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SAYINGS OF SAGES.

I have never had a policy. I have simply tried to do what seemed best each day as each day came.—Lincoln.

To live, to work, to help and to be helped; to learn sympathy through suffering, to learn faith by perplexity, to reach truth through wonder—behold! This is what it is to prosper, this is what it is to live.—Phillips Brooks.

God has connected the labor which is essential to the bodily sustenance with the pleasures which are the healthiest for the heart; and while he made the ground stubborn he made its herbage fragrant and its blossoms fair.—John Ruskin.

A SENSE OF HUMOR

The recent agitation on the obsolete Oregon Sunday closing law, recalls to mind the historic days of the old New Haven colony of New England's early days, when a certain estimable clergyman, Samuel A. Peters, introduced what have since come to be known as the "blue laws." According to this code, a mother could not kiss her child on the Sabbath; housewives could not cook, sweep or make beds on the Sabbath; men were not allowed to shave on the Lord's day, and the law even decreed how they should trim their hair. Married persons were compelled to live together or to go to jail.

History, however, throws some light on Mr. Peter's case; he was born, it appears, before his time. He was a humorist, but the stern New England fathers couldn't understand his humor. He drafted the blue laws as a joke. His code was intended as a satire on the Puritanic laws then in existence. He meant to reduce the blue laws "ad absurdum." But, the irony of fate, the straight-laced magistrates of those narrow and bigoted days interpreted them literally.

We have made some progress since then, but there are too many reformers of the present day, who like the old New Englanders, lack a sense of humor. They take themselves and all the world too seriously, and it is these later-day, would-be Puritans who are responsible for much of the foolish and unnecessary legislation with which the country has been burdened.

PREPAREDNESS FOR PEACE

It is quite popular just at present to speculate on what will happen in a military way after the European war ends. The fire-eating militarists profess to believe that the United States will be in grave danger of attack by some victorious bully of a nation that will seek to recoup its shattered finances by falling upon us in our helpless state and taking our much boasted wealth away. So we are told that we must arm against this menace, and in a reasonable way the nation is preparing to better its defenses.

But the attempted industrial invasion that will certainly follow the end of the war is of more immediate importance than any possible military invasion. It is remotely possible that some European nation, coming out of the war with a trained and seasoned army and an empty treasury, might attempt a war of conquest against the United States, although it is in no way probable. It is practically certain, however, that the great manufacturing nations that are at war are even now making preparations to win back the trade they have lost to the United States.

News from the belligerent countries is scarce and unreliable and what we get is at the mercy of the censors, but the fact seems to be pretty well established that both England and Germany are making every effort possible to keep their factories going. England, of course, still has access to the world's trade, and is marketing her manufactured

HOW GOSSIP RUINS MANY LIVES

BY DOROTHY DIX

"Killed by idle gossip," was the verdict brought by a coroner's jury in an Illinois village the other day after investigating suicide of a beautiful young woman who had shot herself. It is a pity that the jury could not have gone a step farther and indicted for murder all who had banded around the false and malicious stories that had first slain the young woman's reputation and then slew her. Certainly every scandal monger among them was accessory before the crime of her death.

"Killed by idle gossip!" How often that epitaph might be written over a ruined life or a broken heart, and how few of us can hold up clean hands and swear ourselves free of blood guiltiness! We may not have originated the black story that blighted the career of a fellow creature, but we listened to it. We stood by and held the garment of those who atoned the innocent.

Our attitude toward gossip is passing strange. We all admit that the good name is the most precious possession of a man or woman, and that to rob them of this is to make them poor, indeed. Yet we, who would not take a penny from their purse, have no hesitation in filching their reputation from them.

We who are tender hearted and could not bring ourselves to inflict the slightest physical pain upon another human being, have a ghoulish delight in tearing to pieces the character of even our friends, though there is no other torture that the

articles wherever she can. Germany however is shut off from the outside world and if her great factories are kept in operation in order to furnish work for the people it can only mean that tremendous stocks are being piled up to await the time when her commerce will again be unrestricted.

When peace comes both Germany and England will be desperately eager to win back the commerce they have lost while they have been flying at each other's throats—indeed, their very national existence will depend upon regaining their foreign commerce, for both are manufacturing nations, and their factory output is immensely greater than their domestic consumption. The natural way for them to regain their lost customers will be by underselling all competitors.

So far as holding their share of foreign trade is concerned, American manufacturers must look out for themselves after the war. The United States pays higher wages than any other nation, but in return for these higher wages it demands and receives greater efficiency, coupled with larger output, which must be relied upon to hold the place in foreign trade that has been won during the war.

