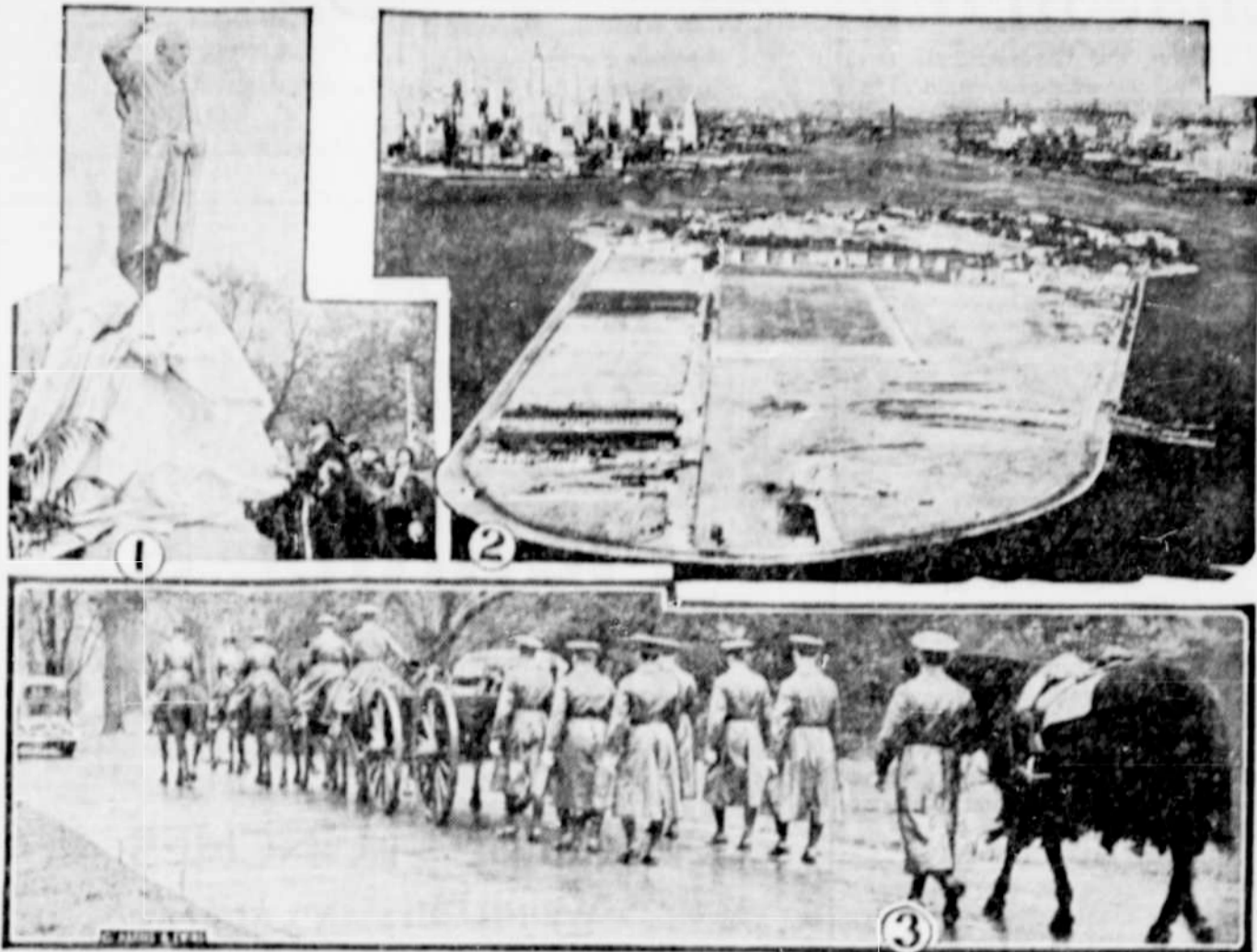


Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—Unveiling the monument to William Jennings Bryan in Washington which was erected by congress. 2—Air view over Governor's Island showing the part of the East river between the Island and Battery park which may be filled in to form an airport site. 3—Funeral cortege of the late Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, famous Indian fighter and former chief of staff, as it neared the grave in Arlington National cemetery.

Nations of World Pay Homage to Bard of Avon



Scene in Stratford-on-Avon, England, as 74 national flags were unveiled by the representatives of as many countries during the celebration of the 370th anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth.

Where Maryland Will Hold 300th Birthday Party



The post office shown here is the "new one" at St. Marys City, Md., the town that was established 300 years ago and which will be the spot where the state of Maryland will celebrate its three hundredth birthday this summer. The mail truck, really as large as the post office, is driven through southern Maryland every day by Harry C. McCleary of Washington.

