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Most of us can be thankful that we are living in the good old U. S. A.

What effect will war in Europe have upon the fortunes and destinies of the American people?

Nerve and vision are needed to play the stock market, according to an expert. How about a little money, too?

The greatest world problem is said to be that of distribution, and nobody knows it better than Santa Claus.

It is not an uncommon thing nowadays to see two roadsters neck and neck with the occupants of both of them doing the same thing.

Personally, we have no desire for the United States to become embroiled in any European war but, just the same, we don't care to give any aid or comfort to Hitler or Mussolini or the Emperor of Japan.

If you're running your car or truck on old worn-out tires, you'd better see to it that they are reasonably safe. As a result of an amendment to the State vehicle code a period of tire inspection is about to begin.

A Berks county man, driving a few miles out of Harrisburg picked up two hitch hikers. He had not gone far until he was attacked and beaten unmercifully. About that time along came a company of National Guardsmen, returning from Manassas, Virginia. They went to the Berks man's rescue and the hitch-hiker thugs started to escape. Someone let go a shot and one of the thugs fell dead. The moral of it all is—why will some people keep on picking up unknown hitch-hikers in their automobiles?

Every conflict in which the United States has been engaged has found us pathetically unprepared for the emergency. No longer can a nation prepare for war overnight. Equipment, supplies and armaments require many months. The training of personnel is a prolonged task. Construction of ships, the erection of fortifications, the manufacture of big guns and field artillery require time and money. They must be ready when needed. No man knows what will happen in Europe in the next two or three years. By 1942 the United States may face an entirely different world situation.

With the world facing a new crisis, the average American probably thinks that the United States has a great navy, a great air force and a marvelous army. As usual, the super-patriots are mistaken. We have a very small army, inadequately equipped. Our navy has nothing but pre-war battleships and while it is better balanced than it was a few years ago, most of our expansion is on paper. The air force is efficient but small. The difference between American preparedness and that of some other nations is that our expansion is yet to take effect. We have some good plans and if nothing happens in the next few years, we may have the fighting forces that we need.

New York State's milk strike is settled. The usual formula was followed. The producers and distributors got theirs, but the consumer pays. His milk bill will increase. John Q. Public is a glutton for punishment. If figures are understood, it was time something is done about the New York market and perhaps other States' milk problems. It is declared that some of the milk for which upstate farmers got 3 cents a quart is sold to the consumers in New York City at 18 cents a quart. It is somebody's business to explain a "spread" like that, but it has never been explained satisfactorily and probably never will be until the consumer becomes more excited about it than lately he has been.

A friend of ours told us of an experiment he conducted the other day. Driving from Tyrone to Bellefonte, he set his speed exactly 50 miles an hour "just to see for myself what I could see about speeding." He says he counted 43 cars with Pennsylvania licenses and ignored those with out-of-state licenses that whizzed past him at speeds anywhere from 55 to 70 miles an hour. Not to be outdone, we told him about our own experience the other evening while trying to keep ahead of one of the many cool trucks that travel the road, by keeping up to 50. It wasn't a comfortable, nor safe speed for a passenger car. The truck, we imagine, was licensed to drive not over 35 miles at any time, under any conditions. If we had not been in front he would have been doing 55 at least.

Several weeks ago 150,000 WPA workers started their enforced vacations by going on local relief. Last week a score of Republican congressmen who voted for the WPA vacations started their vacations by going to Europe at government expense.

The ones who will really win the war in Europe are not the soldiers but the milkman, the baker, the butcher and grocer. A nation ill-fed cannot withstand the rigors of war as long as one well-nourished. Even before war is declared Germany has rationed its citizens to a scale in numerous items lower than the food standard of a jail prisoner in this country. The German food cards, for instance, allow only twenty-five ounces of meat per person a week. Our jails give their prisoners fifty-ounce.

President Roosevelt is reported considering another peace appeal to Germany and Italy, this time the United States being joined by all of the other American republics. That's the biggest group of democracies in the world and though the dictators may scorn democracy as such they cannot ignore the fact that twenty-one countries all huddled together in one hemisphere, maintaining peace and working together for prosperity, have a right to offer advice to the squabbling neighbors of Europe. A pressure appeal like that might offer Hitler the excuse he needs to lessen his demands without losing face before his own people.

