

Poincare Returns

THE clever pen of the cartoonist caught the American impression of French politics by picturing a review of an almost endless procession of the ex-premiers of France. Each one carried a banner stating his term of office, a month, a year, a day.

To our way of thinking cabinets rise and fall in France with confusing frequency. This is a result of the French party system which, instead of grouping in two major parties as in our country, divide into some fifteen or more political factions advocating every shade of opinion from monarchy to communistic-socialism. No party is strong enough to form a ministry, so each new cabinet is a collection of parties held together for a brief period by political bargains and compromises.

All excluded factions watch like trained fighters to locate the weak spots of the coalition that they may deliver the fatal blow in form of an adverse vote on a government measure and tumble this temporary alliance. In the newly formed cabinet a majority of members are from the fallen one, as is frequently the case in France, and in this instance it is headed by the same premier, Raymond Poincare.

Poincare went out when his opponents won a political tilt, and now he is so quickly restored to power again. In England a cabinet fall results in a sharp change in policy, but in France the government pursues its way as though nothing had happened. The ways of French politics are hard for us to follow, but judging from the recent dispatches their ways are no more a mystery to us than ours are to the French, who followed our recent campaign with much interest and greater perplexity.

Precedent

MR. HOOVER will make his visit to the Latin-American republics before he is president, and it is suggested from several quarters that he has in mind the prejudice against the highest executive leaving his home land except under the rarest occasions. President Wilson did it when he went to France, but it is pointed out that he came home a broken and disappointed man; and Queen Marie did it when she came to this country, but we are reminded that she returned to hand over the reins to her grandson and to lose her title.

And that kings and presidents must stick close to home and do their traveling in the confines of their own nations.

We are reminded, however, that when a big government objected because Mr. Hoover paid too little attention to red tape in feeding Europe's starving, he sent it a note: "It strikes me that trying to feed the Belgians is like trying to feed a hungry kitten by means of a forty-foot bamboo pole, said kitten being confined in a barred cage occupied by two hungry lions." That ended the conversation. Mr. Hoover got the hungry Belgians fed, by hook or by crook, without undue regard to red tape.

But he made a full accounting in the end, to the last penny of the cost—

And he may or may not have much regard to red tape or precedent after he becomes president of the United States. One can imagine that he may readily smash any precedent, in case he shall consider it the best way to get the thing done that ought to be done.

An Outworn Practice

ODD as it may seem, Herbert Hoover has not yet been elected president. The citizens of the United States have given him an overwhelming majority, but it remains for the coming of January 2 and the meeting of the electoral college to see the next president elected.

Then 531 electors or their proxies, will assemble at the capital to cast 444 votes for Mr. Hoover and 87 votes for Mr. Smith.

This anachronism is a product of conditions resident in the United States when the constitution was adopted. At that time the constitution makers thought the people themselves incapable of directly choosing a president; delegation of this privilege was made to electors, supposedly eminent and extraordinary citizens who were to choose the president.

This system, almost from its adoption, has been as useful as the two buttons on the back of a swallow-tail coat. Electors seldom, if ever, have voted otherwise than in the manner prescribed by their constituents. Voting in November, technically, is solely for the purpose of electing electors; the January electoral college meeting determines the presidency. The practice is archaic and useless. With facilities available so that in four hours from the time the popular election is closed, presidential wishes of the majority may be determined, a meeting nearly two months later of 531 electors who always adhere to their constituents wishes is a waste of time, of money and cluttered orderly government. A constitutional amendment will be necessary to change the practice but it should be done. Direct election is here in practice; it should be here legally.

Mr. Hoover, as a devotee of business efficiency, can wisely head a movement to remove this outworn practice from the federal constitution.

What Might Have Been

ELECTION post-mortems are common, but one by David Lawrence has especial interest, for he shows that by changing 350,000 votes in certain states the election would have been given to Smith; though such figures are more startling than convincing, the weak spot being that to change the opinions of that many people one would have to reach many millions of voters. When the winning candidate gets three out of five of the popular votes it takes more than theoretical changes to convince anybody that the election was not by a decided majority.