But in protecting the domestic trade of the United States against European dumping there must be governmental aid. A few generations ago this would have been an easy problem. It would only have been necessary to erect around the country a tariff wall so high that all European products would be shut out and the needed protection would have been given. Conditions have changed, however. The factory capacity of the United States now far exceeds its domestic consumption, and so it must look to foreign trade as an outlet for its surplus production. It is apparent that if we erect a prohibitive and indiscriminate tariff wall against all comers, we shall invite retaliation from those we shut out. Preparedness for war is by no means the only task that confronts the country. Preparedness for peace is even more important, because the commercial dangers that threaten with the advent of peace abroad are much more imminent and tangible than the military dangers. Tariff making must be placed upon a new plane. The old hit-or-miss political method must be discarded. Patriotism, not politics, is the great need of the future in tariff making.—Eugene Register.

Remember: "A gift with a kind countenance is a double present." Smile, for "Christmas comes but once a year."

That Ford peace excursion looks like a deliberate waste of good money; unless the advertising is worth the price.

'Tis a bum tide that does no man good; think of the wood some folks won't have to buy this winter.

Jupiter Pluvius must be getting ready for that long dry spell.

Why not take the Oregon avenue case to the Hague?

At a rag dance he who hesitates is lost.

Do your shopping now.

victim would rather undergo. There is nothing sacred from idle gossip. Nobody exempt. A man and his wife live happily together, trusting each other. Idle gossip begins whispering over the teapots or a haze of cigar smoke some vague suspicion of husband or wife that grows into a report that crystallizes into a heinous charge, and a home is broken up by it. A boy does something wrong in the folly of his youth. He repents, and is all the better and stronger man for it. But go where he will, idle gossip tells over the story with a thousand embellishments and shuts every door of opportunity in his face. A girl is silly and indiscreet. Nothing is really wrong with her, but idle gossip blackens her name until it drives her into becoming the thing it calls her.

Why should we hurt people with our tongues that we would not injure with our hands? Why should we blacken their characters when we would scorn to throw mud at their clothes? Should we, who demand authority for everything else demand none for injurious stories concerning our neighbors?

Idle gossip does more harm than anything else in the world, and if the ladies who are so fond of reforming things really do want to start a reform that will do more for the happiness of the world than anything else, they will inaugurate an anti-gossip crusade. And they can begin it in their own proper persons, for idle gossip, like charity, begins at home.

EPIGRAMMATIC.

"Bob" Wilson says the reason many people kick against taxes is because they can't think of anything else to kick about.

JUST A GIRL

(By Helen Walters)

Many a throne has had to fall
For a girl.

Many a king has had to crawl
For a girl.

When the hero goes to war
He may battle for the right,
But 'tis likelier by far
That he sallies forth to fight
For a girl.

When the doctor turns to say:
"It's a girl,
Just a girl,"
Papa murmurs with dismay,
"What! A girl,
Just a girl?"

Ah, but why the sadness there?
Why the bitterness displayed?
Someday some strong man will swear
That the great round world was made
For that girl,
Just that girl.

Why did Adam take the bite?
For a girl.

Why was Troy swept out of sight?
For a girl.

Why was Heaven still be bright,
And would any good man care
To achieve it, if he might
Never claim forever there
Just a girl,
Glorious girl.

Big Ben and Baby Ben—the Boyle twins—\$2.50 each.

HYMN BEFORE ACTION.

The earth is full of anger,
The seas are dark with wrath,
The nations in their harness
Go up against our path.
Ere yet we loose the legions,
Ere yet we draw the blade,
Jehovah of the thunders,
Lord God of battles, aid!

High lust and forward bearing,
Proud heart, rebellious brow—
Deaf ear and soul uncaring,
We seek thy mercy now!
The slinger that forswore thee,
The fool that passed thee by,
Our times are known before
Thee—
Lord, grant us strength to die!

From panic, pride and terror,
Revenge that knows no rein,
Light haste and lawless error,
Protect us yet again,
Cloak thou our undeserving;
Make firm the shuddering
breath,
In silence and unswerving
To taste thy lesser death!

E'en now their vanguard gather,
E'en now we face the fray—
As thou didst help our fathers,
Help thou our host today!
Fulfilled of signs and wonders
In life, in death made clear—
Jehovah of the thunders,
Lord God of battles, hear!
—Rudyard Kipling.

Mouth Comfort

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Our regular services are as follows: Public worship each Sunday at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; Sunday school at 10 o'clock; Epworth league at 7 p. m.; prayer services at private homes on Wednesday evenings; a cordial invitation is extended to all.—Rev. C. Mayne Knight, Pastor.