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Going Too Far

This is an age of "efficiency" also of utilitarianism. If a given thing of intangible and material value, it should be abandoned and relegated to the scrap heap.

There are many persons who know little and appreciate less anything of a romantic, sentimental or spiritual nature. If a thing cannot be measured in terms of dollars and cents, if the overhead cost as compared with the selling price cannot be stated to the last fraction of a cent, it is anathema writing in the "Woman's Home Companion".

Frederick L. Collins, gives it as his opinion, that there are 100,000 useless churches in the United States that are tax exempt; that cost \$2,000,000,000 and cost \$300,000,000 to maintain, yet they are open only a portion of the time.

What of that, even if it be not altogether true? As a secular contemporary well says: "All right. What of it? Has the time come when we scrap the churches as we out down the shade trees on Main Street? To judge either tree or church by the commercial standard is unfair. It cannot be. They also serve who only stand and wait. Human nature still retains the capacity for worship, reverence and the enjoyment of moments of silence where the still, small voice can speak.

Keep It Up!

Smoke is not only a nuisance but it represents an economic loss to the individual owner of property and to the community. It also represents a loss to the owner of the property whence black smoke emanates, because he is burning more fuel than he needs to burn.

There are smoke consumers, automatic smokers and other devices that prevent the smoke nuisance and consume all the coal fed into the boilers. Then there is steam fed from a central plant which will eliminate ashes and dirt—and smoke as well.

This is preliminary to reproduction of the following to-the-point editorial appearing in a recent issue of the "Times-Union":— Cities throughout the country are becoming aroused about the smoke nuisance.

If smoke prevention has only slowly received the attention it merits, it is because objections to enforcement of anti-smoke ordinances are direct and personal, while the damage to property and health is distributed over the entire city. Complaints are not likely to be made except against flagrant offenders.

So the tendency is for officials to take action only in these extreme cases, and side-step the general issue of smoke elimination.

It is only when the total damage is footed up, and the fact that the smoke to health from a soot-laden atmosphere affects every person in the city is considered, that the full extent of the smoke evil is realized.

Such a summing up shows that smoke ought to be fought vigorously.

It has been conclusively proved that the property damage in a city is more than twice that of the loss of life and health. Our health authorities has an innocent little daughter who is killed by a car or light on the street, and when it is most needed, a man

Smoke prevention methods have made rapid progress. It is possible to bring marked improvement even when dealing with old plants. No new installations for burning soft coal should be permitted which are not equipped with modern devices for preventing and consuming smoke.

Taking the community as a whole, cost of smoke prevention is far less than the total damage from needless smoke.

Place the good of all ahead of the shortsighted indifference of a few. Set Rochester in line for cutting down the smoke evil instead of allowing it to grow.

Where Starts?

There is a deal of hazy reasoning based upon inadequate research and lack of real knowledge of the problems involved. This is evidenced by the following editorial in the Rochester "Democrat & Chronicle":—

"That if there is no respect for authority in the home there is not likely to be outside, was one of the points stressed at the American Homes Congress in Des Moines, Iowa, recently. It was also pointed out that children of American parents have a right to instruction that will create a respect for the law that is their own protection, for the lack of such instruction in the home may mean difficulties with the law in later life.

"Distasteful as it may seem to many American parents, evidence continues to accumulate to show that youths who run afoul of the law are from homes where, in many cases, parental discipline has been either lax or lacking. Fathers and mothers who are too busy to know what their boys or girls are doing too often have an unpleasant belated awakening to the facts, some when called on to administer discipline that is doubly hateful because tardy.

"Youth is called rebellious. The term is scarcely justified when examined in the light of facts, yet it has a certain unpleasant implication. Rebellion against authority usually is caused by misunderstanding and ignorance, sometimes on the part of the governing class, sometimes among the governed, often on both sides. If youth is rebellious, as charged it is plain that someone charged with the duty of directing youthful footsteps has failed to keep in touch with developments and so has permitted misunderstanding to creep in.

"There seems good reason to believe that the youth of to-day is no worse at heart than was the present bald and wrinkled generation in the days of its youth. But disrespect for law has gained ground far too rapidly in America in recent years and, as the speakers at Des Moines pointed out, the beginnings of disrespect for law are to be found in the home. It is entirely possible, as one authority indicated, that the parents of today, quite as much as the children, are best training in the fundamentals of good citizenship.

Latter day methods of living in apartments, rather than houses, steps ahead of the sheriff, let the churches remain and function, or fail to function, as their members see fit. When Mr. Collins asserts that half the churches of this country could day that their fathers and mothers are old fashioned and ignorant. They wreckers and their absence never noticed, he is talking through his hat."

Good Rules.

Those who knew James Bailey, the veteran printer who was buried a few days ago scarcely realized he was six years older than the proverbial three score and ten years of man. He was always so cheerful, so optimistic, so helpful to his fellows, that one thought of him as young. So he was in spirit. And he followed, in his daily life and conduct, this "rule of life" found in his desk after his death:—

"Sixty minutes make an hour; sixteen ounces make a pound; one hundred cents make a dollar; may you live so that you can lie down to rest with a clear conscience, unhaunted by the faces of those whom you have brought pain; may you earn your meals on the square, and in earning them may you do unto others as you would have them do unto you; may you be deaf to the jingle of tainted money; may you be blind to the faults of others and realize your own; may you be guided so that each night, when you look across the table at your loved ones, you will have nothing to conceal; may you keep young enough to laugh with little children, and be sympathetic and considerate of old people, and when the day of reckoning comes may the ceremony be short, and may you deserve the simple epitaph 'here lies a man.'"

