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BED NOT POPULAR

Most People Have an Aversion to Seeking It.

Not That They Have Any Objection to Slumber in Itself, but That They Reject the Abject Surrender Involved.

One of the characters in "The Moon and Sixpence" remarked that he had faithfully lived up to the old precept about doing every day two things you heartily dislike; for, said he, every day he had got up and he had gone to bed.

It is a sad thing that as soon as the hands of the clock have turned ten the shadow of going to bed begins to creep over the evening. We have never heard bedgoing spoken of with any enthusiasm. One after another we have seen a gathering disperse, each person saying (with an air of solemn resignation): "Well, I guess I'll go to bed." But there was no hilarity about it. It is really rather touching how they cling to the departing skirts of the day that is vanishing under the spinning shadow of night.

This is odd, we repeat, for sleep is highly popular among human beings. The reluctance to go to one's couch is not at all a reluctance to slumber, for almost all of us will doze happily in an armchair or on a sofa, or even festooned on the floor with a couple of cushions. But the actual and formal yielding to sheets and blankets is to be postponed to the last possible moment.

The devil of drowsiness is most potent, we find, about 10:30 p. m. At this period the human carcass seems to consider that it has finished its cycle, which began with so much courage about 16 hours before. It begins to slack and the mind halts on a dead center every now and then, refusing to complete the revolution. Now, there are those who hold that this is certainly the seemly and appointed time to go to bed, and they do so as a matter of routine.

These are, commonly, the happier creatures, for they take the tide of sleep at the flood and are borne calmly and with gracious gentleness out to great waters of nothingness. They push off from the wharf on a tranquil current, and nothing more is to be seen or heard of these voyagers until they reappear at the breakfast table, digging lustily into the grapefruit.

These people are happy, aye, in a brutish and sedentary fashion, but they miss the admirable adventures of those more embittered wrestlers who will not give in without a struggle. These latter suffer severe pangs between 10:30 and about 11:15, while they grapple with their failing faculties and seek to re-establish the will on its tottering throne.

This requires courage, stout valor unbending. Once you yield, be it ever so little to the tempter, you are lost. And here our poor bard's clay plays us false, undermining the intellect with many a trick and wile. "I will sit down for a season in that comfortable chair," the creature says to himself, "and read this sprightly novel." That will ease my mind and put me in humor for a continuance of lively thinking."

And the end of that man is a steady nazal buzz from the bottom of the chair, where he has collapsed, an unsightly object and a disgrace to humanity. This also means a big bill from the electric light company at the end of the month. In many such ways will his corpus betray him, leading him by plausible self-deceptions into a pitfall of sleep, whence he is aroused about three a. m., when the planet turns over on the other side. —Boston Globe.

Tennyson Home on Market.

Aldworth on Blackdown, Tennyson's home for many years, has been placed on the market. The property of the former poet laureate of England is near Haslemere in the wild Surrey country and stands by a long avenue of scrub oak along which Cromwell and his army are said to have marched from Arundel castle.

Aldworth was built in 1868 and on April 23, when the first stone was laid, the poet's wife made the following entry in her diary:

"Shakespeare's birthday. A. in excellent spirits, he was pleased with the inscription on the stone: 'Prosper Thou the works of our hands, O prosper Thou our handiwork.'"

Here in the shade of the ancient trees Tennyson took his morning walks, clad in his great black coat and his famous sombrero hat, which emphasized his long bearded face. T. P. O'Connor once remarked that it was the best make-up for a poet that he had ever seen on or off the stage.

Maine Rich in Tourmalines.

Nowhere is there such a wealth of tourmalines as in the state of Maine, according to a recent statement on the development of the resources of that state. At Mount Mica, in the town of Paris, it says, is a deposit of red and green tourmaline unequaled elsewhere. They are, it would seem, almost inexhaustible in quantity, of rare beauty, and when cut into gems are in good demand, many finding their way into museum collections.

Yeast Cakes' Many Uses.

"It beats all," said Uncle Bill Bottletop, "how many different things yeast cakes are good for. I understand some folks even use 'em for makin' bread!"

