

The Way of Life

BRUCE BARTON

PLEASANT PLACES

When he was hardly more than a boy my friend Jim Derieux, one of the editors of the American Magazine, was secretary to the governor of South Carolina.

There was a brilliant young chap in the state administration who at the age of twenty-six held the office of assistant comptroller. He had not intended to run for the comptrollership, but a political faction organized to head him off. This made him mad, so he did run and was elected.

After holding office for only six months he asked for an interview with the governor.

"What's on your mind?" asked Jim.

"I am going to resign."

"Why?"

"I'll tell you presently."

"They went in to the governors private room, and the young official tendered his resignation. The governor was amazed."

"What's the matter?" he exclaimed.

"I thought you were sitting pretty."

"I am," said the young man. "That is just the trouble."

"But I don't understand."

"Well, Governor, you know this office that I hold is a mighty pleasant place. I'm twenty-seven years old, and it's a very pleasant place indeed. I am afraid of it."

He was afraid he would settle

down and become too contented.

Afraid that, without hard problems to tackle and stern duties to conquer, he would get flabby and soft. Afraid that at forty he would wake up to find himself a lazy office holder with no ambition and no hope.

Nobody under fifty should be in too pleasant a place.

Robert Updegraff, the writer of business articles, uttered a profound business truth when he counseled: "Never complain about your troubles. They are responsible for the greater part of your income."

Almost any one can hold a job which presents no difficulties; hence such jobs pay small salaries. Men at the top are paid for their willingness to accept responsibility; for the problems that they tackle and the difficulties they lick.

King David wrote: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters."

But when David wrote that he was a fugitive from Saul. He was fighting through the wilderness, pursued by enemies and wild beasts. The green pastures and still waters were all in his mind.

He never did reach an entirely pleasant place. Even when he became king his life was full of problems, disappointments and hard work. But his soul gave birth to songs that are among the finest of all the ages.

Should Start Irrigating

Early; Reserve Said Low

In announcing the result of snow surveys just completed near Arbuckle mountain and at North Jones prairie, J. M. Spencer, state watermaster of Pendleton, advises irrigators to be ready to use all available water as it comes, especially on the lower reaches of Willow and Butter creeks.

Snow to the depth of 22.2 inches with a water content of 6.1 inches was found in the prairie, as compared to 15.5 inches of snow with water content of 6.4 inches at the same station and on the same date in 1930. While the snow is well packed and frozen, indications point to another low water year in Willow and Butter creeks, Mr. Spencer reports. He expects that early warm weather will start the water early this year.

FOR SALE—Purebred Plymouth Rock and R. I. Red hatching eggs, 50c per setting; also female canary birds \$1 each. Mrs. Eph Eskelson, Heppner.



CROWELL

Production of munitions of war in the United States did not get organized and under way until Benedict Crowell, a young engineer of Cleveland, was placed in charge.

I saw a lot of Crowell during the war. He was a human dynamo, never resting, ceaselessly driving the huge industrial organization ever assembled, but making everybody like it. After the war, when politicians were doing everything possible to discredit everybody who had served his country, Benedict Crowell was indicted as a criminal because he had ordered war supplies without waiting for the slow action of Congress to authorize the expenditure. The indictments were thrown out of court as entirely unwarranted, and Crowell went back to his engineering work in Cleveland.

Now President Hoover has nominated Crowell to be a brigadier-general of the Reserve Corps, with a reference to his distinguished service during the war and to indicate "my own feeling over what we always considered was a grave injustice."

Even professional mudslingers who infest the Senate will hardly try to make political capital out of this belated tribute to Benedict Crowell.

SUCCESS

"Never call a man successful until after he is dead," said an old friend to me the other day. He was worth a million and a half two years ago. That classed him as a "successful" man. Today he has nothing left but his salary. He did not get out of the stock market in time. People now speak of him as unsuccessful, but after he is dead I am confident that he will be eulogized

as a great success, not because he made money at one time but because of the work he did in a lifetime planning and building great enterprises. He has already lived long enough to get something enduring accomplished, which few men ever achieve before they are past middle life.

"In all the more difficult callings, the things in which sheer luck and low cunning are of the least importance," said George Luks, the painter, not long ago, "man is just out of school at sixty. All the solid and enduring work is done by men who have lived long enough to have mastered their calling and life itself." Real success is measured by achievement, never by money.

