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OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



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REDUCE EXPENSE, BATTLE CRY OF NEW YORK MAYOR

(Continued from Page One)

but it expected action of a political work. New York expected changes; sort rather than business.

There is sound politics in Mayor McKee's action, politicians agree, but the first effect is economic. Almost the minute McKee assumed office business management of the city came into the spotlight.

1. He ended a long-time printing monopoly, cutting \$50,000 off the cost of ballots.

2. Reduced his own salary from \$40,000 to \$25,000 and cut the pay of other officials.

3. Fired an important officeholder who didn't produce the facts and figures as requested.

4. Ordered the police commissioner to take a census of the unemployed so that relief could be handled efficiently.

5. Started to fight Tammany's plans for a special majority election.

6. Said the 5-cent subway fare would be upheld.

7. Declined a limousine for himself and said other officeholders might be expected to ride more cheaply.

But most startling was his announcement that the budget would be cut as much as \$100,000,000. Budgets are difficult reading, seldom are first page news for more than a day.

Mayor McKee kept the budget on or near the front page for several days. In the opinion of Peter Grimm, chairman of the Citizens' Budget commission, a non-partisan civic organization, it was time that the budget did become first page news. In 1926 when former Mayor Walker assumed office the budget was \$437,000,000. It climbed every year, being \$631,000,000 in 1932. Grimm said the city's expenses were actually over \$700,000,000 in 1932. Certain items not being apparent in the official budget totals.

The funded debt in 1926 was \$1,565,000,000. In 1932 it was \$2,246,000,000. The debt situation became such that Wall Street bankers declined to lend the city money without severe retrenchment.

Grimm believes the principal opportunities for savings are in salary and wage cuts, which he says should total \$30,000,000. These reductions are difficult to make because most rates are mandatory under the state law. Grimm says if the cuts are not made voluntarily changes in the law must be sought.

Salaries and wages advanced in 1930 over 1929 by six and a half per cent; in 1931 over 1930, eight per

cent; in 1932 over 1931 another six per cent. These advances occurred, Grimm points out, despite difficulties engendered by the depression.

"When Mayor Walker assumed office," Grimm says, "there were 116,000 city and county employees, receiving wages and salaries of \$245,000,000. In 1932, there were 148,000 employees, and their earnings were \$368,000,000—a \$123,000,000 or 48 per cent increase."

Mayor McKee's city has assets of some \$25,000,000, including about \$20,000,000 of assessed valuation and direct ownership of some \$5,000,000,000 of other items. Its payroll runs a million dollars a day. It has 19,000 policemen. Its educational system employs some 46,500.

Mosquito Saves Man's Life

Two bites from a mosquito saved the life of a man attacked by a terrible tropical disease, in Boston hospital, Hournemouth, England, recently. The mosquito, a rare African specimen, was taken in a cage from the tropical disease research laboratories in London. At the hospital the cage was opened and the buzzer allowed to take two bites at the patient's leg.

Normalcy

President Harding didn't invent the word "normalcy." It had its place in the language long before he was born, but it was obsolete and not often met with. He gave it currency through his use of it in his inaugural address—"we must strive for normalcy to reach stability"—just as Roosevelt gave popularity to several words, notably "strenuous."

Believing in History

"Since we must go on without attempting to change the past," said H. H. Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "we may as well try to believe that in the eternal ordering of things history has revealed no mistakes."—Washington Star.

When Glass Vessels

When two glass vessels get stuck together so that there is danger of breaking them in getting them apart, put cold water in the inner one, and hold the outer one in warm water, and you will find that they will separate at once.

Ancient University

Tradition says that the University of Paris dates from 789, but authentic annals seem to commence about 1107.

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Never before has this perfect fitting lingerie been sold at such a low price... delicate pastel hues of peach and pink.

Indian Mounds

Archeological excavations of Indian mounds have led to the conclusion that these mounds seem to have been designed for a variety of uses. Some of them were burial places, others foundations for edifices, while still others served as fortresses. The most pretentious were used for sacrificial and other religious purposes. In many of the tribes the custom obtained of collecting the bones of the dead, cleaning them carefully and putting them in a common grave, over which a mound was erected.

Prairie Chickens Wiped Out

Prairie chickens are now entirely extinct in the West, and at present are found in considerable numbers only on the island of Martha's Vineyard, off the coast of Massachusetts. They were mercilessly persecuted both for sport and for food and will probably never again be found in large numbers anywhere outside of game preserves.

Theory's Importance

To despise theory is to have the excessively vain pretension to do without knowing what one does, and to speak without knowing what one says.—Fontenelle.

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and he delighteth in his way.—Psalm 37: 23.

