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"LOOK FORWARD, AND NOT BACK."

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From Mr. Leary.

Oct. 1914.

To The Editor:

I wended my way to Washington, D. C., to the Postmasters' Convention of the District of Columbia and five states to-wit: North and South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, which met on the 5th, 6th and 7th inst., and the National Postmasters' Association of the Presidential Classes. I reached Washington on the morning of the 5th; and went immediately to the New Ebbitt, the headquarters of the National Association. I soon found brother Hannibal Hopkins, the secretary and Mr. Edgar E. Poag, the president. Both gentlemen are clever and held in high esteem by the Association. Later on I went down to the New National Museum Auditorium, a most beautiful hall for lecturing or holding conventions in. We were called to order about 12 o'clock and proceeded with business. After singing America and a prayer by Rev. Henry N. Conden, chaplain of the House of Representatives, speeches of welcome were delivered by several gentlemen and Mr. Spilman, superintendent of City delivery division of the Postoffice Department. He laid great stress on economy and reducing overhead expenses in all jurisdictions. We then appointed a committee to wait on the Postmaster-General and see if he would receive us. We then adjourned for the day to inspect the new postoffice building and the latest devices for handling the mails etc. Washington is always interesting with its magnificent capitol building, Congressional Library, Union Railway Station, new Postoffice and many other public buildings. The patent office contains the most curious and ingenious devices contrived by man; and I do not doubt the fact that there is no other building in the world that has so many of these devices demonstrating the wonderful mental working of the human mind. They can hardly be numbered for they are so numerous. Just think of the many patents that you run up against in every day life. Many of them little simple patents, but great time savers and money makers for their owners. In every direction you see many government buildings. There is the Treasury building within whose walls is kept the money of Uncle Sam, which is many times the wealth of Croesus. The Engraving building to my mind is one of the most interesting and all seemed to be pleased with the sights found here. There are thousands of things to be seen in the city which would take many days to see, if noted. The first class hotels are very fine, and I suppose as fine as can be found anywhere. In one of these, The New Willard, Mrs. Joseph Daniels, the wife of the Secretary of the Navy, had a splendid display or exhibit of cotton, cotton goods and cotton fabrics, manufactured articles such as woman's apparel etc. I am frank to confess that I had no idea that anything like the material and dresses could be produced from

cotton. A good many people went to see these exhibits which were very tastefully arranged and greatly admired. Mrs. Daniels certainly deserves great praise and credit for the interest taken in giving such a demonstration, which must be helpful to the south and southern farmers. I have been into cotton mills and travelled around some, but it never occurred to me that so much could be done with cotton. Some of the dresses were silk like and beautiful. I will not attempt to describe them for only a woman could do this successfully. An old lady remarked to me that the dresses were very pretty and the one in front of us looked like silk, and pointing over to another dress said, "You should go over there and look at it for it is such a beautiful dress." After looking at it I thought so too. One lady asked me if I was a manufacturer. I attended all the meetings and heard a good many interesting talks, among them the First Assistant Postmaster General delivered a most excellent address. He is a good speaker, is well informed and seems greatly interested in his work. I listened to him with unusual attention. I am however, satisfied that the older members of Uncle Sam's employees will not agree with him concerning their final disposition on account of age. I firmly believe that some provision for the old employees should be made so that they will not have to go to the almshouse after having spent their life in the service of the Government. However it is a matter for Congress to adjust. Among the amusing things I saw was a carriage with a bride and groom in it. Around the carriage were banners "The Newly-Weds" "just married," "on their bridal trip," etc.; dragging behind the carriage with cord were old shoes, tin cans, coffee pots, tea pots etc. which made a noise as they were pulled over the cobble stones in the street. As soon as we saw the carriage we hurried up to the Union Station where the Newly-Weds were wending their way and got there in time to see them alight and receive a shower or baptism of rice. They soon moved in the station and we lost sight of them and their friends. They seemed like a lively set of young people. It carried me back to earlier days. The parks were green and pretty. I loved to walk in them. I saw several squirrels. One little boy talked to me about them and said "You ought to see them eating peanuts and how funny they sit on their hind feet and eat them." I afterwards saw a squirrel following a policeman who gave him a peanut, and the squirrel carried it off and ate it while we talked to the policeman. I think my little friend I met would have been delighted to have seen the squirrel enjoying this meal. The next day, Thursday, we had an appointment to meet the president, Mr. Wilson at 2:15 p. m. Since I heard him make a speech at Jamestown Exposition he has grown older and his hair whiter. He has seen a lot of trouble and I sympathize with him. He has a gentle voice and a mild manner about him that impresses you. His face and his

