

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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EDITORIAL

SHOULD WE BUY ANYTHING ABROAD?

The National Typewriter and Office Machine dealers Association recently held a convention in New York. A resolution was presented to the convention, pledging all members of the group to handle only American merchandise, but was subsequently amended in the face of Canadian opposition, to merchandise "manufactured in North America."

The resolution was vigorously upheld by some of the delegates but in the end, was overwhelmingly defeated. The reason why it was defeated, it appears, according to some dealers, that the United States exported \$11,856,194 worth of typewriters in 1936 and imported only \$91,312 worth in the same year. In other words, there was no use to throw away nearly \$12,000,000 worth of foreign business in order to get \$91,000 worth of business in this country.

The same lesson applies to some other interests in the United States which are insistently advocating the use of nothing but American goods. These people lose sight of the fact that if the United States is to sell its farm products and other manufactured goods abroad, it is absolutely necessary for the people of the United States to buy some foreign goods. This fact is more imperative because of the creditor position of the United States and it is about time for the people of this country to understand it.

QUESTIONS FOR JOINERS

We, the people of the United States, individually and collectively, are a great host of joiners.

We join many organizations. We take pride in their state occasions. We sometimes even go to the trouble of finding out what they stand for. Very rarely we militantly adopt the principles in our own lives. More often, we campaign vigorously for others to adopt them.

Just the other day, for example, we read of another organization, composed of many men of different minds. It will launch a program of publicity, etc., designed to advance what its founders and sponsors conceive to be a "vital need" in American life.

We have no quarrel with organizations. Very often, they induce men and women to parrot-thinking and the acceptance of mass weight as accomplishment. To some individuals they may be necessary and to others, they may be just as important because they are included in the "goings-on."

The reader might ask himself, or herself, how many organizations he or she, belongs to. Then it might not be a bad idea to check-up and find out what are the principles of these organizations to which you are affiliated. Maybe you know and, then again, maybe you don't.

SCHOOLS ARE IMPORTANT

Not many weeks will elapse before the children of Centre county will be going back to school and engage in the vital process of acquiring an education.

The people of the United States are generally unusually generous in their support of public education. Their faith in the value of their school system is tremendous. Large public funds are freely poured out every year to support the American system of free public schools.

If this money is not to be wasted, it is incumbent upon all those connected with the school systems of the nation to make their contribution to its success. Schools are not factories through which raw material can be paraded into a finished product at the end. Children, are plastic material, subject to many difficulties, and the making of an educated human being is a task that challenges the best talent of adults everywhere.

RETAINS OLD APPEAL

One of the fondest delusions of those who have always hated the President and his program is that he is losing his popularity. Such men listen to each other talk and pretend that they have clearly heard the voice of the people. But if the people are losing faith in the President they certainly fail to show it. If his recent transcontinental tour proved nothing else, it showed, as Felix Belair, Jr., wrote in the New York Times, that he has lost none of his old appeal for the man in the street.

WHAT ABOUT STATES' RIGHTS?

The National Association of Attorneys-General, which recently met in Cleveland, Ohio, has appointed a committee to study the encroachment of Federal authority on the sovereignty of the states, which encroachment the attorneys-general regard with great concern.

The Centre Democrat is a believer in the doctrine of state's rights if that doctrine means the control of local affairs by the states. In a nation as large as the United it is important that state governments remain strong and able to protect the rights of their people.

The trouble with most advocates of state's rights is that they favor the doctrine whenever it suits their interests and oppose it when the state acts in opposition to what they espouse. The history of large business organizations has been to favor Federal encroachment upon the regulatory powers of the state whenever the state asserted its sovereign powers.

State's rights have been successively invaded by Federal courts in their broad interpretations of "interstate commerce," in the doctrine that corporations are persons, in the ever-widening application of the due process clause and in the ease and facility with which Federal judges have set aside state laws on the ground that they are unreasonable.

The people of the United States, in our opinion, would be best served if the doctrine of state's rights could be completely restored. At the same time, candor compels us to admit that the historical past and the ramifications of modern life make the task practically impossible.

As an ideal, the theory of the Federal Government, exclusively confined to the powers originally given it under the Constitution, and a collection of state government exercising local sovereignty, is ideal. As a matter of practical accomplishment, however, there are difficulties. One of them is the failure of state governments, acting through officials like attorneys-generals, to be efficient. Another is the ever-increasing willingness of the states to depend upon Federal contributions for the accomplishment of state purposes.

