

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

A. C. DERR, Editor; PAUL M. DUBBS, Associate Editor; CECIL A. WALKER, Business Manager

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THE HOUSE KILLS REORGANIZATION

The President's reorganization bill was defeated in the House not because it was a reorganization bill but because it had been interwoven with a lot of politics and hysteria.

The reorganization bill may have been objectionable to some persons, but the need for revamping the government organization into something more symmetrical is just as desirable now as ever.

However the measure served the purpose of those who oppose the President on all measures and since it lodged power in the executive, as most reorganizations do, the bill became a convenient instrument for scaring Congress and part of the Nation into believing that even sturdy, steady Uncle Sam was all set to establish a dictatorship.

The significance of the vote, however, is undeniable. It reveals a resentment and a hostility in Congress less toward some measures than to those supporting or sponsoring them. Furthermore it is an election year.

But the fact remains that the Government, like any other organization, needs revamping at times and some bill to effect it sooner or later must be enacted.

HUNGRY NATIONS LOOK AROUND

There are earnest and serious thinkers in the United States thoroughly convinced that Japan, Italy and Germany have cast their envious eyes upon the undeveloped resources of the South American continent.

The interest of these nations, it is said, extends also to Central America, where one frequently hears reports of the activities of spies. The prompt offer of the powers involved to purchase oil from the Mexican Government illustrates the easy possibility of direct contact in this hemisphere.

Quite frankly, while The Centre Democrat has always considered a strong navy essential to the defense of the United States, we have been somewhat lukewarm in regards to the establishment of a very strong Army.

We dislike very much to be an alarmist, but in view of present world conditions, it behooves every nation to arm itself for thorough and effective defense against all possible future contingencies.

EXPOSING GRAFT NOT MUD-SLINGING

The coming political campaign can be fought on a high plane and argued in intelligent speeches, or it can become a mud-slinging effort to besmirch opponents.

We do not believe that the people of Centre County appreciate what some candidates seem to consider legitimate warfare. There is no use to regale the crowd with epithets applied to people who think other than the speaker and the efforts of many public speakers to "be smart" is usually achieved at the sacrifice of common sense and good taste.

There is, however, a legitimate field of criticism in every public campaign. That revolves around the official acts of the various candidates. Even this criticism should be delivered fairly with moderation and calmness.

The public record of any candidate is a legitimate target. If a candidate has violated the law, if he has grafted, if he has favored his friends, if his acts are against decent public policy, if he is the nominee of crooked associates, and for other reasons, deserves condemnation, then he ought to be denounced.

DAY THINKING

A good epigram: "Success is never attained by staying awake at night, but by staying awake in the daytime."

Some people dodge unpleasant facts. Their nights are often sleepless. Others boldly face their difficulties, analyze them, isolate them, and seek to solve them. Their nights are usually restful.

Sometimes a problem is as good as solved by the realization that it has no solution; but a common failing is to worry endlessly over a condition that cannot possibly be corrected. Instead of accepting the reality of the situation, people will take their troubles to bed with them and hear the clock strike every hour in the night.

The price of sound sleep is mental alertness. The man who has his affairs in hand, who accepts losses before they are forced on him, who thinks faster than his competitors, can usually sleep well in good or bad times.

Worry never helped anyone—except a competitor.

"PURE COAL" LAWS NEXT IN LINE

Representative Bradley of Northumberland announces he will renew his legislative fight for a "pure coal" bill. The State has pure food and pure drug laws, there is talk of pure wool regulations, so "pure coal" might just as well be added.

There is nothing frivolous about Representative Bradley's charges. He insists that consumers are buying striped and culm bank coal under the idea that it is freshly mined. Bradley is not opposed to selling the coal, but he wants it tagged for what it is, fresh-mined, strip pit, culm bank or mixed.

Why not? What objection can there be to letting the public know by label or otherwise the kind of fuel it is buying? Some persons may prefer other than fresh mined coal, especially if the price is lower. Some persons prefer part wool clothing. Others insist on all-wool. There is no reason why they should not have a choice.

Perhaps the coal operators will want to be heard before labels are tied on coal hunks, but so will the public, if it be true that the coal they are buying is not what they think it to be. There probably is a difference in heat units or other qualities in the various grades of coal which Bradley enumerates. If so, there ought to be differences in prices and, most important, the coal consumer ought to know about it.

