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GMC TRUCKS, BOTH NEW AND REBUILT

NO NEED FOR WASTED WORDS

Friends Understood Each Other Without the Formality of Any Stilted Conversation.

Charles K. Kettering, the automobile engineer of Dayton, is famous among his friends for saying what he has to say without waste of words. Not long ago a group of Ket's friends was discussing that phase of his nature and one of them told this story:

"I shall never forget Ket's conversation with a friend at one of the speedway races. They had not seen each other for months, although intimate friends. Both were of the type that says what's to be said without throwing away any loose language."

The speaker then went on to give the conversation between Mr. Kettering and his friend when they met at the Indianapolis motor speedway.

"Hello, Ket."

"Hello, John."

"Well?"

"Yes. You?"

"Yes. Drive?"

"No. Flew."

All of which, interpreted, disclosed the fact that both were well and that Mr. Kettering had come to the race in an airplane instead of an automobile.—Indianapolis News.

British Museum Readers.

Charge for admission to the British museum in Bloomsbury, London, does not at present include the famous reading room, which is alleged to possess the largest dome in the world. Many professional searchers earn precarious livelihoods in this splendidly appointed library. According to the Manchester Guardian, an expert reader was recently offered £40 to summarize a Latin life of one of the popes. He demanded £80, but some one else did the work for five guineas (about \$25).

One man copied all the old prize fights for about 35 cents per 1,000 words, and it recently came out in evidence that a retired clergyman translated Italian stories for about 25 cents per 1,000 words. Innumerable readers search guides to horse racing, a Westminster city councilor used to work there with regularity, and several retired generals from the army are among regular attendants at the British museum reading room. It is stated that recently a Kluge of the Ku Klux Klan asked for English law, with chapter and verse, as to right and left-hand flogging.

EXPANSION OF EIFFEL TOWER

Device Has Shown That the Edifice Is Susceptible to the Slightest Change in Temperature.

Some time ago the subdirector of the international bureau of weights and measures in Paris made a contrivance that registers the vertical expansion and contraction of the Eiffel tower. To a stake at the foot of the tower the official fastened a wire made of iron and nickel, and incapable of expansion or shrinkage. He attached the other end of the wire to the lever of a register on the second platform, about three hundred and eighty feet above the ground.

The charts from the register show that the great tower is extremely susceptible to the slightest change in temperature. Although the greatest variation in the height of the tower amounts to only a little over two and one-half inches, the records of the register show that a passing cloud, a sudden burst of sunshine, or a heavy shower, exert a marked effect upon the height of the structure.

The members of the geographical service of the army also have studied the horizontal movements of the 7,000-ton tower. They find that even in a ninety-mile gale the oscillations of the summit amount to scarcely four inches.—Illustrated World.

NEW PARACHUTE IDEA

The parachute inventor, Mr. E. R. Calthrop, declares that he could design and construct a life-saving device that would be capable of saving the twenty or more soldiers carried in the new great aerial transports, should the pilot lose control of the machine. His idea is a parachute which would bring safely to earth an airplane cabin containing twenty passengers. The parachute would be released in the event of an accident by the pilot simply pulling a lever, and in four seconds the cabin containing the passengers would be clear of the fuselage and on its descent to earth. The launching of the cabin body into space, he says, would have the effect of restabilizing the airplane, and the crew would not necessarily be sacrificed.

THE HIGH COST OF CHEAP MONEY

Widows and Orphans Among Chief Losers From Unsound Currency.

E. E. AGGER CITES EXPERIENCE

Speculators Rather Than Investors and Producers Win From Currency Depreciation.

The losses and costs borne by the government and the people of the United States from unsound money experiments, from colonial times down, doubtless total more than our staggering World War appropriations, it is declared by E. E. Agger, an authority on economics, in the Journal of the American Bankers' Association. "Cheap money," he says, is very costly, since frenzied finance, speculation and business disaster have invariably followed in the wake of unsound currency. He cites historical experience showing that widows and orphans were among the chief sufferers.

"New generations of adults, like children, have to learn over and over again that, when playing with fire, one runs the risk of being burned," Mr. Agger says. "Indulging currency heresies constitutes such an adult playing-with-fire. A glance over our own historical experience would demonstrate this to the most ardent 'easy money' advocate, but such advocates are usually those to whom history is 'bunk.'"

Soft Money Advocates Seek Profit. "Unfortunately those who are willing to kindle the kind of conflagration involved in 'soft-money' experimentation are not the only ones hurt. Indeed, they may extort an advantage for themselves. But the record is all too clear concerning the mass of people. Heavy losses, injustice, disorganized production and numerous other evils are inevitable.

"Unsound money projects impose heavy costs on the government itself. The first effect of cheap money is to raise prices. Mounting prices mean that, to meet its needs, the government must appropriate always larger sums. Again, dallying with unsound money weakens the government's credit. Prospective bond buyers become hesitant when currency depreciation is threatened, because there is danger of agitation toward the payment of government obligations in the cheaper money rather than in specie. Any such weakening of government credit means lower prices received for bonds, consequently greater burdens on the Treasury. Assuming that, in the end, sound principles triumph, the indulgences of the unsound currency days leave further costs to be met. If paper money has been issued it must be redeemed. If a government be unwilling to stoop to repudiation, it must raise much more in taxes to pay for the paper money than it received at the time of issue."

