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

Anti-Trust Laws

Efforts of the Armour and Swift packing companies to obtain a modification of their 1920 "consent decree," renewed this week in District of Columbia's supreme court, again will focus attention on the anti-trust laws and their enforcement.

The government's case, with the exception of that against Standard Oil, was probably the most important of its kind ever instituted under the acts.

The decree followed an anti-trust suit started in 1919 as the result of a federal trade commission investigation of the "five packers." The government charged monopolistic control of foodstuffs and price-fixing.

The packers agreed to get out of the wholesale grocery business, the retail meat business, to sell holdings in stock yards, and made other concessions, to avoid prosecution.

But during the last ten years, the packers contend, conditions of production and marketing have undergone material and radical changes, and they are at a disadvantage. They cite the tendency toward mergers in all lines, including foodstuffs and the growth of chain stores.

Seventy-five thousand chain grocery stores owned by corporations do an annual business of three and a half billions, they assert, which is 40 per cent of all grocery business, and there are in addition 421 voluntary or co-operative chains with 60,000 stores.

One big food corporation, an amalgamation of numerous companies, does an annual business of \$126,000,000; another of \$64,000,000. And these concern sell meat and meat products.

If they were permitted to engage in retail trade and handle unrelated products, competition would be increased, the packers insist with apparent logic, and mass production and distribution would lower consumer prices.

Farmers and live stock men favor modification of the decree, the federal trade commission has ascertained, and the old hostility of congress to the packers has died down. The government, nevertheless, is resisting modification.

This is in line with the policy announced by Attorney-General Mitchell soon after he took office. He said that while the government had no disposition to interfere with business, his department proposed "to deal vigorously with every violation of the anti-trust laws which comes to its attention" until congress abandoned the political philosophy underlying existing laws.

The alternative, as he saw it, would be bureaucratic control, which he thought was not an attractive prospect. Since then, several important anti-trust suits have been filed.

So the department struggles along with a crude and cumbersome statute, riddled by conflicting court interpretations. The law has not stopped mergers, and it has few friends. Organized labor, coal operators, the oil men and numerous other groups have advocated its repeal.

The public has little interest in it. Even congress is unwilling to support it. The appropriation for its enforcement is \$200,000, the same as twenty-five years ago, although those charged with enforcement are supposed to scrutinize innumerable mergers involving billions and affecting almost every commodity.

Apparently there is nothing for Attorney-General Mitchell to do but go ahead as he is, so long as the law stays on the books.

But if the law is to be repealed, or made ineffective through court decisions, or is to be ignored, what we wonder, is to take its place? Are we to have unbridled monopoly? Or the bureaucratic control that Mitchell foresees? How is the public to be protected?

The University of the Air

The radio is in its early infancy as an instrument of formal education. Yet it well may produce the greatest educational revolution since man mastered the art of writing—if not since he attained the power of speech.

An excellent survey of the status of the radio in education today has been provided by the American Association for Adult Education. This organization has published a timely study made by Professor Loring Tyson under the title of "Education Tunes In."

Some sixty-two out of more than six hundred licensed broadcasting stations are owned and operated by educational institutions. More than 15 per cent of all broadcasting stations are directly engaged in educational work. Some 1,169 educational programs have gone out over the air since Sept. 3, 1929. Schools of the air have been organized on the Pacific coast and in Ohio. And we are only at the beginning.

The radio should be a potent instrument in promoting adult education. Such material is supposedly for adults and does not have to be tempered to children's minds. There should be a great field here for the fearless dissemination of stimulating and challenging materials.

But who is going to finance such efforts? Will the manufacturer of toothpaste or electrical appliances be likely to support a course of honest lectures on the special program of Soviet Russia, the tariff, the status and procedure of public utilities or the Mooney-Billings case?

Will educational institutions send out over their broadcasting stations materials more frank and straightforward than that which they permit to be taught in their classrooms? Will state legislatures make appropriations to support lectures on political science which severely attack legislative methods? Can the Reds get a licensed station, and if they did would they permit the free statement of truth when it happened to have a conservative flavor?

Merely to ask questions like these is to indicate the inherent difficulties in using the radio as an agency for unhampered adult education. Some of the most pressing of all public questions scarcely can get on the air at all.

Take birth-control. Several hundred stations were approached recently as to their willingness to have the theory—not the practice—of birth-control discussed under their auspices. Two responded in the affirmative. A great New York station even refused to broadcast the address given on the subject by Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick.

Debates on religion versus science are taboo. Fundamentalists have free range over the radio, but atheists, like Joseph Lewis, would have hard work to get on the air. Admirals ride rough-shod over pacifists in getting assignments.

