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WATER IN HIGH COST OF LIVING.

We all know that one of the biggest items in the high cost of living is railroad transportation charges. Every time we drink a glass of milk we cough up a bit of change for some railroad company's cash box. But what would you say to getting your milk in powder, weighing about 87 per cent less than the liquid milk? You'd pay no freight on the water Mrs. Moo-Cow put in it—in fact, you'd add the water yourself when you wanted your glass of milk.

Millions of dollars a year could be saved in freight charges alone if we took the countless tons of plain water out of a lot of the things we eat.

A start has been made by a Chicago concern which is drying out 87 per cent of the weight of milk. The powder which results is at present used only by bakeries.

The department of agriculture in a forthcoming publication is to proclaim its support of this plan of lowering prices and has selected as an example the immensely important German industry of potato drying, believing that conditions in this country are more than ordinarily favorable for the rapid adoption of an European expedient of economy.

Only 20 to 25 per cent of the potato is solid matter and upon every ton shipped the freight is paid upon 75 to 80 per cent water, and the cost is borne by the farmer from his profits and the consumer from an already overtaxed pocketbook.

The optimism of the exponents of the potato-drying industry is based upon the fact that the same machinery used for drying sugar beet leaves and pulp can be employed at other seasons for drying potatoes. As sugar-beet growing is already an important industry in about sixteen states, but little extra expense would have to be incurred to test the practicability of this plan. Most of the important beet sugar states are also great potato-growing sections, and the two industries can go hand in hand, as they have in Germany, where the great development of the beet sugar industry has led to a tremendous development of potato growing. It has been found, moreover, that the cultivation of sugar beets increases the yield of all other crops grown in rotation with them, this increase varying from 25 to 50 per cent with different crops and amounting to 46 per cent in the case of potatoes.

The sugar beet itself is one of the products to which this process of economy through extraction of surplus water has been applied and a business of $2,000,000 a year has been built up in the past few years in dried beet pulp for stock feeding.

Another advantage that will come from the introduction of the drying industry in connection with such a crop as potatoes, as is pointed out by the department of agriculture, is that the present uncertainties of the crop would be removed and both the producer and consumer would be benefitted. The grower would have a more reliable market and the present wide fluctuations in prices would be avoided.

The city waterworks department is in better shape today than it has been in the history of the city. It has been thoroughly checked up during the past three months and more than $1,600 per year has been added to the income, in finding service taps that were not on the city books. As a rule this season of the year, when irrigation demands are the heaviest, the pressure has been kept up to the standard, an average of about 140 points in the lower city districts, and with pressure enough for service on the hills. As a whole, the system is in splendid working shape and Mr. Hurt is to be congratulated for his systematic work in getting these results.

Senator Percy of Mississippi takes the railroad side of the canal controversy, inveighing against "discrimination," when, as a matter of fact, there is no discrimination proposed.

THEN AND NOW.

Senator Joseph W. Bailey must have many a quiet laugh with himself when he casts his mental vision backward and thinks of the Joseph Weldon Bailey who came from Texas as the youngest member of the house of representatives. That was the Bailey who gained notoriety by his refusal to bow to that aristocratic custom which prescribes "evening clothes" for certain dinner occasions. No! He represented the common people; he would not demean himself by encasing his body in a spiketailed coat and mingling with aristocrats! He came from Texas, where a man was a man for a' that. His heart throbbed in unison with that of the man in the checked shirt; and no soccial custom could induce him to go beyond a frock coat, a black slouch, and a white lawn tie! He scorned the rich and denounced them fiercely on the floor of the house. Trusts were an abomination. Honest poverty was the keynote of great statesmanship and the constitution was glorified in its preamble and its guarantees of liberty to the individual!

At that time Bailey had not penetrated the inner mysteries of the constitution, wherein are found protection for property as well as for personal liberty. He had not gathered that vast respect for our judicial system which now is the foundation of his mentality. He had not entered into secret correspondence with Standard Oil or asked temporary loans from the representatives of the Waters-Pierce company. He had not set up a stable of racing horses. He had not become the open champion of Lorimer and the defender of Taft's policies. He did not view so often with alarm; he did not see an American edition of the French revolution lurking behind the next turn in the road; he did not abound in solemn warnings against the encroachments of the mob. He was not so stout, not so rich, not so sleek and well-fed as he is today. He had that same baby stare and the same ingenuous tone in opening up his argument; that same appeal to the frankness and the fairness and the candid impartiality of his hearers; but he had not received the final brand and stamp of ownership which he now bears. He was plausible and was believed and was followed by a large membership of his party and was admired by others not of his party. He played well his part and by a hypocrisy rarely equaled in American public life he won for himself riches and the confidence of the great corporations which he now goes from the senate to serve.

