

"How Are The Mighty Fallen"

If a railroad earns 6 per cent for its stockholders the government lets it alone; if it earns more it may have to divide up with other roads which are not paying as much. If a public service corporation gets to earning a much higher rate the public demands reductions in its charges—

But little if any attention is paid to the risks of carrying on the business or the possibility that some new invention or device may wipe out a part or all of the invested capital.

Street car bonds were gilt edged a few years ago; good enough for the funds of widows and orphans. Then came the auto age, and no new car lines are being built; many have been torn up, and those that are being operated have a hard time to pay expenses let alone dividends.

The telegraph systems have been carefully built up and represent an enormous investment. The radio commission in a report shows that over a certain area wire communications require an investment of \$3,000,000 and \$300,000 annual overhead charges, and that the same field can be covered by radio with a capital outlay of \$300,000. This is a warning of the perils of large investments in that field.

No legislative protection can prevent the danger of loss when new inventions render any system obsolete. No amount of foresight or good management can guarantee investors against the dangers that lurk in the inquiring minds of thousands of little known or unknown tinkerers with the powers of chemistry and electricity and what not—

And we live in a world of rapid changes.
"How are the mighty fallen!" lamented David of old as his father's heart was wrung with grief. The laws of retribution and compensation and change rule now as they did in the great days of Israel, and will to the end of the chapter.

Shades of Noah Webster

THERE is a wail going up from the circles of the purists over the liberties being taken with the English language that are chargeable to the "noble experiment" of prohibition—

The worst feature of the matter being the obviously true charge that some of the new vocabulary intrudes itself into company in which it is not the least welcome, and in fact is decidedly de trop—

Referring to the word "bootleg" as an ubiquitous and horrible example.

If the word were confined to bootleg booze no philologist of the purist school would be perturbed, because everybody knows what that commodity is. But not so. The word overflows into respectable society. A state treasurer in an official report on the sales tax says "bootleg merchandise" is commonly sold where the tax is in effect. People who make a practice of picking up weary pedestrians in their cars are said to "bootleg" transportation. If a preacher is inclined to borrow his ideas fully matured from thoughts of others, it is no longer plagiarism; he is "bootlegging" his sermons.

And the evil is not confined to our shores or even the sweep of English speaking nations. The dispatches from Paris on the new spring styles tell us that the leading dressmakers of that gay capital "are hanging back on summer style shows in order to circumvent design bootleggers."

Shades of Noah Webster! A current writer, evidently in sympathy with the purist brethren, thinks something ought to be done about it. He wants the attention of the society for the prevention of emasculated language called to the situation.

Why Not in Salem?

THE Oregonian of yesterday had, as its leading editorial, comment on the case of a furniture manufacturing plant that was about to be dismantled—

When a representative of the industries department of the Portland chamber of commerce stepped in and made a loan of \$40,000 to another plant with which to buy the one that was due to be junked—

Result, a stabilized business and an increase in number of employees from a total of 140 to at least 250.

That is just a sample of what Portland is wisely doing. The Salem chamber of commerce undertook this thing on a smaller scale a year or so ago; but the movement lagged. There was a chance, among other things, to get a chicken cannery factory by extending a reasonable loan. It did not go through. Now both McMinnville and Hillsboro have such factories; each doing a flourishing business, and their products on sale at Salem stores—

And together they employ a good sized force the year through and furnish markets for thousands of chickens raised by surrounding farmers.

Salem should take up this matter again, under auspices that will put it over and keep it active. Not charity. Not subsidy. But timely help, with little or no risk. That is the idea. Worked out here, it would help very much in keeping Salem going and growing.

Fingers Crossed, Thumbs Down

THERE are some words in an article by a writer in a change that are very appropriate, referring to the congratulations sent and delivered to Bill Hohenzollern felicitating that royal at Doorn on the attainment of his 70th birthday—

The writer calling these messages in person and delivered in other ways "denatured good wishes."

Well put. If mere existence constitutes achievement, the felicitations were worth sending or delivering—

But in any other respect most of them were appropriately given or indited with crossed fingers, if not thumbs down.

A correspondent writing to a Spokane paper blames severely the makers of the United States constitution for not making the language of that document so clear that it could not be misunderstood. Had they made their meaning clear endless disputes would have been avoided. Then the same correspondent wrote two more letters to explain what he meant by the first one, all of which shows that making one's meaning clear by the use of language is not so simple after all.

The Canadian authorities are having the time of their lives curtailing the Doukhobors who are on one of their periodical rampages. The officers were put to rout by a band of 100 who danced unclad in the snow. Nothing would cool the ardor of those people so much as to let them keep right on dancing unclad in the snow. The police opposition is probably the only thing that keeps them warm.

The chronic kickers of the United States senate are slipping. They marched right up to the Kellogg pact vote and then wilted, only one lone vote holding out against ratification. Then they vowed that they would take revenge on the administration cruiser bill but now they are losing ground and will probably fall in line with the majority. Insurgency is not what it once was.—Exchange.

