

Capital Journal

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Government Operation

William Hard, in an article in the Baltimore Evening Sun, descriptive of conditions prevailing in all government departments, which apply to all government operation, makes the following summary:

Government ownership is an incessant choice between corruption on the one hand and bureaucracy on the other.
Government ownership is slack in the number of hours it works, penurious and disheartening in the wages and salaries that it pays and absolutely repelling to the young man who has it in him to rise to a post of supreme command.

Government employes in Washington work seven hours a day. Their Sundays, holidays and vacations amount to 95 days a year, so they work only 270 days in the year—but against this the pay is relatively small and the way to advancement barred. Somebody else from the outside is always boss. Therefore the government has difficulty in retaining competent men—they leave the service in droves annually.

It is this deadening destruction of initiative and incentive this closing the doors to advancement that handicaps all government operation and makes it unable to compete with private enterprise where the way from the bottom to the top is kept open. That is why all government operation is more costly and more inefficient than private operation. Even short hours, vacations and slovenly work are no adequate offset to the loss of incentive.

In addition, government operation is fatally handicapped by politics and the red tape of bureaucracy. Efficiency is seldom recognized and every election adds to the uncertainty of tenure of positions.

Booster Annuals

This is the season for newspaper annuals, when at least one newspaper in every community feels the urge to put out a mammoth addition setting forth the wonderful resources and remarkable development of country and community, sandwiched in between display advertising and fulsome eulogies of the enterprising and egotistic business men, willing to pay.

The resources pictured and described are those that bounteous nature has distributed so lavishly in Oregon for which the various communities appropriate the credit. Most of the enterprise illustrated consists in destroying these natural resources—without effort at replacement, which is our main contribution to "progress" at present. The material advance of the state rests large upon the annihilation of our forests, and as long as they hold out, and the world demand for lumber continues, relative prosperity is assured.

The attractive features which, taking the cue from California, we are beginning to capitalize, are those of scenery and climate, for both of which we brag, as we do of the forests, as though they were our own creation—at least we appropriate the credit.

If gotten up attractively the booster edition justifies itself because it flatters local pride, gratifies the vanity of those who like to see themselves written up, and fulfills its main purpose, putting money into publishers' pockets. But the direct returns to the advertiser are nothing and the returns to the community are questionable.

MRS. PETTYJOHN TO HEAD BETTER HOME WEEK HERE

The first step in the preparation for Better Homes Week in Salem for 1925, which will be held May 10 to 17 throughout the country, was made today when Mrs. Winnie Pettyjohn accepted the invitation of Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover to serve as chairman of a local committee to promote and develop a better homes demonstration.

More than 1500 progressive communities throughout the entire 48 states conducted better homes campaigns last year, and the influence of these demonstrations and observances has made a lasting impression on those districts, says a report from national headquarters.

The importance of community effort to render assistance to the prospective home buyer or builder in meeting the desire for a real home becomes apparent when it is realized that of five billions of dollars expended in building construction throughout the United States for 1924, two billions are for residential construction. And to this huge sum must be added hundreds of millions which will be expended for furnishing and equipment of homes.

Better homes in America is an educational movement which was formed about three and a half years ago. Supported by private gifts and public funds, and having no commercial backing or connections, it has been working since that time under the presidency of Herbert Hoover to help attain the following objectives:

To put knowledge of high standards in house-building, home-furnishing and equipment, and home life within the reach of all citizens.

To encourage the building of sound, attractive, economical single-family homes; to encourage the reconditioning and remodeling of old houses to render them sanitary, attractive and convenient and to encourage thrift for home ownership.

To encourage general study of the housing problem and the problems of family life, to demonstrate each year the best types of house construction, home-furnishing and labor-saving devices for the home which are within the reach of families in moderate circumstances.

To encourage sensible and appropriate furnishing for the home and the elimination of needless

DIAL CENSURES DEMOCRATS FOR DESERTING IDEALS

Washington, Jan. 5.—The verdict of the November election was against democratic members of congress and not against John W. Davis, Senator Dial, democrat, South Carolina declared here in an extended speech declaring his party had failed to adhere to its principles.

