

The Alliance Herald

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

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KNOW YOUR FACTS.

One of the things that vexes and perplexes is the readiness with which the average citizen, of either sex, is so ready to criticize the courts and the law enforcement officials, and yet is so prompt to carry all troubles to one or the other. Criticism of the courts and the officers has become a habit—one of the things that the average man indulges in without any forethought, just as he grabs his umbrella when it's raining and leaves it the first place he stops after the shower has ceased.

The habit begins, presumably, when the citizen, or some friend or acquaintance is mixed up in a lawsuit. Naturally enough, it's impossible for either side to be perfectly satisfied with a verdict, and the aggrieved one promptly noises abroad his conviction that the court was prejudiced, or that the jurors were a set of lunkheads. Again, in any prominent case, there are always those who want to see justice done, and others who hold that mercy should be shown. By the time a man or woman is old enough to vote these days, there is a fairly firm conviction that the courts are not to be trusted, and that the law enforcement officials are a pretty weak lot. And men who will stop and consider for fifteen minutes before spending fifteen cents will say, right off the bat, whenever given the opportunity, that "the court's too easy on these criminals," or "the county attorney could have found twice that much evidence." True, if asked to testify to help convict a criminal, the same man will hem and haw and hedge and get out of it some way, but ten minutes later will be willing to tell you, in strict confidence or otherwise, that "there's plenty of evidence to convict these bootleggers if the officers will only keep their eyes peeled."

Of course, there are times when something happens which gives color to the belief that the courts are not doing their duty. Take some of the bootlegging cases that were up for trial at the present term of district court. One defendant was charged with illegal transportation of liquor. In county court, Judge Tash found him guilty. An officer had found a bottle of hooch in the car. A man was deputized to watch the car for a minute while the officer went across the street. While he was gone, the owner of the car seized the bottle and dashed it to the pavement. The man on guard admitted, on the stand, that he was a judge of whisky, and that the overpowering odor that arose was ample proof. The officer, returning, had the presence of mind to dip his handkerchief in the liquid and saved enough hooch for a test. The evidence was conclusive and unimpeachable. The judge assessed a fine. The case was appealed.

The sheriff saved the bottle of alleged hooch as evidence. He labeled it carefully and locked it up in his strong box, awaiting the time when it should be produced in court. Bottles of evidence in other cases were in the same strong box. Something—maybe the quality of the liquor—induced moisture in the box, the labels were soaked off, and the evidence mixed. The sheriff couldn't tell them apart. The witness who testified at the first trial was not in the city. District Judge Westover, in the face of the changed circumstances, and with the evidence of but one officer, and that verbal, could do nothing but discharge the defendant.

The result is, strangely enough, that the ultra-wet element in the county is censuring Judge Tash. "The judge is too strict—too hard-boiled," they say. "Why, he convicts on little or no evidence. See, the district court sets aside his judgment." And the ultra-dry element, knowing as little about developments in the case as do the ultra-wets, say, scornfully, "Judge Westover is entirely too lenient with these hooch peddlers. He lets all of them go." Actually, each court rendered a just judgment with the evidence produced.

And so, the next time Mr. Average Citizen is inclined to censor the courts—wait a minute. See if you know how the case stands at the time it goes to bat. Then you won't make another one of those foolish errors, but you'll do your part in upholding public respect for the courts and the law. They're needed now more than at any time in history. Censure, in the right place, is a good thing, but when attacking anything or anyone, it's a good

plan to have the facts. Without a personal knowledge of conditions, you are likely to make some regrettable errors in judgment.

SAUERKRAUT

Sauerkraut, the famous food of German origin, has always been the signal for a laugh. So much has this form of cabbage been made the butt of humor that it has been laughed off the dinner tables of over half the homes in the country. Somehow, we have grown to think of the smell of sauerkraut as belonging solely to homes where red cotton tablecloths adorn the kitchen table, which is also the dining room table. It's no longer considered "tony" or good form to eat sauerkraut, unless all the doors and windows are barred and a lookout stationed at the front door.

