

# The Observer

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### Bible Thought For Today

**RULES FOR RIGHT LIVING:**  
Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice; and be ye kind to one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.—Ephesians 4:31,32.

### No Excuse For France

The American people read with regret of the stand of France on the submarine question. It is hard to believe in the good faith of the French government when, on the eve of what really promised to be a reduction of armament and a period of peace, she announces her intention of providing herself with more war machinery than she ever had before.

The United States called the arms conference in good faith and in answer to a world need which concerns France just as vitally as it does the other nations. The other powers have met in a spirit remarkable for its reason and good-will. No plea of hurt pride or of vague necessity can excuse the French government for throwing the plans accomplished into ruin.

The French officials have fallen into the old European weakness of talking one thing and doing another. France is not preparing for peace. She is persisting in the war idea. Those responsible for her policies should feel the sharp displeasure of the associated nations and of the French people, for the course they indicate leads through multiplication of the old expense of armament, finally to war again.

### Memorial Roads Abroad

A bill has been introduced in congress providing that the roads in France and Belgium over which American soldiers marched to the front shall be marked with permanent tablets and monuments. Senator Willis introduced the measure at the request of the American Scenic and Historical Preservation society.

The roads to be marked include a route from Paris to Coblenz as the main artery, the Verdun-St. Mihiel-Toul-Metz route which leaves the Coblenz road at Montfaucon and the Chateau-Thierry-Brussels road.

There can be no question of the present significance for future historic interest in the suitable marking of these routes. The measure will probably carry, as it deserves to. But however much these outcroppings of fine sentiment may be supported, there still remains considerable practical memorial work to be done among the men who marched over those roads to wounds and disability as well as glory. Until this work is faithfully performed, insistent tributes have second claim.

### A Nations Representatives

Some one looking for something to worry about recently hit upon the idea that in any gathering such as the arms conference at Washington other nations are represented by men who have been of their race as far back through the generations as one could need to seek. He had been looking over the delegates coming and going at the conference and had been impressed by the fact that the Japanese, the Chinese, the French and others were all definitely Japanese, or Chinese or whatever it was. America's representatives, however, might be of Irish descent in one conference, Scotch in another, or German, or Russian or Jewish.

This strikes the thoughtful reader as perhaps the last word in what not to worry about. In a land like ours, men who become leaders in thought and action, men who are statesmen and whom the people entrust with the affairs of the government, are pretty likely to be representative of the nation they serve. They must, in their progress through life to their responsibility, have taken on the main characteristics of the nation. They must have developed a certain faith in the country and a loyalty to it, as well as an understanding of its purposes, ideals and needs, which make the mythical of the nation and qualified to represent it.

The Old Scrooges, having been routed out of their anti-Christmas prejudices, are trying hard to keep up their disbelief in disarmament.

It would be very intriguing, as the fiction writers say, if the District of Columbia, being refused the self-government it wants, should start a Sinn Fein movement.

Lenine, according to Senator Borah, is "one of the three great intellects uncovered by the war." Lenine's lack of covering has been noticed; now where are the other two bare-pated statesmen?

The most notable bit of Christmas charity we've heard about is that of the Freeport, (Ill.) tailor who, after disarming a fellow who tried to hold him up, took pity on the bandit and gave him a \$5 bill.

From recent proceedings of the Dail Eireann and the Ulster parliament, it is evident that even peace with England will leave Ireland enough controversial themes to maintain a healthful interest in life.

### THE OFFICE CAT



THANKS!  
The following contribution is from one of our million (adv.) friends:  
There was an Englishman on the train. He would jump off every time the train stopped and run ahead to the baggage car and ask if his trunk was all right. The baggageman finally got sore and said to him, "You ought to be an elephant, instead of a jackass, then you would have your trunk in front of you all the time."

I knew a man that was so stingy he married an armless woman to keep from buying the ring. He used to stop the clock at nights to keep from wearing out the works. He would look over his glasses to keep them from wearing out. He used to take long steps when he walked to save his shoes. When he sent his hired man into the orchard to gather cherries he would keep him whistling all the time so he couldn't eat any of the fruit. He took his food in capsules to save his teeth. He lost his pocketbook with twenty dollars in it. A fellow found it and returned it to him a week later. He charged the fellow interest on the money while he had it.

