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MORNING-EVENING-SUNDAY

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DAUGHERTY'S THORNY PATH.

Harry Daugherty has been a storm center through all his active life. Politics in Ohio is strenuous and Daugherty has been a leading figure in that state for more than a quarter of a century.

One of these presidents owed his nomination and election to the shrewd political management of Harry Daugherty. For these services Harding made Daugherty attorney general.

The storms that always centered about Daugherty in Ohio beat about him with redoubled fury in Washington. The jealousies, the vindictiveness, the venom of political hatreds followed him.

It was a mistake for President Harding to place Daugherty in this position. His political enemies were too numerous. As a result of these enmities public confidence was never wholly behind the attorney general. The country never fully appreciated the difficulty of his position.

Daugherty had the task of prosecuting the war grafters, the cost-plus thieves. He was called upon to ferret out the far-reaching ramifications of the bootleggers' trust. He was faced with the seditious campaign of the anarchist and bolshevik propagandists that was such a menace in the early days of the Harding administration.

The cost-plus grafters were powerful, their loot reached into many millions. They naturally banded together to hold their ill-gotten fortunes. Daugherty's political enemies were quick to see the opportunities for financial gain in addition to the satisfaction of their own hatreds.

At every turn Daugherty found himself confronted with powerful and shrewd attorneys representing war grafters, liquor violators and others against whom he directed prosecutions. Many of his own trusted lieutenants turned traitor, seduced by the ill-gotten gold of big grafters and those who were making millions out of smuggling liquor.

Through the co-operation of Secretary Hughes the three-mile limit was extended by treaty to a 32-mile limit in order to make more efficient the capture of foreign rum runners. Notwithstanding the machinations of the cost-plus war grafters, Daugherty succeeded in securing the return of more than \$5,000,000 stolen during the war. More might have been recovered had Daugherty been as capable a lawyer as he was a campaign manager. No doubt in this he did his best.

The enforcement of the liquor laws requires the active support of state authorities. This Daugherty did not have. New York state, under the leadership of its democratic governor, Al Smith, repealed its law enforcement statutes and the stopping of the rum runners fell entirely upon the federal authorities. Prosecutions were rendered doubly difficult through the active, though concealed, connivance of Governor Smith and Mayor Hylan's New York police force.

All told, Daugherty has held office and carried on his work with thorns sticking into him from every side from the days he took up his duties. The impeachment proceedings started in the house fell flat. The senate inquiry has done nothing so far except to give airing to rumors, hearsay and scandal that would not be permitted before any court. The witnesses have been questionable and despicable.

Harry Daugherty will fight on. The inquiry may be continued. The enemies of Daugherty, now that they have "got" him, may withdraw or they may continue with even more venom.

Regardless of all these factors, however, and whether just or unjust, Daugherty does not have the confidence of the great mass of the people and President Coolidge has done well in taking steps to select a "disinterested" attorney general.

GERMAN ELECTIONS BLOCK DAWES.

An interesting and not at all unnatural factor is holding back the final report of the Dawes commission. It had been hoped that a definite announcement would be made from that body within a few days, but politics in both Germany and France influences the action of the experts. The general election in Germany is set for May 4, and in France for May 25. In both countries the policy of the government is at issue, and in either the result might be affected by the action of the commission.

In Germany the conflict turns especially on the division between the republicans and the reactionaries. Prussia is at present essentially republican, while Bavaria is monarchist. This phase of the situation may determine the commission in withholding its report until the voters have determined if Germany is to be one thing or the other. Marx, Stresemann and other leaders of the existing government have challenged the Bavarian group to the utmost, and will combat them to the end to preserve the republic.

In France the issue is of relatively less importance, because in France there is no serious division of opinion with regard to Germany. All the multitudinous groups in the republic are united on the one policy in dealing with their neighbors. They demand that Germany pay to the uttermost.

This comes back to a division of opinion in the commission itself. British representatives incline to a report that will relieve Germany of any payments, in cash or kind, for at least two years. France, on the other hand, insists that payments shall be continued. At present it is estimated by the French

that they will have a profit of 3,000,000,000 gold francs annually from the exploitation of the Ruhr industries. If this is shut off, the government will feel the drain materially. Consequently the objection is raised that France should not be called upon to bear any share of the German burden. Report has it that Chairman Dawes leans to the French view.

The problem of the commission is to determine how much money the German government can raise during the next two years to pay the industrialists who are producing for the benefit of France. British experts set the limit at 3,000,000,000 gold marks, while the French argue for 4,500,000,000, which amounts to 7 per cent on the 70,000,000,000 gold marks at which the total of German reparations is now set.

