

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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PEACE, THE WORLD AND THE U. S.

We have been much interested in recent efforts on the part of some members of Congress to secure direct information concerning possible alliances, agreements or understandings with other nations.

It seems to be feared by many of them that this country is about to enter into some commitment with Great Britain. Why this should be a crime, if the interests of the two nations coincide, we have no idea but, at any rate, the statement of Secretary Hull, endorsed by the President, should reassure the worried statesmen.

As a result of our policy of isolation the United States now finds itself compelled to face the problem of self-defense in the event of any possible future emergency. Certainly, it is plainly possible that Germany, Italy and Japan may act in concert in international affairs that involve the United States just as they have acted together during the past year or so.

If this is possible, then it is necessary for the United States, proudly isolated, to be able to defend herself without seeking assistance from other powers. Surely, if we do not look to Great Britain or to France for assistance in the event some combination of powers attack us, we must be able to defend ourselves without help.

Naturally, if we are not willing to make any agreement with any other nations, involving joint action or mutual assistance, we look to no other nation in any possible crisis. We will stand or fall by ourselves, giving or taking a licking as the fate of battle may determine.

Regardless of whether we do so or not, however, it is plain to see a community of interests and purposes between the three democracies of the world and a similar unity between the three strong dictator powers. We regret very much to see the world thus divided into two armed camps but it will do no good to shut our eyes to what stands in the light for all to see.

Frankly, the people of the United States proclaim their love for peace and their hope to escape the horrors of war. There are some who believe that this can be achieved if we treat all other nations alike, making no difference between nations that would cooperate economically and those who do not. They may be right in their belief that other nations will respect our hemisphere if we meddle not in their hemisphere.

We realize that there are many people in Centre County who dislike what they call foreign affairs and regret to intrude upon their security of thought. However, the day is coming, and it is near at hand, when they must make a decision, whether they want to or not. In world affairs indecision is delusive. While we hesitate events force the trend and others take positive action that compels us to decide.

ADVICE TO FARMERS.

Farmers all over the United States are beginning their 1938 crop year. Few of them have any idea as to the value of the crops they will raise this season, and none of them can do more than guess as to the yield of their fields.

The only fairly definite factor in farming is expense. Yet, the picture is not altogether bad. The new farm bill may be able to achieve something for the agriculturist. Our advice to farmers, however, is not to wait for outside assistance. Every man can do much for his own advancement, on the farm as elsewhere.

The cry "diversity" has been heard for years throughout the one-crop sections. It is good, sound advice. Every farmer should have more than one money crop every year. Foods for man and beasts should be raised, as far as possible, on every farm, and farmers should fight hard to become self-supporting, prosperous and intelligent in every human activity.

SUPER-HIGHWAYS.

The East-West and North-South system of transcontinental highways, now being discussed by Congressmen, is not new but it has a strong appeal to the public imagination and contains the element of value that makes certain its eventual construction.

Senator Burkley, of Ohio, recently catapulted the idea into the limelight by estimating that it would cost \$8,000,000,000 to build 20,000 miles of highway, on a 300-foot-right-of-way, providing not less than four lanes of traffic for passenger and freight vehicles. He thinks that a moderate toll will make the construction feasible without loss to the Federal government.

Such a system of highways would be of enormous economic value to the people of the United States and a vital element in the defense of the country in the event of war. It could be laid out so as to serve all sections of the country and promote the equitable development of the areas that make up continental United States.

It seems to us that if the nation undertakes such a project some means should be found to acquire sufficient land on both sides of the highways to control development and, at the same time, through leases or sales, secure much of the profit that will follow enhanced values of land along the highways. If the government does for itself what it did for some of the railroads something like this will be done and much of the cost of the highway system could be repaid by capturing most of the increase in the value of land along the right of way.

HOW DOES THE EDITOR EDIT?

The editor of a newspaper is often hard pressed to select suitable subjects for the editorials that he must write for his journal.

Contrary to much popular opinion the average editor does not sit in his office, thinking up something to denounce. As a matter of fact, most of the time he shrinks from the role of critic although often it becomes his duty, as he sees it, to warn the public about possible evils.

Editorials have a distinct place in any newspaper that claims the right to circulate among thinking people. It is their function to inform, to educate, to stimulate thought and, whenever possible, to express public opinion or check emotional outbursts that threaten sound public performances.

The editor of the Centre Democrat doesn't expect everybody to agree with opinions expressed in these columns. That would be too bad, because even the editor doesn't know it all. The chances are, however, if the editor is alert and keeps up with events throughout the world, that he can add something to a discussion of most subjects. It can do no harm for readers to get the viewpoint of a writer who at least, should be sincere, disinterested and unselfish in discussing current topics.

