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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

Scrape Off the Barnacles

Some of the over-zealous vociferators who are supporting Hoover are in danger of misrepresenting him to the public by their fanatical attacks on Smith. Especially is this true of some of the noisy representatives of the Anti-Saloon League, who evidently hope to hold their grip on the Republican party.

Perhaps it might be nearer to the truth to say that they are keeping in the limelight in an intense eagerness to hold to their jobs.

Hoover may be drier than Smith, but certainly he isn't as unreasonable about it or as fanatical in his zeal as are McBride, Cannon, Nicholson and others.

To refer to prohibition as an experiment that has a noble purpose doesn't imply that Hoover is everlastingly committed to the experiment if it fails to accomplish its noble purpose.

Certainly there is nothing in Hoover's private or public career that indicates that he would ram down the people's throats anything they convinced him they didn't want. It isn't in the nature of the man or in his Quaker training to find any enjoyment in reforming his fellow citizens with a club.

Nor is it in his mental make-up to justify a campaign of billingsgate and coarse abuse against his political opponent. Hoover is instinctively a gentleman in the best sense of that word, which is more than can be said of some of the Anti-Saloon League ranters who act and talk as if they desperately were striving to save their jobs.

Probably they hate Smith more than they love Hoover, for they must know Hoover well enough to know that he himself will be President if elected, and that he is too intelligent and too courageous to turn the White House over to fanatical reformers and let them put the Anti-Saloon League ring in his official nose.

Careless abuse of Smith won't hurt Smith or help Hoover. In the long run it probably won't help those who indulge in it.

If the Democrats get the political preachers off the party's back in this campaign, it will be easier for the Republicans to do the same thing later on. The sooner the better.

To Anemia Sufferers

The July issue of the American Druggist warns that recent discoveries regarding the value of liver in the treatment of pernicious anemia have caused a flooding of the market with many remedies of very doubtful value.

The magazine points out that while liver and liver extract are of remarkable value to sufferers from pernicious anemia, they should never be used except on the advice of a doctor. Many anemia sufferers, as well as people who think they have anemia, but really have something else, are buying utterly worthless compounds under the belief that they are buying liver extract.

Liver has remarkable value in the treatment of this disease. But it should be taken under the direction of a physician. Don't go to the corner drug store and try to be your own specialist with the aid of a patent medicine.

Short-Sighted Suspicions

The Federal Power Commission is unable to carry out one of the most important provisions of the law which it was created to administer.

This provision calls for supervision of accounts of funds "actually invested" in hydro-electric enterprises licensed under the Federal water power act.

If these accounts are not checked by the commission, all sorts of doubtful "investments" can be included in the total on which rates are based and the total which the Government will have to pay if it should take over the hydro-electric plants at the end of the license period, as provided by the law.

With only four accountants available for checking the accounts of hydro-electric companies claiming a total investment of about \$675,000,000, the commission asked the last Congress for authority to employ additional help to do the job.

Congress refused. Some Southern Democrats declared the commission was seeking to build up a bureaucracy and invade the rights of the State, and some misguided progressives considered the commission too friendly to private power interests to warrant support.

It is no more interference with States' rights, of course, to keep an accurate check on the investment accounts of companies licensed by the Federal Government than it is to take a census.

And assuming, for the sake of argument, that the Federal Power Commission is a reactionary body, that's no possible excuse for drawing a curtain of darkness over the accounts of the companies with which it deals.

Every month of delay in providing the power commission with the help necessary to check these investment accounts will increase the difficulty of unscrambling the accounts, and fighting out the inevitable legal issues involved.

Sane Enforcement

Word comes from Buffalo, N. Y., that Jacob D. Hanson, a reputable citizen shot May 6 by coast guardsmen who suspected him of being a rum runner, is dying. Hanson is entirely blind, and most of the time he is in a state of coma.

Hanson, it will be recalled, was fired on after he had refused to stop at the command of the two officers, whom he took to be bandits.

Meantime, Dr. James M. Doran, the prohibition commissioner, has issued a written memorandum warning agents that drastic action will be taken unless extreme caution is observed in the use of firearms.

The agent is not to jeopardize his own safety, but "extreme caution and cool deliberation should control his actions." Officers will be held strictly accountable and personally responsible for any fatal results from the use of firearms.

Doran's warning may indicate the beginning of sanity in the enforcement of prohibition. Had such policies been stressed from the beginning, tragedies like that of Hanson, of which there have been many, would not have occurred.

In the recent report of a committee investigating New York speakeasies, six night clubs were found to be decent places. The names of these have been made public so visitors can avoid them.

M. E. TRACY

SAYS:

"Mexico's Weakness—the Thing That Has Held Her Back, the Thing That Makes the Present Situation Particularly Dangerous—Is Lack of Those Facilities by Which People Can Keep in Touch With Each Other and the Outside World."

Coal Miners Accept Defeat

In abandoning their thirty-year-old policy of insisting on a national wage scale, the heads of the United Mine Workers have taken a step that is certain to have a momentous effect on the soft coal industry.

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Having wrecked the mine union's wage policy by their relentless competition, the Southern operators may reap the whirlwind they have sown. Some of them may end their coal mining career in the bankruptcy courts, whether they have sent so many Northern operators.

