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WASHINGTON AND HIS TALLOW CANDLE.

George Washington, the father of his country, did not live long enough to realize what a big country it was to become. For that matter, we of today have no adequate conception of what the republic will be in a hundred years from now.

Washington knew little or nothing about the Great Lakes. He could not know that the future held a Great Lakes port that would handle more tonnage than any other shipping port in the world.

As Washington snuffed his tallow candle or trimmed the wick of his whale oil lamp, he did not dream of oil from the bowels of the earth or light from the end of a wire.

George Washington, leader of the colonial armies, soldier and statesman, first president of the American republic, and always the wise counselor, is the great outstanding character of American history.

Were he to return today he would be astonished at more than the physical changes that have taken place since he departed this life. Politics in his day did not show any special delicacy, so he would not be amazed at the turmoil that rages throughout the land between the parties.

If Washington's birthday is to be retained as a public holiday, it ought to be kept with something of reverence. Not merely a time for the cessation of ordinary work to turn to some favorite or available form of amusement.

The decision of the Omaha Board of Education not to dismiss school today was wise. Supplemented by the plans of the superintendent and principals, aided by the teachers, the pupils in all grades will get a little instruction concerning Washington.

The entire country will be quite a bit improved if a revival of Washington's spirit should follow an inquiry into his precepts and example.

American citizens honor themselves and their country when they honor George Washington by making his birthday a national holiday and paying a deserved tribute to his memory.

Let us not forget, however, that the great problems of today are really great problems, and that we are meeting and solving them in the spirit of greatness. And this is true even though they may be so close to us that we do not always understand.

TAMMANY AND THE GHOST DANCERS.

While the democratic ghost dancers are wildly gyrating around the senate chamber, and those on the side lines are emitting shrill yips of approval, one voice is silent. The last heard from William Jennings Bryan, he was embarking with Governor Pat Neff of Texas on a houseboat, planning to ply the Brazos river bayous on a hunt.

We expect that Mr. Bryan will soundly drub, in choicest terms, the republican rascals whose misconduct is so abhorrent to true democrats. His verbal chastisement of the miscreants will be inclusive and explicit, and doubtless will bring added joy to those who are feasting on the banquet spread at Washington.

For example, there will arise the ghost of a convention at Chicago. There a young man from Nebraska soared into high and enduring prominence through the denunciation he poured out on the leaders of the party with which he had always affiliated.

be of that same man, just a few years later, standing the Baltimore convention on its head, Tammany and Tom Taggart will never forget nor forgive what was spoken there.

Mr. Bryan knows his party's weaknesses as well as anybody, and he knows that one of them is that the democrats have their full quota of men who are connected with the "special interests" now the object of such virtuous horror on the part of the ghost dancers.

DISARM THE GUN-TOTER.

Governor Bryan expresses himself as being in favor of a federal law to regulate gun-toting. He holds correctly that local laws are ineffective. Such affairs as that of the killing of Judge Morning, and the probably fatal wounding of Senator Greene, are stirring the public mind on the subject.

An object lesson is afforded from Philadelphia. There last week the New York Times discovered a firm offering for sale 1,000 machine guns, 7,180 high-power army rifles and 16,000,000 rounds of ammunition. Enough to arm a revolution.

An army officer says that with 1,000 determined men and that amount of equipment he could hold Philadelphia for two weeks against any force the state of Pennsylvania could bring against him.

Why talk of disarming, when private concerns, for private profit, can have at their disposal such stocks of arms? Can sell to anyone who comes with the price?

Demand is made, and justly, that the profit be taken out of war through the government seizing all arms and munition plants, and fully controlling the output of the same. Until better oversight is established with regard to the sale and ownership of weapons of any sort, we will be in danger.

SOFT COAL AND A PATIENT WORLD.

Up from the sunny precincts of Jacksonville, Fla., comes the more or less welcome news that the soft coal miners and the operators have reached an agreement that will continue three years.

This is notice to industry that it may proceed at least until the end of 1925 without disturbance incident to the cutting off of a supply of fuel. It should not, however, mean that there will be no move on part of the public to further examine into the bituminous coal situation.

Two or three things were brought out by the inquiry of the coal commission that might be taken up for closer examination. One of these is that too many coal mines have been opened. Experience over a considerable number of years has shown that these mines are operated on half-time or less.

Some 700,000 men are engaged in and around the soft coal mines of the country. If half of these could be released for other employment, much of the labor shortage would be reduced.

Better methods for utilizing fuel will some day be generally in vogue. Advance in industrial methods along other lines will force the adoption of known ways for burning coal by which something like its actual value will be obtained.

Settlement of differences for three years between miners and operators ought to give users time to work a little on their side of the fuel problem.

A Washington butcher says he can buy meat from the Big Five cheaper than he can kill it himself. So can anybody who is close enough to a packing house.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet—
Robert Worthington Davie
"FLODDERS."
I often think of plodding as a "Plodder" will who knows
The vicissitudes of living, the enjoyments and the woes;
And like most of us who wonder is it really worth the
price.

I behold beyond illusion recompense for sacrifice,
It is truly worth the effort though it seldom proffers
praise,
And the world would swiftly crumble if we had no
working days,
And the few who do not offer their assistance do not
give
One iota of true merit to the world in which they live.
It's the common man who shoulders heavy burdens
who has led
In the mart, before the altar, on the field of battle red
We who day by day are toiling where the wheels of
commerce go;
We who wield the pick and shovel and manipulate the
hoe;
We who teach to youth the lessons we have learned and
practiced, too;
We who keep the humble cottage for our faithful and
our true—
May be proud of our achievements and the major parts
we play
In the forward march of Progress from sunrise till
close of day,
We may grace ourselves with gladness, and with honest
fever know
That true commonness is greatness even though it
doesn't glow;
We may realize that plodding is the pathway to suc-
cess,
And as "Plodders" reap the merit of incessant worthi-
ness

What of America?

