

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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EDITORIAL

ARMISTICE—THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

On Friday, of this week the United States celebrates Armistice Day, the anniversary of the end of the World War.

Twenty years have passed since the eventful day in 1918 that the order was given to all armies to cease firing. Now, it appears, the war to end war was not a success.

In recent years, and for various reasons, something of a cynical attitude has developed toward the idealism of the days of the World War. There has been a tendency to forget the great leadership of President Woodrow Wilson and the patriotic service of many millions of Americans.

So far as The Centre Democrat is concerned, we are not yet ready to write off the participation of this country in the World War as a total loss. While quite willing, in the face of present conditions, to admit a temporary setback, we still cherish the dream of a warless world, safe for democratic peoples.

Quite naturally, our thoughts of Armistice Day turn to the heroes who served their country, and especially do we render homage to the brave ones who perished in the fight. Their sacrifice was not in vain if Americans retain faith in their ideals and if the United States continue to follow a course of unselfish service for all the peoples of the world.

Many of those who gave up life in the service of their country are mourned and missed by loved ones. The departed can do nothing for them, but a grateful people can see that they are taken care of. It is a solemn duty that the nation owes its heroes. It is an obligation that should rest heavily upon their living comrades in arms.

ECLIPSES, RELIGION AND SCIENCE

The eclipse of the moon, which occurred early this week, illustrates the progress that human beings have made in the understanding of natural events.

Before the dawn of astronomical science, eclipses were not understood and, consequently, in Rome, at one time, it was blasphemy and punishable by law, to talk publicly of their being due to natural causes. The Chinese, it is recorded, imagined that eclipses were caused by great dragons trying to devour the sun and moon and on one occasion, something like 2,000 years B. C., two state astronomers were put to death on the occasion of a solar eclipse because they were drunk, and, therefore, incapable of attending to their duties.

Fortunately, for human beings, the study of astronomy has revealed the causes of eclipses which can be predicted with accuracy for many years ahead of their occurrence. No longer do men attribute them to supernatural powers and, among civilized people, no occult influences are suspected.

While the intelligence that has been acquired by human beings has robbed eclipses of their supernatural aspect, there is, so far as we can judge, no lessening of respect for the Creator of the Universe. In fact, an understanding of the laws of nature should increase the reverence of an educated mind.

There was, we suppose, in an earlier day, a conflict between religion and science in regard to eclipses. Happily, this conflict has been dissolved by the truth as revealed to men, with no lessening of religion as a result. Those who care to, may find a lesson in regard to eclipses. Happily, this conflict has no conflict between religion and science in regard to other truths that science has established.

FORD, BETS AGAINST WAR

The Honorable Henry Ford has quite a reputation as an automobile builder. When he talks about automobiles, he speaks as an expert, with a record of achievement that entitles him to a hearing and compels respect for his words.

However, when he says, "I'll bet anyone even money there will never be another war," the chances are that he is just talking. If he is not, and if he means what he says, there are a number of people in the United States anxious and willing to take him up on the bet, confident that sooner or later they will take down the cash.

With an undeclared but none-the-less bloody, inexcusable war being waged in China by aggressive Japan, with a struggle going on in Spain that has all the earmarks of a war, with Arabs and Jews fighting bitterly in and around Palestine, with European nations feverishly arming themselves for an expected outbreak of war and with several countries in South America having arguments of their own, it would seem that the odds are against Mr. Ford.

We wish we could be as optimistic as he seems to be, but, so far as we can read the signs, the leading nations of the world are getting ready for another war on a world-wide scale.

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

Slips That Pass In The News. (From the Henly, Neb., Press) FOR SALE—Musical instruments, radio, victrola, and bed springs. O. G. 44331.

Charles Bain, 36, married three young women, 18, 20 and 23, years of age respectively, all within five days before local police caught up with him. He is believed to be dimple (simple) minded.

A hope chest is no good to an old maid unless it has a vest buttoned over it.

After going together for many years Mandy and Moses finally decided to get married. Strange to relate, four and a half months after the knot was tied a little pickaninny came to their house.

It wasn't long before the boys started to razz Moses about the new offspring and he returned home rather worried. "Mandy," he frowned, "there's something wrong with our household here."

"What you mean, Moses?" "Well, replied Moses, "Ah done been gittin' joshed by th' boys 'cause th' baby came so soon, days what."

