

The Centre Democrat

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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EDITORIAL

WOMEN AND SIGNBOARD NUISANCE

Mrs. John M. Phillips, retiring president of the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, speaking before the State convention of that organization at Pittsburgh last week, gave vent to some harsh words against the State's use of highway billboards in safety education.

Referring to billboard-lined thoroughfares as "signic" highways, Mrs. Phillips asserted that the use of that type of instruction was a reflection upon the intelligence of Pennsylvania motorists.

"Highway laws and penalties for their breaking," she said, "surely can be impressed upon automobile drivers with the issuance of licenses, and the insistence on rules obeyed rather than by huge highway signs with a painted police officer as a warning."

At first glance that stand may seem at odds with an interest in safety. Actually, it is not.

That the safety signs are effectively executed cannot be denied. On school bulletin boards or posted in places of employment, they could be heartily endorsed.

But, as has been pointed out before, driving is a process that should receive undivided attention. On a billboard, a safety sign is defeating its purpose as much as does a commercial advertisement.

On the score of the intelligence of drivers, Mrs. Phillips may be a little afield in condemning the State for being conservative in its estimate. Some of them are pretty dumb, judging by their driving. But the dumber they are, the more danger in their trying to drive and take a safety lesson at the same time.

In addition, unless prompt steps are taken to begin the abolition of all rural sign advertising, the Pennsylvania Publicity Commission is going to have a tough time this summer explaining to its visitors just why Pennsylvania's scenic wonders are so generally concealed behind billboards.

BRITAIN MOBILIZES WOMEN

Declaring that there is no reason why women should not serve in a modern army, War Minister Leslie Hore-Belisha, of Great Britain, announces that he will raise an army of women as part of the British war machine.

While there is no intention of putting women in the trenches, it is planned to drill them so that they can assist in time of war. The women would be trained "in various tasks so that on mobilization women could supply the military requirements for various non-combatant duties."

The fact that Great Britain is willing to contemplate the training of women as a part of her war machine, indicates, at least, that to the British war is not an impossibility. It also illustrates how far ahead of the United States the British are in planning for their defense.

HOW LONG IS A SHIRT-TAIL?

The British Government recently had to solve a perplexing problem, "how long is a shirt-tail?"

It seems that the Malay States had a quota restriction on imports of cotton piece-goods from Japan. Certain Japanese traders, in order to circumvent the quota, shipped in shirts with tails several yards long. Of course, the purchaser of the shirts could get the piece goods by cutting off the extra length of tail.

Hull Stands Firm On Conquest of Ethiopia

At almost the same moment that the League of Nations granted Britain and France their freedom to recognize Italian Ethiopia, Secretary Hull stated last week this Government's determination not to recognize conquered territory.

Hull declared, "Our policy remains absolutely unchanged."

He referred to his fourteen "basic" fundamental principles and policies of last July 16 and said:

"We have not deviated and we do not intend to deviate from any of these principles and policies."

President Roosevelt's expression on April 19 of "sympathetic interest" in the conclusion of the Anglo-Italian accord, he said, "was not intended to affect or alter in any way our general position with regard to any of these principles."

One of the principles which Hull re-affirmed was:

"We advocate abstinence by all nations from use of force in pursuit of policy."

WILL ASK SOCIAL SECURITY PRIVILEGE FOR CLERGYMEN

Reading delegates, to the biennial convention of the United Lutheran Church in America, to be held in Baltimore next October, will ask that the federal government be petitioned to make clergymen and all persons employed by church organizations eligible for benefits under the Social Security Act.

The Reading Conference of the Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania voted to make the request as the Rev. M. L. Wichter, pastor of the Church of the Atonement, Reading, was elected president at the 89th annual meeting.

Huntingdon Board Backing Pennington

Commander John D. Pennington, indicted in the death of an inmate at the Pennsylvania Industrial School for Boys, is credited with holding "full confidence and respect" of the institution's board of trustees.

