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Barney Oldfield Takes a Wife



Barney Oldfield, famous auto race driver, and his bride, photographed as they sailed from Los Angeles for Panama and Havana on their honeymoon.

Mussolini Starts War to End Mafia

Beatrice Baskerville in New York World.

The Mafia, notorious organization which has operated for centuries outside the law in Sicily and Southern Italy, is feeling the crushing hand of Mussolini. No longer, if his campaign succeeds, will it be permitted to settle its own quarrels or levy tribute.

Hereafter, Premier Mussolini recently told a visiting delegation of Sicilians, the Mafia will be answerable for its actions to the State.

Grand Officer Mori, Prefect of Palermo, has been fighting Ferrarolo, the "Mafioso," for years. This man for thirty years controlled three provinces. All sorts of crimes were charged against him and his band. Fifty years of imprisonment hangs over his head.

Recently, surrounded by military police, he surrendered to the authorities. More than forty of his henchmen, five of them charged with murder, also have given themselves up.

The prestige of Fascismo has done much to persuade citizens to give the police information concerning criminals, though the first leak was brought about by a quarrel among themselves.

Mori took advantage of the quarrel between the Mafia bands to work for his own ends. Hence the arrests. Hotel porters and taxicab drivers have been examined to learn if they are affiliated with the Mafia. Every hotel keeper has been required to report to the authorities all he knows of the porters he employs.

Many members of the Mafia were found and were turned out of the hotels. There is no secret about it now. The rule is: "Either you cease to be a member of the Mafia or you lose your job." Members of the Mafia are gradually being replaced where they have been employed in the orange groves.

It is one thing to shoot a man from behind a wall when you know the police will be slow to act. But it is an entirely different procedure to shoot a black shirted Fascist, who never travels alone. He has the militia and the police to avenge him.

This extraordinary secret society is not bound by oaths and vows. Interests, necessity and a "sense of honor" have kept its members together for hundreds of years. So far the Mafia has never bound itself to any political party. That is one of the outstanding reasons why the Italian Premier has determined to crush it. Fascismo must take its place.

It has been boasted in Palermo that no constitutional Government can oppose the Mafia. But so Fascismo is not strictly constitutional, there is no reason why its opposition should not succeed. The new law against any members of the public, civil or military services belonging to secret societies will be applied to the Mafia.

Settles Own Quarrels.

The cleverest members of the Italian secret service from "The Continent," as the mainland of Italy is called, have never been able to suppress the activities of the Mafia. To an extent, however, they were able to control certain aspects of its

activities. Heretofore nobody has ever given serious thought to absolute suppression.

For years the Mafia has settled its own quarrels. Their law was "An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." So it has gone on through the years, the Italian authorities sitting supinely as the Mafia settled its own problems in its own way.

If Mussolini succeeds in suppressing the Mafia it will be, according to Sicilian opinion, tantamount to depriving the island of home rule.

The Mafia is older than Sicily's union with "the Continent." It implies no hostility to Italian civil power. It grew in strength under the corrupt rule of the Bourbon kings, whose police were graft-ridden. In those days, the Mafia had no patience with the legal tribunals for redress. He took the law into his own hands.

Even today, in the remote districts of Sicily, it is easier to settle disputes by the Mafia method than through legal procedure.

Powerful in Palermo.

In Palermo the Mafia is powerful. Recently an American tourist had his watch stolen while he was viewing the harbor. A Sicilian who knew the tourist in New York, happened to be in town. The American reported his loss to him. "Go to your hotel and wait," said the Sicilian. Less than an hour later the Sicilian returned with the watch.

"I knew only one man was allowed to pick pockets in that street," said the Sicilian. "I went to him, and there is your watch."

He would not volunteer another word on the subject.

In Palermo it is considered cowardly to be an informer. In fact, it does not pay. The Sicilian considers it a sign of weakness if he does not avenge an injury of violence. A wounded man considers it unpardonable to name an assailant. His law is: "If I live, I will kill you; if I die, I forgive you."

Nor will a chance witness to a crime report it to the civil authorities. The Sicilian settles disputes that kind in his own peculiar way. Innocent men have gone to jail rather than divulge the name of the real criminal. It is the unwritten law of the Mafia. The informer is a hated and marked man.

Exciting Fight Promised.

Some "Mafiosi" never rise above the criminal class. Others are men of high character with great political influence. A man with a reputation of honor in having no dealings with the police, rise to a place of state in the Mafia. This is particularly true outside of Palermo. Foreigners go to him when in difficulty with neighbors or suffer from lawless acts of citizens.

This chief keeps his word and it is law. He helps maintain the moral despotism which is the foundation for the Mafia's existence. Ofttimes he is a lawyer or a municipal or provincial councillor, at times a personage in high authority. Patronage is in his control, for in his home district no man, Sicilian or foreign, can conclude a contract without his approval.

MUCH OF MODERN PROGRESS DUE TO SPECIALIZATION

By S. W. STRAUS, President American Society for Thrift.

THE statement that this is the age of specialization may seem trite, yet it embodies one of the most important phases of modern progress.

Those who have succeeded have done so because they did some particular thing in a very skillful manner. It is with the meaning of thrift to concentrate one's time and energies where they will produce the best results, for it is just about as thrifless to scatter your mental forces as it is to scatter your money.

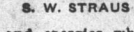
Pick out the lines of activity in which you excel and then bend every effort to perfecting yourself in these lines.

It is better, from the standpoint of results, to be thorough than to be versatile.

Give to your chosen line of work the very best that is in you. Each day will then find you becoming more proficient and consequently more valuable. Remember the old proverb, "the fellow with one idea generally grows rich, while he who calls him a fool dies poor."

