

When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you, till it seems as though you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn.—Harriet Beecher Stowe.

The Passing Theatre

CIRCUMSTANCES over which the patron has virtually no control are effectively forcing the spoken drama in America into the limbo of pleasant memories cherished by an older generation. Shakespeare is no longer much more than a trial and tribulation for high school English classes.

Motion pictures are not to be blamed for this sad situation, since the pictures were an additional form of entertainment and not a substitute. Channing Pollock, a notable playwright, charges smut-minded New York producers with most of the tragedy, and adds that high costs of production have furthered the passing of the drama.

But Pollock overlooks, for very good reason, the fundamental reason why the spoken drama is passing. This reason is the Actors' Equity, an association of stage professionals who have put their genius into what amounts to a labor union, dictating working conditions and wage scales to a point where the spoken drama could not survive the ordeal. The average man cannot pay from \$3 to \$7 a seat for an evening's entertainment.

Until Equity was organized the spoken drama flourished throughout the land. The motion picture, perforce, wiped out the town "opera house," but it did not and never could have replaced the so-called legitimate theatre. Equity alone has done more than all other causes to boost production costs and, with them, seat charges, which the average man could not pay. Equity has put into the hands of other labor units a weapon that left the producer and theatre owner defenseless.

To those less addicted to the spoken drama than we, this situation may appear minor. But it does appear. Only last week the last stand of the spoken drama in Oregon—the Heilig theatre in Portland—gave up the ghost of an 18-year battle and was leased to a cheap vaudeville enterprise. Portland's semi-civic effort to create and foster a light opera company was a dismal flop.

These facts give importance to the activities of the Salem Drama League, which is in the midst of preparations for the presentation of "Jan," a neat bit of tragedy written by Mrs. Merrill D. Ohling of Salem. Through such organizations and by virtue of such remaining enthusiasm as a few undaunted folk can muster we may hope for the perpetuation of some of the beauty, the vigor and the genuine entertainment the spoken drama affords.

May we wish profoundly that the success of the drama league not only will assure its own continued activity, but may prove an inspiration to similar activity elsewhere, lest the stage become in truth a mere memory?

Would Make a Houyhnhm Haw Haw

RASKOB'S latest letter of protest and complaint to Dr. Work, head of the republican national committee, stages another scene of the baby act. Here is a quotation from it:

"With both parties agreed on policy and with a world situation such that any other course would invite instant disaster, there is nothing surer in our government than that the principle of complete protection against cheap foreign goods will be preserved unless you mean to imply that the republican congressmen will now abandon it (the tariff) because the democrats have adopted it. . . Governor Smith's courageous stand on the tariff is so explicit that you are entitled to assume that if your republican congressmen do this (abandon the protective tariff policy), he will veto any downward revision proposed by them."

That is enough to make a Houyhnhm haw haw. The Houyhnhm is a member of the ruling class in race of horses in Swift's Utopia of his Gulliver's Travels, as of course the reader knows—

So the above is as much as to say Raskob's childish sob story would make a high bred horse laugh. The idea that a republican congress would abandon the protective tariff principle and prepare a bill that Al Smith, president, would veto because of its "downward revision" schedules or items!

Raskob makes himself ridiculous; asinine; writes himself down a simp. As a political manager he may be a passable high financier.

Reverting to the Houyhnhm horse heaven, he is a true Yahoo.

The White Stone

THERE is a new angle to one of the most important issues of this campaign. Voters are apt to overlook the growing significance of America's foreign relations—

For in early days ours was predominantly a raw material country; its exports were the products of farms and forests and mines. Its manufactured products were mostly used at home. It was a borrowing country—

But now the United States is one of the world's largest exporters of manufactured products. It is the greatest creditor nation.

On its capacity to consume 90 per cent of what it produce and to find foreign markets for the other 10 per cent depends its prosperity—

And in large measure the prosperity of the world and the international equilibrium. Tremendous issues are bound up in the ability of the United States both to consume at home and buy and sell abroad.

