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R. J. Hendricks Editor John L. Brady Manager Job Dept. Frank Jankowski

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BIBLE THOUGHT AND PRAYER

Prepared by Radio BIBLE SERVICE Bureau, Cincinnati, Ohio. If parents will have their children memorize the daily Bible selections, it will prove a priceless heritage to them in after years.

July 13, 1924

AN OLD MAN'S TESTIMONY: I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness.—2 Timothy 4:7.

PRAYER: Most Merciful God, we have often failed and refused to fight, but Thy mercy has given us another chance; keep us steadfast in the faith from now on.

A DISTINGUISHED DOG VISITOR

This is a human interest story about a dog. Salem will have a distinguished visitor on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, in the person of "Bobbie," the wonderful Silverton Scotch Collie dog who, having been lost, found his way home after traveling about 3000 weary miles.

And "Bobbie" had no railroad ticket or sleeping car berth; no guide book; no hotel reservations. He was "without purse, and scrip, and shoes." He could not read the sign boards. He had no compass; he knew not east from west or north or south.

He just had his wonderful dog instinct to lead him the right way; a thing that is below human intelligence in some ways, but above it in others—for where is the human being who could perform Bobbie's feat with nothing but his human instinct to guide him?

A good dog is a wonderful animal. Many interesting books have been written about dogs.

And have you ever read Senator Vest's tribute to the dog? If you have, it will be worth your while to read it again, and if you have not you will be thrilled by it.

Some years ago, in one of the towns of northern Missouri, a citizen brought a damage suit for \$200 against a neighbor who had killed his dog. United States Senator George G. Vest appeared in the case as counsel for the plaintiff. The defendant was represented by United States Senator Francis M. Cockrell.

Senator Vest made the closing argument to the jury. He spoke but few words, and these in a low voice and with little gesture. He made no reference to the law, the evidence, or the merits of the case, but confined his remarks to an eloquent and most remarkable tribute to the dog, as follows:

"Gentlemen of the Jury: The best human friend a man has in the world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter that he has reared with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has he may lose. It flies away from him, perhaps, when he needs it most. A man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us an honor when success is with us may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads. The one absolutely unselfish friend that a man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deceives him, the one that never proves ungrateful and treacherous, is his dog.

"A man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground where the wintry wind blows and the snow drifts fiercely, if only he may be near his master's side. He will lick the hand that has no food to offer. He will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. When all other friends desert he remains. When riches take wings and reputation falls to pieces, he is as constant in his love as the sun in its journeys through the heavens. If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying, to guard against danger, to fight against his enemies, and when the last scene of all comes, and when death takes the master in its embrace and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by the graveside may the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even in death."

The jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff. It is said that, although the suit was for only \$200, the verdict of the jury was for \$500, and that some of the jurors wanted to hang the defendant.

OREGON LINEN

(From the Portland Journal of July 12.) Fifty thousand dollars clear of operating expense will be earned this year by the penitentiary flax industry.

The flax straw grown near Salem contains the longest and finest fiber for the manufacture of linens that has ever been produced. This is the testimony of experts.

The flaxseed contains oil of ronder and fuller body for medicinal and industrial purposes than any other flaxseed handled by Portland dealers. This is the testimony of Henry Frank, a local wholesale druggist.

Here are three demonstrations of the quality of Oregon flax that should help quiet the doubts of farmers who are thinking about growing flax in the Willamette valley.

The demand for linens is as constant as the demand for woollens and cottons. The demand for linseed oil is as dependable as the demand for white leads and pigments in the paint industry.

Oftentimes a penitentiary is looked upon as a parasitic incubator. It is a place to be established and endured because of the evil in the deeds of men.

But the prisoner who runs the flaxseed mill at the Oregon penitentiary with new machinery is a man who takes the keenest interest in his work. His enthusiasm is aroused by the possibility of better product. He is to every appearance an inoffensive, industrious workman who delights in the operation of machinery. He is a better, more hopeful, less dangerous man because of his employment. Society sent him from eastern Oregon to serve a life term because he killed an aged man.

There are other men confined in the penitentiary who have profited personally by wholesome contact with this incipient flax industry. They receive a little pay for the work they do. They are not in the number who attempt escape. Some of them will be released when they have completed their sentence, and they will have skilled knowledge to aid in winning a future livelihood.

