

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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WHO KNOWS THE WAY TO PEACE?

The sentiment of the people of the United States is for isolation in international affairs, according to those supposed to know, but we doubt if the people of this country would be for absolute isolation if they clearly understood the conditions that confront the world today.

So long as nations acted as individuals, or so long as their compacts centered upon contiguous territory, the peace and security of the United States was served by remaining aloof from ancient quarrels. However, when the present cooperation of Germany, Italy and Japan results in disregard of all treaty obligations and unwarranted aggression against their neighbors, with an evident intent to get what they want regardless of consequences, other powers face a different situation.

Germany has openly coveted the lands of Russia and, even now, is expected to take steps against Czechoslovakia. Italy has gone into Africa to snuff out the Ethiopian empire and boasts of its power to control the Mediterranean. Japan openly pursues a policy of Asiatic supremacy, while some of her leaders talk frankly of putting down white domination. Each works toward separate aims but they time their moves to take advantage of unrest jointly created and no man can say whether they have their eyes on South or Central America for the next advance.

Under these circumstances it is wise for the United States to increase its naval strength. Having led the rest of the world in the effort to achieve disarmament and having failed because of these aggressive powers and their unwillingness to regard obligations, it now behooves the United States to demonstrate its ability and its willingness to arm for the defense of its own territory and the protection of historic doctrines which are deemed essential such as the Monroe Doctrine, the Open Door and, in general, a policy of sharing the trade of the world with other peoples.

Such a course, say the pacifists, may lead to war. Unfortunately, this is quite true. However, a policy of isolation and of national impotence will invite attack, which will come more quickly because of the invitation. China is a complete answer to those who say that we can live our own life. We can, only so long as some stronger power does not decide otherwise.

In this situation, with three aggressive nations upsetting the peace of the world and callously disregarding the rights of other nations, many assert that common sense suggests to other nations to get together and oppose the combination by a similar group of those who have identical interests to defend and protect. Why should the United States, they ask, hesitate to take joint action with Great Britain in the Far East when the two nations have the same basic interests to defend? Why should we hesitate to make common cause against those who disturb the tranquility of the world and threaten the stability of peace-minded peoples?

This is quite different from entering into any alliance with other powers. Such an agreement, covering specific cooperation, should be strictly limited to the common danger. It would not be operative generally and would not implicate us in future or past quarrels of other peoples. It would simply assure us of assistance in facing a combination of powers that "makes merry" while the rest of the world debates, and practically guarantee the supremacy of the democratic group of nations before the aggressor group can become more powerful.

This, many believe is the true road to peace for the United States. Of course, we can sit quietly while Japan picks off China and we can be unconcerned while Germany mutilates smaller powers. We do not have to take a hand even if Great Britain and France are wiped off the map by dictator militarists. Thus we may secure peace for our years but ahead of us in the future will be a rendezvous with battles that will be the graver because they have been postponed.

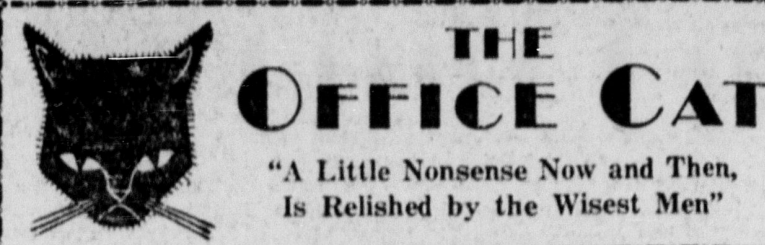
A show of strength by the democratic group in the Far East, for example, at this time, or within a few years when fleets are stronger, may be the means of checking Japan, thus weakening the dictator group that plans aggression in Europe. Such joint action does not necessarily mean war because the combined navies of Great Britain and the United States ought to be able to achieve the necessary and through passive pressure that will result in the economic strangulation of Japan.

But, in such a situation, who knows the best course for the nation to pursue? Quite frankly, we do not. There are too many factors involved of which the general public is not advised and so much depends upon the unknown intentions of other nations. The safest course may be one of "watchful waiting" until the years unfold their story. Meanwhile, as a sensible safeguard, the United States must be prepared to defend itself if danger develops. If it does not care for joint action anywhere, anytime, then it must be ready to take appropriate individual action under all circumstances.

We are not advocating any course. What we have written is for the sake of discussion and in the hope that American citizens will try to understand world conditions and intelligently pass upon national policies. Let us hope that there will be no mistakes made because, in the life of a nation, one mistake may mean the end of power, wealth, civilization and culture.

