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FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1925.

"YOU PAY THE SHOT"

Let's assume that differences of opinion will always arise between two or more persons; to settle them two means may be used, one of them quite wisely, the other quite brutishly. If I differ with you about anything under the sun, why can't we get together in peaceful conversation and settle the affair reasonably? Is it really necessary for us to take off our coats, roll up our sleeves and, in a vain effort to settle the trouble, proceed to punch each other? A peaceful conversation will tend to bring our MINDS in agreement upon any problem; we would have to compromise, of course, but when we finished our MENtalities would be quieted, our THOUGHTS would be peacefully inclined.

If we resort to physical combat it is true that the one who is beaten must, because his strength is exhausted, give up; thus, in a physical engagement, the strongest body is the victor. Yet, even though the one who suffers physical defeat is unable to further defend himself, his MIND is just as it was when the combat started, plus the stimulus which the beating has added. He will fight again when his body recovers.

The same is true of nations. Unable to agree over some matter, either trivial or affecting the material growth of itself, the collective group of people known as a nation may become hostile toward another country. Unless the matter is settled by arbitration and compromise, physical warfare will ensue. Human lives will be taken, and both countries will then face an indefinite period of heavy internal taxation. It always works out after this fashion—individual HUMAN BEINGS pay the price in taxation. The only group of people who benefit, (and this is materially only), are the manufacturers of those things needed to make war with. They, of course, will always be against anything that will outlaw war.

For your own knowledge let us remind you of what is still taking place with regards to taxation for the payment of the last war—and remember that the United States was on the victorious side, too.

A state of war with Germany was declared about eight years ago in a solemn session of Congress addressed by President Wilson.

The nation is still paying, for the war at a minimum direct charge of at least $2,000,000,000 a year. Interest and retirement charges on the national debt which jumped from $1,000,000,000 to $26,000,000,000, during the war requires annual appropriations of $1,600,000,000 and the veterans bureau absorbs $400,000,000 a year.

WHEN MEN'S SOULS BECOME SCARLET

A number of hitherto highly respected citizens of Detroit have been publicly pointed out by Judge Frank Murphy as mixed up with illegal transactions in regard to public improvements; the courageous young jurist, after many weeks during which time he acted as a one-man grand jury to hear evidence of graft, malfeasance of office, and kindred law violations, gave out his findings last Saturday, asking that criminal proceedings be started against 19 men.

Surely the fact that millions of dollars of Detroit's money was wrongly obtained by scheming contractors, public officials, and petty grafters should not point any finger of scorn upon the city of Detroit; such affairs are rather commonplace in this modern, "civilized" and enlightened Twentieth Century. The larger the governing body, the larger the graft that may mulct the public treasury. Detroit may have lost millions in this way, while the Federal government is said to lose hundreds of millions from time to time.

The facts given out by Judge Murphy emphasize statements made in this column on many occasions, namely: that money is the **easiest** thing on earth to get. A man or a woman may accumulate a large fortune and do it honestly; such fortunes are later spent wisely for the good of the average boy and girl, man and woman, in enterprises that are never sponsored by organized society.

Any of the 17 men mentioned by Judge Murphy who may be found, after due legal process, guilty of wrongfully obtaining money, will perhaps be sentenced to remain away from their fellow-beings for a period of time. They may reform, and become good citizens; this is hoped for.

But the fact still remains that the guilty ones, when they were away from the scrutiny of watchful citizens, succumbed to dishoneety; they betrayed the trust that was placed in them by the rich and the poor alike; they are as bleeding in soul as the Magdalenes on any darkened street.

They are, of course, the kind of men who should not be trusted or followed.

TEETERING ON THE BRINK

Europe has never been so near anarchy as it is right now. The rich men of France have avoided their income taxes since the war as they avoided these taxes before the war. The poor know it. France has borrowed nearly as much money since the war to pay for military domination of Europe as she borrowed during the war. France refuses to restrict her land armaments and impedes the restriction of sea disarmament in the matter of submarines. In addition to all this trouble which is chiefly economic—a horrible tax-gouging policy that is sending France to bankruptcy—she has developed a political deadlock by letting the religious issue get into politics.

The Catholics and the anti-clerical are at each other's throats. No sane settlement of the economic problems of France can be achieved because of political jealousies that rise out of religious differences. So much for France.

Germany is staggering hopelessly back to Junkerdom. The crowd that surrounded the Kaiser, the militat crowd which was overthrown by the war, now seems to be coming back to power. The return of the Junkers means the undoing of all the progress of six terrible years following a humiliating defeat. The middle classes in Germany will revolt if they are brought back to the old status. Moreover, the friendly governments of England and America which have been trying to help the liberal government of Germany get back on a sound financial basis, cannot cooperate with the Royalists and Junkers whose aim is a military settlement of their problems.

So here we are—back a dozen years. The dreams of the idealists have vanished. We may be about to witness a debacle in Europe that will make the war look tame. What a shame it is to waste a civilization as it is now being wasted. It will be wasted if it falls because its central sustaining ideal—constructive institutionalized altruism—was not strong enough to function in humanity as it was bred and environed.