On the other hand, the penitentiary is pointing the way toward more intense utilization of Willamette valley lands. It is a pioneer service. The Willamette valley's permanent prosperity will be built, not on huge estates, with workers employed in semi-like capacities, but in the division of the valley into one-family farms, where specialists in production will compel the soil to support the best types of homes and home-dwellers.

The above by the Portland Journal is timely. There is beginning to grow up outside of the penitentiary a flax threshing, retting and scutching industry. It will grow fast—will have to, with the coming of spinning and weaving mills; and they are coming—three or four a year. The men in the flax plant who are coming—three

flax threshing, retting and scutching will be valuable workers on the outside when released; useful to themselves and their dependents, and useful to the developing industry. Later on, when the state flax plant makes yarns, and perhaps twines, the same will be true in a wider field.

DEMOCRACY FAILURE

A learned professor from the east, lecturing in the west, tells us of democracy's failure.

Democracy has scored one outstanding failure. It is the lack of interest on the part of the people. If an enemy were to drop a bomb any place in America today the response of the offense to the country would be 100 per cent. Yet on the question of good government, on the question of participating in good government, we find a strange laxness and lassitude. Less than 50 per cent of those entitled to vote voted in the last presidential election, and if 50 per cent vote in this election it will be a wonder. We talk of government by the people, of the people and for the people, yet we have a minority government always. All votes put together do not make a majority of the people.

Lay your finger on the vote and you lay your finger on the cause of our trouble. If all of us voted, all of us took a keen interest in public affairs, we would have better government in every way. The man who does not vote has no challenge coming on any failure of government.

SEEKING RELIEF

A gathering of farmers at St. Paul finds the necessity of co-operation imperative and demands the organization of some movement on the basis of the American Federation of Labor.

Until the farmers do organize in this way, until they cooperate from the planting of the seed to the final marketing, there will be continued depression. Farming ought to be our best business. It ought to be more profitable than any other business in the country. That it is not our best is because the farmers are individualists instead of cooperators.

Granted, that a good many co-operative efforts have failed, there has always been a reason, and the remedy for that reason lies with the farmers themselves. Enormous overhead expenses, poor business management and bad judgment have combined to keep the farmer from coming into his own, but the farmer must cooperate, he must recognize that the interests of the farmers in North Dakota are the same as the interests of the farmers of Oregon and Washington.

LESSENING THE DRINK EVIL

Ireland is supposed to be a country where men cannot live without drink. Yet prohibition sentiment is growing there to the extent that it is alarming the brewers.

For many years the manufacturers of liquor paid a small fine and went their nefarious way. Now they are sent to jail, actually sent to jail. It used to be that when a new bar was opened the key was thrown away. That is no longer true. Saloons are open 13 hours a day, over the strenuous protests of the liquor interests.

Another advanced provision is that which takes away the mixed store and makes liquor sold by itself. Every grocery store used to be a saloon, and so was every hotel. Now that has been abolished, and the bar must be entirely separate. You can not sell food across the same counter you sell liquor. Those who know the conditions in Ireland note this is a tremendous advance.

THE NEW BUILDING

The third building was dedicated at the WCTU orphan home at Corvallis Sunday. Please note the word third, as that is important. There ought to be 20 buildings, and the women could use 20 buildings to good advantage.

However, there should be a campaign for the fourth building at once. Mayor Baker of Portland, in his address deplored the fact that these buildings were erected with such small contributions. In one sense it makes them more democratic, but it is a pity that such a deserving cause as this does not reach the hearts of rich people.

The commercial home finding institutions are doing their work, but they can not have the sympathy that these loving workers have. The WCTU has won its place in the hearts of the people. It has had 60 years of service, but nothing has ever been done that is more concretely useful than providing a home for the orphans. There ought to be enough people in Oregon whose hearts are touched with the appeals of these women to erect another building at once, and we hope the work will go on. It is a great work; it is a wonderful work, and the people of Oregon should push it forward much faster than they are doing.

TAX REDUCTION

No matter what the talk, the issue of this campaign is tax reduction. That hits all the people. Those who do not pay taxes directly do so indirectly. Our tax bill is twenty-four million dollars a day, which is three times what it was before the war. For every family in America the average tax is \$1 a day for every working day in the year. Out of every \$100 earned, \$12 goes to taxation. Of

BOOK REVIEW

By VERA BRADY SHIPMAN

"The Editor and His People," a group of editorials by William Allen White, selected and arranged by Helen O. Mahin. Published by the MacMillan company, New York City, price \$2.50.