All these points are being considered by the experts, and on the outcome of their consultations will depend the future relations of the governments. But a report is scarcely looked for until after the Germans have elected their new government in May.

THE WORLD HUGS ITS ARMIES.

President Coolidge has probably let himself in for criticism in declining to call another parley of nations looking to disarmament. He gives as his reasons a belief that the nations, especially those of Europe, are not ready to discuss any further reduction in their armed forces and other preparations for war. Also, he cites the fact that at the Washington conference limitations on aircraft and submarines were suggested, but not assented to by the nations there represented.

It is a regrettable fact that the world has not followed the example of the United States. Whether the policy be sound or foolish, we have reduced both our army and our navy below the point that was permitted by the Washington conventions. Our navy today is that of a second rate power, while our army is barely commensurate with the needs of a second-rate power.

According to the latest revision of the figures by the adjutant general of the army, the United States forces under arms are outnumbered by those of Czechoslovakia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Russia and Spain in Europe; by China, India, Japan and Turkey in Asia, and by Abyssinia in Africa. Belgium, Greece, Germany, and the Serbs, Croatsians and Slovenes almost equal our forces in numbers.

In cutting down armed forces, the United States has shown the world that the way to disarm is to disarm. Whether circumstances will force a reversal of this policy, especially as regards our navy, can not be said. The unwisdom of talking of a reduction of armament at this time ought to be clear. Until the world is ready to hearken to the voice of Peace, such talk is idle, and Peace can not be heard for the clash of arms in European camps.

STRANGE TALES THESE STRANGERS TELL.

Even Senator Wheeler admits that some of the stories evoked by the senatorial inquiry are unbelievable. That is going far for him. Senator Wheeler is ready at any time to believe anything that reflects on the government, or the character of any citizen whose good name stands out clear before the public. What the people most wonder at is the increasing list of hitherto unknowns who are coming forward as possessors of intimate information with regard to the inside workings of political parties, national conventions, and the government itself. Commenting on this, the New York Times says:

"Strange witnesses who have strained the credulity of even senators with a strong will to believe are familiar in all parts of the country and in all walks of life. They have heard, or half heard, or misinterpreted, or misremembered, or miscommunicated, or they have met truthful looking citizens who told of vast influence with the government at Washington. This might have been due to a huge sum contributed to the national campaign fund, or to assumed intimacies with powerful officials. The state of Ohio appears to have mobilized a large number of such individuals who took up their line of march to Washington early in 1921. Almost any one of them, if he had been pressed to tell the truth, would have admitted that he alone engineered the 'deal' by which Senator Harding was nominated for the presidency. No wonder that so many of their acquaintances and friends—or even enemies—are bursting with a desire to give testimony before the senate committee. The brightest genius among them, however, must be in fear of eclipse by the arrival of the extra-train robber, now an evangelist, who is at present on his way to Washington to make the senatorial flesh creep."

And we may expect there will not be a shred of respectability left anywhere around Washington to hide a shrinking republican when "Al" Jennings gets through telling his "whale of a story." What the world will marvel at is that he has kept silent for four years while pregnant with such awful information and knowledge.

Ed Lockhart, last of a famous band of Oklahoma bandits, has just been killed by a sheriff. He might have done better had he invented "a whale of a story" to tell the Walsh committee.

One of Omaha's greatest needs is a real union station. And the great railroad systems entering Omaha really owe it to the city to supply that need.

The debate on whether the saxophone is a musical instrument might easily be settled by locating somebody who could get music out of it.

Senator McKellar is now going to oust "Uncle Andy" Mellon. If the democrats keep on the president will have no cabinet left at all.

Lower freight rates on farm products are now promised. The relief is slow in coming, but it surely will be welcome when it gets home.

Juries in Omaha are gradually working up to the death penalty, so murderers better look out.

One thing the prince of Wales has shown the world is that he is not a good horseman.

President Coolidge is keeping cool, and more delegates are freezing to him every day.

Well, if you did not register, it is your own fault that you can not vote.

"Clean up, Paint up," is another sign of spring.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Post— Robert Worthington Davie

IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT.

You had better read your Bible and lead a righteous way. And get aside a minute at eventide to pray.— For if you are dishonest, don't look what you're about.— The Radio will find you—if you don't watch out! No use to try to cover up your mischief any more! It's pretty hard to hide it like a feller could before. You had better not be keener,—but look what you're about.— For the Radio will find you—if you don't watch out! It may be hard to have to keep your optics on the sky.— To know you can't at present play the devil and get by.— But you'd better read the Scriptures and know what you're about.— For the Radio will find you—if you don't watch out!

West of America?

By E. G. PINKHAM.

A Class Interest That Madison Did Not Foresee.

