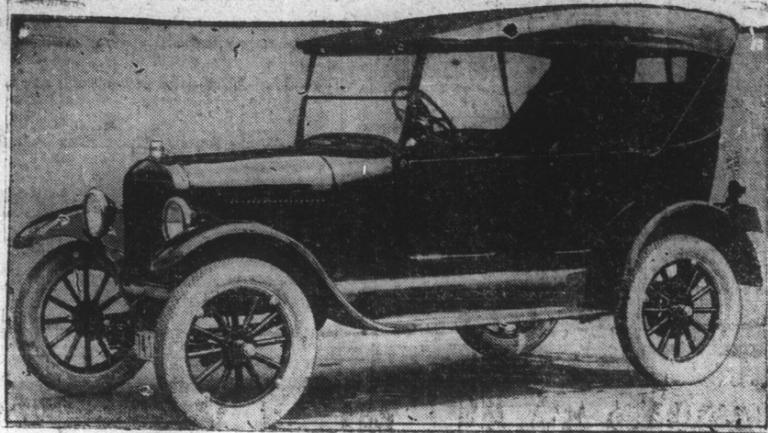


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GUARDING PRESIDENT NO EASY TASK.

The Pathfinder.
It is said that most presidents complain bitterly at first when they find that a squad of secret service men follow their footsteps day and night. Because of this Roosevelt and Taft made several efforts to elude them, and on one occasion Taft succeeded by escaping through the back window of the president's office in the White House. But the law requires that the secret service men guard the President and his family. The president has no choice in the matter. These men, however, make themselves unobtrusive and for this reason the president soon regards them as aids rather than bodyguards.
One of the most important rules of the service is that the peace of the president must be protected. Suggestions of attempts on his life and other unpleasant matters have to be kept from him. The general impression that there is always somebody hovering around to harm the president is widely exaggerated. Indeed, there are very few persons, if any, who go to Washington to actually harm the president's person. Although it is true that three presidents have been assassinated, observations made at the White House have disclosed an almost universal position on the part of the public to protect and ease the life of our chief executive. Most of the "nuts" who go to the White House are harmless. They simply go to the president with some grievance and want him to help them and they have no malice toward him.
Guarding the president, however, keeps the secret service operatives busy. Thousands and thousands of tourists are continually flocking to the national capital desirous of seeing the president. Sometimes over 10,000 men, women and children are admitted to the executive offices in

a single week and privileged to shake the president's hand. Very few callers at the White House realize that they are observed from the time they enter the White House grounds until they leave. Besides they pass inspection by four operatives from the time they form in line until they leave the executive offices.
Admission to the White House is by card, showing that some high public official sponsors the visitor. Police officers stand at the main entrance to see that those entering have letters of introduction. But the real work is done by the plain clothes men. One near the door observes each person that enters. The biggest trouble with the visitors is their hands. They do not know what to do with them. Some shift their hat or coat from one hand to the other, then put their hands in their pockets. Since the assassination of McKinley no person with hands concealed has been admitted in the presence of any president. Visitors are surprised to be asked to expose their hands, and often they forget. By the time they have moved down the line opposite the second operative their hands are back in their pockets or concealed in some other way. The request for them to show their hands is renewed. As a rule the second and third operatives repeat the inspection of the first. It is seldom necessary to ask anyone to step out of line for more thorough examination. The fourth operative stands in the private office within two feet of the president. As each person approaches the chief executive the operative satisfies himself that no hand is concealed. He is near enough to the president and in a position to do anything that might be necessary.
It is more difficult to guard the president on the streets than when at the White House. This is especially true when he attends church, because thousands gather about the edifice to get a glimpse of him. At such times uniformed police patrol the

streets and detectives wander through the crowds. Secret service men escort the president and his family to church, and once inside, they take places of advantage unattended. Admission to the church is by card only, until the presidential party is seated. Then all those outside are admitted in groups of from 20 to 40 until the church is filled. But they are all closely observed by the secret service men before they are admitted. When all the seats are filled announcement is made to those who have not been accommodated that because of fire regulations they cannot be admitted.
However, the secret service men have the hardest to do when the president is away from Washington. This is because of the strange surroundings and the great crowds that collect to see him. Arrangements for his protection must be made far in advance.

Cause For Separation.

