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"He who would gather the maple's sap must tap the tree!" —R. N. L.

BUSINESS WANTS NO RIVAL.

The tedious indecision concerning the settlement of the Muscle Shoals question, really lunges on the popular opposition to government ownership, or government operation of business enterprises.

Few questions are so beclouded as that of public ownership. To read the literature of those who oppose it, one would imagine that governments were by nature incompetent and that only men without business sense ever became congressmen. The fact is, a government may be as efficient in business management as any other large corporation.

The contention that workers will loaf when employed by the government is a reflection on our citizenship and our corporate efficiency as a nation.

The argument that government was not organized to carry on business enterprise is subtle. Possibly the first governments were organized for the business of war. As a matter of fact the highways of Iowa were not built for automobiles, but for wagons. Wire was invented for fences, not for radio aeriels. Nearly every commodity and every institution has evolved beyond the original intentions of their founders.

The contention that government must not get into business because that was not the original intention of governments is amusing from the lips of men who are willing to drag every other thing away from its original purposes, if there is more money in such changes.

Why not admit the truth? The crux of the opposition to public ownership is that business does not welcome government as a rival. The opposition is not merely defensive on the part of business. It involves an important social principle. The roots of the distinction between public ownership by the state and private ownership go back to the foundations of the modern world. The modern world discovered the individual and gave him principles of private ownership and of initiative in enterprise.

The old idea that government was created for mass aggression in war and plunder gave way to the more humanitarian view that the function of government is protection of the personal rights and privileges of its citizens and to unite them in common action for the general good. In the light of these historical facts it is reasonable to assume that democracies are inclined to choose strict adherence either to private ownership, or to public ownership. Compromises always are difficult and often dangerous. In this country our general adherence has been, and still is, to private ownership. We have established several compromises by developing government ownership along certain lines, such as our post office system.

In times of extremity, such as during the World war, when the life of the state itself is threatened, the American people concede the right of the state to go any length it deems necessary in public ownership, or control of business. But most Americans view this practice as exceptional, and for emergencies only.

PUTTING BEN TO WORK.

Ben Franklin may be getting a good laugh out of the way his birthday, Jan. 17, is to be observed. Ben was one of the best thinkers the world ever produced. He also was the father of American thrift. His birthday is to be observed as Pay-Your-Bills-Promptly Day. Wouldn't Ben Franklin laugh at the idea of assuming that a spasmodic concentration of attention on thrift would establish a permanent habit, or even effect much temporary change in the paying habits of the people.

A national thrift day is a good thing. We all need it. But many of us can not pay our bills promptly because we have over-worked our credit, or have taken too little pride in keeping our income above our expenditures. Many of us over-buy. Some of us are dishonest. More than a few of us are poor managers. Some of us never have been able to meet our overhead.

Concerning thrift, we seem to have developed two popular fallacies. One is that thrift is saving and sacrificing and accumulating, but that it has little, or nothing, to do with judicious spending and careful management. The other is the notion that thrifty people do not know how to enjoy life, that they constantly are denying themselves and never really enjoy the pleasures that come from spending. The desire for a good time, a thing which seems to have as many interpretations as there are individual persons, is the greatest enemy of thrift. Next to that comes the lack of an appreciation of thrift as a practical and satisfying philosophy of life. To get results, thrift must be a habit, and habits are not formed suddenly, nor unless they are expressions of our philosophy of life. A man is what he practices. His creed is what he does. If we are not thrifty, it is because we do not have faith in thrift as a practical habit of life.

Samuel Baker, the new governor of Missouri, "started life" as a section laborer on the railroad. It is wonderful what one may accomplish in politics with the right start.

Congress does not want the advice of the supreme court, but it might take a tip and not make more laws than the courts can interpret and enforce.

An Illinois farmer says that he has proved that it pays to treat fruit trees with electricity. It gives a new flavor to applesauce.

A deaf man in Chicago says that his mute wife nagged him in the sign language. Why didn't he turn off the light?

A Frenchman says that world problems are unsolved, but in the future our statesmen may be cross-word experts.

Congress will buy antique furniture for the White House. It would be better suited to the senate.

The former head of the harvester trust is being sued as a love bandit. "That shall he also reap."

The outlook is not so bright to those who started the year by getting themselves lit up.

"Smallpox in Mason City has passed the peak." That is fine for the bald-heads.

Half of the pleasure of gardening is found in reading seed catalogs in January.

On Jan. 24, the moon will knock the daylight out of the sun.

Appropriately, the income report forms are called blanks.

Good Weather

WEATHER is a common cause of complaint, no matter how good or bad it is. It is probably the most talked of subject in the world, as it is the entering wedge to most conversations.

Mark Twain said that he had noticed that although everybody talked of the weather, as far as he could see, nothing had been done about it.

In the fall of 1924 the weather throughout the United States was remarkably good and yet we have heard many complaints of it, especially from merchants.