This government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free.—Abraham Lincoln.

JAMES MADISON waded in "The Federalist" that the first necessity laid on the government was to protect the tendency of classes of the population to put their own concerns above those of the public. No government, he said, could be maintained unless it was based on the interests of the whole.

These were the classes that were found the most insistent for privilege when the constitution was being made, and they or their successors have since been found as intent as Madison on their own purposes. Class interest is still to be found at the door of congress, the state legislatures and city councils asking for legislation not in the public interest, but in favor of some particular class.

But there are today special interests that Madison could not have foreseen that have grown to great power in our country, and that assert for themselves privileges that the class interests of his day never dreamed of asserting.

What, for example, would Madison have said of the pretensions of an individual, not a public official, not a delegate, not a member of congress, but a private citizen, and one of no savory reputation to boot—who should require his pleasures to be taken on all public measures before they should be permitted to go before the representatives of the people?

What would he have said of the spectacle of such an individual designating the candidates to be voted for in an election, detailing the appointments of public officials after they are elected, deciding for reasons of his own what public moneys should be appropriated and for what purposes, specifying what public contracts should be awarded and who should receive them, fixing the conditions under which franchises, virtually involving a taxing power, should be granted to the people, should be granted to public utilities companies, controlling the political machinery through which the voters in their private capacity declared their preferences and preferences—doing all this, not in a public, but in a private capacity and for his private profit?

This individual, or a combination of such, is known today in every great American city and in most states. His person and his system has come to constitute a class interest in America that is as great a menace to its existence as a nation as the great class interest of slavery ever was.

The challenge of political bossism to equality, freedom, to nationality, is as bold and arrogant as was slavery's. Its march across the soil of America is as steady and resistless. Its invasion of political and human rights, is as complete and as destructive to the soul of America and of the spirit of liberty.

Let us witness what political wrong endured for a little space will do to the soul of a nation. In the constitutional convention of 1787 George Mason of the slave state of Virginia made the abolitionist speech, and was applauded in his own state for doing so. The soul of America had not then been seared by this fearful thing. But mark how swift and how terrible was the work of the slave in a few years later, in the free territory of Kansas, the law made it a felony, punishable by fine and imprisonment for a white man to tell a colored man the simple truth that Kansas was free soil. In 79 years the great national wrong of slavery had killed the soul of America and stifled in the land of its birth the voice of its own people.

Let us make no mistake. If the monstrous political wrong of political bossism, as it exists and daily grows in our free system, marches on unchecked, it will, as swiftly as slavery ever threatened, tread out the last spark of political liberty in this America.

Such is the constitution of man that he cannot endure wrong and long retain the impulse to rebel it. Can a people who have, with scarcely a protest, permitted their political powers and privileges to be taken from their hands by a domestic power unknown to the constitutions and the institutions of their country, be believed capable of defending their liberties against a foreign power? By accepting this usurpation and tamely enduring it, have they not become slaves and to serve a bondman in the noble temple where once they were masters?

Young America, to defend a principle, took up arms against one of the greatest military powers in the world, a power that has dotted over the surface of the whole globe with her possessions and military posts, whose morning drum beats, following the sun, and keeping company with the hours, circles the earth with one continuous and unbroken strain of the martial air of England.

America in the strength of its manhood, forgetful of that principle and unmindful of that great past, has submitted the knee to a domestic power that would dissolve under one glance of its eye, if that eye flashed its old proud fire.

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Abe Martin

THE PRACTICAL TORICUS



Letters From Our Readers

All letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request. Communications of 200 words or less will be given preference.

A Republican View. Stromsburg, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I have read your issue of March 27, 1924, and I am trying to keep the evil away from one of my brothers, but a baby in a room with a red hot stove will get burned, but you won't so you are your brother's keeper. Just as the good housewife is the keeper of the baby, so let us cut out selfishness and overcome these weaknesses.

No Faith in Super-Power Project. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Senator Norris' so-called super-power bill appeals strongly to the imagination of the Electrical World, as political capital, but it is impracticable as is pointed out by the Electrical World.

A Farmer's Suggestion. St. Paul, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I have read your valuable paper for almost 20 years and that is why I wish to say a few words to the farmer through your paper.

Mr. Farmer, how much longer are you going to be made a fool of? The time has come, and is right at your door, when you must either make a stand for your rights or be ruined. All of the promises that have been made you see are false, misleading and untruthful. Remember, you have the goods in your own hands, so why be fooled any longer?