ARMAMENT REDUCTION

Last week Germany served notice to the world that she would send no representatives to the League of Nations arms conference at Geneva until she receives assurance that "all states will be subject to the same rules and principles in respect to disarmament, and that no discriminatory system will exist in the case of any one of them."

The German foreign minister, Von Neurath, in his note to Arthur Henderson, the conference chairman, said, "Germany cannot be expected to take part in negotiations with regard to measures of disarmament to be laid down in convention until it is established that the solution which may be found is also to apply to Germany."

The English government promptly expressed the view that Germany had no legal right to seek a revision of her military status except through the world disarmament conference, and charged Germany with a deliberate attempt to disturb the harmony between nations at this crucial period.

Yesterday President Hoover, realizing that the Geneva conference will go on the rocks if Germany presses her demand for greater military and naval strength, appealed to Germany to reconsider her ultimatum and continue to work through the world conference for a general reduction of the armaments of all nations.

Judging from the editorial comments of German newspapers, there is not a great deal of hope that Germany will heed the advice that is being given her. She seems to have decided that right now, when other nations are in no condition to enforce their demands, is a good time to have things her own way. She was able to bring about a reduction in reparations which was practically cancellation; and that doubtless encouraged her to insist upon arms equality.

The Versailles treaty, which is the sharpest thorn in Germany's flesh today, allows her only a very small army and navy and restricts her battleships to 10,000 tons or less. And the other nations who signed the treaty agreed that they would gradually reduce their armaments to proportionate levels.

But in spite of conferences and agreements the European nations are not reducing their armaments and France continues to insist upon "security" and to maintain a huge standing army, gigantic air forces, and a strong navy.

Perhaps Germany's recent move, therefore, is not entirely destructive in its influence. It may be the means of securing the long-sought general reduction of armaments, combining its pressure with that of the United States ultimatum that war debt revision will not be considered until European nations stop spending so many millions yearly on armies and navies.

GOOD EXAMPLE

Policemen are usually extremely useful citizens when your house has been robbed, or your store burglarized, but Patrolman Robert Overman of Detroit has proved that they may be just as useful in other ways.

Here are the facts: Patrolman Overman lived on a little residential street of small homes, small apartments and vacant lots, hardly different from the average street in the average town.

Children played in the streets, exposing themselves to possible injury from motorists. Neighbors just didn't exist. Most families didn't know who lived across the street, and what's more to the point, they didn't care.

So Patrolman Overman decided that his street wasn't a very good place to live. Then he got busy. He cleared the weeds from several vacant lots as a starter.

Other residents of the street became interested. He told them he was going to build a playground to keep the children of the neighborhood off the streets. In true neighborly fashion, they turned in to help him.

They built swings and teeter-totters from scrap lumber left when Overman's garage was partly burned, they laid out a baseball diamond and an ingenious workman fashioned a scoreboard of waste boxes and boards.

As a result Patrolman Overman's street is rapidly becoming an excellent place in which to live. Children of the neighborhood didn't have to be asked to come to "Overman Park" to play twice.

Their fathers followed them. And now the big problem is to find room for a baseball diamond for the boys. Their fathers are using the first one almost as much as the youngsters.

Overman himself summed the whole thing up very well when he said, "This sure goes to show that it doesn't cost anything to enjoy yourself—if you just find out how."

Other Papers Say:

PRESIDENT HOOVER FIGHTS BACK

All the world loves a fighter. Whether we agree, or disagree, a man who has the courage of his convictions, and fights for what he believes to be right, regardless of the consequences, has our respect and admiration.

President Hoover occupies that position today. In opposing the immediate cash payment of the bonus in the face of the American Legion convention in Portland, which favors it, the President of the United States exhibits a degree of moral courage, which has never been surpassed in

this country's political history.

This courageous action, may well spell his political doom, and President Hoover knows it. To defy an organization of 4,000,000 war veterans—the strongest political unit in the country today—on the eve of a presidential election, will be designated by every practical politician, as nothing short of political suicide.

Nevertheless President Hoover does it. And he does it, because he believes it is his duty to do it. As he well says:

"I was elected to protect and promote the interests of all the people. As long as I am president I shall continue to do so and to oppose with all the strength and influence at my command, any demand that runs counter to the common welfare."

In the legion convention there are many men, with decorations on their uniforms, granted in recognition of their bravery and courage under fire. We don't give medals and decoration for bravery in civil life—for courage under the fire of political opponents.

Nevertheless, regardless of how the election comes out in November, regardless of whether President Hoover wins or loses; we believe the time will come when thousands of American men and women, IN THEIR MINDS AND HEARTS, will grant medals of gratitude and approval, to President Hoover, for placing what he believed to be their welfare above his own political fortunes, at this critical time in the country's financial and economic history.

