

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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Issued weekly, every Thursday morning. Entered in the postoffice at Bellefonte, Pa., as second class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: \$1.50 per year, if paid in advance; \$2.00 per year, if not paid in advance

The date your subscription expires is plainly printed on the label bearing your name. All credits are given by a change on the date of label the first issue of each month.

Matters for publication, whether news or advertising, must reach the Centre Democrat office not later than Tuesday noon to insure publication that week.

All reading notices marked (*) are advertisements. Legal notices and all real estate advertisements 10 cents per line each issue.

Subscribers changing postoffice address, and not notifying us, are liable for same.

All subscriptions will be continued unless otherwise directed.

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EDITORIAL

TWO FAMOUS FLIGHTS

Howard Hughes and his companions, in their flight around the world, not only set a new record but established a firm reputation for the reliability of American airplanes.

There is no use in discounting the Hughes' achievement because it was backed by intelligent use of money. To travel around the globe in less than four days is a monumental achievement in the development of aerial navigation, which started during the lifetime of many people in Centre county.

The surprise flight of Douglas Corrigan across the North Atlantic, a spectacular exhibition of flying skill, combined with exceedingly good fortune, robbed the Hughes' accomplishment of the front pages. The young aviator, with the patched up plane, deserves the acclaim showered upon him and nobody wishes it otherwise.

The progress of aviation is served better by the Hughes' flight although young Corrigan stirs up the imagination and helps to enthuse the populace with the glory of aerial navigation. Besides, in a world as large as our own, there is room for both types of individual daring and a mood to applaud all of the persons connected with the two flights.

THE GAS TAX MARCHES ON

The thirty million motorists in the United States paid gasoline taxes to the amount of nearly one billion dollars during the past twelve months, according to the American Petroleum Industry's Committee.

This is about four times the gasoline tax paid by the motorists in 1927. However, with some exceptions, the receipts from the gasoline tax have been used to improve highways. Undoubtedly, the nation's roads are much better today than they were in 1927. This means economy to those who operate automobiles. There are some who believe that the savings to motorists in operating and maintenance costs offset the tax collected.

So far as we can determine, there is no use to agitate for any appreciable reduction in the tax on gasoline. With constant demands for better and bigger highways, there will be millions of dollars to be spent on roads every year. This will take money and the average legislator will continue to think that the bulk of the funds should come from a gasoline tax.

RACIAL FRICTION IN THE U. S.

The United States has several vexatious problems, centering around differences between races. On the Pacific Coast, the presence of many Japanese raise troublesome questions. In the Southwest, Mexican laborers cause friction. In the South, Negroes and Whites have to adjust themselves to actual conditions. In Metropolitan areas of the North and Midwest, the presence of a large number of Negroes and foreigners often leads to complications.

While it is a common assumption that race trouble exists only in the South, there are unfortunate occurrences in other sections. For example, one has only to call attention to the recent race riot in Pittsburgh, Pa., where two men were shot and forty arrested in two "wild nights of rioting between races."

Press accounts tell of "smoldering ill-feelings" which broke out in sporadic street fights between White and Negro youths. At one time, several thousand persons were lined up on two streets, the Whites on one side and the Negroes on the other. During the night, bands of White and Negro youths roamed the streets, which were the scenes of many clashes.

Serious trouble was averted in Pittsburgh because the city had available numerous police officers to cover the three-mile area where the disturbances began. If the same situation had arisen in a rural area, the consequences would have been much more serious.

One police inspector said that the trouble started in a swimming pool and grew "little by little." Another asserted that the outbreak began "when a Negro youth attempted to dance with a White girl at a dance sponsored by the City Bureau of Recreation." Matters grew worse

quickly and it took all available policemen to clear the area of roving bands which threatened violence to each other.

The Pittsburgh race riot received very little attention in the nation's newspapers. Candor compels the admission that if the affair had occurred in the South, it would have been headlined from coast to coast. In Pennsylvania, it should be noted, a drastic state law prevents any discrimination between the races in public places. Apparently, the law does not prevent situations that engender ill-feeling between the races.