Spoking of Messes, Governor

Gifford Pinchot, the perennial office seeker from Pike county, wants to be Governor for the third time. He makes the announcement that his hat is in the ring and states (possibly with his tongue in his cheek) that his ambition is to "clean up the mess at Harrisburg." Of course 72-year-old Gifford may be excused if at his age his memory fails to recall the little mess of \$36,000,000 deficit he left when he went out of office.



An Observation on Britches

(By Johnny Snooper) All my life I've seen men wearin' britches, From overalls, held with a nail, To dress pants, an' hair chapparras, Like they wore on the Santa Fe trail. Some of 'em is floppy an' baggy, An' some of 'em creeps up, an' draws; Some of 'em is all right, an' some is a fright— But I never saw none like Maw's!

Paw's allus hang low in the bosom, Pretty much like a empty grain sack; He fills 'em all right in the belly, But they set pretty loose in the back. I saw a big dog git a mouthful, One day, in his slaverrin' jaws, An' he kept borin' in, but he never touched skin— He couldn't do that with Maw's!

The seat of Paw's looks like a apron, With two pockets hid in the sag, So they don't attract no more attention Than one or two beans in a bag. A federal agent would pass him With never a glance, or a pause, For they'll hide a quart, but a middle-sized wart On the hip shows up through Maw's!

Her seems to be lumpy, an' bulgy— They're one of these apple-skin fits. Gosh! I'm holdin' my breath an' expectin' She'll split 'em whenever she sits. There ain't no seat-slack, an' that's needed To make britches real safe, because, When sittin', a hitch has saved many a stitch— But you couldn't do that with Maw's!

Now, sister, they look pretty nifty! They're tight, too, but never mind that; The curves that they show is a eeyul, An' a eeyul that's worth lookin' at! But when older the'll flesh up, like Maw did— Seems like one o' nature's first laws— An', though she's a woin, an' knocks 'em dead now, She couldn't do that in Maw's!

Just a War Bride

Here's a new one of the many copies of letters received by the War Department during the World War, said to have been dug up recently in the old files at Washington. The Snooper who unearthed it wishes to remain anonymous for professional reasons.

"Mr. Headquarters: "My husband was induced into the surface two years ago, and I ain't received no pay from him since he was gone. Please send me my elopement as I have a four months old baby and he is my only support and I need it every day to buy food and keep me enclosed. I am a poor woman and all I have is at the front. Both sides of my parents are very old and I can't suspect anything from them as my mother has been in bed thirteen years with one doctor and she won't take another. Do I get any more than I am going to get? My husband is in charge of a spittoon.

"Please send me a letter and tell me if my husband made application for a wife and child and please send me a wife form to fill out. I have already written the President and got no answer and if I don't hear from you I will write Uncle Sam about him."

Persistent Cuss

"Well," said the waiter in the restaurant to the fellow who had just had his seventh cup of coffee, "you must be very fond of coffee."

"Yes, indeed," answered the customer "or I wouldn't be drinking so much water to get a little."

Oh, Heck!

"Wal, Hiram, did you have a nice time at the city?" "Reckon so, Elmer. Shucks, it's a great place. Yu know, the first night I spent there was a nekid woman."

"I swan, Hiram. What did yu do then?" "Nothin' much, Elmer, but reckon if I'd played me cards right, I could a kissed er."

They said he married her because her uncle left her a million dollars, but he claims he would have married her no matter who left it to her.

Still Fresh

His Date—"Don't you want to kiss me? Don't I appeal to you?" Boy—"It isn't that—I just don't want to throw away this gum yet."

"This is a heckuva fix," sighed the bathroom fixture, as the plumber approached. "I'm broke one day and flushed the next."

True Confession

Early last fall a certain town was visited by a revival of the old school, and the way he could shout fire and brimstone punishment to the sinners was something to brag about. He was good at all times, but one occasion capped the rest.

Just before he was to open services, he discovered that there was a large hole in the seat of his pants. His search for another pair took him to the wood-shed and there, hanging on a nail, he discovered a pair that were rather ragged but without embarrassing holes. He put them on and proceeded to the meeting.

Now, unknown to the good man, during last summer a tribe of wasps had made these pants their home. By the time the preacher reached the meeting the wasps had become warm enough to show life. As he walked toward the pulpit the preacher began slapping at the seat of his trousers. When he reached the platform he was dancing and slapping at a great rate.