This week's figures persuade Secretary of Public Assistance Russell that the relief tide is at its crest and will begin to fall. The smallest increase in relief applications was reached this week. Apparently the reduction in WPA forces with their transfer to State relief lists has spent itself.

One of the most gratifying features of the trend is the increasing absorption of the unemployed by private industry. Since Spring, says the secretary, private industry has taken 8400 cases of 26,000 persons. Out of a total of 274,530 cases on August 19, the figure of 8400 cases is not large, but it is substantial, and much better than the corresponding period of the year before.

One of the Republican candidates spoke out the other day when he said: "There are those, in the current campaign, who still think that present day voters can be influenced by the old 'horse and buggy' vote-getting methods. This practice of making endless promises, that in most cases are impossible to fulfill in half a dozen terms of office, are freely and piously given in hope that the voting public will not notice how far-fetched most of them are. The voters have learned the hard way, that no human being can bring the very stars within reach of all. They are generally fed up on the fancy stories of the veteran story tellers. They will vote for candidates who are solid, successful and deliberate thinkers. They will consider the candidates' past achievements and conduct."

CONGRESS MISLEADS HITLER!

The situation in Europe sums up about like this: Either Hitler is bluffing or Great Britain and France are bluffing, or the world will soon see the nations of Europe at each other's throats.

The situation of the United States is: Our people want no war. If the conflict lasts very long, however, the trend of events in Europe will profoundly affect national sentiment. If Germany and Italy appear to have a chance to defeat Great Britain and France the pressure for American intervention will overcome our antipathy to war.

Because of a belief that Hitler would not begin a war with the risk that this country will take sides against him, many Americans have believed that the surest way to keep this country out of a war would be to "persuade" Hitler that the odds are too great against his venture.

The passage of amendments to the neutrality act, serving notice that Great Britain and France would be allowed to buy supplies here would have warned Hitler that the material resources of the United States were on the side of his antagonists.

Defeat of the amendments may have misled Mr. Hitler into the belief that the United States will not sell Great Britain and France the munitions that they need in the course of a struggle. If this is the conclusion in Hitler's mind, it might easily persuade him to risk a war.

In the interest of peace, however, somebody should tell Herr Hitler that Congress often changes its mind; and somebody should tell him immediately.

LESSON IN COURTESY

A courteous State motor policeman is just as much credit to Pennsylvania as an efficient one is.

Governor James took care to point that out to one of his motor policemen after a roadside incident recently. It seems that the Governor was driving along a highway bent on a visit to another State official. He wasn't just sure where the official lived and was casting an eye about for someone to give him instructions when he spied a motor police car outside a garage.

The Chief Executive halted his machine and waited rather patiently for several minutes but the driver of the car didn't appear. The Governor then tooted his horn several times and at last the motor policeman strolled out of the garage.

"What do you want?" was the gruff inquiry of the policeman. And then he proceeded to answer the Governor's request for information in anything but a polite tone of voice. Of course, it isn't necessary to state that he failed to recognize the boss.

The air of annoyance disappeared from the cop's face when the Governor finally said: "Suppose you get in your car and show the Governor of Pennsylvania where so-and-so lives."

The Governor wasn't cross because the trooper did not recognize him, but was annoyed that he didn't receive the courtesy due an ordinary motorist. Pennsylvania is expending hundreds of thousands of dollars this year to advertise its scenic attractions and its many places of historic interest with the aim of stimulating tourist travel. Our own encounters would suggest that members of the State motor police are patient and courteous more often than not. Where there are exceptions they can do much harm. It's good practical business for the State of Pennsylvania to require them to be courteous, and unforgetfully so in those instances where strangers are seeking help. Pennsylvania wants its visitors to come back.

Chains On Oil. Peter Wisnawski, 54, of Chicago, is charged with cruelty to children because he fastened a tow chain to his 14-year-old daughter to keep her from going out at night. The chain was not fastened to any object, but the girl said she was ashamed to go out while wearing it.

