American Sentinel

The Republican Paper of Carroll County.

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THE POWER OF IDEAS

The people who measure the importance of things by the amount of physical display by which they are surrounded, may think that the inauguration of President Coolidge for his new term is not a very notable event, since it is not to be accompanied by any specially conspicuous ceremonial.

But the men who have occupied the presidency in past years did not attach much weight to such display. They expected to impress the people by the force of their ideas, rather than by parades and band music.

Abraham Lincoln would not have been any greater man, if the military pomp for his inauguration had been ten times as conspicuous. He stood for certain ideas, and those ideas would have impressed the people, whether he had any marching attendants or not.

Theodore Roosevelt stood for certain ideas, notably moral idealism. Doubling the cost of his inauguration would not have deepened such an impression.

Today Calvin Coolidge is another man of ideas in the presidential chair. The principles for which he particularly stands are government economy and business like methods. You can't deepen the impression of such ideas by martialing many thousands of men and marching them up and down Pennsylvania avenue.

The effect of such demonstrations would rather be to weaken those ideas, because they are contrary to Mr. Coolidge's principles. If you were going to inaugurate the president of a great business corporation, there would be no fuss and feathers about it. He would just walk into his office, make a short speech to his subordinates, and then dig into the work on his desk. It is appropriate that a business man's government should show some likeness to this simplicity of method, and depend on ideas rather than parades to create its effect.

THE POWER OF INFORMATION

In exercises in the lower branch of Congress the other day in memory of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, Speaker Gillett dwelt upon the thought that Mr. Lodge's success was due primarily to his vast fund of knowledge.

Theodore Roosevelt was a notable illustration of this principle. He could talk intelligently on almost any subject that a visitor could bring up. Many of these subjects with which he was so familiar were far from the field of politics in which his chief interests would naturally lie.

A quiet man with broad knowledge will command attention by the thoroughness of his information. When he states a few authoritative facts, the bluffers who have been discoursing eloquently on something concerning which they know little, are forced to change the subject.

While the reading habit is the means by which such knowledge is acquired, it takes something more than that. There are many people who read a great deal, who can never remember what they read. A vast stream of facts pours into their minds each week, and fades out of recollection with equal speed. What they need is some form of memory exercise. A little of the time they devote to reading, should be given to trying to recall the things they read the day before.

Unfortunately many people have a good range of information and can talk intelligently, but they never amount to much. It is a fine thing to know about Roman history and botany and conditions in Russia and other general subjects. But the search for information should not be so energetic that it destroys concentration and purpose, which are equally important forces in the struggle of life.

USE OF THE HAMMER

The "hammer" has become the symbol expressing the influence exerted by knockers and pessimists. But speaking in a literal way, the hammer is a wonderfully useful tool that most people should employ more freely.

Anything that is tumbledown constitutes an eyesore. That fence in your back yard that leans to the southwest or other direction, for instance. Do you realize how the decrepit attitude of that fence gives an air of forlornness to your dwelling? Or that shed whose underpinning has given away, allowing its floor to settle visibly, is just a sign that its owner is becoming careless about appearances. Now that spring is coming on, just take the little hammer and see if the faithful old tool and some good honest nails will not straighten up that appearance of decadence that throws a blight over your home.

EXPENDITURES FOR RECREATION

The old timers would look askance at the considerable amounts that modern cities feel it is desirable to spend for recreation purposes. In those days, local governments were not considered under any obligation to amuse the people. They had all they could do to keep the streets repaired and schools open and all that.

But modern communities are getting the idea that it pays to provide the people with wholesome pleasures.

Take the case of Memphis, Tennessee. That city has spent $15,000,000 to provide parks, playgrounds, recreation centers, swimming pools, baseball diamonds, golf courses, tennis courts, bridle paths, football fields, flower gardens, art gallery, zoo, etc.

They spend an annual revenue of $337,000 in maintaining this great system, and a considerable part of it is used for supervisors, athletic instructors, swimming teachers, dancing masters, golf experts, directors in vocational and industrial training.

The playground and recreation activities were started only ten years ago. It is a wonderful development for such a short period. Smaller places of course will have to attempt such enterprises in a limited way, but if they would all do as much proportionally, they would obtain great benefits.

Such a community must be a very popular place in which to live, for these pleasures would be greatly enjoyed by the masses. The maintenance cost of this system is obtained by a tax amounting to only 15 cents per $100, and few people would deny that it was abundantly worth the money. One of the finest results is that it promotes so much athletic activity. There are 140 baseball teams in the city, with 56 football and 52 soccer squads, and these are only three of many forms of athletic development.

FINANCING YOUNG PEOPLE'S EDUCATION

In Canton, Ohio, a special effort is being made to provide education for those who can't pay the price. A Foundation for the higher education has been formed, and money is loaned to students to be paid back after graduation, so that the fund promises to keep increasing until a large number will receive its benefits.

At present four young people are being put through college. Applicants for help are carefully examined to obtain the most worthy candidates.

Something of this kind should be done in Westminster, for there are always many young folks here who would profit wonderfully by college and technical school education, who are unable to obtain the same. It seems wrong that while so many students in colleges are fooling their time away, so many earnest young folks of marked intellectual power are denied this development on account of lack of money.

YOUTH'S VIEWPOINT

Many fears are expressed by the older people that modern youth has drifted away from the old standards. In trying to get at the heart of those points where the young people differ from those who went before, considerable weight should be placed on their tendency to take life lightly.

Like many other ideas, this attitude came largely from the war. There was a tendency for these young men to go to the front with the feeling, or at least giving the impression that they felt, that it did not matter very much whether they returned or not.

