

THE BARRINGTON REVIEW

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PUBLIC AWARENESS

Public awareness of the need for safe driving was given by the national safety council as the probable reason for the marked decline in traffic fatalities that has occurred since November, 1937. The council gives the press of the nation a large amount of credit for creating this "awareness."

Newspapers and magazines have joined wholeheartedly in the efforts of public safety agencies and organizations such as the American Legion and Parent-Teacher groups, to cut down highway slaughter. Tales of gore and horror, of mangled bodies and broken homes have confronted the potential drunken and reckless driver at every turn. Apparently these "messages from the dead" have had the desired effect. In addition to this form of "education," automobiles and highways have been made safer from an engineering standpoint, better laws have been adopted and enforcement has been more rigid.

If the present downward trend of automobile fatalities continues, those who have died in automobile accidents will not have died entirely in vain. Their sacrifice will have served toward putting an end to needless slaughter of human life on the highway. But, in the months and years to come, there must be no relenting, no let-up in the drive to make our highways safe. The automobile must be "broken," as a domesticated animal, and made to serve man—not destroy him.

BE YOUR OWN FIRE PREVENTER

Every factory is periodically inspected for fire hazards, by men fully conversant with what to look for and what to do when dangers are discovered. You can easily do the same thing for your own home—and no rigorous course of training is necessary to fit you for it.

The great bulk of home fires originate from the simplest and most obvious hazards. Here are a few of them: accumulations of old papers, clothing and other junk; improper storage of gasoline and other inflammable liquids; defects in heating plants and electrical appliances; uncleaned or faulty flues and furnaces; amateur repairs of electric cords and fuse boxes.

It takes no expert to quickly and effectively eliminate such hazards as these. Clean out the attic and give the junk to the junkman, storing what is left neatly in trunks and boxes. Keep paint, varnish and inflammable liquids in covered metal or glass containers—and store them well away from heat and fire. And if heating or other household appliances give trouble, local experts will be glad to repair them inexpensively.

Fire prevention isn't much of a job—a few minutes each week or so is sufficient to accomplish it. And that little effort may save your home from destruction—or even your family and yourself from a horrible death. Fire prevention shouldn't be regarded as a bothersome task—it is a duty, which pays tremendous dividends. And never forget that it's better to prevent a fire than to stand around and hope the fire department will be able to extinguish the blaze before everything you possess is destroyed.

GET WOOL OUT OF YOUR EYES

It is generally agreed that healthy heavy industry is absolutely necessary to normal employment, normal spending, normal conditions.

One of the greatest, and ordinarily steadiest, heavy industries is light and power—and yet this industry has been one of the "poorest spenders" in recent years. Why? Put it in one word—government!

In the ten-year period ending in 1932, investors poured an average of \$675,000,000 annually into the utility industry. In the four years following, investments in utilities averaged just 3.3 per cent of the ten-year normal—or \$22,750,000.

Can it be called a coincidence that the almost complete cessation of utility investment started in the year that witnessed the inauguration of the most vicious "utility bailing" campaign in American history?

To continue with the figures, had utility investment between 1933 and 1936, inclusive, been made at the normal level, the total for the four years would have been \$2,702,000,000. The actual total invested in that time was \$91,000,000. This leaves an accumulated deficit of the normal as against the actual of \$2,611,000,000. That deficit is of course much greater now—the same trend abated in 1937, for which complete statistics are not yet available.

It is estimated, by a government authority, that the industry should spend about \$7,500,000,000 of new money for construction in the next five years—which would mean the creation of 1,275,000 useful jobs. What a tremendous potential source of wealth, employment, opportunity and purchasing power exists here—damned up because of a government policy of competition and intimidation that is socially, economically and morally indefensible, unless a socialistic government is desired. It's time the people got the political wool out of their eyes—and saw the utility situation in its true perspective.

"You cannot win national stability by war. You cannot confirm democracy with hate. America plunges into Europe and Asia will not, unless experience lies, yield gains to the world or to the U. S. The one faint promise is that here in the U. S. a zone of sanity may be laid out, a bulwark for democracy in the midst of madness."—Hubert Herring.