The board sent to Governor Earle this week a resolution which said "nothing ever has been shown of harshness, let alone cruelty," in the way Pennington conducted the institution as superintendent.

The former secretary of welfare was indicted with Samuel M. Washbaugh, deputy superintendent, on charges of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Daniel LaMaur, Negro inmate. A coroner's jury said tear gas killed LaMaur. A local physician said he died of a heart attack.

Washbaugh, dismissed by the governor, pleaded guilty to the charge.

DO YOU KNOW

That Registered mail can be insured up to \$1000.00?

That the sender must declare the value of the article to be registered?

That for a value not exceeding \$5, \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$300, \$400, \$500, \$600, \$700, \$800, \$900, \$1000. The fee will be 15c, 18c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c, 95c, \$1.00.

That registered mail can be sent Special Delivery at regular fees?

That a return receipt costs only 5c.

That delivery to addressee only can be obtained for the nominal fee of 10 cents?

That receipt, showing address where delivered costs only 23 cents?

That registered mail can be sent "Via Air Mail"?

DISILLUSIONMENT

(The Williamsport Sun)

The average age of America's Gold Star Mothers is now 71 years. Many of them, according to Mrs. Della T. Blake, president of their organization, are pitifully poor. Had their sons lived, they might have been able to depend upon them for aid and comfort in their old age. But their sons are gone.

How many of them share Mrs. Blake's frankly expressed opinion, voiced at the annual convention of the order in Philadelphia, that she is "simply a mother who gave up her son for a struggle that wasn't worth the price?"

How many a mother, as she views the unhappy state of the world and sees wars raging and new wars threatening, is deprived by cruel disillusionment of the sustaining, comforting thought that her sacrifice was worth while as a contribution toward making the world a better, happier, safer place in which to live?

In other lands there is being created a new group of mothers whose sons have been lost in war. How many of them are forced to conceal their bitterness at a loss which they know to be vain? What thoughts, for instance, flow through the minds of those Italian women who are pictured from time to time, receiving medals from Mussolini in compensation for the lives of their sons, dead in Ethiopia or in a Spanish war of which they know nothing and in which they have no stake worthy of their sacrifice?

INSURANCE CONTRIBUTES

The insurance companies of the United States, according to Howard W. Cox, of Cincinnati, president of the Union Central Life Insurance Company, have given policy-holders and their beneficiaries more money to stabilize the country, in the last eight years, than the Government has given in relief. Since 1930, according to Mr. Cox, the sum paid by the companies was \$21,350,000,000.

Everybody recognizes the importance of insurance. Moreover, we know that insurance companies have vast capital resources and their annual payments to beneficiaries are immense. The extent of their contributions to "stabilize the country in the past eight years, however, depends upon the difference between what they paid out and what they took in from the people.

Regardless of what these figures would show, it is somewhat surprising to be told that in eight years the insurance companies of the nation have paid out more money than the Government has spent in its various relief enterprises.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE GRAVE

In 1890, a General died in Pennsylvania. His will provided that his estate should remain intact until \$112,000 had accumulated and that the principal sum would then be used to erect statues to four Revolutionary Generals in front of Independence Hall at Philadelphia.

The fund to be left has now reached \$112,000 but those in charge declare that the Hall is not to be decorated with any more generals. Consequently, the Court has appointed a "friend of the Court" to find a way of using the money left by the General in 1890.

This is another illustration of the inability of man to plan human affairs after his death. Most men who accumulate some property, attempt to exercise control over the accumulation long after they are dead and gone. In some cases, the effort works very well. In others, it fails. Maybe, after all, it might be a good idea for us, upon departing from this world, to leave to those behind us the handling of material things.

BOYS WHO TELL LIES

The jokesmith has it that when the lady asked Sonny what happens to the little boys who tell lies, he replied, "They get into the show for 10 cents and travel half fare."

How shall the kid element be taught truth telling? They early learn that liars do get by more or less, and sometimes get some privileges temporarily.

