

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)
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BOYD GURLEY, Editor ROY W. HOWARD, President FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager
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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

Honest Elections

Much of the political evil of the past in this state has been caused by dishonest elections. While the politicians are ready to blame the primary system for the success of eminently unfit officials, the truth is that they obtained office through the manipulation of figures and not through the vote of the people.

Instead of attempting to destroy the primary, the legislature would do better if it passed the measure presented yesterday for the selection of watchers at the primaries who would represent candidates and not the party machine.

No one should have any objection to an honest count of votes and this measure has the merit of adding no expense to the taxpayer.

To vote against this measure is to publicly announce a belief in fraud and dishonesty.

The politicians killed this same measure two years ago and will try to do so again. They will probably try to defeat the efforts of the League of Women Voters for a registration measure that will do much to curb frauds. They will probably try to pass the utterly insane measure that has a bipartisan backing to destroy the primary system and install a convention in which an open invitation is extended to bribers and tricksters.

The insanity of the measure lies in the provision that all voting shall be done in secret. Presumably this was inserted to protect the delegates from the bosses. As a matter of fact, it would permit delegates to tell themselves as often as they pleased to candidates who would not even have the poor protection of keeping their bribed delegates bought.

If there is to be any tampering with the primary law it should be in the direction of restoring to the people their right to name their own candidates for Governor and senator. With safeguards against dishonesty the people can still be trusted to rule themselves and need no guardianship such as the politicians propose.

Aid Unemployed Veterans

For the first time in several weeks a break seems likely in the congressional deadlock over demands of some veterans' organizations for immediate cash payment of bonus certificates.

A bill is being worked out to increase the loan value of the certificates from 22 to 50 per cent, and to cut interest charges from 6 to 4 per cent on such loans.

This apparently is meeting favor with some of the veterans, who are beginning to be convinced that the original \$3,400,000 cash payment proposal would entail a bond issue prolonging business depression.

Those closest to the congressional situation say the \$3,400,000 plan has no chance of becoming law. They add that a continued deadlock would end in a last-minute enactment of a compromise cash payment plan which would be pocket-vetted by the President.

The net result would be that the veterans would get no help whatever.

We believe that would be an unfortunate result. We have opposed the blanket cash payment plan because it would prolong the business depression, and because the money would go to all veterans, including the vast majority who are employed and do not need such sacrifice their bonus certificates' eventual value.

But we desire that veterans who need aid shall be aided. Therefore, we believe that the loan value of their bonus certificates should be appreciably increased and interest charges reduced.

In addition, unemployed veterans, together with the other unemployed, should be aided by federal funds where local and private relief has proved inadequate. That is one of the purposes of the \$25,000,000 relief measure which has passed the senate, but is blocked by Hoover adherents in the house and on the Red Cross board.

If the veterans' organizations want to push the only practicable plan for direct aid to unemployed veterans they should get behind this general unemployment relief measure, which hitherto they have ignored, largely.

Next Year's Weather

The Smithsonian institution announcement that earthy weather is dominated by changes in the sun's radiation will might be considered today's most important news.

For a quarter century, Dr. C. G. Abbott, now secretary of the Smithsonian, has been studying the sun. Before him, Dr. Samuel Pierpont Langley, aeronautical pioneer, studied the sun.

Upon mountain peaks in remote regions of this country, South America and Africa, measurements of the inconstancy of the sun have been made day after day, year after year.

Now the fruit is being gathered. These researches hold the promise of predicting the weather weeks, months and even years in advance.

To a country suffering from a drought that is vital news.

Claims of long range weather forecasting are not new or novel, but heretofore they have been based largely on hopes and not facts. Weather prophets who claimed to beat the weather bureau at its own game could be characterized as charlatans or well-meaning persons of more faith than science.

But Dr. Abbott's work should not be ignored by meteorologists. Dr. Abbott is a physicist. It is not his business to forecast the weather; he is not doing so. But he has found relationships between the sun and the weather that he believes can be used in forecasting.