JOHN F. NUGENT

Photo by Western Newspaper Union

John F. Nugent, who resigned as United States Senator from Idaho to become a member of the Federal Trade Commission.

MONTESANO ROCKED BY BIG EXPLOSION

Montesano, Wash.—An explosition which shook the entire town of Montesano and brought out the populace Sunday night is believed by the police to be a miscarriage of a plot to wreck the Grays Harbor county jail here, in which are incarcerated seven men convicted last March of complicity in the Centralia, Wash., armistice day murders of November 11, 1919.

The explosion occurred under a tree in a vacant lot near the Northern Pacific station and within 100 feet of the main street of the town. The tree was shatterred by the blast.

The police theory of a possible plot in the county jail is based upon reports of the presence of a stranger loitering about the jail during the day. The man carried a leather traveling bag and pieces of such a bag with a short length of fuse were picked up near the scene of the explosion by W. C. McAloon, marshal. It is the marshal's belief that the bomb was cached near the tree and prematurely exploded. No damage resulted.

SOVIET ENVOY CALLED HOME

"Ambassador" Martens Will Submit to Order of Deportation.

New York.—Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, Russian soviet "ambassador" to the United States, notified the department of labor that upon instruction from the Moscow government, just received, he would surrender himself for deportation on January 3.

The Moscow advices directed Martens not to appeal from the order for his deportation, signed by Secretary of Labor Wilson recently, but to return to Russia as soon as possible with his entire Russian staff.

Cancellation of all contracts negotiated for the Russian government with American firms, said by Martens to amount to some $50,000,000, was ordered.

Prineville, Ore., Bank Closes.

Prineville, Or.—The Crook County bank closed its doors Monday morning. The bank was closed by the trustees for 60 days, during which time it will be thoroughly reorganized. It is said the cause of suspension is due to conditions now prevailing, farmers and sheepmen being unable to sell their wheat and cattle or to raise money on cattle or wool.

THE MARKETS

Portland.

Wheat—Soft white and white club, $1.55; hard winter, $1.50; northern spring, $1.50; red Walla, $1.47.

Oats—No. 2 white feed, $35.

Corn—Whole, $47; cracked, $59.

Hay—Willamette valley timothy, $27@28 per ton, alfalfa, $20@21.

Butter Fat—50@53c.

Eggs—Ranch, 50c.

Cattle—Best steers, $8@8.75; good to choice, $7.50@8.00; medium to good $7@7.50.

Sheep — East of mountain lambs, $7@8; Willamette valley lambs, $6@7.

Hogs — Prime mixed $9.50@10.25; heavy, $7@8.25.

Seattle.

Wheat—Hard white, soft white and white club, $1.59; hard red winter, soft red winter, northern spring and eastern red Walla, Big Bend bluestem, $1.65.

Hay—Eastern Washington mixed, $29 per ton, alfalfa, $29.

Butter Fat—49@51c.

Eggs—Ranch, 48@53c.

Poultry — Hens, dressed 27@37c; alive, 22@32c.

Hogs — Prime, $10.50@11; smooth heavies, $9.50@10.50.

Cattle — Prime steers, $8.50@9; medium to choice, $7.@8.

CLAIM OLD HOMES

French Peasants Repairing Devastation of War.

Cheerful Sights Seen in Districts Ravaged by the Hun Hordes—New Villages Arising From Heaps of Ruins.

La France is "an American magazine" which aims to promote France-American sympathy and understanding, says the New York Times, and is conducted by a group of public-spirited citizens. Recent numbers have contained notable records of the revival of agriculture and industry in the devastated region, photographs showing the progress which has been made in rebuilding churches and canals, and significant statistics as to the great recent increases in taxation, thanks to which France hopes to fund and eventually wipe out her war-time debt. Most impressive of all, however, is the story of a French failure as told by Claude Riviere.

