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FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1926

"NOW AND THEN"

When the United States Congress adjourned, we saw in the newspaper correspondence from Washington that "the men who had been making laws for us to live by—and up to—had about all gone to their respective homes to build their fences"—in other words, they were out "campaigning" for votes.

When Congress was in session every farmer in the United States wanted some relief, and many delegates were sent to Washington for the purposes of asking Congress to give them relief in a way that would help them—financially. Did they get it? Yes, they got it where the "chicken got the axe." It is stated that some of the good law-makers told a few of the committees who waited on the "good and careful law-origina-tors, that it was not an opportune time, but when the opportune time came, they would do all they could to help the farmer."

The "opportune" time will never come unless we put the proper men in the Congressional halls that are in sympathy with the farmer.

If a big corporation desires a law passed in their favor, they begin at home, and place in Congressional halls men who are in sympathy with their cause; then they send delegations to Washington and these delegates begin to "lobby" and "button-hole" the Congressmen and Senators, and they get the relief they desire. But—how about the man who is called the back-bone of the country? Does he get the relief he needs? NO, not a bit of it. If he makes a big crop, the prices are so fixed that he gets nothing. We notice that the newspapers and magazines are filled with articles, lauding to the highest Senators and Congressmen since Congress has adjourned, and these magazines and newspaper articles (perhaps paid for by the Congressmen or Senators to whom they refer) is all for the purpose of making the people believe that the men who have been honored to these high positions have worked day and night to make laws for the poor old workmen who are back in "the sticks," and to get the people to believing that their trusted servants had been faithful to every trust, that they may go to the polls in November and vote for them to go back to Washington, and have a good time, and work about three hours a day, while their constituents are at home laboring 12 hours a day to try to make enough money to pay for the extra taxes that have been imposed by their good servants who are entrusted to help them out and give them relief. "You can fool some of the people part of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time," was said by a wise man.

"Mending the fences back at home" is what it is called. Yes, some of the good servants visits the big church meetings and go into the pulpits and preach sermons to their constituents, with the only aim of getting their votes. They will "chuckle" the babies under the chin, and say, John, that's a fine boy, or girl, and then to the madam: "That child is a wonderful child—just like its mother—all of these things belong to the politician; and when he is elected and goes back to his seat in Congress, pass him on the street or in Congressional halls and see what you get. It is always that they are so busy, they haven't time to talk, but "I'll see you some other time." They are generally in a hurry to get to some theatre party or some other place of amusement, of like kind, and of having a good time. Only a few of the faithful ones are on their job.

Go to Washington and see for yourself when Congress is in session. We would like for every voter to be able to investigate personally, and see if this is not right. We have spent quite a bit of time in Washington. We have been there and seen things that is not a credit to our country. Let the entire country vote for a clean government both home and at the Capital.

*Why does a married woman paint?

EVENTUALLY—WHY NOT NOW?

Democratic political developments indicate that the movement to abolish the two-thirds rule in the nomination of candidates in national conventions has been blocked.

Despite determined statements of Democratic leaders from the East and North that the system should be eliminated, word seeps out of Washington the the "solid South" is point blank against the plan.

The opposition has developed into such proportions, it is said, that the Democratic national committee, which had planned to meet next December to kill the rule, has decided to abandon its proposal for a change. Instead, the question probably will be put up to the next convention.

The two-thirds rule should be killed by all means. It is contrary to all the true spirit of democracy. All forward-looking Democrats should insist that it be abolished. Unless a change comes, we can expect another farcical nominating marathon.

A MYRTYR FOR THE CAUSE OF RIGHT

The entire nation has been shocked by the wanton killing of Don R. Mellett, youthful crusading editor of The Canton (O.) Daily News. Officials and citizens agree that the murder was a thrust at the very vitals of law and order.

Like a captain leading his forces in battle, Mr. Mellett has fallen a martyr to a system which in too many places in this country is getting a strangle hold upon government. Vice runs rampant in hundreds of cities and towns in America. Nearly every day we read that public officials, who charged with the enforcement of all laws, have been arrested and exposed for grafting or laxity in office.