BIG PROFITS IN 1937.

As many industrial companies make their reports for 1937, one is surprised by the number that record substantial earnings.

Of six hundred odd industrial companies, listed on New York exchanges, one hundred thirty report that earnings in 1927 were greater than either 1928 or 1929. Thirty-five other companies report sales higher in 1937 than in either of the boom years. Four companies which operated at a loss in '28 and '29, show a profit for 1937.

The statistics are taken from Barron's, a financial weekly published in New York. It points out that not all of the 1937 reports have been published. These figures are absolutely amazing in view of the constant complaint of business generally that prospects for profits have been wiped out by Government regulation, varied restrictions and by excessive taxes. They bear witness to the possibility of profitable operations, under present conditions, which are about the same as those that existed in 1937, in so far as Government interference with business is concerned.

Of course, everyone realizes that business conditions today are not as good as they were a year ago. Many experts are at a loss to explain the reasons. Undoubtedly one is the fact that the Federal Government since July 1st, 1937, has collected in taxes about the same amount of money that it has paid out. This means that the Government has not contributed a large sum to sustain buying power as was the case in previous years.

Just what will happen in the future is uncertain, but there are some experts, notably Roger W. Babson, statistician and economist, who believes that the country is forging ahead and predicts better times before 1938 is ended. Recently, he expressed his belief that "this recession is merely a pocket in the general forward movement." For the good of the nation and the welfare of individuals engaged in business, let us hope that Mr. Babson is correct.

WHAT SOME "AUTHORITIES" BELIEVE

The question and answer fad in the United States is only exceeded by the questionnaire which is universally depended upon to bring in the correct answers to any and all problems.

For some reason men and women who have hardly any opinion of their own are interested in finding out what other people think. For this reason, some of our readers may be interested in a survey recently conducted by Dr. Hadley Cantril, of Princeton University, who asked seventy questions to a group containing several hundred "authorities." Here are some of the results:

Nine-tenths of those responding expressed the belief that the industrial unions, as contrasted to the craft unions, would predominate in the United States within five years. Nearly three-fourths predicted a Democratic victory in 1940. Almost half thought that a strong national-farm labor party would be active in 1940. Three-fourth believe that all electric power in this country will be publicly-owned within twenty years. Two-thirds think we shall never have a collective state, but nine-tenths believe we will have a Fascist Dictator on the pattern of Germany.

Of course, we do not guarantee the correctness of any of these answers which are presented for the interest and, possibly, the amusement of our readers.

HERE IS YOUR BUSINESS

About the only time that the average citizen of Centre County pays any attention to his or her physical well-being is when illness or accident puts them in bed.

This is, unfortunately, the truth in regards to most persons. It is a reflection upon the intelligence that men and women are supposed to have.

The neglect of the body is only comparable to our negligence in regards to mental powers. Every individual has abundant opportunity to improve intellectually but few of us bother ourselves to do so. This, too, is a reflection upon the intelligence that we are generally so glad to boast about.

When it comes to the realm of spiritual improvement the average individual goes into complete eclipse, except in extremely rare and trying moments. Those of us who believe in the possession of a soul know full well that our spiritual growth is possible and most of us believe that it is the great function of human existence.

In spite of this belief and the faith that moves us along life's highway we carelessly drift along, without bothering very much about principles or the lack of them. Few of us attempt to guide our daily life by the eternal verities that we accept. It is a little bit foolish when one begins to reflect upon it.

The encouraging thing about individual growth is that it requires no committee meetings, no mass purpose and no assistance from other people. It is one job that the individual man, or woman, can plan and complete upon personal initiative. The only question is, "when will we begin."

SAFETY FOR WALKERS

Seven hundred and fifty road workers at Harrisburg are being equipped with a harness studded with glass reflectors, which will catch the light from automobile headlights. The reflections from these bits of glass, it is held, will make such workers less likely to be run over. If this plan proves successful, many more of these outfits will be provided.

Pedestrians walking in the street at night are advised to wear something white which can be seen readily. Motorists are sometimes so dazzled by glaring headlights that it is almost impossible to see anything.