But such post-mortem verdicts may tend to hurry the time when we shall have election of our presidents by popular vote, as we should have. There are several things in connection with the choosing of our chief executive that, under modern conditions, are preposterous.

Dr. Albert Shaw, in the Review of Reviews, has presented a phase of the matter thus lucidly and briefly: "We nominate a president in June, notify him in August, elect him in November and inaugurate him in March. He sits about and twiddles his thumbs while his predecessor sends a message to congress in December and continues to approve or veto bills, appoint judges and other permanent officers, control our entire foreign policy and dictate much of our domestic policy until March 4."

After his visit to the Latin-American republics, Mr. Hoover will have some new ideas about how to keep them at peace with one another.

The most virgin field for American trade is with the republics to the south of us. Mr. Hoover will be able to give tips to our people after his visit that will be worth more to them than a whole yard full of regular commercial travelers could find out.

The Nicaraguan government set aside \$190,000 to cover the expenses of its Presidential election. The "interference" of the American marines will turn \$95,000 of this back into the treasury. Uncle Sam supervised the purchasing of election supplies and practiced a little of his own economy in all the details. The result was that the election cost half as much as Nicaragua expected.

The people of Oregon and of Marion county and Salem particularly will have no reason for regretting the splendid showing they made in helping the cause of Herbert Hoover, the poor boy who got his inspirations in this state and city, that led him to the highest place of honor and service in the world.

Not as Solid as It Was Cracked Up to Be!



Who's Who and Timely Views

BY COUNT FELIX VON LUCKNER  
Former Commander German Raider  
"Sea Eagle"

Felix Von Luckner, born in Germany, ran off to sea at the age of 12 after tiring of school in which he was not interested. He traveled to Australia as cabin boy on a Russian craft where he found employment in the kitchen of a hotel before working his way to America. He was in the United States a short while before returning to Germany in 1900 to enlist in his country's navy. He was made a Lieutenant in 1905. During the World War he commanded the Seeadler, disguising it as a Norwegian ship, and sank 13 merchant vessels in the Atlantic and Pacific during two months. He boasted that he never killed a man, though he took many prisoners, and obtained fame as the "Sea Devil." Count von Luckner has been lecturing in the United States during the past year.

AMERICA is the only country which is responsible for the defeat of Germany in the World War. It is the only country which could have won the war and which would have the strength to win another war, should there be one immediately.

Another war in Europe is an impossibility because every country there must look out for itself as part of the white race against the invasion of Asiatics.

There can be no war among the powers of Europe so long as the present situation continues, and it is bound to.

Old Oregon's Yesterdays

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

November 14, 1903  
All the lots in the Smith Fruit farm tracts have been sold.

Dr. B. E. Wright, well known Portland dentist, has taken a branch office in the Stensfjord building in Salem. He will work here part of the week.

The Chemawa Indian training school third team defeated the Mute school team in a football game today.

Mrs. Emily Vandervort, editor of the Searchlight, went to Portland to spend the day with her daughter.

Mrs. D. Erret of Omaha, wife of the pastor of the First Christian church in Salem, has arrived to make her home here.

A. H. Schaefer was a business visitor to Portland.

to do so because the countries which are inhabited by the white race are crowded together on a continent smaller than any other. To fight among themselves would only invite the eastern powers to take possession.

America is already the only effective stronghold of the white race, because it is self-sustaining and protected by its position. With the Atlantic ocean on the one side and the Pacific on the other there is no chance for invasion from any point which could not be protected. Battleships would be of little use in bombarding coast towns because they are too apt to be the prey of airplanes and submarines.

Diet and Health

By Lulu Hunt Peters M.D.  
Author of "Diet and Health" and "Diet for Children"

IF you lived in London in 1760, and were too thin, no doubt you would have responded to the following advertisement which appeared in the Spectator: "An assured cure for Leanness which proceeds from a cause which few know, but easily removed by an unparalleled specific tincture, which fortifies the stomach, purifies the blood, takes off the freckles of the mind, occasions rest and easy sleep, and as certainly disposes and causes the body to thrive and become plump and fleshy if no manifest distemper afflicts the patient, as water will quench fire, and it is pleasant to the taste and is sold only in Mr. Payne's toy-shop, price 2 shillings a bottle with directions."