But sauerkraut stands a fair show of coming into its own. Within a few years, perhaps, we shall not be compelled to elude the wife and sneak down to the restaurant in order to indulge in this delicacy. For in this land of the free and the home of the brave there are bold men who are proclaiming its virtues abroad. And, strange as they may seem, these clarion voices do not belong to the ad writers. Their numbers include dieticians, scientists, traveling salesmen and physicians.

Remember the story of the old German who was being questioned by a neighbor about his crops for the year? The neighbor asked, "Did you put up any sauerkraut?" "Not so very much," was the sad reply, "the cabbage crop was almost a failure." "But you put up some?" the neighbor continued. "Oh, yes," said the German, "we always put up some. Just two or three barrels this year, though. We wanted to have some in the house in case of sickness."

That story has never failed to bring a laugh. But, do you know, it isn't a joke at all. It might well have been the truth. For—and this fact may jar you somewhat—sauerkraut has a distinct medicinal value. George E. Wolf, manager of the Hotel LaSalle at Chicago, has made an investigation and proclaims to all the world that sauerkraut is the "great granddaddy of the wholesome diet."

Sauerkraut, Mr. Wolf tells us, will cure a good share of human ills from colic to headache, from hardening of the arteries to diabetes. It will make women beautiful, for it is the most wonderful blood purifier we have, vastly better than yeast. It's a preventative of stomach trouble, a boon to a disordered liver. It's the best doctor for rheumatism, a better tonic than Tanlac. The bacteria in sauerkraut combat all disease. They're more of them and stronger than the famous lactic acid bacilli discovered by Metchnikoff. We're not quite sure about these vitamins, but sauerkraut has them, too. And it's also a blood and bone builder.

And sauerkraut has food value, too. It has double the energy value of chicken soup, three times the energy value of tomatoes, more than will be found in asparagus, onions, string beans, vegetable soup or pumpkin pie. It's a fit food for athletes, for soldiers, for workers and for all who desire to keep fit.

Mr. Wolf has made another discovery, and this is his own. The statements concerning medicinal and food value are vouched for by chemists, physicians and surgeons, but the Wolf cocktail is his own idea. The alcoholic content in sauerkraut juice, he confides, is delightfully close to the Volstead deadline. He suggests that every thoughtful citizen lay in a barrel or two before the authorities pass a law against it. "Just take the juice in a shaker," he says, "with some ice, you know, and serve very cold in one of those little glasses—and you've got something. It comes close in appearance to a Bronx and tastes curiously like lemonade with a kick in it."

From now on, we care not what others may say, but as for us, we are not going to smile at the mention of sauerkraut until we have made a more thorough investigation of its possibilities. Maybe the joke has been on us all the time, and not on the heretofore despised article of diet. Oh, well, we live and learn, and if all these things be fact, it is well that we have learned in time.

KEEPING UP WITH THE WORLD

One of the things that most impressed the overseas veterans who saw service in France (read on, this isn't an appeal for the passage of the bonus bill, which everyone but the ex-soldiers seems to be heartily tired hearing about) was the way in which every citizen of our sister republic, man or woman or child above the grammar grades, kept in touch with current events. Soldiers who learned to speak the language and wandered Haroun-al-Raschid like, among the people, found that everyone with whom they talked was tremendously interested in everything pertaining to the government. The Frenchmen read more than the headlines. Their knowledge of what is happening in their beloved

France is more than cursory. Their interest isn't assumed. Unlike the average American, who bluffs his way through most discussions of this kind, they know all there is to be read about every national and international problem. They don't shrink from discussion, but hunt for an opportunity to argue over debatable points.

This knowledge of what is happening isn't confined, as in America, to a smattering of the big political developments, the baseball heroes, and the principals in the various murder and movie scandals. The street laborers in France were willing and able to discuss anything from the league of nations to the Einstein theory. And the discussion that ensued would be intelligent, on the part of the Frenchman, at least.