Superficiality is the cause of many a personal failure in life. It is one phase of thriftness. The problems of life are so large and complex, and the range of human endeavor so far-reaching that effective individual effort must be restricted to certain definite and somewhat limited lines.

It is good thrift to concentrate and give the best that is in you. Men who do these things are among life's successes.



S. W. STRAUS

INCOME TAXES MAY REACH FIVE MILLION DOLLARS

Cotton Mills Are Back on Good Financial Basis After Season of Depression.

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—State income tax collections are expected to reach four and a half or five million dollars for the year, Revenue Commissioner R. A. Douglass estimated today.

The yield last year was three and a half millions. The outlook for a marked increase in the yield for this year is based on the rate increase made by the last legislature and improved financial conditions in the cotton mill industry.

Most of the industries in the state had a satisfactory year in 1925. Commissioner Douglass said, and the cotton mills got back on good financial basis after a season of depression in 1924. Income tax returns have been slow in coming in, although the period for making returns began January 1st.

The revenue department looks for the usual push during the first two weeks in March, which are the last two weeks of the period for filing returns.

New Type of Road for County of Guilford.

Greensboro, Feb. 9.—Guilford county commissioners today signed a contract for construction of ten miles of a new type of road for the county, "all-weather." A Raleigh contracting concern, the Bituminous Earth Road Company, will do the work, to start early in the spring. Calchinit is the material used. The initial cost is \$2,500 per mile. Applications costing \$1,000 per mile will be necessary. It is estimated, at the end of the second, fourth, sixth and ninth years.

The commissioners would not let the contract until a representative of the State highway commission forces told them that the type of road had proven satisfactory where tried.

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Nothing on But Her Stockings



Helen Doty, Dallas, Tex., dancer, performed the Charleston before a big audience with nothing on but her stockings—but it was perfectly proper, as she had 72 pairs, made into the costume shown above. The whole costume cost about \$150, and has 31 different shades.

WORLD IS NOT GOING TO BOW-WOWS, SAYS HOEY

Shelby Man Believes in Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Man.

Gastonia, Feb. 9.—"We are no longer bound by ties of denomination or church," declared the Hon. Clyde R. Hoey, of Shelby, former congressman, in an address to the Men's Bible Class of the First Presbyterian church here. "The whole world has leaped beyond the boundaries of church, state, nation and denomination.

"As long as a Jew wrote the 23rd Psalm; a Catholic, 'Lead Kindly Light'; a Methodist, 'Jesus, Lover of My Soul'; a Presbyterian, 'Rock of Ages'; a Baptist, 'Amazing Grace'; a Lutheran, 'A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,' and a member of the Church of England, 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,' I shall believe in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," said Mr. Hoey.

"I am not one of those who believe that the world is growing worse," said Mr. Hoey. "We are not going to the bow-wows. Men are too deeply interested in religion and things spiritual these days. Many of us used to carry our religion in our wives' names—they sponsored our religion. Dr. Chappell in Washington used to say there would be five women to every man in heaven."

BRADY SIMPSON HELD FOR HIGH COURT JURY

Charlotte White Man Bound Over For Immoral Conduct With 12-Year-Old Girl.

Charlotte, Feb. 9.—Brady Simpson, 30-year-old white man, of Thomasboro who was bound over to Superior court Monday on a charge of stealing an automobile, this afternoon was held for action of the grand jury in Superior court on a charge of immoral conduct with a 12-year-old white girl, after a hearing before Justice of the Peace Mangum. Simpson originally had been charged with criminally assaulting the young girl, Jessie May Hicks, of the Lakewood section, but when she went on the stand this afternoon this charge was changed to immoral conduct.

Simpson recently was returned from Clarkston, Ga., to this city to face the charges brought against him for stealing an automobile and for his conduct with the girl, who claims he enticed her to go for a night automobile ride with him and Knox Brown, a young white boy, who is in jail here in connection with the case. He was sent to jail this afternoon in default of the bond fixed by the magistrate.

A poor memory is a blessing when applied to old troubles.

JOINS STAFF OF BALTIMORE SUN?

Gerald Johnson About to Return to Active Newspaper Work.

Chapel Hill, Feb. 9.—Gerald W. Johnson, professor of Journalism in the university of North Carolina, has tendered his resignation, and will join the editorial staff of the Baltimore Evening Sun at the close of the present scholastic year, according to reports in circulation here.

When questioned tonight, Professor Johnson refused to confirm or deny the reports. President Chase is out of town, and official confirmation could not be obtained from other sources.

It is understood that Professor Johnson goes to the Sun at a salary of \$6,000 a year and that he will find time to continue the magazine work that he has been doing. As holder of a full professorship here, his present salary is \$4,000, and it would be limited to \$4,500 for the nine months he teaches. It is understood, however, that the increase in salary is not the primary consideration. A Virginia paper offered him a salary that matches the Sun's offer for more than a year ago, and he turned it down.

Chicago has replied to "little old New York" and its mammoth new Madison Square Garden with the announcement of plans for an indoor arena for sport events that will be bigger, busier and better than anything the eastern metropolis can boast. Eight million perfectly good dollars are to be spent in building the Chicago amphitheatre. It demands and its arena will be of sufficient area and height to accommodate football games as well as hockey, horse shows, track and field meets, six-day bicycle races, polo, and other competitions.

Into the End.

"By the way," said the lawyer who was drawing up the will, "I notice that you've named six bankers to be your pall-bearers. Wouldn't you rather choose some friends with whom you are on better terms?"

"No, that's all right," was the quick reply. "Those fellows have carried me so long they might as well finish the job."

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