In certain devastated districts the villages had been so thoroughly pulverized and the soil so completely blasted that it seemed impossible to repopulate them. Not a house was remaining, nor a tree; and instead of the familiar green herbage there came "a curious yellowish grass, utterly unlike anything seen before in this part of the country." With a characteristically dramatic instinct, the authorities planned to keep these districts as they were, and especially such places as had been the scene of signal and memorable examples of German barbarity. They were to be an example and a warning—the "red zone." But these dramatists reckoned without their hero—and heroine. Deep in the heart of the zone rouge, amid scenes of "volcanic" devastation, M. Riviere saw through his field glass a tiny green square upon a distant hillside. It proved to be a cultivated field, "an oasis in the desert." Disregarding the new law which "protected" the zone rouge, a peasant had returned to the site of his old home, had himself removed the unexploded shells from his soil—24 of them were lined up by the road—and so he had established himself as a producer once more, if only on a tiny strip. "We have always plowed the land," he said to M. Riviere; "we must plow again." In what was once the village of Nanteuil la Fosse, M. Riviere found an old woman who was somehow managing to live alone in the dismal wreck of her home, though she had to walk ten miles to buy food. She said simply that she wanted to die in her own house—"Je veux mourir dans ma maison." A more cheerful sight in the zone rouge is a village which formerly housed 800 people, all but five of whom have returned.

A correspondent of the London Times bears similar witness. The most recent battlefield guide book contains a picture entitled, "All That Is Left of Hooge—the Signboard." But the traveler finds that a new Hooge is already rising upon this site of so many bitter scenes in the battles for Ypres. Even the local guides have their troubles. One of them, having announced to his tourists that Guillemont was so completely destroyed that no attempt could ever be made to rebuild it, discovered upon reaching the site that four houses had been erected in his brief absence, and were already occupied, the children playing in the streets.

From the nation to which such things are possible much is to be expected. Heroic as it was in war, it has equal vigor and tenacity in the arts of peace.

Restoring Stonehenge.

Now that Stonehenge, the grandest and most mysterious monument in Britain, has become the property of the nation, the government is putting it to careful and painstaking repair in order to prevent the ultimate collapse of its mighty "hanging stones." It was five years ago that Sir Edward Antrobus, a Wiltshire baronet, sold the ancient monument to E. H. E. Chubb of Salisbury for $33,000, and it was two years ago when Mr. Chubb presented his purchase to the British government. The war was then still on and the office of works, to whose care it fell, had other things to think about, but now that the war is ended the office of works has speedily set about the task of preserving the great monoliths of Stonehenge.

Half a dozen men under the direction of Sir Frank Baines of the office of works, are making the ancient circle of stones look as it did when it was completed by the sun worshipers of Salisbury plain some 3,000 years ago.

Camels Hard Hit by War.

According to the report of the veterinary section of the war department of Great Britain, the loss of animals in the war was much lower in proportion than the loss of men, amounting to less than 15 per cent. This is the lowest percentage of any war in which England every took part. The total number of animals lost by the English during the war was 484,143, including 3,589 that were drowned or died at sea. England's greatest loss was in camels, 22,812 of which were killed. This is accounted for by the fact that the camels were always used in the most dangerous positions and subjected to the greatest hardships. Of the camels used in Mesopotamia during the last year of the war 86.5 per cent were killed or died from exposure.

BONUS WOULD COST OVER TWO BILLION

Houston Makes Estimate Before Senate Finance Committee.

Washington.—Passage of the soldiers' bonus bill would cost the government approximately $2,300,000,000 Secretary Houston estimated before the senate finance committee considering the soldier's aid measure.

The secretary presented his estimate to the senate finance committee without comment other than to urge that no legislation be enacted which would lay an additional burden on the nation's finances.

The estimate was accompanied by figures showing the cost of carrying out any one of the five optional provisions of the bonus bill provided all former service men chose a single plan. The figures for the various plans ranged from $1,342,000,000 for the adjusted pay provisions to $4,534,000,000 for the insurance provision.

The maximum possible cost of the vocational training aid and the farm and home development plans were placed at $1,880,000,000 each, while the secretary said the fifth proposition, a plan for land settlement, held so many uncertainties that it was impossible to estimate the possible expenditure.

Submission of the estimated total cost made an apparent impression upon members of the committee which is considering the bonus bill as passed by the house at the last session.