Sixty Illinois legislators face a grand jury charged with being in pay of a Chicago sanitary district which is in the hole some \$100,000,000. An exchange suggests that the thing to do is to have them tried before their own body, for the other three-fourths of the legislature which was not on the payroll will surely give the paid fourth all that's coming. It was a rank discrimination.

Consider the demands being made by farmers at the tariff hearings being conducted by Mr. Hawley. It is not hard to understand why they were so overwhelming for the republican ticket last fall. They know the effects of the tariff on their business better than do the politicians who try to fool them.—Corvallis Gazette Times.

Another Big "Sugar Daddy"



The Way of the World

THE MEMORY OF VALOR

In a newspaper headline one reads that the "memory of Captain Scott spurs Byrd crew on ward." The valorous Scott and his courageous companions perished at or near the South Pole after one of the bravest and most venturesome expeditions in all the history of exploration. Captain Scott passed out of the sight of men by the straight path of duty. Today his memory spurs onward another brave adventurer, Richard Byrd, and his companions give up home and comfort to add to the achievements and knowledge of mankind.

Fortunate for us that a few do the deeds that others dream about. Effort is not in vain. Effort lives on forever. The soul of Captain Scott goes marching over the snows.

FAILURE OF PERFORMANCE

The failure that comes from doing a thing poorly is thought to be less blameworthy than the failure that comes from not even starting to do anything. There may be reasons, deep seated and practically incurable, for a man's not doing anything. But if he once makes the start, there can be few reasons for his not making it good a job of it as he is able. A young man who sits around the house and won't even seek a job is really no more to be criticized than a boy who rushes out and gets a job and promises all sorts of glib-edged performance, and then through his own feeble behavior makes a poor task of it. The time has long since past—if it ever was—when a man can get anywhere by just "getting by." In the year 1929 competition is too keen.

SERIOUS INTENTION

News dispatches have been telling us that a young man, 21 years old, senior at Miami University. Here is a young man whom it is going to be interesting to watch. Young Harper has solemnly announced that in 1938 he will be a candidate for governor of Ohio. Fine work. There ought to be dozens of William Harpers in schools and universities all over this nation. When more young men regard the field of politics, public life, as one of the most useful and important careers that America offers we shall have less indifference to public affairs, better government, better citizens, a finer democracy.

Who's Who & Timely Views

Europe Interested in Calendar Revision

By WILLIS H. BOOTH
Former President International Chamber of Commerce

(Willis H. Booth was born at Winnebec, Nev., Feb. 15, 1874. He attended the University of California for four years. He was formerly treasurer of L. Booth & Sons, machinery, manufacturers, and vice-president of the Edison Electric Appliance company and vice-president of the Security Trust & Savings bank, Los Angeles, and vice-president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and the Guaranty Trust company of New York. An expert in the history of the Pacific coast, he was vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce of the International Chamber of Commerce. His office is in New York City.)

An international conference to consider calendar reform would awaken all the world to the need for a sensible system of reckoning time and might give rise to the formulation of a better calendar system than has yet been proposed. The International Chamber of Commerce has requested the League of Nations to take action contemplating calendar reform and a member of the League's special committee of inquiry on the reform of the calendar.



W. H. BOOTH
It happens to be a member of the League's special committee of inquiry on the reform of the calendar.

WORDS OF THE WISE

"Pat will find a way."—Virgil.

"Few things are impossible to diligence and skill."—Samuel Johnson.

"There is a sweet joy which comes to us through sorrow."—Spurgeon.

THE ONE MINUTE PULPIT

And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.
And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.—Ezekiel, II, 1, 2.

The Grab Bag

February 2, 1929



Who am I? Who is my wife? With what theatrical organization am I identified?

What do we call the marmot of which people are talking today?

What substance in the blood enables it to readily take oxygen from the air and just as readily give it up to the tissues?

What was the former name of the House of Windsor, reigning house of Great Britain?

"I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." Where is this passage found in the Bible?

Today in the Past

In 1848, on this day, the treaty of peace between the United States and Mexico, ending the Mexican war, was signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo.

Today's Horoscope

Persons born on this day are very critical and showy; however, they have much ability to back up their pretensions.

Horoscope for Sunday

Persons born on this day are generous and fond of animals. They make good sales persons.

A Daily Thought

"The burnt child dreads the fire."—Ben Jonson.

Answers to Foregoing Questions

1. Alfred Lunt; Lynn Fontanne; the Theater Guild.
2. Ground hog.
3. Haemoglobin.
4. House of Hanover.
5. St. John xii, 46.

The only sane objection to the inferiority complex is that it does not affect the right people.

There's another fine thing about science. You can put its ideas over without eloquence.

Mutiny Threatens G. O. P.

