

## THOUGHTS ON BUSINESS

BY  
WALDO PONDRAY WARREN

### BLUNDERS ABOLISHED

ANYTHING that will reduce the number of mistakes made by employes is always gladly received by business men who appreciate the extent to which "human frailty" (a charitable synonym for carelessness) causes trouble, dissatisfaction, and a curtailing of net profit.

In a large jobbing house the other day I saw a clever device that is said to be effective. On the inside cover of the order binders, which accompany every order, there was a sentence, printed in letters half an inch high, as follows:

"Please see that there are no 'blunders' made while this book is in YOUR possession."

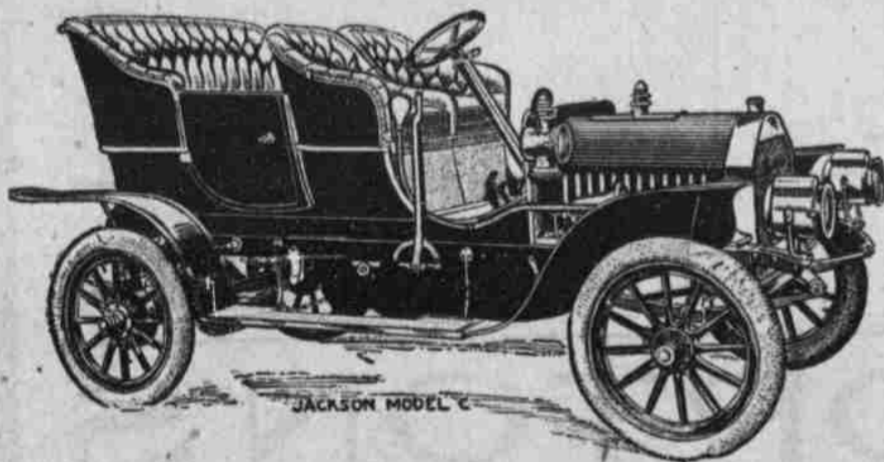
The obvious practical value of this caution appeals to one immediately. Certainly, if each person through whose hands the book passed made no blunders there would be none in the whole order, and if each order was filled without blunders there would be none in the whole order-filling department.

"How does it work?" I asked.

"Oh, that's a fine thing," said the man. "When we first put that on our order books there was an immediate and noteworthy decrease in the number of blunders made. And the percentage has remained lower than before. Of course, after the men get used to that sign it doesn't make as much impression as it did at first, but the effect is still good."

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## Some Names In the News.

Has the Grave of Explorer Andree Been Found?—John D. Rockefeller in Court—Richard Croker's Visit.



S. A. ANDREE.

POOR Andree! According to one report, this venturesome explorer's lonely arctic grave, his bones and a box of documents beneath the cross marking his last desolate resting place have been found, and contrary report has it that the grave discovered is that of a man named Andre Anstey, probably a fisherman from Newfoundland. Against the latter supposition is the fact that Newfoundlanders always endeavor to bring home their dead from the fishing grounds.

Sailing from Dane's Island, Spitzbergen, in his air craft July 11, 1897, Professor S. A. Andree and his companions aroused the interest and comment of the entire civilized world by their bold if not actually foolhardy attempt to invade the far north. But they failed to break the seal nature for centuries has kept on that mysterious region surrounding the magnet that has attracted so many noted and intrepid explorers.

John D. Rockefeller is getting so used to publicity that he does not seem to mind it any more. He has been publishing his memoirs, and as a witness in the court proceedings in New York begun by the government against the



JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER WALKING TO COURT WITH ATTORNEY MORITZ ROSENTHAL.

Standard Oil company he has related with considerable detail the story of his early connection with the oil trust. In the course of his examination in the federal suit in question Mr. Rockefeller admitted that his share of the profits of the trust was over \$9,000,000 a year.

It was during a recess in the proceedings that Mr. Rockefeller chatted with a group of spectators about the care of his health. He said:

"I never felt in better health than today as a result of rigidly adhering to a policy of a careful diet when I was a boy. I advise any one who wants to keep his health to do the same. Then when you young men get to be seventy years old you will be able to keep up your work."

The New York newspapers could not wait for Richard Croker to reach the steamship dock on his present visit to the United States before interviewing him, nor could they even wait until his steamer had passed Sandy Hook. The first interview with him was obtained by wireless telegraph while he was still quite a distance out at sea. No photograph of him was taken by



A SNAPSHOT OF RICHARD CROKER.

the wireless method, however. The one reproduced herewith shows him as he stood on the deck of the steamer just before landing. The former Tammany chief is now quite gray, but looks as hearty as ever. He says he made a profit last year of \$50,000 out of racing and breeding horses. He is still an American citizen and says he expects to die one.