H. H. Clayton, an American meteorologist, has for a number of years been making long-range weather forecasts based upon Dr. Abbott's solar constant. His work has a background of scientific research.

Many years of research may be necessary before the official government weather forecasts will benefit from Dr. Abbott's discoveries. But in the interests of progress of this valuable service, the United States weather bureau should enlist the aid of Dr. Abbott and his research and begin a rigorous test and development of this new method.

Why Reformation Fails

In criticizing the methods followed in American reformatories and houses of correction, William N. Brenner, former chaplain of the Philadelphia county prisons, recently made some remarks that ought to be given publicity from one end of the country to the other.

"The terms 'reformatories' and 'houses of correction' are misnomers," says Brenner. They accomplish anything but that which their names imply. These institutions are dens of contamination and stepping-stones to the penitentiary and the electric chair. Ex-convicts are returned to prison so rapidly that penal institutions can not be built fast enough to accommodate them."

Brenner also points out that trainers of wild beasts do much better at "reforming" their charges than the state does in handling criminals, and suggests that this is because the animal trainers use more intelligence in the way they go about their work.

If animals, he says, were locked in cells, fed and watered and then left to their own devices as in the case with convicts—very little would be accomplished. Those who oppose spending money on prison reform are invited to ponder on those remarks.

A Federal Job Agency

An extra session of congress may be forced by failure of the house rules committee to report the Wagner bill for establishing a co-ordinated national employment service. This would provide federal aid and supervision for a co-operative system of exchanges operated by the states.

For months the rules committee has been refusing to let this bill come to a vote. The senate passed the bill and the house judiciary committee reported it favorably last June. The rules committee alone stands in the way of enactment and material benefit to the unemployed.

Congress already has, outrageously, delayed passage of the Wagner unemployment bills for three years, and most of this delay has occurred in the house. A deathbed conversion on the second of the three, the public works bill, is not enough for the house to offer now.

The very least that should be done at once, in the way of permanent preventives for unemployment, is enactment of all three of these bills, and adoption of Senator Wagner's suggestion that unemployment insurance be studied before a new session of congress meets.

The Pushcart's Successor

The colorful "banana man" with his pushcart was disappearing from the American scene when a worthy successor appeared: The apple, orange and tangerine man who goes through stores and offices and to the environs of factories peddling his wares.

Unemployment has created this job, but it is not likely to pass with unemployment. Some of the more enterprising of the unemployed have discovered they can make a good living out of it, and they will stick to it.

Few can resist the tempting fruit when it is put under their noses. There are not many like the Park avenue woman described by the New Yorker as having "everything except a mind." This lady passed the luscious apples displayed on her corner daily with an unsatisfied longing for them.

When she mentioned her craving, she was asked why she did not indulge. "Why, they're for the unemployed!" she said severely.

The custom of peddling fruit is not without its social usefulness. More fruit is consumed when it is offered direct to the individual, and that, everybody knows, is good for health.

With six candidates running for mayor in Chicago, you can come to your own conclusions as to why they call it the "Windy City."

Skins of goldfish are being made into dancing slippers. Manufacturers are said to be working on a small scale.

Dorothy thinks that the railroad amalgamation in the east should serve to strengthen ties.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THE other day Mr. Coolidge, in his daily newspaper article, referred to the old age pension law as an effort to remedy the defects of human nature by legislation, but it is nothing of the kind.

For one thing, Mr. Coolidge, better than anybody else in this country, should realize that Lady Luck is a very powerful person in this old world, for his career has been largely built upon luck.

We remember well his vacant headquarters at the Chicago convention in 1924 when he was a candidate for the presidential nomination.

He was entirely overlooked, and but for the merest chance would have left Chicago empty-handed.

Hiram Johnson was tendered the vice-presidential nomination several times and declined it, whereupon it was determined to nominate Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin.

But when the time came to nominate the vice-president, the man who was to place Lenroot in nomination was not on the spot.

Whereupon a delegate from out west, Wallace McCamant by name, jumped to his feet and placed Coolidge in nomination and before Lenroot's friend could be found, Coolidge had been nominated.