The president of the National Security League has been repeatedly on the air, but how often has W. Z. Foster or Ben Githow broadcast to trembling millions? The Constitution has been defended to the point of tears, but who has been permitted to attack it? In short, there has been very little education of an adult variety which has succeeded in "getting it."

The radio puts a new and greater strain upon freedom in education. It has been a rule in colleges and universities that a man could say almost anything within reason if he uttered his words in the secrecy

of the classroom. Trouble came when he made the newspapers and publicity resulted.

But the radio lecture is in itself the supreme publicity. Therefore, radio lectures will have to be more directly courageous than college lectures ever have been. Otherwise, the radio will become a tremendous engine of intellectual conservatism and a powerful device for assuring cultural stagnation. The radio lecturer can not hide behind the classroom door or the confidences of his students.

Capone and the Court

That Chicago judge overlooked a bet when he turned down ambassadors from Al Capone. It appears the king of the underworld showed a disposition to meet the court on even terms, and sent his representatives to confer with the judge as to conditions under which he would come into court and talk things over.

But Judge Lyle sent back word that if Al wanted to surrender he could appear at the detective bureau. And thus a great opportunity was lost.

All King Capone asked was that the judge should send a bailiff to his hangout and escort him back to the courtroom. Considering conditions in Chicago and the free-and-easy manner in which machine guns pop off now and then, can Capone or any other upstanding citizen be blamed for wanting an escort through the loop?

Certainly the judge shouldn't object to making Chicago courts safe for their customers; and when the great Capone himself is willing to condescend to enter a courtroom, if properly escorted, the authorities ought to jump at the chance and provide not only a bailiff, but a brass band, a national guard regiment and drum major with a big hat.

If Chicago can't get Scarface Al into jail, it certainly ought to be glad, at least, to get him into court. And no Chicago court ought to get so uppity as to high hat the big town's best-known citizen.

Eight Hours for Women

The struggle for decent working hours for women was one of the main currents in the history of nineteenth century humanitarianism. The famous "ten-hour bill" of 1844 in England ranks in the new history as a date comparable to Waterloo, Sadowa or Sedan.

The European movement for shorter hours for women and children was paralleled by the efforts of the textile factories of New England a century back. The eight-hour day for women long has been on the program of the social economists and leaders of labor legislation. We have come to assume that the goal already has been realized.

It is well, therefore, to have our attention called to the realities. This was done by Miss Mary Anderson of the department of labor in her annual message. She points out effectively that we have made only a decent start in the direction of a compulsory eight-hour day for women workers.

Animals can not make use of these raw materials directly. They must wait for the plants to take them and manufacture them into the more complex chemical products of their tissues.

Dr. MacDougal tells how the cells of plants are organized and how they function and how they play their roles in the complicated process of photosynthesis.

He shows further how this process has influenced and shaped the form and structure of plants.

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ.

All the Riddle of Life Lies in a Green Leaf.

A NEW way of looking at the universe, a new understanding of processes of life, of the dependence of living things upon the sun, and of the complex interchanges of matter and energy which make up vital activity, awaits the layman in D. T. MacDougal's "The Green Leaf."

The book, just published by D. Appleton & Co., forms one of their excellent New World of Science Series.

Dr. MacDougal is one of the world's best known scientists. He now is a research associate of the Carnegie Institution. For many years he was director of the institution's desert laboratory at Tucson, Ariz., and also the general secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. MacDougal, however, always has been interested in popularizing science as well as in prosecuting scientific research. He was one of the original trustees of Science Service, the organization which E. W. Scripps endowed for the popularization of science.

In "The Green Leaf" Dr. MacDougal has done an excellent job of popularizing his own specialty, that of plant physiology.

Growth of Plants

ALL the riddle of life lies in a green leaf. Mysterious processes concerning which we catch a glimpse now and then go on in that leaf. All animals, including the human race, are alive because of those processes.

For animals eat one another or other plants. If plants stopped growing, the animal kingdom would starve to death. And it is the process which goes on in the green leaf which accounts for the growth of the plants.

The process is known as photosynthesis. By it, the plant manufactures the sugars and starches which go into its tissues from the carbon dioxide of the air and the water of the soil.

In other words, the raw materials from which all our foodstuffs are manufactured are carbon dioxide and water.

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Energy of Sun

THE energy of sunlight plays an important role in photosynthesis. The process can not go on without sunlight.

Dr. MacDougal tells us this in a passage which is a good sample of the forceful and clear manner in which the book has been written. He writes:

"The sunshine which warms the air and heats the ground does not vivify rock fragments, sluggish liquids and gases. Rivers may pour an unceasing flood of water over ledges of rock for centuries, or swirl through the logs of a pile of driftwood, causing only such slow and slight changes as may result from the attrition or wearing effect of the pebbles carried by the current."