AMERICAN SYMPATHIES IN WAR

Public opinion, meaning the conclusions reached by a majority of the citizens of this country, may not be right but it can, at least, point the probable direction of national action.

That public opinion in the United States is almost solid against the ideas represented by Germany and Italy in international affairs has always been our opinion, but, apparently, if we are to be judged by the results of a survey made by the Institute of Public Opinion, the verdict of the people of the United States is more unanimous than we thought.

In a recent poll of public opinion, the Institute asked in the event of a war between England and France on one side and Germany and Italy on the other, where the sympathies of its listeners would be. It is somewhat surprising to find that 65 per cent. of those questioned said their sympathies would be with England and France while only three per cent. indicated sympathy for Germany and Italy. The other thirty-two per cent, of those questioned declared their sympathy would not be with either side.

If this poll indicates a true expression of American sentiment, it ought to mean a great deal to dictators Hitler and Mussolini. It should warn them that in the event of a struggle, the people of the United States would find some way to render assistance to England and France. Whether this aid would go to the extent of military or naval contributions is doubtful, but that money and materials would be made available to the democracies is hardly to be questioned.

HOW TO REACH A RIPE OLD AGE

Do you want to attain a ripe old age? Here's the recipe of an expert on metabolism: "Eat only four-fifths or two-thirds as much as most mature persons, but eat it six times a day." In other words, more light meals instead of few big meals.

Dr. I. M. Rabinowich, of the Montreal General Hospital, says the accepted body weight standards are too light for youth and too heavy for those past middle-age. Persons at normal weight, when they reach sixty years, have much better chances of reaching seventy years than those who are overweight.

The doctor says that the average human being can remain healthy on 2,000 rather than the accepted 2,500 to 3,000 calories a day. Some allowance, of course, must be made for the activity of the individual consumer of foods.

We are not experts in matters of diet and health but we are inclined to believe that the Canadian scientist has the right idea. Individuals should pay more attention to what they put into their stomachs if they want the body-machine to run for a maximum number of years.

TAR AND FEATHERS

It has been quite a while since we have read about a tar-and-feathering case. We were under the impression that this form of punishment and "reform" had about passed out of existence.

Such, it seems, is not true. From Welch, West Virginia, comes a news story about a miner, who allegedly was grabbed by a gang as he was going to work, stripped and then "tarred and feathered."

Investigators report that the man was accused in a morals case. The chances are, however, that the gang which picked him out was not interested in morals but rather in an opportunity to inflict some punishment upon the man in a spirit of devilry, "cussedness" or just plain fun.

SPANISH WAR CONTINUES

The war in Spain continues to wag its way, with the Loyalist Army apparently unwilling to roll over and play dead.

After several striking successes, the forces of General Franco, the revolutionary leader, have been held up in their drive on Valencia and the impudent Government troops have had the temerity recently to undertake a few striking successes in small areas.

Instead of being over, the war in Spain looks as if it will continue for some months in the future. Meanwhile the European powers sit around, fearful lest some development precipitate a general struggle.

SHAW WAS WRONG ONCE!

The world thinks of George Bernard Shaw as an eminently successful playwright. Apparently, he was not always so sure of the fact himself.

A recent sale of letters in London reveals that, in 1908, he wrote a friend, "I came within an inch of suicide and murder."

Shaw was disappointed in the road showing of a play. In another letter, a year later, he told his friend, "My bolt as a real playwright is shot."

The public, luckily for Mr. Shaw, did not agree with the conclusion that he had reached. His plays won him the acclaim of the world and a comparative fortune.

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

WHEN CROSSING A STREET. Did you ever stop to think That if you should stop to think That you would get run over?

Sounded Like It, Anyway. A school director was visiting one of the country schools, taught by a very pretty teacher. "Do you teach the pupils observation?" he asked.

It Was a Close Call. The noon whistle had blown when Murphy shouted: "Has any one seen me yet?" "Sure, Murphy," said Pat, "and ye've got it on."

The More You Read, the Crazier This Gets. "Pull over to the curb, buddy." "What's wrong, officer?" "You've just went through a red light. Whassa matter? Are ya blind?"

Ten Little Fingers. An old countryman who had been looking around a logging camp for some time without finding work, finally one of the foremen put him to work sawing stove lengths.

Playing Safe. Three men walked into the barroom. "I'll have Coca-Cola," said the first. The bartender turned to the second one. "I'll have an orangeade," was the order.

