

EDITORIAL COMMENT AND TIMELY TOPICS

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BY C. S. JACKSON

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THE JOURNAL, P. O. Box 121, Portland, Oregon.

Charence S. Darrow, the able counsel of the striking coal miners last autumn, created with keen judgment a problem of the day in his article in the World on Friday upon "Perils of Trades-Unionism."

PAYNE MUST GO.

Washington dispatches state that the demand for the removal or resignation of Postmaster-General Payne is becoming so strong that it may prove irresistible.

If this be a true statement of the President's attitude, it is not to his credit. There has been too much politics in the Postoffice Department already, and President Roosevelt should remove Payne at once.

The postal scandal grows bigger every day. Mr. Payne's attitude toward the investigation has been from the outset one of hostility. The removals of corrupt officials which he has ordered have in every instance been wrong from him and he has shown the most extreme reluctance to aid in bringing the guilty to punishment.

The report of Bristow and Wynne which has been made public, brings to light many gross irregularities and evidences of widespread corruption. There is one feature of the mismanagement of the department, however, upon which the report throws little light, and that is the extent to which the rural free delivery system has been used for political purposes.

It appears that the patronage of the rural free delivery service was systematically used to aid the political schemes of influential Republican Representatives. Any congressman with the necessary "pull" had only to go to Superintendent Machen and ask for the appointment of such "workers" as he deemed necessary, and the request was promptly granted.

The utter defeat of the Jack Matthews gang of practical politicians in their effort to gain control of the Port of Portland Commission is but the forerunner of other and more crushing reverses that are yet to come. The people of Portland will not endure forever the rule of that petty boss. Political accident may make a man a boss, but to retain his power he must have brains.

G. H. Thomas, one of the new members of the Port of Portland Commission, showed a commendable independence in his refusal to be wheedled or coerced into an alliance with the Republican machine.

Rumors of coming trouble in Columbia grow more persistent as the time draws nearer for the Colombian Congress to act upon the Panama treaty.

While Shamrock III was still 300 miles out at sea, wireless telegraphy announced her approach to New York. When the first cup races were sailed, there was not even a submarine cable to carry the news of the American's victory to this side of the Atlantic.

The officials who are conducting the post-office investigation are said to have been instructed to go to the bottom of the scandal. It will be more to the point if they go to the top. That is where the biggest rascals are to be found.

confidence in the sincerity of the President's professed desire for a radical reform of existing abuses.

THE COUNTY'S LATEST SUIT.

One more suit has been instituted by Multnomah County for the recovery of moneys lost through a so-called settlement of taxes by previous county officials.

Nevertheless the case presents many legal difficulties and the recovery of the money lost to the county, if recovery is made, promises to be obtained only after a protracted battle in the courts.

If this course had been pursued by the officials whose acts have led to the present investigation, Multnomah County would be better off today by several hundred thousand dollars.

Sir Thomas Lipton is quoted as saying that if he does not succeed in his present attempt to lift the cup, he will build another Shamrock. But the remark, if made, cannot be interpreted as an admission of coming defeat, for there has as yet been nothing to diminish his confidence in Shamrock III.

The effort of some Republican papers to create the impression that Postmaster-General Payne is entitled to credit for the investigation now in progress is ludicrous. The investigation was undertaken in the first place without his approval and it has been conducted largely without any knowledge on his part of the details.

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MATLOCK'S RIDE

"Fly for your lives! The flood is close by! Try to save nothing, but fly, farmers, fly! Two hundred have perished, the town's washed away! So fly for your lives; there's no time for delay!"

Thus shouts the bold stockman, good Matlock, the brave, As he flies through the village, the people to save. His own home in ruin, his family slain, Yet he labors to save other homes on the plain.

Pursued by the flood, he still spurs on his steed, Through the town and the village, with thundering speed; Regardless and fearless of personal harm, He rides and he calls out his daring alarm.

"The flood is at hand! Farmers, do not delay!" Thus calls the good Matlock, and rides on his way; Twenty miles from sad Heppner to distant Ione, Can he reach it, our hero—brave Matlock—alone?

On, on, still he rides, just ahead of the storm; The wondering farmers perceive his brave form, And hearing his message, they fly for their lives; First gathering to them their children and wives.

At last at far Lexington Matlock arrives; He shouts his dire message, "Oh, fly for your lives!" Ahead of him still are eight miles to Ione, But still rides the intrepid rider alone.

