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LORD OVER ALL:—Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were made.—Revelation 4:11.

Custom

Several widely-circulated books on polite behavior and the customs of fashionable society have lately been published, but none has anything to say on the etiquette of the hold-up. The traditional method of procedure was simple. The man with the pistol said "Hands up," and his victim put them up, keeping them elevated more or less tremulously until the holdup man had gone through his pockets and decamped. Most persons without special instruction on the subject would instinctively put hands up in such an emergency without the command from the highwayman, because it seems the proper thing to do. But that custom appears to be passe. To put hands up any more is to commit a social solecism. "Hands down" is now the accepted procedure, sometimes reinforced by the adjuration, "and keep 'em down." There's a reason.

The highwaymen, who are accord with the spirit of the times have been studying "efficiency," have discovered that the "hands up" business attracts too much attention. It is an illustration of "high visibility." Ever unostentatious, preferring to pursue their profession without becoming conspicuous, modern footpads have changed their tactics. Scholars say there is a logical reason behind every custom. "Hands down" is due to an incident which caused the capture of a pair of highwaymen. A pedestrian at a distance observed the victim's elevated palms, which he interpreted as a signal of distress and called the police. Since then several victims have received the command, "Don't put your hands up. Hands down and keep them down."

It is true that in one or two instances lately persons thus accosted have refused to abide by the conventions and, instead of putting their hands either up or down have launched out vigorously with the right and the left and put their assailants to flight. But this is not a method that finds favor with the life and accident insurance companies. In the main it will be found safest to conform to custom, whatever that custom.

Domestic Spankings

While societies are formed to promote peace and orators are trying to induce nations to use reason and moral suasion in settling their difficulties, the home, that haven of rest from which is supposed to go out the inspiration for peace, is threatened with an invasion of force if the advice of officers of the law is to be taken seriously.

A Detroit wife is advised by a judge of that city to spank her husband as a cure for staying out late at night and associating with bad company, and a New York magistrate advises husbands to have their wives arrested and committed to jail if they will not cease from gambling at their card parties.

While it might not be so distressing a sight to see a woman spank her husband as to see a man beat up a child as a means of leading them to a better life, the effect of such forceful measures, used by their parents with each other, will not likely promote the peace education of their children. Besides, the Legal Aid Society, in its domestic decalogue just issued, admonishes the mother not to interfere every time the father chastises a child. So, besides the spectacle of seeing their fathers and mothers kept in the straight and narrow way by spanking and jails, the children are not to be deprived of their time-honored privilege of being spanked themselves.

France's Attitude

Report from Paris that the Washington conference treaties are scheduled for ratification in the near future is encouraged to those enlisted in the movement to reinforce peace with amicable agreements and to lessen the menace of war by limiting armaments. Ratification by France would complete the first grouping of the nations in agreement, as proposed by the Washington conference, and would make the first stage toward permanency of peace, under the Washington plan, an accomplished fact.

Ratification by France would help to negative the charge of militarism that has been filed against it and would place it before the world as co-operating with other nations to make peace enduring.

The more selfishness a man has the more he is likely to be making a clamor for personal liberty.

Hugo Stinnes says the Ruhr situation does not call for talk. He's right. It calls for payment.

The allies say the Turks are bluffing, but they wish the bluff did not have to be called.

The latest examples of cabinet making by enterprising correspondents seem to lack glue.

Many a girl who has worn orange blossoms discovers she has picked a lemon.

Editorials From Over the Nation

FEDERAL MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

New York World: Senator Capper is proposing to amend the constitution and pass a federal marriage and divorce act. Apparently not content with the spectacle of the federal courts hurried under a mountain of police court cases by reason of the Volstead act, the senator would like to turn them also into divorce courts. But even if the proposal were not extremely impracticable, it should be beaten, because it violates the soundest principles of our government, that nothing should be centralized in Washington which can safely be left to the states. For if there is one subject more than any other on which the local opinion of the states should be final it is on the law of marriage and divorce. If there is one subject on which a central government should not meddle it is the one which Senator Capper has selected. Legislation of this sort is always backed by people who are so enormously impressed by some comparatively minor ailment that they at once demand a standardized, arbitrary, short-cut remedy. If they think they can cure one defect, say marriages by boys and girls who are too young to marry, they are willing to sacrifice the most essential privileges of local government, to congest the courts, to centralize still further, to distract congress still more and to force every part of the country to conform to a law which one state may think too tax and another too rigid.

If Senator Capper would only consider the amount of centralization and bureaucracy which cannot be escaped because of economic necessity he would not be so anxious to complicate the federal system by unnecessary federal meddling.