Many of them felt more fear than they admitted, but still one gets the impression that they took their terrific experience rather lightly. They had to, if they were not to be overwhelmed by it.

Returning after the war, they communicated that point of view. The young folks feel that the older ones take life too seriously, that they worry too much, and are not willing to take things as they come and accept whatever may happen to them cheerfully. Their favorite phrase is "It's all in the game."

In so far as this sentiment leads these young folks to treat life superficially, to fail to realize its great issues, to skate over the surface of things in a frivolous way, it is a harmful influence.

But on the whole, it may be considered to be a good spirit. People that have that point of view will not hesitate and dawdle so long about the things they ought to do. They get into trouble at times from flirting with danger of all kinds. But they will do their work with a splendid spirit of courage and determination, and will not be held back by the foolish fears and doubts that have spoiled the efforts of so many of those that went before them. These young folks will be running the country in a few years, and one looks to see many useful changes as that point of view becomes more influential.

A STORY OF COURAGE

The dreadful experience of Floyd Collins in the cave in Kentucky where he was so unfortunately trapped, and the determined effort to release him, had a sad ending, but the affair brought out some fine revelations of human character. The rescue party must have realized that they were taking serious risks of some mischance like that which befell Collins. But they laughed at such chances, set aside their ordinary work, and threw their whole soul into the attempt to get the young man out.

It hurt the heart of the nation that the many difficulties in the way prevented Collins' rescue. But the country applauds the splendid spirit shown by the rescue party. It thinks of young Collins as a fellow who showed fine courage and a praiseworthy desire to explore earth's mysteries, though his story should be a warning to many people who take risks too thoughtlessly.

HELPING THE PRESIDENT

Senator Edge of New Jersey recently suggested that a commission should be appointed to see if the burdens resting upon the president could be made lighted. President Coolidge has let it be known that he does not feel in need of such relief. However, it will not soon be forgotten that two recent presidents broke in health as the result of this strain.

If the politicians are constantly running to the president for appointments for themselves and their friends, such demands are likely to cause any occupant of that office more worry than comes from the study of the real problems of the nation. The best way to help the president is to stop pestering him to help build up political machines, and give him his time free to study the big questions on which his wisdom is needed for the guidance of Congress.

SHORT CUTS FOR MONEY

Anyone who is willing to work and has a moderate degree of intelligence can get ahead and acquire some property in this country, assuming that one has health and encounters no exceptional misfortunes to eat up his cash. Thousands of banks in these times are preaching the gospel of thrift and industry, and telling people how they can get ahead.

It may seem a somewhat slow pull at first, but a multitude of people are travelling that road successfully, acquiring their homes and bank deposits and securing themselves against misfortune.

But many complain because the money piles up very slowly at first. They are very likely unwilling to put their wits to work on their jobs, to prepare themselves for greater efficiency, and so that their services shall command a higher price in the market of industry and business.

Many of these impatient folks have conceived the idea that there are short cuts to money, so that the long and toilsome path of work and thrift can be avoided. So we have the appalling story of thievery and swindling and crime which is spread out from day to day in the newspapers.

But these crooks consist principally of young and inexperienced men. The older ones have learned by observation, that while one may be able to pull off some wicked deed once or several times, the habitual criminal is almost invariably detected, and his career is wrecked and his chances of a happy home and successful career are spoiled.

Anyone but a young fool should be able to see the folly of the short cut of dishonesty. They are setting themselves to make war against the entire community, and the forces against them are too powerful. There is no excuse in this land of opportunity in which a multitude of people are constantly winning success by legitimate means, for any resort to crooked ways.

WIND

March is noted over the greater part of the country for its winds. Then is the time when the tricky breezes are supposed to blow, tipping Man's hat in most impudent assault into the gutter, and ruffling up Woman's skirts most scandalously. Folks that like quiet and restrained days dislike old Mr. March, and think it is a good month to stay indoors.

Yet many wholesome souls like old windy March, spite of his sometimes rowdyish habits. They feel that he blows all that stagnant air out of their lungs, and makes them feel young again.

They experience a certain sense of triumph in battling against his buffets and being able to overcome them and enjoy their walk or some out door sport in spite of his assaults. Mr. Wind, unless he woes to hurricane extremes, is really a good friend, and he blows a lot of bad tasting air out of our towns and homes.

The boys who think they know all that is worth knowing, are having some difficulty to convince the world of that fact.

NEW GARAGE AND Repair Shop

Pennsylvania Ave., Extd., Westminster, Md.

The undersigned, formerly employed as a mechanic for Erskine & Rudy, has opened a new Garage at the above location, and will be glad to render service for the public at any time.

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1-9-tf

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On March 23, by Amos O. Warner on the Uriah Bixler farm, near Westminster. 1-2-tf.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

This is to give notice that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans Court of Carroll County, Md., letters of administration on the estate of

ELSIE MAE STEVENSON

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated to the subscribers on or before the 31st day of August, 1925, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under our hands this 30th day of January, 1925.

JESSE STEVENSON,
ETHEL B. BIXLER,
1-30-5t Administrators.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE

Hereafter, and until further notice the County Commissioners of Carroll County will meet at their office in Westminster every Monday and Tuesday of each week for the transaction of business.

By order,

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Not all these women folks who are looking for "chic" clothes are chickens.

It costs money to join most organizations, but you get a dividend when you unite with the Trade at Home Club of Westminster.

Much complaint of the "roughnecks," but they are not so dangerous to the community as the smoothtongues.

Housing problem giving anxiety to community workers, but the garaging problem seems to create more excitement in Westminster.

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