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COAL CONTROVERSY

More than a month ago, representatives of the United Mine Workers of American—largest and richest union in the nation—and of bituminous coal operators in the eight state Appalachian area sat down in New York City's Biltmore Hotel to work out a new contract to replace the two-year contract which was to expire April 1. When that date came, no agreement had been reached and 320,000 U. M. W. A. members stopped work, closing virtually every major soft coal mine in the Appalachian region. Last week, with the negotiations, still deadlocked and the miners still idle, eastern states were facing a serious coal shortage

Causing the deadlock was no disagreement over wages. hours, or working conditions. Both sides were willing to continue them as they were under the old contract. The snag was a demand by the union that a longstanding penalty clause be abolished.

Under the penalty clause, miners are assessed from $1 to $2 a day when they strike in violation of a contract, while the operators are fined from $2 to $4 a day for a lockout under similar conditions. John L. Lewis, president of the U. M. W. A., charged that the clause was "obnoxious" and "onesided," because there was no way of enforcing the penalties against employers for lockouts. But Charles O'Neill, spokesman for the operators, insisted that the penalties be retained in order to prevent strikes during the life of the contract.

While negotiations stuck at this point, coal supplies throughout the east were dwindling rapidly. In Washington, government officials reported there was only enough coal to operate the central heating plant, which furnishes heat for most of the government buildings, for another 10 days. In Buffalo, N. Y., the coal shortage was called acute, with the situation facing the hospitals "critical." To protect itself, Detroit, which usually buys its coal in the east, began to get shipments from Illinous, which was unaffected by the strike. The Chesapeake & Ohio railroad, with coal making up 80 per cent of its tonage, laid off between 2,500 and 3,000 men of its normal personnel of 21,500.

The situation is apparently most serious, however, in New York City. Worried, Mayor Fiorello La Guardia announced that the city was facing an "emergency," with the operation of the subway, on which "the very life of this city depends," hospitals, city lighting and industries endangered. Unless the dispute was settled, he warned the negotiators, the city would either have to import coal from Europe, or lease or purchase mines which it could operate itself.

But before taking any such step, he sent a plea to the President that he use his "good offices in bringing the two parties together." Said a White House secretary: "If it comes to the point where the regular machinery of the Department of Labor and other boards break down, the dispute might come here, but we want to try those out first."

Chewing gum, pencils, rubber bands, toothpicks, pipestems and other things are restful and useful forms of exercise for office workers, Professor H. L. Hollingsworth of Barnard College in New York reported last week. Experiments made over a four-year period showed that chewing relaxes tension and allows individuals to apply more energy to the tasks at hand.

FARMING IN 1939

A survey made by the Dairymen's League News indicates that the bulk of farmers, farm leaders and agriculturaleconomists believe that agriculture faces a better year in 1939 and that marketing cooperation will be a dominant factor in the improvement.

Typical comment comes from National Grange Master, L. J. Taber, who says: "Organization remains the challenge of farmers everywhere, and especially dairymen."

The Dairymen's League Cooperative Association is a fine example of aggressive, business-like marketing organization.

It has been a strong influence in obtaining favorable agricultural legislation. And it has earned nationwide credit for the consistent progress it has made on behalf of its members.

In one minute, the world produces 4,000 pounds of chromium.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

J. E. Jones

Washington, D. C., May 1—When Washington was a hick town before the World War and only half its present population the biggest event of the year was the annual convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Despite the the fact that the Daughters of prewar days have raised new daughters of their own, and that the scheme that qualified for membership rolls down the ages like a snowball, the old institution isn't what it used to be. During the Taft Administration the Japanese cherry trees were planted, and in a quarter of a century they have become the Capital's leading confusion. The only thing worse than that was the National Recovery Administration under General Hugh Johnson. He brought thousands of taxpayers "to town" and scolded so hard that they obeyed orders.

Seriously, the Daughters always produce healthy and patriotic national sentiment. This year they have been making the Liberty Bell ring out their demands.