I've got a weak back.  
How long have you had it?  
A week back.

When I was cashier at the police station I counted the coppers as they came in.

What's the happiest state in the American Union?  
"Merry-Land."

Why can't the regular fellows sit down?  
Because they are the standing army.

Why does the gateman at the railway station always punch a hole in your ticket?  
That's to let you through.

The country does not need any more dollars, being the richest nation in the world, but it does need a powerful lot more sense.

A farmer hitched his horse to a telephone pole on Adams avenue. No sooner had he done so than an Irish policeman came up and ordered him to move on. The farmer protested: "Well, what in the Sam Hill does that sign mean, then? 'Fine for hitching?'"

You gotta hand it to Will Rogers. See he: "I quit the movies with the same wife I started with." Most of 'em quit their wives with the same movies they started in.

### IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



**POOR GINK.**  
He stood on the bridge at midnight  
And heaved a weary sigh;  
He scratched his dome  
And yearned for home,  
But he had no alibi.

**NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE**  
"Just back from the South Seas?"  
"I spent 10 years there."

**FORUM**  
THE TAX PROBLEM.  
Editor Observer:  
I would like to add my mite to the tax problem. Everyone seems to agree that taxes are too high, and revenue not sufficient. I think the property tax system is entirely wrong, and there is no remedy as long as we attempt to make 50 per cent of the population pay the taxes for the whole. I think everybody should pay taxes from the president of the United States down to the smallest wage earner. Each should pay a certain proportion of every dollar he receives. I feel sure that 5 per cent would be plenty to pay all government, state, county and city expenses.

It is no harder for a man who makes \$100 to pay \$5 than it is for one who makes 100,000 to pay \$5,000. We have thousands of men, both American and foreigners, who draw good wages all the time and never pay a dollar taxes while the man with a little coal or cattle or sheep is taxed until he is unable to pay. It is not so many farmers who are paying the tax on the copra king.  
"Do the styles in women's clothes shock you since you have come home?"  
"On the contrary, they seem familiar."  
I think there should be two kinds of taxation—only income and sales tax. Everything that is sold should be taxed—cattle, sheep, hogs, or any kind of produce, real estate, or anything else. For example, if a man raises some hay and wants to feed a bunch of cattle he goes to the cattle raiser and buys \$2,000 worth. Instead of paying \$2,000 he will pay \$1,900 and give the man a tax receipt for \$100. Maybe the man would run shy of feed and buy \$100 worth of hay and \$100 worth of grain to finish them off. Instead of paying \$200 he would pay \$190, collecting 5 per cent and giving receipt for same. Then he would sell them for \$5,000. The man that buys them says, "Here, you owe \$150 taxes and I will have to collect." "All right," says he, "here are my receipts for \$110; you may hold out \$40."  
Now this theory might not appeal to some, and if there is any better system I would like to see it put into practice.  
Yours truly,  
C. L. LEAN.  
1424 1/2 W. W. W. B. B.  
Happy Canyon Near

he should pay \$3.80 and give each one a receipt for the 5 per cent he has paid for taxes. The laborer would file his tax receipt with the county treasurer so the accounts would balance.

18 property owners. Happy Canyon, the play center of the annual Round-Up celebration, was recently badly wrecked when snow caved in the roof, damaging the new dancing floor, put in at considerable expense.  
The petitions set forth as arguments for the removal of the center to a place more remote from the center of the city, that the noise emanating therefrom during the Round-Up disturbs sleep, that the building is highly inflammable and a fire menace. The matter was referred to the committee on streets.  
The council enacted an ordinance which provides a penalty by fine if sidewalks are not cleared of snow within a reasonable time limit.  
**OBSERVER WANT ADS SET RESULTS.**

**DRY AGENTS ENJOINED**  
NEW ORLEANS Jan. 2.—Attorneys representing Mark Boasburg Sunday obtained from Federal Judge Foster an injunction restraining prohibition agents from removing liquor seized Saturday night in a basement of his private residence and ordering that the guards placed there by prohibition agents be withdrawn.

Prohibition agents said that Boasburg admitted he had stored in his cellar \$50,000 worth of liquor that he had purchased before prohibition went into effect. When the agents visited his residence Saturday night he protested against their entrance, saying they had no right to search in the absence of some indication that he had violated the Volstead act.

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