A MIRROR FOR MISERS

Greenville Piedmont: For centuries unnumbered the miser has been subjected to pity and derision. In his maxims Publius Syrus said that the miser is as much without what he has as what he has not. Burton remarked in his "Anatomy of Melancholy" that it is "a mere madness, to live like a wretch and die rich." Nothing better has been said, however, than in this story from the Richmond Times-Dispatch:

"When a man gets so mean he can't spend a nickel without figuring 'his %' per cent on a dollar," said Charcoal Eph, ruminatively, "he ain't provin' nothin' 't nobody 'ceptin' he gwine live pore and die rich."

Anyone who has observed many misers will attest the truth of that sage comment. They will make more hullabaloo over the loss of a dime than the poor man will make over a thousand times as much. Thrift and miserliness are not identical, however much they are confused. Nobody loves a tight man, except his heirs. Which would you rather do, live rich and die poor, or live poor and die rich?

THE OFFICE CAT

THE BEST READING MATTER IS IN BANK BOOKS

A man who could neither read nor write applied for a job as janitor in a church. When the church board learned he was illiterate it refused him the job.

But he soon found another, and being thrifty, he saved enough to start in business and ten years later he had a large store and a bank balance of \$250,000.

A chance came to him to buy the property he occupied and a friend, not knowing his worth, advised him to go to the bank and make a loan.

When he asked the bank cashier for the loan of \$100,000 the cashier showed a surprise and replied: "But you have a balance of \$250,000 in this bank. Of course, if you would rather sign a note, we will gladly advance you the loan." The man admitted he couldn't sign his name, so never drew out any of his money.

"My goodness, man, think of it. If you can make a quarter million in ten years without being able to read nor write, what would you have been had you had an education?" the cashier inquired.

"I would be a janitor in a church!" replied the merchant.

Once a maid lost her hold on a strap and reclined in a bachelor's lap. "Oh, pardon!" she cried. "And the monster replied: "Keep your seat—I'm a sociable chap."

When a man goes to his tailor the tailor says, "that fits, when he knows it doesn't. And the man says, 'I'll pay you next week when he knows he won't.' Wonderful world."

Don't get discouraged. It is often the last key on the bunch that opens the lock.

Bowling is twice as hard as showing coal in the furnace, and it takes twice as long. But there must be something about bowling that makes it popular.

NOT THAT KIND? Jud Tankins says he thinks mebbe the ex-kaiser will make a good husband. Anyhow he's not the kind of man to make his wife chop the firewood.

THEY CAN'T LOSE Somebody complains that there are too many lawyers and doctors in the country. Well, that's natural enough. Lawyers and doctors are about the only people who are able to collect fees for their failures.

BEST OF REFERENCES Two darkeys came up to the outskirts of a crowd where a La Grande man was making a speech. After listening to the speech for about ten minutes, one of them turned to his companion and asked, "Who is dat man, Sam?"

"I don't know, what his name is," said Sam, "but he certainly do recommend himself."

MUST CONQUER FEARS TOLD IN DESPAIR BOOK

(By The Associated Press.)

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 24.—The process of political, social, industrial and racial disintegration cannot be stayed by detaching ourselves. Thinking that we can shut our eyes to the ugliest facts of our time and blindly chant "The day is coming and better," Glenn Frank, of New York City, editor of the Century Magazine, told the meeting of the Council of Cities of the Methodist Episcopal Church here today.

Five fears were specified by Mr. Frank as contained in the books of certain authors who have gone to "make up what Mr. Frank termed the "literature of despair." The prophesy of the Newbark Axes springs from some one or all of these five distinct fears, he said. He described these as the filological fear that the best blood of the world was turning to water; the psychological fear that the crowd will push to the wall that insouciant individual whom we without regard to his one of the mainstays of progress; the economic fear that our industrial civilization has overreached itself and is due for a collapse; the administrative fear that the bigness and complexity of the modern world have outstripped the administrative capacity of mankind; and the moral fear that the younger generation has renounced allegiance to all wholesome standards of conduct and is on the loose.

The authors named by Mr. Frank as having contributed in some of their work to this literature of despair include Lothrop Stoddard, Lebon, Trotter, Everett Dean Martin, Lord Bryce, L. P. Jacks, Dean Inge, H. G. Wells, Edward Grant Conklin, Ralph Amos, Graham, Madison Grant, and others.

"I do not suggest that we disregard this literature of despair," said Mr. Frank. "These five fears are well grounded. Our duty is to conquer them not by emotional incantation, but by removing their causes."

"But there is also a literature of hope, made up of creative ideas, the idealism and the new spiritual values. It ventures to suggest some ideas that seem to me must be rescued from the jargon of technical scholarship, taken out from under the excessive patronage of cloistered intellectuals and put to honest work in the direction of our public affairs if we are to close the door to a new Dark Ages and open the door to a new Renaissance. There are Cults of Nationalism, Economic Nationalism, Democratized Industry, Liberalized Business, Nationalized Politics, Humanized Education, Socialized Religion and the Idea of a Well Trained Race."

