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(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

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An expert says that women talk too fast over the telephone. The Observer's experience is that they talk too long.

We notice that the world's speediest stenographer writes 9120 words an hour. Now we suppose the big job is finding someone who can think of 9120 words an hour worth writing.

The special law enforcement commission appointed by President Hoover is an extremely able body—with a tremendous job ahead. We suggest that its first assignment be Chicago. If any good is accomplished there, the rest of the country will be easy.

Preliminary organization was effected yesterday for the special bureau to promote dairy farm settlement in Union and Wallawa counties. The joint group is designed to tell the outside world of the dairying advantages of this section and to bring dairymen from middle western states here. It is a worthy undertaking and one that should be planned at least on a five year basis. Little tangible results will be possible at first but a continuous campaign will do more to develop and prosper these two counties than any one thing that can be undertaken.

INVESTIGATING NEWSPAPER OWNERSHIP

The investigation of the federal trade commission into the newspaper interests of the International Paper and Power company is receiving the attention of numerous senators in Washington who fear control of the press by the "power trust." Senator Norris says he thinks every newspaper in the country has had a chance to sell out to the power interests and warns that "if the time comes when all the press is controlled by the power trust or by big business there is no other position for free people to have than to have the government take over the press."

We have the utmost respect for Norris as a senator and a sincere servant of the people but we fear he is waving a red flag for the sake of the attention it will attract. There are some two thousand daily newspapers in the United States and since our guess is as good as Norris', we would imagine that at least nineteen hundred of them never had a chance to sell out to any power interests—and that allows a big margin for the senator to worry about.

Furthermore, we can't imagine a more difficult thing than for the press of this country to be controlled by any one or any thing. Difference of taste and differences of opinion makes newspapers as well as horse races. But, at that, we fear that most people would as soon have the press controlled by the power trust as to have it controlled by politicians under government ownership. Either one would be awful.

And the whole trouble started because the biggest print paper in the country sought to use some of its finances to protect its print paper market by making loans to and stock purchases in consuming newspapers in the east. The International Paper can't make loans to help finance the purchase of the Chicago Journal, for example, on the condition that the Journal would buy its print paper from them. Much as if a bank would make a similar loan for a similar purpose on condition that the paper would carry a large bank account with them. The paper company did not have voting control in the Chicago publishing company and apparently owns only one newspaper outright, the Boston paper recently acquired.

But Senator Norris seems to think such a thing is criminal, a serious menace to a free press. Maybe so. At any rate, we are going to be careful about borrowing money from a sheep man or apple grower for fear someone will think The Observer is going to be used to make all its readers eat apple sauce or wear wool socks in the summer time. In this day of "sinister influence" one must guard against the very appearance of evil, against every sign of "special interests"—whatever that means. Otherwise United States senators would have nothing to talk about.

TRY
W. K. GILBERT CO.
FIRST

ABE MARTIN



Miss Angie Moon was thirty-one years old before she learned there wasn't no Dan Cupid. Most parents seem to think that if they take a boy over all he's big enough to go to school it's up to his teachers to mold his character and keep him out o' jail.

Strong Statements
Oblivions are said to throw off stars. We suspect that the scientist who asserts that had not smiling many violent—Florence Herald.

Gypsy Philosophy
There is no more dangerous debt than that which is—American Magistie.

Never Does All He Can
A pupil from whom nothing is demanded will be content to never do all he can.—MIL.

Don't Worry

Fear and worry are as unnecessary as they are debilitating. They are our race's heritage from the dim dawn of time, and only clear-thinking, audacious souls have risen above them, says American Magazine.

The Airplane in the North

Alaska, land of great and lonely distances, finds the airplane the most useful mode of transportation. One-fifth the size of the United States, the northern territory has less than 1,000 miles of railroad.

You Can Get Stuck, Though

The difference between flicker tape and adhesive tape is that the latter has no quotations on it—American Magazine.



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HEALTH

WHAT PRICE CRIPPLES?

By M. J. Mandelbaum, M. D.
New York City.

Have you ever passed a hospital for cripples and noticed not only grown-ups but many children ranging in age from the tilted infants up to adolescents with casts upon their arms, legs or both, partly and in some instances entirely encased in plaster of Paris from head to foot? Have you noticed them strapped in frames or with braces, splints and other sorts of apparatus of the most fantastic types holding limbs in various bizarre and seemingly distorted postures? Have you not at such times wondered "Why all this suffering humanity?"

Behind all of this lies an old story. As in nature, also in disease, "nothing just happens." And so with every deformed spine, joint, arm, hand, leg or foot, "something has happened," either in the life of the individual or in the lives of his parents, grandparents or even great grandparents; which signs have been transmitted down the racial line. We find its unfortunate victim, with the dire results of deformities or joint diseases of either temporary or permanent nature.

Consequently, intermarriage among members of the same family; constitutional diseases, such as syphilis and tuberculosis; accidents, improper feeding in infancy, profuse such an important bone-affecting disease as rickets—all of these play their part in the causation of these afflictions.

While it is true that there are hereditary diseases causing bone and joint affections, there are also the so-called congenital deformities, as clubbed feet, bowed legs, stiff joints and bare feet, which latter two, while not joint diseases, may be mentioned in this relation in as much as they frequently involve the bony structures and also are not infrequently known to be familiar in character. All of the latter named group are amenable to the mastery of modern orthopedic science. Many acute or recently acquired joint diseases of either tubercular or syphilitic nature may, under proper modern conditions, be eradicated or at least ameliorated. Indeed, as the years roll by, many bone and joint diseases and deformities, previously considered hopeless, are becoming amenable to advanced methods of treatment.

There is a type of bone and joint disease which unfortunately is often permitted to go beyond the hope of cure because of lack of prompt or early care. It is a severe and not infrequently fatal type, coming under the collective name of "acute streptococcal joint infection" or "acute osteomyelitis" (acute septic disease), of the bone and its marrow.

One might say at this point that these diseases are being relieved to increasing numbers. Their causes are frequently such that, through lack of early and prompt attention, not only do they produce deformities but even terminate fatally.

Having broadly classified these causes of bone and joint diseases, there remains a large group of cases which at their onset manifest themselves in a similar manner. Their causes vary greatly, however, as do their terminations. In these cases there are excessive deposits of calcium and uric acid salts in and about the joints, which are thus rendered partly or completely immovable. This latter group comes under the classification of chronic arthritis (inflammation of the joints). Here, while neither accident nor acute disease plays a causative part, these unfortunate are none the less crippled, and the affliction may affect but a single joint or almost every joint in the body.

Here the causes are frequently ascribed to a primary infection in some region of the body other than the joint involved, for example, infected nasal sinuses, tonsils, teeth, gall bladder, large intestine, genital organs, etc. These infections may be unknown to the individual, and in instances but none the less disastrous joint involvement may take place ultimately causing a helpless, incurable cripple. Under this heading may also be placed one other joint disease due to an unusual local venereal disease, gonorrhea. Certain diseases may indirectly affect the muscles, bones and joints. Prominent among them is infantile paralysis, and the virus of other diseases such as scarlet fever, or typhus, such as pharyngitis and radium, to which workers in some industrial fields are exposed, may also cause necrosis of bone and damage the muscle and other tissues.

This prompt attention to displaced organs other than the bone and joints themselves may prevent serious future trouble. While acute diseases of such organs as above mentioned may sharply call one's attention to their potential dangers as causes of joint diseases, the above-mentioned insidious type of chronically infected organs, commonly known as a "focal infection," can only be brought to light as the result of very careful periodic health examinations. Such an examination may and very often does bring to light these hidden dangers.