Senator Dial said the real issue in November was the effort of the democratic party to "serve up some kind of shamming, shame-faced compromise of so-called democracy and foreign born socialism, bolshevism and communism." He declared President Coolidge was a "better democrat" measured by the principles of real democracy, than many adherents of the party in public life.

"It is mortifying bitter truth," he said, "that the quiet and close thinker in the White House is a better democrat in many essentials. I honor the courage and respect the wisdom which have served him to clean house in his own party."

The south Carolinian asserted that either "the people are wrong or we democrats in congress, who have made the party's record, are wrong."

"For one, I confess myself deeply ashamed," he said, "when I read that customers are rushing to Wall street to buy stocks, feeling assured of prosperity because the democratic party has been beaten by seven million majority."

He also charged his colleagues with permitting an "alien faction to use the party as an instrument of annoyance to the administration."

Washington.—The senate passed a bill granting a pension of \$5000 annually to Mrs. Edith Bolling Wilson widow of the late war president.

To promote the improvement of house lots, yards and neighborhoods.
To extend knowledge of the ways and means of making home life more attractive and to encourage special study and discussion of the problem of character building in the home.

TODAY'S CROSS WORD PUZZLE

VERTICAL

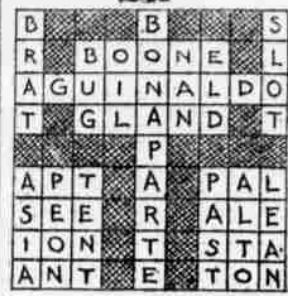
- Unsound
- Behold
- Group
- Exist
- Constellation
- Frivolous
- White
- Wrinkle
- Female Sheep
- Date
- Each (abbr.)
- Upon
- Aged
- Plural of man

HOW TO SOLVE THE CROSS WORD PUZZLE

The way to solve the Cross Word Puzzle is to fill in the white squares of the diagram with the words which agree with the accompanying definitions. The definitions are numbered to correspond with the numbers on the diagram.

Any word defined in the text under "HORIZONTAL" will begin at its number, shown on the diagram, and will extend all the way across to the first black space to the right of that number. That is, the word must begin in the square that contains its identifying number, and extend as far as the white squares continue uninterruptedly.

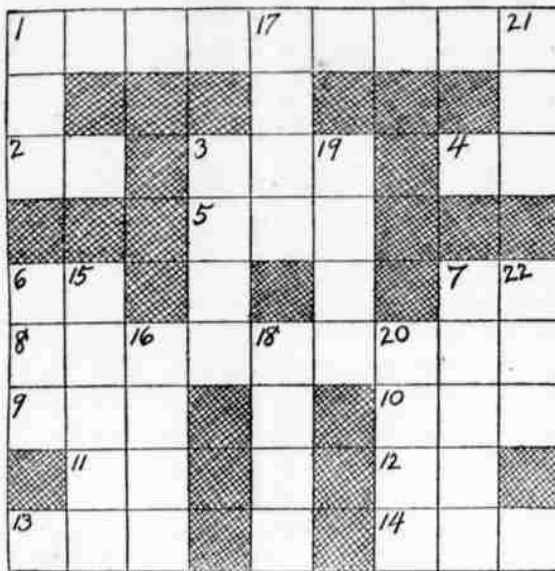
Any word defined under "VERTICAL" will also begin, in the white space that contains its number, but will extend downward as far as the white squares remain uninterruptedly.



SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

HORIZONTAL

- Slick
- Disparage
- Frozen water
- Exploit
- Drying cloth
- Peruse
- Mirth
- To counteract
- Chinese Society
- Small particle
- From the wind
- Look



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The flower of the family

A Thrilling Love Story by IDAH MCGLOONE GIBSON

THE DEVILS CAST OUT
Slowly Joan Ralston read the letter that she had written to Kent Summers. With a pathetic smile she put it in the envelope, and calling Mason, she asked him to take it to the box at the corner.

