



CHARLES SOCKER COE, the first and best of the gangster novelists, is now an eminent Florida attorney. Before that Socker was a navy ring champion and also one of the closest students of ring form. He is still a keen student of the modern art of self-defense, which is largely "100 yards in 10 seconds."



Grantland Rice

Socker happened to be on hand when Conn fought Savold. "Conn," he said, "as everybody knows, is a fine boxer and he is also dead game. That ought to be enough for a 175-pound fighter. But apparently it isn't today, when almost everyone is looking for a puncher."

"Conn simply doesn't know how to punch—I mean the art of punching. He relies only on his wrists and arms. There is no shoulder or body support back of his blows."

"To be a good puncher," Socker said, "a fighter must know how to get in those shoulder and body muscles. I've talked about this with Bobby Jones in hitting a golf ball. As you know, Bobby in his prime was as long as anybody. He was far past Hagen and Sarazen off the tee, 10 or 12 years ago—when they were all at the top. Bobby relied a lot on shoulder and body and hip power to get this distance. The same thing is true of boxing when it comes to the punching side."

Dempsey and Tunney

"When Jack Dempsey nailed you with a left hook," Socker added, "he wasn't just flipping you with a wrist and arm motion. He had those big shoulder muscles, under the shoulder, working with the punch. He had his whole left side in that wallop. The same, to a lesser degree, is true of Gene Tunney. Tunney never had the explosive force that belonged to Dempsey—that belongs to Joe Louis—but he was a much better puncher than most ring followers know about. Tunney wasn't a natural athlete, but a great student of ring science and form. He was also a fine student of the details that produce force. Gene knew how to get shoulder and body back of his punches."

"Carnera was six feet seven and he weighed 270 pounds. He was a professional strong man. But he wasn't big enough or strong enough to hurt or even jar anybody with this wrist and arm swing that had no other support. You can't flick at somebody and do any damage—unless, of course, you use a thumb, as quite a few have done. But I'm not speaking of gougers. I'm speaking of real punchers."

About Billy Conn

"Billy Conn isn't big enough for a Joe Louis," Socker rambled on. "Louis can hit too hard with either hand. But Conn should be a better puncher than he is today. The kid is a fine boxer, he is fast, and he is dead game. But apparently no one has ever taught him how to hit. No one has shown him what true balance means when you deliver a punch. No one has told him the value of shoulder and back muscles, working with hands and arms."

"If they have, Billy simply hasn't learned his lesson. He was able to measure Savold and hit him at will—at any spot, at any time. Yet he couldn't even rock him. If Joe Louis had delivered any one of those 50 or 60 punches to the chin Savold would still be dreaming of the hour. They would have found his body somewhere in the upper stands."

"Conn is still just a kid. He still has a lot to learn. Not about boxing, but about punching. He should punch the heavy bag oftener, and learn how to get in those shoulder and back muscles. Otherwise he is just going to be another good light heavyweight. I doubt that he will ever get much bigger. His thin legs show that. He may reach 180. But he has enough boxing skill to get his opponent ready for the kill—if he only could get that kill into his right or left hand. You can't get that with a flick."

"What about another Pittsburgher, Harry Greb?" I asked. "I still think Greb in his prime could beat any heavyweight I ever saw, and Harry was no great puncher."

"Greb was different," Socker said. "Greb, a little Hercules, was a stick of dynamite. He was even faster than Conn. I'd say much faster. And he'd hit you with everything from the laces on his glove to the stool he used between rounds. Greb knew 20 rules—except to win."

FARM TOPICS

SWINE DISEASE SPREAD FEARED

Erysipelas Presents a New Threat in U. S.

Throughout the ages, one of the first and most certain results of war has been a marked increase in the contagious disease of live stock.

One serious animal disease, for example gained entry here before the war, and has already caused serious losses to live stock producers in a number of states. This plague is known as Swine Erysipelas—a name which is probably more familiar to most American farmers than the disease itself.

Today, serious outbreaks of Erysipelas are gaining in frequency in many states. Naturally, the greatest losses have occurred in the swine raising sections of the Middle West, but according to the American Foundation for Animal Health, the disease has now been recognized in at least 39 states.

Swine Erysipelas is caused by a specific bacterial organism. In swine, this organism or germ may cause several different types of the disease varying from the very acute blood-poisoning type, to the slowly developing chronic type characterized by lameness, enlarged joints, and sometimes by inflamed or dead areas of the skin. In its more acute forms, the symptoms may resemble those of hog cholera and laboratory examinations by a veterinarian are frequently required in differentiating the two diseases.

The fact that Erysipelas and Cholera symptoms are often very much alike is undoubtedly an important factor in the recent spread of the former disease in this country. If veterinary diagnosis is not made, and the disease is allowed to run its course, many farmers conclude that their hogs have recovered from an attack of cholera, when as a matter of fact the animals have been suffering from Erysipelas. This is a very serious error in view of the fact that it has been definitely proved that animals that have recovered from an attack of the disease may carry the causative germ in their body tissues for relatively long periods.