"I will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written," said the sacred writer. We are in a new nation and a new world. This is 1928.

From his experience as mining engineer operating all over the world, as head of relief campaigns during and after the war in all parts of Europe, as food administrator during the most difficult period of our history, Mr. Hoover has qualified by experience for leadership in domestic as well as foreign affairs.

Fell Down Again

THE specialists traveling with Al Smith have not earned their salaries, if they have received anything. They have allowed Al to put his foot into his mouth during every speech—

One of the latest cases being his attack on congress for its failure to pass the Norris bill putting Muscle Shoals under government ownership and operation.

In the first place, it is already under government ownership. In the second place, 18 democratic senators voted against the bill. In the third place, one of the principal speeches against the bill was made by Senator Robinson, Al's running mate.

"Candidate Smith merely reflects the influences of Tammany when he suggests these increases from southeastern Europe, for this is the immigration material upon which Tammany has fed fat. The final decision, however, does not rest with Tammany. It rests with the men and women who are to cast their votes on November 6, and . . . they will not stultify themselves to follow the leadership of the governor of New York, but instead they will repudiate his immigration proposal with all its folly."—Senator Steiwer of Oregon at Kearney, Nebraska, last Thursday evening.

Kellygrams BY FRED KELLY

"NEVER made a really big success in business," E. A. Filene, famous Boston merchant, once told me, "until I began to neglect my business. By neglecting business I was able to look about the world and get a broader view of business and, moreover, I gave my assistants and associates an opportunity to do many things far better than I had been doing them."

What'll the Harvest Be?

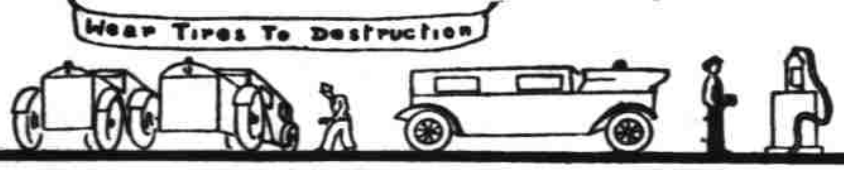


Herbert Hoover

A Reminiscent Biography

By WILL IRWIN

(Extract from the book published by The Century Co.)



WHEN Hoover took over the Department of Commerce, foreign trade was just drilling along. It was a fine thing to have—so American business seemed to feel—but it would take care of itself. Hoover conceived foreign trade in different and more positive terms. We could and we should find broader and stabler outside markets for our goods.

Under the new dispensation the commercial attaché has become almost as much a star reporter as a diplomat. It is his job to gather facts which have a practical use; statistics that mean something. A government announces a big piece of construction work. Here is an opening for American machinery; perhaps for an American contractor. A government or a private enterprise announces a new railroad. It will need rolling stock, structural steel. The attaché gets the news, often in advance of publication. It goes to Washington and thence, directly, promptly, and impartially to the trade.

Above this sits Hoover, the strategist of the campaign, he who has planted American products and installed American methods in most of the countries with which his subordinates are dealing.

Consumer Protected During Hoover's term with the department it has fought and won its notable battles to protect the consumer of imports. Most notable among these was the British rubber monopoly. Owing to our great automobile industry we consume 70 per cent of the world's raw rubber. Our rubber came largely from British possessions in the East Indies. In November, 1922, the British government under legislation in London—the Stevenson Act—arranged to restrict the output of each plantation to 60 per cent of its normal production. Immediately the price of rubber jumped from 36 cents a pound to \$1.21. It played hob with our tire industry.

Hoover sent his experts forth on the famous world-survey of raw materials. They paid special attention to rubber. They gathered facts and figures both searching and accurate. Stocked with this ammunition, Hoover went up against the British government, only to stir up the government-controlled faction of the London press. Hoover who in 1919 had figured in their columns as a super-efficient archangel, became now a black devil of Yankee greed. Thereupon he turned homeward; instituted what amounted to a buyers' strike. From the workshops of the tire manufacturers to the garages of the ultimate consumer passed Hoover's motto: "Wear tires to destruction." Owing to these measures the demand for foreign rubber came down like a cracked balloon. The price fell to 36 cents a pound. The Stevenson Act, a piece of economic folly, was defeating its own ends.