"What you all mean dere's something wrong?" boomed the angry Mandy. "Haven't Ah bin married to yo' four an' one-half months?"

"Dat's suttin' right," Moses agreed. "An' haven't yo' bin married to me four an' one-half months?" asked Mandy.

"Dat's right, too," Moses again agreed. "Well, den," smiled Mandy, "four an' one-half an' four an' one-half is nine, ain't it? Figger, yo' figger!"

One good thing about the radio is that the singer can eat all the onions he wants before broadcasting.

A doctor was showing a friend around a lunatic asylum. "See that man over there?" asked the medico, pointing to a nut quietly mumbling to himself.

"Yes," replied the guest. "Well," continued the medico, shaking his head sadly, "he's the fellow who went mad on the night of his wedding when his girl jilted him."

"Too bad," sympathized the guest. "They passed on. Coming to a steel cell in which a man was banging his head against the bars the doctor said: "Do you know who that is?"

"No," was the reply. "Well, that's the fellow who married the girl."

Women give and forgive. Men get and forget.

A blonde-haired cutie called at the hospital the other day after an accident occurred. "I want to see the young man who was injured in the auto wreck last night," she said.

"Are you the girl who was with him?" asked the nurse. "Yes," was the reply, "and I thought it was only right to come and give him the kiss he was trying to get."

We know a man who has a good ear for saxophone music—he's deaf.

St. Peter was interviewing the fair damsel at the pearly gate. "Did you while on earth," he asked, "indulge in necking, petting, smoking, drinking or dancing?"

"Never," she retorted emphatically. "Then why haven't you reported sooner?" said St. Peter. "You've been dead a long time."

There had been a motor wreck. One of the drivers climbed out in a fit of temper and strode up to the man standing on the sidewalk, thinking him to be the other driver.

"Say, you the devil's your tail light?" he roared. The innocent bystander looked up at him. "What do you think I am, a damned lightning bug, or sumpin'?"

"Hey, Zeke, ya got ya shoes on wrong, ya got the right one on the left foot."

"My gosh, they been thataway fer twenty years. I thought I was club-footed."

About the only things that some girls get straight are the seams in their stockings.

She—"You wouldn't dare do this if I were a man." He—"If you were a man I wouldn't want to do it."

Don't forget this: A girl's word of honor is "no."

LOUISA'S LETTER

LOVE IS NOT THE ONLY THING THAT COUNTS

Dear Girls: One young girl writes that she is engaged to a young man who is honest and good but doesn't have the faculty of making a good living.

Well, my dear, I am sorry to say that I do not think that love is the only thing that counts. To have a happy married life one must have love and—other things.

One must have respect for the man of her choice. If he is unable to make a living for his family—if he likes to sleep in the morning, and carries out his plans by day dreaming, that respect will not last long.

One must have health and this is hard to keep if one is overworked and undernourished.

To be happily married, a woman cannot be mentally upset all of the time and it is practically impossible to stay in a cheerful frame of mind if there is not money enough to support a family.

If one has to worry about the grocery bill, the butcher bill, the milk bill, etc., one is bound to be irritable. If a woman knows that her children need a dentist's care or should have their tonsils removed but hasn't the money to afford these things, she is bound to be worried and unhappy over such a state of affairs.

It is easy to say that we won't mind wearing the same old clothes but when we catch sight of our reflection in a street window, showing us up in a costume of ancient vintage, it will be hard to stand when Friend Husband admires a wealthy woman who is out fitted in the latest mode.

When we see our children talking second rate jobs because they haven't the education for any other kind, when we see them going with second rate people because we can afford no other neighborhood, I think we will change our minds about love being the only factor necessary for a happy marriage.

Echoes From the Past FIFTY YEARS AGO

Howard Rishel, of Chicago, stepped from the train Monday morning on his way to attend the wedding of his sister, Miss Margie, to George P. Wakefield, of Huntington, at Centre Hall.

Work on the new Pennsylvania passenger station is being pushed as rapidly as possible and will be completed in the course of a few weeks. Passenger trains now stop and start from the old building, a short distance further down.

A special train was run to Lock Haven Tuesday evening for the Republican ratification. The Bellefonte band and about one hundred others from the town completed the party, for which five cars were chartered.