Louisa's Letter THE OFFICE CAT "A Little Nonsense Now and Then, Is Relished by the Wisest Men"

Dear Louisa: I am a boy who is very much in need of good advice. I am seventeen years old and have been going with a girl 22 years old for about a year and a half. I think very much of her and think I am in love with her, she says she loves me too. She wants very much for us to get married. She is working and says she will help pay for the furniture. I have never talked to my folks about it, but I don't know what to do. She says we could rent a farm and start farming, but I am not sure I would be satisfied later on, as I have one more year of high school to finish and have been advised that she is too old for me. Although she is 22, she looks much older and acts much older. I don't know what to do. She almost has me in the notion too. "UNDECIDED WILLIE" Illinois.

ANSWER: You will be very foolish to marry at your age and doubly foolish if you marry a girl older than yourself. If a man is in his thirties or forties and falls in love with some one a few years older than he, such a marriage may turn out very successfully, particularly so, if he happens to be settled for his age and she is young for hers. But for a young boy to get married before he has had a chance to meet different girls, is quite a mistake. You should, at least, finish your high school education before you think of marriage. What preparation have you had to make a living for a wife and family, for there is usually a family when there is little to support them on. Just at the time when your companions will be having a good time and setting started on their careers, you will have your nose to the grinds one doing any kind of work in order to provide bread and meat for a wife and babies. A boy has no business to get married until he has finished his education and has a job or, at least, very good prospects for making a living. And another thing, don't marry anyone you think you are in love with. When you meet the right girl, you will know that she is the one. LOUISA.

The two girls from Lake City, Florida, who asked for personal advice, did not inclose a stamped envelope, so I will not publish their letters, but will try to answer them in this column. To the first one who is parted from her husband but who loves him and feels that they can get along as long as the in-laws do not interfere, my advice is to have a talk with the husband and try to persuade him to move away from the parents' house and neighborhood. Just tell him that he will have to decide whether his home means more to him than living with his people. After all, one's wife and child should come before one's parents. To the other, I would say to let his boy she has been going with, alone. From your description he would be a poor matrimonial bet. I see nothing but unhappiness in store for you if you marry him. LOUISA.

CONTROL OF CORN BORER REGULAR FARM PRACTICE

Many fields of corn are again suffering from ravages of European corn borers, a check by extension entomologists of the Pennsylvania State College shows. In the central, western, and northwestern counties of Pennsylvania where the corn borers have been prevalent for a number of years, farmers are better acquainted with control measures. During the past three years, the state entomologists have noticed a spread of the infestation to the southeastern counties. Farmers in this area are rapidly becoming acquainted with the destructiveness of the insects to both field and sweet corn. According to County Agent R. C. Blaney, control of European corn borers is a part of the regular farm operation. It means getting rid of stalks and corn refuse so that the borers can not mature in them. An important consideration is the care of field corn at harvest. Corn borer control is an essential part of the harvesting operation. Farmers not acquainted with the prescribed methods for keeping the European corn borer within bounds may obtain much helpful information by getting in touch with County Agent R. C. Blaney at his office in Bellefonte.

USE FALL CONTROL FOR CHECKING ANTHRACNOSE

Raspberry patches in some communities are being attacked by anthracnose, reports County Agent R. C. Blaney. This is a disease, however, that can be controlled rather easily. Where the disease has made its appearance, it is a good plan to spray the canes, with summer strength liquid lime sulphur having a specific gravity of 1.006. It is important that the disease be reduced to a minimum at this time to prevent its over-wintering and causing trouble next spring. Much of the fungus that developed during the summer can be destroyed by burning the old canes. This will be a definite help in the control of the disease.

Wrap It Up, Please

An Irishman, well pickled, was leaning against a rustic fence, before a fine looking man. His neighbor Mike came along. "Look at that lovely residence," says Pat, "it reminds me so much of my dear old home in Ireland. I have a great notion to buy it." "Pat," replied Mike, "if I were as drunk as you are, I would sell it to you, right here and now."

