

The Watauga Democrat

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AN AMERICAN PICTURE

Conrad Hubert came to America from Germany as a young man. He worked in an electrical shop in Jersey City and invented the first successful pocket flashlight.

For six months three "prominent citizens" whose names are Calvin Coolidge, Alfred E. Smith and Julius Rosenwald, met every two weeks to consider the hundreds of applications for part of the \$5,000,000 that Conrad Hubert left.

The whole incident strikes us as peculiarly typical of America. Where else in the world could a poor, immigrant accumulate \$5,000,000 and more without being heard of?

Where, for that matter, will you find a Protestant, like Coolidge, a Roman Catholic, like Smith, and a Jew, like Rosenwald, working together for the common welfare?

Conrad Hubert, alive, was not even a name to the world at large. Conrad Hubert dead has left a monument more enduring than brass in the example his bequest has supplied of the spirit of America.

BATHTUBS AN OTHER LUXURIES

Have you a bathtub in your home? No, that isn't "Polish Question No. Umpteen." There are nine million homes in America without bathtubs, according to the Statistical Abstract of the United States.

Times change and luxuries multiply. Today 15 million homes have electric flatirons, 7 million have vacuum cleaners, 5 million have washing machines, nearly three-quarters of a million have electric refrigerators.

THEY ALL DO IT

In our little town—ah, sad to tell!—There's a merchant who doesn't know how to sell. A lawyer who doesn't know much of law. A Sawyer who doesn't know how to saw.

"The Way of Life"

By BRUCE BARTON

DO WE PUT TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON HEALTH?

A man who knows Scotland told me of his experience with a Scotch shepherd.

The shepherd seemed to have an uncanny power over the sheep. When he sent out his own peevish call every one of them, no matter how distant, raised his head and started for home.

The visitor begged for a chance to try his calling powers. He cupped his hand over his mouth and emitted a noise which to his own ears sounded exactly like the shepherd's call.

Not a single sheep responded. "Don't be discouraged," said the shepherd. "Try again. Maybe there is a sick one in the flock and, if so, he will listen to you. When sheep are healthy they will follow only their own shepherd, but a sick one may go after anybody."

Every once in a while somebody rises up to criticize us modern parents for devoting too much time and attention to our children's physical well-being.

Says such a critic: "Of course, the body is important, but it was given to us not to be exalted but to be disciplined and put down. To lay so much emphasis on the physical is paganism. Our righteous ancestors discarded the body and paid attention to the soul."

This is true, and it might be added that our ancestors, by neglecting their bodies in the interests of their souls, beat us to Heaven by an average of twenty years.

Moreover, I have always questioned whether they were truly righteous in the best sense if one is sick and ruled by fears.

Old Simeon Stylites believed that it is the business of a saint to mortify the body. He chained himself to the top of a pillar, and became so loathsome that worms lived in his flesh, and he did not attempt to pick them out because he regarded his sufferings as a means of grace.

How such an idea could have been born out of the teachings of the heavenly out-door Jesus is one of the mysteries of the ages. He mortified no bodies. He healed them, built them up, and sent their owners on their way rejoicing.

St. Paul, the great disciple, loved games, races and fights. If it be argued that most of the philosophers have been men of poor health, I venture to contend that the world has more philosophy than it needs or can ever use.

Health is prophylactic. A healthy boy would rather go to a ball park than a saloon.

It's the weak, nervous creatures who demand the stimulus of dissipation. Just as the weak sick sheep go off when a false voice calls.

Hints for the Home

By NANCY HART

The Healthful Orange

Perhaps if you took a census of the fruit tastes of your friends you would find that the orange was given first choice in something like 90 per cent. of the votes.

Orange Puffs: Sift into mixing bowl one and one-fourth cups pastry flour, one-half cup of sugar, add one-half cup milk mixed with two egg yolks, one tablespoon butter, melted, and one-half teaspoon grated orange rind.

Steamed Orange Pudding: Make biscuit dough and roll it into a long narrow sheet one-fourth of an inch thick. Spread thickly with peeled and sliced oranges, sprinkle with sugar and grated orange peel and roll up, twisting the ends together.

Orange Cake Filling: Bring to the boil two cups of water and the grated yellow rind of two oranges. Thicken with three tablespoons of cornstarch, rubbed smooth in half a cup of cold water, and cook, stirring constantly.

THE SONG OF THE CAMP: By Bayard Taylor. "Give us a song," the soldiers cried. The outer trenches guarding, While the heated ruins of the camps allied Grew weary of bombarding.

There was a pause. A guardsman said, "We storm the forts tomorrow; Sing while we men another day Will bring enough of sorrow."

They lay along the battery's side Below the smoking cannon. Brave hearts, from Severn and from Clyde, And from the banks of Shannon.

They sang of love and not of fame, Forgot was Britain's glory; Each heart recalled a different name But all sang "Annie Laurie."

Voice after voice caught up the song, Until its tender passion Rose like an anthem, rich and strong Their battle-evil confession.