A Charlotte man who is concerned about the disappearance of his wife, says he believes she left to punish him for drinking. As he makes the suggestion himself and there is no intimation of any mistake as to his drinking, it may be assumed that he had offended in that respect. But the deserted husband can't understand why his wife hasn't returned or communicated with him. By inference again we are left to guess that there had been some drinking and that the lady was exasperated on account thereof. But the husband evidently expected that the leaving would be gesture only, that his wife couldn't have meant to go away and stay. Possibly he has overestimated the good lady's patience. It he had offended the same way previously—and he has been guilty as he suggests—it is possible that the wife may have concluded that patience has ceased to be a virtue. In any event while the

husband may not know if, there are not a few people who believe that a drinking husband, especially if the comings to repeat, deserves to have his wife leave him. It was had enough in the pre-prohibition days, when drinking was a custom and was overlooked to some extent because it was a custom and because the manufacture and sale of liquor was legalized, for a wife to endure a drunken husband or for anybody to have to be pestered with the exasperating nuisance of a drinking man. But certainly now, when liquor is outlawed and the drinker is outlived and the bootlegger business, nobody is called to exercise any special patience with drinking people. They put themselves beyond the pale and they deserve neither sympathy nor consideration. Far be it from us to interfere in anybody's domestic affairs, but as the Charlotte man makes his trouble public, he should be told that any drinking man deserves to have his wife leave him.

Let's Keep History Straight.

The Uplift.
Harry Deaton, editor of The Mooreville Enterprise, noting the presence in his city of the Jackson Training School band, which gave a concert, took occasion to say that a collection would be taken to aid the boys in further enlarging the equipment, that the state was not expected to furnish all these necessities after giving the original equipment.
The original equipment and the inspiration of starting a band at the Training School among the boys are of the Kings Daughters, of Concord. They got behind the proposition and put up money for a twelve hundred dollar equipment of a Conn's best. That's how the Jackson Training School got a band—the State had nothing to do with it.
Keep going straight ahead and you will arrive.

Some Sensible Remarks About Praying For Rain

Monroe Journal.

"There is one thing I can understand about praying for rain," observed a man commenting on the proclamation of the governor of South Carolina asking the church people to pray for rain on Sunday.

"What is it you do not understand?" he was asked.

"Why don't they begin to pray before everything has already been ruined?"

Come to think of it, that is a puzzler. When crops have a pretty fair start and signs begin to look dry, people will watch the clouds and the weather signs expectantly for a while. Then they become anxious as they see their prospects waning. Later, about the time the crops are gone or the wells dried up, somebody will begin to speak of praying for rain.

Maybe this is because man is prone to rely upon himself as long as he can, and then, when he feels that there is no hope, and then only, will he begin to seek a higher power. Maybe, also, this is why prayers for rain are sometimes apparently answered—it has just come time to rain anyway.

There is a story that on one occasion a congregation had assembled in this county to pray for rain, and among others to be called upon to lead in prayer was a matter of fact old brother. He looked out the window in a last sweeping glance and remarked that it was no use to pray yet as the wind wasn't right.

If there is anything certain in this world it would appear to be that the weather cannot be influenced by prayer. That is simply not the way that Omnipotence works. Suppose that the weather could be controlled by prayer. What an endless muddle we would have!

When one neighborhood generally wanted rain there would be an adjoining one that wanted dry weather, or one man who was growing only corn, the "thirsty" plant, would want much rain while the man who had a harvest in the field would want a dry spell. They would never agree. One man would want only a shower while another would want a gully washer. Each one would define just the amount of rain he wanted. Indeed, there is a story of a Union county man who once prayed for rain and directed the Lord to be careful in sending it, as he only wanted a gentle shower and no "load strangler."

Still, when we become very hard up a lot of people will want to begin praying for rain, yet it is a question if any one really has any confidence that the prayer will be answered till "the wind gets right," when it would rain anyhow.

Away back in the beginning primitive men thought that there were many gods who presided over this and that force of nature. They thought that these gods could be

pleased and propitiated by prayer or other ceremony. Away before man came to the idea of one supreme God who created and ruled over nature as a whole in accordance with laws which He had ordained for that purpose, men did not understand nature's laws and were often much frightened by their manifestations. The habit of propitiation was firmly fixed in their minds. Maybe we have not been able to fully outgrow this and in time of distress hark back to something in our natures that whispers up this ancient hope.