It can be shown that it is more difficult to cover up a lie than to conceal the tracks they make in the flower beds when seeking their baseballs. After the neighbor has learned that they do not tell the truth, every wrong thing is laid to these liars. They get blamed for no end of things they did not do. A boy escapes a lot of trouble if he decides to stay on the sunny side of truth.

DICTATORS OPTIMISTIC

It is not easy to dismiss the meeting of the dictators in Rome when one considers the past record of Messrs. Mussolini and Hitler.

Italian sources indicate that the meeting was a great success and that no questions were left open between the two powers. It is hinted that an agreement, covering future contingencies, has been made and that there is no power in the world to withstand the combined might of the two central European nations.

Police To Patrol Gettysburg Field

Arrangements for 400 State policemen to patrol the Gettysburg battlefield during the 75th anniversary celebration this summer were discussed by Commissioner Percy W. Foot with the Pennsylvania Commission, which is handling the reunion of almost 2000 Union and Confederate soldiers June 29 to July 6.

The "policing" job has been left to the State force of 1600 men. They are anticipating their biggest job toward the close of the celebration, when President Roosevelt will dedicate a memorial.

Real Estate Transfers

Helen C. Focht, et al., to Carl Dewey Price, of Port Matilda, tract in Taylor Twp., \$275.

Sarah McClenathan to John M. Coldren, et ux, of Centre Hall, tract in Centre Hall, \$50.

Isaac Egolf, et ux, to Betty G. Russell of Philadelphia, tract in State College, \$4,270.

Mary E. Strunk, trustee, to Hannah Beck Kelley, of Bellefonte, tract in Bellefonte, \$1.

Jeanne De M. Boal, et bar, to First National Bank of State College, tract in Harris Twp., \$1.

First National Bank of State College to Preston A. Frost, et ux, of State College, tract in Harris Twp., \$7,000.

Minnie G. Reese to William M. McClure, of Bellefonte, tract in Boggs Twp., \$2,880.

Harry E. Clevenstine to William H. Sampel, et ux, of Walker Twp., tract in Walker Twp., \$1.

Bernice A. Rine to James R. Boscano, of Bellefonte, tract in Bellefonte, \$3,000.

John Giardi to Catherine Caldans, of Snow Shoe, tract in Snow Shoe Twp., \$1.

Pennsylvania Truckers To Meet At Bedford

The fifth annual convention of the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association will be held at the Bedford Springs Hotel, Bedford, Pa., on June 29th, July 1st and 2nd.

The committee handling arrangements in Centre County consists of Robert Koch, Pine Grove Mills; Edward Kofman, Bellefonte, and Joseph C. Shoemaker, State College.

A number of local motor carriers are expected to attend to take part in the proceedings and discussions with representatives of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the Interstate Commerce Commission, shippers and merchants engaged in serving the highway transport industry.

Gold Star Mothers Are Opposed to Call

Gold Star mothers, attending their annual convention, at Philadelphia indicated that if they had it to do over again they would oppose the stirring call of "over there."

Seven of eight of the delegates who discussed "another war" were against the United States sending and army abroad. Five, however, would offer their sons for a "defensive war."

Their attitude reflected that of Mrs. Della T. Blake, president of the American Gold Star Mothers, who considers herself "simply a mother who gave up her son for a struggle that wasn't worth the price."

"No one can possibly accuse me of being disloyal to my country when I say that mothers will never again sacrifice their children for wars on foreign soil," Mrs. Blake said.

There are none so dumb as those who do not want to understand.

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

Thank For The Letter. Somewhere in Florida, May 10th, 1938.

Dear Editor: We've had such balmy weather lately on the shores of Miami that I know a crazy Scotchman who had a girl take him out in her canoe, but when he found out that she paddled it he dove overboard and swam for the shore; the damp fool. All jokes aside we did have a spell of spring-like weather that made the guys who fool around with married women kind of jumpy.

Yes, indeed, things are picking up around here. The other day two guys were picked up for being drunk and two janes were picked up for picking the drunks' pockets. The gals claimed they thought they were out in the country and were picking violets. Isn't that a daisy? Maybe you can't blame a girl for going after a roll when there's dough in it.

