

The Newsweekly for Today

Vol. I No. 8

SNAPSHOTS OF THE WEEK

Kansas City, Missouri, March 1, 1935

Single Copy 5 Cents

HOCK SHOP PARADISE

A growing and concerted action against crime, and against the lure of crime, is increasingly evident. Witness the recent movie shorts shown at Loew's Midland and at the Newman emphasizing the lesson that crime does not pay. There are articles in the magazines and papers telling how the forces of law get their men. The drive is on. Everybody push!

Turkey has solved the problem of democracy and dictatorship by the one party system. If you vote you vote straight, otherwise you're just not voting. The recent election was signalized by the appearance of women at the polls and by the election of seventeen of them to the Assembly. Does it signify the rise of the women or just that the men feel that it doesn't really matter any more?

Alabama is just getting around to a liquor referendum. The Drys are making a determined battle, and even the Wets seem set against the return of the saloon. Two thoughts arise in this connection. Did they wait this long because, like the Turkish government, it didn't make any difference anyway? And when is a saloon? In this city it's hard to tell.

Down on the river in St. Louis stands the house where Eugene Field lived during his boyhood. With nickels, dimes and pennies some hundred thousand school children of the city have collected enough to save the place from destruction and make it a fitting memorial. Their appreciation is a sincere tribute. Too bad they're not consulted oftener about what is worth saving out of the past.

Now the state highway committee is the target of a new bill to demand that all state employees have their political affiliations published in the Blue Book. Sen. Wm. A. Quinn, who introduced the bill, says: "The taxpayers are entitled to know the politics of the state's employees." Query: Are most of them interested? And if so, why? Should there be a Democratic or Republican way for the Highway Department to function? And could there possibly be any connection between this matter and the refusal of the commission to "pay off" a well known construction company?

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Too hot to completely hush up was the trip into Kansas City last week by three Kansas sheriffs, guns on hips, who didn't give a rap whether a crook was "in right" with the political machine or not.

As a result the public got an inkling of some of the operations of a huge "fence racket" in Kansas City. Much less would have been released to the public if a delegation of Kansas

merchants had not marched to the Chamber of Commerce to protest operation of pawn shops here in buying up their stolen merchandise from thieves and reselling it.

The Kansas merchants, backed up by their three sheriffs, were hot under the collar. They had found several hundreds of dollars of their stolen merchandise in a pawn shop at Ninth and Main streets. They had taken their story to the county prosecutor's office, along with two of the thieves who confessed stealing the goods and selling it to the pawn shop as "hot stuff," and reported that they were told they did not have enough evidence to warrant an arrest.

They had just visited the pawn shop and seized some of the goods that had been stolen from their stores, they told the assistant prosecutor.

Net result of this unexpected and indignant invasion of the underworld here was to arrest
Follow to page three

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FUTURE

March first

FOREIGN

Russia Airs Views

When one recalls the attempt of the victorious powers after the World War to form a "cordon sanitaire" on Russia's Western frontier with the intention of preventing her from taking any active part in European affairs, and the Soviet's loudly proclaimed attitude of disdain for all capitalist nations and their ideals, the quick acceptance by the Soviets of the cordial invitation to become a member of the League of Nations last year showed a truly remarkable change of opinion on both sides. No less illuminating was the Russian government's unequivocal expression of policy last week with regard to the proposed Anglo-French security program and the German reply to the London communique of February 3.

Endorses London Plan

The Soviet note, delivered simultaneously to the British and French Foreign Offices, endorsed the plans but insisted that they be considered in their entirety. This was an obvious thrust at the Germans who have been endeavoring to divorce the air convention from the other parts of the London agreement for the purpose, so Moscow asserts through the officially inspired press, of leaving Eastern Europe open to a combined German-Polish drive to be undertaken at the same time as a Japanese invasion of Siberia. The note further declared that the Soviet Government was convinced that the only means now of preserving the peace was through a system of regional pacts guaranteeing mutual assistance to those states honestly intent on avoiding the dangers of an armed conflagration.

Growing Influence Seen

It is no surprise to see in this statement a firm backing of French policy, for the Russians have been playing very close to the French for many months. But, undoubtedly, the move indicates the growing importance of Soviet influence and the willingness to assume such responsibilities as participation in European problems would entail, as well as the desire to support any suggestions that might lead toward a stabilized Europe.