This WEEK in WASHINGTON

By RALPH E. CHURCH
Representative, 10th Congressional District

Washington, D. C., May 28.—Nothing is more destructive politically to a party in power than to have an economic depression set in under its regime. Whatever the causes of the business decline, the public mind fixes the responsibility for it on the party in power. No explanation, however plausible or however true, will completely satisfy the people that those in control of the machinery of government are not fully responsible for the economic conditions.

That story has been recorded many times on the pages of American history. The republican party was credited with the responsibility for the economic collapse in 1929 and the ensuing depression. It was explained over and over again that the collapse was brought about by world and not purely domestic factors. The explanation was pointed out that every nation in the world suffered from the same condition. It was repeatedly emphasized that the party in power did not have the workable majority in congress.

It is unnecessary to recount the great efforts thus made to convince the people that the party in power in 1929 was not responsible for the business depression. It is equally unnecessary to say that the people could not be satisfied with the explanation. The party in power was held responsible and another party was given its place of control.

Today the democratic party is in power and a business decline has set in. This being an election year it is understandable that the administration is extremely anxious that there be at least some evidence of business improvement before November. It is to that end that the so-called "pump-priming bill" is partly designed. It is more of an expedient than a basic remedy.

To what extent the party in power on this occasion will be able to absolve itself in the public mind of the responsibility for the recent decline in business remains to be seen. It may succeed. If it does, to the best of my knowledge it will be the first time in history that "depression alibi" have ever been convincing to the people.

Even under ordinary conditions it is difficult to make a "depression alibi" very convincing. Having enjoyed six years of practically complete control of the national as well as state governments, the party in power has an especially difficult task to be convincing. That fact the members of congress well recognize and it seems to be causing much anxiety as they prepare for adjournment to return to their respective districts.

What form the "alibi" will take we do not yet know. Certainly the present depression cannot be credited to world conditions. In the first place, that was the "alibi" of the republican party for which it was subjected to criticism. And in the second place, economic conditions abroad have been steadily improving in the last few years.

The explanation which I have heard most frequently in the course of the debates is that "capital is on strike," that it went on strike simply and solely to punish the administration. That this explanation has been acceptable to some there can be no doubt. Now and then some constitutional writer to express his opinion about "capital being on strike." But it is too absurd an argument to be convincing to many.

I should like to know what manufacturer would close down his plant simply to punish some one politician or political party for policies not to his liking. It hardly seems likely that any businessman would sacrifice all possible profits, as well as continue to pay taxes and overhead on idle property, to realize some political end. But that is the explanation that is the "1938 depression alibi."

Let it be said, for this seems to be the real explanation for the present situation: capital is not on strike but rather is prevented from working by too much government, too many taxes—and too much uncertainty.

HOME EDUCATION

"The Child's First School Is the Family"—Froebel

Issued by National Kindergarten Assn. 8 W. 40th St. New York

"Lessons From Nasturtium Seeds"

By RUTH ARNOLD NICKEL

"I wish Alvin had been a puppy," said Mrs. Anderson, as she watched her cousin's small pink-clad daughter carefully pouring milk into her pet's dish.

"Louise adores Skipper," replied Mrs. Marshall, "and her experience with him has taught her a good deal. I can see that it is developing her sense of responsibility."

"Yes, that is evident," agreed her cousin. "This very child, and especially an only child, should have a pet, but we live in an apartment house that prohibits dogs and cats."

"Alvin is still a bit young to have the care of a pet—don't you think so?" asked Mrs. Marshall, consolingly. "After all, he's only three, and no doubt in a year or two you will move out into the suburbs. Then he can have all the pets you want him to have."

"And if we don't move," objected Alvin's mother.

"There are always canary birds and gold fish," laughed Mrs. Marshall. "And inventive mother can find a way."

As she rode home in the bus with three-year-old Alvin kneeling on the seat beside her, watching from the window, Mrs. Anderson thought about the conversation.

"I remember how I loved Rags," she mused. "Alvin mustn't miss the fun of having a pet. But he can't have one unless I think about it and take care of Rags made me more sympathetic and conscientious."

She thought a little about her cousin's suggestion of a canary. Gold fish had been tried with disastrous results, for the day after their purchase the two new pets, so gladly welcomed, had been found floating limply on the surface of the bowl of water. Mrs. Anderson did not wish to repeat the experience.