The other day I sampled for the first time some new high-powered beer and after two glasses I started to see triple. By the way, it's better to put your spare change in beer than it is to put it in a bank. If you put it in beer you get at least 4%, but if you put it in a bank the latter closes with a bang. That's what they call SOUND banking.

Well, I guess I'll sound off. Good luck and be sure to keep your nose clean, your fingers crossed, and one eye peeled. Regards to your staff of rain-raisers.

Yours for more news, D.

TWO EPP-I-TAFFIES. Here lies the remains Of Billy B. Dolly; Her hubby came home Without ringing the bell. Here lies the father Of twenty-nine; He would have had more But he didn't have time.

Slips That Pass In The News. Married at the residence of the bride's parents in Kelsey, December 1st, George Haiken and Marguerite Lavin. A very pleasant time was reported.

Both girls were riding in the machine which overturned. Miss Grace was cut about the face and hands and Miss Nett in the back seat.

Dear Miss Fairfax. I am 21 years old and my wife is just 18. At present we are not living together, partly due to the employment situation and partly because she won't live with me.

WANTED—Single room for lady facing east and well aired.

Bess Turpin who recently returned from Chicago with new stock for her millinery department reports that the ladies have discarded their summer chignons and straws and most of them are getting felt.

It would be much more accurate if she had suggested that his parents had lived over here and were American citizens many years before he was born, and that his birth in Hungary was merely the unfortunate result of a touring expedition.

Married man for diary, with two sons large enough to milk. \$100 per month. See Class. 56.

Now Polly Sits In The Corner. An elderly woman had a parrot which was free to roam where it chose in the house. Polly was often in disgrace because of her bad language but the climax came when she was allowed to participate in the games of some young lady visitors and shocked them terribly with obscene remarks.

"Guard against middle-age skin," we are admonished in a magazine advertisement.

In other words, sister, breathing through a flock of freckles and wearing a face that looks like a prune can be remedied.

Worth All The Rest. She (after quarrel)—"Everything in the house is mine—money, furniture, clothes. What did you have before you married me?" Husband—"Peace."

Little Prude! Mandy was planning matrimony, and the mistress gave her a day off to shop for the wedding outfit.

"Well, Mandy," she said when the latter returned in the late afternoon, "I suppose you'll be proud when you show your trousseau to your fiancé this evening?"

"No, mum," gasped the astonished colored girl, "dat boy ain' gwine see mah torso till after we're married."

On The Down Grade. A student in a western University took an examination and got along until he came to the last question. Thinking that the nearness of the Christmas holidays would imbue the professor with the right spirit he wrote after the question: "God knows; I don't. Merry Christmas."

The Prof. evidently did have the proper Yuletide spirit for when the student received his paper it was marked as follows: "God gets 100; you get 0. Happy New Year!"

The Forest Primeval. A hunter became lost near a tourist camp in the northern part of Minnesota, and wandered about until dark. He was not aware that he was close to the camp, and becoming desperate he put his shotgun in his shoulder and fired both barrels in rapid succession. Immediately fifteen pairs of auto lights flashed and five fellows yelled out "I'll marry the girl!"

That's all folks. There are folks so old-fashioned that they will spend money for bread and butter when there's not a drop of gas in the tank of the family car.

ZOO GETS 118 REPTILES; "SWAP" WITH LONDON. The Philadelphia zoo has a new assortment of 118 reptiles gathered from all parts of the world and shipped there in a "swap" by the London zoo.

In return, Philadelphia Zoological Garden officials will ship a consignment of American specimens to England.

Twelve different species of reptiles, including two crocodiles, a ball python, a black and white spitting cobra, green tree frogs, vipers and lizards were in the shipment.

The ship carrying the consignment struck a whale enroute to this country.

Complete Novel Next Week. A complete \$2 novel, by a popular author, will be printed in a special tabloid section every week in the Baltimore Sunday American. Adventure, romance and mystery stories illustrated in colors. Don't miss this new feature in the Baltimore Sunday American. On sale at all newsstands.