The total effect of paper issues in increasing the cost of the Civil War is estimated at about \$600,000,000, Mr. Agger says, continuing:

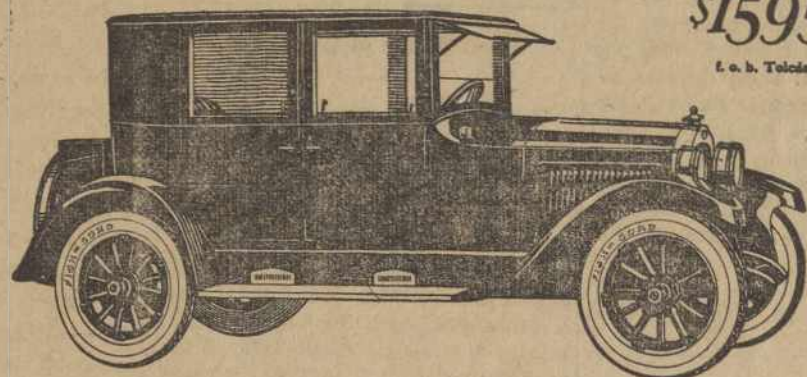
"Much more serious than the costs of unsound currency to the government are the heavy direct and indirect costs imposed upon the people. Our productive system is controlled through prices, and the upset of prices, caused by a depreciating currency, interferes with the proper harmonizing of the different lines of production. Price changes are not instantaneously or uniformly effected throughout the whole system. The result of an inflationary movement is a stimulation of speculation and over-investment in some lines, with inadequate development in other lines. The period of speculation seems a period of prosperity, but how false and unsound is such prosperity is disclosed in the stress and agony of the inevitable period of liquidation which, Nemesis-like, follows on the heels of the boom."

Wealth Unfairly Re-distributed

Mr. Agger then describes "the distressing effects of an unsound money on the distribution of wealth among classes and individuals. Cheapening money through inflationary expedients is a gigantic fraud upon the creditor classes as against debtors. All those dependent on fixed incomes, or receiving specified sums in terms of money, are penalized when the purchasing power of money is depressed. In like manner the stockholder profits at the expense of the bondholder—a fact which implies a reward to the more speculatively inclined at the expense of the conservative."

"Advancing prices cause discontent and give rise to agitation and unrest among those whose incomes cannot promptly be adjusted to meet higher living costs. Strikes are fomented and production is curtailed. Everybody shares in these burdens. Lack of stability in money also undermines and weakens habits of thrift. A corrosion of the moral integrity of the people is inevitable. Dishonesty is stimulated and a desire to gain by speculation rather than to earn a livelihood by productive and useful labor causes a marked deterioration in popular habits and character."

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CAN'T FOOL DIAMOND DEALER

Men Who Handle Precious Stones Have Many Ways of Detecting Those Which Are "Fakes."

For the reason that the traffic in imitation precious stones is growing, diamond merchants nowadays are obliged to devote more time than formerly to the detection of fakes. The experienced dealer can often tell a faked stone at a glance.

Once suspicion falls on a stone it is subjected to various tests. For example, the gem may be placed in water, and watched to see if it loses its brilliance. If this happens, the stone is discarded at once as being false.

Another water test consists in placing a drop of water on the stone. The water globule is then touched lightly with the point of a pencil. If the globule breaks the stone is a fake.

Sometimes a black dot is made on a piece of white paper, and the diamond held in front of it. If the stone is an imitation the dot appears blurred.

The hardness of a stone is another deciding factor. A real diamond can be filed with the hardest instrument without being scratched. A faked stone will crack and probably break up under the process.

Swinburne.

What will time, the great decider of men's labor and fame, eventually say of him? We are too near him to judge with any certainty how he will appear to those who look back to him as he looked back to Coleridge and Shelley. But it is hard to believe that any change of the perspective will dim the brightness of his lyric achievement. He was prodigal of his music, that new music he had taught the old tongue; over-prodigious at times, seeing that verse may run once too often in the triple-lilt of his magical cadences. But he has left English poetry reinforced at point after point.—Ernest Rhys.

MADE ATTACK ON ST. JOHN

Daring Raid of Massachusetts Man Had Consequences That Were Felt for Many Years.

Stephen Smith of Machias, Maine, a delegate to the Massachusetts congress, made a raid on St. John, N. B., in August, 1778. He burned the barracks and destroyed the fort, which was protected by only four men, and captured a brig, of 120 tons, laden with oxen, sheep and swine, which were intended for the British troops at Boston. This sudden raid had the effect of putting the British authorities on the alert, and vessels of war were sent to cruise in the Bay of Fundy to protect the settlements along its shores.

The people of Machias, emboldened by the success which attended their first raid, attempted to seize and hold the fort at St. John, but were driven away by a force sent from Halifax. In consequence of this second raid on St. John, a block house and stockades were erected on a hill overlooking the harbor, and dignified by the name of Fort Howe. Two years after this event about 600 Indians assembled at the mouth of the Jemseg for the purpose of destroying the settlement of Manguerville, but the people escaped across the river to Oromocto, where a fort had been erected. This was the last threat of Indian war, and in the following year, 1780, numbers of Indians assembled at Fort Howe and swore allegiance to King George.

Softening Phonograph Tones.

Undesirable high tones, or "whistles," an annoyance commonly experienced by phonograph users, may be eliminated by the use of interference tubes. They consist of U-shaped metal appliances, designed to be incorporated in a main tube that is fitted between the reproducer and tone-arm of a talking machine. According to the inventor, the arrangement of bypaths for the sound waves causes certain of these to be considerably softened with but little loss in volume.

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