His horse is now weary, and faint is his cry, Yet he still in his shouts warns the farmers to fly; Three miles has he passed, and five more are ahead, He must reach the town quickly, his tidings to spread.

On, on, through the storm and the darkness of night, Rides the undaunted Matlock, and seeking a light, Perceives that he's come to the town of Ione, And he stiffly dismounts from his horse, with a groan.

For twenty long miles he has come at full speed, To save all the farmers by one daring deed; From water-swept Heppner to distant Ione, Two hundred are saved by brave Matlock alone!

When the land's free of wreckage, and farmers once more Shall rebuild their homes and their ranches restore, Brave Matlock will be revered, with good right, As the man who saved hundreds of lives in a night!

—Ruth E. Crocker.

NOTE—Since this poem was put in type Mr. Matlock generously gives full credit to Mr. Bruce Kelly of Heppner for having also dashed ahead of the flood to sound the warning to the people. Mr. Kelly did splendid work, and he, too, is entitled to the laudation of these verses.—Editor.

FAMOUS SERMON FROM THE BIBLE.

(Christ Our Advocate—Rightly to Know God is to Keep His Commandments.)

First Epistle General of John II.

MY LITTLE CHILDREN,

These things write I unto you that ye sin not.

And if any man sin,

WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE WITH THE FATHER,

JESUS CHRIST, THE RIGHTEOUS.

And He is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, But also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby

WE DO KNOW THAT WE KNOW HIM,

IF WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS.

He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is A LIAR, AND THE TRUTH IS NOT IN HIM.

But who so keepeth His word,

In him verily is the love of God perfected:

He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, Even as He walked. Brethren,

I WRITE NO NEW COMMANDMENT UNTO YOU,

But an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard From the beginning. Again,

A NEW COMMANDMENT I WRITE UNTO YOU,

Which thing is true in Him and in you;

Because the darkness is past,

And the true-light now shineth.

He that saith he is in the light,

AND HATETH HIS BROTHER,

Is in darkness even until now.

HE THAT LOVETH HIS BROTHER ABIDETH IN THE LIGHT,

And there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But HE THAT HATETH HIS BROTHER IS IN DARKNESS,

And walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, Because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

I WRITE UNTO YOU, LITTLE CHILDREN,

Because your sins are forgiven you for HIS NAME'S SAKE.

I WRITE UNTO YOU, FATHERS,

Because ye have known Him that IS from the beginning.

I WRITE UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN,

Because ye have overcome the wicked one.

I WRITE UNTO YOU, LITTLE CHILDREN,

Because ye have known the Father.

I HAVE WRITTEN UNTO YOU, FATHERS,

Because ye have known Him that IS from the beginning.

I HAVE WRITTEN UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN,

Because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, And ye have overcome the wicked one.

LOVE NOT THE WORLD.

Neither the things that are in the world.

IF ANY MAN LOVE THE WORLD,

THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IS NOT IN HIM.

For all that is in the world,

The lust of the flesh,

And the lust of the eyes,

And the pride of life,

Is not of the Father,

But is of the world. And

THE WORLD PASSETH AWAY AND THE LUST THEREOF: BUT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF GOD ABIDETH FOREVER.

I have not written unto you

BECAUSE YE KNOW NOT THE TRUTH,

BUT BECAUSE YE KNOW IT,

And that no lie is of the truth.

WHO IS A LIAR BUT HE THAT DENIETH THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST?

He is antichrist that denieth the Father and the Son.

Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father:

But he that acknowledgeth the Son, hath the Father also.

Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard From the beginning.

If that which ye have heard from the beginning Shall remain in you,

YE SHALL CONTINUE IN THE SON AND IN THE FATHER.

These things have I written unto you

Concerning them that seduce you.

But the anointing which ye have received Of Him that abideth in you,

And ye need not that any man teach you: But as the same anointing teacheth you of all things,

And is truth, AND IS NO LIE,

And even as it hath taught you, Ye shall abide in Him, and now,

LITTLE CHILDREN ABIDE IN HIM;

That when He shall appear, we may have confidence, And not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

If ye know that He is righteous, ye know that EVERY ONE THAT DOETH RIGHTEOUSNESS IS BORN OF HIM

SOME FEW FACTS ABOUT SERBIA

The kingdom lies in the Balkan peninsula. Serbia has 19,000 square miles within its borders. The State of Ohio has a total square mileage of 41,060.