There's probably some explanation for it. In France the revolution which rescued the necks of Frenchmen from the iron heel of oppressors is still a very much alive subject. Knowing, as they do, the inestimable value of freedom and a voice in their own government, they make the most of it. With Americans, it's different. Our revolution came a long time ago—it is of hallowed memory and, until the world war, was brought out regularly on the Fourth of July, which holiday we still observe with firecrackers, oratory and perhaps too many ice cream cones. Our vote is taken as a matter of course. Americans have always enjoyed the franchise. So little is it valued that a large proportion fail to even cast a ballot. There's no danger, they think, that control of the government will ever get away from the people. And, in the face of such an attitude, is it any wonder that the politicians are gradually centralizing their authority and hemming us about with restrictions.

The United States cries out loudly about excessive taxation, public waste, red tape, inefficiency, bureaucracy, and kindred evils. The remedy lies in the hands of the voters. In four years' time tremendous results could be attained if there were the same interest on the part of American voters as on the part of the French.

In this country, in addition to a great indifference, caused by too much wealth, too strong a pursuit after the almighty dollar, a disposition to leave well enough alone, and other similar causes, we have the added sin of ignorance. No country on earth has better newspapers or more facilities for keeping the public informed, and in no other republic is the ignorance of every day questions so widespread.

The Review of Reviews has just completed its second national current history test, which was taken last month by over 200,000 high school students in all parts of the country. Seventy-nine questions were asked calling for short answers to show why persons, places and problems of importance were being currently discussed. But of 1,580,000 possible right answers, 648,000, or 41 per cent, were marked right by teachers themselves, and 932,000, or 59 per cent, were wrong or unanswered. By 20,000 students, over 90 per cent was scored by 115; from 80 per cent to 89 per cent by 583; over 80 per cent by 698; from 70 to 79 per cent by 1,234; over 70 per cent by 1,932; under 60 per cent by 15,400, or nearly four-fifths the total number. Of 200,000 possible right answers to ten questions about sports and movies, 92,000 or only 46 per cent were right.

Some of the answers to the questions are illuminating. There were students who thought that Mlle. Suzanne Lenglen was a French chemist, a representative of Japan at the disarmament conferences, or the only woman in our congress. Three out of a hundred high school students in one city did not know who General Pershing is. Out of a thousand students, 530 did not know the meaning of the term "open shop;" 690 could not recognize a picture of Elihu Root; 490 did not know who H. G. Wells is; 800 never heard of Hell'n Maria Daves. All of the students who answered the questionnaire spent at least forty minutes per week in so-called study of current events.

It's fortunate, of course, that no such test has been given to the mothers and fathers of the students who made such a poor showing, for the chances are that they would have made an even more miserable failure. Something is wrong somewhere. Courses of study can be arranged to teach student the value of keeping up with events in the world they live in, but what about the rest of us? When the general public loses all desire to know what's coming off, it presents a serious situation, the more serious because there seems to be no possible remedy except a complete change in the mental habits of the nation.

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One of the most noteworthy features in connection with Tanlac is the large number of men and women who have reported an astonishingly rapid increase in weight as a result of its use. F. E. Holsten. 27

Wanted to Buy—Your fat hogs or ship them on commission. O'Bannon & Neuswanger. 17-1f

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EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, JANUARY 27
GET YOUR ORDERS IN EARLY.

Coursey & Miller



'What is SHE going to Do?'

Statistics from a reliable source tell us that nine men out of 1,000 die every year.

In many cases families are left in comfortable circumstances, but in others the widow and her children are nothing more than paupers—public charges.

IT IS SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Have you provided for the contingency: "What is she going to do?"

Our suggestion is: Start a Bank Account TODAY. It won't take long to accumulate quite a sum that can be used nicely until your family adjust itself to the new conditions imposed upon it. Don't put it off until it is too late.

COME IN AND SEE US TODAY!

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