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The Folly of Flight.

Samuel Insull is affording a striking example of the folly of flight from justice. He left this country when accused of financial trickery which cost the investors in the securities which he floated in connection with his far-flung "empire" of utilities countless millions of dollars. With knowledge of the fact that there was no effective extradition treaty between the United States and Greece he went to that land. A treaty was in process of negotiation and ratification and the formalities were concluded while he was at Athens. The Greek court refused to order his extradition on a technical ground and he was permitted to remain at Athens, but eventually his presence became an embarrassment to the Greek government and he was notified that he must depart. On the plea of ill health he was given extensions and finally he was told to go, but he lacked a travel vise and on the eve of his eviction he fled on a chartered ship, bound for the Persian Gulf, where he hoped to land and find refuge. The Greek government, angered by this procedure, ordered the ship to return, and shortly Insull will be again on Greek soil, unwanted, subject to ouster and perhaps to surrender to the American authority.

The plight of the fugitive is a desperate one, in these days of instant communication and ready travel. However potent his wealth may be to gain protection, he is the possible victim of betrayal. He becomes the object of blackmail. He can have no peace, no security, as long as he is sought by the law of his own land. Had Insull succeeded in getting into Persia he would have faced the same difficulties as those from which he sought to flee when he slipped out of Greece. He would have had no sure haven of rest.

Had Insull remained here and faced the law he would have had a much less difficult time. He would presumably have been admitted to bail, with freedom to move about as he wished, and with the prospect of a long delay in the hearing of his case. He would have had a chance to beat the law when the trial was held. If convicted he would have had his appeal, with virtual assurance of a lapse of two or three years before final confirmation of the verdict. In any case he would have been free of the constant dread of discovery and return to the jurisdiction of his offense.

In the light of the success of offenders against the laws in the course of many years of slow and at times incompetent administration of justice in this country, Insull chose the decidedly wrong course in fleeing and resisting deportation and return. Flight was virtual confession of guilt, certainly of fear of punishment. It led to a desperate plight, to suffering, to costly and perhaps corrupt machinations to prevent trial, to agonies of mind that could not have been less than those incident to appearance in court.

There is no sure haven of refuge for the wrongdoer in these times, and Insull stands as an example of the folly of attempted evasion.

If Langley could have had in advance a small share of the money that now figures in aviation he would not have been so frequently humiliated, though never disheartened in his experiments.

Prevention of Injustice.

The President has done well in declining to accept the recommendations of some of his political advisers to treat the office of register of wills as a small portion of patronage pie, to be dished out to some possibly deserving party worker from one of the States at the expense of the efficient incumbent.

The position of register of wills has never been considered as patronage. "Corporal" Tanner held the job for twenty-three years. Capt. Theodore Cogswell, the incumbent, entered the office as a clerk under the Wilson administration in 1913. His service there was interrupted by the war, in which he distinguished himself, and his promotions were achieved on recommendation of the justices of the court through merit. On the very day that Corporal Tanner died the justices recommended his promotion to the Attorney General, and that day President Coolidge nominated him. Summarily ousting him to make way for a political appointee would have been distinct ungratitude to a gallant soldier, and would have rendered a disservice to the court of which the register of wills is an office.

The recommendations which the President declined were apparently based on a misconception of the nature of the office. There is some irony in the fact that any recommendations should go as far as the White House without a complete understanding of the nature of the duties which, for the sake of politics, were to be reassigned. But the speed with which the President threw out the recommendation once the relevant facts were brought to his personal attention is comforting to Washingtonians, who have feared the sacrifice of other efficient local office holders in the payment of patronage debts.

Central Europe.

Probably the true inwardness and precise implications of the Italo-Austro-Hungarian pacts to be signed at Rome today will not be officially revealed, but it is manifest that Premier Mussolini has done important business with his visitors, Chancellor Dollfuss of Austria and Premier Goemboes of Hungary. Rome dispatches state that two separate accords have been reached. One, political; the other, commercial. It is the former that means most to the high contracting parties and to Europe, for it provides for "consultation" among them on emergency occasions of interest to all three countries.

Stripped of surplus verbiage, such an agreement has one outstanding, all-dominating purpose — to thwart Nazi Germany's expansion across Central Europe through absorption of Austria, with Hungary as the next natural goal. From "consultation" to joint military action would not, in certain grave contingencies, be a very long step. The partners in this new triple political and commercial alliance naturally deny that it has any definite anti-German slant, yet current events in Europe denote that any attempt on the integrity of the Danubian states will now run into a solid wall of nations stretching from the Atlantic to the Black Sea.

