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BY LEW CATES

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**MAKES OWN ADMISSION.**

President Wilson may say that in inviting prominent business leaders to the White House to confer with him about business conditions he is merely exercising his rights and displaying his skill as a psychologist, but he certainly is showing at the same time his perception of the fact that the country has not accepted with heartiness his attempt to explain away evident business conditions by means of a college professor's phrase. The question may also be raised whether he is displaying perfect fairness and candor in inviting to Washington the single maker of automobiles whose success is most conspicuous and impressive, and in omitting to call there such prominent men in the same line of business as President Henry M. Leland of the Cadillac company and President Joy of the Packard company, who have recently placed on record their emphatic protests against the attempt of the democratic leaders at Washington to subject all big business to new fangled schemes of government interference called regulation, but more properly named repression. Mr. Ford, of course, could not afford to admit that there is anything wrong with the business situation, since he has introduced his five-dollar-a-day system of remuneration in his monstrous factory, but it would be worth while to have him required to answer a question from some authoritative source whether he is not going to produce, during the year ending October 1, 1914, at least 50,000 less vehicles than he announced last winter the intention to produce. There is a distinct impression in the automobile world that this year, for the first time, Mr. Ford cut off a little more than he could chew, and there is also an impression that next year there will not be so large a production of automobiles in this country as there has been this year. Now, for the first time, the "saturation point" in the auto industry is beginning to show itself. The big companies will go on for many a year doing a great and successful business, but the dozens of smaller concerns that are now struggling to keep their heads above water by following Henry Ford's methods, decreasing the weight and the price of their vehicles, and seeking to reduce operating cost as well as first cost, are likely to disappear, as the big Pope company at Hartford is going to do, as the result of its present bankruptcy.

**SCHOOL OF EXPERIENCE.**

"Experience is a dear school, but fools can learn in no other," runs an old adage, which contains only a half truth. We learn only by experience, and therefore the adage should be amended so as to read "wise men and fools." The things we know theoretically we do not really know. We must all go to the school of experience for the real lessons of life. Did you ever think of this? You cannot bequeath your personal experience to your child. You can bequeath money—and advice—and sympathy, but not your experience. Your child must learn in the school you learned in—and pay the tuition as you paid it. We all begin in ignorance and all must go to this same school. There can be no playing truant. And although sometimes the tears may fall on the page we are given to study, nevertheless school keeps.

Wisdom appears in the profit we may gain from the lessons of experience. The wise man profits. He learns his lesson once and that is sufficient. The fool learns and forgets. And what is true of men is true of people and of nations. We say, "history repeats itself." That is not literally true. It is humanity that repeats itself. Humanity learns and forgets. Humanity stumbles at a place, forgets, and stumbles again at the same place. History tells about it. Surely it is a dear school.

Men learn its lessons through blood and tears—and forget them. Nations learn their lessons in sacrifice and heroisms and bitterness—and forget. Well did that poet of England put into phrase that sticks in memory the warning, "Lest we forget."

**HUERTA'S NEST-EGG.**

During the time that Huerta filled the office of provisional president of Mexico it is claimed that he laid away a nice little nest-egg to provide for the proverbial rainy day of adversity. His tenure of the office of chief executive lasted for just about seventeen months, and, according to one dispatch, with prudent foresight he managed to "lay by" just about a million dollars a month, in good hard cash, for each month, that he served at president. It is stated, in fact, that about \$15,000,000 are deposited in his account in a leading Paris bank, and that a few additional millions are awaiting his pleasure in other European cities. Possibly he thought it wise not to "put all his eggs in one basket," and was determined to have something to fall back on, even if things went wrong with his main board.

No doubt, moreover, Huerta thinks he fairly earned this money and is entitled to keep it, even though it came into his possession in a way that might not stand the test of strict legal scrutiny. Certainly he has assumed considerable risk, and stood for a good deal of abuse and criticism, even if his strictly official services have been worth little to his country. Besides, there are many notable precedents to fortify his position in this matter, for since the beginning of time it has been customary with men in power to utilize their opportunities to feather their own nests. He is not the first, in fact, who has done the same thing by Mexico, and as his opportunity was almost unlimited, he probably feels that he was very moderate and reasonable in helping himself to only a score, or so, of millions.

