

THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

AND SUN-TELEGRAM

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Young Workers Need Health Protection

Children who go to work between 14 and 18 years of age need special protection if they are to reach manhood and womanhood with good health and well developed bodies. The United States department of Labor, through the children's bureau, has just issued a report called "Physical Standards for Working Children" in which a committee of eleven physicians appointed by the children's bureau explain how the health of children may be protected.

An effective means of protection lies in the adoption of physical standards which all children entering industry are required by law to meet. Eighteen states now have a law requiring children to be examined before going to work. These states are: Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and West Virginia.

The most comprehensive of these laws requires that a child shall be of normal development for his age, in sound health and physically fit for the occupation which he is about to enter. But unless examining physicians have definite standards by which to test development and sound health, under-developed and physically defective children are likely to go to work early to their own serious disadvantage, in spite of excellent laws intended for their protection. The committee, therefore, has undertaken to define what constitutes normal development and sound health for children applying for working papers.

The report of the committee contains minimum standards of height and weight for specified ages, based on the most trustworthy experience and present-day practice. It also lists defects for which children should be refused certificates, remedial defects for which they should be refused certificates pending correction, and conditions requiring supervision under provisional certificates for periods of three months may be issued. The points which examining physicians should cover if adequate protection is to be given the working child are given in detail in the re-

port, which also contains a record blank for the use of physicians in making these examinations.

Periodical examinations for children after they have gone to work are recommended by the committee as a still further means of protection. As yet no state has taken this step, though an exceptionally good opportunity for putting into effect an adequate program of health supervision, says the report, is furnished by the compulsory continuation school laws now in force in 22 states.

Key to Business Revival Lies at Home

The United States should look to itself for its future prosperity. It can have a revival of business without depending or waiting on international commerce and the rehabilitation of Europe. In short, the American people are their own customers.

This was the doctrine presented by George M. Reynolds, chairman of the continental and commercial banking group of Chicago, in an address before the convention of the Miller's National federation.

"Foreign trade for the United States is both necessary and desirable," Reynolds said. "However, in seeking a lead for the revival of American business, attention should not be focused on foreign trade to the exclusion of domestic business. American exports have constituted only some 6 or 8 per cent of the total sales of this country during the period of maximum exports."

The domestic market is definitely under American control, to be revived if proper thought and action are taken. A clear ray of hope offers in the thought that measures looking toward business revival can be taken at home and at once. This does not mean that foreign trade, particularly in certain commodities, is not important. It does mean that the key to business revival lies in the domestic market and a more normal foreign trade than that of 1915 to 1920.

"The United States can sell in any open market the commodities in the production of which it excels. There will be a continuing pressure to export goods to Europe. It seems reasonably certain that the United States will have a favorable balance of trade with Europe for some time, though appreciably less than is indicated by figures for the war and after-war periods. A continuation of abnormal exports cannot be expected."

The prospect for the revival of American business lies in the increase of business in the domestic markets and in a foreign trade maintained along more natural lines and developed in a more normal way than is sometimes urged by the proponents of plans for the artificial stimulation of foreign trade."

Good Evening

By ROY K. MOULTON

Two Minutes of Optimism

By HERMAN J. STICH

Some days ago at far-off Dawson a rain of yellow dust fell on the ground. Some superstitious folk immediately set up a cry of gold falling from Heaven; but chemists who are about to analyze it flout all such ideas and believe the dust will be found to be either sulphur that clouds and wind picked up from some volcano in the unexplored North or pollen from distant pine trees carried to Dawson.

This "rain of gold" recalls the "shower of blood" which some time ago started the people of Monte Carlo and Mentone. A strong southwest wind was accompanied by a half hour's downpour which left roofs, roads, gardens, trees and shrubs covered with sticky crimson. The good people were surprised, but not disturbed. They knew that the clouds had been saturated by the wind with the fine red sand from the Sahara Desert, and that the gale of gale was a natural though rare phenomenon.

It is not too much to assume that such phenomena occurred during the Middle Ages, causing all Europe to shudder in terror. Men whispered that it presaged another great war, that the world was once more to be deluged with blood, that the universe was nearing its end. And probably in every village in every country fervent prayers went up from the fear-crazed people for deliverance from the coming catastrophe.

It is only comparatively recently that we have outlined the once universal belief that signs and portents were placed in the heavens to express divine approbation or displeasure. A few centuries ago a total eclipse of the sun is said to have thrown the Old World into a delirium of fright and to have actually scared a French king to death. Another eclipse transformed a brave army into a mob of terror-maddened fugitives. Time and again all Christendom, as well as Heathendom, has trembled at the appearance in the firmament of comets, frenziedly believing them to be a warning if not prophecy of imminent pestilence, famine, disaster or destruction.