Members declined to forecast the decision of the committee on the question of reporting out the measure, but it was recalled that Senator ure,

GROWERS PLAN TO FORCE WHEAT UP

Wichita, Kan.—The Wheat Growers' Association of America, which has been conducting a campaign to induce growers to withhold their wheat from the market until prices are higher, plans to have mid-western states so well organized within the next six months that the growers will be able to control the price paid for the 1921 crop, according to W. H. McGreevy, secretary and treasurer.

The association now has a membership of approximately 100,000 in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska, according to Mr. McGreevy, who has his headquarters here. The organization will be extended, he said, to Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

"The purpose of the National Wheat Growers' association is to control the distribution and marketing of wheat through financial and selling agencies of its own selection at a price based upon cost, plus a fair and reasonable profit," said Secretary McGreevy.

HARDING CONFERS ON U. S.

Cabinet Selections Also Expected to Be Discussed.

Marion, O.—Questions of foreign relations and an association of nations gave way to domestic discussions at President-elect Harding's home this week. Among those with whom he will talk will be Porter McCumber, senator of North Dakota, a ranking member of the senate finance committee; J. W. Good, representative of Iowa, chairman of the house appropriations committee; Frank Mondell, representative of Wyoming, majority leader in the house; Patrick H. Kelly, representative of Kansas, member of the house military committee.

Cabinet selections are also expected to be discussed at a proposed conference with Will H. Hays, chairman of the republican national committee.

Gooding to Succeed Nugent in Senate.

Boise, Idaho.—The resignation of John F. Nugent from the United States senate, to take effect on January 15, was received by Governor Davis. Senator Nugent was recently appointed to the federal trade commission by President Wilson. Governor Davis has announced that he will appoint Senator-Elect Frank R. Gooding to fill Senator Nugent's unexpired term.

Grain Hearing Is Set.

Washington.—Hearings on legislation to regulate grain exchanges and dealings in grain futures will be held by the house agriculture committee beginning January 4. Half a dozen measures to regulate such trading have been introduced in the house at this session.

1920 Record Year For All Railroads.

Washington. — American railroads are completing a record year and have no intention of asking for another general rate increase, Thomas Dewitt Cuyler, chairman of the Association of Railway executives, declared, reviewing the 1920 situation.

GENERAL NIVELLE

Gen. Georges Nivelle, the French general who defended Verdun, who is visiting in the United States.

SELF-GOVERNMENT ON WAY TO SAN DOMINGO

Washington.—By direction of the president, initial steps were taken for the withdrawal of American control over affairs of the Dominican republic.

A proclamation announcing this purpose was issued at San Domingo by Rear-Admiral Thomas Snowden, naval governor. By its terms the friendly purpose of American military intervention in the island in 1916 are declared to be "substantially achieved" and "simple processes" inaugurated for "rapid withdrawal from the responsibilities assumed in connection with Dominican affairs."

A Dominican committee, aided by an American adviser, will be named by Admiral Snowden to formulate amendments to the Dominican constitution and draft new election laws. When approved by the naval governor, these will be submitted to a constitutional convention and the Dominican national congress as a preliminary to the erection of the Dominican government, to which the affairs of the republic will be turned over.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

One thousand deaths from starvation are occurring daily in the Pekin district in China.

It was estimated that at least a million people are without work in London's east end.

Chief of Police Fitzmorris of Chicago has asked that the police department's payroll be increased by about $3,000,000 annually.

The Christmas offerings which poured in upon President Wilson were in excess of anything ever experienced by a previous president.

Compensation for injured seamen and their dependents is proposed in a bill introduced by Senator Johnson, republican, of California.

Emergency farm relief measures in congress strengthened the Chicago wheat market last week despite unsettling financial conditions.

Miss Belle Kearney of Flora, Miss., prominent suffragist, prohibition lecturer and world traveler, has formally announced her candidacy for the United States senate to succeed Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi.

Diaz Plans New Mexican Revolt.

Mexico City.—Felix Diaz, one time a revolutionary leader, who was deported to Cuba, has arived in Guatemala and is said to be contemplating aggression against the Mexican government, according to reports.

Italian Forces Close Grip on Fiume.