So the ancient world decayed. Nineveh, Babylon, Thebes, Athens, Rome—all passed down the road stretching now before Europe—when they had run their course. Who are we—brash new westerners scarcely a thousand years from the wilderness—that we should expect to live always? Our ideals will fail only if we who pretend to believe our ideals, fail to put our lives behind our faith.—William Allen White in the Emporia Gazette.

A PICNIC IN SPRING

A picnic in the springtime
Is just the finest fun.
Across the fields and meadows
We dance and skip and run.
We climb the highest fences
Or wade across the creek,
And precious woodland treasures
Along our way we seek.

And then, a grassy carpet
In some secluded nook,
With well-filled picnic basket
And perh'ps a stor" book.
The sun shines down to warm us,
The wind blows through our hair.
We rest and dream and loiter,
Abandoned every care.

The violets and daisies
And yellow daffodils
Are blossoming their sweetest,
And little crystal rills
Are hast'ning on their journey;
Gay birds are on the wing
Oh, everything is happy
At picnic time in spring!

—Beatrice McDonald.

AN OPEN LETTER

Mr. Thomas H. Cobb,
Birmingham, Mich.
My Dear Tom:—

This short communication is to inform you that the village of Birmingham and vicinity is mighty glad to learn that you are well on the road to recovery. For several weeks past whispered questions were exchanged upon the streets and in the homes of this community, all of which sought knowledge of your progress against the malady that threatened your life.

Perhaps you now know that many kind and loving thoughts were directed in your behalf by the entire community. It appears that they were answered. We are writing this to reassure you of our interest in your welfare, and hope that, ere many days have flown by, you will again walk in our midst.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS—of Long Ago

Just Bits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up the Historical Background Of the Birmingham Of Today

Forty-three Years Ago.

New lace goods, new clothing, new gent's furnishings, new straw hats, new boots, shoes from 40 cents to 2 dollars per pair, clocks, corn planters, shovels, nails, crockery, coarse drugs, plows, groceries and pumps or anything else at J. R. Corson & Son.

—

"Can we afford a bar in this village for $30 cash down? Does it better any citizen who drinks it? Does it give out any good influence? Does the rum seller make us a donation of $3007. Must we sacrifice the honor and integrity of some of our neighbors in order to save $300? With one easy blow we can drive this blighting, shameful curse from our midst. Let every candid man think on these things."—A Fanatic Citizen.

—

While Frankie Leet was digging potatoes for dinner on Saturday last, the family were frightened by hearing her scream and on going to the rescue it was found that she had encountered a snake among the potatoes. No one was injured, not even the snake.

—

Daniel Nixon has embellished his property with a new fence and has also added a new kitchen to his house.

—

On Saturday we were presented by Pindar Worth with a sample of water from a new mineral well at Romeo. It tastes like strong brine with a little concentrated essence of polecat in it; still, it contains wonderful medicinal properties. The next thing in order will be big hotels and bath houses and a general boom for Romeo.

—

The latest news about the comet is that the earth will simply be touched with its tail, instead of being all mussed up by a genuine collision. Now if the astronomers will indicate just the locality that will be brushed over by this caudle appendage in time for the people to pick up their traps it would be very convenient. Let's hope it isn't Birmingham.

—

Everybody's going to Pontiac to see the handsomest woman in the world and 22 performing elephants, 1000 wild beasts, and two enormous circus rings.

—

It seems as if some men have the ingredient called sand left out of their makeup entirely. M. K. Taber has been acting for some new teeth for some time and has been in the dentist's chair several times but would lose grit and grabbing his hat would jump the country. Last Monday he and Mr. Partridge hied away to Pontiac and arriving in Dr. Harris' office actually had the deed did. Now Moses is counting the days before his new set of porcelain teeth will arrive with which he will make grins at the contestants of the Jones' will.

—

Benjamin Eldred couldn't stand the job of housecleaning at home so took advantage of a chance to ride to Birhingham from Troy and then walked two miles to his son-in-law, Wm. Hunt's. When we understand that the old gentleman is 84 years old we understand why it is remarkable.

—

Miss Agnes McBride has purchased a new Domestic sewing machine and has located in the Leach building on Saginaw street upstairs and is now, with Eva Means as her right hand seamstress, prepared to do all kinds of dressmaking with neatness and dispatch.

—

Twenty-five Years Ago.

Almost everyone who keps a cow in the village leads her to and from pasture. Only now and then one tramples on lawns and destroys gardens.

—

Dr. Shaw and family were called to Thameville, Ont., the first of the week to attend the funeral of the doctor's father, Nenian Shaw, whose death occured Saturday morning.

—

Little Jim Montgomery, old Brownie and the laundry wagon caused quite a commotion on Maple avenue, Monday morning last but quiet was restored before any damage was done, although little Jim was quite badly scared.

—

Bring back Alex Parks' buggy pole, you man who borrowed it. Do you hear?