The trouble, they said, was that the weather was unseasonable. It was not conducive to buying. No man wanted to buy an overcoat, and no woman wanted a set of furs, when the days were warm and summery. We needed a touch of winter in order to drum up trade. There may be some truth in this, but there is another side to it. The weather of which the merchants complain is good for farmers. It enables them to be out of doors all day and to attend to the gathering of their crops and farm duties. This enables them to make more money, and hence to have more to spend. The only place they can spend it is in the stores and so, eventually, the money gets around to the merchants.

Thus it will be seen that what is bad weather for one set of people is good for another. We must remember, somebodies.

If we could all have our way we would have several kinds of weather at once. If we could get everything we prayed for, and we were all devout Christians, we would be praying simultaneously for a hundred and fifty kinds of weather. In other words there would be more weather in the day than the day could contain. The weather would be even more erratic than it is at present.

James Whitcomb Riley's dictum was that "When it rains, rain's my choice." That is a good attitude for all of us to take. We should be happy in any kind of weather that is sent to us because no matter what we do or say we cannot change it. (Copyright, 1925 by The McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

A BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

It is seldom indeed that the business prospects of the country have appeared as bright as they do now. At the opening of 1925, instead of cautiously looking ahead for a good six months or even a year of normal business, bankers, business men and economists are now talking "an era of unprecedented prosperity."

Fundamentally conditions are not greatly changed from a year ago and 1924 was only a fair year in business. "Why, then, it may be asked, "is the outlook for 1925 so much more brilliant?"

The answer to this may be summed up in the one word—confidence. Money and credit, the basis of good business, are no cheaper nor more plentiful than they were a year ago, but cheap money and abundant credit will not in themselves bring about such a happy combination of sound fundamentals and confidence.—Boston Post.

HOW TO BE HAPPIER.

Every day is the beginning of a new year to the wise person who has learned how to live unceasingly in the present, to look with constructive vision to the future and to turn to the past only for profitable experience or happy memories.

Nevertheless, the first day of a calendar year has special significance to most human beings. It marks a suitable occasion for casting off the sorrows and mistakes of the past year and turning eagerly to the New Year in which many good things may happen. Every one expects, with the aid of a few good resolutions, to make progress along many lines in the next twelve months.

A resolution to get more real joy out of life is one that most Americans ought to make. And it is not such a selfish resolution as it may sound at first.

Some of the things which have lessened joy in this country and which give Americans in general a reputation of being less prosperous spiritually than they are materially could very comfortably be dispensed with. These are worry, overwork, pessimism, self-indulgence and doubt, the by-products of too much concentration on material property as a goal in itself. If New Year's resolutions started a lot of irritable mortals to thinking and acting with courage, leisure, optimism, unselfishness, concern for the welfare of others, tolerance and faith, the year, as it advances, would be one of the most satisfactory years on record.—Moline Dispatch.

SENATOR BORAH'S CRITICISM.

Senator Borah, in the January Sorbonne, reads the riot act to the reputation of the Old Guard and gets away with about as severe criticism of it as was ever indulged in by his comrades Brookhart or La Follette. He has a nice way of concealing the barb on his tongue, however, usually speaking of "both old parties" when he means them, and an aggregation of horse thieves, instead of only the republican party. When his pills are sugar-coated in that fashion, there isn't much that the Old Guard can do about it.—Deavenport Democrat.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICE

By WILLIAM BRADY, M. D. Noted Physician and Author.

HAROLD RING WRONG.

An old circuit riding quack who used to make the small towns about once in six weeks always ran a column in the weekly paper announcing his visit and enumerating all the diseases he was a master specialist in. He made a special appeal to the credulous tuberculosis sufferer. The ringarole ran something like this: "Pronounced by his medical brethren an incurable consumptive Dr. Racehorse began researches in Europe about America which after many years culminated in the discovery of his great specific."

In a comparatively recent issue of a popular magazine Harold Bell Wright tries to explain how he happens to be still alive. Now when it comes to turning out the kind of fiction that brings home the bacon, Harold Bell Wright might tell a lot, but when it is a medical question the fiction giant becomes ridiculous, or if anybody takes him seriously, dangerous.

He declares that years ago he was told by physicians that although he did not have tuberculosis, he was threatened with it, that the soil was just right for it, and so on. Whereupon he went to the southwest and took up the active open air life of the cowpuncher. After a sufficient period of that wrong treatment, Mr. Wright found that he unquestionably had tuberculosis, and established a camp in Arizona. There he began writing, exposing himself constantly to the sun. To such advantage that Mr. Wright attributes the fact that he is still alive. Or in other words, pronounced by his medical advisers a potential consumptive, he kept his horses racing while he conducted his own private researches into the nature and treatment of the disease.

In the first place, if physicians told the man that he didn't exactly have tuberculosis but that "the soil was just right for it," they were simply hedging on the diagnosis or possibly they actually meant to deceive the patient.

In the next place, the life the man in question adopted when he first had the scare handed to him, was calculated to make him worse if he

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Surgeons General.
 Please give me the address of the surgeon general of the United States. E. E. W.
 Answer—There is no such officer, but Washington, D. C., is the address of the surgeon general of the United States Public Health Service, or the surgeon general of the United States army, or the surgeon general of the United States navy.