Mr. Frank stated that Cultural Nationalism will convert world politics into a competition in excellence instead of a competition in armies; common sense will force us into some sort of international management of the fundamental economic rights of transport, migration and investment in backward countries; Democracy in Industry must be workable democracy and not emotional; the business of the future must be socially sound in order to be commercially sound; Research should marry government, not the schola between politics and facts has meant a dangerous collision from which we suffer daily; the primary business of education is to make the student at home in the modern world and religion must speak to society as well as to the soul and be concerned with institutions as well as individuals.

While Mr. Frank said the Literature of Despair could be gathered together in a five-foot shelf and a labored, the Literature of Hope was found here and there, thrown up as unconscious by-products of the thought and investigation of our modern biologists, psychologists, economists, statesmen and others.

Income Tax Facts

By Clyde G. Huntley Collector.

Under certain conditions living quarters, food, clothing, etc., provided employees are not regarded as income. Where, for example, because of the location and nature of the work it is necessary that employees engaged in fishing, hunting or mining be furnished board and lodging are considered as contributed for the convenience of the employee. Therefore, its value need not be included in computing the net income of the employee. The rule applies to board and lodging furnished seamen.

The value of board and lodging furnished hospital employees is to be returned as income unless the employee is subject to duty any time during the 24 hours of a day and therefore is required to accept quarters and meals at the hospital in addition to his regular compensation.

The rental of a dwelling and apartments thereof furnished a minister of the gospel are exempted by the revenue act of 1921, and no longer needs to be included in gross income.

Certain items, as shown on forms for making the returns, are specifically exempt from the income tax such as proceeds of life insurance policies, amounts received through accident or health insurance, value of property acquired by gift, bequest, descent or devise, interest received on state and certain federal bonds, amounts received as compensation, family allowances and allowances under the provisions of the war risk insurance and vocational rehabilitation act, pensions for military or naval service in time of war, etc.

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High School News

Happenings in and Around the School Centers

(By James Coker)

The Mimic Staff is working hard to have the school annual ready for the printer in a short time. This annual is expected to be one of the best that ever has been printed by our high school.

The Oregon Society, "Sons of the American Revolution" is offering prizes totaling fifty dollars on topics connected with the war for American Independence. These prizes are given to encourage love of our country and the study of its history.

The play of the light company, to give light, will not be headed by very many students as the six weeks examination comes next week and the school will be busy with studying.

If you want to see the spirit of the La Grande "High School" student body, see the game between Pendleton and La Grande Saturday night in the High School gymnasium. It has been said that La Grande has shown more pep in backing up her team this year than was ever shown in the past.

Track Talk.

With the coming of spring, the trend of the conversation around the high has been turning towards the coming track season. From the interest that has been shown, it seems that we will have a large " turnout." Everyone is hoping that the weather will become warmer so that active training may be started in the near future. Quite a number of the members of last year's track team are back so we have hopes for a very successful track season. A tentative schedule has been arranged as follows: A dual meet with Pendleton, at Lewis. A dual meet with Pendleton, at Pendleton. The "County Meet" at La Grande, a dual meet with Baker at La Grande, and the "Eastern Oregon Meet."

Assembly Held.

Thursday morning, the fourth honor, an assembly was held in honor of the Birthday Anniversary of Gen. Washington. Rev. G. H. Quigley of the First Methodist Church was the speaker. In introducing Mr. Quigley, Mr. Towler stated that every student in the United States was taking some time during the day to commemorate the birth of George Washington. Mr. Quigley stated in his address that if he had his life to live over, he would apply himself to the study of the lives of the great men. He asked us to study the biographies of such men as Washington, Lincoln, and Franklin, just to see where their greatness lies. He said that the only thing that was permanent and immortal was greatness embodied in the lives of great men. He spoke of the three great achievements of Washington, which were: first, the securing of the independence of the thirteen original colonies, second, the winning of these colonies into a union by the adoption

of a constitution, the third, the beginning of the greatest republic in the history of the world. He concluded by saying that Washington's success was due largely to his three distinct characteristics, his sense of right, that is, he was a man with a conscience, his sense of justice, and his supreme loyalty to the United States.

A short pep meeting was held following the Mr. Rev. Quigley's address after which Mr. Towler announced that there would be no more school that day.

The Senior play is to be March, ninth and tenth. Don't miss it.

Mr. Diven, manager of the local Western Union, has been giving lectures to the various English classes the past week on the subject of telegrams. He defined the different forms of telegrams, giving the approximate time that each would take in transit, and told us many other interesting and educational points about the Western Union service.

One of the important points in his talk, was the importance of writing the telegraph photos so there may be no error.

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