The first point for every farmer to remember is that Erysipelas often resembles hog cholera. Guesswork is a poor substitute for accurate diagnosis when either of these dangerous diseases is involved. And finally, an effective treatment for Erysipelas is now available and should be used whenever the disease is indicated, not only to help save the infected hogs, but to help prevent further spread of the disease in this country.

Lights Necessitate More Poultry Feed

Poultrymen should remember that artificial lights stimulate egg production only because they encourage greater feed consumption and that more grain should be provided when lights are used, advises J. C. Taylor, associate extension poultryman at Rutgers university.

If the amount of grain fed is increased two to four pounds per 100 birds a day so that about 14 or 16 pounds are consumed daily, it will be easier for laying birds to maintain good body weight. When the limit has been reached in the amount of grain the birds will eat, a flushing mash of ground oats, ground yellow corn and milk may be fed to further aid in the maintenance of body weight.

Feeding Dry Cows

If in poor condition a dry cow may need as much as 10 to 12 pounds grain per day to put her in good condition so that she will milk heavy during her next lactation. A high producing cow cannot maintain her body weight with the feed she can eat, so it is highly important that we put her in good condition when she freshens, says E. H. Hanson, University of Minnesota. A grain mixture made up of 200 pounds ground corn, 400 pounds ground oats, 200 pounds bran, 100 pounds linseed meal, or some other high protein feed and a little molasses is suggested by many feeders. Good hay should be provided for dry cows.

Farm Population

The farm population of the United States on January 1, 1940, was 32,245,000, the largest in 24 years. It was close to the 1916 all-time high record of 32,530,000.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D. Dean of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Lesson for December 29

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JESUS REQUIRES FAITHFULNESS

LESSON TEXT—Luke 12:35-48. GOLDEN TEXT—Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.—Luke 12:48.

The Lord is coming!

One of the chief reasons for the worldliness in our churches today, the indifference toward soul winning, and the neglect of personal holiness, is that preachers and people alike have neglected the truth of the second coming of Christ. He is coming again—are you ready? Am I? These are serious and urgent questions.

I. The Lord Is Coming—Be Waiting (vv. 35, 36).

Lights burning and loins girt ready to serve Him, such should be our daily attitude toward His coming. Believers are to be "looking for" Him (Titus 2:13). They "love his appearing" (II Tim. 4:8). Their hope is not in this world, but they are "looking forward earnestly desiring" (II Pet. 3:11, 12, R. V.) the outworking of God's plan and purpose.

II. The Lord Is Coming—Be Ready (vv. 37-40).

He may come at midnight, or in the morning; we do not know the day or hour (v. 40, cf. Matt. 24:36), but it will be when the world does not expect it (vv. 39, 40). "Be ye ready" is the command to every Christian, ever watchful for the coming of our Lord.

III. The Lord Is Coming—Be Busy (vv. 41-44).

Peter's question is not directly answered, but by inference he is told that he may be one of those to whom this blessing will come by being about the Master's business.

Critics of the teaching of the hope of the Lord's return sometimes say that looking for Him "cuts the nerve of missionary endeavor"; that is, makes men impractical and visionary, not willing to work for God. To prove how untrue that is one need only investigate who it is that furnishes most of the men and means to evangelize the world. He will find that it is the evangelical believers in the Lord's return.

Looking for Christ means occupying until He comes (Luke 19:13), doing the Lord's work here and now (v. 42), while awaiting His coming.

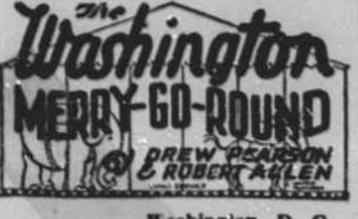
"Jesus compares teachers to house stewards (Matt. 24:45, 46; Acts 20:28; I Cor. 4:1; I Pet. 4:10). A steward's business is to give to each one in the household his portion of meat in due season (John 21:15-17; I Pet. 5:2; Jer. 3:15). The faithful and wise steward is the one who actually does this. There are many foolish and unfaithful stewards who feed themselves, not the household (cf. Ezek. 34:2, 3); or they feed only a portion of the household; or they give something else than food (philosophy or sociology, instead of the pure Word of God; cf. I Pet. 2:2; 4:10, 11); or they do not give the food 'in due season.' The steward who is faithful and wise is also blessed. Having proved his fitness to rule, he is rewarded with larger rule. At the bottom of the unfaithful steward's neglect of duty lies his view that Christ's coming is far off" (Bradbury).

IV. The Lord Is Coming—Be Holy (vv. 45-48).

The belief that the Lord will delay His coming leads to all manner of unbelief, betrayal of trust, and of sin. In the case of the servant in verse 45, there was first oppression of those under him, and then gluttony and drunkenness. The picture is revolting, but it was really prophetic of what has taken place even within the ranks of professing Christians in the church itself.