Dear girl, her name he dared not speak, But as the song grew louder A tear upon the soldier's cheek Washed off the stains of powder.

Now Irish Nora's eyes are dim For a singer dumb and gery, And English Mary weeps for him Who sang of Annie Laurie.

Sleep, soldiers! still in honored rest, Your truth and valor wearing; The bravest are the tenderest, The loving are the daring.

TURN SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION OVER FEBRUARY 6: The States of North Carolina and Tennessee will turn over to the United States Government on February 6, the first section of the huge acreage that eventually will go to make the new Smoky National Park.

Representatives of the two states will meet on that date with Secretary of the Interior Wilbur to effect the transfer. Although the extent of the property to be deeded to the Government at that time was not stated, the first consignment is required by law to be in excess of 150,000 acres.

SEVEN BILLIONS WILL BE SPENT ON 1930 PROJECTS: A new peace-time record for construction and maintenance on public work and by public utilities is expected during the present year by Secretary Lamond on the basis of reports indicating that \$7,900,000,000 will be spent in these fields.

This total does not include expenditures for residences, commercial and industrial structures and other private operations which last year amounted to more than \$3,900,000,000 and which, if continued at the same pace, would bring the outlay for 1930 to more than \$10,000,000,000.

Complete returns to the Department of Commerce from the Governors of 26 states, combined with estimates based on partial returns from the remaining states, indicate expenditures for public works, including Federal construction of \$3,325,000,000 during the year.

Programs for betterments to plants and equipment announced by public utilities, railroads and telegraph companies represented expenditures of approximately \$3,250,000,000.

Dr. John M. Gries, chief of the construction division of the department, also reported to the secretary that approximately \$410,000,000 will be spent for maintenance by the electric, gas and street railway companies alone.

Class A railroads are expected to spend \$1,050,000,000 of the utilities' construction total, electric, gas and street railway companies, \$1,400,000,000; the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, \$700,000,000; and independent telephone and telegraph companies, short line railways and privately-owned waterworks, \$100,000,000.

North Carolina's part of the construction amounts to \$36,000,000.

Losing the Cop.

By Albert T. Reid



FEDERAL AID FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS MAN

"Even as we laud the splendid efforts of these leaders of industry," said Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, speaking of the business conferences in Washington, "let us not lose sight of the unnamed hundreds of thousands of 'little fellows' in the business world... the corner grocer, the small-town druggist, the hardware dealer in a modest way, the woman selling 'notions,' the restaurant proprietor with a neighborhood trade."

That was a splendid tribute to a class of citizens among whom are many who have been feeling lately as if they and their kind did not count for much in the scheme of things. What with chain stores opening up everywhere to compete with the local merchant, and the attention of the public centered on what the "big fellows" are doing, no wonder many a small grocer or druggist has felt as if it were no use to try to keep on going, that there wasn't room in the world any more for his kind of business, or at least for him as a business man.

It is one of the most encouraging signs of the times that the Federal Government recognizes the importance of the local merchant and that a man of Dr. Klein's ability and influence should stand out as a spokesman for the small business establishment.

MAY CONTROL MICE DURING WINTER MONTHS

During the winter months, houses and buildings where food is stored are infested with the destructive and annoying house mice. These are the small, long-tailed, bat-eared rodents which, contrary to the common belief, do not grow up into large wharf rats and field rats.

"Remembering that the habits of rats and mice are about the same, it is more easy to control the small mice than the larger and more clever rats," says C. D. Schwartz, biologist at State College. "Mice like to run along the walls and behind objects and underneath furniture which will offer protection from their enemies, the cat and dog. The cat is a much better ratter than the cat."

Mr. Schwartz says that poisoning mice is effective but dangerous if there are small children in the house. Strychnine coated, steam crushed oats, or thallium coated oats, make ideal baits for house mice. The oats must be exposed in small low boxes which are easily accessible to the mice and yet out of the way for the children.

"CORPSE" BURSTS FROM COFFIN AND FLEES FROM CEMETERY

A funeral party in Querataro, Mexico, was thrown into panic Sunday when Jose Lozano "came to life," broke from his coffin and dashed out of the cemetery as he was about to be buried. His friends scattered in all directions, many stumbling over tombstones in their haste. Lozano had suffered a cataleptic spell and had been pronounced dead.

FARMERS! Through the activities of the Watauga Livestock Association, the leading farmers, and the management of the A. S. T. C., arrangements have been made for a Farmers Institute, lasting three days, next week, for the special benefits of the farmers of Watauga County. A number of trained men from the State Department of Agriculture will be on hand to give you the advantage of their experiences in farming and stock raising without cost to you. These lectures will be well worth your time. We hope every farmer in this county will avail themselves of this opportunity. We are sure you can all get something worth while if you will study the things brought out by the speakers. MAKE OUR STORE HEADQUARTERS, WHILE ATTENDING THE INSTITUTE. YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! Boone Hardware Company "The Friendly Store"