

HALSEY ENTERPRISE

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HALSEY, Linn Co., Ore., April 27, 1922

RELIGION BY LAW

At the laying of the cornerstone of the national Baptist memorial to Roger Williams at Washington last Saturday Secretary of State Hughes declared that the principle of religious liberty was distinctly an American institution and that the memorial was "a tribute to the pioneer who first in America erected the standard of religious liberty" and a "pledge that this principle shall be held inviolate."

Mr. Hughes ought to know better than that. That principle has been violated by state laws every day of the existence of the nation. One reason Mr. Williams was banished from the religio-political state of Massachusetts was his protest against a Sunday law as violating religious liberty. He founded the American Baptist church in protest against religious legislation but today there are members of that church working for a national Sunday law.

They may not get it, but men are being fined and imprisoned under state law for working on Sunday, though they obey the decalog and refrain from labor on the seventh day.

New Hampshire has incapacitated Roman Catholics from holding office. The principle of religious liberty is not held inviolate.

A DIPLOMATIC FLEA

The real underlying motive in calling of the Washington disarmament conference was to dispel an actual disturbing and uncomfortable uneasiness over our relations with Japan.

Our administration breathed a great sigh of relief and sent broadcast songs of rejoicing when the Nipponese bound themselves to withdraw from China and Siberia and to cease construction of what might become the biggest navy in

the world. Yes; they bound themselves—with a rope of sand. They promised to withdraw from Shantung by a specific date if— They promised to get out of Siberia and northern Saghalien by specified date if—

They are withdrawing from those places as rapidly as they withdrew from Korea after promising, without any "ifs," to do so. Well, maybe they will fulfill all those promises before the final judgment day, and maybe they won't.

At Washington we achieved a great diplomatic triumph—on paper.

Our congress, while dallying with inconsequential trifles, recognizes the situation sufficiently to rescind the drastic cut it had proposed to make in the navy.

Lord Northcliffe, the British newspaper king, home from a trip around the world, declares that Japan is consolidating and strengthening her military system at an expense that makes her taxation the most burdensome in the world and that her object is domination and subjection first of China and then of the world.

Japan's diplomats are the shrewdest in existence. When representatives of other nations think to have them cornered beyond escape they suddenly discover that the little brown man is just like Josh Billings' flea. "When you put your finger on him he ain't there."

Keep your powder dry, but be optimistic.

Because 25,000 permits have been issued in New York for the carrying of concealed weapons the Albany Democrat argues that there must be as many carried without license by the bad men against whom the licenses need the protection afforded by the weapons. Maybe. And maybe half or more of the licensees are the bad men themselves. Who knows?

When masked men raided a home at Inglewood, Los Angeles, Sunday one of them was shot and killed and two wounded. The man killed proved to be an officer of the law engaged in an unlawful raid. Whenever a band of masked men parades, unless known to the authorities and licensed, it ought to be lawful to shoot at them and shoot to kill.

WHERE YOUR TAXES GO

(by Edward G. Lowry)

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XIV.

SYSTEM IS ALL WRONG

The great difficulty that stands in the way of discussing Uncle Sam as an employer is that there is no such person. The men who stand in the relation of employer to their subordinates are nothing but employees themselves, and temporary ones at that, with a very fleeting tenure of office. Cabinet officers and members of congress, to whom the rank and file of employees look for guidance for a solution of their problems, are simply fleeting figures that come and go, with their own interests to serve. They testify freely enough as to conditions of government employment. Senator Carter Glass, recently secretary of the treasury, for example:

"The largely multiplied business of the government cannot be conducted with efficiency and economy unless there be attracted to and retained in the public service a group of highly trained, well-paid and permanent officials of supervisory grades. Uncertainty of tenure in some instances and inadequacy of compensation have closed the public service to many men of the best type or forced them out of government employ at the moment of their greatest usefulness."

"The war has increased the public debt more than twenty-five fold and has augmented the functions and activities of the government in many ways. The duties are greater and the responsibilities are larger than those of other days, to the standards of which it is not to be expected that the government will ever return. The conditions are such that failure to take the necessary action to invite and hold in the public service men of exceptional ability and of real distinction in their fields can result only in grave burdens to the taxpayers of the country and in possible disaster."

"Already the transaction of the business of the government is hampered by deficiencies of personnel due to the return to private life of many men of large capacity who during the period of active warfare were willing and glad to serve their country at great personal sacrifice. I have come to learn that there are heroes in the civil establishments as well as in the military services, self-sacrificing patriots who toll year in and year out for

a bare pittance when they could command salaries double or treble the amounts they receive from the government, but who, for the love of their country and for the love of their work, have rejected alluring offers in the field of private enterprise. They were too fine and too patriotic to leave their posts."