We have no idea that we are right on everything that we think. Very often, it happens that a given community overemphasizes one phase of a proposition and an intelligent article can present other factors that should be considered. Naturally, when selfish forces are trying to put something over, for their own profit, such an article causes feeling, while there are exceptions, in most cases where one hears a citizen denouncing a writer, the cause is hidden in the selfishness of the critic.

Readers of The Centre Democrat are invited to send in their views on topics of general interest. They are asked to be brief, to confine themselves to legitimate discussion and not to use the newspaper as a vehicle to air private grudges and proclaim personalities. Whether the writer of such an article agrees with the views of this newspaper is immaterial. If the letter is of general interest it will be published.

THE ONLY CHILD

Not long ago we noticed a couple in a public gathering and between the husband and wife there sat their only child, almost an adult.

We wondered at the time if this young person fully realized all the importance of his (or her) relationship to the older couple which had carried life's burdens for all three up to that time?

For the older couple, life is almost a thing of the past. Except for a brief interest in a few remaining years all that life still held was wrapped up in and centered around the activity and the future of their child.

Yet, as we all know, these parents and others, are now powerless to affect the child's destiny very much. Unless character had been built in earlier youth, no amount of love and interest can inject it now. The child is out of the parental range for all time.

The moral of this, if any, is two-fold. Parents whose children are young should not neglect the training of their boys and girls. It is a task which can not be neglected. And, children, as they enter life on their own responsibilities, should not overlook their power to wreck and make miserable the closing years of their parents' lives.

DO YOU KNOW THESE MEN?

The birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, coming close together in this month, suggest the greatness of these eminent Americans, and the thought that The Centre Democrat might well recommend the example of their lives to the younger generation.

It is not our intention to attempt any eulogy to their memory. That has been done by better writers, but the youth of this country will make no mistake in familiarizing themselves with the lives of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington.

POMONA GRANGE NEWS

The Grange—the Nation-wide Farm Fraternity of America.

"We ask none to join us who cannot see good in their fellow beings; but to all interested in agriculture, who have a generous heart and open hands to help the needy, raise the fallen and aid in making the labors of this life more cheerfully say—Welcome to the Grange."

We are proud of the Grange and its achievements of the last seventy years. For the numberless benefits it has secured, such as rural delivery of mail, parcel post, better roads, protection of pure food, dairy laws, better marketing facilities, and for its fight against intemperance, injustice and other evils.

And do you know how this was accomplished? By cooperation; and that reminds of the song you Pomona lecturer, Phoebe Cronister, hopes will be heartily sung and demonstrated at our Neighbor Night program this year. Don't forget the dates as listed in this column last week. Attend every one to receive each evening and carry home many messages which will be of real value in the daily life on the farm and in the home.

DO YOU KNOW

- 1. What is the extent of the air-rail trade in the United States?
2. Are there any medically supervised birth-control clinics in the U. S.?
3. About what is the annual income of the United Mine Workers of America?
4. What is considered a "small business"?
5. How old is Associate Justice Stanley F. Reed?
6. Has the Senate ever adopted the Cloture Rule?
7. How many congressmen refused to accept the mileage payment for supposedly traveling home between the special and regular sessions?
8. What is the chief cause of death in the U. S.?
9. How many American troops were engaged in the World War?
10. What is the highest spot in the world?

NITTANY FAMILY HAS RECORD IN LONGEVITY

A record in longevity has been established by the family of the late Mrs. Catherine Yearick, Nittany, who died recently at the age of 94.

Mrs. Emaline Fehl, Williamsport, a sister of Mrs. Yearick, is now 92 years of age. She is the mother of the Rev. Noah Fehl, pastor of a Baptist church there. A brother, David Wolfe, died some years ago in Wisconsin at the age of 94 years.

ANSWERS

- 1. In 1937, 3,187 airplanes and 6,414 engines, valued at \$115,076,960.
2. Yes, 374.
3. In the last six months of 1937, \$1,407,426.
4. For the purposes of the conference in Washington last week, a business with an annual turn over of less than one million dollars.
5. Fifty-three.
6. Yes, four times.
7. Eight.
8. Heart disease.
9. 4,957,101.
10. Mt. Everest, India-China, 29,141 feet high.