Farmers over in Penna Valley are having their hen roosts depleted by night visitors at a rate that will make a blue Thanksgiving dinner for many. On last Tuesday at about 7 p. m. a woman and two men drove to James Keller's barn, near Centre Hall, and relieved him of some thirty chickens and left only after being driven off.

The report of a desperate struggle between Rev. Hamill, of Lemont, and a burglar who had gained entrance to the Rev's residence one night last week reaches us. The Rev. is very particular in regard to closing up the house at night and always attends to having everything well secured before retiring.

The night of the disturbance everything was closed carefully and the family retired early. At about midnight, a daughter was awakened by a noise in her room and found that someone was prowling around evidently in search of valuables. She gave a scream, which started the family and her father came at once to the room with a light which had been kept burning during the night.

When the Rev. stepped into the room, a man with hands and face blackened met him and quick as a flash blew out the lamp. Rev. Hamill, who is well advanced in years, straight as an arrow and the picture of robust health, dropped the lamp and grappled with the unknown intruder. They clinched in the darkness and in the tussle rolled down stairs to the first floor where the intruder by a desperate effort broke loose and made his escape through an open door, prepared, no doubt, beforehand for his exit in case he should be discovered.

Rev. Hamill received a number of bruises from the encounter but nothing serious is expected therefrom. Various theories have been put forth as to the identity of the thief, and some think it was someone well acquainted with the residence and the identity was after some valuable jewelry kept in the house.

The election is over and some of the fellows are having a big time squaring up accounts with their Republican friends. All sorts of wagers were made, and many amusing ones, for which Centre County comes in for her share. At Spring Mills Messrs Oscar Emerick and Landford Rhul agreed the loser should wheel the other down the pike to the schoolhouse and back; and Emerick was the loser.

At Centre Hall a similar wager was made by Dr. W. A. Jacobs and Charles Kurta, of the Centre Reporter. The latter lost and paid the wager before a full turnout of the townspeople. The town band led the procession.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Arthur P. Undercoffer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Undercoffer, of Bellefonte, top sergeant of Co. L., 316th Infantry, was killed in action in France according to word received by his parents.

Samuel Dunlap, of Pine Grove Mills, received word of the death of his son, Ralph, in a hospital in France. The young man, a member of the Boal Machine Gun Troop, contracted pneumonia which proved fatal.

A telegram received by Mrs. W. W. Bickel, of Bellefonte, brought news of the death of her brother, Fred M. Hull, who was killed in action in France. He was a native of Bellefonte and had spent most of his life here. Hull was a member of Co. K, 314th Infantry.

E. L. Stover, of Aaronburg, returned with his clover hulling outfit from Brush Valley, where he had been hulling seed for farmers for several weeks. In all he hulled 334 bushels of clover seed in that valley, and had a large amount of seed to hull in Penna Valley.

At a meeting of the Bellefonte Board of Health, held at the offices of Blanchard & Blanchard, permission was granted for the re-opening of churches, clubs, soda fountains, retail liquor places, theatres and other public places. All such establishments had been closed because of the prevalence of influenza.

This skull crushed by a heavy wrench which slipped from the hands of a fellow-workman while opening the hopper of a car, Joseph Ayres, former resident of Bellefonte, was instantly killed at Josephine, Indiana County. He was employed as a conductor on a shifter at a blast furnace at the time. Death was instantaneous.

The first fatal hunting accident of the season in Centre County claims as its victim John Stiver, aged about 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Stiver, of Martha Furnace, who was killed almost instantly while hunting rabbits. Stiver, Boyd Wagner and Oee Spikeman were hunting in the vicinity of the George Stevenson place, Martha, when Stiver and Wagner ran a rabbit into its burrow. In an effort to frighten the rabbit out, Stiver aimed the butt of his gun into the hole. The jar released the trigger and the youth received the full charge in the upper part of the leg near the groin, causing hemorrhages of a main artery. He bled to death in a short time.

Western farmers were beginning agitation for a minimum price of \$1.85 for corn. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Clair Book, of Spring Mills. The Cori-Markle elder press at Pine Grove Mills, earned \$60 for the operators in one day. William Stover, of Wolf's Store, who recently had bought the Scholl home at Rebersburg, was erecting a new barn to take the place of one destroyed by fire.