"Bill White" of Emporia, as Kansas has always known him, has carried Kansas on his own personal wave of favor because he has always elected to stay in Kansas. Tempting offers of editorial chairs at distant cities hold no interest. He is quoted as saying that he "prefers to remain in a small town, edit a country newspaper, and be able to tell the whole world exactly what he thinks of it."

His editorials have been gems of literary value as well as political and timely propaganda. When Will White thinks something, he says it in the Emporia Gazette and the whole country reads it, perhaps not in the Gazette, although its circulation is flattering, but in one of the many hundred reprints all over the country which hang upon Whites literary utterances.

When "Henry and Me" famously went the Red Cross road to Europe, all the world knew in a little while that Henry Allen was governor of Kansas and a capable man at that. They also knew that White had a sense of humor which made kindly fun of many war-torn situations which were unduly threatening. Will White can hold up a spot to ridicule and force the world to see his viewpoint better than most men.

This compiler, an instructor in Kansas University at Lawrence, assembled some of his most timely editorials for her class room. The possibilities confronted with such a momentous assembly, together with Whites own footnotes and up-to-date summarizing, almost forced its publication in book form.

It is a group of editorials of such literary flavor, such mirth, such clear-eyed decision, such realization of human frailty and balm of helpful prodding, that the reader sees the man who wrote them in every sentence.

As White defied his friend in the strike placard, as he rose and fell with Rooseveltian progressives, as he has made governors and senators of Kansas, so will this book render a service to students of essay form who can see in unusual clarity, the "Bill" White which Kansas has esteemed for so many years but whom Kansas knows, will not divorce her even though she fall in the lure of other swains such as Populists, Non Partisan leaguers and prohibition fanatics. Kansas starts so many things which come forth elsewhere. Kansas is years ahead of the race in so many things. And William Allen White and his Emporia Gazette have been notable factors for years in the development of Kansas tall roosters, tall corn, wheat fields and pre-Volstead prohibition.

One of the editorials "to an Anxious Friend" won the Pulitzer prize of the year as the best editorial article written within the year.

Kansas is proud of Will White and that he reciprocates is proven in his established residence, not part, but all of the year, home sweet home in Kansas.

"In unfamiliar England" with a motor car, by Thomas D. Murphy. Published by the Page Company, Boston. Price \$6 net.

Pages of modern day travel, motoring through the spots which old England has made famous, old inns, old taverns, wayside crossroads which are known as haunts of poets and peasants. From the royal palace of Windsor to the primitive Canterbury, from Shakespeare's Avon retreat to the home of the novelist still living, Thomas Hardy, in Dorchester, London town and from there to the far country, the pages are filled with interesting reading, well told, and admirably illustrated by page rotogravures.

Two editions of this book were published just before the World war, and as interest of books of European travel naturally waned during wars progress, this waited with others to receive its just consideration.

The book is the browsings, traveling and searching into far corners, for three summer motor tours covering nearly fifteen thousand miles in England and Wales alone.

As the average reader knows little of these remote places, the writer has given a book worthy of the finest travel libraries, and always good reading matter. A specially-drawn map, shows the roads covered in the time.

Sulgrave Manor, the home of the Washingtons, to Scott's Marston tower, to Dr. Samuel Johnsons birthplace made noted fifty years ago by a pilgrimage of Hawthorne, these are but a few of the jewels within its pages. Beautifully edited, this book on England is a worthy comrade for the many splendid volumes of "See America First" series, published by the Page Company.

"Black Bass and Bass-Craft" by Sheridan R. Jones. Published by the MacMillan Company, New York City. Price \$3 net.

The writer is an editor of one of America's foremost outing magazines, Outers Recreation, published

as the city man knows his market.

The black bass, the game fish of fresh water, combines the fineness of trout with the powerful fighting qualities of the "musky."

He opens with "The Northland Call—Ever Hear it Brother?" and you enjoy his breezy style as he tells why the bass is the fish for good sportsmanship.

The chapters describe the large mouth, the deep water and rushes bass, big mouth of river and small mouth of rushing waters and of the pools, the bass of the seasons and the bass of many waters, May waters and bass baits, local color and artificial bait, reel and cast, and an interesting chapter on "Can Bass Hear?"