British Undecided

Although London has advised Berlin that the program agreed upon by the British and French Ministers is to be discussed only as a whole, it is not yet clear how the British really feel about the Soviet declaration and its probable repercussions. There are rumors that the British

Government knew of the Russian note, and, in fact, inspired it. But this does not appear to be entirely logical since there is a large body of English opinion disposed to go along with Berlin on the air pact discussions because of its value to Great Britain, and is content to leave the remaining agreements to develop as they may. Then, too, there is the inherent British aversion to becoming involved in Continental disputes and the Government's previous declarations that it has no intentions of joining either the Eastern Locarno or the Danubian pacts.

Thus, it is evident that the Soviet Government's expression of policy has done little to clear the road toward the settlement of Europe's security problems other than, perhaps, to pave the way for the visit of a British Minister to Moscow for further talks.

G. L. C.

FAME!

The Following Article Reprinted from the New York Herald-Tribune

Under the title FUTURE a news- weekly magazine has been established in Kansas City). In its third issue it attained a circulation of nearly eight thousand. In large type it carries the slogan "The Youth of Today Is Not Responsible for the Present Conditions. It is Responsible for the Conditions of the Future." This is an indirect pledge to keep up the fight against "boss rule," as represented by what has been termed the "most ruthless political machine in the country."

Mr. Pendergast, for years Democratic overlord of Kansas City, attached the party in Missouri to his chariot wheels last fall when he succeeded in putting one of his local judges into the United States Senate. To do this it was necessary first to carry the primaries for him against two more widely known men, with important backing, and then in the general election to defeat the Republican incumbent by more than 200,000. To voters in this city, where for years there has been annual personal registration, it will seem strange that in Missouri they are looking forward to a "permanent registration" law as a great improvement over what they have.

FUTURISMS

Call Out the Federal Reserves

The appointment of a new Agent for the Kansas City Federal Reserve District seems to have struck a snag. W. T. Kemper is pushing J. B. Doolin of Alva, Okla. Pendergast, Clark, and Truman are backing Thornton Cooke of Kansas City. But we also hear from a reliable source that a well-known Kansas political figure is quietly working for his own appointment, and may turn out to have the inside track, as he has been close to the President. However, the banking act which is before Congress now eliminates all such agents anyway, so there seems to be much ado about nothing for the time being.

Shooting Stars

The marksmanship of the police department seems to be on the upgrade. One officer, thinking a statue was pulling a gun on him, put six shots accurately through its plaster of paris head, winning a moral victory. Another shot a boy who had thrown an apple core at a passing car. The officer says he was aiming at the ground, however, so perhaps we can't give him "A" for accuracy after all.

Now Murders Will Out

"STAND BY THE PRESIDE"

It was not so long ago, if you remember, that the Democratic organization ran Truman for Senator on the "Vote for Truman and Support the President" platform. More recently, FUTURE pointed out certain inconsistencies in this platform. Last week Mr. Truman, after a debate with

his conscience—or whatever he debates with, votes against the President on the biggest issue to come before the Congress so far, on which one vote decided the question.

We now take pleasure in pointing out inconsistency in action as well as in platform.

BALL

Was it any wonder that city and county employees on reduced pay did not turn out for the Birthday Ball for the President in Convention Hall?

The machine sub-bosses took out 2,000 tickets to have the “boys” distribute among the jobholders. Just what became of all the tickets remains a mystery but it was evident that many of the employees are near the breaking point, with reduced pay, campaign lugs, etc.

“The system,” says “Future,” “played right into the hands of election crooks. The result was an enormous pad and wholesale illegal voting, which led directly to the tragic and disgraceful violence at the polls that marked Kansas City in the eyes of the whole country.” The reference is to the May- orality election of a year ago, when four persons were killed and many others were injured.

Pretending to be for reform in the registration system, the Pendergast city administration appointed a committee to draw up a bill for introduction in the Legislature at the present session. “It would merely make permanent the existing registration system,” “Future” says of the bill. The “existing system” is somewhat similar to what existed here in the old Tweed days, when there was no check on colonization or repeating and no method of purging the registration rolls prior to Election Day each year.

The Democratic machine in the Legislature is trying to make a jest of the serious desire for reform. It is suggesting all sorts of silly and hampering amendments. But the story is being told to the public in “Future” week by week. In the end, the crusaders believe, an enlightened electorate will revolt against the Pendergast machine and destroy it. They believe that the example of the youth of Missouri will have a tonic effect throughout the country.

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Good news for murdered people has been announced by Higgins & Higgins of the police department, who have recently created a homicide bureau. From now on such unfortunates can rest in peace, knowing that a picked squad will be on the job day and night, relentlessly trailing their murderers to their lairs.

