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

Roosevelt

This newspaper's opinion of Franklin D. Roosevelt as a public official has been stated frequently. He now is the Democratic nominee.

Our opinion stands. Yet we hope with the utmost sincerity that the future conduct of Mr. Roosevelt himself, as Governor and as presidential candidate, will give us cause to revise that opinion. That depends on Mr. Roosevelt.

His greatest asset, as the presidential campaign begins, is the platform his party has given him. It has lifted the nation with a new hope. Unlike the evasive Republican platform, it is forward-looking, clear, and forthright.

These qualities, so important—though so rare in normal times, and so desperately needed in these times—are essential, not only in platform but in candidate, if our country is to be led forth from its season of distress.

It is therefore our earnest prayer that Franklin D. Roosevelt may rise to the crisis into which he, as nominee of his party, enters.

The Women Score

The men who wrote the Democratic platform in Chicago did a good job. But in their desire to boil it down, they forgot to mention an important group, the children. Had the omission concerned only a sentimental reference to the young, it would not have mattered.

But it happens there is something concrete the Democrats can do for children, particularly the handicapped and the poor. This is to save from encroaching Hoover bureaucracy the United States children's bureau.

So the women got busy. A call went out to the women of all delegations to meet at the League of Women Voters headquarters and plan a floor battle. When Mrs. Caroline O'Day of New York offered her resolution pledging the party to "continued responsibility of government for human welfare, especially for the protection of children," they were ready.

One amendment after another to the resolutions committee platform was moved down by the convention, the minority prohibition plank, Governor Murray's bonus, McAdoo's bank proposal and the rest. The children's plank was the single amendment accepted.

In pledging the party to this plank, the women have demonstrated the power of women in politics at its best.

The Fee Scandal

Closing of some 2,290 banks in the United States during 1931, with resulting foreclosures, bankruptcies, and receiverships, gives special interest to the article on "The Fee Feed-Bag," by Mitchell Dawson of the Illinois bar, in the American Mercury.

The fee system had its origin in the institution of the justice of the peace which we took, hook, line, and sinker, from Britain. As one wag has remarked, this meant quite literally "paying for justice by the piece," like any other commodity.

The justice usually gets no salary and must secure his income solely through fees. In 1927 the justices were on the fee system in forty-four states, and this condition has not changed notably in the last five years.

The fee system puts a premium on conviction and favoritism. If the justice convicts a man in a criminal case, he gets his fee directly and promptly. If he acquits, he must get it through appeal to the county, accompanied by delay and red tape.

In civil cases, the judge will not get much work unless he has developed a reputation for dependability from a large clientele who can refer cases to him with assurance.

As a result, it is a popular saying in civil cases that "J. P." stands not for justice of the peace, but for judgment for the plaintiff."

Far more serious, however, is the fee system as it operates with receivers, their attorneys, masters in chancery and the like—all more powerful, flossy, and expensive than the humble justices. We have here an impressive record of political favoritism in appointments and of high fees rendered for services.

Take bank receiverships. They probably are the most efficient of the lot, the best supervised, and the freest from political venality. In the case of receivers for closed federal banks, the comptroller of the currency makes the selections. Yet, even in bank receiverships, there is plenty of evidence that they often are political plums:

"In one urban district, for instance, a casual inspection discloses that bank receiverships have been handed out to a party leader in the state legislature, a former public administrator, the son of a county commissioner, the husband of a former collector of internal revenue, a former treasurer of a park board, and a former assistant to a probate judge.

"The political hook-up is even more striking when we examine a list of those appointed as attorneys for bank receivers."

Even in the case of federal receiverships, where the fees are supervised by the federal courts, vast sums are eaten up in fees and administrative costs.

"The last report of the attorney-general of the United States shows that fees allowed to receivers, trustees, masters, marshals, and attorneys in bankruptcy cases alone, for the year ended June 30, 1931, amounted to \$9,711,605, and that other expenses of administration brought the total cost to \$19,777,068 for collecting and distributing assets valued at \$89,535,070. A motley congregation of parasites swarms through every bankrupt estate, demanding fees, knowing they will be paid."