Woman-like she went to her mirror and looked long at the face reflected there. It was somewhat drawn by the uncertainty as to the result of the next half-hour. At last, however, she took a sudden resolution and without giving herself time to listen to the counsel of her faint heart she walked down the hall and knocked at her husband's door.

Not waiting for him to ask her in she opened the door. He was sitting up straight in bed, his face paler than she had ever seen it, his eyes like slits of feverish light. "Joan, thank God, Joan, it is you," he cried. "I tried to say 'Come in,' but the words would not come. My tongue thickened until it choked me, Joan, darling. If it had not been you who opened that door, I think I would have died."

Harold Ralston held out his arms. With one long look into his eager eyes his wife threw herself into them. Quickly he drew her to him. "Joan," he whispered, "I've lived a thousand years of torment since I came back to the house this afternoon and I have been on the rack with red-hot pinners tearing out my vitals since I heard you come in two hours ago. "Joan, I have been possessed by devils, but with the help of Marta and the few days filled with loneliness and physical pain which I have just been through, I have been able to cast them out."

"Oh, my wife, do not tell me that I have lost you utterly. Let me think that in time I shall be the recipient of your mercy."

Joan Ralston drew a long sobbing breath. "Then you do love me, Harold?" she asked. "Love you? I love you more and better than I have ever loved you. I have found how dependent I am on you. Even though a better man than I loves you he can not love you more."

Joan bent over her husband. "Harold, after two people have lived together as long as you and I, neither the love of good people nor of bad people may part them."

"That is what Marta convinced me of, dear, almost as soon as she arrived home. The child seems to have a kind of intuition. Do you know, dear, that she has been here only three days, yet she has seen our house, yes, our very lives, in order. We must not send her away from us. We need her."

"You do not speak, dear heart. Surely you do not want to send her back to school where they will not understand her. Let us take her on our brand-new honeymoon. She is too young yet to think of marrying and yet Gordon Fleisher is mad about her."

"If you consent I will add a ticket to those I bought the other day when in my silly brain I had an idea of sending you abroad, and I shall go with you and Marta for a long stay in Europe."

"Nannie and Hafe will be better off without us for the first two years of their married life, and when we come back both Gordon and Marta will know their own minds."

"What are you saying about Marta knowing her own mind?" a gay voice said as Marta stepped into the room.

What she saw made her catch her breath. Her hands went over her heart which beat so rapidly that her mother came toward her in fright.

Joan Ralston gathered her daughter up in her arms and took her over to her father's bed. For a long time she and her husband kissed and caressed the girl who had almost collapsed when she knew that all she had planned had come true. When her hysterical sobs had somewhat subsided the two older people began to tell her their plans for the future. Marta seemed listless.

Mrs. Ralston thought perhaps she would recover more quickly if the window were raised. Going to it, she gave an exclamation of surprise.

"I believe Gordon Fleisher is down below."

Marta suddenly came to life. "It is Gordon, mother," she said as she turned from the window.

"Gordon, Gordon come up here," Marta called. All the enthusiasm of youth had come into her voice again.

"It seemed but an instant when the boy was in the room. 'Have you told them, Marta?' She shook her head.

"Mr. Ralston, Marta promised that she would give me a little hope, that sometime in the future she would be my wife if upon coming home she found you two reconciled."

"What does the boy mean, Joan? Is he crazy? We never were estranged, Gordon. We are now knit only a little closer and you find us at peace with all the world."

"Then, Marta, you will marry me when you grow up?"

"You will have to wait until we come back from abroad," interrupted her father.

"Marta, will you not decide before that? Uncle Henry has just proposed that we take a long trip together. May we join your party, Mrs. Ralston, at Christmas and—"

"Will you bring my engagement ring with you, Gordon?"

The question was asked hardly above Marta's breath, but Gordon Fleisher heard and understood.

THE END

By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG

Barney Finds a Real Life Saver

By Billy de Beck



KRAZY KAT

Celebrating the Cop's Absence.

By Herriman



MUTT AND JEFF

Mutt Simply Had To Do It

By Bud Fisher