If automobile drivers would drive slowly at night, particularly when meeting dazzling lights, many tragic accidents would be avoided. Country roads used to be beautiful walking places in the evening, as the traveler meditated on the beauty of rural scenes, and watched the stars overhead. Nowadays he would better forget the stars and consider the headlights.

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

THE TROUBLE MAKER

The millionaire's daughter ties up with the chauffeur, And the millionaire marries the cook; While over in France, a Duchess by chance, Gives her title and heart to a crook.

A wrinkled old widow knocks off a sweet kiddo, Not a day over eighteen we're told; And a sweet young patootie, a beauty, a cutie, Picks a meal ticket sixty years old.

And there's no use denying, when you get through tying Some queer-looking knots you put out; Though you make some cheerful, many are tearful, And they blame all their downfalls on you.

Promoted For Courtesy

A certain firm that was getting hard up for money with which to pay their bills, sent out the following form letter to one of their creditors:

"We have your collection letter of the thirteenth, and am happy to give you the following information: "We have divided our creditors into three groups: "Class A—Those who will be paid promptly. "Class B—Those who will be paid sometime. "Class C—Those who never will be paid. "In consideration of the friendly tone of your letter, we are promoting you from Class C to Class B."

And The End Was Not Yet

A man wanted to commit suicide, and to make a thorough job of it he poured some kerosene oil over his clothes, tied a rope around his neck, climbed a tree on the bank of a river and hung himself therefrom. Before he jumped, he drank a bottle of carbolic acid and lit his kerosene-soaked clothes. To make a sure job of it, as he hung suspended over the river he shot at his head.

But he missed. The bullet hit the rope and cut it in two. He fell into the river which put out his burning clothes, and he swallowed so much water that he threw up the carbolic acid.

Later on, telling about it, he was heard to say: "And if I hadn't been a darned good swimmer, I sure would have drowned."

Objected To Feet Dragging

A young college student got a job in a lumber camp and was told to attach himself to a cross-cut saw, the other end of which was in charge of an old lumberman.

As the day progressed, the student weakened steadily and finally the old man yelled out: "Son, I don't mind you ridin' on this here saw, but if it's jest the same to you, I wish you'd keep your feet off the ground."

How About Margerine?

They were discussing a silver butter dish, which they hoped to send to newly married friends.

"What shall we put on the card?" asked the wife.

"Oh!" said the husband, preoccupied with his paper and coffee, "just use the usual dope, I suppose; anything you like."

A few moments' thought followed, and then she handed him the card. It was inscribed, "For butter—or worse."

That Wouldn't Be Nice

At the wedding reception the young man remarked: "Wasn't it annoying the way that baby cried during the whole ceremony?"

"It was simply dreadful," replied the prim little maid of honor. "When I get married I'm going to have printed right in the corner of the invitations:

"No babies expected."

House With Attachments

First Citizen—So you are building a new house, how are you getting along with it?

Second Citizen—Fine, I've got the roof and the mortgage on it and I expect to have the furnace and the sheriff in before fall.

Page Major Bowes

Two young salesmen were conversing—one was stressing the necessity of proper conduct in business, and after a rather lengthy discourse ended with, "Well, where's your ethics?"

The brother looked up in astonishment, "Why, don't you know I traded it in for a Chrysler?"

Glad To Accomodate

An income tax collector had died and a subscription was being raised among business men for a wreath. At one of the places the boss promised \$5. A few days later one of the clerks called to collect the money. The chief handed him a \$10 note.

"No," growled the other, "Keep it and go out and bury another income tax collector."

This Was Tough

Mrs. Murphy (concluding an argument) "Every time I look at you, Mrs. Patrick, I feel I'm doing the government out of the entertainment tax."

Something To Worry About

Sam—I've just been bit by a dog and I've worried I hear whenever a dog bites you, whatever the dog has, you get.

Rufus—Boy, then you have a right to worry.

Sam—Why?

Rufus—That dog just had eleven pups!

Most Desirable

Two spinsters were discussing men.

"Which would you desire most in a man—brains, wealth, or appearance?" asked one.

"Appearance," snapped the other, "and the sooner the better."

Sounds Like Cannibalism

A fellow was walking along the shaded street of a Pennsylvania dutch village, when a girl came to the door of a nearby home and called to a small boy, playing on the walk: "Gusty, Gusty, come and eat yourself once. Ma's on der table now and pa's half et already."