As remarked by Senator William Alden Smith, "Bailey will be missed." But it will be the corrupt and sinister interests who have used him who will miss him. He must serve them now from the lobby and the Wall street office, whereas before he has served them from his seat.

PRISONS.

A man who writes under the name of "Donald Lowrie" has recently issued a book telling us his experiences in San Quentin prison, California, a place made rather notorious as the enforced residence of Abe Ruef and the McNamaras.

We believe the book should be placed in the hands of every state legislator and every prison commissioner. Packed to the brim with facts, with no false whine for pity, but often with the saving sense of humor, it nevertheless constitutes a tremendous indictment of our prison systems and so-called civilization.

Penologists say prisons are maintained in order that men who commit offenses against society may be made to see the error of their ways and come out of durance as future good members of society. As a matter of fact, most of our present prisons make beasts of the prisoners and brutalize the keepers. They are poisonous in every way.

So long as we lock men into narrow cells with practically no ventilation and little cleanliness, so long as we force them to eat food under conditions that are disgusting, so long as we permit punishments that are savage, our boasted twentieth century is not very far in advance of the tortures and prisons of the middle ages which we so love to call "dark."

The very beasts in the menageries are treated better than most inmates of state prisons. We will begin to make men of offenders against the law only when we begin to treat them as men. If we continue to treat them as savage beasts, they will continue to issue from the grim walls of our penitentiaries with a raging desire to avenge themselves upon a society which has taught them only the hostile spirit of the law's vengeance.

Governor Deneen of Illinois refuses to desert Taft for the new third party.

REPUBLICANS NATURALLY PROGRESSIVE.

The reason why the progressive party must of necessity be developed principally out of the republican party becomes apparent after a little thought. In the first place, the evolution has already been accomplished in a number of states. In the second place, the democratic party is a wholly different kind of entity from its chief opponent. The republican party has always been comparatively homogeneous. The present split in the party is temporary and transitional. Fundamentally, the republican party has always been progressive, but in order to keep alive it is compelled from time to time to accept new views of what progress means and to adapt itself to new conditions. It is now in the process of a healthful transformation from within. Precisely as it threw off machine domination in Pennsylvania a few weeks ago, so it has been struggling to emancipate itself in many other states. Whether it keeps the name republican or not, the progressive movement will be made up of men who, like Roosevelt, have been the leaders in the more radical wing of the republican party.

The democratic party has some elements of unity, but in the main it is a coalition of groups. Its largest factor is the solid south. Its second factor in permanence is Tammany Hall. Its third is the old-line democracy represented by men like Governor Harmon of Ohio, and its fourth is the radical democracy represented by men like Bryan and Hearst. The democratic party finds its opportunity not so much in its own shining virtues as in the faults and failures of the republican party. The immense democratic wave that struck the country in 1910 was due to the weakness and failure of the Taft administration and the action of a republican congress in passing the Payne-Aldrich tariff. The recent progressive movement in the republican party, as led by Roosevelt, was a confession of these mistakes.

ROOSEVELT AND WILSON AS PUBLIC MEN.

Both Wilson and Roosevelt are remarkably versed in the two kinds of political knowledge. They know about governments through vast historical study and reading, and they know about political matters in their working manifestations. Obviously, Mr. Roosevelt has had very much more practical experience than Dr. Wilson. But they belong to the same class. They would both of them be great public men and leaders in England, or Canada, or France, or Germany, where public life is a career. Woodrow Wilson, as writer and speaker on political matters, has always been before the American public. As administrator, he has carried on the affairs of a great university, a position which in our country trains for governmental administration better than almost any other kind of experience. As governor of New Jersey, he has shown that he can meet the exigencies of practical politics with firmness and upon high ground. He has admirable qualities of personality that would make him a most worthy and welcome occupant of the White House. The American people like to have their political leaders men of learning and culture. One of the reasons why they are fond of Roosevelt is the unceasing industry he has always shown in the pursuit of many kinds of useful and interesting knowledge. Woodrow Wilson is a man with a zeal for what is right in public matters. There is one great test we should learn to apply to every aspirant for public place in this country—namely, is the man public-minded, or is he private-minded? And this is not so much a quality of character as it is a quality of intellect. Wilson and Roosevelt are essentially public men. They act upon public questions for open, public reasons. Their minds are trained to work in that fashion. Others who might be named are essentially private-minded. These others have always some personal, private reason for public acts.