bearing make a feeling steal over you that you would like to afford him some comfort if not consolation. I am glad that I saw him. We also paid our respects to our chiefs, the Postmaster General and the four Assistant Postmaster Generals who received us in a most agreeable manner. All of them are hard worked and have not much time to spare, hoping to accomplish much by economy and the efficiency of the force under them which I believe are the watchwords of the present administration of our department. The postoffice is no longer a place to rest and draw your pay at the end of the month, all must work or no pay.

Respectfully,
Wm J. LEARY, Sr.

Facts About Germany And Japan.

Bishop John L. Nuelsen, of the Methodist Episcopal church, writes from Zurich, Switzerland, as follows:

"While every country in Europe, including those that are neutral, suffers and needs help, the situation is especially grave in Germany. Every letter that I receive from that country makes it increasingly plain that unless we can render financial assistance, our work in Germany is on the brink of financial collapse. In times of peace our congregations could have paid the interest on their debts, and gradually have paid off some of their indebtedness; but now they are crushed by their heavy burdens. The district superintendents of the North Germany conference will try to meet this coming week, and I have promised that as soon as I receive a military pass, I shall come and consult with them.

"Whatever may be the outcome of the war and wherever the blame for it may rest, unless the American Methodists come now to the rescue of the German Methodist, we shall have to close the doors of nearly one-half of our churches and sell our property in a great many places for whatever we can get. Not only this. Unless we help those of our members who are thrown out of work and the families of those who have fallen in war, a number of our people will suffer intensely. Methodism in Europe has never faced a crisis like this, and something extraordinary is imperative.

"Ever since the war broke out I have remained in Switzerland trying to keep in touch with the different fields by telegrams and letters. I am writing to all the district superintendents, editors and many individual pastors, advising them and cheering them up. When the war closes, all of Europe will have to be reconstructed, and mission work will also have to be reconstructed."

The highest divorce rate in any country is in Japan; the next highest is in the United States.

The latest religious census of Germany gives the following figures: Of the 61,720,529 people counted, 38,874,648 professed adherence to the Evangelical church, 22,840,485 to the Catho-

lic church, and 566,999 to the Jewish church. The 37,980,889 persons in Prussia were divided as follows: Evangelical church 23,847,387; Catholic 13,608,183; Jewish, 374,353; and the 6,598,168 people in Bavaria as follows: Evangelical, 1,861,079; Catholic 4,666,106; and Jewish, 53,728.

Weather-Wise Creatures

Certain birds and animals are infallible weather forecasters. A contributor to Farm and Fireside describes the manner in which many of them act in preparation for storms or changes in the weather.

The spider, upon the approach of rainy or windy weather, will be found to shorten and strengthen the rays of his web. When the storm is over he will lengthen them again.

Sea-gulls predict storms by assembling on the land, but this is merely a search for food. They instinctively know that the rain will bring the earthworms and larvae to the surface. A similar instinct teaches the swallow to fly high in fair weather and skim the ground when foul weather is coming. They simply follow the flies and gnats which remain in the warm air.

Swine will carry hay and straw to a high place, and will lick them when the wind blows. The hen, sheep will bleat and skip about, hogs turned out in the woods will come to their pens squealing and grunting, colts will rub their backs against the ground, rows will gather in flocks, and crickets will sing more loudly.

In all probability these many actions are due to an uneasiness similar to that which all who are troubled with corns or rheumatism experience just previous to a storm, and are caused both by the variation in barometric pressure and the changes in the electrical condition of the atmosphere.

Result of Frequent Change By Farmers

Washington, D. C. Oct.—An official of the Federal Census Bureau, in discussing the report recently issued by the government, dealing with the term of occupancy of farms in the United States, said:

"This frequency of moving from farm to farm, or instability of occupancy, very likely, forms one of the chief causes for the decline of rural prosperity, or is a hindrance to greater progress. Frequency of removal of farmers results in general shiftlessness; the roads and bridges are generally in a poor condition because the farmers, moving at frequent periods, are not particularly interested in their upkeep. Farm buildings of such farms are not usually kept in good repair, as the farmer who is about to move will leave the repairs for the next tenant to make. The same reasons will apply for lack of interest by the 'unstable' farms in the schools, churches and general welfare of the community. They move frequently; they do not remain on a farm long enough to get the best results from it. Consequently they are usually in a poor financial condition."