"However, if the current should flow over a geared water wheel or turbine, enough power could be converted to crush thousands of cubic yards of rock to the finest powder or save millions of logs into boards."

"The daily flood of sunlight falling on green leaves turns the drive-wheels of the mills that tear apart the particles of gases and salts which have been absorbed by the plant, and then these parts are reassembled to make much more complex substances such as sugars, which are the most important substances used in the building up and feeding of protoplasm."

Times Readers Voice Views

Editor Times—The county election commissioners who are to meet this week to consider whether the Communist party shall be represented on the election ballot have a grave responsibility thrust upon them, and at the same time they have a golden opportunity to render their state and their nation a patriotic service by refusing to allow the representatives of a dangerous foreign political faction to gain a foothold in our state government.

It may be that to many the profession of columnizing is not accepted as being regular newspaper work. Mr. Coolidge is not the first to come to mind. In the past there has been ample evidence that experience is quite unnecessary.

A column conductor needs little more than space, a regular salary, a pot of typewriter paper, shears, and a pot of paste.

And it is only fair to admit that Mr. Coolidge, though green, got away with his assignment nicely.

If a baseball club has the pitchers and the hitters it will win, if it is managed by an ordinary fan. In fact many things the managers do lead one to the conclusion that the ordinary fan would be a vast improvement.

Of course, a manager must have enough sense to remove a pitcher when he has spontaneous combustion and to tell his players to do certain things under certain circumstances, but all this knowledge could be imparted in a volume somewhat smaller than an unabridged dictionary.

THE hitting is important, of course, but fully 80 per cent of the baseball team is in the pitcher's box.

When the Athletics had Grove or Earnshaw in the box, the team seemed to be the world's greatest, when Wild Bill Hallahan fed them goose eggs they looked like invalids at a health cure.

All the "strategy" in the world will not make out a cluster of athletes who were born to be air sweepers, and all the foxiness that ever nestled beneath a derby will not make a great pitcher out of one who was created to throw hash.

Take the Philadelphia Nationals, for instance— they can give them Connie Mack's two star pitchers and no manager but a bat boy and they will saunter to the championship with little care engraved upon their classic brows. Without such pitchers, they humanly make their bed in the cellar of the National League.

AND the Phillies as they are would be just where they are if they were managed by a combination of General Pershing, Owen D. Young, Aimee McPherson, Otto Kahn, John D. Rockefeller Jr., Pussycat Johnson and General Dawes.

Victory lies not in the manager, but in the athletes.

But there is one place where a crafty headpiece is a mighty asset and that's on the shoulders of a player.

Ty Cobb proved this, for he was able to set an entire opposing team on its head by his threat to pull something different when he was on the bases.

Is there a minimum age for senators and representatives in congress?

Members of the house of representatives must be 23 years old, and senators must be 30.

He never played the game by its rules; he had audacity and he was a team in himself.

But the famed "strategy" of the invisible manager in the dugout—that's applesauce.

Fore!

N.Y. HOSPITAL TO ADOPT PEEWEE GOLF AS AID IN TREATMENTS—NEWS NOTE



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

College Girl of Today Heavier, Taller

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hermalia, the Health Magazine.

THE girl of today is an athletic person who has participated in outdoor games from early childhood, who has not known the restraint of heavy, tight clothing, and who has had for at least fifteen years an adequate diet.

The college girl of twenty-five or forty years ago represented an entirely different group so far as con-

Recently a study was made of the physical measurements of 1,000 Smith college students for purposes of comparison with a similar group entering college twenty-five to fifty years ago.

Smith college students at each age level was greater than those of the girls examined from twenty-five to forty years ago and that median weight also was greater than the weight listed in the comparative studies.

Out of 1,000 students entering college between the ages of 16 and 20 and remaining and graduating four years later, 1.3 per cent entered at 16, 31.5 at 17, 42.6 at 18, 16.4 at 19 and 2.2 at 20.

It was found that a higher percentage of students of the stocky type started college at an earlier age, the slender type starting at a later age; the students of an intermediate type have a constant percentage at all ages. One of the reasons why sturdier girls enter college earlier probably is the fact that they are less of a health problem throughout childhood. The sturdier girl is self-reliant and her parents are more likely to permit her to leave home earlier than the one who apparently is slender.

For purposes of comparison, with the 1,000 Smith college girls from 1926 to 1928, records were studied of girls from Boston, Oberlin, St. Louis, the University of Iowa and the University of Nebraska in the period from 1893 to 1902.

As a result of these studies, it was found that the median height