A canary, too, presented problems, for frequent week-ends were spent with a relative.

"We'll have to concentrate on that suburban home," Mrs. Anderson told herself, as she helped Alvin jump from the bus. "Meanwhile, 'an inventive mother can find a way.' I suppose." Her eyes wandered to the florist's window on the corner, attracted by the bright spring flowers.

"Pretty!" exclaimed Alvin, tugging at her hand. Together

they paused and enjoyed the blossoms. With the display there were packages of seeds. A sudden thought came to Mrs. Anderson.

"I might try it," she told herself. "We have a nice sunny window."

They went into the store and soon Alvin emerged, clutching the fat brightly labeled package of nasturtium seeds.

That night Alvin's father made a window box and filled it with garden earth. Next day round-eyed Alvin who could already count to six, planted and watered four pump seeds. Every morning thereafter the seeds had their drink until the exciting climax arrived when tiny green shoots appeared above the earth.

Mrs. Anderson supervised the care of the growing plants, but they were Alvin's responsibility. When rough handling made one of them wither he learned a lesson. He gravely accepted and remembered their need for sun and loosened earth.

When after a week-end's absence, he found his pants drooping, his relief was great upon seeing their response to a little fresh water.

Sometimes Mrs. Anderson thought the very simplicity of Alvin's garden—four seeds in a box—taught her little son more than any larger one would have done. She saw endless future possibilities. There could be asters in the fall to replace the nasturtiums. In the winter, Mrs. Anderson transformed the box into a little landscape with a few small green plants, a mirror for a pond, a bridge and a path of sand or gravel.

Alvin, she knew, would love it.

When the nasturtiums bloomed, Alvin experienced the wonder and joy which come to those who help to develop beauty. Young though he was, he had learned some of the lessons of cause and effect. He had been led, through his parents' wise guidance, to accept responsibility and had seen the results of both neglect and care.

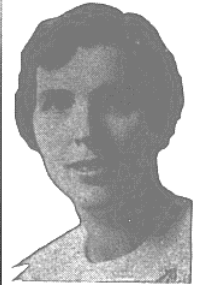
"Pretty soon we must have that suburban home," said his father. "Alvin must have a real garden."

"And a dog," said his mother. "He'll take good care of a pet now."

But Alvin's experience had accomplished even more than that, for this early beginning was to have its influence upon all of his future responsibilities.

Community Woman's Club of Lake Zurich Plans Canning Show

The Lake Zurich Community Women's club is sponsoring a canning demonstration to be given by



Mrs. Rosina K. Maxwell, who has charge of the educational department of Ball Bros. Co. of Muncie, Ind., at 11a township high school Thursday, June 9, 1:30 p. m.

Mrs. Maxwell is a graduate of the University of Illinois and has held several positions as home economics teacher. It was reported.

In 1925 she joined the extension department of Purdue university as assistant state club leader of Indiana. At this time these clubs were in their formative years and the canning and baking clubs which are now a feature at the state fair were introduced by Mrs. Maxwell. She helped organize and instruct 4-H clubs.

At the close of the demonstration Mrs. Maxwell will answer questions from persons in the audience.

This demonstration is open to the public. Mrs. C. Weaver, Woman's club president, stated, Lake Zurich merchants have donated prizes which will be awarded during the program.

Aid Homemakers in Modernizing Homes at Kitchen Clinics

Lake county homemakers are taking up one of the most popular studies among homemakers in the state, that of revamping their kitchens through kitchen clinics, reports home adviser, Mrs. Helen Johnson Volk of Grayslake.

The county-wide kitchen clinic work started Wednesday, May 4, with Miss Gladys Ward, extension specialist in home management, from the college of agriculture, University of Illinois, presenting suggestions to more than 150 women.

Among questions of interest to the women were: What activities may conveniently be taken out of the kitchen? Where is the best place for the kitchen cabinet to be located? What is the best arrangement of the room so that steps are lessened while preparing and serving a meal? Is the light of the kitchen impaired by large porches or by the other equipment inconveniently placed?

Sporting People
The English among all the people of the world are a sporting people, having really invented sport and spread it over the best in the Nineteenth century.

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