THE OFFICE CAT
"A Little Nonsense Now and Then, Is Relished by the Wisest Men"

GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS!
(Contributed by a Clinton County Reader)
Natty ones, chatty ones, batty ones, catty ones—GIRLS.
Lazy ones, racy ones, hazy ones, crazy ones—GIRLS.
Some like 'em brilliant and bubbling and talkative, Some like 'em sly and sleek and provocative, Some like 'em quiet and shy and retiring, Some like 'em purposeful, short and inspiring, I find the lot of them dreadfully tiring, GIRLS.
Classy ones, brassy ones, sassy ones, gassy ones—GIRLS.
Crying ones, trying ones, prying ones, lying ones—GIRLS.
Why should men go on giving our dough to them? Giving a hundred times more than we owe to them, Giving our whole time from sunset to dawn to them, Playing the part of a sap and a John to them— Rise up, you guys, it's time we quit goin' with 'em— GIRLS.

No Help at All
Two men (seeking admittance to heaven): "St. Peter, can we come in?"
St. Peter—"Well gentlemen, what kind of people are you? What did you do on earth?"
The men—"We were WPA workers."
St. Peter—"Sorry, boys, but St. Peter don't bow no WPA workers here."
The men, after thinking the situation over for a time, decided to try the other place; and so the next day found them knocking at the fiery gates of Hell.
Satan—"Whadayah want?"
The men—"We're WPA workers and we sorta thought we would like it down here . . ."
Satan (disgustedly)—"Nah, you can't come in here. We had a thousand of those damn fellas here yesterday and they let the fire go out."

OUR SILLY SYMPHONY
'Twas the night before pay day,
And all through my jeans,
I searched and I hunted for
The way and the means.
But nothing was stirring
Not even a jit,
The silver had walked out
And the greenbacks had quit.
Hasten! Oh Hasten! Oh Time in thy flight,
And make it tomorrow
Just for tonight.

Mostly Display Types
One of our readers compares a newspaper with a woman in this fashion:
They have forms.
They always have the last word.
Back numbers are not in demand.
They have a great deal of influence.
They are well worth looking over.
You cannot believe everything they say.
They carry the news wherever they go.
They are much thinner than they used to be.
Every man should have one of his own and not borrow his neighbor's.

Eloquent Elmer
Jane (at one end of sofa to Elmer at other end): Elmer, do you think my eyes are beautiful?
Elmer: Uh huh!
Jane: And do you think my hair is the prettiest you've ever seen?
Elmer: Gee whiz! I'll say.
Jane: Do you think I have a perfect figure?
Elmer: Goesh! You bet!
Jane: And do you think my lips are like rubies?
Elmer: Oh boy! I'll say they are.
Jane: Are my teeth like pearls?
Elmer: Uh huh.
Jane: Oh Elmer, you say the cutest things.

Fo'd Defends Fo'd
Lawyer: Well, Rastus, so you want me to defend you? Have you any money?
Rastus: No, suh, I hain't got no money, but I got a 1922 model Fo'd car.
Lawyer: Well, you raise some money on that? Let's see, just what did they accuse you of stealing?
Rastus: A 1922 Fo'd cah.

He Took Pot Luck
A friend spent the night with a farmer. The next morning he appeared downstairs with a black eye.
"How did you get that?" asked the farmer in surprise.
"Oh, I just happened to fall in the guest chamber, that's all," answered the visitor.
"Gee, you didn't break it, did you?" anxiously inquired the farmer.

Shock Absorbers
Hob—"I used to sell underthings to nudist colonies."
Nob—"What kind of underthings?"
Hob—"Cushions."

What a Difference
Little Myer—"Papa, vot is de deefrance from prosperity and depression?"
Papa—"Vell, my boy, in prosperity ve had vine, vimmen and song, but in depression all ve got is beer, mamma, and the radio."

Alive and Kicking
First Drunk: When I wuz born, I weighed only a pound an' a half. I was THIS long.
Second Drunk: No-o-o! Did you live?
First Drunk: Did I live? Yo' oughta see me now!

He "Keeps the Change"
Doctor (inquiring after a boy who had swallowed a half dollar): How is the boy today?
Nurse: No change yet.

What Do You Think?
"F-E-E-T, what does that spell?" said teacher.
Johnny didn't know.
"WHAT IS IT THAT A COW HAS FOUR OF AND I ONLY TWO?"
Johnny's answer was as surprising as it was unexpected.

The Wrong Idea
"Your husband is no great danger, Mrs. Murphy, but I'm afraid I'll have to anesthetize him."
"Well, if you must you must, but dear Mike did so want to have a boy."