By EDWIN G. PINKHAM.

Bunker Hill Supplies Some Information for Lord Sandwich.

Let our object be our country, our whole country, and nothing but our country.—Daniel Webster at the laying of the cornerstone of Bunker Hill monument. The past, at least, is secure.—Daniel Webster, reply to Hayne.

THE shots at Lexington and Concord, if they were not heard round the world, at least were heard throughout New England and all the colonies; and almost without orders the provincial militia got under the provincial militia got under the march for Boston.



Joseph Warren.

more accurately by a committee of safety of the Massachusetts congress. To this committee it seemed essential that the Charlestown heights should be occupied, and this suggestion was made by a council of war which included Ward, Warren and Putnam.

The British had no choice but to assault the hill, because if the Americans were allowed to strengthen the position with artillery they could command the town. Ships and batteries at once opened on the redoubt with a heavy cannonade, but the fire, which continued all the forenoon, failed to drive the Americans out of the peninsula.

The British moved to the attack early in the afternoon with 2,500 men under command of General Howe, who, with Burgoyne and Clinton, had joined Gage the previous month, and whose counsel had been productive of nothing in the meanwhile except a proclamation promising to hang John Hancock and Sam Adams, and to execute the rest of the patriots.

Nothing very extraordinary in the fact that the secretary of war and the secretary of the navy are both opposed to the merging of their departments. This is merely a case of two heads that think as one because they wish to remain two.—Chicago Post.

from their hands. Warren himself carried a musket, for though out-ranking Prescott, he had refused to take command, having arrived at the scene of action after Prescott had made his dispositions.

Howe withdrew his men, reformed the line and again gave the order to advance. A second time the Americans waited, allowing the British to fire and load as they came, and when the line was within 40 yards of the muzzles of the colonial guns a second volley rang out, repeating the execution of the first.

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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of February, 1924.
W. H. QUINCY,
Notary Public

"The People's Voice"

Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee. Readers of The Morning Bee are invited to use this column freely for expression on matters of public interest.

A Plea for the Tram Line.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In its cocksure disregard of facts, the communication of "Experience," which appeared in this column recently, is typical of many which offer only adverse criticism and no constructive suggestions regarding the street car situation.

"Experience" continues in his recital of errors. "If the company is paying a dividend, but not as large as its management would like." The fact is the company is paying only the required 5 per cent dividend on its preferred stock, which represents the investment of persons other than the management.

This is the time for serious consideration of facts, not fiction, as they relate to the traction problem. Statements like those of "Experience" are made either out of profound ignorance or with the deliberate intent to misrepresent. In either case they serve only to befog the issue and offer nothing toward the solution of the problem.

Faith in Coolidge.
Avoca, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Notwithstanding the noise of Hiram Johnson and the acts of the half-baked and smart-aleck senators who obtained their election upon the republican ticket and then claimed to be insurgents, but are really assistants to the democrats, the confidence of the people of the United States in the ability and integrity of President Coolidge cannot be shaken.

Graters often break in where burglars fear to tread.—Illinois State Journal.

SUNNY SIDE UP

"Take Comfort, nor forget That Sunrise never failed us yet"
Callie Thaxter

SINCE GEORGE WAS WITH US.
Some wondrous changes have been wrought.

Since George fought And freedom brought To all mankind in speech and thought— Alas and lack-a-day! We're now reformed on ev'ry side, And we're denied Right to decide, What we shall eat, drink or abide, Since George was laid away.

O George, would you'd wander back Along the track Of liberty we've lost, Alack, Since you were with us here— We're weary of reformers' rule— Of going to school By rote and rule— Through the command of some blamed fellow Who rules by legal fear.

O George, if you were with us now, We know somehow You'd not allow Without a mighty bitter row So much of laws' restraint. Since you have left much that you wrought, For which you fought, Alas, is naught! It really seems now that you ought To be back here. Too bad you ain't!

Our regret that County Judge Parmenter of Wahoo decided that Levi Keiser made his money himself, and to our way of thinking he has a perfect right to spend it as he jolly well pleases. It's his money, isn't it? And if he seeks the pleasure of the society of the ladies in his old age, isn't that his business? The more we think about it the deeper is our regret that Levi and the plaintiff's attorney couldn't mix, with the result that the aged but youthfully inclined Lotzario knocked the block off'n the aforesaid attorney.

Not that we have anything against the plaintiff's attorney, for we haven't. But just because we'd rejoice to see Levi demonstrate that he was all there, physically fit and feeling fine, until a higher court can get a whack at the case we bow in submission to the decision of Judge Parmenter.

But in this connection we make bold to assert our agreement with John Z. White of Chicago. Asked if he had respect for the courts, he replied: "Not a blankety-blank bit, unless I agree with their decisions."

A charming young lady boarded a cross-town car at Jackson street. "Please call Grace," she said as she deposited her fare in the coffee mill. "I always say Grace, ma'am," replied the conductor with a smile.

It isn't a Circus Pennant. Note by a handsomely printed program that at a recent meeting the audience sang "Star Spangle Banner." It may have been a typograph-

Advertisement for Buick automobiles. Includes text: "They compare all sky-scrapers with the Woolworth as They compare all automobiles with Buick". Features Buick logo and "VALVE-IN-HEAD" slogan. Lists dealers: Lincoln, Omaha, Sioux City, Nebraska Buick Auto Co., 19th and Howard Streets.