Had a Job. A famous Negro died down South and fellow Negroes came to pay their last respects. The melodious wailing that accompanied the ceremony attracted the attention of a passing white man who couldn't resist the temptation to find out what was going on.

Certainly It Did. Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden had a pretty hard time naming their animals. "Well, Eve," said Adam, "let's call this one a hippopotamus."

Sorry—Here's Another One. One of the WPA workers looked up and said: "I dug this hole where I was told to and began to put the dirt back like I was supposed to. But all the dirt went go back in. What'll I do?"

Needed Help. FOUND—Lady's purse left in my car while parked. Owner can have same by paying for this advertisement. If she will explain to my wife how the purse got there, I will pay for the ad myself. Phone 2479-J.

Scrambled Relationships. Here is another of those mixed up relationships. We have not the time to figure it out but it is just as crazy as any of them.

The Household Scrapbook. A Secure Hem. When hemming a skirt, take double stitches every inch or so. This will make such a firm hem that if you rip a few stitches the rip will not extend for more than an inch.

Washing Velvet. You can wash velvet very nicely if you squeeze the garment gently through a mild suds. Do not wring but place on hanger dripping. When thoroughly dry, it may be pressed lightly on the wrong side if necessary. Do not moisten.

Mildew on Shoes. Mildew often forms on shoes that have not been worn for a long time. This can be removed by rubbing the spots with petroleum oilment. After a little rubbing, the marks will disappear.

Clogged Downspouts. Clogged downspouts may often be opened by dropping a few generous handfuls of ordinary rock salt into them where they connect with the eaves.

Gasoline. Whenever you use gasoline for cleaning purposes, pour the residue down the kitchen sink, followed by boiling water. This process will cut all grease deposits that may have collected, and give the pipes a thorough cleaning.

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—What man in the United States was elected President of the United States by both electoral and popular votes, but never was inaugurated and did not get the office? (Answer elsewhere in this department.)

G. D.—Is it known which is the most popular of all the old, immortal songs? This is to settle a dispute. Thank you.

Ans.—This is really a matter of opinion. There are many old, immortal songs, and each has its following. However, from the selling standpoint, "Home, Sweet Home" leads by a very great margin. This song has been translated into nearly every known language in the civilized world.

T. S.—Were the cave dwellers civilized people? And in what period of time did they live?

Ans.—Very little is known of this peculiar race of people who lived in caves and caverns. The only information obtainable is from the remains left in the places of their habitation. New Mexico, Arizona, Mexico and Utah have supplied the best evidences of cave dwellers. The remains indicate to scientists that they lived at least fifty million years ago. Also that they knew nothing of agriculture, metals or pottery and had no domestic animals.

M. V.—Is it true that women used to wear rats in their hair? Or why were they called "rats"?

Ans.—About forty years ago it was popular for women to use a tuft of matted hair tapered at both ends and about the size of a small rat. They would place this under the hair just above the forehead and comb their "bangs" over it, giving the result the appearance of a wealth of hair. These tufts of hair were called "rats" because of their similarity to the well-known rodent—if you can stretch your imagination that much.

P. T.—Why do the Chinese sound the letter "L" where it should be "R"? For instance, they say "velly" for "very."

Ans.—As the Chinese alphabet has no letter "R," it is difficult for them to utter the sound. Therefore, with their natural flow of words the "R" gives way to the "L."

W. H.—When were the Hanging Gardens of Babylon built? And why?

Ans.—The Hanging Gardens of Babylon were built about 500 years before the beginning of the Christian era. Most historians are agreed that Nebuchadnezzar built them to satisfy his Median queen, Amytis, for the purpose of making the plains of Babylon less dreary as compared with her native country, which was rich and fertile with flowering shrubbery.

L. S. F.—What is the tallest radio tower in America?

Ans.—It is that of Station WSM, Nashville, Tenn., which is 878 feet high.

J. S. D.—What flag was flown by the Mayflower?

Ans.—The flag flown by the Mayflower was the Union Jack or King's Colors adopted by the British government in 1606. This flag bears the red cross of St. George, superimposed upon the white cross of St. Andrew, the whole on a dark blue field.

G. K. M.—Did Henry Ford ever run for a political office?

Ans.—Mr. Ford was nominated in 1918 for United States Senator from Michigan and was defeated by a small margin. He took no part in the campaign.