Simplified Methods The idea on which the office of Simplified Practice—a typical Hoover institution—began operations was in its main lines not at all complex or esoteric. In almost every department of industry manufacturers were making too many sizes and designs of everything. Take as an example that industry which the division was first able to tackle—paving boys' basketball team and R. K.

brick. When Hoover's men made their first survey, our manufacturers were producing 66 sizes. In order to furnish replacements for pavements already laid, manufacturers must keep special machinery in commission, must lose time in "setting" it, must tie up capital in stock of odd and little-used sizes. And as always happens, the burden was passed on to the consumer. By mutual agreement the manufacturers reduced their number of sizes to eleven, and eventually to five.

The next national industry to apply for service of the division was bed manufacture. The manufacturers of beds, springs and mattresses reduced their sizes from 74 combinations of lengths and widths to four. The retailer no longer need to carry bedspreads, mattresses and springs in two dozen sizes, need no longer employ a plumber and a tailor to make them fit.

Newspapers Tinkled Somehow, simplifying beds tickled the comic sense of our newspaper paragraphs and editorial writers. This served a useful purpose—it advertised the job. The business community learned that simplified practice was on the map. The rush to Washington became almost an embarrassment.

On the same terms and by the same methods the division had by the end of 1927 helped to straighten out the kinks in 86 American industries. How much this sensible idea inexpensively applied has saved to American industry during the past six years, no one exactly knows. However, ten of the 86 industries have estimated their annual savings through simplification. The total runs past two hundred and eighty-six millions—about the amount of those recurrent tax cuts every industry with oratory. And an economist who has been following the operation makes, as to the saving of all the eighty-six industries, a guess-estimate of six hundred million dollars a year.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talk From The Statesman Our Fathers Read

Oct. 30, 1903

Who has the power to act when the governor of Oregon is out of the state is a question to come before the Multnomah county court this week.

A rutabaga which weighs 28 pounds is on display in the D. A. White & Son store.

Two bicycles, ridden by Orin Richardson, candy maker at Zina's confectionery, and Albert Tate, messenger boy, collided at Richardson's home. Richardson was knocked unconscious but has nearly recovered from the shock and bruises.

J. H. Settlemier of Woodburn is exhibiting a very fine box of Spanish chestnuts at the Portland show.

W. C. Winslow has been named athletic manager of the W. U. team.

The Grab Bag



Who am I? What is my profession? With what recent aerial achievement was I connected?

Who is president of France?

Who was the first president of the German republic?

Who is meant by the phrase, "The Vanishing American?"

Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility; for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Where does this passage appear in the Bible?

JIMMY JAMS



Today in the Past

On this date, in 1735, John Adams, second president of the United States, was born.

Today's Horoscope

Persons born under this sign are very sensitive and easily wounded. They are possessed of the faculty of learning and retaining much valuable knowledge. They also have a great capacity for love.

A Daily Thought

"A man protesting against error is on the way towards uniting himself with all men that believe in truth."—Carlyle.

Answers to Foregoing Questions:

- 1. Lady Drummond Hay; Journalist; with flight of Graf Zeppelin across the ocean.
- 2. Gaston Doumergue.
- 3. Friedrich Ebert.
- 4. The North American Indian.
- 5. I Peter, v. 5.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. Hendricks

A week from tonight— The alibis and post mortems are going to be interesting.

But the Bits man believes the principal post mortem conclusion will be that Al Smith just simply talked his political head off.

It will be a repetition of the Bryan parrot story, told after one of Bryan's disastrous defeats. Poll was up in a tree and several dogs were on the ground. The parrot talked to them, and the more he talked the more excited the dogs grew and the louder the parrot screamed. The bird got so much fun out of it that he became dizzy with the sound of his own voice and toppled off the limb and fell into the dogs. After losing all his tail feathers and being generally mused up, the bird got away and took a survey of the situation, with this conclusion: "I know what is the matter with me—I talk to d--- much."