**JUNE FIRE LOSSES RISE.**

The losses of fire in the United States and Canada during the recent month of June, as compiled by The New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin, aggregate \$29,348,000, an increase of \$4,405,300 over the figures for June last year, which was largely due to the losses by the Salem conflagration. The losses for the first half of 1914 reach the unusually large total of \$133,018,250, as compared with \$118,245,650 for the first six months of 1913.

Of course these figures do not represent the loss of the fire insurance companies. What proportion of the fire losses were covered by insurance is not given. Besides the fire insurance companies do not usually pay the full amount for which property is insured, as adjusters make a settlement as favorable as possible for the insurance companies. But the losses given by The Journal of Commerce show many unnecessary and in many cases avoidable wiping out of property every month and every year by fire.

The fire losses in the United States exceed by far those of any other country in the world. This is due to the lack of sufficient care in the construction of buildings and lack of precautions by property owners to prevent fires. A reform in this direction is needed. Our country's losses by fire are not only lamentable, but are to a great extent preventable. Some plan should be adopted to compel the use of greater care and precaution against fire by citizens.

**BANNER YEAR FOR MINING.**

Not only will this season break all previous records in the matter of crop production for this country, but according to Secretary Lane, of the interior department, it promises to be a banner year for the mining industry. He says that statistics gathered by experts in his department show that the people are utilizing more of the natural resources than ever before, and that 1914 will be found to have overtopped 1912 and 1907, which have held the record for mineral production.

This seems to agree with recent trade reports, which indicate an active resumption of the mining industry during the present year, with increasing momentum to this movement as the season progresses. It is quite natural, moreover, that this should be so, for with bumper crops assured, causing a gradual return of confidence and the general anticipation of better times, the inevitable consequence is an expanding demand for the products of the mines and a marked stim-

ulation of this particular branch of industry.

**BETTER HIGHWAYS.**

It is gratifying to The Observer to note the growing sentiment for highway improvement, and it hopes and trusts that interest will continue to manifest itself until every highway in Polk county shall be in perfect condition. Transportation facilities are important factors in the development of any country. The gospel of good roads is gaining ground with each succeeding year, and we confidently look forward to the day when every main highway will permit of comfortable travel at all seasons. All roads should be constructed in a permanent and enduring manner, and not with a view to temporary service. Four centuries ago the Incas built better roads in Peru than we have ever seen, and they were worshippers of the sun. The old Romans built roads that still exist in spite of 2,000 years of time and tide.

The roadway is one of the environments of life, and if it is rude, one phrase of life is rude. We lament the isolation of the country, but the half of the isolation is removable by transformation of the muddy road into a finished one. We shed tears over the drift of population from country to cities, but fail to remember that decent roads would vastly check the movement. We preach about the advantages of rural life, but in general the preacher never dragged a load over a wet and muddy winter road. Life is too short and time too precious for either to be wasted in a struggle against handicaps. The men who are getting on in the world are making every edge cut, and taking advantage of every means of economy. The worst handicap in all the world is the road over which but half a load can be drawn. It is a handicap to the city man because it makes the cost of getting food-stuffs to market higher and thereby increases the cost of living. It handicaps the countryman because it makes him take two days to do work that he ought to do in one.

**MAY INTERFERE IN HAYTI.**

There is a prospect the United States may undertake armed intervention in Hayti, diplomatic agents having warned the Washington administration that there is danger of serious losses being incurred by the residents of that little republic through the threatened ravages of revolutionists. Intervention in Hayti would, of course, be but little more than play for Uncle Sam. About one good warship, with its complement of marines and bluejackets, would probably be all that would be necessary to assign to the task. Of course the guns of the ship would not quite be able to "reach" across the island, but if it became necessary to disperse any scattering bands of threatening marauders, landing parties could do the trick with neatness and dispatch—and the work would be a summer picnic compared with the recent experiences at Vera Cruz.

