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

Nullification In 1928

Hoover's employment in his acceptance speech of the word nullification arouses interest in the historic significance of that term.

It first sprang into being in the days of Jackson and Calhoun over an issue that still is with us—the tariff. South Carolina threatened to ignore the tariff provision of that day and went so far as to move toward withdrawal from the Union. Jackson countered with a promise of force. The crisis finally passed with a compromise.

Since that time the term has been used with more or less frequency as the issue of State's rights has arisen.

Now it appears again in 1928 and is applied to the prohibition question.

The dictionary defines nullification as "a rendering void and of no effect."

As a matter of fact, nullification is by no means absent from our legal scheme of things today. And strong forces are abroad with efforts to foster it. Even the law itself is employed to bring about nullification of the Constitution.

The grandfather clauses of the South that excluded from voting any Negro whose grandfather could not read or write nullified the Fifteenth Amendment, which provides that there shall be no discrimination against the voters because of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

That finally was declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court.

Other laws accomplished the same exclusion of Negro franchise—educational tests, and this and that.

In most Southern States, despite the Fifteenth Amendment, the Negroes do not actually vote and, since many of the Southern political leaders are the loudest in their demands for preservation of the Constitution, there always is an embarrassing pause when a Northern voter raises the point that what is fair for the goose is fair for the gander.

And in still other directions nullification occurred. The Fourth Amendment of the Constitution provides against unwarranted search and seizure. Yet the fanatical drys in the same breath with which they cry for sustaining the Constitution as it applies to the Eighteenth Amendment, uphold the raiding of homes for liquor without search warrant.

The Seventh Amendment of the Constitution provides for trial by jury, and yet in the judicial system itself we see courts, whose duty it is to support the Constitution, employing contempt proceedings and the injunction to circumvent the constitutional guarantee. A man sentenced to jail for contempt gets no jury trial. And that is nullification.

The First Amendment of the Constitution guarantees freedom of speech and of the press. Yet we find those arrests having to do with cases involving freedom of speech and of the press. A conspicuous example is the Roger Baldwin case recently decided in New Jersey. Nullification was effected for many months in the prosecution of Roger Baldwin.

In the main, the more fanatic a person is, the more he declares simon-pure, 100 per cent adherence to the particular law he is fanatical about, the more of a nullificationist he is toward other laws that interfere with a short-cut enforcement of his own pet statute.

It therefore is high time that the term nullification gets back into common usage and consideration.

We agree with Hoover against a treatment of the prohibition subject in a way that would mean nullification.

And we desire at the same time to go further and to say that should Hoover be elected President of the United States it will be as plain as his duty to stand against all forms of nullification with the same firmness that he promises against nullification of the Eighteenth Amendment.

Stalling Along

The War Department still is stalling along in its disposition of the request of Muscle Shoals City, Ala., that Federal power generated at the Government dam adjacent to that community be sold to the municipality at twice what the Alabama Power Company pays for the same power.

More than a year ago, the original application was filed and after many months of delay the department decided that the application was "too general."

Another "more specific" one has been submitted and Secretary of War Davis notifies an Alabama Congressman that it is being turned over to the district engineer for analysis and report.

If the War Department wanted to play the Alabama Power Company's own game, it couldn't do it any better by using such dilatory methods in dealing with an application of such importance.

Not only is the right of Muscle Shoals City to buy power involved, but the right of every other American community. The Federal water power act gives municipalities priority over private concerns in development of Government power sites.

If the Alabama Power Company is permitted to purchase Muscle Shoals power, then any community in that territory is even more entitled to the same privilege.

Auto Theft: Petty Larceny

Just how common are automobiles, anyway? Well, in New York the other day a man stole one. He was arrested and brought to court—on a charge of petty larceny! The car, a 1921 model, was not worth more than \$25; consequently its theft could not be counted as a felony.

This is rather startling, when you stop to think about it. An automobile's chief function is to take people from one place to another; and the car the New Yorker stole would do that, for all its wheezing and rattling. It undoubtedly can travel several thousand miles yet.

Thirty years ago that car, in its present condition, would have cost thousands of dollars. Today it is small change—ready for the junk heap, despite the fact that it can still render good service.

Better than anything else, that little incident illustrates the amazing cheapness and commonness of the automobile.

We're still hoping that Al Smith or one of the vice presidential candidates will tell us which party is responsible for the wonderful green grass that grows all around.

The British propose a larger golf ball to make the game harder. But the duffer who plays the rough will wonder just how a larger ball will make it any harder for him.

Hoover's Humility

A certain degree of humility goes along with tolerance. Both are traits of real greatness, when a braggadocio and the know-it-all attitude are the attributes of only small minds.

We have emphasized tolerance as the outstanding characteristic of Hoover's acceptance speech, with especial reference to his expression on the prohibition issue.

The accompanying humility of the man is expressed in a fine way in the following paragraph from his address:

"No man who stands before the mighty forces which ramify American life has the right to promise solutions at his hand alone. All that an honest man can say is that within the extent of his abilities and his authority and in cooperation with the Congress and with leaders of every element in our people, these problems shall be met courageously and solution will be attempted courageously."

"Dementia Americana"

There are, in this great land, various ways of attaining fame, or a kind of fame; but few men ever left a fame gained in a stranger manner than did Delphin M. Delmas, San Francisco lawyer who died the other day.

Rock your brain for a minute, unless you happen to belong to the younger generation, and you'll recall the name. Sure—he was the lawyer who defended Harry Thaw when Thaw was tried for the murder of Stanford White. It was he who invented the phrase "Dementia Americana" for Thaw's mental condition.

That, when you stop to think of it, is a peculiar sort of fame; the fame that comes to a man who defended America's most notorious murderer and found a new way to cheat the electric chair.