Mrs. Roosevelt recently resigned from the organization, and when the women arrived she flew to Seattle. On the whole our impression is, after watching them perform, for many years, that they are grand old girls.

* * * *

The Issue

The substance of President Roosevelt's communication to Hitler and Mussolini sums up in one paragraph, clearly expressive when he said that if the threats of the use of arms continue, it seems inevitable that much of the world must become involved in common ruin; and that all the world, victor nations, vanquished and neutral nations will suffer. The President declared: "I refuse to believe that the world is, of necessary, such prisoner of destiny."

Washington officials do not differ greatly with the Roosevelt statements. Nevertheless, the President is being very severely criticized by friends and foes, for his failure to consult Congressional and other leaders before committing the American people definitely to the Executive personal views and declarations.

* * * *

Black Coal

Two years ago a wage and working hours were agreed upon for employment in the coal fields. Only reduced employment remained an issue. The most recent trouble came out of the union demands for a closed shop, and resistance by the union to the plan under which miners are assessed by the company from $1 to $2 a day when they strike in violation of contract. The public is led to believe that that was all there was at stake in the way of renewal of the dispute between the mine operators and the employers.

* * * * *

A Lot Of Money

At the turn of the century automobiling was looked upon as a luxvention, grew into the nations greatury that only rich men could enjoy. It didn't turn out that way. Like Jack and his beanstalk the new inventors grew into the nations greatest industry until motor plants are now spending one billion dollars an hour for materials, parts and supplies, a sum that splits into about 20 thousand dollars a minute. Every State in the Union gets part of the money, according to the automobile manufacturers that trace the materials to the angora goats of Texas, the iron ranges of Lake Superior, and back to the cotton growers of the South, and lumber, steel and textile mills.

To this piece of industrial news the layman can add with a truth fortified by the experiences of nearly 130 million people that "you ain't seen nothing yet." Most people who have moved forward with the new scientific age and its startling changes will agree that it would be just as hard to get along without razors and curlers, as without automobiles.

Once you learn the patient came from a malaria country, the rest is easy. Though his symptoms indicate dropsy, just give him quinine.

HALF TON OF PAPER YEARLY USED BY AVERAGE FAMILY

The average American family consumes more than half a ton of paper costing about $40 in a year, according to economists of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

The total consumption in the United States in 1937 was shown by census figures to be nearly 16,000,000 tons of paper—more than half the paper produced in the world. The figure is the highest ever reported for one nation. Paper consumption in the United States has practically doubled in the last 15 years, the Forest Service reports.

Of the 246 pounds of paper consumed or used by the average person, about 100 pounds represented newspapers, books, and writing paper. The remainder was used as cartons building boards, wrapping papers, and numerous miscellaneous products.

The Forest Service points out that fourth-fifths of the paper consumed here was made in the United States. The remainder was imported principally in the form of newsprint, of which about 3,000,000 tons came from Canada.

In addition to the imports of paper, large quantities of pulpwood and wood pulp of certain kinds are imported annually for manufacture into paper in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and the Lakes States. About half of the wood fiber used in paper in the United States is grown on foreign soil.

Spruce, hemlock, and fir furnish three-fourths of the wood fiber. Rough estimates indicate that the paper used in 1937 required the cutting of pulpwood on 3,000,000 acres of land in the United States, Canada, and northwestern Europe.

TRAFFIC TIPS FOR MOTORISTS TO THE NEW YORK FAIR

"Tarffic tips" to local motorists planning to visit the New York's Fair are given by the Keystone Automobile Club.

"Traffic regulations in New York City differ materially from those we are accustomed to," said George E Keneipp, Manager of the Club. "Of major importance is the requirement for stopping at any intersection the motorists is approaching when a traffic light in the "synchronized system turns red, even though the light may be a square or two squares distant.

"The 'synchronized system' embraces a number of traffic lights operated alternately on red and green and controlling traffic at all intersections in the area between the first and last light, although the signals are not erected at every intersection. Most of the New York City lights are on this system. Where the 'progressive' system is installed, motorists are expected to stop only at intersections thus controlled. The same rule applies where isolated signals are in operation.