Finally, at the end of his endurance he made for the door, shouting over his shoulder at the mystified congregation: "Brothers and sisters, I've got the love of the Lord in my heart— BUT THE DEVIL'S IN MY PANTS!"

Funny Question, Eh?

"Where be ye bound, mister?" asked the small town druggist as the stranger asked for a bottle of castor oil.

Getting Good Mileage

One man with a car will boast to a lass how far he can go on a gallon of gas; While another, much wiser, will proudly recall how far he can go with no gas at all.

Height of Something or Other

She—"I think you are a pain in the neck!" He—"Well, thanks for moving me up."

Bring Your Old Man Around

Who was the woman who walked into Turner's store the other day and said to a clerk: "I want a small, narrow comb, about so long, for a slightly bald man with celluloid teeth."

To Be a Success You Must—

"Do a driving business," says the hammer. "Make light of everything," says the floor lamp. "Never do anything offhand," says the glove.

The Operator Was Helping Out

A young Bellefonte mother had occasion one morning last week to call the butcher shop to order meat for dinner. Before she got her party on the phone, a neighbor woman stepped in the door.

"Whatcha doing today?" asked the neighbor. "I'm washing the baby's diapers just now," replied the young mother. And just then the operator cut in and said, "I'm ringin' 'em."

Pay Up, Or Else—

One of the partners of a firm that was severing business relations, inserted the following advertisement in a newspaper: "All those indebted to our store are requested to call and settle. All those indebted to our store and not knowing it are requested to call and find out. Those knowing themselves indebted and not wishing to call are requested to stay in one place long enough for me to catch 'em."

That's all, folks. A modern pessimist is a guy who when asked to "Buy American" asks "what with." —SCAT.

A Suggestion



Shoemaker Lists Curious Coincidences in History

The following article, with several references to Centre County history and special mention of the old Benner home in Benner township, appeared in Col. Henry W. Shoemaker's daily column, "This Morning's Comment," in the January 4 issue of the Altoona Tribune. The recent appearance of Jack Brady a mounted rodeo performer in Governor G. H. Earle's private office in the state capitol at Harrisburg, reminds one of the account of how Lieut. General "Uncle" Wolfe, indefatigable Centre county playboy, rode up the winding staircase of the General Philip Benner mansion near Bellefonte the home of some of Governor Earle's ancestors. The dashing rodeo scout who made his successful appearance in the governor's sanctum apparently got out of the \$5,000,000 capitol building in safety while General Wolfe could not induce his charger to descend from the Benner attic. This curious coincidence, coming exactly a century later, has set the tongues wagging of grizzled mountaineers "Jakson Democrats," admirers of the youthful governor in High Valley on the Barrens, Quigley's Camp, Buffalo Run and other remote Centre county localities. Like the Swedes, these old timers aver that a December child has luck and point to the governor's 47th birthday on the fifth day of last month and the lucky owner of "Silver Dollar" Jack Brady riding into the governor's office at Harrisburg. These mountain sissies learned much quaint lore from the late Walter Clendinning, the hermit of the Seven Mountains and other mountain recluses, especially the legends clustering around the governor's age—47. They point to various num of destiny to whom the numbers 47 meant much and to various outstanding events in this numerical category. Admiral Nelson, they say, was 47 years old when he won the decisive Battle of Trafalgar and for his love of the sea, G. H. Earle has been

OLD LANDMARK IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

Bellefonte and State College passed the scene about 9:45 o'clock and noticed what they thought was fog on the road. After they had passed through the "fog" they smelled smoke, but none of the passengers reported seeing any flames at the mill. The Alpha Fire Company of State College responded to an alarm, and although they performed effective work in battling the flames, the fire had too great a start and they were unable to save any part of the structure. For a time it was feared that ammonia from the mill's cooling machinery might escape into the stream nearby, as it did several years ago with fatal results to fish in the stream. However this fear proved groundless. A large crowd of spectators, including hundreds of Penn State students, gathered at the scene.

The old mill was built more than 100 years ago by Moses Thompson. Later it was taken over by his son, the late John I. Thompson, who conducted it until 1919. In 1922 the building was converted into an ice plant and cold storage plant for apples and other fruits. It continued in this role for some years, and in 1925 was leased to William B. Hickey, State College beer distributor, who has been using it as a beer storage place.