This heightened North-South competitive struggle unquestionably will bring the interstate commerce commission farther toward the center of the fray, through increased efforts of the Southern operators to have their former favorable freight rate differentials restored. Soft coal will have increased attention in the national political arena.

In the meantime the miners, through successive wage reductions, will continue to stand the brunt of the war.

Campaign Predictions

Politicians are chronic victims of habit. Some of them hand out the same old bunk in every presidential election. When one of them from one State or another meets one of the candidates, either Hoover or Smith, he tells him that his particular State is all right and is dead sure to give the candidate, whoever he happens to be, a big majority.

Except in States that are overwhelmingly one thing or the other politically, the politician doesn't know anything about it, of course. Nobody knows what slant the election may take, especially this early in the game.

Many things may happen to change the current of public opinion—things no politician can anticipate. It is possible for a landslide one way or the other, and enough can be guessed now to indicate that it is going to be a fight and not a foot race.

These pleasant prophecies, given with so much assurance, don't mean a thing, however much they may tickle the yearning ears of the hopeful candidates. And everybody concerned knows it. They are part of the fixed furniture of political campaigns, a part of the game hand out for public consumption.

However, they may give the candidate a little thrill of hope and they do no particular harm, because everybody knows just how little serious attention they deserve, as predictions based upon hope and not upon knowledge.

The Navy is investigating to find out whether or not married sailors should receive more pay than single ones. It is perfectly obvious they should be more skilled in the way of battle.

Secretary Work says "protection" is the big issue in this presidential campaign. We thought most of the bootleggers already were being pretty well taken care of.

David Dietz on Science

Dragon Coiled in Sky

No. 107

DRACO, or the constellation of the Dragon, is easy to find. You will have no difficulty discovering it if you remember the lines written in the first century, B. C., by the Latin poet, Vergil, author of the "Aeneid," with which all high school students are familiar. Vergil wrote:

"Here the vast Dragon twines

Between the Bears and like a river winds."

So go outdoors tonight and you will find Draco in the sky between the Great and Little Bears, or, as we more often call them, the Big and Little Dippers.

Begin your search for Draco as you did for Cassiopeia and Cepheus by tracing a line from the "pointers" in the Great Dipper to Polaris, the north star. But this time do not continue the line beyond Polaris.

At about the middle of the line and just below it, you will notice a small and faint star. It is a fourth magnitude star and therefore a little hard to find. You can identify it, however, by its orange hue.

This star marks the tip of the tail of the dragon. Its name is Giansar, an Arabic name meaning "the poison place." So you will see that this dragon was supposed to be a very dangerous one with a sting in its tail.

Now, starting with Giansar, trace the coils of the dragon down the sky between the Big and Little Dippers.

After Giansar comes an unimportant fourth magnitude star. Astronomers call it Kappa, the Greek letter for "K."

After Kappa comes a pale yellow fourth magnitude star. This is Thuban, a most interesting star.

Next the dragoncurls about the bowl of the Little Dipper though at some distance from it. Three stars mark this part of the constellation.

The first of these three is named Ed Asich. Strangely enough, this name means the "Male Hyena." It bears testimony to the fact that the Arabs did not always regard this constellation as a dragon.

Opposite the middle of the handle of the Little Dipper, the dragon makes another bend and winds his way down the sky again. There are six stars in this part of the constellation, all of them rather faint.

The constellation continues to a very faint star, a fifth magnitude star which is about on a line with Ed Asich. It then ends in a sort of diamond-shaped formation of four stars. These four constitute the head of the dragon.

The accompanying illustration shows the stars and their names as well as the dragon which the Greeks thought they formed.

40 Acres and a Mule

There has been a great deal of talk

of meaningless bloodshed in Mexico and there have been offshoots of the revolutionary movement which served no other purpose than to elevate unworthy leaders.

Underlying it all, however, there has been a clean-cut desire to reshape the economic structure in such a way as would give millions of poverty-stricken people an opportunity to better themselves.

Much as this is, the kind of gospel they need is the kind the peon can translate into three square meals for his family and a little wholesome recreation on the side, the kind of missionary work that would do them the most good is the kind that engineers and scientists can perform with the help of capital.

That is what this so-called revolutionary movement has been trying to give them, what made Obregon an idol and what accounts for Calles' political hold. The order of Diaz and those who came before him, the order inherited from Spanish rule, was stagnating in its effect.

The declarer, when making a trump bid expects to find the following trumps in his partner's hand:

X X X or
A X or
K X or
at least Q X

This is called normal expectancy, or normal support. When your hand does not contain normal expectancy it may well be that your partner, having made a bid on only four or five cards, is defeated at the outset, for your opponents may have command of the trump strength.

The probability of game under such circumstances is slight.

As an illustration thereof let us assume that declarer has bid on A Q 10 X X. You hold X X in trump, making a total of seven trumps.

The probabilities are that more than half of the time the remaining four-and-a-half or five-and-a-half cards will be divided four-and-a-half or five-and-a-half cards between the opponents, and game under such circumstances is very difficult to make.

A X X or Q X are accorded by many experts the value of X X, though on account of modern four-card suit bidding it is of greater assistance to hold X X. It is therefore incumbent upon you when you hold less than X X or less than Q X in trumps to examine your hand carefully to see whether you can not "radio" your partner whatsoever.

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