The book is written in an exceedingly clever style, and if you are a fishing fan you will revel in every page. You will surely appreciate the research involved and if you are just one of the thousands of folk who fish rarely but Sheridan Jones book as a breath of the north woods, clear waters, where you wear your old fishing clothes.

The two kinds of black bass are when they can get it, you will read a worthy subject and this book shows a well defined fisherman at the pen.

Every member of the Isaac Walton League will appreciate Jones's book. It is clean sportsmanship and always within the bounds of intelligent reading.

REFORM THE CONVENTION SYSTEM

Although the disension and delay which characterize the present Democratic national convention are by no means without precedent, they are arousing a sufficient amount of dissatisfaction with the convention system of nominations to afford some promise that an effort will be made during the next four years to find a satisfactory substitute. It is idle to say that the evils observable in the conventions can be corrected by a greater sense of personal subordination to party welfare on the part of individual candidates. The prize is so great that no player will surrender any advantage in the contest.

When a large group of delegations is under instructions to vote for a certain candidate until he releases them, it is pretty certain that the patience of the whole convention will be strained to the breaking point before the release comes. When one-third of the convention can block the nomination of any given man, the possibilities of a deadlock are enormously enhanced. But while slight improvements might be made in the convention system by amending the rules, its weakness is inherent in its nature. The delegate convention of 1000 or more members, sitting under the eyes and the influence of more than 10,000 spectators, is in no sense a deliberative body, and the only wonder is that out of it in the past such relatively good results have proceeded.

There is nothing in the convention system rooted in American precedent or based upon American law. Many people think that this system of nominating federal candidates is directed by statute. This is in no sense true. It has grown up as a result of gradual party development. In the past, presidents have been nominated by Congress, by local mass meetings, by a group of self-confident gentlemen in a newspaper office, in almost any way, indeed, in which a man can be selected and be given wide publicity. The Monitor would not urge a return to any of these old haphazard methods. It does, however, suggest that the subject is one which might properly engage the attention of a committee of Congress during the coming two years with a view to the establishment of a more intelligent, orderly, and expeditious method of selecting candidates for the presidency.

Most of the old-time evils which beset the federal elections of the United States have been corrected by public sentiment incorporated into law. Bribery and corruption are no longer practiced to a degree that affects national results. A generation has grown up to whom the old-time joke about the two-dollar bill in Indiana on election day means nothing. Coercion has practically been ended. Except for rumored instances of its application by partisan employers to their employees, it is never heard of, and these in-

stances of late have been too few to exert an appreciable bearing on the outcome of any election.

But the weakness which has existed practically since the establishment of the republic is more apparent than ever. The power to nominate is the greatest power the politicians hold. It is high time that the method by which this power is exercised should be rigidly regulated by statute to the end that nominations shall be made intelligently, with due deliberation, and uninfluenced by the clamors of a partisan mob.

The above from the Christian Science Monitor, one of the strongest and most ably edited papers in the United States, ought to be read by the voters of Oregon.

In this state the men who have manipulated the conventions for years are attempting to get the primary law repealed and the convention substituted. A county convention has ten times as many evils as a state convention and a state convention has ten times as many evils as a national convention. Despite the fact that they are delegates to represent the people, a convention is ruled largely by the galleries and the manipulators in secret who decide the contest. The deadlock in New York is simply because the bosses could not get together and decide who they wanted as candidate for president.

THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY

By EDITOR J. B. PARKER of The Conway (Arkansas) News.

Brave the hurt and brave the pain, and see the battle through, writes Edgar A. Guest in one of his finest poems, and thereby keep your post unto the last for those who trust in you.

Many a seemingly hopeless battle has been won by simply standing by the post and overcoming the difficulties that at first seemed insurmountable.

A young man or woman, desiring to "live on easy street," in their haste opened the way to sure want. Money was spent foolishly just to appease a selfish desire for something that was not needed save to feed vanity.

It's not what you make, but what you save, that starts the bank account. It isn't what you buy to suit your fancy, but how you wear it, that tells how becomingly dressed you are.

It's the unselfish soul, first helping others to get what they need, and then obtaining your desires, that displays the genuine love for another. Selfishness is mean, degrading, and withers the soul.

FUTURE DATES

July 20, Sunday—Delbert Reeves post, American Legion of Silverton, host to legions of Marion and Polk counties at picnic on Abiqua river.

July 16 to 25—Chautauque season in Salem.

August 1 to 16. Boy Scout summer camp, Cascadia.

September 22 to 27—Oregon state fair.

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