

# THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM AND SUN-TELEGRAM

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## Hypocrisy in American Life

"Civilization in the United States" is the title of a recently published book representing the opinions of some thirty American investigators, most of them apparently of the younger set of radical intellectuals. Thirty departments of American life are covered ranging from philosophy and law to music and sex.

The work is devoted to frank dissatisfaction with American life in general and in particular. It is full of the phantasms and fantastic notions that only the gray matter of radical intellectuals can conceive. As far as it goes in this direction, it is diverting and amusing, provided the reader has not reached that stage of ossified dignity where a laugh at one's own expense is no longer funny. Other parts of the work, however, hurt, with the hurt that only truth can impart.

The editor of these thirty essays in the preface lays his finger on the weakest point in American civilization, its hypocrisy. His words are worth repeating.

"In almost every branch of American life there is a sharp dichotomy (division) between preaching and practice; we let our right hand know what our left hand doeth. Curiously enough, no one regards this, and in fact no one consciously feels this as hypocrisy. There are certain abstractions and dogmas which are sacred to us, and if we fall short of these external standards in our private life, that is no reason for submitting them to a fresh examination; rather are we to worship them the more vociferously to show our sense of sin. Regardless, then, of the theoretical excellence or stupidity of these standards, in actual practice the moral code resolves itself into the one cardinal heresy of being found out, with the chief sanction enforcing it, the fear of what people will say."

As might be more tersely put, many Americans worship a mythical eleventh commandment. Thou shalt not be found out by thy fellow man!

Too many Americans are sold to the doctrine, do as I say, not as I do. They are prototypes of those people of old who gave food for thought to a philosopher, and brought forth from him the saying that people "wish to be saved from the mischief of their vices but not from their vices."

And that brings us back to the radical intel-

lectuals. Aside from their undeniably just criticisms, their phantasms and fantastic notions are chiefly directed at the wrong end of the problem, how to save people from the results of their mistakes and vices but not from their vices and the causes of their mistakes.

## Unemployment Situation is Improved

Less unemployment nationally among engineers, evidencing improved business conditions, was reported recently by the American Engineering Council of the Federated American Engineering Societies. In a statement describing the situation for the last three months, Walter V. Brown, manager of the federation's employment service, which covers the entire country, said that a period of marked betterment had set in.

"The improvement indicates," the statement said, "that we are on an up curve, which is very definite and very progressive, but not sharp. It is not a heavy grade, but it is distinctly encouraging."

L. W. Wallace, executive secretary of the federation, says that engineers look for improved conditions generally and that they are active in seeking out the causes of business depression and in co-operation with other national agencies in finding a remedy.

For the last three months, according to the federation, the outlook has grown more hopeful. Increased employment opportunities prevail rather uniformly in the major branches of engineering. The outcome was unexpected.

Spring construction work, it was said, naturally widened the employment field for the civil engineers, but the advantage which this class of engineer possesses has been offset by the radio enthusiasm, which has aided very materially the mechanical engineers and the electrical engineers, and, according to the engineering federation's records, in about the same proportion.

The federation's unemployment service, in the conduct of which the big so-called founder societies share, has placed 870 men in engineering positions since January 1. At present from 10 to 15 professional engineers a day are finding places. Most of these are university and technical school graduates.

The fact that more engineers are returning to active work, it was pointed out, indicates that large numbers of men in subordinate positions are also necessarily obtaining work in the engineering and allied fields.

The tremendous demand for radio apparatus is exceeding the ability of the manufacturers to turn it out it is said, and is likely to exercise a growing influence upon unemployment conditions.

## Answers to Questions

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The Palladium Information Bureau, Frederick J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C. This office applies strictly to information. The bureau does not undertake research on legal, medical and financial matters. It does not attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake exhaustive research on any subject. Write your question plainly and briefly. Give full name and address and enclose two cents in stamps for return postage. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

Q. How tall is Walter Johnson and how much does he weigh? J. F.

A. Walter Johnson, pitcher on the Washington baseball team, is 6 feet 1 inch tall and weighs 200 pounds.

Q. Has Alaska a flag of its own? G. K.

A. Alaska is the only territory of the United States without a flag.

Q. How far can a man see from the deck of a battleship at sea? E. W. A.

A. A man with normal vision can see an object at sea level at a distance of seven miles in any direction.

Q. How do the farm wages of 1875 and 1920 compare? O. E. P.

A. In 1875 farm wages with board averaged \$12.72 per month, without board, \$19.87, as compared to \$46.89 with, and \$64.95 without board in 1920.

Q. What is iodine made of? D. G.

A. Iodine is prepared from kelp and from crude Chile saltpetre. Iodine is a non-metallic element, isolated as a crystalline solid.