"Another important factor to be remembered is that most of the New York traffic signals display only two colors, red and green, with a brief 'dark period' between. There is no warning amber, and drivers must be on the alert to detect the change from green to red.

"Chronic 'horn blowers' are cautioned to go light on their noise makers, a city ordinance forbidding the use of horns 'except to warn an animal or person of danger."

Manual for Milk and Cream Testers in Maryland is the title of a recent bulletin issued by the University of Maryland Experiment Station. The publication was prepared by the dairy department of the University and the author was Dr. C. W. England, professor of dairy manufacture. Copies may be secured from the Experiment Station at College Park free of charge.

Total milk produced on Maryland farms last year is estimated at 832,000,000 pounds or about 5 percent more than the 790,000,000 pounds produced in 1937, according to the Maryland Crop Reporting Service. The rise in 1938 was due to more milk cows on farms and a larger production per cow than in 1937. The 1938 production per cow in herd was 4,450 pounds.

AFofL and CIO have their national headquarters in the National Capital and their ups and downs are well known to Washington newswriters, who agree that "patched peace" between these two organizations is a bare possibility, and permanent peace is an impossibility.

There is much agitation for taxation of salaries of state and federal officials and employees on the same basis as the income of the private citizens who earn the money to pay their salaries. It's difficult to understand how a member of Congress, or a state legislator, or public employee can ask for or justify such an exemption.

MIGHTY CASEY TELLS ALL

On baseball's 100th Anniversary the hero of the national game's most popular ballad relates hitherto unpublished anecdotes of the early days of the diamond. One of many fascinating illustrated articles in the May 14th issue of The American Weekly, distributed with the Baltimore Sunday American. On sale by all newsdealers.

Blood Extract Halts Bleeding

Will Assist Surgeons in Operations; Acts as Freezing Agent.

NEW YORK.—Bleeding during surgical operations and after accidents can now be stopped almost instantaneously with an extract from beef blood sprayed on a wound with a perfume atomizer.

Four University of Iowa scientists announced in "Science," published by the American Association fo the Advancement of Science, that they had purified thrombin, the element in blood which makes it clot, and had used it successfully in halting profuse bleeding within two to ten seconds.

Operations frequently are hampered by interference of blood in an incision, Dr. W. H. Seegers, Dr. E. D. Warner, Dr. K. M. Brinkhous and Dr. H. P. Smith declared, particularly in operations on the brain and liver.

Acts as Freezing Agent.

In the future, however, an atomizer filled with thrombin probably will be one of the principal parts of a surgeon's equipment, since the chemical stops bleeding from the small blood vessels which cannot be closed in any other way.

Thrombin acts as a freezing agent to form a thin film of clotted blood over any area which begins to bleed profusely. It always is present in the blood as a slightly different substance called prothrombin which is converted to thrombin when exposed to air.

However, in some individuals it is not present in sufficient amounts, or is not converted quickly enough. As a result they bleed profusely and during a surgical operation their condition may become critical unless a blood transfusion is given immediately. Use of thrombin, obtained from the blood of cattle at slaughter houses, may make many transfusions unnecessary.

Pneumonia Cure.

Recently Dr. Clyde Brooks of Louisiana State university declared he had gone to the same source, had obtained from ox blood a substance known as "deturo-proteose," and had found it successful in the treatment of some types of pneumonia.

Thrombin also has been found effective in checking the bleeding of hemophilia, the disease which causes a person to bleed almost continuously from even a small cut or bruise.

It is also expected to be a vital aid to bone surgeons who heretofore have not been able to stop bleeding from the small blood vessels within the bone marrow except with bone wax, a substance foreign to the body which sometimes interferes with bone healing, Dr. Seegers said.

Californian Assembles Radio on a Common Pin

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.—Albert L. Marquess, San Diego's most amazing radio fan, has just completed assembling another radio—this one on a common pin.