"Under the compelling force of patriotism they made willing sacrifices during the war, but with the return of peace the government cannot expect to retain these employees indefinitely, because in justice to themselves and their families they will sooner or later accept the larger opportunities that are open to them in the world of business and industry unless the government proposes to pay them salaries that at least reasonably approach the value of their services."

"Only prompt action by the congress to build up a permanent and dignified civil service which will include men of great ability and high attainments can prevent mistakes and failures in the transaction of the public business, the consequences of which may be calamitous."

Ex-Representative Good, who was chairman of the appropriations committee of the house, is equally frank:

"Today duplication in the government service abounds on every hand. For example, eight different departments of the government, with large overhead organizations, are engaged in engineering work. In navigation, irrigation and drainage; eleven different bureaus are engaged in engineering research; twelve different organizations are engaged in road construction, while twelve, with large overhead organizations, are engaged in hydraulic construction and sixteen are engaged in surveying and mapping. Sixteen different bureaus exercise jurisdiction over water-power development. Nine different organizations are collecting information on the consumption of coal. Forty-two different organizations, with overhead expenses, are dealing with the question of public health."

"The Treasury department, the War department, the Interior department and the Labor department each has a bureau dealing with the question of general education. These departments operate independently; instances of cooperation between them are exceptional. Each of these departments is manned at all times with an organization prepared to carry the peak of the load and maintains an expensive ready-to-serve personnel. A lack of cooperation in the executive departments necessarily leads to gross extravagance. The system is wrong, and congress alone can change the system."

School Essays

(By Virgil Corbin)

Gravity:
I am a power that none can understand,
I rise through air, through sea,
through land.
I point the path for the world to follow.
I make the water seek forever the hollow.

A feather obeys my stern command,
I hold the sun in my mighty hand.
Whenever you try your weight on scales
You test my strength that never fails.
Men spend their lives in vain to learn my ways,
To claim for man what wisdom that they may,
Though I am always at your very hand
I rule the stars, the sea, the land,
For I can claim neither sound, or shape or sight,
Yet the whole world hangs on my mystic might.

(By Clarice Gourley)

Chanticleer:
Chanticleer was a large black Minorca cock. In the sunlight his glossy feathers reflected all the colors of the rainbow. His comb was as red as the coat of the scarlet tanager. On the whole, Chantee, as he was called by his few friends and acquaintances, was a very handsome cock—but proud and haughty as Lucifer.

One morning Chantee flew down from his rafter in the barn and strutted out and began to bully a small bantam cock called Bantee, whom he considered greatly inferior to himself. Bantee was very small, and he was just as kind and humble as Chantee was proud and haughty. All the barnyard fowls respected Bantee very much, but their admiration for Chantee was very great. Chantee, they thought, was the best fighter in the barnyard. But after Chantee had been beaten very badly by little Bantee, who was very quick with his spurs, they found that they had much more respect for him than for Chantee, who had picked a fight with someone much smaller than he. So Chantee collected his scattered wits and crept away to nurse his wounds.

Moral: The one that attracts the most attention is not always the most respected.

(By Wilmetta Forster)

Launching the Ship:
One morning I was awakened

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by the birds chirping and a queer whistle of some strange bird. I realized that I had been dreaming. As I recalled my dream, I thought I was boarding the great ship, called the Senior Class.

As I entered the stateroom, which is the high school building, I felt very proud to think I was on this large ship of education. As I gazed over the water, far far in the distance I saw trees, some small, some a little taller, and some tall ones. These represented the freshman, sophomore and junior classes, but they all seemed small by the side of the ship, called the Senior Class.

A man called "All aboard" and we were off on our education voyage. This man was the professor. "Pupils," he began, "this is the starting of a new year. You are all here for your own good. Let us go forward with a will of doing our best. Let each one do his or her own part to make this class a success, that the class next year may use you for an example."

The baggage-man stepped forward and began to make preparations for stopping. This was the senior class president, who called the class to order and asked for the nominations.

Soon another whistle was heard and we were all launched safely on the other side of the ocean of failures, and on the ocean, far in the distance, the next senior class was starting on its educational voyage.

A French chemist declares that colors follow a regular sequence like the notes of a musical scale and can be combined in groups as soothing to the mind and nose as music to the mind and ear. When a nose artist lets loose a tune of smells on us may the Lord deliver us from jazz!

Among Brownsville people who called on Mrs. Wheeler Sunday were jeweler W. J. Lane and wife, Mrs. J. W. Cook and son David, Miss Beatrice Walgamot, Mrs. W. A. Davenport, Robert Loucks, Paul Kent and Lloyd Henderson.

The Albany-Lebanon-Cascadia road project has been postponed till a more convenient season.

At last spring smiles more than one day in succession. Ice cream becomes again a constant instead of a semi-occasional visitor at Stewart & Price's and the little seeds in the ground send up shoots.

Sen.

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