## A PUZZLING CLIMATE.

The Curious Way Rain Falls in Balmey Honolulu.

### A PERPLEXING SPECTACLE.

Downpours Half a Mile Away That Threaten to Drench You Every Moment, but Never Arrive—A Riot of Broken Up Rainbows in the Valleys.

The most perplexing thing about Hawaii's climate to the new arrival is the matter of rainfall. You begin to experience this perplexity before you have set foot on the dock at Honolulu, when you consult anxiously with your fellow travelers as to the advisability of digging out an umbrella or rainproof before you go ashore. The chances are that you are all convinced that the heavy veil of black clouds which shuts out portions of the mountain scenery from view and the few drops of rain which the fresh shore breeze dashes in your face like flashing jewels torn from that bit of rainbow are warnings too plain to be ignored, and you prepare accordingly for the downpour which seems imminent.

You observe with some surprise that none of the wearers of the dainty costumes you pass on the street appear to be in the least perturbed by the possibility of getting caught in the impending shower until after awhile it dawns on you that the storm keeps right on impending—and nothing more. As you ride in a street car along the flashing seaboard, vivid with color of breaking surf and of flowers in trees and hedges along the way, the sunshine never appeared so brilliant. But off to the left in a beautiful little valley tucked like a deep pocket in the mountains and seemingly scarcely half a mile away there can be no doubt of the fact that a good, heavy rain is falling. The sunlight striking through the falling drops fills the valley with a glory of broken up rainbows—a riot of color that causes one to gasp and exclaim in admiration. There can be no doubt that the rain we have seen falling is real and that it is as near as it seems, for the wind now and then carries refreshing dashes of it into the open car, causing a few of the passengers to change their seats to the opposite side. But still the street is perfectly dry and the sunshine as bright as ever.

Five minutes later we leave the car at the foot of a great jagged pile of volcanic rock that marks the vent of a prehistoric volcano, and the red base and sides which support a stunted, mesquite-like growth and a few cacti look as though they hadn't had a good shower for six months. And they probably haven't.

In time one learns that Hawaii's climate is purely a matter of locality; that the report of the rainfall for any given time, published by the United States weather bureau, does not mean for every place in the territory nor for the island of Oahu nor even for the city of Honolulu, but only for the place where the rain gauge stands. It would not be true for a place half or three-quarters of a mile away. One learns that he may live in Honolulu under very different conditions as to precipitation, according to location. In some of the valleys rain falls practically every day of the year and varies in amount in different parts of the same valley, which may be only a mile or two long. There are other sections in which the splendid lawns and bowers of green foliage which surround beautiful homes are only possible through constant irrigation. And there are to be found almost every degree of moisture between these extremes.

Like everywhere else, one finds people of every turn of mind in Honolulu as to the most desirable places in which to live. In sections where the rainfall may amount to two or three hundred inches per year vegetation flourishes most luxuriantly and with a minimum of attention. There is also an absence of humid feeling in the atmosphere or disagreeable dampness which one usually associates with much rainfall. This is accounted for by the fact that the rain comes in showers, of which a dozen or more may come in a day and may occur while the sun is shining brightly, while the never falling trade winds and a porous soil dry up the surface moisture within a few minutes after a shower has passed. The heaviest precipitation also usually occurs at night.

In the dry sections, if one has plenty of water with which to irrigate (and Honolulu has a splendid system of waterworks with ample supply), one may more easily control what he would grow and at the same time escape the inconvenience of oft occurring showers. Some of Honolulu's most beautiful residence districts as well as the beautiful Kapiolani park, one of the most beautiful tropical gardens in the world, was originally barren sand plains, practically devoid of vegetation and once thought to be worthless. The newcomer is often puzzled to hear an old resident refer to "the plains" when speaking of a section of the city in which are located some of the most magnificent homes and beautiful grounds in the whole territory.

The variation of rainfall, together with the difference in temperature due to elevation, give to Hawaii a diversity of climate that can scarcely be equaled in the world, lacking only in extremes of either heat or cold.—Will J. Cooper.

The man who uses a falsehood for policy, like the woman who powders, soon gets into the habit of putting on too much.—Pathfinder.

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