Japan's New Houses of Parliament in Tokyo



This handsome building in Tokyo, the new houses of parliament, is nearing completion. It is of Japanese design and construction throughout, the only foreign articles being a mail chute and a thermostat.

Howe About:

Education
Lonely Old Men
Shiftless People

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By ED HOWE

IT IS often said the people must become educated before reform can be expected. This is accepted as meaning every man must be so completely educated in our modern way as to be able to teach in college. Education thus becomes so great a task we are discouraged in contemplating it. . . . Our estimate of an education is wrong. After a man is thirty, if not naturally a dunce, an intelligent reading of Wells' "Outline of History," combined with his own experience, will educate him. Those intending to teach should attend technical schools, as do doctors, lawyers, painters, engineers, etc. There are dozens of short summaries of everything one needs to know; a new one was added last fall, and writers are favoring that style of writing lately. These summaries not only educate a reader, but entertain him better than will detective stories or novels.

I know an old fellow whose children are all married and gone, and who does not sleep well. He does well enough during the day, but anyone passing his house late at night may see lights burning. The servants are kind, but he will not impose on them, so he is alone and wide awake a good deal at night; and night is especially lonely. Lately he employed a woman of sixty to assist him from 11 p. m. until people are moving on the streets again. She has a soothing way about her, and he gets to sleep oftener during his dangerous hours. If he awakens, he finds her asleep in her chair at the foot of his bed, but she awakens easily, and again she reads to him, or they talk. During these hard times, many good women are seeking employment, and the crop of lonely old men is large. Why not?

I regret shiftlessness, but have admired shiftless people. The man and wife I hang around most are the most shiftless people I have ever known, but both are "good fellows," and tremendously smart. They have long had in their employ an old colored servant they now owe so much they can't pay her, and thus get rid of her by discharge. The black woman needs an operation, and they are trying to find a doctor who will perform it on credit. They have had her teeth fixed four times, and still owe for it.

Americans are judged abroad by what American books, magazines and newspapers say; by speeches delivered at meetings of various social clubs and political organizations. All these are unnatural, and foreigners do not know us; our publicity agents have given us a character we do not deserve. What the average American thinks and believes is not known even in his own country; the American attends moving picture plays, not because he is much interested in the vulgar people who make them, but because they cost only twenty-five cents, and occasionally have a good news reel or comedy. . . . I lately attended a moving picture theater, and only six others were there. Never before have I seen a "show" presented to an audience of seven, and it was the best theater in town, showing the best available picture plays. American people are not as crazy about the disreputable crowd at Hollywood as is believed abroad.

I may be mistaken in what I think I know in my eightieth year, but I am more certain of it than ever before, and I have less time left in which to change my mind.

At eighty I am not afraid of the future. I have been treated with reasonable justice all my conscious life, and expect as much of the future. No one can convince me there is a devil after death to torture me for eating, drinking, loving, hating, trading, venturing. I have lived a long time, and thought as clearly and fairly as I could, and have heard not a word from a reliable source to make me fear a devil to torture me after I am dead. A million ghost dancers have howled dismally at me throughout life without frightening me. They might as well cease dancing; the truth is not what they say it is. There is more mercy than they claim.

I have a son I think is quite wise; rather able in taking care of himself. The other day he was at home, and a suspicious man kept calling him by telephone. I knew the suspicious man, and what he wanted: a big favor: to "work" my son. . . . I warned him, and the young man replied: "That's all right; don't worry; I'll 'work' him right back." . . . There are so many who try to "work" you I warn you to acquire the ability of my son, or you'll be ruined.

Porpoises Are Mammals
Porpoises, together with whales, seals, and sea lions, are mammals, even though they do spend much or all of their time in the sea, says the Detroit News. The distant ancestors of the modern porpoise, however, probably lived on land and possessed the keen vision characteristic of most mammals. But when the species took to a water life sight became less important because of the difficulty of seeing under water, while hearing increased in importance because of the perfection with which water transmits sound and the value of these underwater sounds to the animal in finding its prey or escaping from its enemies.

Hoosac Tunnel Long
The famous Hoosac tunnel in western Massachusetts stands as a monument to the never-say-die spirit. The bore through the Hoosac mountain is five miles long. It was first started in 1851, but the work was abandoned after a time. Later a second start was made, and this, too, ended in failure. Finally it was completed in 1875. The tunnel cost the state of Massachusetts a total of \$18,000,000.

Forbidden Fruit
Like other South Sea Islanders, the Maoris believe in the tapu, or tabu. They are taught not to touch the things that are forbidden, and if the tapu is broken the transgressor suffers great agony of mind. Some have died in agony after learning that they had eaten some food that was forbidden.

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