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THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1938

BIBLE THOUGHT

Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Proverbs 3:27.

COMMUNITY GROWTH

The source of a town's soundest and healthiest growth is the intelligence and energy of its own citizens.

A town is just like a business. The best businesses find their executives right in their own ranks. They make sales managers out of stock boys, superintendents out of apprentices, and presidents and directors out of salesmen.

No town is ever too small, but what it contains within its own boundaries the ability necessary for the vigorous growth. Unfortunately, this growth does not always express itself without encouragement. Only those with vision, energy, brains and encouragement, can be expected to step forward and lead.

The secret of community growth is the mental attitude of the leaders. If the leaders have lost their ambition and have quit striving, this attitude will be quickly felt by the entire body of citizens of the community.

People make cities. Natural advantages properly used enable men to make communities larger faster.

We question whether there is a community east of the Mississippi that has more natural advantages than has this one, but unless we take advantage of them, we might as well not have them.

MODERN RAILROADING

The public, in general, takes a railroad for granted, assuming that they will operate, regardless of patronage or volume of business.

The same fickle public, seldom, if ever, gives a thought to the fact that the railroads are the background of all transportation, and one of the principal factors in the development of any section. No section can ever hope to show much progress without the facilities of a railroad.

While motor transportation, both in passenger and freight, is continuing to expand their business, the railroads are also keeping abreast of the times with increased service, at a minimum cost.

The business of a railroad hits directly at the pocketbook of every citizen. The taxes paid into local governmental units amounts to a staggering sum. All told, something like \$20,000 is paid in Haywood County by the Southern.

Next Sunday the Southern will discontinue trains Nos. 19 and 21, because of lack of patronage. It was learned from an official of the system, that the two passenger trains—19 and 21—were being operated at an approximate loss of \$12,000 per year. That is a staggering sum to the average person, especially when in red ink in the ledger. Even to a railroad, doing millions of dollars worth of business a year, it is too much to continue to lose.

THE REAL CHARITY

No man, no honest man, wants coddling. A fair chance to help himself is all he asks. If blind or deaf or crippled, still for himself he bespeaks no more. The greatest gift one person can give another, Helen Keller has said over and over, is not to do something for him, but to enable him to do something for himself.

A case in point is Miss Keller herself, to men everywhere the symbol of a fruitful life grown from a blighted blossom. . . through patient nurture by a friend. March 3, the 51 anniversary of Miss Keller's first meeting with her teacher, was observed as National Helen Keller Day, in aid of the blind. Civic and service club groups, which, on many fronts are doing much to help the blind and incapacitated, may wish to remember this word from her: "The heaviest burden on the blind is not blindness, but idleness."—Rotarian Magazine.

ORIGIN OF BASEBALL

Present indications are that this community will become baseball minded this spring and summer as never before. The prospects for a winning team at Hazelwood in the Industrial league is far ahead of past seasons.

In view of this increased baseball interest, the origin of the game should be of interest to the fans.

While baseball as we know it is a sport of comparatively recent development, a game in which a tossed ball was batted with a crude club has been traced back to the 14th century in Europe. The present American game was probably an outgrowth of that of "town ball," played in New England from about 1830, in which the runs were made around posts set in the ground, instead of bases.

The first code of baseball rules was formulated by the Knickerbocker club of New York in 1845, the first match game was played the following year, and the first gate money series of games took place in Hoboken in 1858. The development of the game was checked by the Civil War, but was revived in 1865, when a convention was held at which representatives of 30 clubs were present.

A Rockford, Ill. team first employed regularly salaried players, but the Cincinnati Red Stockings organized in 1868, is considered the first professional club. It made a tour in 1869, winning 69 games without meeting a single defeat. In 1870 it won 29 straight games, being defeated in the 30th game by the Atlantics of Brooklyn.

Gamblers having gotten control of the game, a convention was held in Louisville in 1876, at which strict rules to overcome bribery, betting by players and other abuses were adopted, and the National League was formed. There are now more than 20 professional leagues, of which the National and the American (originally the Western, formed by Ban Johnson in 1893) are the two "big leagues."

The most significant event in recent baseball history was the appointment of Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis as "baseball czar" in 1920.

WHY EDITORS ARE SUSPICIOUS

If the newspaper reporter isn't too enthusiastic when you say you have some news, there's a reason. He wants to know whether it actually is news or something else.

Many organizations, both national and local ask newspapers if some news would be acceptable. The editor or reporter is always glad to get news and answers in the affirmative. Perhaps the first two or three offerings are real news, something of interest to readers, actual events or happenings.

But it isn't long until good old propaganda rears its head. The "news" turns out to be an exposition of the theories of the organization, a mild form of advertising to promote the aims and objects, cleverly worded reasons why there should be more members. In many cases, the publicity is to help someone hold a job at a satisfactory salary.

Newspapers are usually generous in giving free publicity to worth while undertakings. But demands always far exceed what is reasonable. Many of those responsible for supplying the news either can not or will not distinguish between events and free publicity. They think in terms of putting over an idea instead of providing interesting information.

Anyone worth his salt around a newspaper office knows the readers soon tire of this stuff. A few who are particularly interested in a certain organization or undertaking may read it, but 99 per cent of the subscribers hardly give it a glance.