She Had Everything

Said the smart little waitress, slipping up beside the customer, "I've got deviled kidneys, calves' brains, pigs' feet, chicken livers, and—"

"Forget it, sister," growled the cranky diner, "I've a headache, eczema, fallen arches, corns, a bunion, three warts and an empty stomach. Tell your troubles to someone else, and bring me some ham and eggs."

"A man's good looks are often spoiled when he sneers," says a woman writer.

Especially when he sneers at a bigger man.

A boarding school has nothing on a parked car for turning out nice girls.

An old maid is a gal who feels that the world owes her a loving, but who can't even get anyone to make her a loan.

THAT'S ALL FOLKS. Hear about the fellow who smoked so many Camels that his nerves got so steady that he couldn't move?—"Scat."

Townsend Loses Plea. Dr. Francis E. Townsend, 71, author of the Townsend plan to pay \$200 a month to the aged, failed in the Supreme Court in his effort to escape a 30-day jail sentence imposed for contempt of a House committee.

—Want ads bring results.

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—Can you spell the word "coffee" without using any of the letters in the correct way of spelling the word? It can be done. Try it before looking elsewhere in this column for the answer.

T. C.—What causes the eclipse of the moon or sun?

Ans.—An eclipse is caused when the earth is between the moon and the sun in a line, and so suffers temporary obscuration; this causes a lunar eclipse. When the moon passes between the earth and the sun, the latter is at certain places on the earth obscured by the dark body of the moon, and thus a solar eclipse takes place.

B. V.—Where and what is the highest volcano in the world?

Ans.—The highest volcano in the world is the Sahama, it is 23,000 feet above sea level and is located in Peru. However, Vesuvius, which is 4,260 feet high, is the most active volcano.

I. F.—I am told that an ostrich is faster in running than a race horse. Is that true?

Ans.—Yes. Most all healthy ostriches that are full grown can run close to a mile a minute. Some have been known to make the mile in a minute.

J. G.—What is the difference between Jewish people and the Hebrews?

Ans.—Hebrew, Jew and Israelite are synonymous terms. They are a race of people who originally spoke the Hebrew language. They were primarily of Semitic origin, and, according to tradition descended from Heber, the great-grandson of Shem, in the line of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

J. O.—Were there ever any presidents of the United States who did not have the advantage of a school education?

Ans.—Yes. There were two—Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Jackson. Both men were self-taught.

P. H.—What is the meaning of "S. A. G." I see sometimes written on a letter or piece of mail matter?

Ans.—"S. A. G." means St. Anthony's Guide. Its chief use is among devout Catholics, although the custom is seldom observed.

F. G.—How long has Germany and France been in existence as nations?

Ans.—The history of Germany and France as independent nations began in A. D. 843, following the collapse of Charlemagne's great empire, which was known as the "Western Empire" with the seat of government at Rome. This occurred thirty years after the death of Charlemagne.

G. D.—What indemnity did the Japanese exact of China after their war in 1894-95?

Ans.—The treaty signed which ended the war between Japan and China removed Korea from Chinese influence, ceded Formosa and the Pescadores to Japan, and awarded the latter in Chinese money the equivalent of \$186,000,000.

C. K.—Will you please answer what "kippered" herring is?

Ans.—"Kippered" herring is herring that is split, salted and smoked.

W. L. D.—What does a mouse weigh?

Ans.—A full-size mouse weighs about 30 grams or slightly over an ounce.

E. J.—How long did the 1869 Sullivan-Kilrain fight at Richburg, Mississippi, last?

Ans.—According to when Sullivan kayped Kilrain by Oland D. Russell (American Mercury) this 75-round bare-knuckle fight lasted two hours sixteen minutes and five seconds. There were thirty-second rests between rounds.

E. W.—In how many foreign places does the AP have correspondents?

Ans.—The Associated Press maintains correspondents in 252 foreign centers.