FAILURES

New York City is crowded with failures. They are the young men and young women who came from the small towns with an ambition to become painters, musicians, sculptors, authors or dramatists, and have neither the moral courage to go back home and admit to their families and neighbors that they have failed, nor the good sense or ability to get a job at something which they can really do.

One of the most popular plays in New York theaters just now tells what happens to both kinds of ambitious youngsters. "Philip Goes Forth" ought to be shown in every community where there are young people imagining that they can become rich and famous overnight merely by going to New York and writing or painting.

CHARITY

In a small New England village where I frequently visit live two old people whose lives were ruined in childhood because they were taught to look down upon their neighbors. Their family was then wealthy. Today the old man and his old maid sister have not a penny left in the world except the old house which is slowly falling into ruin.

But the neighbors, poor people mostly, have kept this old man and woman alive for years and still do. They are too proud to accept food or clothing offered to them, bristling indignantly when anyone suggests they may be in need. So the kindly neighbors leave baskets of provisions on the front stoop, ring the bell and run away! Other neighbors leave firewood in the back yard, drop around after dark and

shovel a path through the snow from the gate to the front door.

That is real charity. It is the sort of charity that "vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up," as the stout Apostle Paul puts it in the King James translation of the Bible. And it is probably commoner among the poor than among the rich. Only those who have known the pinch of need know what it means to those who feel it.

FLYING

The airplane business is one which did not feel the business depression in 1930. More planes were made and sold than in any previous year, and the principal companies making them report more unfilled orders on hand than ever before. The impetus given to flying by Lindbergh's spectacular feat has not

died down. Ambitious boys look forward now to learning to fly and eventually having their own planes, as they did a few years ago in respect to automobiles.

A twelve-year-old boy made a solo flight recently after only two hours or so of instruction. The youngsters who start at that age or thereabouts will, of course, be the best pilots of the future, better flyers than any now in the air.

SON ARRIVES AT BAKER.

Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Neill are the parents of a son born at Baker February 6, at the Protestant hospital, weighing 7½ pounds. He has been named Edward O. Neill, Jr.

For Rent—420 acres summer grazing land, South Jones prairie. Mrs. Henry Jones, 399 E. 16th St. N., Portland, Ore. 47tf.

FOMER EDITOR CITED.

A. J. Hicks, veteran publisher and one-time editor of the Heppner Times, was recently honored by presentation with a life membership in the Washington Press association. Mr. Hicks, who now makes his home at Ridgefield, Wash., where his son J. R. Hicks is co-editor of the Ridgefield Reflector, has retired from the printing business after engaging in it for 45 years.

DON'T MISS THIS.

Potatoes for Sale. Very good Nettle Gems, 85c sack. Richard Bros., mouth of Butter creek on Butter creek highway, 5 mi. south of Hermiston. 45-47-p.

FOR SALE—10 cords creek wood, 16-inch. Inquire Ferguson Motor Co. or John Henderson, city. 46-8



LINCOLN SAID . . .

"I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday."

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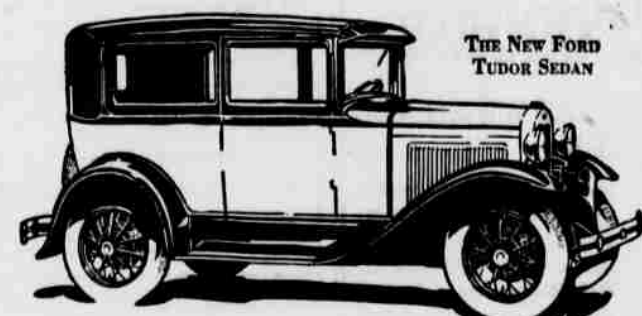
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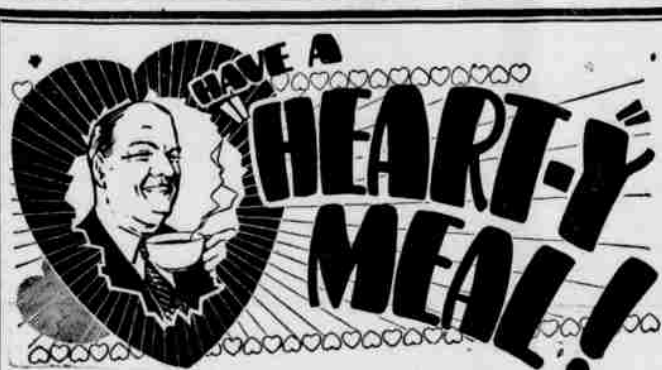
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