He may be beaten—beaten badly. But he will at least have this satisfaction—perhaps the greatest satisfaction any public man can have—that he went down fighting—with his colors nailed to the masthead—fighting for those things in which he believed—fighting for his country—all the country—whose welfare he took a solemn oath to protect—Medford Mail-Tribune.

U. S. BACK TO FOREFRONT United States aeronautical engineers have been making definite progress. This was indicated during the national air races when Major Doolittle brought back to this country the land plane speed record with an average of more than 296 miles an hour and on a trial run more than 309 miles per hour. The feat of Mrs. Halzlip in cracking the women's speed record and bringing it up to 255 miles an hour strengthened this conviction.

It has been eight years since America held the speed record for land planes. For several years this country's aviation engineers have stressed development of both planes and engines that had durability.

They figured that speed without durability would be worse than useless, in fact dangerous. As a result France has held the land plane record and England and Italy the sea-plane mark for years.

The recent feat of American-built airplanes in copping these two records indicates that United States designers are coming up alongside their fellow craftsmen of other countries in speed and at the same time not sacrificing in safety.

The wide differential between sea and land plane speed records of more than 100 miles an hour is explained by the practices of construction. Sea-planes that have gone more than 400 miles an hour use engines that may run only a few hundreds miles before they break up. Land planes that have gone more than 300 miles an hour in this country and have thus broken all existing records will run many thousands of hours before any repairs are necessary.

Predictions have been justified that a year of slack sales would prove to be one of progress in technical matters. — Walla Walla Bulletin.

In Washington

By Herbert Plummer
WASHINGTON — Habitués of the galleries of congress who thrilled at the idea that perhaps Gene Tunney would come down from Connecticut some day to sit in the senate may have as great a treat in store after next March 4.

For advance reports reaching Washington indicated that Connecticut Republicans had hit upon one Mr. Thomas Albert Dwight Jones as the man they hope to place in Col. Johnny Tilson's seat in the house.

This Mr. Jones is "Tad" Jones, Yale's famous football and baseball star as an undergraduate and more recently head coach of Eli's gridiron teams. Of course, before Jones enters the house, he must beat his Democratic opponent in November.

ATHLETE-POLITICIANS

Jones will not be the first man to enter the field of national politics by way of the athletic route. If he should enter the house, he would have as a colleague a South Carolina whose proud boast is that his ability as a baseball player sent him—or at least had a lot to do with sending him to congress.

Tommy McMillan was once a star on the Charleston club of the Sally league.

Tad would find plenty of company among his colleagues in the house. Many of the representatives won fame in their younger days as athletes. Fred Purnell of Indiana, a Re-

publican leader of the house, was a champion pole vaulter at the University of Indiana. Hamilton Fish of New York, a Harvard football star, was captain of the team for one year, and is an old grid foe of Tad's.

Buckhead of Alabama was a star fullback at Barna when he was in college. Dick Kieberg of Texas won note as a pitcher at the University of Texas and turned down the offer of a big league contract.

BACHMAN AN ATHLETE

Carl Bachman of West Virginia, the Republican whip, was an all-around athlete at the University of West Virginia. Lou Douglas, youthful representative from Arizona, was a baseball star at Amherst.

Fred Vinson of Kentucky still is remembered at Centre college for his ability to play baseball. The lanky Elzey of Mississippi was a diamond star at the University of Mississippi.

Fred Britton, of Illinois once was an amateur boxer of note. And over in the senate, Barbour of New Jersey once was hailed as a potential heavyweight champion boxer.

Venice in Its Glory

Crowe and Cavalcasse say that in the days of Dandolo Venice held state in the imperial city with all but imperial rank. Venice "owned," as her chroniclers affirm, a quarter and a half of the whole Greek empire; a part of Constantinople governed by her own laws; Candia, which had been bought of Boniface of Montserrat, and all parts of call from Venice to the Dardanelles."

American Paper Money

Massachusetts began to issue paper money in 1680; South Carolina, 1702; Connecticut, 1709; New York, 1700; New Jersey, 1709; Rhode Island, 1710; New Hampshire, 1709-10; North Carolina, 1712-13; Pennsylvania, 1723; Maryland, 1733; Delaware, 1738; Virginia, 1705; Georgia, 1735.

Land of Many Tongues

The principal languages of Switzerland are German, spoken by 71 per cent, and Italian, by 6 per cent. Other languages are Romanshe and Latin. By the federal constitution of 1848 and 1874 German, French and Italian are recognized as national languages.

Require Good Company

"Riches are like men," said H. H. Ho, the sage of Chinatown. "They lose respect if they drift into unworthy companionship."—Washington Star.

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