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 "Key City In The Land of The Sky"  
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**A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**  
 Then saith Jesus unto him, get thee hence Satan, for it is written, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."—Matthew 4 10

**MUNICIPAL HOUSEKEEPING PROBLEMS**

An unpleasant fact is that our city streets and other phases of municipal housekeeping are not as clean and attractive as they once were. Of course, there is a good reason for this situation in most instances, but citizens do not always take the time to learn the cause. As a result, there is widespread criticism of city and town administrations because streets are dirty and littered with papers and because garbage and trash are not collected with pre-war regularity and efficiency.

Those who are responsible for street cleaning and garbage collection are working under large handicaps by labor shortage and badly worn equipment. Yet, the average citizen rarely stops to think that there is a good reason why municipal housekeeping is not what it once was. Since this is the case, the city hall should strive to educate the citizens about the handicaps under which the normal functions of the public works and service departments are being carried on. The average citizen needs only to be shown the reason why it is impossible to be as punctual and regular about street cleaning and garbage collecting. Of course, there are always a few unreasonable individuals in almost every community who cannot be shown, but they are usually in the minority.

Conditions will eventually improve, and municipal officials should strive to hasten the day when they have well equipped and fully staffed departments to do the job taxpayers are justified in expecting and demanding. A clean community always makes a good impression on visitors. Naturally, good citizens want their city to look its best.

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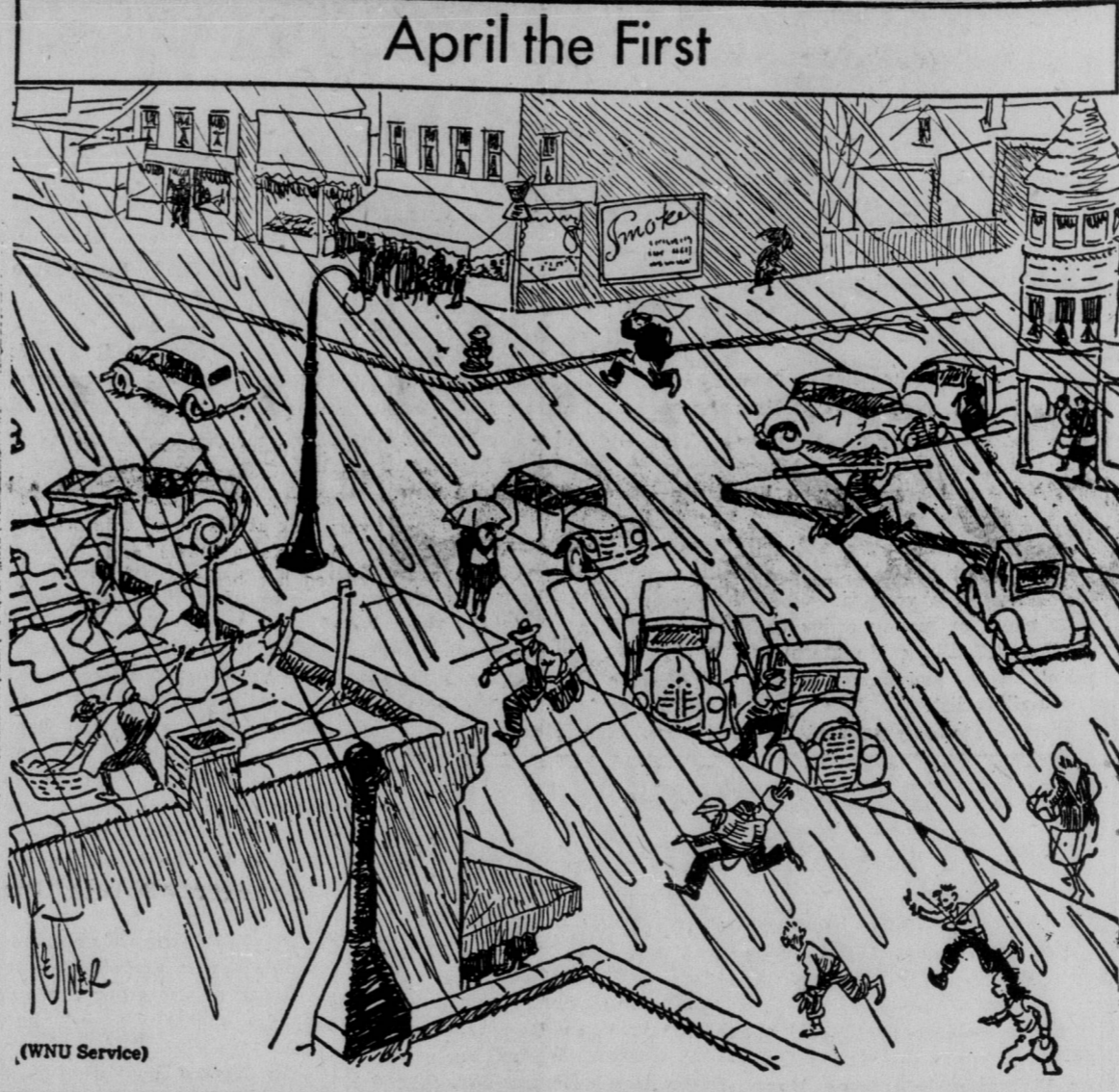
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**ECHOES FROM THE MOUNTAINS**