No Need to Sell 'Em
Little Willie's mother had just seen him put his thumb to his nose and wiggle his fingers at his playmates.
"Willie!" she cried. "What do you mean by doing such a thing?"
"Don't worry, mother," said Willie. "They know what I mean."

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS. If those old-fashioned galls were so innocent how did they know when to bluish—"SCAT."

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—Away back in 1893 a man made a purchase at a local store amounting to 25c. He tendered the store-keeper a one-dollar bill. The store-keeper looked in his till and then said: "I can't change it, but I can change a 5-dollar bill if you have it." Thereupon the 5-dollar bill was produced, and the customer received his proper change—44.75. Now then, how did he do it? If you don't know, look for the answer elsewhere in this department.

PROBLEM No. 2—How can a man become his own grandfather?
J. R.—What makes a top spin so long, and at times looks like it is standing still?
Ans.—This is a form of one of the laws of gravitation. The top is given a rapid whirling motion by means of a string or otherwise, and, as there is no air resistance to the spinning motion, the top spins apparently an incredible length of time. Its only resistance is constant friction. The whirling makes a very smooth "beat" and thus further resistance is offered, and the top runs so smoothly and steady that it has the appearance of standing still.

V. H.—Is it compulsory that a person's probated will shall be carried out according to the stipulations of that will?
Ans.—Yes, if it is humanly possible. If it is not possible, it resolves itself into a matter of legal litigation.

E. B.—What is the greatest flying creature that ever lived?
Ans.—About two hundred million years ago the great flying reptile named Pteranodon was very common all over the earth, but they have been extinct for millions of years. There are fossils in the British museum showing that the Pteranodon sometimes measured 26 feet from one wing tip to the other.

N. R.—How can "north" be determined to be exactly right if no compass is available?
Ans.—The north pole is located by what is known as the pole-star. This star is not visible to the naked eye, but with a telescope it is readily detected, as it is very close to the proper place that indicates the direction "north."

N. T.—What is the character of the disease known as leprosy?
Ans.—Leprosy is a chronic disease that is characterized by the ulcerous eruptions and successive scaling off of dead skin. Those affected show symptoms of thickening of the skin, loss of hair and feeling, offensive perspiration, ulceration and death of parts. The disease is most prevalent in China, India and Japan—being a little over one million in these combined countries. There are about 1,200 one of the Hawaiian Islands group.

B. F.—Is Rome, Italy, located on the Niger river?
Ans.—No. You probably have this confused with the Tiber river in Italy. The Niger river rises in the eastern part of Africa and empties into the Gulf of Guinea at Akassou, Nigeria.

M. A.—Has Spain any territorial possessions in America?
Ans.—Spain lost the last of their possessions as a result of the Spanish-American war. At one time in early history Spain owned nearly all of Central and South America, besides some territory in North America.

L. E.—Were both George Washington and Ethan Allen members of the Episcopal church?
Ans.—George Washington was a member of the Episcopal church, but Ethan Allen was not a Christian. At the close of the Revolutionary war in 1784, he wrote a book entitled "Reason the Only Oracle of Man," which was the first of his works against Christianity.

L. E.—When did the Government start the Federal deposit insurance plan?
Ans.—Federal deposit insurance became effective on January 1, 1934.

W. H.—How long has Miss Marguerite Le Hand been President Roosevelt's secretary?
Ans.—Miss Le Hand has been his secretary about eighteen years.

D. M.—Is vitamin C lost when orange juice is frozen?
Ans.—The process of freezing has no effect on the vitamins in orange juice.

S. A.—When was the terrible flood in China which affected so many people?
Ans.—In 1931, the most disastrous flood in the history of China swept away thousands of villages and inundated countless farms. It affected about 30,000,000 people. Both the Yangtze and Hwang Rivers were involved.

H. L. K.—Which state has the most radio stations?
Ans.—California leads with fifty-three broadcasting stations while New York is second with forty-nine.

R. S.—Are peanuts and goobers the same?
Ans.—Peanuts, goobers, ground peas, earth nuts, and pinders are names given to the same food. The technical name is Arachis hypogea. The first wide introduction of peanuts was their sale at Barnum's circus.

F. L.—What are the states that produce rice?
Ans.—The rice states are Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and California.

B. W.—Are many fighters killed in prize fights?
Ans.—There were four deaths in boxing during 1937. In the past fifteen years there have been thirty deaths recorded in that sport.

L. H.—Who is president of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company?
Ans.—Ralph T. Senter is president of the company.

C. H.—In what country are the various professions recognized by (Continued on page four)

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