

what Irvin S. Cobb thinks about:

The "Peasant" Candidate.

HOUSTON, TEX.—To certain candidates: Dear cans., please discourage your campaign strategists, whoever those poor antiquarians may be, who believe you can prove the Spartan simplicity of your rugged souls by inviting distinguished visitors to drop in for pot-luck with you and the family in the kitchen.

Because, dear cans., that's old stuff. It dates back to the McIntyre and Heath era of political vaudeville. The great common people may be common—anyhow the orators keep on telling them they are—but they aren't exactly stupid. Merely because a man has to live in the deep woods doesn't mean he has to think like a woodpecker. I contend it's generally the other way around. With the exception of "Mr. Dooley," practically all the outstanding satiric observers of our national follies sprang from the soil and not from the sidewalk. If there are any true yokels left, their principal center is New York city. And if ever there was a day when Americans in mass believed a man could best qualify for the Presidency by behaving like a peasant, that day has passed.



Irvin S. Cobb

Odorless Cabbage.

SOME experimental genius at Cornell university has bred a non-odorless cabbage—a thing absolutely guaranteed to remain unsmellable while being cooked. I presume he crossed it with the tuberose.

Now, I never protested when they produced a spring onion with no after-math to it, no lingering reminiscence. "Fair enough," I said, "after all, why not let bygones be bygones?"

And I shall welcome with glad cries the evolution of the anti-squirt grapefruit, and the self-opening coconut, and, greatest boon of all, the hic-coughless radish.

But to take away from the succulent fried cabbage its only means of self-defense seems a cruel thing. Besides, how in future would a stranger be able after dark to identify an old-fashioned, two-dollar-a-day, American plan hotel? Once he got inside and saw the Gideon Bibles and met the resident cockroaches, he'd know, of course, where he was, but how about approaching in the night-time with no perfume to guide him?

The Courage of Texans.

THERE'S something about Texans—something different.

The men who tramped the Oregon trail were homesteaders. They took their wives with them, and plows and seed-corn, the forty-niners who went to California had shovels on their shoulders and—if you can believe the Sannah song—banjos on their knees. But if it came to a pinch they threw away the banjos first. Because they were looking for gold. But in the beginning those who came to Texas carried rifles and kept their eyes peeled. They were looking for trouble. And, laws, how abundantly they found it.

For nobody dreamed then of the incredibly rich and fertile empire this would be. The only prospect was for a fight against the wilderness.

The heritage lives on; Texans still take a chance. A native waylaid me today. First he offered to bet a cool million Mr. Hoover would be nominated. Then he tried to borrow twenty. Both of us came out even. He saved his million. I kept my twenty.

But the spirit of the true adventurer was there. You've got to admit that.

The Happy Warrior's Grammar.

IN THE Sabbath calm following the explosion of Al Smithisms over the palpitant ether, you could almost hear the purists murmuring: "Be sure thy syntax will find thee out"; but the purist vote isn't big enough to count. For culture, a collegiate accent may have it all over the Brooklyn brogue, but there are more people crossing Brooklyn bridge every day than go through Yale or Harvard in 50 years. Governor Smith may not pronounce radio the correct way—as some critics already have pointed out—but he certainly knows what to do with it when he faces a microphone. All grammar aside—and why not all grammar aside, if leaving it aside keeps simple speech?—when he gets through talking there are no missing word contests, no guessing games afterward. Take it or leave it, you get what he's driving at, the very foist time.

IRVIN S. COBB.

©—WNU Service.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Member of Faculty, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, © Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for February 16

JESUS' REPLY TO JOHN THE BAPTIST'S QUESTION

LESSON TEXT—Luke 7:19-28. GOLDEN TEXT—I believe: help thou mine unbelief.—Mark 9:24.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus Answers John's Question.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Jesus Answers John's Question.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Meeting Doubts With Facts.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—How Jesus Answers Honest Doubts.