Today eclipses, comets, "showers of blood" and "rains of gold" come and go almost unnoticed, unheeded, leaving the mass of civilized people unconcerned. Nobody even suspects them to be portentous or in the least affecting the welfare of humanity. With the mastery of the secrets of nature, with the spread of knowledge and the heightening of the level of intelligence and common sense has come confidence. We know that things of that sort are governed by physical law. Our astronomers, at so much per measure and weight the comets. They tell us what they are made of, when they will reappear again and in what part of the sky. We are moving along. And our rationalism. What we have lost in poetry and the capacity to marvel and fear we have gained in sense of security.

Nothing changes the complexion of things like a drug store.

One economist suggests reducing expenses instead of raising taxes. This is slightly revolutionary, but interesting withal, as a new idea is always interesting.

Scientists say that, from a physical

standpoint, we are much inferior to prehistoric man. He also seems to have had it on us from a mental

standpoint. He never had to ride in a street car or pay an income tax.

"Do you make much money marrying eloping couples from New York?" asked a friend of a Connecticut justice.

"Oh, I do pretty well," was the reply. "I get \$5 for marrying 'em and then I generally fine 'em \$10 for speeding, they come so fast."

Rippling Rhymes

By WALT MASON

THE WINNERS

The men who reach the higher places are not cast down by each reverse; they drap some smiles around their faces and say the luck might be much worse. Of men whose fame is now immortal, vast percentage started poor, and not for them did fortune change, when they set forth, dead broke, obscure. They had hard knocks and kicks and bruises, and they remarked, when going lame, "In life's grim race the faint heart loses, the brave heart scores and wins the game." The faint heart quit as roads grow rougher, and to the skies their walls ascend; the fellows built to strive and suffer press on and reach the journey's end. The faint heart lads are often gifted, they well might win some prizes gay, but is hard luck their hands are lifted, and they surrender right away. How many poets, angel-throated, have missed the fame that might be theirs, because their early rhymes were voted too punk to feed to polar bears. How many painters are forgotten and planted under grassy knolls, because some said their work was rotten, and froze the current of their souls? The faint-heart scout, though wondrous clever, throws down

He had just married. He had been popular indeed, but had now resolved to settle down. His bride and he were dining out. A very lovely lady passed, gave him a look of recognition and a dangerous smile. So dangerous was the smile that the bride asked:

"Horace, who is that woman?" Horace held up his hand. "Be reasonable," he protested. "Don't go bothering me about who she

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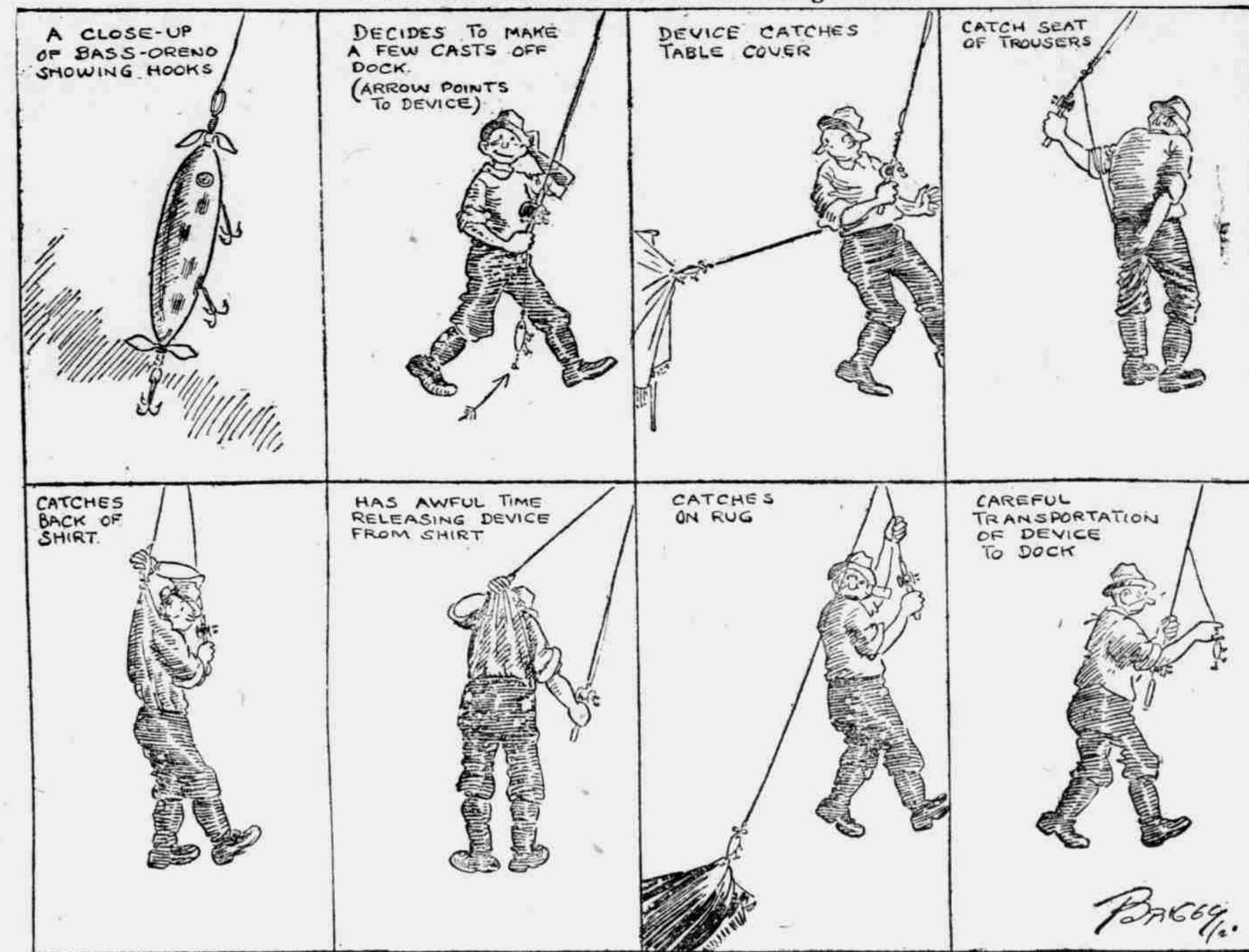
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Movie of a Man With a Bass-Catching Device