The Pittsburgh riot is not the only recent example of race trouble. In two Southern states, a few weeks ago, Negroes have been lynched. There is no excuse for such a crime. Public sentiment in this country, including the South, condemns lynching and public sentiment, in the main, is the only force that will put an end to such barbarism.

Racial antipathies are a problem throughout the world. The situation that creates ill-feeling and engenders strife are conditions which must be met by the people in the areas affected. They can rarely be helped by legislative fiat or the officious meddling of those who reside in other places.

ONE WAY TO STOP GAMBLING

The prevalence of gambling all over the United States has aroused considerable discussion as to the best methods of combatting an admitted evil.

In New York where a convention is attempting to frame a new constitution, the question of including a ban on gambling was the cause of considerable debate. Of course, gambling is prohibited by most states, but the statute is widely violated and in some metropolitan cities, gambling rackets have become a public scandal.

A new approach to the problem is reported from Tampa, Fla., where businessmen and their employers have pledged themselves to boycott gambling. In other words, instead of hurling epithets at gamblers, which do little harm, the Tampa idea is to cut off the revenue that supports the racketeers. Certainly, this will be an effective weapon if the businessmen and their employees refuse to the upkeep and support of the gamblers.

William B. Haggerty, businessman, who presented the plan, pointed out that gambling took between \$10,000 and \$20,000 a day from business channels. He described commercial gambling as a "business with a gross income, a gross outlay and a net profit." By stopping the revenue of the gamblers, he said, the businessmen have the one sure way to close up the gambling establishments.

The Tampa attack on gambling is sensible and will be effective. All that it needs is the resolution of honest, law-abiding citizens that they will not patronize gambling establishments. If the better-class citizens in any community boycott any business, the enterprise will not last very long. In fact, such a boycott is more effective than law. It cannot be fought in the courts so long as it is directed against an illegal undertaking. It eliminates the evil by cutting off its source of supply. Inevitably, a slow death follows.

SENATOR NORRIS TALKS OF WAR

Senator George W. Norris, of Nebraska, who recently celebrated his seventy-seventh birthday, is the only living United States Senator who voted against the entry of the United States into the World War against Germany.

Admitting that he "could never favor voting to put this country to war again on a foreign field," the Nebraska says that the horrors of war in China and Spain make him wonder if it "would be better for America and perhaps France, Britain and Russia, to ally themselves now in a World War to wipe out Fascism."

Senator Norris is not a militarist. His record of public service marks him as a distinct friend of humanity. He not only admires peace as an ideal, but he has been extremely practical in attempting to maintain it. What is it that now causes him to ponder the advantage of warfare today?

The answer is to be found in the unsettled affairs of the world, with every indication that Italy, Germany and Japan, the three "aggressor nations," are not only willing to risk war for the purpose of national advantage, but are actually planning warfare on a large scale whenever it promises dividends to them.

If peace could be maintained for many years by a policy of tolerance as these nations threaten world stability, the price might not be too much to pay. However, there is no reasonable prospect that such a course will avoid a greater war. This is why Senator Norris wonders whether a younger generation of Americans, fighting a world union of Fascist nations some twenty or thirty years from now, may not wish that Americans of today had defeated "Fascism in its infancy."

There are many observers in the world today who do not believe that the question involves a decision between war and peace. They think that the world trend points unmistakably to a future war and the only question to be decided is when the fighting will take place. If this is correct, the sooner the democratic countries start the battle, the better their chance will be. The experts, however, may be wrong; there may be a way to avoid another World War. This is the hope that keeps the democracies from doing anything that might precipitate the struggle now.

The Mr. Hamilton who has forecast that 'Roosevelt will be a candidate for re-election in 1940 and will be defeated' is the same Mr. Hamilton, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, who made an 'unhesitating' prediction of 320 electoral votes for Landon in 1936, as the 'absolute minimum.' The actual vote turned out to be Roosevelt 523, Landon, 8. There is no telling now what triumphs are in store in 1940.

It isn't yet clear whether the Republican party wishes to be regarded as liberal, or conservative. The only certainty is that it wants to regain control of the Federal Government.

WHO KNOWS?