And then Harding vanished from the picture—and Coolidge was President.

HAD Lenroot been placed in nomination, as had been arranged, he would have entered the White House, after Harding's death.

Had things gone through as planned, Mr. Lenroot now would be writing syndicated articles for the papers and Mr. Coolidge probably would be practicing law at Northampton.

It's not exactly a defect in human nature for persons to finish the game of life without enough to care for themselves.

The figures show that the overwhelming majority do this very thing, but they are the people who have borne the burdens of the world.

It must come as something of a surprise for the farmers of the United States, for instance, to learn from the august lips of Mr. Coolidge that their financial distress is due, not to an inability to market their crops, but to some defect in their makeup.

'Tis not the proof of the most perfect human nature for one to be able to hold office all of one's life, as Mr. Coolidge so successfully has done.

We should say there are several more accurate tests of one's qualities.

If Mr. Coolidge had applied his same nature to that rocky farm in Vermont, the chances are that he now would be asking for federal aid, instead of sitting in the Himalayas of philosophy, selling his output to the papers.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Too Proud to Repeal the Prohibition Law, We Still Are Too Weak to Obey It.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 7.—Buster Keaton says that it all started over a little wager; that he bet the lady \$500 she couldn't lose ten pounds in twenty days, and that though he won, he was willing to settle for \$5,000, but that though she lost, she wouldn't take less than \$20,000. Now you know exactly what occurred, or, if you don't you can imagine.

According to Dr. Ira Edwards, formerly of Houston, Tex., but now of San Pedro, Cal., this man Einstein is not only a plagiarist, but a false alarm, as far as the unified field theory is concerned. Dr. Edwards claims that he, not the German savant, first published the idea, and that he has a copyrighted book to prove it. As is customary under such circumstances, he wants a court to decide which of them should get the credit, the glory, or the revenue if there happens to be any.

Maybe, there is a court wise enough to determine who fathered the thing, but where could we find one wise enough to determine its worth?

To cap the climax in Friday's bellow of anomalies and contradictions, Edgar Lee Masters comes out with a new biography of Abraham Lincoln, which portrays the "Great Emancipator" as not very bright, very honest, or very clean, and as possessing no outstanding virtue, except a sense of humor which was rather coarse at times.

There are days when the news appears just to have gone sour.

Sounds Like Millennium

BUT, cheer up. That pre-eminent but, Senator Tydings of Maryland, and that pre-eminent dry, Dr. Clarence True Wilson, chairman of the Methodist Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals, at last have found something on which they can agree.

When two such doughty opponents bury the hatchet, clasp hands and make common cause, you can rest assured that momentous events are just around the corner.

It was the grape concentrate that brought them together—the grape concentrate, as perfected by clever chemists, as steered around the Volstead act by Mabel Walker Willebrandt, as financed by Uncle Sam's own farm board, and as now bringing peace of mind to the grape grower, but law-abiding homes in this country, not to mention the new lease on life it promises thousands of California vineyards.

For those who can get along without hard liquor, the grape concentrate can be regarded as less than God's great gift to drinking dries. It is apparently beyond reach of the eighteenth amendment, or any of the thirty-five articles composing the enabling law.

As put up for sale, as shipped by freight, express, or even parcel post, and as received by the purchaser, it is absolutely innocent. The fact that it becomes grape juice when the purchaser adds water, or evolves a kick if he lets it stand, hardly can be interpreted as violating a law which forbids the manufacture, sale, transportation, etc., of alcoholic beverages. Yet it upsets the whole apple cart.

Get Around The Law

NOTHING has occurred to compare with the grape concentrate in coming to our rescue, a real attitude toward prohibition. Too proud to repeal the law, we still are too weak to obey it.

What we have wanted all along is some means of getting around the law legally, science came to our rescue when attorneyism failed, and now everybody is happy, so happy, indeed, that a government board is willing to help finance the business.

Dr. Wilson writes Senator Tydings that, in his opinion, it's just another sham, which it obviously is, as the senator readily admits. But what's the whole performance, if not a sham, a cheap, poorly disguised attempt to be dry in theory, without being dry in fact?