Corruption in public office should not be tolerated. Don Mellett, a born fighter, stood alone for weeks in his battle to rid the city of Canton of thieving office-holders, rumrunners, drug peddlers, gamblers and gunmen. A brave and courageous editor, shot down, the victim of cowards who were afraid to fight him fairly.

Now—too late to save Don Mellett's life—Canton rises in indignation. Canton realizes more forcibly now what Mellett was fighting for and why he was fighting.

The Mellett murder is strong proof that good citizens, in all cities, should rally to the active support of newspaper editors and officials who have the courage to defy the powers of evil. Crusading editors usually have the mere approval of the better element of their communities, but not much active, virile, efficient encouragement and assistance. Indifference on the part of the citizenry only serves to help the vice rings.

Some people believe in religious liberty only for themselves, not for the fellow that holds a divergent view. Some believe in burning everybody's witches but their own. Some are happy only when they succeed in passing a law that makes others miserable. But the only legitimate purpose of civil law is to declare and to guarantee rights.

The trouble is that when we stop to think we lose our audience. Just because a girl's married hasn't no sign she hasn't loved an' lost.

STAY OUT OF THE SUN AND EAT LIGHTLY

This month and next are the most dangerous in the entire year for those who cram their stomach to capacity with the many tempting things now easily obtainable for the dinner table. Ask any doctor about it and he will tell you that July and August are the two months when thousands of people dig their graves with a knife and fork. He will give you the same advice we are giving you—only he may charge you for it—and that is to eat lightly, stay out of the sun and don't keep your stomach chilled with ice water. This advice is hard to take, we'll admit, when we are right in the season of the best "eats" to be had during the entire year. But the man who heeds it now for the next few weeks will live to eat another day. So be among the wise ones, and watch your knife and fork closely as long as the dangerous hot days are here.—Ex.

BEATING THEM TO IT

In these days of "super-regulation" of business and industry, it is interesting to note that private enterprise is quite often "beating the regulators to it," when it comes to giving the public service.

In its endeavor to render the best of service to its subscribers, the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company does not wait for complaints, but sends its subscribers a card asking for information as to any unsatisfactory conditions.

This card is a masterpiece of courteous and intelligent consideration of the customer's side of telephone service. It is a model that could be used by any business which was interested in seeing that its patrons had no cause for complaint.

FACTS, THE BASIS OF

INTELLIGENT OPINION

It is the goal of each of us, no matter what our politics, to arrive at intelligent opinions on all affairs that concern us, and many more besides. We try to consider all the facts in each case, weigh them, and finally come to some sort of conclusion. We do attempt to judge wisely, and, in our own minds, arrive as nearly as possible at the truth, that greatest of all human ideals.

Our circle of concern has materially widened in the last few years largely due to the Great War subsequent activities in international affairs. Our newspapers devote much more space to world problems and foreign events, and Americans, collectively as well as individually, are coming to know more about their countries and other people. We are forming opinions on these matters.

When we try to form conclusions on problems in the international field, we are frequently at a loss for basic facts to guide us.

This condition occasions much of the interest in the plans for the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations that is to be founded at Johns Hopkins University. This pioneer agency for studying world affairs will have one object—find the facts, the accurate, impartial facts and make them available so that the sound opinions may be formed.

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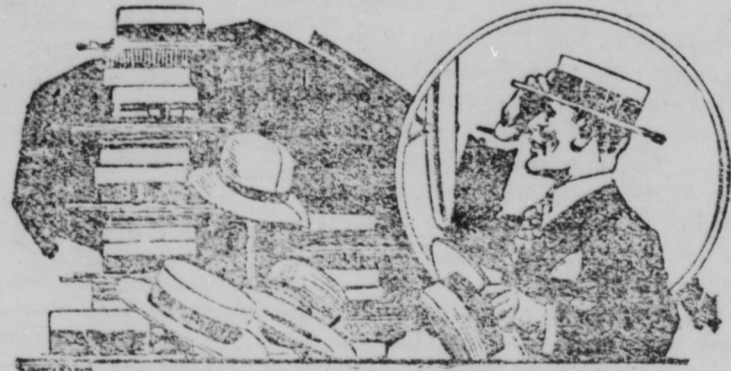
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