- 11. Has President Roosevelt recently enlarged the civil service?
12. How many states has balanced budgets in the last fiscal year?
13. What is the importance of the island of Hainan to the French and British?
14. How many soldiers were killed during the World War?
15. How long did Bertrand Snell serve as Minority Leader in the House?
16. Was the Declaration of Independence signed on July 4th?
17. Is there any law that prohibits a president from serving more than two terms?
18. Has the United States reorganized Japanese territorial gains in China?
19. Did Congress pass a crop control law for 1937?
20. How long is it from new moon to new moon?

The Answers

- 11. Yes, by placing an additional 100,000 employees under its regulations.
12. 42.
13. It involves control of commerce to Hong Kong and French Indo-China.
14. 8,540,000.
15. Seven years.
16. No.
17. No.
18. No.
19. No.
20. 29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, 28 seconds.
Blows Self in Pieces: Although denying his guilt, Newton B. Kinley, 57, of Santa Rosa, Calif., blew himself to pieces with a dynamite blast, after having been arrested on charges of immoral conduct with a 13-year-old girl. He had been arraigned but was out of jail on \$1,000 bond.



THE OFFICE CAT

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

SUMMER

When Summer is here I like to roam The field and make the woods my home. I like to jump and run about And gambol in the water spout. I'd sing my joy with gurgles and glugs If it weren't for those gosh darn bugs, Gnats, mosquitoes, Junebugs, flies, Bees, ants, caterpillars, centipedes, Spiders, dragonflies, water bugs, Who squirm, twist, crawl, slither, climb, Bite, buzz, sting, wriggle, slide, zig-zag Up and down my legs, arms, spine, etc. And itch like hell.

Bridging the Years

One of the best errors we ever saw occurred some time ago in a Nashville evening paper. The reporter was describing the collapse of the famous honeymoon bridge over Niagara Falls. It fell, if you remember, under the weight of an ice coat, into the torrent below—and he wrote glowingly of the many couples who had stood on the bridge in years past.

The effect was spoiled, however, by a typesetter who was either thinking of something else at the time or was a gloriously irreverent soul. We like to think of him in the latter category, for the head over the story said: "HONEYMOON BRIDGE COLLAPSES AFTER FIFTY YEARS."

HONK! HONK! HERE WE COME

A balky mule has four-wheeled brakes. A billy goat has bumpers; A lightning bug has bright tail-light, And rabbits are puddle-jumpers. Camels are equipped with balloon-tired feet, And carry spares of what they eat; But still we think there's nothing that beats The kangaroo with a rumble seat.

On Board the Ark

Old Captain Noah was gathering the animals into the ark. He stopped the skunks and asked them if they could swim. "No, sir," they replied. "We never learned how." "Then remember," cautioned Captain Noah, "your safe passage depends upon your good behavior."

Stop, Look and Don't Do It

Teacher—"Now can any boy give me a sentence using the word 'diadem'?" Little Clarence—"People who drive carelessly across railroad tracks diadem sight quicker than those who stop, look and listen."

Charlie McCarthy Told Us This One

They say the Hollywood girls are afraid to go out with Edgar Bergen the Ventriloquist. They think he'll take them on his knee and say what he wants them to say.

We once knew a salesman who was so good that he sold Mac West a bust developer.

There Was a Reason

"Oh, what a strange-looking cow," exclaimed a young lady tourist, as she stopped along the road in front of a well known Centre county farm house. "But why hasn't she any horns?" asked the lady tourist of the farmer who was standing nearby. "Well, you see," explained the farmer, "some cows is born without horns and never had any, and others shed their horns, and some we dehorn, and some breeds ain't supposed to have horns at all. There's a lot of reasons why some cows ain't got horns, but the reason why that cow ain't got horns is because she ain't a cow—she's a horse."

In the old days girls used to be naughty but nice, but now they have to be nice and naughty.

Must Be a Perfect Lady

Back in 1795, gals who answered matrimonial ads were greeted with examples like this. Here is an advertisement taken from an old copy of the Concord, N. H. Mirror:

"WANTED—Immediately, a woman who would be pleased with a husband. She must be sound of wind and limb, of a moderate fortune, tolerably handsome, and not subject to drunkenness. She must not scold but once a month, must comb her hair at least once a week and, above all, she must neither chew tobacco or take snuff, as it always gives me the heartburn to have my diet peppered. A woman of this description may find a place by applying to J. R. of H—, who possesses every requisite to qualify him for a husband."