We have no laws, and never will have that will help the farmer. Every one else is organized, why not the farmer? He is the most important class in our country, and he is the most unprotected. Don't say "I can't." There is no such word as "can't." Just say, "We can and will." These are the words, can and will. Pick out a good, clean man from your community, one that knows how to run his own business, that is a truthful, honorable, just, real man. You don't need some failure and an office hunter to tell you what to do.

As a suggestion, I would say to pick out three good men from your community, if they see it, let them pick two more. They can circulate a petition asking every farmer to sign it that wants to stand up for his rights. Let this board of committee, throughout the state, meet with other states that are interested in farming, and place a fair price on your products. How would these prices seem?

No. 2 wheat, bu.....\$ 1.50 No. 2 corn, bu..... .80 Rye, bu..... 1.00 Oats, bu..... .50 Potatoes, cwt..... 1.50 Fat hogs, cwt..... 8.00 Fat cattle, cwt.....\$6 to 10.00 (According to quality.)

Now, whatever we do, let us be fair. Don't ask unreasonable prices. And whatever we can get our price, let this committee inform the farmer to haul to market so much grain or stock, in proportion to the amount he has on hand. If you can not get the price agreed upon just hold it until you can; just hold everything off the market for 60 days and see what will happen. They will come and eat out of your hand. It is yours to hold; you did not steal it. When they talk overproduction, what about the price of sugar—\$9.50 per hundred? Is it because there is a shortage? I should say not. If you have the money you can buy 2,000,000 sacks in an hour. What of hides—3 cents per pound, shoes, \$5 to \$15 per pair. Is it because there is a shortage in hides? The farmer has always been the goat, and they surely pull his wool. They buy his wool, they don't know any more than some old farmer. How much do you know? FARMER.

Corrects Tax Commissioner's Figures.

Tekamah, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In the issue of The Omaha Bee for March 17, 1924, a table prepared by the state tax commissioner on taxes levied on each \$1,000 of assessed valuation in the counties of Nebraska. I note the following distribution of taxes for Tekamah: County, \$2; city, \$12, and school, \$22.

I do not know the process by which these results were reached, but they are erroneous so far as the amounts for the city and school are concerned. I hope you will please publish this correction, as mistakes like this are misleading and malicious in their effects. Last year the city's share of tax money was 43 per cent, while the school share was 26.2 per cent. The figures quoted in the table would make our school tax amount to 22 mills, while it is but 12.4 mills. This levy takes care of interest on bonds, running expenses and all other city expenses. HARRY H. REIMUND.

Liquor Without Defense.

Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In answer to a real bright man's letter from Missouri Valley, Ia., on temperance, I wish to say a few words. What did liquor ever do for anyone? It tends to bring men lower than dope can bring them. It will bring them below the level with a common dog.

Still some pinheads will fight every day for liquor. Every day men are seen on the street corners begging for a dime to secure enough for coffee and rolls, then going away to spend it for liquor.

I surely cannot understand why men of reasonable understanding will stick to the sin cursed habit that drags them down to hell. Wine and beer naturally leads to crime and poverty. People who are capable of overcoming the temptation of beer should help the temperance movement, forgetful of that principle and unmindful of that great past, has submitted the knee to a domestic power that would dissolve under one glance of its eye, if that eye flashed its old proud fire.

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When in Omaha Hotel Conant

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V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of March, 1924. W. H. QUINCY, Notary Public

SUNNY SIDE UP

Take Comfort, nor forget That Sunrise never failed us yet. —Chas. Thacher

HAND IN HAND.

My litt'le lad oft walks with me As down the street I go. And laughs with me in childish glee, His boyish eyes aglow. He tries to keep his step with mine, Along life's earthly road. But now and then this little lad Says, "Daddy, hold my hand!"

Now and then we meet up with something to give us hope. Recently we were called to Schuyler on a matter of business, and, being a stranger, were fain to call for help in locating the print shop, which place, by the way, is about the first one we seek when arriving in a town. We accosted a bright-faced lad and asked him to direct us to Fred Carroll's printery.

When offered a modest tip for his kindness the lad smiled and remarked: "No, thank you, sir; I'll call it my good deed today."

And, as he hurried on to school, we were confident that we had been in the hands of a Boy Scout who was going to be a real man in good time.

Nebraska Limerick. There was a big eater in Sutton Who was known as a terrible glutton. When he sat down to eat He'd clean up complete If he knew it would bust every button.

We never see a woman fondling a bear-eyed poodle but what we congratulate some baby on its lucky escape.

Boy, page W. S. Basinger. If we who live in the North Platte territory can't have a sleeper from thence to Omaha, at least you might see to it that there is enough gas in the tank to keep the smoker lit up from Lisco until it gets to North Platte.

And if ever we do get that sleeper, we'll still have something harsh to say about that surcharge. WILL M. MAUPIN.

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