

EDITORIALS

The Omaha Guide

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Race prejudice must go. The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man must prevail. These are the only principles which will stand the acid test of good citizenship in time of peace, war and death.

Omaha, Nebraska, Saturday, FEBRUARY 2, 1935

Getting Down To Earth

In his article, "The Future," in the Saturday Evening Post, General Johnson states some frightfully plain truths. The one outstanding point he made is that the confidence necessary to encourage the spending of savings, the development of industry and the employment of labor, is lacking.

"No amount of belaboring business and talking about timidity, by men who never conducted a business in their lives, is going to change these essential responsibilities," said General Johnson. Many thoughtful and sincere students of present day problems have pointed out this fact continuously.

The government cannot discourage private enterprise by going into business in competition with it with tax-exempt plants financed by public funds, and expect private industry to go ahead. It simply cannot be done.

It cannot increase expenses of industry by heavier taxes, NRA requirements and extreme regulation which drastically limits or destroys earnings or opportunities, and expect the investor to pour his savings into labor producing projects.

Industry wants to go ahead, it wants to employ labor, but it cannot draw on the taxpayer to meet deficit as can government operated industries. It has to see a change to make a profit before it can risk its savings.

Private business cannot compete with government business, and threats cannot change that situation.

Regardless of whether one agrees with General Johnson, many of his statements have for the first time presented in plain language some of the underlying causes that are retarding or preventing recovery.

Lights Vs. Lives

Night accidents constitute one of the most serious factors in the growing automobile accident problem. A recent survey on "Public Safety as Affected by Street Lighting," made by an engineer of the National Bureau of Casuality and Surety Underwriters, presents a graphic picture of the gravity of the situation—and points to the cure.

The survey definitely proves that the old supposition that the light provided by automobile headlights is enough, is false—the poorer the grade of street lighting, the higher the accident rate. For example, the night fatality rate on streets with grade A lighting is seven times higher than the day rate. On streets with Grade B lighting it is 10 times higher—and on streets with Grade D lighting it is fifteen times higher.

This fact carries especial force now, inasmuch as many communities, in the search for means of cutting costs, have lowered their street lighting standards. The result of this policy is found in a comparison between two groups of cities, one which increased street lighting budgets while the other decreased them. In the first case, night fatalities dropped 25 per cent, and caused an economic saving of \$2.07 per capita. In the second case, fatalities rose 7.6 per cent, at an economic cost of 69 cents per capita. This was poor economy indeed—measured either in dollars or the coin of human lives.

Good street lighting is not a luxury—it is a community necessity. It saves lives and money. It is the first essential step in solving the night accident problem.

Government Can't Do It All

During the past few years, the Federal government has been working to develop and perfect farm cooperative organizations. This work has produced excellent results—probably no other federal farm relief activity has been so successful.

Unfortunately, this has led to a danger that seems to be inescapable part of all government ventures of the kind. A certain percentage of farmers have come to look upon government as their economic savior—to believe that it, and it alone, will iron out their troubles, solve their problems and bring them prosperity. Farmers who hold to this belief are obviously going to do little in their own behalf.

The fallacy of this attitude was well expressed recently by F. W. Peck, cooperative bank

commissioner of the Farm Credit Administration, who said: "It is fundamental that those responsible for the operation of business cooperatives consider that their success depends upon them and their supporting membership and not upon the government." In other words, government is the ally of cooperatives—but it is not and should not be their administrator. It will do what it can to advance their interests—but it will not attempt to take over a cooperative organization and make it succeed. That is the province of management and the farmer membership.

Farmers who look to government as a financial father deserve to fail. Farmers who determine to work out their own destinies deserve to succeed—and they will.

STATESMEN OR POLITICIANS?

It is not exaggeration to say that the average business man looks to a session of Congress with dread and uncertainty. That has been especially true during the past few years, inasmuch as economic stress has led to an oversupply of proposed "remedies" for all our financial and social ills—remedies which, for the most part, would have been worse than the disease.

Nothing could do more to encourage business, and the average citizen, than a conservative, responsible attitude on the part of the present Congress. Conservatism does not necessarily mean "stand-pat-ism" but it does mean a decent regard for our Constitution as contrasted with the "isms" that are attacking it. It means that in the effort to bring about needed reforms, honest businesses will not be sacrificed to the Gods of Socialism, Communism or Dictatorship. It means that charges of bad faith and crookedness should not be hurled at American business in general by public officials seeking temporary popularity at public expense.

