on a fishing trip around December 1. He took with him the brilliant and able young Robert Jackson, of the Department of Justice. Now, Mr. Jackson's particular ability lies in the direction of breaking up trusts, monopolies, big business combinations. Those of us whose job it is to watch Washington, thought we foresaw the next move by the administration. We have it now in full flower—a great drive against all of those sinful big business interests who simply must be the folks responsible for the depression. Of course, it should be remembered at the same time that there must be a "goat" when politics gets balled up, and big business again is the "goat" of the administration.

In consequence of the crash in business, the collapse of the theories of the long-haired crew that seeks to remould America under the guise of New Deal plans, and the general running out of Democrats on the New Deal leadership, the country is now to be treated to another trust-busting drive comparable to that conducted by the late Theodore Roosevelt when he was President. Yes, big business can always be attacked, cajoled, threatened. It is a proper stunt, nearly always resorted to by politicians and others who find themselves locked within the meshes of their own fishnets. Big business is the red herring that the administration is trying to drag across the trail. It is because the administration is attempting to conceal its mistakes, and make people forget them instead of doing a constructive job that I find myself despondent in the early weeks of 1933.

The real tip-off to the drive on big business was in the form of a speech by Mr. Jackson who said by way of the radio that:

"The only way to insure a reasonably steady well-being for the na-

tion as a whole is for the government to act as an impartial overseer of our industrial progress, ready to call a halt at all times on monopolistic practices which threaten to throw our economy out of order."

That theory is basic with most of the New Dealers. America must be made responsive to the Washington government. It is that theory to which more and more business men, little as well as big, are objecting. They are fearful of it for the reason that they can not see how this administration or any that may follow will be "impartial" in overseeing industry. It is quite natural for a political group to be intent upon preserving itself in power, and that never has been accomplished by impartiality.

But the New Dealers wish to avoid blame for the conditions now confronting the nation. Conveniently enough, there is no mention being made now of the tremendous pressure that was exerted through four of the last five years to bring about higher prices. Those prices now are held to be the result of monopoly, not the fault of the professors who were saying a few years ago when prices were moving higher that "we planned it that way."

So political guns are turned on big business—but my guess is that little business will be hurt more than big business by the refusal of the Wallaces, the Ickes, the Oliphants, the Jerome Franks, the Corcorans and the Cohens to recognize that Hitler's style of business management must fail here as in Germany.

The frankest statement about the whole thing has come from Mr. Roosevelt himself. He declared recently that "over-extension of inventories" was responsible for the current depression. That is to say, producers and manufacturers, feeling that business was booming, produced or manufactured too much. They did not recognize that the better business we appeared to have in 1932 and 1933 was highly superficial. Nor were they aware what the Washington government would do in the way of controlling or burdening business of all kinds with new taxation and new restrictive legislation.

It was from those latter two things that a fear was bred and the factories and farms that were being worked full tilt because prices were going higher were left with an overstock. I think it can be fairly said also that few persons expected to see such encouragement from the administration for labor to flout the law and take over control of property as has happened. Whatever else may be said, however, the fact remains the theories constantly being advanced by one or another of Mr. Roosevelt's advisers have frightened millions of persons who still have a few dollars which they would like to put to work. On the whole, I am convinced those dollars will not be put to work unless and until there is assurance from Washington that sanity and not monkey-doodle schemes will be exercised in governmental dealings with the country's business. It is dishonest on the part of government, regardless of political party, to charge that business brings about depressions; any person with a grain of sense must know that no individual desires to throw away his own money or throw away a chance to make more.

President Roosevelt has taken a firm stand for a larger navy. His action deserves commendation. Conditions throughout the world are such that he would be foolish to disregard the necessity for a strong defense. It will cost money, of course, but preparedness has proved cheaper always than being thrown into war because no other nation is afraid of us.

I have an idea that Mr. Roosevelt will be attacked from a dozen different directions. So-called peace organizations will try to pin his ears back and make him say "uncle," but I have gained the impression that Mr. Roosevelt will adhere to his program. Certainly, nearly all students of international affairs agree that he is 100 per cent right.

In a letter to house leaders, Mr. Roosevelt suggested the necessity for construction of two battleships, two light cruisers, eight destroyers and six submarines during the fiscal year beginning next July 1. These craft are in addition to other naval construction already considered for the next fiscal year. It will take two or three years to build some of these boats. Planning and preliminary work ought to be started on them as soon as possible. Mr. Roosevelt believes the work ought to start right away—and after all I think most folks will agree that the President is in a better position than anyone else in the country to know what the dangers are.