R. H. C.—What was the Oneida Community?

Ans.—The Oneida Community was a settlement founded at Oneida, Madison county, New York, in 1847 by John Humphrey Noyes. There was no formally chosen leader, as it was believed that the most fit would naturally control. The distinguishing feature of the social life was the system of complex marriage. Marriage was not permanent, but license did not prevail, as the marital relations were carefully regulated and the community assumed support of the children. An unusual feature of the life was the plan of mutual criticism. Outside opposition to the system, especially by the churches, led to its abandonment and dissolution in 1878.

M. J. P.—What method is used by movie directors to show the camera crew, and others on the set, what to do?

Ans.—The camera crew, electrical crew, sound crew, and special effects people are all rehearsed verbally before the actual photography starts. There is no need for any instructions by hand signals or cards after photography begins, with three exceptions: (1) by a downward or upward motion of his hand the sound engineer in his sealed booth indicates whether dialogue is too high or too low; (2) a cameraman may indicate raising or decreasing intensity of a light by simple hand signals; (3) if an actor has difficulty in remembering his lines these may be written on a blackboard out of the camera line.

W. J.—Is the number of chickens in the United States increasing?

Ans.—On January 1, 1938, the number of chickens on farm was estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at 387,251,000, the lowest since 1922.

H. K.—Of what nationality is Stefan Zweig, author of Marie Antoinette?

Ans.—The author was born in Vienna of Jewish stock.

A. E. G.—How much work has been completed on the Stone Mountain Memorial in Georgia?

Ans.—The preparation of the mountain's face for the central group on the Stone Mountain Memorial has been completed and some roughing work done. Over 500 carloads of granite have been removed. Actual carving operations were stopped several years ago with the exhaustion of funds, but it is thought that it will be resumed in the future.

L. P.—Why is tuberculosis called the white plague?

Ans.—Tuberculosis has been called the white plague because of the pallor associated with the disease in advanced stages. This in connection with the characteristic color spots on the cheeks, indicates the disease's presence.

M. H.—What is the salary of the assistant postmasters general?

Ans.—The salary of the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Assistant Postmaster General is \$9000 each.

W. H.—What is Mary Pickford doing now?

Ans.—In addition to her writing and movie interests, she has formed the Mary Pickford Cosmetics, Incorporated, of which she will be president.

M. S.—We are responding to your request of last week for the names of President Roosevelt's cabinet.

Ans.—Secretary of State, Cordell Hull; Secretary of Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, Jr.; Secretary of War, Harry H. Woodring; Secretary of Navy, Claude A. Swanson; Secretary of Commerce, Daniel C. Roper; Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace; Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins; Secretary of Interior, Harold L. Ickes; Postmaster-General, James A. Farley; Attorney-General, Homer S. Cummings.

N. B.—Why is water necessary to life?

Ans.—Protoplasm, which is the essential thing in living matter, is more than half water. If any large fraction of this water is removed from protoplasm the protoplasm dies. This is why all plants or other living matter requires so much water.

R. V.—Can fresh water be made out of salt water? If not, what do those aboard ship do if the water supply gives out?

Ans.—All ships carry a large quantity of fresh water. But in the event the supply becomes exhausted they have the equipment for making fresh water from salt water. This is done by distilling it—that is, make steam of it and then condense the steam back into water again. Salt cannot be made into steam. It stays behind and thus is separated from the water.

W. M.—Why are so many proposals of marriage made in the moonlight?

Ans.—This seems to be a survival of a subconscious memory, which has come down from prehistoric times. The cave-man courting had to be done out of doors; the hut or cave were far too crowded. But dark nights were unsafe because of wild beasts, and so for millions of years most of the lovemaking was done on moonlight nights. Our subconscious mind remembers this age-old association of amorous intentions with the moon.

S. L.—Is there such a thing as auto-suggestion?

Ans.—Scientists are agreed there is auto-suggestion, which is a process of impressing something on your mind—especially on your subconscious mind—by repeating that something frequently to yourself. It is a good deal the same sort of thing as repeating a moral maxim or a rule of conduct until it becomes second nature and is obeyed instinctively.

Answer to problem: K-a-u-p-h-y.

Many Solve the Money Problem

Replies continue to come in concerning the money problem published several weeks ago, evidence that the solution was more easily arrived at than the contributors had anticipated. Our thanks are due to the following subscribers who sent in correct solutions: Raymond Naidich, State College; Mrs. M. C. Eckley, Bellefonte, R. D.; Roy J. Miller, Philadelphia.