Notice the different things that this unparalleled tincture promises to do. They are quite significant. We will apply them to your case. First, you should have a thorough physical examination by a competent physician to see if there is no "manifest distemper" afflicting you. If you have, that must be attended to before you can hope to gain. It may be possible that you are chronically poisoned from diseased tonsils, decayed teeth, diseased nasal sinuses, or other spots of infection elsewhere in the body. Now we will suppose that you have had this done and the doctor said that there is nothing organically wrong with you. Obviously, as the advertisement says, you have got to do something to fortify your stomach, purify your blood and get rid of the fretfulness of your mind and have more rest and easy sleep.

You will be able to do all these things by increasing your intake of food. You are not eating enough now for your needs, and you are undoubtedly suffering from a degree of acidosis and auto-intoxication as a result.

It may be true that you think you are eating more than your fat sister does, but instead of eating, each person is a law unto himself, because no two persons have exactly the same physical makeup or the same activities. Besides, the chances are that you don't eat nearly so much. You can't tell what she eats between meals! It is a safe warning that you don't eat anything between meals because you don't care about eating. It isn't one of your interests in life. Too bad. Another thing, you cannot tell how much or little you are eating, unless you count the food by its caloric value.

"What! Have I got to count calories, too?" Yes, in order to gain, you have to know the caloric value of foods, just as your fat sister does, but instead of decreasing your calories, as she does, naturally you have to increase them. Instead of shrinking your stomach, you have to stretch it so that it will be able to care for sufficient food for your needs. Your stomach is contracted, no doubt, else you would not feel so full after two or three mouthfuls of food.

First, are you sure you are underweight or normal? Most of the weight tables are based on the averages of insurance applicants. As there are so many more adults who are overweight, these averages are high. It has been found that those who weigh some less than the averages are

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. Hendricks

Consider our hill farmers— They needed the rain; their ground was too dry to plow. Though, in the words of the song, they now have "more as plenty."

Slogan man on Sunday will tell about apples. In the fifth and sixth, the Willamette valley was the best apple country in the world; and it has been every day since, by natural advantages. And will be known as such again in due course.

"Salem, the Statesman, published at the capital of Oregon, says, in the art, flax, mist and loganberry center. It is also, we understand, a place where a great deal of mustard is mixed."—Yakima Republic. Meaning, of course, political mustard. Quite true; especially during the sessions of the Oregon legislature.

Japanese to the number of 300 on Sunday last, at their Lake Labish headquarters, celebrated the coronation of the mikado, with appropriate exercises lasting four hours. Our Japanese population is growing.

Andrew Mellon says that the national income per annum amounts to \$765 for every man, woman and child. On that basis, the man with 11 children has enough.

Seattle is boasting that it has two men each of whom has kept the same wife and the same political party for 60 years. That is only 50 per cent. remarkable; many men adhere to their political faith that long.

Reptilian tracks have just been discovered in the middle west. The fact that they are apparently 200,000,000 years old discredits the theory that they might have been made by politicians during the late campaign.

Until next April, the highway commission has limited the load on the Santiam highway to 16,000 pounds. The highway commission has made only one mistake; it should limit them to that the year round on all highways and ask the legislature to make trailers and solid tires unlawful.—Corvallis Gazette-Times.

healthier and have a longer life expectancy.

A workable rule for finding normal adult weight (without clothes) is as follows: For five feet in height (without shoes), allow 110 pounds. Allow five and one-half pounds for each inch over that height. For example: Height is five feet seven inches; weight should be approximately 148 pounds.

You may vary five per cent above or below this weight and still be normal. For instance, if your frame-work is heavy, you may add five per cent, and vice versa. (This would cover the difference between men's and women's weights).

No allowance for increased weight. Tomorrow I'll tell you how to increase your calories.

Next: Too-Too Thin (Part 2.)