TODAY'S TALK

By George Matthew Adams, Author of "You Can", "Take It", "Up"

A BABY

Whenever I look into the face of a small baby, I see all the civilization of the world centered there for interpretation.

A mother sees very much more than this. She sees unborn worlds there!

I am always attracted by babies. I like them.

The other day I received a letter from a woman who said that she was "the mother of ten, and a grandmother in addition." I have been carrying that letter around with me in my pocket. Mother of ten! And she says she wants to do something in the world!

My idea of that woman is that she is one of the elect great in this world already.

A baby—with its soft, bubbling body. Chubby hands that sometimes look like rosebuds. Wiggling toes that keep saying something all the time. A skin that the smoothest velvet could not compete with. Eyes that see all that you are—without telling you. Cheeks like the shells of large ripe peaches, and a laughing mouth that keeps giving off new kinds of smiles all day long.

No wonder that Roman ladies referred to her babies as her jewels!

I never see a Mother pushing her baby in its carriage without envying her. In their very helplessness, babies continue to inspire strong men and women, and always will. I have seen poor, ill kept men with all the despair of failure written across their faces and in their ways, smile at the sight of a baby playing in the arms of its Mother.

It was about the romping baby in a field that the cast out Perl, in Moore's beautiful poem, "Paradise and the Perl," found the secret that opened the shut gates of Heaven to it once more.

A baby is like a drop of fresh dew let fall from the sky with all the pure elements of a mysterious love melted into every atom of its life.

I believe that God tucks in every baby at its sleep-time in the same way as He does His stars!

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Answers to Questions

Subscriber—What is meant by a morganatic marriage of European royalty? A morganatic marriage is a matrimonial union between a man of rank and a woman of inferior social position, in which it is stipulated that the woman and her children shall not enjoy the rank or inherit the possessions of the man. The offsprings, however, are considered legitimate. Morganatic marriages are solemnized by giving the left hand instead of the right.

Veteran—How long was Lieut. R. P. Hobson held a prisoner? From the

sinking of the Merimac on June 3, 1898, to July 6, 1898.

Pupil—Will you please explain the name Venezuela? Venezuela was named from the word Venices by Alonso de Ojeda, who found the Onotes, an extinct tribe of Indians, there in 1499. They were fishermen, and built their houses on piles in the water.

AH! EPSOM SALTS

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2nd National Bank

Ojeda was reminded by their dwellings of Venice, so he named the country Venezuela.

Reader—When did the parcel post system go into effect? On Jan. 1, 1916.

Readers may obtain answer to questions by writing The Palladium Questions and Answers department. All questions should be written plainly and briefly. Answers will be given briefly.

INJURIES RESULT FATALLY.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., July 5.—Levi Reed, a farmer living near Winston, Pike county, Indiana, died in a local hospital Monday as the result of injuries he received a few days ago when his team of horses, attached to a cultivator, ran away in the field. Reed was caught under the cultivator and dragged for some distance.

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