France is sympathetic to Signor Mussolini's Central European plans. Czechoslovakia, conscious of a Nazi menace, is about to enter a phase of closer understanding with Italy. With the other Little Entente nations—Rumania and Yugoslavia—following France's lead, and with Bulgaria firmly attached to the Italian course, the chain of countries linked directly or indirectly in a purpose to brook no modern German "drang nach Osten" is complete. Nazi dreams of extending the Reich's power and influence across Central Europe would seem for the time being to be effectually checked.

On its face the history made at Rome this week appears to be purely peaceful in purpose. Signor Mussolini's professed primary object is to strengthen Austria and Hungary economically by increasing the import of their goods into Italy, while widening Italian business in Danubian markets. The three partners claim that they will welcome the adhesion of other countries to their trade understanding. Nevertheless, the danger cannot be excluded that against the new balance of power thus set up in the heart of the Continent a rival combination may some day be created, with Nazi Germany as its mainspring.

The world will hope that present-hour developments at Rome will have the pacific results which their authors profess to desire.

As a master of flying technique the position of Col. Lindbergh is unchallenged. Even though he is entitled to wear a military uniform popular imagination will always prefer to picture him in the togs of the intrepid aviator, such as he wore when he made the simple announcement on reaching Paris "I am Charles Lindbergh."

Recent events have raised the question of whether Vidals' $700 airplanes can be realized to the extent of equipping private owners with a blizzard-proof article.

As a sick man, Sam Insull is hard to convince that his physical condition would be improved by travel.

Trip Downtown.

Thousands of Washingtonians ordinarily have no orbit of travel except that of the journey from home to office and back. They traverse the same route six days of the week. A pattern of movement is the normal habit of their lives. Over the same pavements, through the same streets, to the same cars or busses they go in the morning and return in the late afternoon or early evening. Superficially, it may seem a dull sort of business. Like "Grand Hotel," "nothing ever happens."

But perhaps that is not quite true. It may be that for those who have the "seeing eye" the familiar passing scene really is worth watching. The pageant of a community on the march, it is obvious, must present occasional aspects of variation. Influences surely are operative in the circumstances—differences of weather, for example. A Winter picture cannot be exactly like a Spring picture. And there are subtle distinctions which the acutely observing may notice. Monday, for instance, has an atmosphere not at all like Saturday. Sensitive men and women comprehend the "feeling" of mutation in the air.

Even stolid and unresponsive souls now and again will lift themselves out of their preoccupation to glance from the window at an incident occurring along the way. To illustrate: A crowd of several score of children, all decorated with blue silk badges, this morning momentarily attracted the gaze of passengers in a Connecticut avenue coach. In the mind of each beholder was the question: "What do those badges say?" But the coach did not pause, and no one bothered to pursue the inquiry. The boys and girls standing on the sidewalk, however, had served the purpose of breaking the monotony.

For the philosopher people are a fascinating spectacle, and to the philosopher the daily journey never is a wasted opportunity. Various causes combine to isolate individuals from the masses to which they belong, but the experience of getting to work and getting home again is not one of them.

Dilemma of the Middleman.

The weekly pass system has faced with a dilemma the type of car rider hereafter known as the middleman. The middleman is the gentleman (or the lady) who from infancy was taught to obey respectfully the admonition of the conductor to "Move forward, please." He has always moved forward, beginning at the rear of the car, where he had purchased a strap franchise, and ending his journey on the front platform. But new times, new customs, have produced the dilemma. Now, progressing as the conductor intones "Move forward, please," he is startled by the sound of a new voice from the hitherto silent motorman. The motorman chants: "Move toward the rear of the car, please." For the motormen, in the new role of human compressor, admits passengers who hold weekly passes at the front end of the car. Motormen and conductors are rugged individualists, who believe in working both ends against the middle.

Well, they say a worm will turn. But even a worm could not turn under such conditions. What is the proper technique? The middleman might try climbing toward the roof of the car. But the company refuses to supply ladders. One hesitates to become sensational or jingoistic about such things, but the possibility of the middleman's revolt is not to be sneezed at. You can push a middleman just so far. If one of them, responding to certain laws of physics, goes shooting through the top of the car some day like a prune seed squeezed between thumb and index finger—well, there is going to be trouble, and it will not be the middleman's fault, either.

An offer has been made to sell at assessed value to New York City 47 parcels of slum property, to be improved for purposes of better housing. It is doubted whether the city can afford to accept the offer and the suggestion is too high minded to permit a little political juggling to lower the assessment.

German pictures, music and literature have but little to look forward to if the government decides to permit only a population qualified for military service. It would be a just retribution if the rest of the world should go on and perfect an understanding that there shall be no war.

There are discouraging students who regard international peace as only a lucid interval to be maintained as long as possible.