Another of his sets is in the end of a lead pencil where an eraser is generally imbedded and still another constructed in a novelty banjo about two inches long.

The radios are, of course, crystal sets. Marquess mounts the little crystal detectors for rectifying the radio currents upon the smallest possible objects, then attaches tiny connections for ear phones, ground and aerial, omitting tuning coils.

Marquess began the hobby several years ago while living in Arizona. Incidentally, his reception from two local stations and two near-by stations in Mexico is quite all right, thank you.

175,369 Taxing Units Operating in Country

CHICAGO.—There are practically as many taxing agencies in the United States as the nation's total of doctors, hospitals and public libraries combined, a National Consumers Tax commission survey shows.

In a study of modern-day taxation, the commission—a women's organization crusading against "taxes that penalize the consumer"—declared that there are 175,369 agencies in the country with the power to levy and collect revenues for local, state and national governments.

The organization's survey showed that the nation's hospitals total 6,189, its libraries 6,235, and its physicians 165,163, for a combined total of 177,587.

Safety Razor Opposed By Calcutta Barbers

CALCUTTA.—Barbers of India have organized a nation-wide campaign against the safety razor, which they say is ruining their business. Barbers of Calcutta recently held a parade carrying banners with anti-safety razor slogans. Six hundred then held a conference to outline a campaign to recapture their vanishing trade. A national movement to boycott foreign safety razors and to boost barbers' services was started.

NEWS

Boiled Down for You

Millions of words are printed each day to give the reading public a knowledge of national and world affairs. News pages, sports pages, financial pages, editorial pages—all are designed to inform the reader. Obviously it is impossible to assimilate all this information. There is too much of it for daily absorption. Today's important, far-reaching story may be forgotten tomorrow.

Our WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS gives you a condensed interpretation of national and world events. It is a forceful, timely feature which eliminates the trivial and explains the important news of the week. We believe that no paper can offer its readers a better foundation for intelligent discussion of today's history in the making.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Ruskin's Description of The Falls of the Rhine

The Falls of the Rhine near Schaffhausen, Switzerland, are 380 feet wide and 100 feet deep. Compared with Niagara they are modest indeed, yet their setting is so impressive that every spectator will agree with Ruskin's description:

"Stand for an hour beside the Falls of Schaffhausen, on the north side, where the rapids are long, and watch how the vault of water first bends unbroken in pure polished velocity over the arching rocks at the brow of the cataract, covering them with a dome of crystal 20 feet thick, so swift that its motion is unseen except when a foam-globe from above darts over it like a falling star; and how the trees are lighted above it under all their leaves at the instant that it breaks into foam; and how all the hollows of that foam burn with green fire, like so much shattering chrysoprase; and how, ever and anon startling you with its white flash, a jet of spray leaps out, hissing, like a rocket bursting in the wind and driven away in dust, filling the air with light; and how, through the curdling wreaths of the restless, crashing abyss below, the blue of the water, paled by the foam in its body, shows purer than the sky through white rain cloud; while the shuddering iris stoops in tremulous stillness over all, fading and flushing alternately through the chocking spray and shattered sunshine, hiding itself at last among the thick golden leaves which toss to and fro in sympathy with the wild waters, their dripping masses lifted at intervals, like sheaves of loaded corn, by some stronger gush from the cataract, and bowed again upon the mossy rocks as its roar dies away."

'Curiosity Killed Cat' Traced to Older Saying

The saying "Curiosity killed the cat" is believed to be a corruption of the older saying "Care killed the cat." It is one of the sayings perpetuated more by sound than sense, writes a correspondent to the Boston Herald.

A proverb known in England and Scotland from time immemorial says that a cat has nine lives, yet care will wear them out. "Hang sorrow, care will kill a cat," occurs in "Christmas," a poem written by George Wither, who died in 1667. The same line is attributed to Ben Jonson, John Taylor and others.