HE'S STANDING NOW

There was a man who loved his bees. He made them all his friend; He used to sit upon the hives, But they stung him in the end.

Just Too Bad

The old lady entered the butcher shop with the light of battle in her eyes. "I believe that you sell diseased meat here," she accused the butcher. "We do worse," calmly replied the shopkeeper. "What do you mean 'worse'?" demanded the woman. The butcher put a finger to his lips. "The meat we sell is dead," he confided in a stage whisper.

Couldn't Believe It

Doctor (after bringing victim to)—"How did you happen to drink that stuff? Didn't you read the sign on the bottle? It said 'Poison'." Ebenezzer—"Yassah, but Ah didn't believe it." Doctor—"Why not?" Ebenezzer—"Cause right underneath it, was a sign dat said 'Iye'."

No Control

Farmer—"You hammer nails like lightning." Hired Man—"Thanks, I guess I am pretty fast." Farmer—"No, I mean you never strike twice in the same place."

Ask Us Another

Dear Editor—"Why is a girl who has just got her pilot's license like a girl who has just come back from her first horseback ride?" Answer—"That's easy. She's a little soarer."

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AFTER THE HONEYMOON (By the Smokehouse Poet)

O, hubby, dear hubby, come home to me now. The clock is just cuckooing one! You promised you'd "hit the hay" up in our room. When extra night work was all done! Your typist will be, O! so tired and weak. From all of those letters she wrote! I'll search for no powder upon your left cheek. And won't even look at your coat! Come home! Come home! Come home! Please, hubby, dear hubby, come home!

O, hubby, dear hubby, come home to me now. The clock is just cuckooing two! You promised you'd leave that old lodge for your frau. When riding the goat was all through! I'm sure that the "Lady Auxiliaries" spread Is eaten up long before this. And ev'ry sweet sister must be in her bed With dreams of sorority bliss! You tell me are used in the watch. Your officers keep on the company's decks. And sweet with perfume of "Scotch!" Come home! Come home! Come home! Please, hubby, dear hubby, come home!

O, hubby, dear hubby, come home to me now. The clock is just cuckooing three! You promised you'd come from that weighty, high-brow Directors meeting to me! Put up all those little, round, flat-colored checks. You tell me are used in the watch. Your officers keep on the company's decks. And sweet with perfume of "Scotch!" Come home! Come home! Come home! Please, hubby, dear hubby, come home!

PEN PICTURE OF A COW

What is a cow? You're asking me. Well, see if I can explain it to thee; It's one of them critters with horns on its head, It sometimes is white, and sometimes is red. It chews on a cud and has a long tail, And usually gives us white milk in a pail; Sometimes it's fat but sometimes it's thin, And it hurts like the dickens if it kicks on your shin. You can feed it on fodder or feed it on hay, And there's people who think that the critters do pay. It has four feet but doesn't wear shoes And speaks to us in deep, low "Mooos." It sometimes has horns but sometimes does not And we call it beef when it's cooked in a pot. Cows sleep in a barn in what's called a stall Which is not very short and not very tall. They walk in the field and eat the green grass But seldom look up at the cars as they pass. In the future, I'm sure, if a cow you should see, You'll know it at once from this description by me. —VERA H. PAGE, Winfield, Pa.

THE POETICAL DIVORCE CASE

We thought we'd seen a lot of funny wrinkles in divorce cases, but one that is alleged to have been pulled in Wichita, Kansas, is really a classic. The petition is all in poetry and reads as follows:

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS: ETHEL COLGATE, PLAINTIFF, VS. BILL COLGATE, DEFENDANT:

PETITION Plaintiff comes now to allege and say In this country and state she's lived a year and a day. An actual bona fide resident is she And in this court to enter her plea. I married the Defendant, January 7, 1928, on or about, And on January 22, 1928, he kicked me out. Though love and affection I did bestow Curled and blows I got, don't you know, I also allege to this honorable Court Defendant is guilty of non-support. I wed for love but naught did gain, Please give me back my former name. To live with him it is no use. That man he gives me too much abuse. I pray a divorce from the old matrimony, Attorney fees, court costs, and alimony. A. B. TEEL, Attorney for Plaintiff.