In his ideas Hitler does not halt at an effort to be logical but insists on going on and being pathological.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Luxury of Hardships.

Some day we're going to build a world
Which leaves mankind at ease,
With Pleasure's banners all unfurled
Upon a tranquil breeze.
All travel will be well controlled
For loitering or for haste,
And dwellings will be warm or cold
According to each taste.
Soft lights will glow through perfumed air
And music sweet and low
Will greet the listener everywhere
That he may choose to go.
Each home will be exceeding fair
And in the dining hall
Swift mechanism will prepare
A banquet, great or small.
And then—ah, then—brain-weary men
Will on vacation go,
Seeking the jungle or the glen
Or realms of ice and snow.
They'll find the thrill of primal cheer
And think the time well spent
If they for food can find a deer
And live out in a tent.

Controlled Ire.

"I note with approval," said the constituent, "that you are slow to anger."

"You are mistaken," answered Senator Sorghum. "I try not to be demonstrative. But I have always found that the angrier you are, the more desirable it is to keep quiet and think hard."

Jud Tunkins says clothes don't make the man, but, just the same, a policeman's uniform has a tremendous amount of influence.

No Harm in Argument.

We're welcoming the kindly scene
When Nature smiles anew
And gayly Wearing of the Green
Salutes the Eagle Blue.
We know that everything's well meant.
It brings us no dismay
To have a bit of argument
Upon Saint Patrick's Day.

Defense Reaction.

"What is your idea in trying to dodge your income tax?"

"I guess it was a question of nervous reaction," said Mr. Dustin Stax. "I didn't mean to dodge. Anyhow, it hit me first."

"A bad conscience," said Hi Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "punishes even the most callous nature as a remorseless reminder of bad judgment."

Why Not Go Peaceably?

We know that life is but a span
Twixt two eternities.
We seek to formulate a plan
Of honorable ease.
Since a departure we must take
From this too fleeting present,
Why should war politicians make
The process so unpleasant?

"Learn to say 'no,'" said Uncle Eben, "but don't let it git to be such a habit dat you refuses a chance to be useful."

A Shade.

From the Toledo Blade.

As the hearing progressed it appeared that Mr. Brown was getting a shade better of Mr. Black.

THIS AND THAT

BY CHARLES E. TRACEWELL.

Those who select fishes for the home aquarium, as gardeners who choose shrubs for the foundation planting, should keep in mind the matter of future growth.

Thinking of aquarium fish from the fishes' standpoint rather than that of the owner is a growth, too.

The beginner never thinks of the fish, but of himself.

He selects it for color, or interesting breeding habits; he totally overlooks the factor of growth, whereby an inch-long fish in time becomes 5 inches long.

Many popular fishes, which charm all who behold them in their younger days, grow at last to be too large for the home tanks ordinarily available for them.

* * * *

Such tanks, properly planted, afford them enough oxygen at first, but when they get 18 months old, or 2 years old, such tanks are inadequate.

One should be very careful, then, in purchasing fishes, to know something about their ultimate size in captivity.

Few tropicals grow as large in small aquaria as in natural environment.

Some, however, attain almost their full number of inches.

Now the longer a fish becomes, granted it gets proper feeding, the fatter it gets, in the ordinary sense.

The greater the bulk, the more meat to need oxygenation.

* * * *

The larger fishes, too, become intensely nervous, whereas smaller ones seldom give any such indications.

This is a fact unknown to the beginner.

Often the amateur wonders at the sign which he may see on tanks at some places of sale: "Do not touch the tanks."

Tapping on the front glass, of course, is one of the delights of the stranger to this happy "fancy."

There is nothing the person unacquainted with aquarium fishes loves to do quite as much as tap on the front glass.

When fishes are youngsters, and perpetually hungry, this tapping does little harm.

For them it sometimes becomes a signal for dinner.

* * * *

After a fish gets to what might be called piscatorial middle age, however, its demand for food begins to fall off.

Just as a human being needs little food for growth, comparatively speaking, after reaching a certain age, so a tiny fish comes to the point in its life when its quota of food may be cut down.

Under the artificial restrictions of the tank, this age arrives after full growth has been attained.

It arrives particularly early in the so-called community tank, where many fishes will not breed.

Whenever this period arrives the feeding schedule may be cut from twice a day to once a day, preferably in the middle of the afternoon.

* * * *

All the experts say feed in the morning?

Many of them do, but that is just another of the old traditions handed down from writer to writer, from mouth to mouth.

If the owner will consult his fishes, and not his own convenience, he will see that the older ones prefer midafternoon, especially when the sun is shining.

The plants are sending up bubbles of oxygen, the fishes have been swimming around all day, working up an appetite.

Now comes the feeding hour, at least it comes if the owner consults his pets.