The title, "Jesus Helps a Doubter," given by the lesson committee, is not a good one. John was not a doubter, though somewhat perplexed. Jesus specifically defends him against such a charge (see Matt. 11:7-11 as well as the present text). It is to be hoped that no teacher will perpetuate this error. John was a great man. In announcing his birth the angel said, "He shall be great in the sight of the Lord." He was great, also, when measured by the standards of men. In teaching this lesson a survey should be made of John's life and work.

I. John's Birth and Ministry Foretold (Isa. 40:3; cf. Matt. 3:3).

He was thought about and his work planned long before he was born. He came as God's messenger.

II. John's Character.

1. Humble (Luke 3:4). He did not seek human praise and commendation, but shrank from them. His supreme concern was to proclaim Christ.

2. Courageous (Luke 3:7). He faced a great multitude and struck hard at their sins. He did not trim his message to suit the crowd.

III. John's Preaching (Luke 3:3-8).

1. He sounded forth a ringing call to repentance (vv. 3-6). Suddenly emerging from his seclusion, he came into the region of the Jordan as a messenger of God, calling upon the people to repent as a means of preparation for the coming of the Messiah.

2. He demanded proofs of penitence (vv. 7, 8). He insisted that their false prophets had to be abandoned, their sinful hearts had to be renovated, showing them that the vile passions of their souls must be uprooted. The turning of a soul from sin to God, was necessary.

IV. John Sent a Deputation to Jesus (Luke 7:19-23).

1. Their question (v. 19, 20). "Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?" Because John did not see the interval between the sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow—between the cross of Christ and his second coming—he was perplexed; therefore, he sent a deputation to Jesus for light. This perplexity was not something culpable in John because the prophets did not see, or at least did not make clear, the interval between the crucifixion of Christ and his second coming. The Messiah, he knew, had to be the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world (John 1:29). The trend of events puzzled him. It was not a lack of faith, but confusion of mind, that prompted his inquiry. There were two lines of predictions concerning the Messiah: the one set him forth as the suffering One, as in Isaiah 53; the other as an invincible conqueror, as in Isaiah 63. Indeed, in Isaiah 60:1, 2 the two are joined together (Luke 4:17-20).

2. Jesus' action (v. 21). In that same hour, doubtless in the presence of John's disciples, Jesus cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits, and to many that were blind he gave sight.

3. Jesus' message to John (vv. 22, 23). Jesus said to them, "Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard."

V. Jesus' Defense of John (Luke 7:24-28).

1. He declared that John was not vacillating like a reed swayed by the wind (v. 24).

2. John was not doubting because of the hardship of prison life (v. 25).

3. John was not a mistaken prophet (vv. 25-28). He makes John equal to the greatest of the Old Testament prophets by declaring that among those born of women there hath not arisen a greater prophet than John.

4. The response of the people (v. 29). The people who heard this defense, even the publicans, accepted it as a vindication of John. They justified God. They not only accepted the vindication, but were baptized with the baptism of John.

VI. John's Martyrdom (Mark 6:14-29).

While John was in prison Herod had frequent interviews with him. John boldly told him that it was unlawful for him to have his brother's wife. He did not mince matters even with a king. This so enraged the licentious Herodias that she caused his death.

Cactus in Ethiopia Came

From Somewhere in America

American barbed wire manufacturers are said to be refusing orders from the belligerent powers in Africa. But something from America, almost as wicked, was at the front long before Romans and Ethiopians began taking pot-shots and spear-jabs at each other. Cactus is figuring in news pictures from the Ethiopian war zone. Machine-gun nests are shown flanked or half-camouflaged by huge plants of flat-jointed prickly pear bristling with spines—menacing alike to Italian uniforms and Ethiopian channas, not to mention the legs and arms beneath them.

All true species of cactus are of American origin. The prickly plants were unknown in the Old world before the voyages of Columbus. But once cacti were introduced from Mexico and South America they became established all around the Mediterranean shores in amazingly quick time, and from there they spread throughout the dry lowlands of northeast Africa and southern Asia, until now they seem normal, native parts of the landscape.