It is the common belief that responsible Congressman of both parties are frankly worried about radicalism within their own ranks. It is hoped that the sound and sober thinking servants of the people will be able to curb the irresponsible—and help restore that priceless element—confidence—to the people.

DON'T SOAK MINING NOW

Most authorities are now predicting a substantial rise in mining activities. If the rise comes, the legislatures of the mining states will have a good deal to say as to whether it is to be permanent or transitory.

Before the depression, mining was continually plagued by unfair tax and regulatory laws. The result was that normal development was slowed down even when demand for metals was high. Jobs were lost, capital was discouraged. Long before economic storms swept the country in general, mining faced many problems.

Treat mining fairly when it starts to come back and it will contribute much to increasing employment and purchasing power. It will cause the investment of money and develop business and industry. The benefits will be felt far beyond the borders of the mining states—throughout the entire nation.

THIRTY-HOUR WEEK MENACES LABOR

In concluding a recent study of the thirty-hour work week for the Brookings Institute, Harold G. Moulton and Maurice Leven says: "Analysis of the economic effects of the 30-hour week clearly leads to the conclusion that the measure would not promote nation welfare. It would prove detrimental to the interests of labor. . . . It would not promote recovery and bids to intensify the depression." It is a historical truth that all social reforms must come naturally and gradually through evolution—and that when we attempt to speed natural forces with the spur of legislation, the result is damaging to the welfare of those we seek to aid.

All Taxes Are Sales Taxes

No form of taxation is so bitterly assailed as the sales tax. The political "friends of the common people" have been especially virulent in denouncing it, on the grounds that the burden of the tax falls more heavily on persons of small and moderate means than on the wealthy.

—That is all very well. But a very vital point that the people do not realize is this: There is no other kind of tax, so far as the effect is concerned, than the sales tax.

Every tax must be paid, and paid in full, by the ultimate consumers of goods and products. Every tax levied increases the cost of necessities and luxuries we need and buy and use. When we buy a pair of shoes we must pay a score of taxes—the tax that was paid by the raiser of the cattle, by the railroad that transported them, by the factory that tanned and cured the leather, by the manufacturer, by the distributor, and finally, that paid by the dealer is included in the cost of the pair of shoes we get. That is true of food, clothing, entertainment and everything else.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Happenings That Affect the Dinner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills of Every Individual. National and International Problems Inseparable from Local Welfare.

According to the old saying, "The mills of the gods grind slowly—but they grind exceedingly fine."

That adage can be accurately applied to the present Congress, as it considers the President's new recovery and relief program. It is moving slowly, it is talking a good deal and it is gradually grinding out legislation toward the two principal projects of the White House—social security, and an unprecedentedly vast public works program, designed to eliminate the dole.

The public works program is of the most immediate interest. It will cost \$4,000,000,000—the largest draft ever drawn against the United States Treasury for any single purpose. It will put about 3,500,000 men to work directly. And, if the President's hopes materialize it will put another 3,500,000 to work indirectly, in jobs created by the spending power of the first 3,500,000.

Equally important are the promised principles upon which the program is predicated. All work is to be useful, in that it will either permanently improve living conditions or create new wealth. Pay for workers will be above the present "dole" level—but will be low enough so that the men employed will still keep an eye out for jobs in private business. Projects will be selected so as to use the largest possible amount of labor for the money spent. The money will be allotted on the basis of the greatest need—that is, a state which has 20 per cent of its people on relief will get more than a state which has but ten per cent on relief. It is said the public works program will avoid competition with private enterprise, which is justifiably jittery about government activities in the industrial field.

The list of possible public works has not been completed, but a number are known. Public buildings will be one. Bridge building will be another. Soil conservation and sanitation will come in for their share, as will tunnels, flood dams and forest conservation. Road building will naturally be near the head of the list.

There was considerable dissatisfaction in Congress over the fact that the President wants the public works money under his control—Congressmen wanted to distribute it themselves. However this idea seems to be definitely out—allocation of funds will be in the jurisdiction of the White House, through a board appointed by the President.