Penn State Offers Driver Training. A driver education and training course for high school teachers will be offered by the Pennsylvania State College at its annual main summer session, June 27 to Aug. 5.

Professor Amos E. Neyhart of the Penn State faculty who is now on leave of absence to direct the driver training program of the American Automobile Association, will again be in charge of the work.

Subjects which will be included in the course are the driver, driver and pedestrian responsibilities, sound driving practices, and society's responsibilities.

During the post season from Aug. 8 to 26 Professor Neyhart will offer a graduate seminar in traffic and its problems.

If all the money in the United States were put on one pile, to be divided among the people of this country, practically everybody would be dissatisfied with the distribution of funds.

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—Two freight trains each a mile long on a double track. One train is standing still. The other train is coming at the rate of sixty miles an hour. How long will it take the moving train to pass the standing train? (Answer elsewhere in this column).

F. B.—What is the meaning of words "Tempus Fugit" which I sometimes on old church clocks? Ans.—That simply is a Latin inscription which means "Time flies."

S. G.—What is the proper expression: "Angry at," or "angry with"? Ans.—Both expressions are correct, according to the subject matter. "Angry at" applies to animals and inanimate objects, while "angry with" applies to human beings. For example: You are angry at your cat, a you are angry "with" your sister.

W. E.—How long is the Great Chinese Wall? And why was it built? Ans.—The great wall of China is 2,500 miles long, scaling mountain hills, plains, ravines, rivers and other obstructions. It was begun about 214 B. C. for the sole purpose of protection against the invasions of the nomadic Tartars, arch enemies. It practically failed in its original purpose, and its upkeep was more or less neglected. After standing all kinds of weather for more than two thousand years, the Great Wall stands only as a dismal memory of ancient times.

R. C.—What are the popular names for Pennsylvania and Ohio? Ans.—Pennsylvania's popular name is "Keystone," and that of Ohio is "Buckeye."

J. Y.—Can you answer what is the advantage of having two eyes? Ans.—The principal idea is to get some idea of distance. When you look at anything with your two eyes, the eyes have to focus slightly different directions in order that both will have a perfect focus on the object. If the object is close, the eyes must converge—that is, the line of sight along which they point, tend to come together. Subconsciously your brain perceives the amount of this convergence.

B. W.—Why are there so many strange animals in Australia in contrast to the rest of the world? Ans.—Australia is the largest island in the world. It is general regarded as a continent, but it has been cut off from the rest of the world for many millions of years. As a result, some of the very ancient and strange animals have been able to propagate because of competition with new animal forms has not been great enough to kill them off as in the case elsewhere in the world.

C. S.—To settle an argument please answer which is the largest of in Asia? Ans.—Tokyo, Japan, with approximately 4,000,000.

F. W.—On what basis are old age pensions paid in Germany? Ans.—There is an old age pension for both officials and civilian workers and employees. For officials, the pension is 75 per cent of the last salary received; for workers and employees, the amount depends on the monthly payments to the social insurance company through which the pension is administered.

C. R.—What is the lowest temperature recorded in the United States? Ans.—Sixty-six degrees below zero Fahrenheit on February 9, 1914 at Riverside Ranger Station, Yellowstone Park.

O. B.—What are the warning signals of an approaching business depression? Ans.—A well known statistician has pointed out that every major business depression in the United States in the last hundred years has been preceded by a decline in stock prices, followed by a decrease in wholesale commodity prices, and these declines have been accompanied by an increase in short-term interest rates.

T. H.—Is the annuity received by a retired railroad employe under the Railroad Retirement Act subject to Federal income tax? Ans.—It is exempt.

Reader—How long will I have to wait after I receive my citizenship papers, before I can vote? Ans.—You are eligible to vote as soon as your citizenship is granted and may vote in the next election, provided you are registered and comply with the state laws relating to length of residence, etc.