The population of Serbia as given in 1901 was 2,182,759. The population of Ohio as given in 1900 was 4,157,545.

Serbia lies between Bosnia on the west and Bulgaria and Roumania on the east. The surface of the country is for the most part mountainous.

Gold, silver, iron and lead are found in the regions. The climate is mild, though subject to the extreme characteristic of inland Eastern countries.

The leading occupations are agriculture and the raising of live-stock; the chief products are hogs, sheep, wheat and maize. Four-fifths of the people in the country districts live on their own land.

The government is a constitutional hereditary monarchy. The legislative body is the Skupshtina. The prevailing religion is the Greek Catholic.

The history of Serbia covers a long and turbulent period. The title of King of Serbia was assumed in the eleventh century, when the country was in its most flourishing condition. The Serbian power was overthrown by the Turks in 1389 and Serbia

was incorporated with Turkey about 1458. A rising under Czerny George in 1804 resulted in the expulsion of the Turks, but they reconquered the country in 1813. A rising in 1815 under Milosh Obrenovich was more successful. The Turkish garrisons were withdrawn in 1867. The war against Turkey in 1876 was unsuccessful. Serbia took part with Russia against Turkey in 1877-1878 and became absolutely independent, receiving a considerable addition to territory in 1878.

The agricultural population is scattered among a great number of villages, most of which consist of single isolated homesteads. The patriarch of the community apportions the work and distributes the proceeds of the labor. His ruling is followed without question.

The Serbian army is divided into three classes; the first class, embracing men between 25 and 30 years of age, constitutes the standing army, which numbers 18,000 on a peace footing and about 100,000 on a war footing; the second class contains men between 30 years and 37, who have served in the standing army; the third class, which is only called out in extraordinary emergencies, is composed of men between 37 and 50 years. The total military strength of the kingdom is estimated at 200,000.

UNCLE JOSH'S QUERY.

"I occasionally get hold of a queer passenger," said a conductor on one of the suburban lines the other day, "but I had always managed to hold my own until a week ago. Then a regular Uncle Josh took my car for the first trolley ride in his life. He sat up in a corner and watched things for a few minutes and then beckoned to me and said:

"Conductor, you look like a smart young fellow."

"Yes, sir."

"Then tell me what makes this car go?"

"Electricity, sir."

"That didn't satisfy him for more than three minutes. I saw a doubtful, puzzled look spread over his face, and presently he beckoned to me again and said:

"Conductor, I should say you was about as smart as they make 'em."

"Yes, sir."

"And I guess you know it all."

"About all, sir."

"I asked you what made the car go and you said electricity."

"That's correct."

"All right. If electricity makes the car go, what in tarnation makes electricity go?"

"He had me there," smiled the conductor, "and I went out of business in half a minute, and the grin on the old man's face was something to be remembered for many days."

LORD HALSBURY'S PUN.

Behind the professional mark which they are obliged to wear there is a good deal of fun in the composition of legal luminaries.

At a recent reunion of prominent wearers of the wig and gown at a well-known London restaurant, conversation rapidly became reminiscent and stories flew thick and fast, reviewing the memories of familiar idiosyncracies of certain judges and K. C.'s.

The most popular raconteur seems to have been a well-known professor of psychology, who had years ago abandoned rights, and who is wont to descend on occasions from his high intellectual plane.

He tells of how, years ago, a crowd of merry-makers, bent on mischief, encountered Lord Halsbury in the corridor of a hotel one night, and running him into a neighboring bath-room, refused to let him out until he had made a good pun. Scarcely stopping for breath, the future Lord Chancellor shouted from the other side in a tone of command: "O pun the door!" and needless to say, he was promptly released.

ELECTRIC FURNACE.

The electric resistance furnace made by Heraeus of Hanau, Germany, depends upon the incandescence of a spiral of fine platinum wire. In an improved and cheapened form of the furnace the wire has a thickness of only 1-3,500th of an inch, and the glass tube around which the spiral is wound can be heated to 1,700 degrees centigrade, this being as great a temperature as any tubes now produced can stand. Such furnaces are found useful for determining melting points, organic chemical analysis and other purposes. In organic analysis the spiral of wire encircling the glass combustion tube is cut up into several sections, so that successive portions of the tube can be heated as desired. Heat loss is lessened, with corresponding increase in the chemist's comfort.