Fees in state bank receiverships are controlled less closely than in national bank cases. In one state bank case a bank had resources of \$975,161 and deposits of \$1,228,704. Over a period of eighteen months, the receiver got \$20,340, his attorney \$19,378, and clerical help \$24,130. But not a cent in dividends was paid to the creditors.

Masters of chancery are especially notorious for their charges. One asked \$18,000 for 282 days of service of five hours each. The court finally cut it to \$49,250.

When it comes to such lucrative and relatively un-supervised plums as receiverships for business blocks, apartment houses, and the like, the situation has, quite literally, attained the proportions of a racket.

In the case of one apartment hotel, the receiver

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Congress Can and Should Immediately Legalize Beer; the People Want It Done.

NEW YORK, July 2.—There is no need of waiting for repeal of the eighteenth amendment to get some measure or relief from the tragic effects of national prohibition.

Congress can, and should immediately legalize beer, if not light wine, in such states as are ready to permit its manufacture and sale.

Congress should do this for the following reasons:

First, the people want it done. Second, it would provide the federal government with badly needed revenue.

Third, it would make work for thousands of idle men and women.

Fourth, it would create an additional market for farm products.

Fifth, it would remove one major source of political corruption.

Sixth, it would end one phase of gang warfare and racketeering.

Seventh, it would restore to the channels of legitimate business an enormous amount of money which now goes for the support of crime.

" " "

Coercion Has Failed

SUCH action would not interfere with the rights and wishes of dry states, while it would recognize those of wet states.

Let us not be liars and hypocrites any longer. Let us admit that we have been trying to coerce wet states and that we have failed.

If nullification, open, known and winked at by the authorities, is to be taken as an index, most of the states are wet.

The places are few and far between in this country where people can't shake a thirst, even for strong beer stuff than beer.

The situation would be a joke if it were not undermining respect for law and honesty in government. That is really what scared us.

" " "

Majority Wants Repeal

ENOUGH has occurred during the last few weeks to indicate not only a profound change in sentiment toward national prohibition, but what the majority of people want done to satisfy it.

The Democratic party has come out for repeal and, pending repeal, for legalizing beverages of such low alcohol content as honestly conform to the Constitution.

It is a good bet that the Republican party would have taken about the same stand had the delegates to its recent convention not been hand-picked and muzzled by the Hoover administration.

" " "

Do It Now

ALL save a few fanatics realize that the American life has turned, that the American people are through with the "noble experiment."

Why postpone the inevitable? An impoverished government needs revenue, overburdened taxpayers need relief, millions of unemployed need work, bankrupt farmers need a market, decent citizens need protection from gang rule, and law enforcement needs to be freed from an impossible task.

We might as well get going at once. There is not the slightest excuse to wait for the November returns. Both the great parties are on record, even if one straddled, at the command of its short-sighted bosses.

Repeal has been written into the convictions of this country, if not into its Constitution. That makes modification of the Volstead act a logical step which congress has ample power to take and which is called for by the economic distress and social chaos that now afflict us.

After looking over the list of candidates for the fall elections, it seems that about half the people are running for sheriff. The other half is running from him.

After all the governmental scandal of the last year, we have about reached the conclusion that politicians use cold decks in their deals.

If King Prajadhipok just has to go, we certainly hope he eventually will be replaced by a fellow named Jones or Johnson.

The first thing the Lausanne conference did was to decide to postpone for six months telling us we won't get the war debts.

The Democratic convention has cleared up at least one point. There's no longer any doubt as to what the Governor of North Carolina said.

A college girl says she couldn't think of marrying a man she didn't respect. But that's not a real handicap. Nearly every girl has plenty of respect for money.

The depression has proved at least one good thing. Even the big men can have a lot of little troubles.

There are times when the amateur gardener calls a spade a lot of things besides a spade.

Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

A STUDENT of educational trends, H. E. Buchin, has hurled a devastating broadside at certain leaders of the National Education Association, in the current American Mercury. He charges them with using this huge organization for sectarian propaganda and with using strong-arm methods to intimidate teachers.

It is the sort of thing that should be read carefully by friends of the N. E. A. Soirk is the author that he asks a congressional investigation of the order which today almost controls the public schools.

No one should be surprised that a few men have succeeded in frightening some millions of school teachers. In the present situation, this is easy to do. And it is just as easy to silence the other millions of women who make up the Parent-Teacher Association, in spite of the fact that they are concerned honestly with progress of education.

All women's inhibitions bid them keep silent when men demand their theories.

THERE are few experiences more disquieting than to sit with a group of women bent upon some good work and watch the manner in which the two or three inevitable men concerned in the same cause will run the whole proceeding.

The ladies may mutter angrily, sotto voce, before the meeting is called to order, the brothers always put over their pet schemes. And rare are the women's organizations that do not have some glorified Mussolini's who dictate the policies and basic delightedly in the admiration of the fluttering petit-coat brigade.

Women do not have that serene self-assurance that enables even the stupidest man to tread the earth as if he were a potentate. And the smaller the circle of his authority, and the more women it contains, the more daringly will he strut.

Centuries of subjection by men and male imitators have bred within women's souls an unconscious timidity, a fear of ridicule, and dark doubts. We lack faith in ourselves, and faith in oneself is the very foundation of leadership.

What are the relative weights per cubic foot of coke and coal?

Coke, 20 to 28 pounds, the average

being about 26 pounds; bituminous

coals, 45 to 50 pounds; anthracite,

50 to 56 pounds.

A ONE-GALLON FARMER.

Is My Face Red?



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Cathartics May Kill in Appendicitis

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

IN the United States and Canada, appendicitis is responsible for some 25,000 deaths each year.

It has been estimated that the death rate from this disease almost equals the combined death rates from obstruction of the bowels, ulcer of the stomach and intestines, and gallstones.

The operation is done within the first twenty-four to thirty-six hours after the symptoms appear, the death rate is low.

If the operation is done seventy-two hours later, the mortality is increased. If it is done ninety-six hours later, the mortality is exceedingly high.

Moreover, even though medical science has developed suitable techniques for diagnosis and surgical treatment of this condition, the death rate continues to rise.

Studies by investigators in many different clinics indicate definite reasons for the increase of deaths, some of which are particularly important, because a popular understanding of these reasons certainly would result in lowering the rate.

Practically all investigators are agreed that the common household custom of giving a severe cathartic at the onset of every pain in the

stomach and abdomen is largely responsible.

It is agreed by most competent physicians and surgeons that immediate operation in an acute appendicitis is necessary if lives are to be saved.

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In some cases, there is extreme nausea. In most cases the number of leukocytes is increased in the blood, as can be determined by any physician with a simple blood count.

It is not well to count on too high a fever, because the temperature may not rise to an exceedingly high point.

The fever will fall should the appendicitis rupture, only to rise again, of course, when peritonitis sets in.

With the onset of pain, tenderness, rigidity, and with inability to find any definite cause for the pain, the average person will do well to consult his physician immediately.

Drastic cathartics never should be taken except under medical advice. Laxatives should be taken only when the cause of the abdominal distress is quite definitely related to dietary indiscretions or chronic failure of the bowel to act.

Doctors learn early in their career the characteristic symptoms of appendicitis. These symptoms include pain in the abdomen, particularly in the right lower quarter, tenderness over the abdomen, and rigidity of the muscles of the abdomen when any attempt is made to press on the tender point.

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Prudie Ginsburg is a girl who gets no fun out of conventions, because she is a professional stampeder.

So She Confesses

SHE lives with her married sister in Tulsa and at almost any hour of the day or night a man drives up with the other lady Kitties in a big bus and says, "Come on, Prudie." It is said that Prudie Ginsburg is a girl who gets no fun out of conventions, because she is a professional stampeder.