They want food then, and plainly show their desire.

If they are beginning to get old, and perhaps are a bit too large for the tank they are in, they will show less plain nervousness at this time of the day than at any other.

The confirmed glass tapper can tap to his heart's content in middle afternoon or late afternoon. The fishes will not mind such antics then.

They are hungry.

* * * *

There is a panic fear which develops in some aquariums as the fishes grow up.

It is never known to beginners, or to those who have not been able to keep the same tropical fishes for two years, at the least.

It develops only when fishes grow large, and begin to find their tank too small for them.

Overcrowding, that first and last bane of amateur fish keeping, is at the bottom of it, then.

One solution is to keep on buying bigger tanks, but this is a problem complicated both by money and space.

The placing of larger tanks in the average home is a real problem. The larger the tank, the more it costs, and the worse the catastrophe would be if accidentally broken.

* * * *

The best way, therefore, to prevent "nerves" among your fishes is to begin by purchasing only such varieties as will not exceed 2 inches at maturity. (We speak now of tropical fishes, not of goldfishes.)

By sticking to the smaller types, your aquarium animals stand a far better chance of having enough room, not only for exercise, but in breathing space. The free oxygen in the water is the important thing, and if your fishes are too big they will demand more oxygen than you probably can give them.

Before acquiring a new fish which strikes your fancy, find out how large it ultimately grows. Find out whether it must have live food or not, and determine whether you are willing to provide "white worms" and the like.

The larger fishes, for best results, ought to have at least a 10-gallon tank per pair. Determine whether you have the space to handle them, whether you want to go into fish culture on that scale.

* * * *

Do not be misled in this matter by the size of the fishes as youngsters.

These charming little fellows, gayly chasing after each other in this small tank—can they ever become large, meaty fishes?

They can, and will, if tank conditions are right.

They will do it, too, before you know it, if nature has decreed 5 inches as their size, or 7 inches.

The first may attain only 4 inches, the latter but 5½ inches, say, but each will be a big fish for a home aquarium.

Remember, there is just as much pleasure to be derived from the smaller fishes, and these are far happier, under the conditions imposed upon them by the average aquarist. ("Aquarist" is a poor word; we propose "fishman," to distinguish the—er, aquarist, from the "fisherman.")

Miss Allen Believed Headed For Nation's Highest Court

The appointment of Judge Florence E. Allen of Ohio to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Sixth District leads to suggestions that if she succeeds in her new position she will set still another precedent in her unusual career by becoming the first woman member of the United States Supreme Court. This native of Utah and product of Western Reserve University has served on the Ohio Supreme Court with distinction and is the first of her sex to be promoted to the higher Federal judiciary.

The belief that she will go to the Federal Supreme Court is quoted by the Richmond Times-Dispatch, basing that possibility on her "measuring up to the duties of the appellate court." The Richmond paper recalls that "in 1922, at the age of 38, Miss Allen was elected to the Ohio Supreme Court, where she has made a distinguished record," and points out that "she is noted for her liberal attitude toward political and social questions." The Times-Dispatch adds: "In Germany, under the Hitler regime, such a thing as the elevation of a woman to the federal bench would, of course, be beyond the bounds of possibility. Not only so, but the Nazis are determined to take women out of business and professional life entirely and to restore them to the home. * * * The remarkable success of many American women in business and professional life is excellent evidence of the fallacy of the Nazi thesis."

"In 1932," says the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, "Judge Allen was a Democratic nominee for Congress, but was beaten by the rich and popular Republican incumbent from her district. For many years there have been women in the House of Representatives at Washington. Mrs. Caraway, first appointed and then elected in her own name, has been a member of the Senate since the death of her husband. Miss Perkins is in the cabinet. Judge Allen's nomination raises the question how long it will be before a woman lawyer wears a gown as a member of the United States Supreme Court."

"As the first woman jurist named to so high a place on the United States bench, her service there will be watched with much more than ordinary interest the country over," thinks the New Orleans Times-Picayune, recognizing that in her selection "the President established another interesting precedent." That paper states in reviewing her career: "This choice is not in any sense 'experimental.' Judge Allen now is serving her second term on Ohio's Supreme Court, and her judicial experience includes service also as judge of the Court of Common Pleas at Cleveland. She began the practice of law in 1914 and her judicial career has been sufficiently distinguished to attract national attention. Her experience and qualification for the Federal bench will not, we dare say, be challenged. Before adopting the law as a profession, Judge Allen—who is a native of Utah—studied music at home and abroad and served several years as a lecturer on music in New York City. An active worker in the woman suffrage cause, one of the first cases she accepted after admission to the bar was in defense of the right of women to vote in Ohio School Board elections."