So far as the social security program is concerned, it is finding rather hard going. It seems that every Congressman has his own idea as to how the ill, the aged and the unemployed should be aided—there is much argument, many words and little agreement. By the time this is read, the so-called Townsend Plan, whereby every person over 60 would be given \$200 a month by the government, will probably have been introduced in the lower house—proponents of the plan claim enough supporters to get it through. The President's influence, however, will be thrown aggressively against it and in favor of a much more moderate policy.

Business reports are encouraging. The country is experiencing gradual improvement in about every line of endeavor.

Trade, according to Dun & Bradstreet, is rising above the levels of 1930 and 1931. Where, at the beginning of 1932, that company's business activity index stood at 50.1, it now touches 74—a gain of 45 per cent. This increase is largely due to retail distribution gains, which are 5 per cent above last year in New England, 8 to 12 per cent up on the Pacific Coast, and 20 to 30 per cent improved in the Middle West, with the balance of the country showing rises of from 12 to 15 per cent. Reports from grain and livestock markets are also encouraging.

Steel production is at 44 per cent of capacity—a gain over recent levels. It is still advancing. Electric power production shows some gains. The construction industry long dormant, is showing signs of recovery, due principally to the activities of the Housing Administration which, after a slow start, seems to be gathering momentum in its drive to make people build and renovate their homes.

A recent Annalist statement, sent out over the financial wires, said, in effect, that all matters of interest to business are overshadowed by the possibilities inherent in the Supreme Court's forthcoming decision on the gold seizure act. It seems sure, however, that quick remedial action will be taken if the Court holds against the government—Congress is prepared for an adverse decision and bills are already drafted in case it again becomes necessary to revamp our money system.

Metals Rule The World
It is a historical fact that no nation can achieve or maintain a position as a first-class world power without adequate mineral resources, and a progressive mining industry.

Everything we use in peace or war—from plumbing to battleships, from rifles to pens—involves one or more metals. A country which is metallically self contained and does not need to import metals, has a tremendous advantage over a country which must look beyond its boundaries for mine products.

This is one more good reason why everything possible should be done to bring recovery to the mines.

When The Railroads Fold Up

On the first of the year, several branch lines of large railroads were abandoned in a middle western state. The abandonment was forced—as has been the case with thousands of miles of such line during the past few years—by publicly subsidized and inequitable competition and regulation that caused destruction of railroad revenues, which made it financially impossible to keep on operating.

To the outside world, the abandonment meant little—it was a rather dull item in a newspaper and nothing more. To the communities affected, it was tragedy. Men will lose their jobs. Others will be transferred to different places, and be forced to sell their homes and possessions at bankrupt prices—property in a town without a railroad is usually the next thing to worthless.

Businesses in these communities have announced liquidation of their assets. Grain elevators and lumber yards are closing down—and buildings and equipment worth many thousands are now a drug on a dead market.

The towns and their counties are losing a substantial part of their tax revenue, which came both from the railroads and the businesses which are liquidating. This must result in heavier taxes on all other property, every bit of which is worth less now than it was when the railroad served the community. The inevitable consequence of that will be retrogression—ghost towns will stand in the places that promised to be forward-looking little cities.

Such a suicidal railroad policy, which penalizes the rails on one hand with taxes and iron-handed regulation and legislation, and pampers their competitors on the other is responsible for these abandonments. No policy does more to promote depression.

Preventing Fire Aids Business Recovery

Will 1935 bring an epidemic of destructive factory fires? It may if the managers of industrial plants neglect to make careful checks for fire hazards that urgently need correcting, and if they fail to put equipment that has not been operated for some time, into proper working condition before stepping up production. It is an invitation to fire to rush a factory into production when inactivity has ruled during depression!

As factory operations increase, as they eventually must, there is apt to be a great rush for materials and an unprecedented effort to produce finished merchandise in large volume. A fire as such a time would be disastrous to most concerns. Multiplied a thousand fold, such fires would slow up business recovery. The very eagerness for a speedy swing into the depression stride might defeat its own purpose.

There is one simple yet effective plan for exposing fire hazards so that they may be corrected; that is, make a detailed inspection of the plant. In many instances inspecting may be done by the management itself, a group of competent employes or a committee of both, provided a correct correct guide is followed in the work. Such a guide is available in the form of a self-inspection blank, which will be furnished on request by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, 85 John St., New York City. Inspections should be thorough and periodic and all essential data should be put in written form. It is evident that inspections will be worthless, however, unless the fire hazards disclosed are corrected at once.

