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EDITORIAL

NEWSPAPERS WITHOUT MEN

Well, now Buford L. Green of somewhere in the east went and did it. We mean invented another gadget to eliminate employes in a newspaper plant. It is called the electric eye, reading its own copy and transferring the impression into metal type, replacing linotype operators who up to the present have handled the situation.

Of course when the linotype was invented the chant went up that the printing trades would be shot to so and so but such did not prove to be the case. Instead the new machinery which did the work of six men actually increased the number of men working at the trade, for more and larger newspapers were possible with its invention.

Maybe this new electric eye contraption, if ever found practicable, might do the same, but we have our doubts. Its purpose will be to eliminate the men the linotype furnished employment. And, along with the new teletype, which handles telegraph copy direct from the wires, the printing business personnel is being closed in on. Of course we're talking in the future. The only thing that has closed in on the trade today is the depression, which has shown no favorites. In intended fairness some might say "may the best workman win—machine or man." But here's something many people overlook—no accumulation of wheels and gears ever takes home a weekly pay check to clothe and feed some family, never attends the theater or stands on the street corner to cheer the nation's flag as it goes by. In fact the most that can be said for the thing is that it adds to some manufacturer's line and increases the publisher's profits (maybe).

And there's still another angle, which to us as ambitious publishers looms blackly in the future. It is the elimination of competition. And we mean just that. Suppose now that all the leading papers of the country were mechanized with these outfits, which will cost a heap of money. Will some aspiring upstart or moderately-financed shop be able to stand the gaff? This country was built on the smaller enterprises of the land, and now it is being demoralized by the larger ones, a truth you no doubt have been impressed with for the past year or so. Every new invention of this sort not only removes the human element but also puts the small businessman further from his goal. Only capital will have the advantage, and how. Already it is hard for the man with little actual cash to get going and earn a living. The more machinery the greater the initial outlay of cash and the fewer humans will benefit from that enterprise.

It is a gradual elimination process going on all the time, the weeding out of small merchants and such and the gaining of the muchly merged and overly consolidated big business. Gradually but surely we are all becoming subjugated to more powerful influences and merely servants of financial interests. Most certainly there will be no great middle class at all if the present trend is continued. And the new electric eye is but one small example of what is going on about us every day of the year. The very things which have made this the strongest, richest and greatest country on earth are being undermined and it is quite possible that some day this will be just one big, complex, two-caste land made up of workers and captains of huge sums.

However, we also can see a brighter side. We don't think the good people of these United States are going to be so blind and so foolish as to permit the state of things to come to its worst end. We believe that machinery will defeat its own purpose and that the great pendulum of time will swing back in favor of the small businessman and average plain-as-an-old-shoe merchant. But it is certain that man's inventions are his greatest enemy, for they give an unequal distribution of the fruits of the universe, which were provided for all of us to share in comfortable quantities.

Our Picture of the Bonus Situation

Borrowing an idea from the recent motion picture, "The Lost Squadron," we herewith present a graphic story of the spoils of war as shown in a series of typical headlines familiar to all of us, some of which date back to the signing of the Armistice. It is interesting to note the contrast between the several lines and it will furnish and example of how we, as a nation, keep our promises.

WORLD SAVED FOR DEMOCRACY
* * * * *
BOYS RETURN; MANHATTAN GOES WILD
* * * * *
PRESIDENT HONORS DOUGHBOYS
* * * * *
CLAIM WOMEN HAVE SOLDIERS' JOBS
* * * * *
Service Men Walk Streets; No Work
* * * * *
Hungry Bum Arrested Found to Be Ex-Soldier
* * * * *
WAR HEROES RAID BREADLINE
* * * * *
VETERANS' HOSPITALS OVERCROWDED
* * * * *
CONGRESS QUARRELS OVER BONUS PAY
* * * * *
PRESIDENT VETOES BONUS BILL
* * * * *
Congress Overrides Veto; Appropriates Half
* * * * *
SPEND MILLIONS ON FARM BOARD
* * * * *
THOUSANDS UNEMPLOYED, STARVING
* * * * *
Two Billion Dollars for Banks, Railroads
* * * * *
HOOVER DENOUNCES BONUS PAYMENT
* * * * *
FEW MEN OWN NATION'S WEALTH
* * * * *
Strong Opposition to Bonus; Claim Poverty
* * * * *
Now Write Your Own Head, Dammit

SO SUDDEN
By A MODEST POET

Isn't it queer
How candidates,
When 'lection's near,
Call all men mates?
(Pray, why?)