The Desert of Sahara, as the school children all know, is a huge track of barren sand which since the advent of man upon earth has been taking its toll of passing pilgrims. It is in the track of commerce and trade routes and no living thing can subsist upon it except such animals as carry their own food. It is thus barren because no rain has ever fallen upon it. One time a man was contending that prayer for rain would be, and often is, answered.

"Now," asked one who did not so believe, "suppose many good people should assemble even to the number of tens of thousands around the whole fringe of this desert for the purpose of praying that rain might fall upon it. And suppose they continued to pray, and pray earnestly and sincerely, do you think that rain would fall upon the desert of Sahara, and its barren waste be rescued to the use of civilization so badly needed in that country?"

"No," was the reply.

"Why not? Rain is certainly needed there and would do a great deal of good and be a blessing to millions of people."

"Because," was the answer of the man who believed in praying for rain, "nature made that a desert and it would be contrary to nature for it to rain there."

"Exactly," said the other. "That is why prayer for rain is never answered, because it is contrary to nature for rain to fall until natural causes produce rain."

But the other one could not see it that way. His idea was at bottom that it would be too hard for the Lord to produce rain in Sahara, because it had never rained there, but easy and natural for him to produce it here before nature was ready, because it does rain here at times.
The useful effect of prayer upon the human heart and its uplifting influence in human life cannot, it seems to us, be denied. But surely when we were commanded to pray it was not meant that we should expect Jehovah to interfere with the laws of his universe in order to please our fancies. And so far as we can see there is no evidence that He has ever done so, or ever will.

H. N. WOODSON DIES IN SALISBURY HOME

Was One of City's Most Prominent Citizens—Death is Caused by Stroke of Paralysis.

Salisbury, Sept. 10.—H. N. Woodson, prominent citizen, died this afternoon at 2 o'clock at his home on North Fulton street, death being caused by a stroke of paralysis. Although he was 81 years old Mr. Woodson was as active as a man much younger and was at his office every day. This morning he was in his usual good health and was preparing to go to his office when stricken. He rallied later and was much better at noon but a second stroke at 2 o'clock proved fatal.

Mr. Woodson was a native of Bowie county and when 16 years old joined a cavalry company and fought through the entire war between the states. When it was over he refused to surrender and made his way back home. He became an influential citizen and for many years was register of deeds. In recent years he has been president of the First National bank and held other places of trust. Surviving is one daughter, Mrs. Maria Payne, who has made her home with him since the death of Mrs. Woodson, three years ago, and three sons, Walter N. Woodson, Ernest H. Woodson, and Dr. Charles W. Woodson, all of Salisbury. The funeral will be held at 10 o'clock Saturday morning from First Methodist church, of which he was a member.

SOUTH WILL BE UNDER BLANKETS BY SUNDAY

Atlanta Weather Man Thinks Mercury Will Drop Below 90 Within Next Few Days.
Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 10.—"We'll be sleeping under blankets by Sunday." This was the comforting assurance given sweltering southern people by C. F. Von Herrman, meteorologist in charge of the local United States weather bureau. Even today at many points in the

south, the mercury began to lost its hold on the higher altitudes and slip back to a more normal position in small red column.

"This condition will be prevalent virtually all over the country," said Mr. Von Herrman, "and I believe after a day or two we will have seen the best of the higher than ninety temperatures," the forecaster said.

The temperature at noon in Atlanta was 92 degrees against 100 at the same hour yesterday.

For the next two or three days, the mercury will continue to recede, Mr. Von Herrman asserted, until it hits a range from 62 degrees minimum 90 degrees maximum, whereas for the past few weeks in most of the south it ranged from 70 minimum to 102 maximum.

At the same time, Mr. Von Herrman promised some relief from the drought. Scattering thundershowers in various parts of the south he said, would tend to relieve this situation. He predicted the drought would really be broken this way instead of by a general rain.

Lord Balfour had a bad memory for faces. He once went into a Bond street shop for a cup of tea.

On leaving he presented the waitress with a fairly substantial tip which the girl acknowledged with a "Thank you, Mr. Balfour."

He looked up in surprise, regarding the girl attentively for several seconds, and then asked her how she had recognized him.

"Oh," she replied with a smile, "I was parlor maid at your house for seven years."

That same evening in the house of common a colleague of Mr. Balfour started to chaff him about the incident.

"Why on earth did you get to know about it?" asked the bewildered statesman.

"Well," was the reply, "I happened to be sitting right opposite you at the same table, only, of course you didn't recognize me."

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