Fire is one of the chief enemies of industry. Business men can spare themselves much loss and worry by devoting sufficient time to a thoughtful study of how to prevent fire on their own premises, and by inaugurating an adequate system of inspections.

COUNTING THE COST

By R. A. Adams
(For The Literary Service Bureau)

No truly wise man ever will begin with haste undue, to build A superstructure, until he Hath reckoned what the cost will be.

The wisdom of this course appears. And has been proved, by many tears. Of those whose fondest projects fell, Because they did not reckon well.

So this advice I'd give to you: Whatever you essay to do, Lest all your efforts should be lost, First reckon what will be the cost.

This final thought: Ere works of sin, Ever in weakness you begin Cost fully calculate, but know The reaping will be as you sow.

"LOOKING BACK"

By Videtta Ish
(For The Literary Service Bureau)

INEQUALITY IN CONDUCT OF THE HOME

It used to be that husband and wife worked in harmony, in conducting the home. Usually the husband looked after things outside and the wife those on the inside.

Though as a general thing the wife had her way about things in the home, she would consult her husband and ask suggestions. In things financial, friend husband would not make departure from the routine of things without consulting the wife. In these cases husband and wife were frank and honest with each other. Each one sought the approval of the other.

But now, it is not unusual to hear the husband swear and tell the wife, "It's none of your business what I do." Often wife loses her temper and raves foolishly. Sometimes wives are heard to insist angrily, "This is my house, and I have the right to run it as I please." Husband often storms, "I make the money; I'll spend it any way I want to." Looking back, I consider the old way of equality and cooperation best.

Weekly Short Sermon

By Dr. A. G. Bearer
(For The Literary Service Bureau)

(ANAKIM)

Text: And we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, there.—Numbers 13:33.

Anakim is the plural of the term Anak. Anak means giant, so Anakim would mean giants. Moses had sent out men to make a survey of the land which the Lord had promised to the children of Israel. Two of these spies, Caleb and Joshua, carried back good reports. The others presented discouraging reports. They said excitedly "We saw giants, the sons of Anak there; in comparison, we are but grasshoppers and we cannot overcome them." And they were ready to turn back from the very borders of the Land of Promise. The good spies, Caleb and Joshua said, "Yes we did see the Anakim there, but we are able to overcome them; so, let us go up and possess the land."

So, on the borders of some promised land of golden opportunity many become discouraged because of the gigantic difficulties encountered. They say, "These difficulties are giants; they are like mountains. We cannot overcome them." And they turn back and lose their quest because of weakness and cowardice. But, those who are brave, courageous and strong-hearted will press on—and they will win in spite of the Anakim who may oppose. Let us be good spies—like Caleb and Joshua and defy the Anakim.

WHAT AILS YOUNG WOMEN?

By R. A. Adams
(For The Literary Service Bureau)

The thing in mind is the recklessness of young women in exposing themselves to all kinds of dangers, in spite of the tragedies which are of daily occurrence.

Many young women go joy-riding with the whole company under the influence of rum. They go riding with entire strangers. They get in motor cars, on highways. They have sex association with men who are strangers and risk ruin from venereal disease. Like Barrow's Bonnie Parker, they join men in crime. They wreck their bodies by reckless, wild living. In all of these and in other ways they dare fate and gamble with destiny.

Is it the superiority complex which makes a girl think she can do with impunity what has proved destructive to others? Is it the foolish and dangerous desire for excitement and notoriety? Is it a deadening of moral sensibilities, bringing a condition of callousness and indifference?

This conduct cannot be attributed to lack of education for many of these foolish young women have educational advantages. In the light of this manifestation of supreme folly one asks "What ails young women?" And it is impossible to escape the conclusion that something is seriously wrong.

"PROVERBS AND PARABLES"

By A. B. Mann
(For The Literary Service Bureau)

("THE ETERNAL NOW")

This may seem a paradox. "Now" means "present." "Eternal" is understood "to be without limit." But the thought is that eternal interests depend on present activities. This is in line with Longfellow's:

"Trust no future how'er pleasant Let the dead past bury its dead; Act, act in the living present Heart within and God o'erhead."