"The judicial temperament, after all, may not be a matter of sex," declares the Lowell Evening Leader, and the McKeesport (Pa.) Daily News comments in similar vein: "It took a great many years to convince civilization that women could efficiently fill positions which formerly were regarded as solely within the province of the opposite sex. Now that they have been given the opportunity, they are showing us what they can do. Some one said, in a spirit of sarcasm, perhaps, that men face facts, but women run away from them. Owing to the highly controversial nature of the claim, we refrain from voicing an opinion. But if men do face facts they are aware that women can stand on an equal footing with them. That theory became factual some years ago."

"The new deal demands liberal judges, who can see the whole social picture as it exists in 1934, and Florence E. Allen is that kind of jurist," in the judgment of the Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, while the Jamestown (N. Y.) Post finds "recognition of the judicial poise that she has exhibited," and suggests that "the Supreme Court of the United States may not be beyond her reach." That paper concludes: "It appears that Judge Allen has a notable record for breaking precedents. Admitted to the bar in Cleveland twenty years ago, her first political office was as assistant prosecuting attorney of the county, the first woman in that city to hold such a position. Later she was elected a judge of the Common Pleas Court, in which she was also the first woman in Ohio to occupy that bench. She continued her record of precedent breaking in her advance to the Ohio Supreme Court and she has not departed from it in the latest instance."

"She has demonstrated the fact that she is an able and upright judge," avers the Roanoke Times, while the Charlotte (N. C.) News points to her career in newspaper work as contributing to her success. The Halton Journal-News refers to the record of President Roosevelt with the statement: "It has been the policy of the President to give woman a deserved recognition in Government; and according to the National League of Women Voters 13 have been named by him to important Federal positions. There seems to be no reason since woman has received the franchise and has exercised it so judiciously and independently that she should not have a place in the organization which is called Government."

Hoosier Aspirants.

From the South Bend Tribune.

If more Democrats come out for the Indiana senatorial nomination it may be necessary to identify the contenders with numbers instead of names.

Cause Unknown.

From the Nashville Tennessean.

A fellow went mad in a Los Angeles radio station the other evening, but we haven't learned just which blurb was being broadcast at the moment.

A Rush for the Clerk's Office.

From the Miami Daily News.

The recent increase in marriage licenses indicates that more women are finding employment and the men have found it out.

Jamming the Seas.

From the Boston Transcript.

The idea behind this 102-vessel "peace fleet" proposition apparently is that if you have enough ships the ocean will be so cluttered up there won't be any room to fight in.

THE LIBRARY TABLE

BY SARAH G. BOWERMAN.

A LIVING FROM THE LAND. By William B. Duryee, M. Sc. New York: Whittlesey House. McGraw-Hill Book Co.

The very title chosen for his book by the secretary of agriculture of New Jersey is optimistic. It suggests that a living may be obtained from the land—without Government aid. Optimism is, however, prevented from becoming too exuberant when we find that Mr. Duryee is writing primarily for the family which desires only partial economic security from the land. To him a real home is a country home, and he finds that "homesteading days are here again," that there is a movement of people back to the land. He suggests that the city worker who needs additional income may establish a country homestead which will be not a luxury, but a source of revenue, if the proper knowledge is brought to the project. The shorter working week will permit those whose principal work is in the city to give much time to the secondary occupation of farming. His book supplies at least the theoretical knowledge in such an interesting way that the reader is tempted to go off immediately and acquire a small farm, with just the right kind of soil.

The first essential is to "get started right"; that is, to find the right tract of land, not too large, where taxes are not too high, from which there is good transportation to the city, where there are buildings adapted to the needs of the purchaser, where electricity is available, where educational and community opportunities are good, and especially where the soil has crop-producing capacity. Valuable specific advice is given on all these points and on financing and protecting the investment. When the farm has been purchased and the family has moved in, perhaps after building a new dwelling, for which an attractive plan is given, and the servicing of the home has been arranged (there are good suggestions for this, too), then the crops must be planned and planted. The excitement now begins in earnest and reaches its climax when the first food from the garden is brought to the table or marketed. This is a very practical book. In addition to chapters packed with useful counsel, it contains several series of "do's" and "don'ts," diagrams, illustrations from photographs, and tables of planting, amounts of seed, insect pests and remedies. A good reference list of other books completes the volume.

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WHILE ROME BURNS. By Alexander Woollcott. New York: The Viking Press.