State of Kansas, Sedgwick County, ss: Ethel Colgate swears with plenty of vim. Everything's true that's contained herein; She'll have to plead poverty, for it's no joke, She's out of work and plumb dead broke.

Knew His Man

The fellow was effusive in his thanks to a certain candidate for a loan. "This five dollars will help me out of a tight hole, and I'll give it back to you in a few weeks. By the way, where do you live?" The candidate looked solemn. "The Union cemetery," he replied. "Oh, nonsense, that's not your address," said the fellow. "No," said the candidate, "but it will be before you send this five dollars back."

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This Is Pretty Stuff

Fresh Guy—"Aw, c'mon. Just one little kiss." Gal—"No. I've got crumplex." Fresh Guy—"Aw, that's awright. I been vaccinated."

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Query and Answer Column

J. N.—In an old ancient history book the word "payese" is used. Can you tell me in your excellent paper what the word means? Ans.—"Payese" is an obsolete variation of "Pavis." Pavis is a large shield covering the whole body, and was used by warriors during the Middle Ages. It is now applied to any protective screen used in warfare.

F. R.—Is the Parliament Building in London the largest building in the world? Ans.—No and yes. The building is only six stories high, but it covers about eight acres of land. It has two lofty towers (one at each end) in one of which is held a huge clock popularly known as "Big Ben."

C. G.—Why is the word "utopian" applied to Socialists? Ans.—Utopian is an adjective pertaining to Utopia, an imaginary island in which was found the utmost perfection in laws, politics and social order. The term has since been applied to Socialists because it is claimed their scheme for the improvement of society is not practicable.

D. S.—Will you please answer what is the origin of the term "The wandering Jew"? Ans.—The Wandering Jew is the name of a novel by Eugene Sue. The chief character is an imaginary person in a legend connected with the history of Christ's Passion.

A. F.—How many minutes are there in a hundred years? Ans.—The number of minutes in one hundred years is 52,560,000.

N. B.—What took place that caused the battle cry "Remember the Alamo" to become immortal? Ans.—In the war for Texas independence from Mexico Col. David Crockett and Col. James Bowie, with their bands of fighting Texans, converted the Alamo into a fort and held out for two weeks in the face of an overwhelming Mexican army which continually assailed them. The Alamo only yielded when all the defenders were slain but five; these were captured by the Mexicans and cruelly slain. Thereafter "Remember the Alamo" became the Texan war cry.

S. K.—What are the elements that make water? And how is the water formed? Ans.—Water consists of two gases—hydrogen and oxygen. Hydrogen is that gas which is used to fill balloons, and oxygen is the gas which we breathe. Water is a combination of these two gases—not a mere mixture of them. Two atoms of hydrogen firmly united to one atom of oxygen, and presto, you have water.

S. H. L.—Where is the smallest church in the United States? Ans.—At Covington, Kentucky, there is a Catholic church which accommodates only three worshippers.

J. T. H.—Does the plant from which tea is made, have blossoms? Ans.—Tea plants bear a profusion of scented white or pinkish blossoms. They resemble small wild roses, with petals encircling a cluster of yellow hairlike stamens.

E. W. M.—How fast does Sonja Henle travel on the ice? Ans.—The skater's speed is thirty-five miles per hour.

M. T. H.—How does the depth at which oil wells are drilled compare with the depth of the first wells? Ans.—Col. Edwin L. Drake in 1859 found oil at sixty-nine and one-half feet. The oil now being produced is found at a depth of from 10,000 to 12,000 feet.

E. M. J.—Are the Panama Canal locks large enough to accommodate any ship? Ans.—Only the Queen Mary and the Normandie are too large to pass through the locks, which are 110 feet wide and have a usable length of 1000 feet.

J. F. S.—Who made the first long automobile trip? Ans.—The first long distance automobile trip in America was that of Alexander Winton, early automobile manufacturer, who in May, 1896, drove from Cleveland to New York in forty-seven hours and thirty-four minutes. Winton used only fifteen gallons of gasoline for his hydro-carbon motor.