See how they greet
The working crew
With smiles as sweet
As honey dew!
(Oh my!)

Brothers are they
To mankind all;
Friendly today
To great and small.
(How sly!)

List to them rave
With accent clear,
"Oh, but to save
The people dear!"
(We sigh.)

"For this alone,"
They oft explain,
"To wealth unknown
We'll e're remain."
(Don't cry.)

Whence does it come
This love, so strong?
Why was it dumb,
For years so long?
(Fie! Fie!)

Regard so new
Seems passing strange:
Can it be true,
Or will it change?
('Twill die.)

RETURN TO FORMER CUSTOMS

The slump in prices of farm products has brought about a return to many of the customs of a generation ago. Farmers are doing their own butchering, and taking their own grist to the mill. They are getting their own fuel out of the woods, and their wives are mak-

ing their own butter and doing their own baking. There is even talk, in some quarters, of a revival of home tanning, home spinning and home weaving. The farmer is a hard man to completely lick.

WISE PROFESSOR PATTEN

Wise Professor Patten, of Dartmouth college, after 40 years of search, has found the skeleton of the original sea scorpion to which all college professors may now trace their ancestry. Professor Patten says that this skeleton is between 500,000,000 and 1,000,000,000 years old. He knew this, we may be sure, because he found one of these dates stamped at the nose of the scorpion and the other stamped at its tail. That would be the only possible way he could have told. He tells us that there has been no essential change in 1,000,000,000 years, or, in other words, that the sea scorpion of so long ago had about as much sense as a college professor has now; and maybe he is right at that. Who knows?

GETTING READY FOR TROUBLE IN INDIA

The British army in India is being brought up to its full strength of 68,900 white officers and men and 155,300 Indian troops and officers. In the British equipment in India there are 11 armored car companies each of which is equipped with 20 armored cars of the latest type.

Present indications are that before the Indian trouble is settled Britain may have use for all her troops. It is hard to fight millions of people that are willing to die for an idea and that will not resist except passively. Reprisals against such people operate in the reverse direction from that intended, for so is human nature put together. Mahatma Gandhi claims to find the greatest joy in his voluntary

poverty, and after a struggle his wife and children have all come to share his views and are expecting imprisonment with him, as are some millions of his fellow Hindus. He was arrested at 3 o'clock in the morning and hustled off to prison for advising a renewal of the campaign of civil disobedience. Not unlikely he will now be sent to a penal island, perhaps for years. The charge against him is treasonable activity.

He has urged his followers to discard liquor and narcotics, to do no violence, to protect English people of all classes and to withdraw from the government all cooperation, individually or collectively. His program embraces boycott of the courts and legislatures, the surrender of all public offices and the withdrawal of all children from government schools. We understand also that it includes nonpayment of taxes and the boycott of all things

British, as far as that is possible. Upon his arrest the merchants of Bombay declared a strike of one month.

WHAT VILLARD WOULD DO

Oswald Garrison Villard, editor of The Nation, says that if he were dictator of America he would muster out the fleet, reduce the army to 25,000 men, send all the generals and admirals to Guam, abolish all tariffs, boycott Japan, recognize Russia, put all lawless officials on prison farms and transfer Mr. Hoover and his cabinet to the island of Yap. He thinks these steps would restore sanity to America; and they might help, at that.

● Because of the extreme age of her father, Mrs. Charles Godley and family moved to Toledo, Oregon, where the Jacksonville woman will be able to care for him.

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is CHEAP

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IN JACKSONVILLE

By

G. W. Godward

Deputy Registrar