A very good-natured Nero in the person of Alexander Woollcott plays on a whole orchestra of instruments while the distraught world, not quite burning yet, is pleasantly diverted. This volume is composed of a miscellany from his magazine sketches, anecdotes, horror stories and comments on famous and less famous persons. The initial paper is a tribute, "which Brand Whitlock should have written (but might not write)" to the Marquis of Villalobar, gallant, deformed Ambassador from Spain to Belgium during the World War. In another, Frank Lloyd Wright is accorded the highest praise as "the outstanding creative genius of our time in architecture." When Mr. Woollcott writes of the wife of Henry Adams and the "veil" which James Truslow Adams holds over her death in his biography of Henry Adams, he becomes aggressively satiric and upholds the "inalienable privilege" of the "poor lady" to take her own life.

In one group of the essays he has revised some of his correspondence from Russia and tells something of "the daily experiences of a fat man in the Soviet Union." Theater going in China and lunching and dining in Japan, where so much food fell off his chopsticks that he "got all the good effects of undereating without subjecting my will power to any strain," are other subjects derived from his foreign travels. Several notorious crimes which have figured in the news receive ironical comment in the division entitled "It May Be Human Gore." Among them are the killing of Mr. Bennett in Kansas City by his wife after a quarrel at the bridge table, which was finally adjudged accidental; the case of Eugenie Cedarholm of Brooklyn, who mysteriously disappeared and has never since been heard from, whose rents were collected and checks cashed by Edward L. Hall, now serving in Sing Sing what is practically a life sentence; and the hansom cab mystery of Nan Patterson. Alexander Woollcott, formerly a prominent dramatic critic, has recently devoted his time to gossipy magazine articles, lecturing, and broadcasting. His witty, rather flippant style and his unerring aim in puncturing human vanities have made him popular with a wide public.

THE MEMOIRS OF VINCENT NOLTE. Reminiscences in the Period of Anthony Adverse. Or Fifty Years in Both Hemispheres. By Vincent Nolte. Translated from the German. New York: G. Howard Watt.

The Vincent Nolte of the Memoirs was an adventurer of unlimited energy and curiosity about life. Hervey Allen discovered the Memoirs and drew abundantly upon them for his character of Vincent Nolte in "Anthony Adverse," whom he made almost a rival of Anthony. The republication of Nolte's reminiscences may catch some of the tide of "Anthony Adverse" readers, but a degree of doubt is involved. There is a saturation point for picaresque adventure. Vincent Nolte was born in Leghorn in 1779, where his father, a native of Hamburg, was a partner in the firm of a relative, Otto Franck. Vincent began his own mercantile career in the same firm in 1795, a year before the French under Napoleon entered Leghorn. He shortly went to Hamburg, but did not stay there. He never stayed anywhere for long. By way of Paris and Amsterdam and the business of Messrs. Hope & Co. he was sent to New Orleans just in time to run into yellow fever and the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. He visited New York, where he knew Robert Fulton, and saw his little Clermont chug up the Hudson. He was shipwrecked off the Florida Coast and spent some time in the Bahamas. He was in New Orleans for the victory of Andrew Jackson in January, 1815, after the Treaty of Ghent had been signed. He reached France a trifle too late for the Battle of Waterloo, but arrived in time to witness all the aftermath of the fall of Napoleon. He settled again in Hamburg for his closing years. The Memoirs give a first-hand picture of the life of a banker and merchant of the Napoleonic era, and include in their story much of the history of that period in America and on the Continent of Europe.

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WAITING. By Bonnie Busch. New York: The Acadia Press.

Hope was long deferred for Lee Phelps and in this she shared a very common lot, but she differed from many others in her patience and unselfishness, carried to such an extent that they almost shifted to the fault side of her character balance. Of course every one imposed on her. Her life was a waiting—on account of her father's ambitions, her mother's prejudices, her husband's infidelities. Her occasional bursts of indignation and her final attempt at rebellion against her husband, thwarted by his illness, are needed to make her what she is, a very human woman. At her final release from all her frustrations, before she has lost her spirit and interest in life, the reader rejoices. The scene of the story shifts pleasantly from New York to Long Island country houses, to London, to Florida, to Virginia. Poverty did not add to Lee's troubles. She had the material things of life. And in the end she seems about to satisfy her "yearning to live." Vivacity of style and lifelike characters carry along a plot of social life which is adequate but not elaborate.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Q. How many songs has George Gershwin written?—K. McD.

A. He has written nearly 1,000, but all of them have not been published.

Q. What was the full name of the Brook Farm experiment?—V. R. M.

A. Brook Farm was a communistic industrial and literary establishment founded at West Roxbury, Mass., in 1841 by George Ripley and other persons of socialistic tendencies. It was known as the Brook Farm Institute of Agriculture and Education, and was composed of a stock company of nearly 70 members, among the more important of whom were Charles A. Dana, George William Curtis, Margaret Fuller and Nathaniel Hawthorne. The farm failed in 1846, but it was important in intellectual results.