HOME TRAINING IS NEEDED.

There is a good deal of preaching nowadays about the irreverence of young people and their impatience with religious life. The people who have children are more to blame for this than anybody else. If they would look after the training and education of their own people instead of adopting machine methods of kindergarten and Sunday School instruction in piety, probably there would be a very marked change in public sentiment toward the things which used to be regarded as sacred.—Charleston News and Courier.

DOING THE FAIR THING.

Householder—That last butter, Mr. Creamer, was a little strong. Dairymen—Yes, I found that out before I sent it. So I told Mr. Wiggs to give you short weight. It was the best thing we could do, you know, under the circumstances.—Boston Transcript.

BIG CATHEDRAL MAY FALL.

The cathedral of Toledo is in danger of crumbling. Some cracks have been discovered in it, and, according to the experts, it is doomed to a fate like that of the Campanile of Venice. The government has sent architects to try to save it.

A CIVIC HEART.

The projectors of a great people's hall, to be in this city a social, political and educational center, are working on the right lines. They propose an institution in which the people can gather for healthful recreation, in which they can gain every kind of instruction and exchange opinions about public affairs and hear what their servants have to say about their fulfillment of their trusts. The hall is to be at once a social and athletic club, a popular college and a civic forum. Perhaps it is through such institutions that the problems of city government can best be solved. In any event they can aid greatly in the solution. So long as the citizens remain unrelated atoms, each vibrating in his solitary home, it will be difficult to resist effectively the forces of disorder and decay. To have a healthy civic life there must be a civic organism—not a government, but a social fabric of living flesh and blood. And that means that we must bring the people together in constant mutual activities.—New York World.

BANKS THAT SPECULATE.

The erratic movements of stocks in which weakness has predominated have brought to the surface the unsafe banking practices which have prevailed in some cities. The wild craving for profits has driven some banks into various ventures which were hazardous and at variance with strict banking principles. In order to make dividends certain banks have engaged directly in speculation. They have gone into the open market, bought securities and held them, with the view of selling out later at a profit. These "purchases" in the market have been covered up in the books under the general heading of "loans." Money tied up in these speculative ventures have been represented to stockholders as being placed in "loans," the purchased securities being the evidence or collateral of such loans. Despite the whitewashing on the books, however, they were unadulterated speculative plunges.—Baltimore American.

IDENTIFIED.

His mother was giving a musicale, and he had been put to bed even earlier than usual. The indignity rankled in his infantile breast. He was very fond of music, and besides he wanted to see all the people who were turned in the parlor. He tossed and tumbled about in his bed and tried all the expedients to fall asleep, but it was useless. Finally he could stand it no longer, and he got out of bed. A bottle of violet extract on his mother's dressing table caught his eye. This he held above his head and allowed the contents to trickle all over his small body. When the bottle was empty he crept stealthily down the stairs, reveling in the delights of the perfume. There was a lull in the music as he concealed himself behind a curtain, and the guests were startled a moment later when a shrill, piping little voice came from the diminutive bundle of scented pajamas. "If you smell anything, it's me!"—Philadelphia Record.

NO BIRTH RECORDS IN MISSOURI.

Several Missouri papers are lamenting that no Missourian can officially prove that he was born. No vital statistics are kept in this state. It is practically the only commonwealth in existence of which this is true. We can prove we were married; The records in the office of the Recorder of Deeds can be brought into requisition for that purpose. But only the family Bible can be depended on to show when and where we were born, and it is no longer the fashion to have a family Bible in every household; and as for death, the tombstone may be presented as evidence of that, as is said to have been done once in a Boone County law suit, although it is rather inconvenient proof.—Kansas City Journal.

REED AS A JOKER.

When William A. Peffer was Senator from Kansas, he met "Car" Reed one day, and in the course of conversation complained of having a headache. "I don't understand it," said the Senator. "I guess I will have to see a doctor." "A doctor for trouble with your head?" returned Mr. Reed. "No, no! You'd better see a wheelwright."

James A. Dumont, the retiring supervising inspector-general of steamboats at Washington, has served in that position for 27 consecutive years, under eight presidents and through four political changes of administration. The steamboat inspection law had been in operation five years when he became the head of the bureau, but he had had five predecessors.