Lastly, the wages of sin is death. Two lustful beings in Greater New York are to find that out. And each to find that out. And each to find that out. And each to find that out. And each to find that out.

Radio

That peculiar use of the air known today by the term "Radio" enters into our daily life and activities so much that it may be said to be of universal interest. The Buffalo "Courier-Express" observes:—

Indications of an approaching battle in the radio industry are manifesting themselves. Unfortunately they threaten to involve the new federal radio commission. Independent radio broadcasters are said to be preparing to war on the commission. They assert that the president of the commission is too friendly with the General Electric Company for the good of the public generally. The right of the commission to function is to be challenged on various technicalities.

All this appears to be part of what is described as a "desperately fought" break up an alleged monopoly. "The sales of radio apparatus last year amounted to the enormous sum of \$650,000,000," said Representative Edwin L. Davis of Tennessee. "This burden was small compared to what it would be under this law. The radio monopoly has complete control of apparatus, and can consequently, by simply refusing to sell their broadcasting devices or by cancelling or refusing to renew the agreement permitting the operation thereof."

It may safely be assumed that the radio public is much more interested in having the confusion on the air cleared up as soon as possible, than it is in any fight between rival commercial interests in the radio industry. It wants good broadcasting, entertaining broadcasting and it does not much care who does the broadcasting. Outside of that, it probably would resent any movement which would interfere with the work of the radio commission in clearing up that confusion from which it now suffers.

Our Buffalo contemporary sums up the case for the radio listeners and they constitute, in the last analysis, the radio jury. If radio is made a nuisance the listeners will drop it and then goodbye to the radio trade. What Buffalo thinks of the radio situation applies equally to Rochester with its four broadcasting stations.

Queer

Senator Borah is so outspoken that he has acquired a following in the country at large. In fact, it might be said, that he occupies a similar position in the Republican party to that occupied so long in the Democratic party by the late William Jennings Bryan. He may have a following but never will be President. It is unfortunate, in the present situation, that Senator Borah has taken advantage of his commanding position as chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee to inject a false note into the Mexican controversy. What this is may be judged from the following editorial in a paper that poses as the defender and worshipper of President Calles:

"God has made us neighbors—not justice make us friends. With these words as a text Senator Borah again discussed the Mexican question at New Haven the other night before a highly approving audience. The Mexican government, he declared, is making a serious effort to deal with a great problem, the land problem, in a constructive spirit and should not be impeded in that task by any act of ours. In particular Mr. Borah denounced the cry of Bolshevism constantly raised to stir up prejudice against Mexican legislation, and declared that his observation led him to the belief that no country on the western continent was less friendly to Communism than Mexico. Arbitration, in which the United States has so often professed its faith, was his solution of the dispute with our southern neighbor.

"The senator's judgment on Mexico is well supplemented by the article of Walter Lippman's which appears in the recently published number of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Lippman declares that the policy upon which the State Department is now insisting with regard to Mexico is based upon the theory that vested property rights cannot be disturbed by government, even though compensation is offered or no damage can be shown. This, he argues, is an extreme view which could not possibly be carried out in practice and against a strong nation, and ought not to be insisted upon against a weak one.

"Whatever the cogency of this view, the fact is undeniable that the mass of public opinion in this country does not wish to see the oil disputes made the cause of a breach with Mexico and that it would exist with favor an effort to settle existing controversies by arbitral means.

"Senator Borah, in putting his authority behind this view of the Mexican question, is performing a genuine public service. His official position makes it likely that his view will not pass unheeded even in the State Department itself."

So far as the Catholic antagonism to President Calles and his administration of affairs is concerned, the oil concessions do not figure. But we do maintain that somewhere and somehow the anti-religious crusade

of the Russian Soviet is reflected in the Calles war upon the Church and religion. We also believe that President Calles, deep in his heart has no use for the United States, as at present constituted and that he is being guided and advised by anti-American influence which aims, not at self-government by and for the Mexicans, but aggrandizement in favor of a European oligarchy which is decidedly antagonistic to the United States.

In the case of a mixed marriage it is the Catholic party who pays the price. Who takes the awful risk. The non-Catholic party can be freed in case of law to try it over again. "Who the gods would destroy they first make mad" is an ancient law. It may apply to some politicians and would be political bosses in the very near future.

Governor Whitman thinks lawyers should not specialize in business. He should be an authority—at least on making a business out of the law.

The man who would eliminate the factory hospital, first aid and shop medical care does not step to the latter day tune. Prompt care to minor injuries prevents infection which leads to many sad results. And if the first aid were not applied at the time of the accident, but wait until an outside doctor were available, it would not be applied before infection had set in.

Senator Borah may yet be sorry for his present Mexican stand.

Mr. Burleson, of Texas, says Al Smith will be nominated and elected President. That means the Klan is losing its grip in Texas and the Southland.

Evidently, the Anti-Saloon League has cowed Andrew Mellon.

What a farce law-making has become! Congress gives the prohibition snappers plenty of money to pester citizens with but refuses appropriations for the Federal courts and to erect needed postoffice buildings.

If the Anti-Saloon League is able to frighten President Coolidge, it is quite possible Simon Adler will not be that new Federal judge.

Increased membership in and influence of Holy Name Societies is one splendid antidote to obscene plays, movies and publications.

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