STAR DUST

Movie • Radio

By VIRGINIA VALE

INSPIRED by the swarm of locusts in "The Good Earth" and the terrific storm in Goldwyn's "Hurricane," several motion-picture producers have set out to capture honors for staging spectacles that make your hair stand on end.

Advance reports indicate that Twentieth Century-Fox have topped all in the matter of spectacular destruction. This company in filming "In Old Chicago," staged a fire that destroyed a sixty-acre city. In the midst of stampeding cattle and terror-stricken crowds, gas mains burst and shoot pillars of flame high into the air, oil gushes from tanks and sets the river ablaze, iron girders melt.

Before this cycle of horrors catches up with our screens, we should give thanks to Carole Lombard for providing us with another completely loony comedy, "True Confession." No one can play a girl who seems not quite bright with the gusto of the beautiful Lombard and in this she has the perfect role for her, that of a girl who just cannot tell the truth.



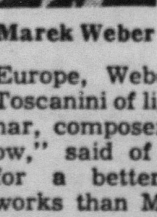
Carole Lombard

Radio programs that introduce you to your neighbors, both famous and obscure, and act as community get-togethers are getting more popular every day. Charles Martin's "Front Page News" and "Thrill of the Week" have been renewed for a year. Edgar Guest's "It Can Be Done," Bob Ripley's program and Gabriel Heatter's "We, the People" are slated for a long and successful life. Paul Wing's Sunday morning spelling bee over NBC has a list of applications yards long from people who are eager to test their prowess.

Jean Muir was a very unhappy girl when she left Hollywood a few weeks ago. For the three years or so that she was under contract to Warner Brothers she had been pleading for a good role in one of their big pictures, but they relegated her to dull parts in quick-made films. Now Jean can rejoice that Hollywood let her go. She opened in a play in London and two talent scouts cabled Hollywood that she was the big find of the year. She will probably come back with a contract calling for a much bigger salary, much better parts.

The most important member of Benny Goodman's swing band is a woman, and she doesn't play an instrument. She holds the checkbook. So while you won't see her with the boys in "Hollywood Hotel" you can just figure that she is there in spirit. She is Ethel Goodman, elder sister of Benny, and in the year that she has been with the band she has not only kept all accounts straight, she has mothered the boys, taking care of them when they were ill, bullying them when they wouldn't eat their spinach or get enough sleep, sympathizing with them when they were unhappy.

Marek Weber, distinguished Viennese orchestra leader beginning his direction of the Carnation "Contented Hour" this month, succeeds Dr. Frank Black, whose duties as general musical director of NBC forced him to relinquish the baton. With Weber's debut as conductor, "The Contented Hour" enters upon its seventh consecutive year on the air. In Europe, Weber is known as "the Toscanini of light music." Franz Lehár, composer of "The Merry Widow," said of him, "I cannot wish for a better interpreter of my works than Marek Weber."