Strikes and the Y. W. C. A.

It is a little bit hard to understand the viewpoint of the officials of the New Bedford (Mass.) Y. W. C. A., who expelled from the association two young women who had acted as pickets in the New Bedford textile strike and had been arrested for their pains.

There are various views as to the rights and wrongs of the strike, of course; and your ideas about picketing and being arrested will depend on how you look at the strike. Yet it is difficult to see how these two girls deserved expulsion from the Y. W. C. A. Can it be possible that someone in the organization was giving a thought to possible future contributions from some mill owner?

The Cannibal Mosquitoes

Mrs. Charles B. Williams, who lives in Flushing, L. I., is going to try to rid her neighborhood of mosquitoes by a new method. She is getting from a French scientist a breed of cannibal mosquitoes, which eat other mosquitoes instead of going around biting, human beings.

There's an idea that we really like. To obliterate mosquitoes is a praiseworthy idea under any circumstances; but to do it by turning more mosquitoes loose on them, so that the little pests will have to endure the very thing which they have been inflicting on the rest of us—well, it's just simply dandy, that's all.

More power to the cannibal mosquitoes. May they eat their fill.

Enforce the Food Laws

Dr. Harvey Wiley, famous pure food expert, charges that the recent prevalence of food poisoning in various parts of the country is due in large measure to the fact that the pure food laws are not being enforced.

Executive orders, Dr. Wiley charges, have crippled enforcement officers from obtaining strict observance of the Federal laws.

It is hard to tell, at this moment, how far Dr. Wiley's charges may be justified. But the matter should be looked into, at any rate. The pure food laws were put on the statute books only after a very long and very hard fight. It would be an outrage if they were being allowed to lapse now.

David Dietz on Science

Stars and Superstitions

No. 129

ANATOMY and astronomy both begin with the letter "A." The average person might well be under the impression that the similarity stopped there.

It may come as a surprise, therefore, to hear that the two had a common origin.

And that origin was in the magical practices of the ancient Assyrians and Babylonians.

Anatomy had its beginnings as a form of divination. The Assyrians thought that the future could be told by inspecting the condition of the vital organs of sacrificial animals.

They put their faith considerably in the condition of the liver and for this reason their practice is sometimes called hepatoscopy. That is a word made of two Greek words, "Hepato" comes from the Greek word meaning "liver," "Scop" is from the Greek word meaning "to look at."

Astronomy had its beginnings in a form of divination concerning the stars and planets. Astronomy began as astrology.

The ancient Assyrians believed—and sad to say there are still people who believe the same thing—that the future could be read in the stars.

The Assyrian priests studied the heavens in order that they might predict the future.

But just as the foolish practice of hepatoscopy led to the establishment of the science of anatomy, so the equally foolish practice of astrology laid the foundation of astronomy.

The Assyrian priests made many important discoveries. They learned the apparent motions of the planets, the sun and the moon.

They worked out the cycles in which eclipses occur and as a result were able to predict eclipses.

From Babylon and from there to Rome. But, meanwhile, the Greeks had laid a firm foundation of astronomy as a science.

Throughout the Middle Ages we find the science of astronomy pursued by the superstition of astrology. Today, astronomy is not taken seriously by educated people.

But let us not be too unkind to the astrologers of the past. They did the world a service by making astronomy possible.

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The British propose a larger golf ball to make the game harder. But the duffer who plays the rough will wonder just how a larger ball will make it any harder for him.

M. E. TRACY SAYS:

"War Is Passing From a Mechanical to a Chemical Art, Just as It Once Passed From a Physical to a Mechanical Art."

Speaking of Dance Marathons



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Hereditary Disease Apt to Be Difficult

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor, *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *Health Magazine*

In a recent lecture before the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Sir Humphry Rolleston of the University of Cambridge, England, outlined current views regarding hereditary diseases of the blood.

One of the most peculiar of these diseases is hemophilia. It is the disease which is said to have afflicted the family of the Czar of Russia, and which is also reported to be in the family of the King of Spain.

The people who have this disease are called "bleeders." When they are wounded in any manner, the blood does not coagulate and they bleed for a long time.

This disease is transmitted to the sons of the family by the mothers, who themselves do not suffer from the disease. It is the only condition of this type of heredity that is known.

Color blindness and a certain form of degeneration of the eye are likewise transmitted by unaffected females to males, but cases have been reported in which the women have suffered with the disease.

Another blood condition has been described in which the red blood cells are elliptical or sickle shaped.

The condition is sometimes called sickle cell anemia. Many authorities who have studied the conditions have suggested that there is an hereditary factor involved. Thus far most of them have occurred in Negroes, although one case has been described in an Arab and another in a Cuban.

Since the changes obviously involve the body structure, correction or cure is far more difficult than in the infectious diseases which are acquired.

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The question is whether the changes which occur in the body structure, correction or cure is far more difficult than in the infectious diseases which are acquired.

The farmer is "compelled to buy in a protected (American) market and sell in a world market," says Dickinson. "He is compelled to sell in a general market but compelled to buy in a highly centralized market."

The cure, according to this Congressman, is high protective tariff on farm products proposed by Hoover. He continues.

"Our Government must assume responsibility of enacting legislation giving, as is now given to industry, similar tariff protection to food products. The equalization fee will be imposed on the coming presidential election."

There are approximately 7,000,000 naturalized voters in the country. If they all went one way they might easily have a decisive influence on the election. What's going to happen?

The answer, apparently, is that the people will be split regardless of their nationalities, just like the vote of native-born citizens. The Foreign Language Information Service recently reviewed editorial comment in several hundred foreign-language newspapers printed in this country.

It could find no one group that was anything like unanimous for either candidate; and it concludes that "there is not only a lack of unity of opinion among the various racial groups, but each group seems to be split within itself."

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