C. J. D.—Is there such a thing as a bird without wings? Ans.—The kiwi, or apteryx, of New Zealand, possesses no visible wings or tail, only stumps which can be seen when the feathers are pushed aside. Its nostrils are placed at the end of a long beak with which it digs for worms.

R. M. L.—How many postage stamps are there in a day? Ans.—The United States Bureau of Printing and Engraving prints an average of 60,000,000 postage stamps a day.

E. M. H.—Is there any country governed entirely by Negroes? Ans.—Liberia, on the southwest coast of Africa, is both peopled and governed by Negroes. All electors must be of Negro blood, and owners land.

A. H.—Where is Alexander Hamilton's grave? Ans.—Alexander Hamilton is buried in the cemetery of Trinity church, at New York City.

M. D. S.—How did Death Valley get its name? Ans.—The name was given by a survivor of a party of thirty forty-niners, most of whom perished of thirst in its sands.

S. G.—Are there many people who do not know their ages? Ans.—In the census of 1930, there were 94,022 persons classified under "age unknown."

E. T.—Why does a rooster stretch his neck when he crows? Ans.—This is a reflex action to make the sound travel farther.

M. T. R.—Is the original manuscript of "Home Sweet Home" in existence? Ans.—It belongs to the Sibley Musical Library of the Eastman School of Music at Rochester, N. Y.

R. F. S.—Does the Bible say that women should dress modestly and not talk too much? Ans.—According to Timothy I, verses 9-12: "In like manner also that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence."

A. K.—Are black and white considered colors? Ans.—Speaking in a physical sense, black is not a color. It indicates the total absence of light; white, on the other hand, is the combination of all the colors of the spectrum. In art, however, black and white are colors.

E. C.—How many copies of "Gone With the Wind" have been sold? Ans.—Total sales of the novel have reached approximately 2,400,000 copies.

V. C. F.—Of what nationality is Lou Nova, the prize fighter? Ans.—Lou Nova is of Scotch-Irish descent on his mother's side and Italian-German on his father's side. He was born in this country.

E. J. D.—Please describe the cotton-mouth moccasin. Why is it so called? Ans.—It is a dangerously poisonous snake generally of dark chestnut-brown with some darker barring and with yellowish white stripes on the head and throat. The common name of this snake refers to the white lining of the mouth, which it is said to display before biting. Cottonmouths may attain a length of four feet. They are not aggressive and most cases of snake bite in which they are involved are due to the reptile's being stepped on.

W. C. H.—What causes frog spit on grass? Ans.—Frog spit is a frothy secretion exuded by the nymphs of spittle insects. These are small leaping insects whose larvae live on plants and envelop themselves in a mass of white froth consisting of fluids secreted through the anus and of bubbles of air.

E. F. F.—What are the words that end in cion? Ans.—The words in the English language ending in cion are: cion, scion, epilicium, suspicion, coercion, and intercession.

E. S.—How did Senator George Q. Vest happen to make his famous "Eulogy on the Dog"? Ans.—This eloquent tribute to a dog was made during the trial of a man who had shot a neighbor's foxhound. The case was tried in a Missouri court in September, 1870. Senator Vest asked \$200 damages, but after two minutes' deliberation the jury awarded \$500.

N. H. J.—What is the name of the town in the South where there are hoofprints over 100 years old? Ans.—Ten miles below Washington, North Carolina, there are hoofprints which have been there since one Sunday in 1813 when a horse ridden by a drunkard threw his rider. The old people of the community said that it was a warning to stay sober and not to race horses on the Sabbath.

M. M.—How tall does a boy have to be to enter the United States Air Corps? Ans.—The minimum height requirements for enlisted men in the United States Army Air Corps is five feet, four inches.

E. V.—What is a mangrel? Ans.—The mangrel is a type of coarse beet ordinarily used as a stock food. Their culture is practically the same as for beets, but since they grow to a large size, individual specimens often weighing ten or more pounds, they require more space. The plants are therefore thinned to stand from ten to twelve inches apart in the rows.