Q. Why are the elephants smaller than they used to be in circuses?—G. F. H.

A. Karl Kae Knecht, editor of White Tops, says that circuses and zoos have not wanted large elephants of late years, as they are too troublesome and require too much room.

Q. What was the best price paid for an art object in America last year?—S. W. S.

A. While public sales of works of art have fallen off in volume and prices during the depression, some handsome prices have been paid. Last year's best price for a single item was $102,500 paid by Lord Milbank for the marble portrait bust of the Princess of Aragon by Francesco Laurana. It was in the Thomas Fortune Ryan collection.

Q. When was the British open golf championship first played?—D. S.

A. In 1892 the Prestwick, St. Andrew's, and Musselburgh Clubs of Scotland arranged a tournament, put up a cup, and called the contest the British open. Ever since, the winner of this contest has been regarded as champion of the golfing world.

Q. What obligation is there on the part of a person who uses your service?—C. F. O.

A. There is none whatever. This newspaper offers the service free to its readers. You are entitled to all benefits to be derived from its frequent use. There is no charge except coin or stamp for return postage. Address Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C.

Q. What is a jeremiad?—T. P.

A. It is a lamentation—a tale of sorrow, disappointment, or complaint. The name is an allusion to Lamentations, a book in the Old Testament attributed to Jeremiah.

Q. Will the trail riders of the national forests take a trip this Summer?—M. C.

A. The American Forestry Association says that two expeditions are scheduled for July. One will attempt to penetrate the rugged South Fork Wilderness of the Flathead National Forest, in Montana, while the other will push on through the South Fork country to the more remote Sun River wilderness of the Lewis and Clark National Forest, which has just been designated as a primitive area by the United States Forest Service.

Q. What was a marlin spike used for?—R. L.

A. This piece of iron tapering to a point was used on shipboard. It was used as a lever for opening or separating the strands of a rope in splicing.

Q. What became of the flags which were captured by the Northern troops during the Civil War?—M. F.

A. Through the efforts of Mr. John Lamb all flags captured by the Federal Government during the Civil War were returned to the Southern States.

Q. Why is rosewood so called?—W. S.

A. Some of the varieties have a rose scent

Q. Please describe chalcedony.—X. Y. Z.

A. Chalcedony is described as a cryptocrystalline variety of quartz, transparent or translucent, with a waxy luster. So far as color is concerned it may be white, gray, blue, brown, or black, but commonly is of a tint suggestive of diluted milk, marked with veins, circles, or spots. It is used for ornament and is often called "white agate."

Q. When were glass bottles first used for distributing milk?—T. L.

A. The Bureau of Dairy Industry says that the earliest date of which it has record for the use of glass bottles for milk distribution is 1878. In that year a Mr. Alexander Campbell of Brooklyn, N. Y., used glass jars, which were the forerunner of the present milk bottle. The same type appeared in Philadelphia in 1885. The first bottle which resembled the modern type was Thatcher's Common Sense Bottle, which was patented in 1889.

Q. When is Shrove Sunday?—M. M.

A. The Sunday before Ash Wednesday.

Q. Why isn't the language spoken in this country called American?—J. C.

A. An excellent reason is because it is not spoken throughout the Americas. When the United States was colonized the language spoken here was precisely the same as the language spoken in England. Differences have developed, however, since that time which have led may students of language to come to the conclusion that the language spoken in the United States should no longer be called English, but distinguished in some way.

Q. What is the name of the Crown Prince of Japan?—S. T.

A. He was christened Akihito Tsugu no Miya. All Japanese princes have names ending in hito which means benevolent male. No Miya means prince of. Aki means enlightened. Therefore the infant's name is Aki the benevolent male, Prince of Tsugu. Tsugu identifies him as the Crown Prince.

Q. Is there a memorial to Woodrow Wilson at Princeton, N. J.?—F. T.

A. The only one at present is a professorship of English literature endowed in his name by Edward Bok. Plans for the erection of a suitable monument are being made now by the officials of the Federal Public Works of Art Committee and of the Borough of Princeton. The present design for a monument, created by Rolf William Bauhan with the assistance of Jean Labatut, calls for a stone shaft 60 feet in height and 12 feet square at the base, on which bas-relief panels will depict Wilson as president of Princeton, Governor of New Jersey, President of the United States, and advocate of the League of Nations. The panels will be surmounted by flags of the nations, in low relief, and the four corners of the base will be decorated with a torch of peace.

Q. How much money is a long bit or a short bit?—A. E. J.

A. In Southern and Western United States a long bit is 15 cents and a short bit is 10 cents. A bit is 12½ cents, and 2 bits is a quarter of a dollar.

Q. Have the privateering licenses issued in the War of 1812 original signatures of the President and Secretary of State?—M. B. S.