It Suits 'Em All

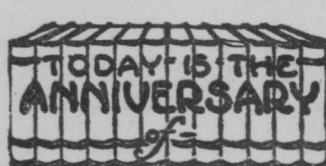
NO one can quarrel with the grape growers of California for marketing their crop anywhere, or in any form. It is not against the law to raise grapes any more than it is to raise corn, rye, or barley.

No one can quarrel with the farm board for allowing them to share in a fund which was created to help farmers. It is not the farm board's privilege to discriminate among crops. No one can quarrel with those who buy grapes, whether fresh, dried, or concentrated, as long as the form in which they are bought is legal.

No one can quarrel with the idea of adding water, since water admittedly is the most innocent of all fluids, or of letting the mixture stand for a week, a month, or a year.

Figure out the combination any way you like, and each step in it is strictly according to law.

Yet it leads to nullification of the law. That is what makes it so popular.



THE BALTIMORE FIRE
Feb. 7

ON Feb. 7, 1904, a fire wiped out the business center of Baltimore, causing a loss estimated at \$125,000,000.

The fire burned thirty hours and spread over territory bounded by Fayette, Charles, Baltimore, Liberty and Lombard streets, the water front and Jones' Falls.

Within three years the burned area was rehabilitated completely. The fire since has been considered a blessing in disguise, because of the spirit of progress which it awakened.

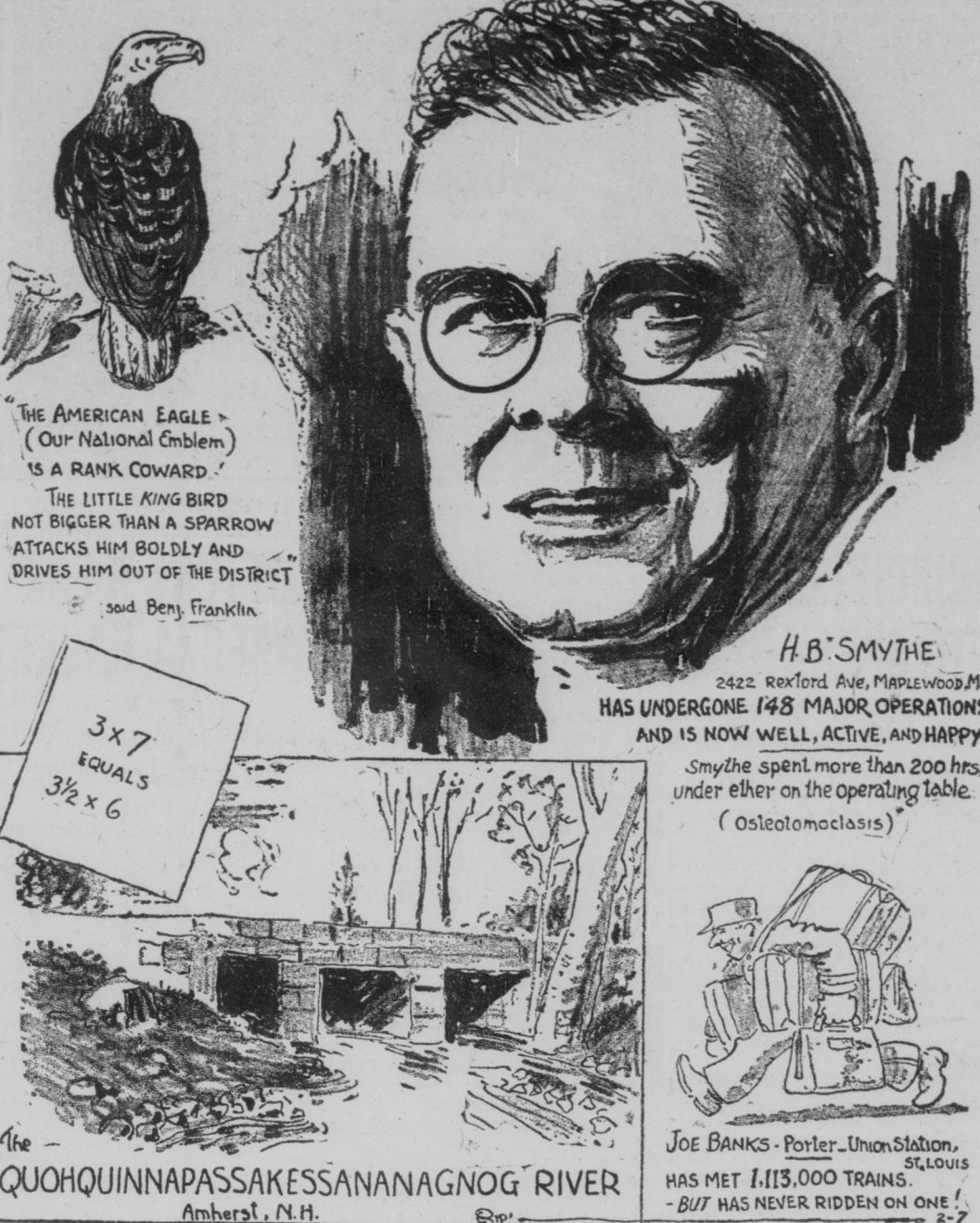
The diversification of manufactures, the growth of commerce, extension of trade, increase of population, the influx of foreign elements, the rise of economic standards, the development of civic consciousness have been essential elements in the recent history of Baltimore.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