—

On Monday last in Justice Doty's court John Mooney was fined $5 and costs for violating ordinance No. 5, "Relative to drunkenness and other disorderly conduct." The complaint was made by Harrison H. Bray, of this village, who under oath stated that he was called vile names. Mooney pleaded guilty. This should be a warning to other people who are inclined to talk too freely.

—

I. W. Harper: Kentucky Whiskey for gentlemen who cherish quality. Adv.

—

Two exceptional bargains: No. 1—White India linen shirt waists with new bishop sleeves and lace insertion decorating the fronts. Price 69 cents. No. 2—High collars, linen, embroidered, price ten cents.

—

Last Saturday and Sunday the dust on our street was stifling. Everyone was saying if we could only have our street sprinkled. Housekeepers dusted, storekeepers dusted. If someone had ambition enough to fix the water supply so that the sprinkler could be used, the rest of us might dust less.

—

The hessian fly, which has been such a terrible plaugue throughout southwestern Michigan lately has failed to get in its deadly work up to the present time in this vicinity. The outlook for wheat is extra fine.

—

A franchise has been granted to the D. and P. railroad for a double track in the city of Pontiac from Jackson street to the city limits.

—

Fred E. Britten, Michigan's prohibition apostle, will address a temperance rally at the M. E. church, Friday evening. Don't fail to hear this gifted speaker.

—

Victor A. Van Every has received the appointment as deputy sheriff, made vacant by the departure of Morrell B. Dennis to the Texas oil fields. The new deputy took the oath of office last Monday.

—

Edson James has exchanged his little home and three acres of land south of the village for the Prince farm in Southfield. All the parties interested are well satisfied with the exchange and both secured a good bargain.

—

In this week's issue of the Orion Review we notice the obituary of one of Birmingham's most esteemed citizens who passed away last June. Errors will occur and are sometimes very annoying.

—

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default for more than thirty (30) days having been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Thomas K. Britton and Ada L. Britton, his wife, of Royal Oak, Michigan, to First Commercial State Bank (now First State Bank) of Royal Oak, Michigan, dated the thirteenth day of June, A. D. 1919, and recorded in the office of the register of deeds for the County of Oakland and State of Michigan, on the seventeenth day of June, A. D. 1919, in Liber 210 of Mortgages, on page 298, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of Six Hundred Eighty-five and 24-100 ($685.24) Dollars, and an attorney's fee of Thirty ($30.00) Dollars, as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceeding at law having been instituted to recover the money secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof.

Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, on Monday the eighth day of June, A. D. 1925, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, Eastern Standard time of that day, the undersigned will, at the Saginaw Street entrance to the Court House in the City of Pontiac, that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland is held, sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount so aforesaid due on said mortgage, with six per cent (6%) interest, and all legal costs, together with said attorney's fee, to-wit:

Lot Number Seventeen (17) of Plat of Clawson Little Farms, being a subdivision of part of the Southeast Quarter (¼) of Section 33, Town 2 North, Range 11 East, Troy Township, Oakland County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof.

FIRST STATE BANK OF ROYAL OAK,
Mortgagee.

Dated at Royal Oak, Michigan, March 6, 1925.
GEORGE B. HARTRICK,
Attorney for Mortgagee,
Business Address, 204-7 New Royal Oak Savings Bank Bldg., Royal Oak, Michigan. 47-7

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default for more than thirty (30) days having been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Thomas K. Britton and Ada L. Britton, his wife, of Royal Oak, Michigan, to First Commercial State Bank (now First State Bank) of Royal Oak, Michigan, dated the twelfth day of August, A. D. 1922, and recorded in the office of register of Deeds for the County of Oakland and State of Michigan, on the fourteenth day of August, A. D. 1922, in Liber 241 of Mortgages, on page 492, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of Nine Hundred Twenty-one and 87-100 ($921.87) Dollars, and an attorney's fee of Thirty ($30.00) Dollars, as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceeding at law having been instituted to recover the money secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof.

Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, on Monday the eighth day of June, A. D. 1925, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, Eastern Standard time of that day, the undersigned will, at the Saginaw Street entrance to the Court House, in the City of Pontiac, that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland is held, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount so aforesaid due on said mortgage, with six per cent (6%) interest, and all legal costs, together with said attorney's fee, to-wit:

The East Half of Lot Number Seventeen (17½) of plat of Clawson Little Farms, being a subdivision of part of the Southeast Quarter (¼) of Section 33, Town 2 North, Range 11 East, Township of Troy, Oakland County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof.

FIRST STATE BANK OF ROYAL OAK,
Mortgagee.

Dated at Royal Oak, Michigan, March 6, 1925.
GEORGE B. HARTRICK,
Attorney for Mortgagee,
Business Address, 204-7 New Royal Oak Savings Bank Bldg., Royal Oak, Michigan. 49-7

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A cement for filling corner crevices, cracks and rat holes, as well as for repairing wall broken can be made cheaply by mixing one part sand with two parts ordinary wheat flour and one part sifted coal ashes, says Popular Science Monthly. The ingredients are stirred thoroughly and enough water to put it like consistency. The cement mixture is applied with a trowel.