When the editor tries to do something about it, he takes a chance on incurring the ill will of a few persons. They are likely to think the newspaper unfriendly just because the paper wants more news and less publicity and propaganda material. Consequently, editors and reporters are probably overly suspicious and like to find out if what comes within shooting distance of the correct definition of news before they grab it.—Courier, Stafford, Kan.

TWENTIETH CENTURY ONLY ONE-THIRD GONE

In 1900, not one family in a hundred owned a horse and buggy; today, three out of four have cars.

Away back there one family in thirteen had a telephone; now, one family in two.

Then, modern plumbing was a luxury; now it's part of Willie's bringing up to flush the toilet painissimo when mother's bridge party's in session.

In 1900, every family had a cradle and perambulator in the attic, all ready. Today every attic has a victrola, crystal set, saxophone, all through.

In that old day, electric refrigeration was unknown; today 7 million families own refrigerators, or will after twelve more payments.

Today 22 millions have radios; or the radio has 22 millions.

And we've still got 62 years to go.—Ex.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



Random SIDE GLANCES

By W. Curtis Russ

Georgia peach growers are sleeping with one eye open at this time of the year. The warm days of February have caused their trees to bud, and some of the earlier varieties are in full bloom.

As a matter of precaution, the orchard owners have hauled truck load after truck load of sawdust to the orchards, and have it all ready to burn in case of threatening frost or cold nipping winds.

A trip through Georgia's famous peach belt on a recent cold day, reminded one of passing through an area where forest fires were raging. The blue thick smoke, which smoldering sawdust gives off, hovered over the budding trees like a blanket, and protected them from frost.

With peaches the principal source of cash in that particular section, every precaution is taken to guard against crop shortage, either by weather or fruit disease.

While it has never seemed profitable, or good business to depend solely on one crop for income, it was impressive to see the care that is taken of Georgia peach orchards. They know full well that their living depends on the crop, and so everything goes into the orchards.

The slow-burning sawdust does not make a flame, and there is not enough heat in any one point to cause damage to nearby trees.

South Carolina has started a highway beautification program along their newly constructed highways, and although a new experiment with them in some sections, the work seems to have gotten off to a good start, and certainly one that makes the entire countryside more attractive and inviting.

The majority of the folks in Georgia do not pronounce North Carolina correctly—in fact, few Tar Heels do for that matter. Georgians apparently overlook all "a's" in Carolina. Maybe that is their method of getting even with those of us who pronounce the name of their state as Jorgy.

I have a different impression of a certain town way down in Georgia, just because the owner of a drug store took time out to make our few minutes stay there pleasant. His soda jerker was a snobby sort of smart aleck. He had soured on the world. He was grouchy, sassy and careless with his work. The owner of the store was exactly opposite. He made up for all that his despicable clerk did. As a result, I think more of the town. I just wonder if a Waynesville visitor ever experienced the same thing here?

Motorists today are more considerate of each other than in former days—although I'll admit they try to hog the road, pass on curves and the such, but if a tire needs air, or something wrong, the average motorist will let you know about it when passing. If you question this, just burn your lights in the day time, and one out of every three motorists will blink their lights as they pass, to say nothing of the scores of pedestrians on the highway that call out: "Your lights are on."

All of this is commendable, and while it might prove a little nerve-racking at times, it does convince one that the old world is a pretty nice place, and there are some friendly people still in it.

VIEWS OF EDITORS

Observation

Our reputations are made by what people say of us behind our backs.—William Feather Magazine.

Department of Free Advice

If the police only knew it, the quickest way to disperse a mob is to pass around the hat.—Guelph Mercury (Canada.)

Definition

Dignity is when you're hit in neck with a snowball and you can look as if you didn't know it.—Toronto Star.

Wrong Note

In its grocery department this week, a New York store called attention to "pure maple syrup from the tender boughs high in the maple trees." No doubt the writer could almost see the brave syrup gatherers working their

THIS WEEK in HISTORY

- March 3, 1845—Florida admitted to the Union.
- March 4, 1791—Vermont admitted to the Union. Kute Rockne born.
- March 5, 1806—Elizabeth B. Browning, poet, born.
- March 6, 1831—General Phillip H. Sheridan, soldier, hero, born.
- March 7, 1876—First telephone patent issued to Alexander Graham Bell.
- March 8, 1855—Railway suspension bridge opened across Niagara Falls.
- March 9, 1862—Battle between Monitor and Merrimac took place.

precarious way among the topmost branches of the maples.—Brattleboro (Vt.) Reformer.

"Anything," declares a musician, "that's too silly to be said, may be sung." And anything that's too silly to be said or sung will go big on the air.—Toronto Star.

What's In a Name?

Columbia University now offers a course on how to understand a war—or, as they say in Tokyo, a peace.—Des Moines Tribune.

Sour Note

Complaint Dept.
There ain't no justice. The authorities placed in jail a hobo who caught a ride on the President's train, and let go scot-free thousands of candidates who caught a ride on his coat-tails.—(Conn.)Times Star.

Let Freedom Ring

Thank goodness we live in a free country, where a man may say what he thinks—if he isn't afraid of his wife, neighbors, or boss, and if he's sure it won't hurt his business or his reputation.—Patterson (Kans.) News.

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