This proverb probably referred originally to the fact that cats are frequently so petted and pampered that they sicken and die. However, cats are not usually thought of as being especially curious.

Why "Care killed the cat" was changed to "Curiosity killed the cat" is a puzzling question. One writer says a plausible explanation of this change is found in the fact that one of the figurative senses of "cat" is a human being who scratches like a cat, particularly a spiteful or back-biting woman."

The Little Things

Oh, it's just the little homely things, the unobtrusive friendly things, the "won't-you-let-me-help-you" things that make our pathway light. And it's just the jolly, joking things, the "never-mind-the-trouble" things, the "laugh-with-me-it's-funny" things, that make the world seem bright. For all the countless famous things, the wondrous record-breaking things, those "never-can-be-equalled" things, that all the papers cite, are not like little human things, the "every-day-encountered" things, the "just-because-I-like-you" things that make us happy-like. So, here's to all the little things, the "done-and-then-forgotten" things, those "oh-it's-simply-nothing" things that make life worth the fight.

This nation spends two dollars a minute, every minute of the year—on horseshoes.

Wonderful radio! It enables us to get as mad about a distant wrong as though it was some of our business.

The Jefferson Bible

The Jefferson Bible is a compilation made by Thomas Jefferson of passages from the four gospels cut out and pasted in a book according to a scheme of his own. Jefferson began this work about the year 1804, while he was President. He bought two English Bibles and compiled a book of 46 pages, using all the words attributed to Jesus, as well as some other passages closely in accord with His words. About 1819 Jefferson completed the work by doing the same with Testaments in Greek, Latin and French, designating the complete work "The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth." He used two maps in the volume, one of Palestine and another of the ancient world. The original book is in the National museum at Washington.

Boys Ride Tortoises

Turtle riding is one of the favorite games down at Nassau in the Bahamas. The native boys at Nassau love to play jockey to 700-pound sea turtles. Their method is to dive for a big salt water tortoise lying quietly on the bottom in the transparent water and grab the forward end of his shell just back of his neck. It's a dangerous way to mount the animal, because if he draws in his neck and elects to stay down, the rider's hands may be caught between the turtle's neck and his shell, and the rider has to stay down with him. However, the boys know just how to do it. The turtle comes to the surface, and the ride begins. The only trouble is that there isn't any way of guiding this steed; the boy has to go where his mount happens to feel like swimming.

Decorating the Spanish Home

Spanish architecture as used in America can usually be traced to the early Spanish mission. It came into use in the early part of the Eighteenth century in the states adjoining the Mexican border. An attractive color prescription for this type home: stucco painted a light tint of green; exterior woodwork, white; iron railings finished in red to blend with the Spanish tile color of the roof.

HOW ABOUT GROWING FLOWERS IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

To save time and care in growing flowers around the farm home, many families find it practical to grow at least a part of their annual flowering plants in rows in a vegetable garden, where cultivation by hoe or horse cultivator will be easier than in flower beds.

In suggesting this method Walter R. Ballard, specialist in horticulture for the University of Maryland Extension Service, points out that it is often a work saver to fill most of the space reserved for flowers, and long-lived plants such as irises, peonies, daffodils, day lilies, pyrethrums and chrysanthemums.

Other plants that go well in permananent flower beds are those that usually reseed from year to year—hollylocks, petunias, shasta daisies, larkspurs, and cornflowers. With these it is only necessary to hoe out surplus plants after cultivation has been delayed long enough to give the scattered seed a chance to sprout.

Many of the favorite annual flowers, such as zinnias, marigolds, calliopsis, cosmos, and California poppie, can be planted in rows like vegetables, convenient for cultivation, easy to gather for cut flowers, and pleasant to the eye when working in the garden. Many of the anuals bloom most freely and for the longest period if kept closely picked and not allowed to ripen seed. If these are planted in the vegetable garden, it is easy to gather a wealth of fine flowers without injuring the display in the flower beds and border plantings around the house.

A silkworm spins its filament at a rate of five inches a minute.