Perhaps you've noticed that when a lady says "No" she means maybe. If she says "perhaps" she means "yes." Of course if she says "yes," she's no lady.

Like a Road Map

Sambo—"What's the matter with you, Rastus? You look as mad as a wet hen." Rastus—"Why shouldn't I be? The doctuh what operated on me for appendicitis went and sewed me up wit' white thread."

And Still Hungry

Teacher—"What is a cannibal, Tommy?" Tommy—"I don't know." Teacher—"Well, if you ate your mother and father, what would you be?" Tommy—"An orphan."

The Last Straw

A business man was walking down the street when he chanced to bump into a friend whom he had not seen for years. "How's your brother?" the first man asked. "Oh," was the reply, "he got married to a widow, bought a second-hand car and moved out west." "What," exclaimed the first man, "a USED CAR, too?"

Those Were Her Rates

A colored woman applied to a lady for a job. "What do you charge a day?" asked the mistress. "Well, mum," was the reply, "a dollar and a quarter if I eat my self, and a dollar if you eats me."

She Knew the Bumps

A little girl was crossing the Atlantic with her mother. It was her first ocean trip. The sea was smooth as the proverbial millpond for the first three days. Then the ship began rolling and pitching heavily. The child could not understand what had happened. "Mamma," she said, "what's the matter, did we strike a detour?"

Never Can Tell

"Doctor, my girl has varicose veins. What do you advise?" "Rubber stockings." "But, Doctor, how do I know she'll let me?"

What, the Deuce?

"Now, Jimmy, we're going to take up words—I want you to use the word 'miscellaneous' correctly in a sentence." "Franklin D. Roosevelt is the head man in this country and miscellaneous the head man in Italy."

A delinquent subscriber was dying and the editor dropped in to see him. "How do you feel?" asked the pencil pusher. "All looks bright before me," gasped the dying subscriber. "I thought so," said the editor, "and you'll see blazes in about ten minutes."

That's all, folks. There are two kinds of liars who get our goat. It is the fellow who says he feels as young as he felt twenty years ago, and the fellow who barefacedly declares he likes real hot weather.

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—Can you select a single figure between 1 and 10, which, when multiplied by any other single figure, will equal the sum total of the figure selected when the result is added together? (Answer elsewhere in this column.)

J. D.—Can you answer if cattle are native to America? If not, when were they introduced into this country?

Ans.—It is believed that cattle are native to Egypt, as Egyptian monuments constructed more than 2,000 years before the Christian era show crude carvings of cattle. They were first introduced into America by the Spaniards in A. D. 1525, about six years after the discovery of Mexico by Cortez.

E. Y.—Are the Roman Catholic priests the only religious people that practice celibacy?

Ans.—No. The Greek church, the Egyptians and the Buddhists observe this custom. Besides these, there are several minor religious orders that are pledged to celibacy.

L. F.—When did the last signer of the Declaration of Independence die? And what was his name?

Ans.—Charles Carroll of Maryland who died in Baltimore, Md., on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 1832, at the age of 95 years, was the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence.

H. C.—Is the game of chess an American game?

Ans.—No. The game originated in India, whence it was brought by way of Persia and Arabia to Europe. The game was made popular in America by Benjamin Franklin, who was an expert player, and wrote in its favor.

A. D.—Why is a certain kind of locust called the "seventeen-year" locust?

Ans.—When the larvae of the seventeen-year locust falls to the ground it burrows deep into the surface and re-appears again in seventeen years.

W. K.—What is "communism" which we hear so much talk against over the radio, in the newspapers, etc.?

Ans.—Briefly Communism is the theory of government and social order according to which all property is held as a common trust, and the profits derived from all labors are devoted for the general good. This theory involves the abolition of all private property and transferred to the State, which assumes full responsibility of providing work for every individual able and willing to work and dividing the profits with them.