A. The privateering licenses issued in the War of 1812 which are on file at the State Department have original signatures.

Q. Is it true that the city of Washington was slow in adopting electric lights?—V. C.

A. Experiments in electric lighting in Washington began at the Capitol on November 20, 1878. The forty-sixth Congress appropriated $2,400 to light the building with electricity. After many tests, lamps were installed October 4, 1879. Edison electric lights were inaugurated at Fifteenth street and Pennsylvania avenue on October 15, 1881. F street between Ninth and Fifteenth was lighted by electricity in 1882. It is true that the Capital was slow in installing electric street lights.

Q. What became of the men who were arrested for burning the German Reichstag Building?—F. S. S.

A.—The confessed burner of the German Reichstag Building, Marnius van der Lubbe, a native of the Netherlands, was executed for the crime under a law decreed on the day after the fire by President von Hindenburg on the insistence of the leaders of the Nazi party. Representations were made by the government of the Netherlands, but the execution took place. The other defendants who were accused were released, Lubbe having assumed the entire responsibility.

Telling It to the Marines.

From the Topeka Daily Capital.

What the Chicago Tribune describes as an "authoritative" dispatch from its Brussels correspondent reports that a secret treaty has been made between Holland and Great Britain, giving the Dutch East Indies the protection of the British Navy. The time has passed when England and Holland battled for the command of the seas, but the time has passed also for secret treaties. They are forbidden by the League of Nations covenant, to which both England and Holland are subscribers. Treaties are negotiated, but they are spread on the record as public documents.

The Tribune, however, accepts the alleged secret naval treaty as authentic, on the assurance of its correspondent in Belgium. "The Dutch are prosperous and their Indian possessions are rich," the Tribune comments, "but these possessions are insecure because the Dutch Navy has ceased to exist." On the other hand, the Japanese Navy casts its shadow over the Dutch East Indies, and while not relying altogether on oil, "needs it and gets it from Borneo in large part. Possession for the Dutch East Indies might mean everything to Japan," suggests the Tribune. "Therefore," it concludes, "the Dutch East Indies are put under the protection of Singapore." It is nearly three centuries since Holland relied upon a navy to hold its colonial empire. If it has hired a foreign navy to defend it, it is, or would be, news. It is not so long ago as to be forgotten that a French scheme for preserving peace fell down because England declined to pledge its navy to such a program.

By an unhappy juxtaposition, the adjoining column of the Tribune makes this statement of the same date: "If we don't have a big navy, say the big navy men down at Washington, this country is bound to get into war." But Switzerland hasn't got a navy, and you never heard of Switzerland getting into a war, didja? It is a fine chance for an argument between the two adjoining editorial columns of the Tribune.

Urges Enactment of Wheeler Silver Bill

To the Editor of The Star:

The Star captions an article, "Wheeler Presses for Silver Vote." The Senator has introduced a bill providing the Government at once begin the purchase of not less than 50,000,000 ounces of silver a month at a price per ounce to be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, the purchase of the silver to terminate as soon as the ratio of 16 to 1 with gold is attained. Silver certificates would be issued against the bullion and would be considered full legal tender in discharge of all debts. This bill was sent to the Agriculture Committee of the Senate.

The Senator states: "This measure is the only means of raising farm commodity prices as long as gold and silver standard countries use different yardsticks for measuring the exchange."

This Wheeler bill is up to the Senate and then the House. If the Congress at this session was to pass this bill, would the President veto it? I am of the belief he would not, judging from his message to the Congress wherein he stated favorable things in regard to the use of silver as a possible primary, unredeemable United States money without agreement with any other nation or consultation with it. I call attention to the House "bonus" vote with the wide margin of 295 to 125 in favor of the payment now of the soldiers' bonus. Every one of these 295 House bonus supporters would vote for this latest Wheeler bill for the reason that the $2,200,000,000 could be paid in silver certificates at once, without the issue of fiat, Treasury press money, "greenbacks," and would not interfere with the President's present monetary policy of non-creation of a new national debt. Per contra, it would distribute in every city, town and village of the United States $2,200,000,000 of ready money! Not to be banked or hoarded, but to be spent at once, paying off debts of these World War veterans. It would increase the incomes of the smaller business men, the baker, meat seller, grocer, the rank and file, workers and producers, of millions of true Americans, without one dollar's cost to Uncle Sam, but, in my belief, to his benefit. The Wheeler bill would, in my judgment, if enacted into law now, be the greatest immediate step possible to our recovery from national depression in large part.

W. E. RYAN.

A Crossing Reminder.

From the Nashville Tennessean.

If habit weren't so strong, that contraption on the front of a locomotive would now be called a carcatcher instead of a cowcatcher.