By CHARLES F. STEWART
Washington Correspondent for Central Press and Statesman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Mutinies of mutiny emanate from the fo'c's'le of the good ship G. O. P.

It looks much as if Skipper-elect Hoover will have a chance to try his hand at quelling a bad outbreak after getting Cap'n Coolidge goes overboard down the ladder, and his successor takes the quarter-deck to assume command.

Rumor hath it that the "old man-to-be" has shipped a lot of new hands and intends to give them all the choice berths, from first mate on down.

Cap'n Herb will need to be a real bucko to get away with it, if this proves true.

Cap'n Coolidge himself was not very popular with his crew when he took the helm, in the emergency of 1923.

A good many of the most experienced seadogs on board hoped the owners would retire him the next year, at their meeting in Cleveland, but the owners disappointed them, kept Cap'n Cal on the job, and in the ensuing race with the Aunty Democracy (Cap'n Davis) he navigated the G. O. P. to glorious victory.

Even then there was considerable discontent, marked by one tragedy, when Cap'n Cal tried to force a boat's'n of his own choosing—Bill Butler, an old Cape Cod shipmate of his—on the senate watch. Somebody slipped a political knife between poor Bill's ribs and that was the end of Senator Butler.

However, Cap'n Coolidge grew in his men's favor as time passed, and toward the finish of the 1924-28 cruise a delegation of the

most influential among them went aft to urge him to sign on for another voyage.

The Cap'n thanked them but said he didn't choose to.

It would have been well for these faithful sailormen if they had dropped right then to Cap'n expectant Hoover, who already was an applicant for Cap'n Cal's place, but they made the mistake of trying to get the owners, at Kansas City, to shanghai Cap'n Calvin.

As we all know, Cap'n-elect Hoover got the billet. Doubtless the ancient marines who had tolled so hard for Cap'n Cal were downcast, but they took it for granted Skipper-elect Hoover would bear no malice, and turned loyalty to the task of getting the G. O. P. shipshape for another speed test with the Aunty Democracy (Cap'n Al Smith), in their new commander-elect's interest.

That the G. O. P. won handily is a matter of history.

Now the fo'c's'le veterans begin to suspect that Cap'n-elect Hoover plans to lade out all the plum-duff and other maritime luxuries to the new hands, who not only helped him to beat the Aunty Democracy, but also plugged for him at Kansas City and earlier—leaving nothing but salt horse and weevily biscuit for the old-timers.

Hence, incipient mutiny. Both watches—the senate and the house of representatives—are in a turmoil.

A strong hand and a stiff martini-spike are needed in such situations.

Matineers never yet succeeded in making a presidential cap'n walk the plank, but they have played smash with some originally prosperous-looking voyages.

The historic example is that of the 1892-96 voyage of the Aunty Democracy, when his mutinous crew forced Cap'n Cleveland to barricade himself in his cabin and ran the good ship on the rocks in his absence from the quarter-deck.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. Hendricks

Hurrah for Willamette!

The \$100,000 gift of the Eric Hauser estate should help in speeding up the finishing of the forward movement million dollar campaign.

While none of the Hauser money can be used in that campaign, it points the way to still greater things at old Willamette, and no thought ought to be entertained of losing the rest of the Rockefeller money by failing to match it.

"Him as has gets." New estate pledges are being given to Willamette at an increasing rate.

Just Among Us Girls



These do not help the school for the present, but they point the way to great things. And all such news should spur the friends of the institution now to supreme efforts.

There is being organized a woman's auxiliary of the Salem General hospital. This is not to be a part of the Salem women's club. It is intended to include every woman in Salem, in order to have a part in developing here a great institution devoted to the benefit of the afflicted.

A little later, the women should and no doubt will admit a men's branch of their auxiliary. This is everybody's hospital. Everybody is a stockholder. It belongs to the whole community. The nimble little one hundred dollar should be as welcome as the hundred dollar bill or the ten thousand dollar pledge, and it will be.

The kick-off of the Y. W. C. A. \$7500 budget campaign is Monday to last the week. It should have the right of way and be made snappy.

By the time the proposed new building of the telephone company on State street in Salem is fully occupied and equipped it will represent an investment of around a million dollars.

That will mean the making of a telephone center here. It will mean constant additions to the force of employees. There will be some surplus along this line later that will make a man feel good. The new building will be ready for occupancy this fall, but all the new installations and improvements will not be finished till the latter part of next year. There is a vast amount of work to be done in making everything ready.

The U. S. department of agriculture tells the farmers to go slow on increasing production for the coming year. Raise a few but not many more chickens and eggs, increase beef production slightly but reduce spring wheat. The department says that Karl Steiwer can raise a few more lambs without flooding the market but that Ray K. Fukuda better not plant so many spuds. The country will have all the fruit and hops can absorb so that specialists in those lines can ease up a bit without being accused of shirking their duty. Now that the farmers know just what is needed they can trim their tails accordingly which might few of them will do.

High Pressure Pete



By Swau