RINGS DYSPEPSIA TABLETS
Cures Indigestion and Stomach Trouble

Farm Notes.

Farming is successful only when the crops have been profitably marketed.

Good roads broaden our sympathy, lessen distance and increase our usefulness.

It's the man who really counts in farming. Fertile land is necessary, but a master mind must solve the problem of production and marketing.

Agriculture needs all the great men it can get.

In union there is strength and in co-operation there is profit.

The farmer can neither help himself nor be helped by others until he organizes.

A good place to feel the pulse of civic life is at the public drinking trough. The ebb and flow of animal life, as it quenches its thirst at the public fountain gives us an estimate of the wealth, population and prosperity of the community; the character, habits and occupations of its people and the utility, pleasure and hardships of its citizens. There is no better place to study the progress of the community than at the town pump. Every village in North Carolina should have a town pump and every city with water-works should have a drinking fountain where a stream of pure running water, freely dispenses Adams Ale to the thirsty populace. Pure water and plenty of it is a good community builder.

Good Roads.

Baltimore, Oct. 21, 1914.

In view of the approaching meeting of the American Road Congress in Atlanta,—the first time the Congress has ever met in the South,—and the indication that it will be the most important meeting ever held in this or any other country in behalf of good roads and good streets, the Manufacturers Record has turned this week's issue into a special Good Roads publication with a cover piece carrying the statement:

"Good Roads
Mean Progress and Life.
Bad Roads
Mean Poverty and Death."

Every phase of the road question is discussed and broadly covered. Details of expenditures that are now being made by the sixteen Southern States show that the South is now annually putting out over \$50,000,000 in the building and maintenance of roads without counting its expenditure on street improvements in towns and cities. The work that is being done in every State is covered by letters from the Governors or from the Highway Commissioners, or other authorities who are handling the road question in the various States. Experts discuss various road building materials, including sand-clay, brick, cement, macadam and all other phases of road work.

Life Of Man And Horse In War.

Some idea of the fearful loss of life in the European war is gained by the statements of English army officers now in the United States purchasing horses. When asked why inferior mounts were purchased for cavalry service they replied that as the average life of a horse on the great battle lines in France and Belgium is but three or four days there is no need of high bred horses whose lives would not last a week on the firing line. The comparative figures on the life of the soldiers of the several nations when actually in conflict has been estimated as follows: German, 6 days; French and Belgian, 6 days; English, 7 days; Serbian, 8 days; Russian, 9 days. The average life of a horse for the same countries when used in the battle line is: German, 3 days; English and Belgian, 4 days; French, Russian and Serbian, 5 days. The average life of a man on the firing line, using the combined figures, is shown to be only 6 5-6 days and that of a horse 4 1-3 days. This awful mortality makes such bloody battles as Pickett's charge at Gettysburg and the fight at the "Bloody Angle" in our Civil War, and even the immortal charge of the Light Brigade in the Crimean War seem commonplace and insignificant. — The Tidewater News.

Prohibition In Russia

An interesting prohibition echo comes from warring Russia where the sale of alcohol has been forbidden by the imperial government. The Russian government has heretofore had a monopoly on the sale of the national intoxicant, "vodka", and the action of the Czar in stopping its sale is in large measure due to the efforts of the Russian Union of Abstinence. The leading newspaper in Petrograd says that since the sale of vodka has been suppressed the saving banks deposits in that city have increased over eleven million dollars for September in spite of the war. — The Tidewater News.

North Carolina Farmers Move Frequently

Washington, D. C. Oct.—In compiling data for the last Federal Census, the enumerators asked every farmer in North Carolina this question: "How long have you lived on the farm you now occupy?" This question was answered by 225,657 of the 258,725 farm operators in this State. More than 61,000 stated that they had occupied their farms only one year or less; 54,746 from 2 to 4 years; 36,170 from 5 to 9 years and 73,469 10 years and over. The most restless class of people in this State is the tenant who operates his farm on the share basis. There are 82,248 of these farmers in this State; 78,390 of them made answer to the query and their replies indicated that 39,041, or about 50 per cent of them moved every year.

EARLY RISERS
The famous little pills.