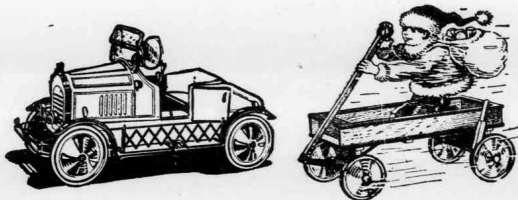




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**BECKER'S Variety Store**

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## This Week

by Arthur Brisbane  
**Kellogg Peace Fruits To Boom Good Times When a Man Scribbles Think of Mexico**

China says Russia's attack on her Manchurian possessions, seizing the railroads, killing Chinese, setting fire to their homes, etc., is a defiance of the Kellogg peace pact.

Britain and America will talk that over and see what can be done about it. Henderson, foreign minister in Britain's labor cabinet, says Japan will take part in the discussion. Russia asks no one's advice and the only thing that could be done about it would be to fight Russia.

It would be interesting if the first fruits of the Kellogg peace pact should be the start of another war. If that war came Japan, highly intelligent, would send a few "observers," as in the big war, and do nothing else.

Britain would be too busy with other things and too "fed up" for any more fighting. Uncle Sam would be told: "After all, Kellogg is your man. It is your peace pact. Have the common decency to attend to this matter."

Insult of Chicago, Cortelyou of New York and Owen D. Young of Europe. New York and everywhere have seen the President. They and other industrial stars promise the President to co-operate in his admirable undertaking, promotion of new enterprises, wise spending of money and creation of jobs.

Their promise is no small one, for they agree to spend fifteen hundred million dollars on one program.

What the country needs, if it really needs anything beyond common sense, is to spend part of the money we have, and we have hundreds of billions of it. On past occasions this country has stood petrified, unable to move, like a man watching his house burn down, unable to use his legs or hands.

You might buy of autograph dealers a signature of Herbert Hoover on a sheet of paper with many little queer geometrical diagrams scratched on the paper while listening to a visitor.

These diagrams usually mean that the man making them is not listening "very hard."

If Rockefeller or Ford called to tell the President of a plan to put ten million men to work at good wages, he would listen and wouldn't do any scribbling as he listened.

When you talk and a man scribbles, make it short. He isn't much interested.

It was a distressing slump in Wall street, but think of poor Mexico. That country has had not a slump but a downward cataclysm.

Figures prepared by L. F. Herbert, authority on Mexican securities, show that national and railroad securities in Mexico with a par value of \$563,926,156 are now selling on a basis of \$37,000,000, or about six and a half per cent of par.

Suppose you could buy \$100 worth of our government bonds or best railroad stock for \$6.50. That would be worry.

And the simple-hearted Mexicans have not been dumping out new stock, 20,000,000 shares at a time, either.

Business men that know what it means to take an inventory of a good sized store will shudder when they hear that Doctor Shapley of Harvard has a plan for taking an inventory of the universe or "an index," as he calls it. Man is very far down in that inventory, about as important as a shoestring in a wholesale dry goods store.

In the cosmos everything is to be listed in its place, from electrons to "super galaxies." The difference between a super galaxy and an electron of which millions might revolve unperceived around their nucleus in the corner of the eye, is quite a difference.

Consider that the molecules in a pint of water, placed side by side, touching, would go around the earth two hundred million times; that our sun is a million times as big as the earth; that there exist other suns, one million times as big as ours, and you can imagine what a cosmic inventory would be. But men will make it, including everything within the telescope's reach.

Under ground near the marshy shore of the Bay of Biscay old Clemenceau would be interested to hear that the German newspapers say, "We should have won the war if we had had the greatest French man since Napoleon."

E. E. Free, able engineer, says 1950 will see electric houses, lighted with artificial sunlight, weather arranged as prescribed by the doctor, like a baby's modified milk, no windows soundproof, and electrically ventilated. The soundproof suggestion is welcome and the rest, not.

Men are, physically speaking, animals. They want the sun shining in regularly, the air blowing through. They want to come in and go out as they did in the cave days, and do not want the inside made like the outside. (© 1929, by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

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As soon as possible.  
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