H. Grady Hardin.

If our present actions and attitudes continue as they are we will one day see our nation being menaced by war. Perhaps we will be dead and our children will see it, but it will come if we follow our present course. In that day, whenever it comes, the heads of the nation will talk of the low and mean threats to peace by the "enemy" nations. There will be "dastardly" attacks from another nation, and America will again be at war. It will be the same old pattern that we have already forgotten even though we saw it all happen before our eyes in the past generation.

Are we so blind that we can follow an international path of systematic starvation and hope to build for peace? We are participating in just this kind of thing in Europe and Asia while we throw away enough food to feed the starving. Congressmen are too interested in votes at home to push for rationing that will feed the starving abroad. We still talk of large armies and atomic warfare and conscription in the same breath with talk of world peace. We establish bases and take islands even as we tell others that we want no territorial changes. We insist on democracy in some nations and at the same time collaborate with dictators and totalitarians in other nations. The world that once looked to America for hope and leadership now fears American domination. There is no voice in our government who will dare to cry out for world brotherhood and peace. Is there no one willing to be a Wilson and at least make mistakes in the right direction?

What a foolish way to enter the Atomic Age! When war clouds gather, let us not be misled by the talk of threats and attacks—we are asking for it now. To paraphrase the prophet: We are eating sour grapes, and our children's teeth will be set on edge. The time to stop the next war is now—if not yesterday. Unselfish sharing, tolerance, brotherhood with all men, cooperation, work and endless effort are the price of peace. This is something worth dying for because it is something worth living for!

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**Our Short Sermon**

USING GOD'S POWER

The greatest force God has set loose on earth today is the power of prayer. No special schooling is required to learn the technique of this power, only yielded hearts willing to be burdened that they might invoke it. To the Christian the Lord commands, "Continue steadfast in prayer"; and promises, "Ask, and it shall be given you." Because we do not know how to use this privilege as we ought, God has given to His Spirit the office of interceding through us and for us. God indeed has done everything He can to make this prayer force effective in the lives of His children; it remains for His children to allow themselves to be used.

Do you find yourself pressed in on all sides with no time to be alone with the Lord? Take an hour anyway and see how He can multiply the minutes needed for other duties. Many things we may regret in our lives but never shall we regret the hours spent in prayer. They are vital to our growth in Christ; and without them we cannot hope to serve God aright, no matter how full our days may be with Christian labor. If we could learn this truth and set ourselves to use the power of prayer that God has placed at our disposal, we should see mighty changes in the church of Christ and great advance in the work committed to the church. Can we not all ask ourselves, Am I using God's power? Am I always a channel of prayer for the Spirit's use? The prayer life is the natural life of the believer, and all other aspects of life are subordinate to it. Are we putting first things first in our daily walk?

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**GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH SUNDAY**

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK**

(It is suggested that you tear this prayer out and place it at your table to be used as a basis for family devotions each morning of the week.)

Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget thy mercy and thy love. Be very near to us lest we forget that our brothers are hungry and helpless and homeless and hopeless. In our gratefulness to thee for the bounty that we know, teach us to share the things we have—the fruit of the land, the products of our hands, and the hope of our faith. Enlarge our love to include all men. We pray in the name of Jesus who knew no boundaries.—Amen. —H. G. H.

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