On request, sent with stamped addressed envelope, Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him.

By RIPLEY

Registered U. S. Patent Office



Following is the explanation of Ripley's "Believe It or Not," which appeared in Friday's Times:

Duke de Artois Wore a Silk Hat Six Feet Tall—Tomas, duke de Artois, a wealthy Spanish refugee who lived in Paris from 1830 to 1860, was a picturesque "boulevardier," chiefly conspicuous for his extravaganzas of dress. Withal he was a cultured man of the world, and the "colossal piece of headgear" he affected was merely an incident in a life devoted to the rigors of men's dress.

This account is contained in Carlos Espartaco's "Memoirs."

Major Newell—Years ago Major E. Newell was with the General Tom Thumb troupe, famous mid-gut performers. At the age of 17 Newell was but twenty-seven inches tall, and weighed only twenty-three pounds. Among his many talents was singing, dancing, and impersonation, but the most difficult was that of skating on a block of ice sixteen inches square. This suggestion came from

Major Newell's nephew, Samuel A. Jacobus, of 72 Ninth avenue, Newark, N. J.

Floating Ice Will Not Overflow a Bucket—Ice, having a density only 0.915 of that of water, always will project above the surface when floating. However, it displaces exactly its own weight, and when melted will occupy no more volume than is displaced.

Monday: "The Oldest Living Thing."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Watch Your Diet to Ward Off Flu

This is the second of three articles written especially for The Times and NEA Service by Dr. Morris Fishbein, noted authority on how to avoid influenza and its greatest contributory cause, the common cold. The series is especially timely in view of influenza epidemics reported in various cities.

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN
Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

THE winter months are the season of coughs and colds. These represent today the most common complaints from which human beings suffer and lead the causes of absence from work in most industrial plants.

In giving advice as to how colds may be prevented, modern hygienists demand first of all that human beings be kept in the best possible condition.

This means good hygiene, including proper food, adequate rest and sleep, a sufficient amount of water and exercise.

It is probably equally important that the human being be not exposed to undue chilling or moisture.

It is doubtful that there is any specific drug, vaccine, serum, medicine or physical apparatus that is of particular benefit in preventing a cold.

Various types of vaccines are used by many physicians, because they are convinced that they help to build up resistance, but the majority of physicians are not yet convinced of the value of this measure.

The general impression is that the

human being needs both vitamins A and D to help resist colds. Vitamin A can be had through egg yolk, butter and the leafy vegetables, and vitamin D is found richly in cod liver oil.

It is, of course, realized that the average human being in the temperate zone does not get enough sunlight during the winter months, and that his body is deficient in vitamin D at this season.