Mr. Hickey estimated his loss in stock and equipment at between \$2,500 and \$3,000, which includes destruction of office equipment, co-ops, barreled beer and case goods. Although firemen removed some of the barreled beer from the burning structure, Mr. Hickey reported that it had been spoiled by the heat. Included in the loss was a \$900 shipment of beer received the day before the fire.

Little insurance was carried on the mill property, and chances are slight that it will be rebuilt.

Candle Causes \$500 Church Fire A sudden fire upon the altar of St. Michael's Roman Catholic church at Sunbury, by a tilted candle caused an estimated damage of over \$500. The Rev. Dr. Charles E. Park, rector, states, The Holy Sacrament was removed by Dr. Park and firemen extinguished the flames before they spread to other parts of the building. The altar, carpets, linens and decorations nearby were destroyed. Repairs will be made as quickly as possible.

Risks Life to Save Others Risking his life, Zeffe Le Clair, 34, of Pleasant, N. H., drove a burning truck carrying 3000 gallons of gasoline from a residential district to a secluded woodland section. The gasoline exploded a few minutes after he had abandoned the vehicle.

Kills Deer for Wife Judge Christopher A. Webber suspended sentence on Philip Wimet, 24-year-old Vermont farmer, who admitted shooting a deer out of season to provide meat for his starving wife.

Schlow Rumored to Be Considering Building Current rumors on the streets here and in State College are to the effect that Charles Schlow, State College merchant, and formerly a well known Bellefonte business man, is contemplating the erection of a large apartment building in the western part of State College. Reports are that the proposed building would house some 45 apartments. The proposition is reported to be still in the formative stage, with no definite steps having been taken at this time.

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Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—There were two boys who had a certain number of apples between them. One of the boys said: "If you give me one of yours I will have as many as you." The other boy replied: "If you give me one of yours I will have twice as many as you." How many apples did they have between them? (Look for answer elsewhere in this column).

J. F.—Is a planet and a star the same? And are they hot?

Ans.—The planets and stars look alike from the viewpoint of the earth, but they are entirely different. The eight planets of the solar system are the only ones that reflect our sun's light. Most of the other stars that may be seen through a telescope shine from their own light and are extremely hot—having a heat from 5,000 to 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Most of them are "stars" that have "planets" that reflect light to other "planets" in their system. While these planets are many times larger than the earth, they are too far away to be seen by the naked eye. These, like our planets, are not hot.

E. S.—What makes the hum of bees, flies and other insects?

Ans.—The sound these insects make is due to the very rapid vibration of their wings. Most insects have no vocal organs at all.

E. K.—In whose place was United States Supreme Court Justice appointed? What are the names of the other members of the Court?

Ans.—United States Senator Hugo L. Black of Alabama was appointed to succeed Supreme Court Justice Van Devanter, retired. The other members of the Court are: Hughes (Chief Justice), Roberts, Butler, Stone, Cardozo, McReynolds, Brandeis, Justice Sutherland resigned last week.

G. M.—In playing ordinary home Bridge should all the laws of Bridge be strictly lived up to, such as penalties for revoke, bidding out of turn, etc.?

Ans.—Absolutely yes. Otherwise it would be an "Anarchist" game. One player might say that Clubs are the ranking highest suit, while another one might say Spades were. Who would there be to decide if we didn't have rules and laws for Bridge? Penalties for any infraction of the rules or laws is a part of the game unless you are playing "wild-cat" Bridge and don't care.

B. T.—Why is it that my ferns don't grow well in the house?

Ans.—As a rule ferns will not grow well in the house because the leaves cannot get enough water. The air in the house is warmer and drier than it is out of doors and the leaves dry out rapidly. The stem of the fern is small and does not contain enough water tubes to supply this unusual demand for water by the leaves.

W. D.—What is sleep-walking and sleep-talking if it does not indicate an abnormal mind or condition?

Ans.—The sleep-walker or talker is under the control of his subconscious mind, while his conscious mind is asleep and knows nothing about what is going on. It does not indicate mental abnormality.

E. C.—Asks this Bible question: After the Passover was done away with and Jesus substituted the Communion, did He eat the bread and drink the fruit of the vine?

Ans.—At the Last Supper, after Jesus had blessed the bread he gave it to the disciples and said: "Take it; this is my body;" and of the wine, "Drink ye all of it, for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." See Matt. XXVI; 26-30; Mark XIV; 29-26; Luke XXII; 18-21; I Cor. XI; 23-25.

R. G.—Where was the radio singer, Kate Smith, born?

Ans.—She was born in Greenville, Va., in 1908. The family moved to Washington shortly after her birth and she was educated in Washington.