"Delays are dangerous." Procrastination is the thief of time. Do it now. Be wise, today, Tomorrow may be too late. There is a tide in the affairs of men, Seize opportunity by the forelock, all of these emphasize the thought of "The Eternal Now."

MAXIE MILLER WRITES

(For The Literary Service Bureau)

Buying "Pig in Bag" Bad business—Too Great a Risk Marrying Stranger—Let the Gentleman Call—Go to a Man to Marry Him? Never!

(For advice, write to Maxie Miller, care of Literary Service Bureau, 516 Minnesota Ave. Kansas City, Kans. For personal reply send self-addressed stamped envelope.)

Maxie Miller:—I am, puzzled stiff. I'm in love, or I think I am. I've never seen the boy, but have been writing to him and now he wants me to marry him. He doesn't like my home state, says he won't come here, but will send me money and I can come to him and he'll marry me as soon as I get there, or send me back if I don't want to marry him. What must I do? I know you know.—Jennie Wrenn.

Jennie Wrenn:—You should need no advice. Your own good sense would tell you not to think of such folly. It's like buying a "pig in a bag." A man who does not love you enough to go to your home does not love you enough for you to marry him. Thus, you'd be a dozen kinds of a fool to go to this stranger. He might compromise you and not marry you after all. Or perhaps when you see him you would not want him, get, under the circumstances, you might marry him and ruin your life. Better stay where you are.—Maxie Miller.

The Hawaiians

The Hawaiians are Polynesians, not Malays who are a branch of the Mongolian race. The Polynesians, although of similar features, language, customs, religion and traditions, are not a pure race. They are supposed to be mainly of Aryan origin, with infusions of other bloods, and to have come from Asia by way of the Malay peninsula and Java, and thence from island to island by various routes in their migrations eastward, northward and southward, and to have reached Hawaii, probably from Samoa, about the year 500 A. D.

Black Flowers

There are dark shades of pansies, tulips, roses, etc., which are not absolutely black but are considered nearly black. The darkest rose known is said to be an old hybrid perpetual, Empereur du Maroc, now out of cultivation in America. A registration of the American Rose society is Queen of Spades, a hybrid tea rose, which under glass comes probably as near to black as any other rose.

A Platoon School

A platoon school is an elementary school organized in two major divisions, with a program of studies so arranged that the divisions alternate in using the two kinds of school rooms, as class and study rooms on the one hand, and shops, laboratories, auditoriums and gymnasium on the other, and thus fully utilize the physical resources of the school plant.

Discovered Quinine

The Indians of Peru used and introduced it to the Jesuit priests. Between 1629 and 1639, the Countess of Chinchon, vice queen of Peru, lay ill of a fever. She was cured by a brew made from the bark of the plant, and sent a quantity to Spain for experimentation. Hence, it has spread throughout the world.

Produces Vitamin A

Young herbage, besides being a rich storehouse of proteins, sugars, starches, and essential minerals contains carotene which in the body of an animal produces vitamin A. This vitamin promotes growth in farm stock as well as in human beings, and enables them to resist disease.

Rooms in U. S. Capitol

In the United States Capitol there are 450 rooms occupied as offices, committee rooms, and for storage purposes, with 670 windows and 550 doors. Skylights occupy 14,531 square feet.

First Presidential Veto

The first Presidential veto in American history was Washington's veto of the first congressional apportionment bill, April 6, 1792.

Honor Town's Heroine

Inhabitants of the French village of Beauvais have a special holiday each year to honor the memory of the town's heroine, Jeanne Hachette, the local Joan of Arc. It was Jeanne who saved the small city centuries ago when it was besieged.

Heligoland

Heligoland, German isle in the North sea, is treeless, but not birdless. Millions of migratory birds rest on the rocks. A change in the wind and they're all gone. Because of its strategic naval defenses, Heligoland was once called the Gibraltar of the North.

Plant Detects Gas

The carnation plant is a more sensitive gas detector than the apparatus used by the average chemist, its leaves closing when one part of gas is present in a residence room in a million parts of air.

Naming Plymouth, Mass.

Plymouth, Mass., was named for Plymouth, in England, the last English port touched by the Pilgrims, and that port was so named because it is situated at the mouth of the Plym-