Q. Suggest some good way to poison of trap crows? W. G. T.

A. The Bureau of Biological Survey does not advocate the poisoning of crows for the reason that the placing of such poison is apt to destroy birds that are more useful to agriculture than the crow is harmful. The same applies to trapping. Crows should be shot. To protect young chicks from being attacked by crows, plenty of bushes should be placed in the poultry yard so that the young chickens can run quickly to cover.

Q. Who will be the executive officer at the National Rifle Matches? J. F. E.

A. Col. M. C. Mumma has been selected for the post of executive officer for the National Matches.

Q. Is an I. O. U. collectible in law? T. I.

A. An I. O. U. is prima facie evidence of a debt due to the holder of the document. In this country it has been declared negotiable by the decisions of some courts, and it can anywhere be sued upon as an account stated without proof of the origin of the debt.

Q. What is a "miner's inch" of water? E. W. G.

A. A miner's inch will irrigate from 5 to 10 acres, the miner's inch equaling 12,960 gallons in 24 hours, or almost exactly 0.02 second-foot.

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## TODAY'S TALK

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

### POCKETS

When I was a small boy the thing that interested me most when I got a new suit of clothes was how many pockets it contained. I have just counted the pockets in the suit that I now am wearing and find exactly 15!

I could probably get along very well with only half a dozen of these pockets of mine—but I am somewhat of the opinion that I would miss the others to quite an extent. Not long ago, I noticed that my tailor had omitted one small one that I had always had in other suits, and it was so missed that I had it put in.

With many pockets we are not half so lonesome. I find myself going through my own whenever I have leisure moments, and I pull out a joke, a fine phrase or sentiment or poem, clipped from somewhere—or a helpful letter sent from someone who wanted to cheer and help.

And then I am glad I had pockets!

There is something very intimate and personal about a pocket. It's all yours.

We men have it all over the ladies when it comes to pockets—and I am very sorry. I am of the opinion that if there were more pockets in the clothes of women, there would be fewer nervous wrecks among them. For them to go through their pockets every once in a while and find amusement and profit would materially benefit them. Not that they don't have enough to do as it is—but by going through their pockets they would get change and diversion.

I like to think of my mind as lined with pockets. In this one a beautiful poem that I long ago committed to memory. In another some lovely and generous sentence uttered by someone who wanted to make me happy—the words of a mother—the thrilling tale of some adventure—the picture of a great event in history, and so on.

But empty pockets—how useless they are!

Have you ever stepped up to someone you loved and slipped a little gift into their pocket? If you have, how you were thrilled at the smile of surprise.

But pockets are of little value unless they are emptied frequently—and refilled.

are headless; if we do, we are hypocrites. If we stay in the office we ought to be out rustling news; if we are out rustling news we are not attending to our business at the office. If we wear old clothes we are not solvent; if we wear new clothes, they are not paid for. What in thunder is a poor editor to do, anyhow? Like as not some editor will say we swiped this from an exchange. We did.

"What is your favorite musical instrument?"

"I have none just at present," replied Mr. Bibbles, "but I once saw a photograph that took my fancy mightily."

"I thought you detested phonograph music."

"I do, but the playing mechanism had been taken out of this machine, and it was used exclusively as a cellaret."

The American relief association is feeding 1,300,000 children in Poland.

## If Back Hurts or Bladder Bothers

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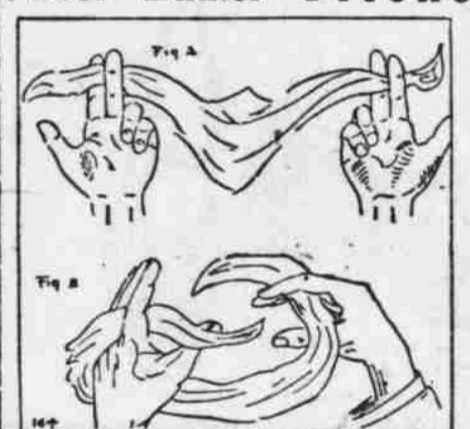
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## When a Feller Needs a Friend



## After Dinner Tricks



## No. 164—An Instantaneous Knot.

A handkerchief is held by corners diagonally opposite, between the fingers of each hand. The hands are merely brought together and drawn apart quite rapidly. A knot has appeared in the center of the cloth.

The trick depends upon a shift of fingers, executed when the hands come together. Hold the handkerchief exactly as shown in the first figure, each corner between the first and second fingers. As the hands come together, the left hand is turned back up, while the right thumb comes up under the handkerchief. (Fig. 2.) As the hands meet, the left end of the handkerchief is slipped between the thumb and second finger of the right hand, and the right end is similarly taken by the left hand. The forefingers are raised, releasing the original hold, and the hands are simply drawn apart. The knot is tied automatically.

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