G. F.—Are the Creoles of Negro blood?

Ans.—No. Creole is the name given to the descendants of French and Spaniards born in tropical America and the West Indies. It has been widened to include the descendants of all Europeans born in the West Indies and the tropics.

T. W.—Who originated the Curfew bell? And at what hour was the bell rung?

Ans.—William the Conqueror introduced the Curfew bell. At 8 o'clock in the evening it was the signal for all lights and fires to be extinguished, lest severe penalties were inflicted.

H. J.—Does a train go ahead of the President's special train to insure safety?

Ans.—The President's train is preceded by a pilot train and followed by a dummy train to insure his safety. In addition to these precautions, every foot of track over which he is to travel is carefully inspected.

L. A. C.—What has become of Jess Willard, former heavyweight boxing champion?

Ans.—Jess Willard is in business in Hollywood, Calif., where he has a large establishment in which he sells candy, drugs, delicatessen, and bakery products.

E. G. H.—Is Charlie McCarthy made by hand or machine?

Ans.—Charlie was skillfully cut from a solid block of basswood and carved by hand by Frank Marshall of Chicago. Mr. Marshall has devoted his life to the manufacture of ventriloquist's dummies and all of his figures are made by hand.

T. D.—How many policemen are there in this country?

Ans.—There are 132,000 policemen in the United States.

R. F. C.—What is the perfect number?

Ans.—A perfect number is a number equal to the sum of its aliquot parts as for instance, 6, which is composed of 1, 2 and 3.

O. O. G.—Why is snow white?

Ans.—This results from the fact that the snow crystals are so minute that each cell of the retina of the eye receives a general impression produced by the combination of different wave lengths reflected from innumerable minute facets.

J. F. McC.—How large are the biggest icebergs?

Ans.—The size of icebergs varies. They may be a hundred or more feet high with crests of "minarets" from 200 to 300 feet above the base, which may be hundreds of yards in length. In the Kennedy Channel, Greely followed an iceberg which was estimated to be fifteen miles long, over 100 feet thick, and of unsighted breadth. A huge iceberg sighted by the bark Emil Julius in 1884 towered about 1700 feet above the sea. Only about one-eighth or one-ninth of the mass lies above the water.

E. B.—Is the name of the cashew nut accented on the first or the second syllable?

Ans.—The accent is on the second syllable.

J. B. M.—How many Chinese are destitute?

Ans.—The United Council for Civilian Relief in China, headed by Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, estimates that more than 50,000,000 Chinese civilian refugees are in acute destitution.

L. C.—Who wrote Telling Tonight on the Old Camp Grounds?

Ans.—"Telling Tonight" was written by Walter Kittredge. He was born at Merrimack, New Hampshire, October 8, 1832. In 1862 he was drafted for service with the Federal troops, and while preparing to go to the front, in a few moments he wrote the words and music of "Telling Tonight."

C. E. B.—Did President Harding ever go on a camping trip with Edison, Firestone, and Ford?

Ans.—In the summer of 1921 President and Mrs. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. Edison, Mr. and Mrs. Firestone, Mr. and Mrs. Ford, and John Burroughs had a camping party in the Maryland hills near Hagerstown.

G. M. N.—Do the people in France eat hot dogs?

Ans.—They are very popular in France where they are called saucisses de Francfort.

A. J. H.—Next to the United States, which country has the most telephones?

Ans.—Germany is second with 3,400,000.

H. H.—What part of the money received by Joe Louis goes for expenses?

Ans.—Joe Louis received 50 per cent. of the gross amount of his purse, or \$150,000. His managers took the other \$150,000 and from that amount they paid the sparring partners, trainers, camp expenses, and all other incidentals. They kept the balance. The expenses generally amount to 16-23 per cent. and it left 33-13 per cent., which is the customary percentage allowed fight managers.

W. F. G.—What is the fastest railroad in the United States?

Ans.—Gilbert H. Burk of the Railroad Magazine in an article in Scribner's says that the Pennsylvania is the fastest railroad with about 12,000 miles, averaging a mile a minute or more from start to stop.

Answer to Problem: The figure 9 does the trick. For example, two times nine are 18—the 1 and 8 equals the 9, and so on multiplied by any single figure.

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