Much oratory is being loosed in Washington in discussing what the United States can do or cannot do with the Panama canal, but the average citizen will cling to the belief that after Uncle Sam has built the canal and paid for it wih his own money, it will be mighty hard to prevent him doing as he pleases with it.

Mr. Rockefeller announces that his health is excellent, whereupon we may proceed with the presidential campaign and other matters of minor interest.

Some one has remarked that Lorimer is merely an incident. But Lorimer himself hates to admit that he's a closed incident.

The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

Solomon did not set up one standard for the girls, and another for the boys. He says, "Train up a child." One child in the dear home nest is as lovely to us as another, and yet there are but few homes where the boys are as tenderly shielded as the girls. We are not quite as careful to watch their daily formation of habits and their conversation as we are that of the "girlies." They are more exuberant in spirit, and we send them out of the house for the sake of quiet—after that the girls may practice their music.

Says a father of a small family to us, "My boys and girls do not leave the dooryard after 7 o'clock unless especially detained." We know of others that adopted that same rule years ago and their sons and daughters are today a credit to the town and community. There is nothing elevating in street education.

Plan out your life on a big scale, whether you are a farmer's daughter, or a shepherdess among the hills, or the flattered pet of a drawing room filled with statuary and pictures and bric-a-brac. Stop where you are and make a plan for your lifetime. You cannot be satisfied with a life of frivolity and giggle and indiscretion. Trust the world and it will cheat you if it does not destroy you. The Redoubtable was the name of an enemy's ship that Lord Nelson spared twice from demolition, but that same ship afterward sent the ball that killed him, and the world on which you smile may aim at you its deadliest weapon.

Poor, indescribably poor, is that girl who has gifts, a clear mind and active hands, and who has not been taught how to use them, wandering aimlessly through life, mediocre in everything, without definite aim, seeking vainly for occupations to amuse or distract, perfuming her body to gratify ignorant vanity, injuring herself by late hours and bad food, sparkling dimly in the struggle for a wealthy husband, and then as a wife realizing her weakness and lack of worth; as mother, weeping bitter, stinging tears as she sees the results of her miserable life magnified in her children, and wailing piteously for help and strength when it is too late. No sarcasm this; the scientific man turns to his work with a heavy heart after studying such a case. But object teaching is nature's teaching, and many repetitions are necessary before people will take the lesson and its full meaning to heart.

Nothing is better calculated to ruin a small boy than for him to have two homes, to either of which he is permitted to go at will. If mother reproves or chastises him for his naughtiness, he takes his hat and goes over to grandma's or auntie's house. There he is received, cajoled, petted and permitted to remain a day or two, or perhaps a week. Then, because of some overt act, he is reproved and he picks up his hat and goes off home, where he is kindly received and no reference had to his former misconduct. In this way he is permitted to oscillate between two homes, all the time developing his disregard of the restraints of rightful authority. Trained in this way, he grows up self-willed, has no regard for the rights or wishes of others, and unless some remarkable freak of grace interposes to check his wild career, he is pretty certain to land in the penitentiary.

It is extremely unpleasant for a sensitive woman who, before marriage, had been earning her own living and had been accustomed to spending her income as she pleased, to ask a man for money to buy everything she needs, such as cotton, needles, pins, etc. It seems to us no more than right that a man should give his wife, for her own necessities, at least half as much money as he would a servant. She keeps his house, provides for the comfort of himself and children, not for hire, but because she loves them, and she cares for her husband's interests as no hired housekeeper would, and is she not entitled to pay for her services? Yet some men would think it a hardship to pay a wife the amount he would be obliged to pay a servant girl. There is many a woman among the working clases who would think herself highly favored if she were sure of fifty cents per week of her husband's wages to spend as she pleased. The above hints are for the husbands who need them, and written in consideration of their good wives.

A gentleman hands us the following scrap, and we presume that he knows better than we do as to the statement being a truthful one. From the bit of confusion we have noticed in approaching these masculine groups, we rather suspect the words are not wide of the mark: It is certainly amusing, when one has a little leisure to approach a group of men on the sidewalk, and listen to the conversation, just to hear how carelessly profanity mixes in. This man tears off an oath and that one tips off a dozen bad words in no time. All of a sudden the loud laugh ceases and the most refined language the 'group' is capable of using takes its place. Goodness, what a change—and what caused it? O, nothing, only a lady has approached them, and they have a little more respect for her than for themselves. Well, well, a lady is a missionary wherever she may be."

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