A. C.—Why does the children's song, "Here we go round the mulberry bush," say bush when the mulberry is a tree?

Ans.—While the American mulberry is a large tree, the French mulberry is a shrub growing to a height of not over six feet. This may easily be the bush of the old song.

S. E.—Please explain what is meant by "dollar diplomacy?"

Ans.—The phrase is applied to the foreign policy of a nation when its chief object is to gain commerce and trade advantages under guise of a desire to promote international friendship.

A. W.—Can the English walnut and the butternut be crossed?

Ans.—The Department of Agriculture is now starting a project to create a form of walnut unlike any now existing by crossing the Persian or English walnut with the butternut for hardness and flavor, then with the eastern black walnut and the Japanese walnut for sturdiness and fruitfulness of tree.

Reader.—Is it possible that London fogs would be lighter if the city were cleaner?

Ans.—They would be. Town fogs consist of moisture, dust, smoke, soot and chimney gases.

T. F.—I have been told that it is wrong to say "anthracite coal." Why is it?

Ans.—Anthracite is a noun applied to hard coal, so the word coal is superfluous.

C. H.—Can you tell me if the late President Harding ever went to college?

Ans.—Yes, he attended Ohio Central College at Iberia from 1879 to 1882.

E. G. H.—Please give me some information about Borden's early experiments in condensing food.

Ans.—At the time of the gold rush to California in 1849, Gail Borden turned his attention to providing suitable food supplies for emigrants crossing the plains. He produced the pemmican which Dr. Kane took with him on his Arctic expeditions of 1850 and 1853. At this time Borden invented also the meat biscuit, a highly concentrated food. In 1856 he secured a patent for producing condensed milk by evaporation in a vacuum, and soon afterwards established factories in New York and Illinois. During the Civil War his condensed milk was widely used in the army and navy.

A. C.—Has Vaticano City its own cottage?

Ans.—A complete cottage was struck in 1931.

H. S.—How many employes are there in the Empire State Building?

Ans.—There are approximately 8500.

B. K.—Why was Goat Island in Niagara River given this name?

Ans.—In 1770 the island was cleared by a resident of the main land and stocked with domestic animals. In the course of time none of the original stock survived except one lone goat which gave the island its name.

W. J. C.—What position does Mr. W. J. Cameron hold in the Ford Motor Company?

Ans.—He is attached to Mr. Henry Ford's office. He has no title and no department.

M. B.—How much ink does a paper like the New York Times or Chicago Tribune use in a year?

Ans.—Such a paper uses more than two million pounds of ink annually.

H. W.—How is the strength of commercial vinegar indicated?

Ans.—The strength of commercial vinegar is usually expressed in grains. Each grain represents 1-10 per cent. of acid, so that a bottle of vinegar marked 45 grains contains 4.5 per cent. acetic acid.

R. B.—Are clouds made of water vapor?

Ans.—The Weather Bureau says they are not. Water vapor is an invisible gas. When air which contains water vapor is cooled sufficiently some of the vapor condenses into tiny water droplets or, at temperatures below freezing, ice crystals. Fog and clouds are composed of such water droplets or ice crystals.

R. M.—What became of the son of Napoleon and the Countess Walsawa?

Ans.—He was born in Poland in 1810 and died at the age of 58. He became a naturalized French subject, and held important government offices during the Second Empire.

W. H.—When a product is labeled, salad oil, table oil, or vegetable oil, what does it consist of?

Ans.—It may be oil of cottonseed, corn, peanut, sunflower, sesame, rapeseed, soybean, palm kernel, coconut or poppyseed. All of these are desirable products of good quality.

W. M.—How many rural delivery office routes are there?

Ans.—On June 30, 1937, 33,601 rural routes were in operation in the United States.

W. H.—How is the snow obtained for ski-jumping in Madison Square Garden?

Ans.—Ice-making machines turn out ice at the rate of twelve tons an hour. This is shaved by machinery into snow.

W. B.—What is the story about the discovery of roast pig?

Ans.—In Charles Lamb's Essays of Elia, Ho-ti, a careless Chinese swineherd allows the pigsty to burn. Desperately searching the ruins, he burned his fingers on the charred remains of a pig. Involuntarily putting them in his mouth, he found the flavor enticing which led to the discovery of roast pig as a favorite dish.

Answer to problem above: One boy has five apples while the other boy has seven. Did you figure it out?