He therefore may get his vitamin D in the manner mentioned, or he may secure it by taking cod liver oil concentrates of vitamin A and D, now available in tablet form or by similar methods.

It should be borne in mind, however, that nobody is absolutely certain as to how much vitamin D has to do with the prevention of colds, and that the use of the apparatus or the preparations that have been mentioned is still in what scientific medicine calls an experimental stage.

Beyond the taking of vitamins in the food, it is, of course, necessary in winter to eat enough food to provide the necessary mineral salts and the caloric values that are necessary for energy.

The eating of vast quantities of food will not keep a person warm, however, and the office worker who rides down in the morning and sits indoors most of the time during the day needs little more food in the winter than he is accustomed to taking in the summer months.

Everybody knows the symptoms of a typical cold in the head, including headache, chilliness, pains

all over the body, especially in the back and in the legs, and disturbances of the ability to taste and smell.

If a person has these symptoms in a mild degree, he is likely to say he has a cold. If he coughs, he will add to the diagnosis laryngitis and bronchitis. If his nose runs profusely, he will say he has a cold in the head or coryza.

If the whole attack is very severe, he says he has the grip, and when everybody in the community suffers at the same time, the condition is known as epidemic influenza.

Dr. Harry Beckman feels that chilling of the body and excessive fatigue probably are associated with the tendency to colds.

Quite certainly the crowding together of large numbers of people helps to spread the disease, but it is equally likely that the spread of the disease could be controlled merely through shutting up large places of entertainment, study or work.

It has been suggested that gauze masks be worn in times of epidemic, but again the opportunity for contact is so great that it is questionable whether the gauze mask used on a community scale really controls the spread of the condition.

This applies also to the use of antiseptic nasal sprays.

The best advice that physicians can give is to get to bed as soon as possible and to stay in bed as long as symptoms are acute.

Next: How to dress in winter to avoid colds and influenza.

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and are not necessarily those of the newspaper.

Every doctor would have a Vanduyke beard of a bright red hue. It may be objected that this would force a number of men out of the profession, since not all of us are capable of growing red beards.

I can see no merit in this complaint. As things stand, the profession is grossly overcrowded, and this would be as good a way as any to weed out the unfit.

Hey, You!

AND think of the conveniences. I no longer would be necessary for somebody to come on the stage and inquire "Is there a doctor in the house?" Instead he would merely need to scan the audience and beckon to somebody in the fifth row with a "Hey, you, come up here!"

Certain tribal customs well might be revived. Among the peasants of Japan it is customary for married women to blacken their teeth to indicate that it no longer is necessary for them to charm anybody, since they already have a husband. And in Africa I believe that wedding nose rings are known among some tribes.

Now we are beginning to get down to distinctions which really

are important. It seems to me fairly trivial even if a diner does speak sharply to a passing architect and ask him, "Where's my onion soup?"

Protect Pastors

SUCH clergymen as wear distinctive garb are actuated in part, I presume, by the notion that their calling should be respected and that they should begin behind the back of his hand an anecdote starting off, "Stop me if you've heard this one about the Scotchman and the four choruses girls."

Of course, there are things which one shouldn't say to a clergyman. But, for that matter, there are plenty of things one shouldn't say to a columnist or a ladies' dress-maker or a manufacturing jeweler.

If a member of the last named trade, for instance, wore some distinctive garb to indicate the nature of his calling he would not constantly be distressed by casual strangers flinging at him the query, "How's business?"

And, most obvious of all, there should be identifying regalia for prohibition agents. I suggest a bright saffron suit with red and green tail lights and a bell to be rung not less than once every twenty feet.

It would save us all a lot of trouble and prevent arguments. With such arrangement, no respectable citizen would be compelled to stand outside a basement gate on an inclement evening saying, "Why, of course you know me, T. N."

Daily Thought

Very righteousness also, O God is thy right, who hast done great things: O God, who is like unto thee!—Psalm 71:19.

Sweet is the breath of praise when given by those whose own high merit claims the praise they give.—Hannah More.

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