London.—Italian government troops are slowly but surely closing the iron ring around Fiume, where Captain Gabriele D'Annunzio and his little force of legionaires were standing siege.

146 Miles an Hour in Air.

Long Beach, Cal.—Flying at a speed of 146.8 miles an hour, Lieutenant E. E. Bratten, United States army aviator, won the 100-mile free-for-all race for the Albert H. Hays challenge trophy.

Inaugural Day Change Asked.

Washington.—The third Monday in January instead of March 4 would be inaugural day, under an amendment to the constitution proposed by Senator Ashurst, democrat, of Arizona.

New York Has Hiccough Epidmeic.

New York.—A hiccough epidemic, the result of colds this time instead of convivial bouts, now has New York in its grip.

HOUSTON ASKS FOR TAX ON FARM BONDS

Secretary Holds That Exemption of Land Bank Issues Is Wrong.

Washington.—Withdrawal of the tax exemption provision from farm loan bonds issued in the future by joint stock land banks has been recommended to congress by Secretary Houston on the ground that these banks are organizations of private capital for commercial purposes in which the profits accrue to the benefit of the investing stockholders.

Tax exemptions in the case of joint stock land banks were declared by the secretary to amount to a gift at the expense of the government and taxpayers generally. The privilege, he said, should not be continued with respect to the private mortgage companies, organized for private profit. This is emphasized, the secretary asserted, in this period of high taxes, when the government has established the policy of subjecting its own securities to partial taxation and when the treasury cannot afford to dispense with any of the receipts which otherwise would accrue on account of taxation.

The withdrawal of the tax exemption for the United States from farm loan bonds, however, the secretary suggested, should be accompanied by an increase in the powers of the federal land banks to make any loans now authorized by joint stock land banks in order that there be no curtailment of the financial benefits to agriculture provided by the farm loan act.

During the past fiscal year, the secretary said, 27 joint stock land banks were in active operation, making loans in the aggregate of $20,262,470 to 3148 borrowers.

DOORS OF PORTLAND BOND HOUSE CLOSED

Portland, Or.—The discovery that a large deficiency existed in the affairs of the bond house of Morris Brothers Inc., of Portland, with branches in San Francisco, Seattle and Tacoma, resulted in the institution of closing and appointment of a receiver federal court.

John L. Etheridge, who recently signed as president of the concern, was arrested in Minneapolis as a fugitive from justice. District Attorney Evans has announced that steps will be taken to compel the return of Etheridge to Portland to face charges of larceny and embezzlement.

It is reported that more than 1000 subscribers to bonds, aggregating investments of $2,066,000 were hit by the wrecking of the bond house. These subscribers were holders of the interim certificates, having paid in their money for municipal bonds to the firm without receiving the value.

Besides these 1000 subscribers there are hundreds more as yet unlisted, whose deposits, it is believed, will total $1,000,000.

MAY NULLIFY LAND LAW

Japan Looking Forward to New Treaty With United States.

Tokio. — Addressing preliminary meetings of the diet here, Viscount Uchida, the foreign minister, expressed the opinion that a new Japanese-American treaty will be concluded leading to nullification of the California land law. He said he expected such action to result from the negotiations which have been in progress at Washington between Ambassador Shidehara and Roland S. Morris, United States ambassador to Japan.

The ambassadors, he said, were making efforts to obtain an understanding with the senate to secure passage of the treaty. He announced that in view of the sincerity with which they are endeavoring to solve the problem, Japan has refrained from protesting against the California law, but that if the negotiations fail a formal protest would be lodged.

New Type Battle Craft Under Way.

Washington.—Among the 140 vessels under construction for the navy are four types new to the American battle fleet but already in use by the other principal maritime powers. They are the battle cruisers of which six are being built; the scout or light cruiser, the airplane carrier and the fleet submarine.

Idaho Hay Being Sold.

Boise, Idaho.—It is estimated that a million tons of hay will be moved out of Idaho in the next few months as the result of the order of the interstate commerce commission reducing freight rates.

President Wilson Is 64 Years Old.

Washington. — President Wilson Tuesday celebrated his 64th birthday, receiving numerous messages of congratulation.