Opportunity May Knock, but More Likely She'll Pass By

It is a dangerous thing to wait for opportunities until it becomes a habit. Energy and inclination for hard work ooze out in the waiting. Opportunity becomes invisible to those who are doing nothing, or looking somewhere else for it.

It is the great worker, the man who is alert for chances, that sees them.—O. S. Marden.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are the original little liver pills put up 60 years ago. They regulate liver and bowels.—Adv.

Rarely Happen

All who expect lives of joy without winning it believe in miracles.

PAY AS YOU GO

If you would relish food, labor for it before you take it; if enjoy clothing, pay for it before you wear it; if you would sleep soundly, take a clear conscience to bed with you.—Franklin.

for FIRST AID in Relieving Common Skin Ailments or Injuries always rely on Resinol



A Grave Mistake for a Mother to Make

GIVING CHILD UNKNOWN REMEDIES WITHOUT ASKING DOCTOR FIRST

GIVING your child a medicine or remedy you don't know all about—without asking your family doctor first—is a bad risk for any mother to take.

Doctors and child authorities say health, and sometimes life itself, depends on this.

So—when you're offered a "bargain" in a remedy for your child; ask your doctor before



you buy it. Do this for your child's sake and your own peace of mind.

Ask him particularly about the frequently used "milk of magnesia"—about Phillips' Milk of Magnesia. He will tell you that for over 60 years physicians have endorsed it as SAFE for your child. The kind of remedy you want your child to have.

Remember this when you buy, and say "Phillips' Milk of Magnesia" to your druggist. Comes now, also, in tablets that taste of peppermint, that children like to take.

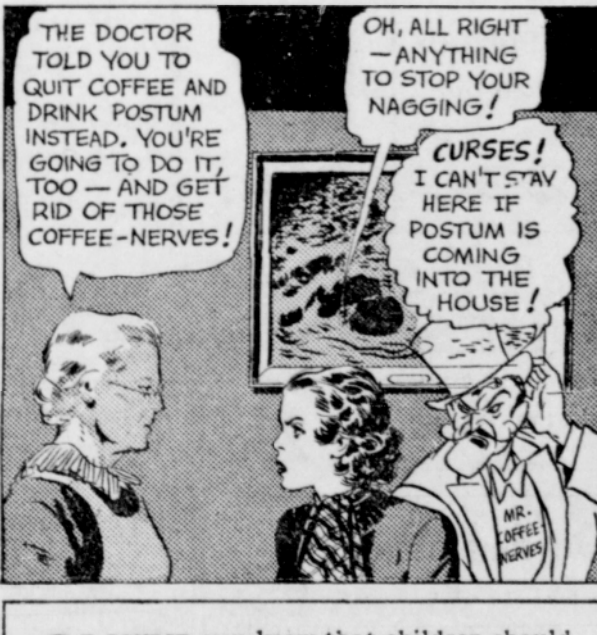
Safety for You and Yours



NOW, ALSO IN TABLET FORM

You can assist others by refusing to accept a substitute for the genuine Phillips' Milk of Magnesia. Do this in the interest of yourself and your children—and in the interest of the public in general.

Mother Takes a Hand



OF COURSE, you know that children should never drink coffee. But do you realize that the caffeine in coffee disagrees with many grown-ups, too?

If you are bothered by headaches or indigestion, or find it difficult to sleep soundly... caffeine may be to blame.

Isn't it worth while to try Postum for 30 days? Postum contains no caffeine. It is simply whole wheat and bran, roasted and slightly sweetened. It is easy to make, and costs less than one-half cent a cup. It's a delicious drink, too... and may prove a real help. A product of General Foods.

FREE—let us send you your first week's supply of Postum free! Simply mail coupon. © 1936, G. F. CORP.

GENERAL FOODS, Battle Creek, Mich. W. N. U.—2-15-36

Send me, without obligation, a week's supply of Postum.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Fill in completely, print name and address. If you live in Canada, address: General Foods, Ltd., Cobourg, Ont. (Offer expires Dec. 31, 1936.)