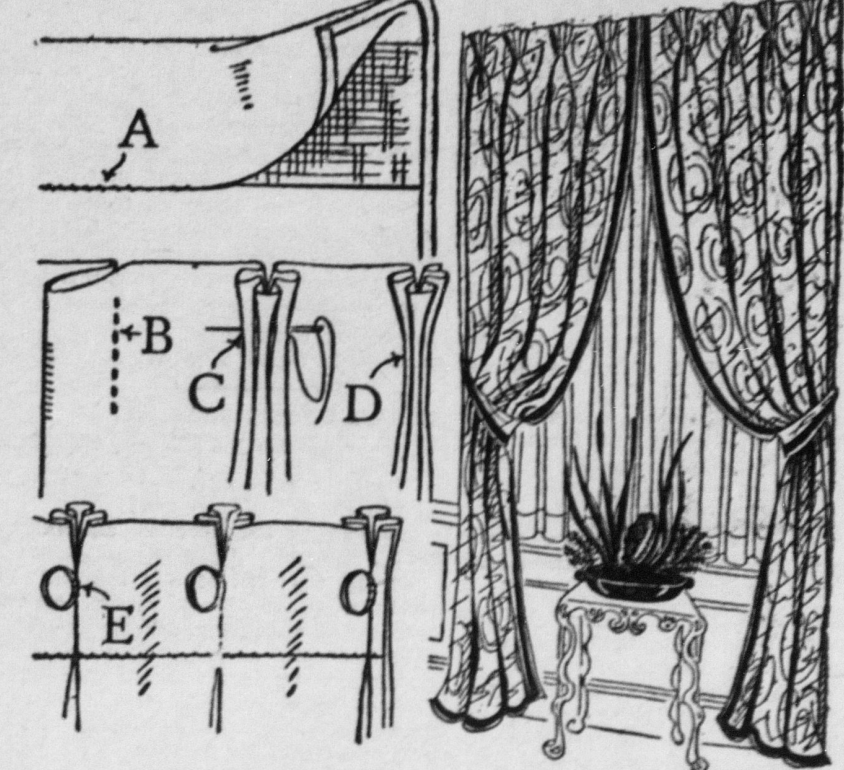


Marek Weber

ODDS AND ENDS—Jack Benny won't start working on his next picture for a few weeks, so Paramount has assigned his old dressing room to Marlene Dietrich. Jack and his radio script writers are no end upset because that is where they do their best work. . . . Myrna Loy encourages the freckles on her face by going about in the sun hatless. The freckles serve as a fine disguise when she appears in public. . . . Edward G. Robinson's new picture "The Last Gangster" is the best gangster film of all. . . . Glenn Morris who stars in "Tarzan's Revenge" says exactly four words in the whole picture. . . . Tony, the backstage bootblack at the C. B. S. playhouse in New York, has his own way of honoring Kate Smith. He keeps a special rag in his left hip pocket with which he shines her shoes just before she goes to the mike. . . . Bing Crosby and George Murphy entertained the shoppers in a Hollywood store no end when George decided to play floorwalker and Bing decided to sell handkerchiefs. When customers balked, Bing threw in a song.

HOW TO SEW

by Ruth Wyeth Spears



A French Heading for Your Draperies.

WHETHER you line your new draperies or not will depend on how heavy the material is. It is important, however, that the top of draperies be stiffened when a French heading is used. A soft canvas which may be purchased in drapery departments is generally used for this purpose. From four to six inches is a good depth to cut the heading canvas. Turn the top of the curtain material over it and sew as at A.

Now measure the width of your curtain and plan the plaits to take up half this width. In heavy material, four or five inches will be enough. It is a good plan to let the space between the plaits be the same as the amount of material the plaits take up. The first plait may come just inside the finish of the outside edge of the drapery or it may be placed two or three inches in.

Start to sew the plait about an inch down from the top of the drapery and sew it the depth of the stiffening, as shown here at B. Pinch this plait into three small plaits and, starting two inches down from the top, sew through as at C. Sew these plaits the

depth of the stiffening, so that they appear as shown here at D. Now turn to the wrong side and sew a ring to the back of each plait as at E.

Every Homemaker should have a copy of Mrs. Spears' new book, SEWING. Forty-eight pages of step-by-step directions for making slipcovers and dressing tables; restoring and upholstering chairs, couches; making curtains for every type of room and purpose. Making lampshades, rugs, ottomans and other useful articles for the home. Readers wishing a copy should send name and address, enclosing 25 cents, to Mrs. Spears, 210 South Desplaines St., Chicago, Illinois.

Hopeful Impulse

Every heart that has beat strong and cheerfully, has left a hopeful impulse behind it in the world, and bettered the tradition of mankind. — Robert Louis Stevenson.

Punctuality Essential

The individual who is always a little late in appointments reveals a weakness of character that punctual people are quick to observe, and it is interesting to note that successful men are almost always punctual. It is a hard thing to hold a man's confidence while he waits for you to keep an appointment.—V. A.

Grandma's HOT LEMONADE and...
LUDEN'S Menthol Cough Drops 5¢
Both have an Alkaline Factor that helps you resist colds!

Calotabs Help Nature To Throw Off a Cold

Millions have found in Calotabs a most valuable aid in the treatment of colds. They take one or two tablets the first night and repeat the third or fourth night if needed.

How do Calotabs help nature throw off a cold? First, Calotabs are one of the most thorough and dependable of all intestinal eliminants, thus cleansing the intestinal tract of the virus-laden mucus and

toxins. Second, Calotabs are diuretic to the kidneys, promoting the elimination of cold poisons from the blood. Thus, Calotabs serve the double purpose of a purgative and diuretic, both of which are needed in the treatment of colds.

Calotabs are quite economical; only twenty-five cents for the family package, ten cents for the trial package.—(adv.)

Importance of Duty

There is nothing on earth so lowly, but duty giveth it importance.—Martin Tupper.

Opportunity Created

Things don't turn up in this world until somebody turns them up.—Garfield.

CHEW LONG BILL NAVY TOBACCO

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By Fred Neher



"Haven't you got something softer easier to digest? I lost a bet."