Samuel Krumrine, of Pine Grove Mills, was having a snow white squirrel he recently shot, mounted for permanent preservation. The Rev. Mr. Weaver, of the Lutheran church at Aaronburg, was slated for the principalship of the Aaronburg High School. A son was born to Mrs. Raymond Boop, at the home of her father, William Neese, of Spring Mills. Mr. Boop was in training at Camp Lee.

(Continued on next page)

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM—What candidate for President of the United States received more than 250,000 votes than his opponent, but was not seated as President of the United States? (Answer elsewhere in this department.)

T. H.—Will you kindly answer what a four-flusher is?

Ans.—In common parlance a four-flusher is applied to any bluffer. The term comes from the poker-room. If a player holds a hand of five cards all of one suit, he has a flush (a strong hand). If his hand is four of one suit and one of an "off" suit, he has a four-flush or bob-flush (worthless hand). Sometimes he will bluff with it by betting heavily, pretending to have a flush. If his bluff succeeds he wins the "pot," but if he is called—well, it's just too bad for him.

L. A.—Can you tell me if the taking of so much coal and other minerals from the earth is making it lighter?

Ans.—The taking of coal and other minerals from the ground does not change the weight of the earth as a whole. The component parts of coal and other consumable minerals after they are converted into ashes and gases are still just as much a part of the earth as they were before.

N. B.—What is the proper thing to be done with an old worn-out United States flag?

Ans.—If the flag is so worn that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed as a whole, privately, by burning or by some other method in keeping with the reverence and respect due to the flag as the emblem of our country.

D. W.—I wish to ask you why fish is not flesh meat?

Ans.—The distinction is determined by the blood. All warm-blooded animals, birds, etc., are classed as flesh meat. All cold-blooded creatures, such as fish, frogs, mollusks, crabs, turtles, snakes, etc., are classed as fish meat.

H. P.—Can you tell me what Henry Ford's nationality is? Also what his father's name?

Ans.—Henry Ford is of English descent, although his father, William Ford was born in Ireland and immigrated to Michigan when he was 20 years old and where Henry was born.

V. W.—What becomes of the money paid to the courts in fines?

Ans.—As a general rule the money collected by the courts in fines goes into the regular public treasury—local, state or federal, depending upon the court. However, there is a legal provision in some States for putting money collected in fines to certain designated purposes.

S. J.—What is the meaning of "Fascist," Mussolini's Italian organization? And how is the word pronounced?

Ans.—"Fascist," commonly spelled "Fascist" in this country, signifies a bandage or something which binds together. The word comes from "fascis" or "fascies," which came from the ancient Romans. The word is correctly pronounced "Fa-shus-tee," with accent on the second syllable.

W. M.—How many times is a lamp bulb tested before it goes on the market?

Ans.—As it develops from raw materials to finished product, over 480 tests and inspections are made.

W. B. S.—What is the origin of firing guns at the burial of a soldier?

Ans.—The custom of firing three volleys over the grave of a deceased veteran is derived from the old Roman custom of casting earth over the coffin calling the dead by name three times and then saying "vale" three times. The word "vale" is the Latin word for farewell. The firing of three volleys is saying farewell to the deceased.

W. J. D.—What is the story of the Holy Ghost orchid in Mexico?

Ans.—The Spanish friars who came to Mexico found a strange, exquisite, magnolia-like blossom with which they were able to illustrate a point in their teaching. In a terrestrial orchid of alabaster whiteness, from which there drifted a heavy, compelling fragrance, lay the snow-white image of a dove. "Espiritu Santo!" exclaimed the first priest who saw it. He called it the Dove of God. In their teachings, the Spanish priests use the Dove Orchid to illustrate the miracle of the Holy Ghost. The Indians ever since have regarded the flower with unwavering devotion.

H. R.—How much money has been spent on television research in the United States?

Ans.—Since 1925 it is estimated that \$10,000,000 has been spent in this country on television research.

Answer to problem: Samuel J. Tilden in 1876. A dispute arose over the voting in South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, and the election was thrown into Congress which body was Republican, appointed a commission of 7 Republicans and 6 Democrats. On a strict party vote they voted to seat Tilden's opponent, Rutherford B. Hayes.

The Ford Motor Company Announces TWO NEW FORDS AND THE NEW MERCURY 8 for 1939. Includes images of Ford V-8 and De Luxe Ford V-8, and Mercury 8.