J. T. J.—What is the deepest hole in the world?

Ans.—It is the Continental Oil Company's K. C. A-2 which is 15,004 feet deep, or nearly three miles. The well is named for the Kern County Land Company of California, from which the land is leased, and lies about four miles west of Wasco in El San Joaquin Valley.

W. T.—Where is the largest peach orchard in the United States?

Ans.—The largest peach orchard in the United States is Highlands Orchard, Highland, Arkansas.

W. A. S.—Who originated the term candid camera?

Ans.—The phrase was coined by the New York Journal. The Hearst papers were the first to introduce this type of photography, using the miniature camera for newspapers.

H. L. K.—Who said, Equal and exact justice to all men?

Ans.—Thomas Jefferson in his first inaugural address said: "Equal and exact justice to all men—freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of person under the protection of the habeas corpus, and trial by juries impartially selected—these principles form the brightest constellation which has gone before us."

J. K.—In what country is an unfaithful wife forced to jump off a cliff?

Ans.—This is a custom among the Caribs of Dominica, British Indies, where the husband's duty is to command an unfaithful wife to hurl herself from a cliff.

F. L. K.—Is it true that at one time only those of royal blood could wear furs?

Ans.—In the civilization of medieval Europe fur was emphatically a luxury. As such its use was forbidden by the church to monks and to all but the highest ecclesiastics. Among the laity it was carefully regulated by severe laws. None but those of royal blood were allowed to wear certain furs and in general a person's social importance could have been estimated by the amount and nature of the fur he wore.

E. W.—How many bones are there in the full-length tail of a dog?

Ans.—There are from sixteen to twenty-one.

W. M. G.—Who were the actors and actresses selected as the ten greatest in a newspaper poll?

Ans.—The following were selected in the New York Sun's symposium: Helen Hayes, Katharine Cornell, Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, Jeanne Eagels, John Barrymore, Maude Adams, Mrs. Fiske, John Gielgud, David Warfield, and Richard Mansfield.

F. D.—How much gasoline did Douglas Corrigan use on his flight to Ireland?

Ans.—The flier's plane was loaded with 320 gallons of gasoline.

E. J. W.—What is the religious affiliation of Helen Jacobs, the tennis player?

Ans.—Miss Jacobs is an Episcopalian.

S. G. R.—Do tree trunks lengthen?

Ans.—Only by a new growth at the top. Once the side limbs are formed or set, they remain in the same position throughout the life of the tree, or until they die and drop off. All limbs or branches from the trunk reach to the heart or center of the tree.

L. H. H.—What is the largest hotel in the world?

Ans.—The American Hotel Association says that the largest hotel in the world is the Stevens in Chicago with 3000 rooms. The second largest is the Hotel St. George in Brooklyn with 2632 rooms.

C. L. R.—What is the per capita consumption of paper in the United States?

Ans.—In 1937, 244 pounds of paper were used per person. This figure includes every type of paper, of which the two largest classifications are newsprint and wrapping paper.

C. G.—How many distilleries are operating in the United States?

Ans.—The Federal Alcohol Administration says that there are 344 active distillers' permits in force.

BLACK MOSHANNON PARK OFFERS YEAR-AROUND SPORT

Located in the heart of the Commonwealth, in Centre county, lies Black Moshannon Park, which Secretary James F. Bogardus, of the State Department of Forests and Waters, recommends as one of the best State Parks for year-around recreation. Developed around the most strategic points of a beautiful, 200-acre lake, Black Moshannon is ideally situated for water sports in the summer and many outdoor sports throughout the winter. Located, also, at Black Moshannon Park is the only State-owned Skeet shoot in the Commonwealth. The skeet course is reloaded in every respect, and attracts thousands of sportsmen throughout the summer months. In addition to more than a hundred picnic tables, benches, fireplaces, shelters and latrines, there is also a large recreation building located at Black Moshannon. Near this is a boat dock with boats for hire, a bath-house and a convalescent building. For the over-night visitor of week-end vacationist there are also cabins of one, two and three room dimensions. There are two miles of road running through the development which makes all points of interest easily accessible. Completely developed for summer recreation, Black Moshannon will also be ready for outdoor sportsmen this winter. State Department of Forests and Waters officials say: "Skating and ice-hockey have been popularized at Black Moshannon during the coming winter. It will be interesting to listen for the answers when the Monopoly Investigating committee asks some of the industrial leaders why they decided to lay off a few thousand working men."