Avoid Corsets.
 Is it harmful for an expectant

mother to wear a corset all the time? Mrs. T. V.
 Answer—Yes, better omit corsets, unless your physician advises them.

Soft Eggs.
 Do soft boiled eggs give you a clear voice? Is it all right for a singer to take them? "Jean."
 Answer—It is all right for anybody who likes 'em soft to eat 'em that way, but they have no effect on the voice.

Coal Gas.
 I am told it is not dangerous to put coal in the stove and shut it off for the night without letting the gas burn off first. I always thought it was safer to let the gas burn off before closing the drafts for the night. Please explain about this. Mrs. C. J.
 Answer—It is not dangerous to put on coal or bank the fire for the night and then immediately close the drafts. The danger from coal gas are three: (1) if the firepot or stove becomes red hot the poisonous odorless carbon monoxide may escape through the red hot metal into the room; (2) the poisonous carbon monoxide gas may escape from holes in the chimney pipe into the room; (3) people who have the bad habit of sleeping without open windows must consider the chance of death if coal gas accidentally gets into the air of the room, whereas if a window is open in the sleeping room no such fatality is likely to occur even if coal gas escapes into the room. When you open the bed room window on retiring at night, of course you may be inviting burglars to call, but you are providing a convenient means for death to get out of your house without dragging you with him.

Tea.
 Is tea harmful? I drink a lot of it, very strong. It seems to be a habit with me. In the morning I have a bad taste in my mouth and a sour stomach. G. C. A.
 Answer—An excess of tea or coffee is harmful, though a cup or two of either or both daily is not harmful to adults as a rule. I have no idea how much tea you drink.

Dr. Brady will answer all signed letters pertaining to health. Writers' names are never printed. Only inquiries of general interest are answered in this column, but all letters are answered by mail if written in ink and stamped, self-addressed envelope is inclosed. Requests for diagnosis or treatment of individual cases will not be considered. Address Dr. William Brady, in care of this paper.

JUST FOLKS

BY EDGAR A. GURST (Copyright 1924)

IF YOU CAN'T BOOST.
 Get as high as you can by your skill. Get as high as you can by your pluck. Proms on by the strength of your will. Take all the advantage of luck. But don't try for place and renown. By trampling a fellowman down! Learn all that you can every day. Grow wiser and wiser with years. But be gentle in all that you say. Don't tarnish your wisdom with sneers. Never leave a red welt or a scar. Just to show how much wiser you are.

A Rare Gift.
 "Dear, we must make the honeymoon short."
 "Of our wedding presents was a crate of fresh eggs."
 No Answer.
 "No, I don't think billboards hurt the landscape."
 "Then why don't you have a few on your lawn?"
 Directions.
 "Now remember, I am giving you this whisky as a medicine."
 "Uh, doctor."
 "And don't take an overdose."
 Now Is The Time.
 "Young couples in love like to hunt for arbutus."
 "Why don't they hunt for mistletoe?"
 Like The Falls.
 "Why do you call that skittish colt Niagara?"
 "He's not easy to harness."
 Apparently Not.
 "Are there germs on money?"
 "The doctors don't seem to be afraid of it."

A Smile or Two

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Your Morning Treat

GOOCH'S BEST Pancake Flour

GOOCH'S BEST

When You Feel a Cold Coming On

Bromo Quinine tablets

to work off the cause and to fortify the system against an attack of Grip or Influenza. A Safe and Proven Remedy. Price 30c.

The box bears this signature
E. W. Brown

J. A. Folger & Company's Diamond Jubilee

Three Quarters of a Century of Pioneering and Progress in the Coffee Industry

Seventy-five years ago the firm of J. A. Folger & Company first came into being; at that time a small but enterprising firm with rock-bound principles and high standards for the manufacture and sale of fine coffees.

The year 1925 marks the celebration of their Diamond Jubilee, an event which could only come to pass through the loyal and continued support of the many generations of daily users of Folger's Coffee. To these we offer our sincere thanks, with the assurance to coming generations that the past three-quarters of a century will but serve as an inspiration to even greater achievement in service to our loyal customers.

Today, Folger's Coffee has a reputation for never-failing quality. A coffee so fine that wealth can buy none better, yet so economical to use that every home can afford it.

There's an easy way for you to tell whether or not you will like Folger's Coffee better than the coffee you are now using. Make the Folger Coffee Test. The best coffee wins.

FOLGER'S Coffee
 1850-1925

MAKE THE FOLGER COFFEE TEST

Drink Folger's Coffee tomorrow morning for breakfast. The next morning drink the coffee you have been using. The third morning drink Folger's again. A morning or two and you'll decidedly favor one brand or the other; the best coffee wins. That's fair, isn't it?

See the New Lamps at Smulekoff's

Cramer's
 A Special 20% Reduction on Staple Cotton and Wool Blankets

Home of **KEWPIE TWINS**

ECONOMY SHOE STORE
 105 Third Ave. E.

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