Smith is all right with the rag-tag and bobtail of the Tammany bunch; he gets a yell out of the gallery gods; he has an appeal to the fellows that would rather have a jag than a job. But his Tammany style of trying to straddle every issue has no appeal at all to the thinking voters of this country; and they are in the vast majority. They just size him up as the trimmer and Tammany trick shadow-dancer that he is, and they do not want to help a man of that size in his ambition to get into the highest office in the world, the place that largely holds the key to the peace and prosperity of this nation and all others.

Salem Y employment office had last week 139 men and 32 women applying for work, and found jobs for 73 of the men and nine of the women. Doing fairly well, but the period of unemployment is approaching, and it is not pleasant to contemplate. Can you think of anything more pitiable than a man or woman needing and seeking work who cannot find any to do?

If you are sick and cannot get to the polls, you are just out of luck. There is no way for you to vote.

Hoover is getting a very large break with the new voter in the Literary Digest poll. This means among several other things, that a big majority of the youngsters out of the universities and the schools prefer a man of the Hoover type. That's all. But that's

The One-Minute Pulpit

How excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep; O Lord, thou preservest man and beast.—Psalms, xxxvi, 6-7.

In a close election, it would decide the issue. New York business men have organized a Hoover club. This is unusual, as business men are usually such cowards politically that it is even hard to get them to put their candidate's picture in their windows. But New York business men know that business is better in a Republican administration, so they have adopted the motto, "Jobs are Better Than Jags."—Corvallis Gazette-Times.

An observing gentleman writing to the New York Herald, tells it all in a short letter. He says that after listening to the radio speeches, he is convinced that the only difference between Smith and Hoover is that the former is boss of the wrecking gang and the latter chief of the construction crew.

Observation is made that the French press is spending a good deal of time and space criticizing the policies of the United States. Some one suggests that may be that France has either gone democratic or is reading democratic newspapers.

Dinner Stories

SYMPATHY

A small boy was told that he must write to his grandmother a letter of sympathy on the death of her husband. This was the letter, adorned with many blots, that eventually arrived:

"Dear Grandma: What a pity about poor Grandpa! Please send me some stamps. There is a new boy here who squeaks if I hit him. With love, from ROGER."

SUOKANE, Oct. 29.—(AP)—The Chronicle says that it has learned that Gordon Cross, Spokane, won first place in the recent Atwater-Kent radio audition contest for Washington. Mr. Cross will compete in the district contest in San Francisco, November 12.

Hoover's Alphabet

By MABEL F. MARTIN



SCIENTIST

THE time has come when a man of scientific training in the Presidency is needed. If we are to maintain our high standards of living, we must have scientific guidance in the proper use and conservation of our material wealth. Since we now manufacture many things for which raw materials must be imported, we need a national leader who knows the world's markets and can defend our interests when foreign producers try to fix prices against us. Herbert Hoover is that man. It was by the threat of this simple expedient that he broke the British attempt to fix a ruinously high price for rubber. Hoover knows the natural resources of the world, and particularly of the United States, better than anyone else.

(To be continued)

Bomb Blows Up Waterhouse Of Knitting Firm

KENOSHA, Wis., Oct. 29.—

(AP)—The 19th bomb in Kenosha's labor disorder struck at the waterhouse and power plant of the Allen Knitting company tonight doing considerable damage to stock and equipment.

The dynamite bomb, set off in an air ventilator near the end of the two story brick building, demolished the wall nearest it.



kills a cold so quickly you can hardly believe it's the tablet that did it. Just one heads-off a cold that's coming-on; a bad cold you have had for several days may take several. Even many tablets of Pape's Cold Compound, which any druggist can give you, for thirty-five cents. Everyone has suggestions when you have a cold, but this one works.

Modern Memorial Parks have eliminated ghastly associations from beautiful memories. Belcrest Memorial Park 714-716 First Nat'l. Bank Bldg.