Dinner Stories

HE KNEW I like that story of the Yankee journalist who went to interview a famous film star who had just been divorced from an even more famous husband.

"Why did I leave him?" she echoed. "Say, did you ever live with a genius?"

"Sure," said the reporter fellow, modestly, "I live alone."

Aged Medicine

Man Dies From New Fire Water

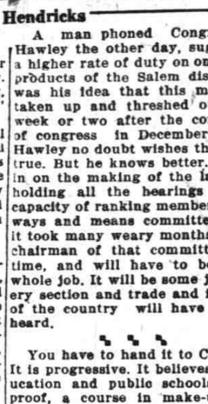
REDDING, Cal., Nov. 12. — (AP)—Sam Steel, veteran chief medicine man of the Pit River Indians, died today, from the effects of drinking a white man's beverage—bootleg liquor.

Sam, whose courage, resourcefulness and stamina for almost three quarters of a century warding off death by disease, bullet, arrow and hostile tomahawk, could not withstand the drink he took today.

The aged chief medicine man had an enviable record for courageous action in battle as well as an envied reputation of a two-fisted drinker. Despite this, he was esteemed by all his white neighbors in Modoc county where he lived for more than 50 years.

As far as we were concerned the game was called on account of silence.

The Grab Bag



November 14, 1928

Who am I? What is my position in Congress? Who is my wife?

What early governor of New York had only one leg?

What is the largest denomination of United States currency?

How many children did Paul Revere have?

"Pure religion and undefiled this. To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Where is this passage found in the Bible?

JIMMY JAMS

The Way of the World

By GROVE PATTERSON

We have a careless way of thinking that the government is one thing and the people are another. We think of the government as standing at one side ready to enforce something or other on the people—even against the people's will. Of course the government and the people are one and the same thing. The reason we do not have prohibition in this country instead of merely a large amount of TALK about prohibition is that not enough people want the enforcement of prohibition. The government—which is the people—cannot enforce upon the people what the people do not want.

ENFORCEMENT

Please note that in the above paragraph the thing referred to is not "prohibition" but the "enforcement of prohibition." It is very probable that most of the people actually do want prohibition. They have voted in favor of it and they would doubtless do so again in practically every state in the union. But it is also apparently true that they do not want it enforced to the degree that would make it impossible for them to have a drink quietly on the sabbath.

The well-to-do want it enforced on the poor and the poor are perfectly willing to have it enforced on the well-to-do. A great number of people—perhaps the greater number—believe prohibition is a splendid idea, always desiring of their vote. But enforcement—that is another matter.

THE MOUNTAINEER

One can understand the perplexity of the mountain man in the south. He can not understand why he can not turn his corn into liquor as properly as he can turn it into meal. It is his corn, and he is willing to do it quietly and unobtrusively. He is further perplexed when he finds himself in prison looking through barred windows at his free and respectable brethren who bought the product of his corn.

It is a strange situation where in the seller goes to jail, while the buyer merely turns to another market.

CHECKING UP

Now that election is over we will do well to look back over some of the things we have believed and some of the things we have said. After a time of abnormal excitement and distorted opinions it is proper to check up on ourselves and try to recall just how we acted and what we being quite so absurd in the next campaign.

The One-Minute Pulpit

Let him praise his name in the dance; let him sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp. For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people; he will beautify the meek with salvation.

Let the saints be joyful in glory; let them sing aloud upon their beds.—Psalm, clix, 3-5.

Poems that Live

A PHILOSOPHER

To take things as they be— That's my philosophy. No use to holler, moan, or cuss— If they was changed they might be wuss.

If rain is pourin' down, An' lightning's buzzin' round, I ain't a-fearin' we'll be hit, But grin that I ain't in it.

If I get deep in debt— It hasn't happened yet— And owed a man two dollars, Gee! Why, I'd be glad it wasn't three!

If some one come along, And tried to do me wrong, Why I should sort of take a whim To thank the Lord I wasn't him.

I never seen a night So dark there wasn't light Somewhere about if I took care To strike a match and find out where.

—John K. Bangs (1882-1922)

High Pressure Pete



By Swau