Neglect of the truth of God's Word, scoffing at the promise of Christ's coming (read carefully II Pet. 3:3-9) leads to that perversion of Christianity which is evident in much of the life of the church today, and which causes thinking people to turn away in disgust. Let us stress the fact that this may be "religion," but it is not real Christianity.

There is a solemn word here for preachers, teachers and Christian workers. A time of judgment is coming, and we are to answer to the Lord for the faithful use of our privileges and opportunities. It is a matter to which we need to give careful attention.



Washington, D. C. DONOVAN'S REAL GOAL IS GREECE

Inside fact regarding the present mystery trip of Col. William Donovan to Europe is that his real destination is Greece.

En route, however, he will stop in North Africa where he will see his old World War friend, Marshal Weygand, now controlling the large French army in Africa.

If this powerful force took the field on the side of the British, the Italians, already in a precarious position as a result of their defeats in Greece, would be finished. This would release British naval forces for desperately needed convoy work in the Atlantic.

Also it would have repercussions in the Far East, where the Japanese military have been greedily eyeing the rich Dutch East Indies and Indo-China. With the British supreme in the Mediterranean and their big fleet available for operations elsewhere, Japan would think twice before attempting any new grabs.

On the Greek front, Donovan will make a survey similar to that which he made in England last spring.

In England last spring, Donovan made a thorough survey of invasion defenses, military intelligence and the royal air force. He spent a week in the field with the British army and made several flights with the R.A.F. Various U. S. army, air corps and navy observers are now attached to the British forces as the result of Donovan's trip; also he established close intelligence ties on Axis espionage and fifth column operations.

On his previous British mission, Donovan traveled as the personal representative of Navy Secretary Knox.

PRE-ADJOURNMENT JUNKET

On November 19, when the house defeated a motion to adjourn until January, members righteously declared that congress should remain on the job in these grave days of emergency.

But today a dozen members of the house are enjoying a cushy junket to Panama, at the expense of the government. And with one exception, everyone of the group voted to stay on the job.

On December 5, a fortnight after so voting, they quietly sailed from New York on the S. S. Panama, which is owned by the government. They will spend two weeks cruising and three days in Panama.

Several are members of the military affairs committee and might have some legitimate reason for making a "defense inspection," but the war department says it knows nothing about the junket.

LONGEST SPEECH

Tom Dewey got a thrill and a chuckle from his luncheon at the Capitol with Floor Leader Joe Martin and other house Republicans. The thrill was an invitation to be the principal speaker at the G. O. P. Lincoln day dinner, which the ambitious district attorney accepted.

The chuckle was evoked by a story about the "longest political speech on record" which gangling, curly-haired Rep. John M. Robson of Kentucky, a member of the Lincoln day committee, said he made when he first ran for congress in 1918.

One hot July night during the campaign Robson addressed a big crowd in a county courthouse and was amazed by the enthusiastic reception. Cheers rent the air with every sentence and there was a vociferous "more, more" when he tried to conclude after an hour.

As he was leaving with the local sheriff, Robson boasted: "These people sure were enthusiastic. It looks like this county is in the bag." "Don't set too much store by the way them fellers carried on, Jack," confided the sheriff. "Nobody there (hic) was sober but you."

WHAT BRITONS READ

WPA's library service made an interesting discovery in a survey to ascertain what the people of war-strafed Britain are reading these days.

One fact uncovered was that the long, dreary hours of blackout, with no outside recreation, have greatly revived interest in household arts and handicraft. Books on these subjects are at a premium. Also, the classics are in heavy demand, with Shakespeare, Chaucer, Dickens and Kipling as the favorites.

But the one subject in which Britons are most interested is the author of their affliction. The most widely read book in England, according to the WPA survey, is Hitler's "Mein Kampf."

Wise and Otherwise

SOME girls are an inspiration before marriage and an exasperation afterwards.

At birth they were twins. Now she's five years younger than he is.

Money talks—but it doesn't give itself away.

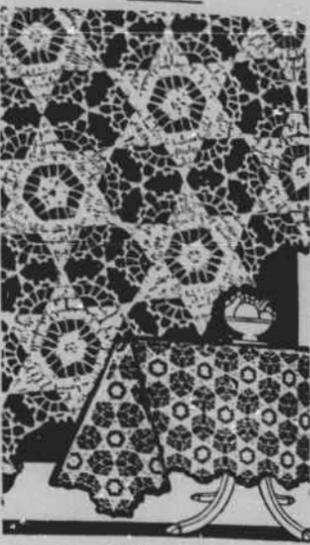
All actors believe that even a small role is better than a long loaf.

When women are musical, they mostly prefer a husband.

We know of a midget who got a job as a condensed milk man.

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