

Today

We Have With Us Today—
Mr. Coolidge, President.
And the Grand Champion.
And Unreasonable "Bill" Curley.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE.

Chicago, Dec. 4.—First, a word about unreasonable "Young Bill" Curley. He is the editor of the Chicago American. Born on the island of Manhattan, he is growing up with Chicago. It is well known that with one possible exception, he is the ablest evening newspaper editor in America. His very unreasonableness proves his ability. "How's the paper going?" "Oh, not satisfactorily," said he. "We haven't put it over yet."

"What do you mean you haven't put it over?"

"Well, the figures for last month show that the Daily News had 401,000 circulation, and our paper, the Chicago American, had 470,000, only 69,000 ahead of the News. When we have 500,000 circulation, and a clear lead of 100,000 ahead of the Daily News, I shall consider that we have made a start."

When you consider, reader, that the Daily News sells at 2 cents a copy, and "Young Bill" Curley's Chicago American at 3 cents a copy, you realize that eternal dissatisfaction is the mainspring of success.

President Coolidge has spent this day in Chicago, working hard. Newspapers, laying out his day, inserted numerous items such as "Drake Hotel, 9 to 12, resting." And "Stock Yards Inn, 5 to 6, resting."

The "resting" consisted in shaking hands with long lines of committees. "Male and female created he them," like the animals in the ark.

They wanted to see the president and tell him that they liked his speech saying that the United States should manage its own affairs without the help of Europe. They wanted to brag about the big plurality, 881,115, that Illinois gave him.

Coolidge was glad to see them. And, having seen them, he knew how to move them along that he might have time to see the next lot.

The speeches that President Coolidge during the day made you will find in other columns.

Being president isn't all beer and skittles. In fact, in Coolidge's

case, there is no beer, and there are no skittles.

Today he worked hard from his arrival at 9:15 in the morning to 9:45 at night, when he left for Washington—with 20-odd photographers shooting off flashlights in his face, incidentally not causing him to change his expression.

The most interesting thing to this reporter, who saw and talked with Coolidge for the first time at the Drake Hotel this morning, is the impression that his high sloping forehead and his general manner make upon the observer. You feel that when he is refusing to talk, as he refused in the last campaign, there is a good deal going on back of that forehead. And he has a kind heart. His first words inquired concerning the health of a boy, recently dangerously ill, son of a friend of his, in the west.

Time will locate President Coolidge's place in history. He is one of our few thin presidents. Excepting Woodrow Wilson, he is the only thin president we have had for a long while.

We seemed to have lost the lean Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln type.

Whatever history may decide concerning him, the people that elected him, with 7,000,000 votes to spare, may rely upon it that they have in their service a man really anxious to set a good example, to earn public approval and leave a good name.

Chicago approves his coming here on an ordinary train in an ordinary Pullman, no special car—although government appropriation would have paid for a special car.

He has been preaching economy

to the government and means to practice it.

He ate the regular \$1.25 dinner on the train with the other passengers. Chicago likes that. They are democratic in this city.

The president came to see the International Live Stock exposition. That interests him. He says, "It shows what the farmers are doing, as the light in the electric bulb in the Drake hotel shows the hard work that men are doing in a big power plant far away."

President Coolidge knows the life of the farmers. He has seen his own father wading out through barnyard mud in the morning, long before sunrise, in the New England winter cold, wind, rain and snow, to look after the stock.

Farmers that helped to elect him can rely on it that he will be useful to them if he can find a way to do it.

The president saw a good deal of Chicago, wonderful city, on his way to the stock yards from the North Side, where money lives, all along Michigan avenue, out through the regions where hard work lives. All the streets were lined with people cheering him. Sometimes, for blocks at a time, the sidewalks were covered with colored men and women; they cheered and President

Coolidge's smile was the same for all different crowds.

At the livestock show the president made the acquaintance of the grand champion steer for 1924.

The grand champion, up to his knees in straw, was a wonderfully and pitifully perfect little Hereford. He was born on the 3d of last January, and will be knocked on the head and eaten before the 1st of next January. He has been sold at \$1.40 a pound.

Only an 11-month-old baby, he weighs over 900 pounds, and comes from Editor Shaffer's 19,000 acres, "Ken Caryl Ranch," in Colorado. The father of the grand champion is Deacon Domino. His mother's name is "Miss Perfection 139." Big as he is, the 900-pound baby still has a nursing cow with him. She is a grade Holstein, giving a prodigious quantity of milk, and lives off in an obscure stall in a corner. That's the fate of mothers and nurses.

The Book-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, that bought the grand champion, bought his nursing cow also. She will go to Michigan with him, where he will be shown once more. Then he will leave his nursing cow and appear in small pieces in the Book-Cadillac dining room.

Such is life and glory among steers. It isn't so much better among men. Men will eat him.

Worms eat us, and take too long about it.

You read President Coolidge's message, of course, and are aware that he has reversed the Woodrow Wilson theory. President Coolidge does not believe that the United States needs the guidance of foreign countries or should be made responsible for the troubles of foreign countries.

The president does not think it necessary to ask permission of Japan or of any other country if we want to send our boats cruising in the Pacific ocean. He doesn't claim that the Pacific ocean is an American lake, but he doesn't admit that it is an Asiatic lake either.

The average American citizen

talking to President Coolidge yesterday would have got the impression that there is a man at the head of this government with considerable respect for the American nation and for the ability of the United States to take care of itself.

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Send to "Bee School-room Contest" Editor, The Omaha Bee, with your name, age and address. Another \$10.00 in prizes next week. All answers must be in Bee office by Wednesday of next week.

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Schools in Italy

Italian children do not have the school advantages to be found in most modern European countries. Italy, you know, has been a republic-like country with a king who rules in name only since 1877. Much has been done since then to better school conditions; laws were passed to make education free and compulsory between ages six and nine, but these laws have not been enforced.

In northern Italy there are better schools; nearly all the people taking advantage of them, but in the south fully three-quarters of the people are illiterate. How would you like to go to school in a Gondola-boat down a canal for a street?

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