Nor is there likely to be any serious protest, either in this country or from foreign nations, if the United States undertakes to assume the role of policeman for Haytin, to compel the rebellious factions of that little nation to behave and bring about a restoration of peace and order. Foreign residents no doubt would welcome such interference on the part of the United States, knowing it would result in the protection of their own interests, and their respective governments naturally would look on with complacency and approval. Of course, it might be different if there was any suspicion this nation had ulterior motives and was bent on territorial expansion. But on this point the American policy is so well understood that no apprehension would be felt.

In fact it generally is conceded that where a strong hand is needed to protect foreign interests and preserve peace and order in the western hemisphere, the first duty and responsibility falls on Uncle Sam, and the latter therefore is expected to take the lead. And this rule holds good even in the case of our neighbor, Mexico, although there the problem is more complicated and difficult, and is giving the Washington administration a good deal of trouble in trying to work out a satisfactory solution.

**WHERE DANGER LURKS.**

It is of vital importance to the health of the community that every household, where possible, be connected with sewers. The authorities would do well to make it obligatory upon all residents along these several sewer-

lines to connect therewith without unnecessary delay. All citizens do not use municipal water, and as pollution is certain to find its way into wells from outbuildings, it is essential for health and happiness that these conditions be guarded against insofar as possible. It is extremely difficult to shake the average citizen out of his apathetic attitude toward preventable disease. It is necessary to educate him so that he will understand the dangers lurking in polluted water, and the necessity for a safe supply. Dallas with ideal drainage, is fortunately situated in this respect, yet pollution of water is not impossible even under seeming favorable conditions, and polluted water spells sickness and death.

**HAS WEALTH OF BEAUTY.**

The San Francisco exposition in 1915 will impel thousands of eastern Americans to see America and become acquainted as never before with their own country. The 3000-mile trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific is a liberal education. The more frequently the easterner, the resident of the interior or the southerner stop at the great cities in the Rockies and on the Pacific slope the more enriching will be his experience, says the Spokane Review.

The central valley between the Alleghenies and the Rockies makes visible our country's measureless agricultural resources as nothing else can. The prairies between the Ohio and the Missouri cause the easterner to appreciate what being out of doors really is. Nowhere this side of Siberia and Russian steppes does the world loom so large. The plains from the Missouri to the Rockies appeal to the true lover of nature through the very vastness of their proportions and the continental breadth of their features. The miracle wrought by the application of water to these wastes teaches new comprehension of the potentialities of nature and of the infinite possibilities for future development in this country.

The scenic glory of the west lies in such regions as the mountainous districts of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. The Spokane country itself abounds in beauty spots of which the majority of the residents even of this city are ignorant. The west possesses glories of landscape that Europe seldom surpasses and some of which it can nowhere equal. A good idea of all western scenery may be obtained through three months of travel, which is comfortable and but little more expensive than the same period in Europe. There are the best of reasons for those who have never visited Europe seeing America first.

Travel in the west has become exceedingly easy. Trains on the principal western railways are not inferior in comfort to those on eastern roads. The sleeper and the dining car are universal. First-class hotels abound. The choice of transcontinental routes should depend on the time of the trip. Some southern route is best in May or June, the most comfortable months for crossing the continent, some northern one in July or August.

**A TIN PAIL BRIGADE.**

This city needs additions to its tin-pail brigade; it needs manufacturing institutions to bring hither skilled labor, and this work should be one of the fundamental objects of the local organization. Other less pretentious cities eagerly grasp opportunities of this character for community building, realizing that the breadwinner is, after all, the backbone of prosperity. The Observer is not favorably inclined toward any bonus proposition, believing there is sufficient capital seeking legitimate investment to successfully carry out feasible enterprises. Pathetic remains of industries secured through bonuses are scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific—the wheels revolved only so long as the funds contributed by an unsuspecting public held out. But it does believe in fostering and lending aid in building up home institutions of whatsoever character in every possible way.

Man was the first gossip, says a Dallas woman. And see how quickly the poor male creature was outdistanced, despite that handicap.

When we read that a missionary alliance preacher received \$7,000 in one collection it makes us wish we were more golly.

No matter what's the matter, some people think that it doesn't matter.