B. T.—Has Edgar Bergen, the ventriloquist, ever been married? Ans.—No.

T. A.—Is cross breeding of a wolf and a dog possible? Ans.—Yes.

C. G.—Is Boake Carter, radio commentator, an American citizen? Ans.—Records at the Federal Building in Philadelphia show that he was born in Baku, Russia, of English parents, and was naturalized November 28, 1934.

B. M.—Are there any guns in the U. S. Army or Navy larger than 16-inch? Ans.—No.

M. R.—Where is Banff, the Canadian resort? Ans.—It is a mountain resort of Alberta Province in the high Canadian Rockies, situated on the Bow River and on the Canadian Pacific Railroad, 65 miles west of the city of Calgary.

L. K.—Did President Hoover accept a salary cut while he was in office? Ans.—In the last year of his administration, after the passage of the first economy act, his salary was cut 15 per cent.

F. T.—How many aliens entered and left the United States in 1937? Ans.—Admitted, 50,244; left the U. S., 26,736.

L. H.—Is there a sea wall at Miami, Florida? Ans.—What is called the "seawall" is a concrete revetment along part of the shore of Miami proper.

K. M.—Which weighs the most, damp or dry air? Ans.—Damp air is lighter, volume for volume, than dry air. Thirteen cubic feet of dry air at ordinary temperature and pressure weigh about one pound, while the same volume of damp air under similar conditions will weigh but 0.62 pound.

T. M.—Is it possible to recall a letter after dropping it in the collection box? Ans.—Yes, on application to the postmaster who shall ascertain whether the person making the request is entitled to such matter.

C. G.—Did the ancient Romans use theater tickets? Ans.—About 60 B. C. the Roman theater tickets were flat but pieces called tesserae, on each of which was marked: Praedictio I, I, etc. (this referred to row), cuneus I, II, etc. (this referred to divide and seat number). The divisions were somewhat wedge-shaped, as the were sections of the semi-circle forming the amphitheater. These were often separated by stairways, to make access to the seats easier.

E. G.—What musician has the most remarkable memory? Ans.—Among contemporary musical leaders, the eminent conductor Arturo Toscanini, probably has the most phenomenal memory. He not only conducts but rehearses without notes more than sixty operas an several hundred symphonic scores.

I. D.—Were gold toothpicks ever used? Ans.—Among the Romans there were toothpicks of gold, silver, ivory and ebony. The ladies and gentlemen at the courts of the French King had ivory toothpicks entwined with gold or silver wire mesh. The royal toothpicks of gold or ivory were set with rare jewels, inlaid, carved, or enameled. These were carried in exquisite cases of gold studded with jewels. For some time in Europe it was fashionable to wear a gold toothpick hanging from a heavy golden chain around the neck. Sometimes they were worn as ornaments behind the ear.

H. B.—How do War Admiral and Seabiscuit compare in size? Ans.—War Admiral and Seabiscuit weigh 1040 pounds each, I height, War Admiral is one-quarter of an inch taller, measuring fifteen hands, 2-1/8 inches, while Seabiscuit measures fifteen hands, 1-7/8 inches.

T. O. B.—Do many people try to steal rides on trains? Ans.—In 1937, approximately 300,000 illegal train riders and other trespassers were ejected monthly from railroad property.

J. K.—Was it William Randolph Hearst or Arthur Brisbane who said that a picture is worth a thousand words? Ans.—A picture is worth a thousand words is an old Chinese proverb which is often quoted by Mr. Hearst.

Answer to problem: It will take the moving train two minutes to pass the standing train.

HEAT OF THE SUN DOES NOT CAUSE SUNBURN. Severe Frost at Beech Creek. The worst damage from frost in years to early tomato plants, beans and other vegetables that cannot resist low temperatures and frost was done in Beech Creek section Thursday and Friday mornings. Crag vines, just out in blossom, were hit hard and leaves on the vines withered. A lot of new planting must be done. Even where plants were covered, the freezing temperatures Thursday morning seemed to "burn" them.