The Standard Oil Company, it is announced, will manufacture butter as

a by product. The Standard a long time ago manufactured axle grease, and from axle grease to some kinds of butter is only a step.

There appears to be a scarcity of money in Dallas since last Lord's day.

If you must swing the hammer swing it to drive nails and help build up, not to destroy and tear down.

Five feet of books will make some men real scholars. And, then, again, there are other men upon whose native ignorance five cords of books wouldn't make an impression.

**TAX RECEIPTS CLOSE TO ESTIMATE OF \$75,000,000.**

Returns For Last Day Alone \$26,161,782—Year's Deficit Only \$1,000,000.

June 30, the last day of the fiscal year, was unprecedented in the history of government finances. The rush to pay income and corporation taxes brought into the United States treasury vaults, in the matter of income and corporation taxes alone, the sum of \$26,161,782.82, about a third of the collections for the entire year, and the total receipts for the day were \$32,462,220. As a result the deficit for the year, as estimated by Mr. McAdoo, is reduced to \$1,010,058.81. This shortage which is to be charged against the general fund, would have been a surplus if failures to pay income and corporation taxes promptly within the limits of the fiscal year had not held back more than \$3,500,000, which will be carried into the business of the fiscal year 1914-15, says the New York Times.

In other words, the deficit of about \$5,000,000 which Secretary McAdoo estimated in a statement which he gave out has been whittled down to a deficit of a little more than \$1,000,000 and if it were not for the ten days' grace allowed by law would have been wiped out entirely and a surplus would have appeared on the treasury books of more than \$2,500,000. This sum, which can be called a moral surplus, is to be compared with a deficit last year of \$400,000 and a surplus for 1912 of \$1,807,000.

Secretary McAdoo's apprehension of a serious deficit was based on the assessments of individual income tax liabilities, which he estimated last year would be \$53,000,000 and which fell short of that amount by \$23,000,000.

As a result of the heavy receipts June 30 the net balance in the general fund of the treasury was \$145,835,502.

**CURED BY MONKEY'S GLAND.**

A Cretin Turned Into a Quick Witted Boy—Operation Unique.  
 The radical cure of a cretin—one suffering from cretinism, a disease characterized by physical deformity and imbecility—by grafting the thyroid gland of a monkey was described at the Academy of Medicine in Paris by Dr. Voronoff, a well known surgeon.  
 The patient, a child of fourteen years, was attacked by myxedema at the age of eight as an after effect of scarlet fever. His physical and intellectual growth stopped. Six months ago Dr. Voronoff, in the presence of nineteen doctors, grafted on the child's neck the right lobe of the thyroid gland of a large baboon.  
 Almost immediately the patient began to improve, and marked development took place in body and mind. While previously the patient was apathetic and stupid he became active and quick witted.  
 Members of the academy consider the operation of great importance and tending to confirm the great possibilities of constructive surgery as introduced by Dr. Alexis Carrel.

**OCEAN AERO TO CARRY 24.**

Cincinnati Man Building Great Machine to Cross Ocean in Three Days.

The building of an airship intended to be capable of crossing the Atlantic in three days is to be undertaken by Joseph Ostand of Cincinnati. Ostand says it will be able to carry twenty-four passengers.

The airship will be about forty feet high, and will be motor driven and specially constructed for dynamite hurling, should the government adopt it as a military machine. Inflated bags and powerful propellers will support and drive it.

Ostand's device will be equipped with powerful searchlights, and the passengers will be sheltered by a sort of cabin encircling the engine room.

**\$100,000 Memorial to Clara Barton.**

Clara Barton, one of the founders of the American Red Cross, is to be commemorated by a \$100,000 memorial building, a training school for first aid nurses and a large auditorium at Glen Echo, where she lived the closing years of her life and where she died. It is expected that work on this memorial building will be in progress next fall. A beautiful park is to be laid out about the memorial buildings.

**Marshal Chase Alternated with Night-Marshal Shaw Monday in order to allow the latter an outing of a day at Sheridan, where he watched Dallas ball-tossers for a few minutes and then, like others, listened to the babbling of the brook known as the Yamhill river. And Shaw claims that he had just as good a time as though Dallas were victors.**

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 —TO—  
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