Too Late

W. T. Kemper has been in Washington chit-chatting with all the big-wigs about this and that. He recently hurried to the Senate to hear Huey Long read T. J. Pender- gast’s letter written to James A. Farley regarding the John Lazia case, but arrived too late for the fireworks. If he really wants to know what it said we will be glad to mail him a copy.

Campaign Slogan: Vote for Truman and Back the President

Consequently we were somewhat surprised to find our Senator in direct opposition to the

President on the recent 4,800-million-dollar work relief bill. And one vote would have made a big difference.

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WE DELIVER

Proceeds from the ball in Kansas City were reported to be far below those of even much smaller cities. The net here was approximately \$4,000 and a lack of enthusiasm from poorly paid political jobholders.

Or was it because the Kansas City boss and his machine ranks near the zero with President Roosevelt?

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TRIVIA

Not so long ago I was talking with a policeman who was much amused at the activities of FUTURE. Said we were shooting at ghosts. Meaning non-existent evils. Well anyway we don't shoot at eight-foot plaster casts who make motions towards their guns.

The members of the Women's Democratic Club of Independence, ever mindful of their obligation to keep themselves informed on important issues of the day, invited Hon. Joseph B. Shannon to address them on the subject of Old Age Pensions. The part of Mr. Shannon's speech which dealt with Old Age Pensions ran as follows: "I am speaking here today on the invitation of the Women's Jackson Democratic Club. I was given a subject — "Old Age Pensions." I cannot but feel that you will bear with me if I digress for just a moment and say a few things apropos of a subject that means much to Independence." The rest of the long speech was a survey of the U. S. Senators who have served Missouri since way hack when.

So he won't talk, eh?

The Missouri Democrat explains the failure Permanent Registration efforts thus: "It will be noticed that many of the most vocal advocates of permanent registration Follow to page five "BEN" "BOB"

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Nineteen Thirty-five
March first
FUTURE

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MOVE OVER, GIRLS, THE MACHINE'S MOVING IN

Cherry Street and Locust Street from 12th to 15th Streets, for so many years the prostitutes' paradise, has been noticeably bare of street walkers and door hawks for the past few weeks. In fact, it has caused quite a bit of comment from workers who park their cars in that section to avoid the one hour limit on downtown streets.

But don't be alarmed, fellow citizens. That sterling corps of Kansas City's finest has not been arresting the poor over worked souls. Good old machine. It always remembers. It remembers how the girls, God bless their souls, arose and staggered forth that morning last spring to give battle to the foes of good old Jeffersonian Democracy. They remember how all that day the girls, God bless their souls, rode and talked and lied and marked.

So why, you ask, are the girls moving? Well, dear peepul, it's this away. A few years ago a committee of one thousand was appointed to foster the \$40,000,000 grave issue. They, the committee, God bless their souls, decided among other things to build a new court house—special concrete, of course. The great structure grew and grew — soon meaningless phrases we placed above the doors —soon Jackson County would have a new court house. And then one day it happened—one of the boys, his collections up to date—got an idea. "Them wimmen must be moved," he said. "It don't look so good having them right outside the front door." "Yes," the boys agreed, "them wimmen must be moved. But how? The girls objected. To get along a girl must have her friends who know her address. But it had to be—they wimmen had to be moved. So the word went out— passed along by that sterling corps of Kansas City's finest—"You gotta scram." And so they scrambled. But not far, dear peepul—only two blocks over toward Troost. With the exception of a few stragglers who still remain on Cherry and Locust—looking for a place to move —the girls are now in their new location—two blocks east.

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Tuesday and Thursday, followed by regular dance, 9 to 12:30

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A group of old line Republicans went into the court of Judge Brown Harris for an injunction to restrain the main body of the G. O. P. here from supporting the Fusion ticket.

The old Republicans based their motion on a ruling by the attorney general that election clerks and judges named by one of the major political parties forfeited their position if they deserted that party to join any other group.

March 6, 1934

Dr. A. Ross Hill, Fusion candidate, and Bryce B. Smith, machine candidate, were selected by the voters in the primary, along with their respective tickets. The Republican group headed by Clark Jacoby ran a poor third.

Dick S. Adams and Frank H. Backstrom in the second and fourth districts, polled more votes than their Democratic opponents, each winning about 20,000 to the Democratic 18,000.

In other places the Democrats showed the greater strength, with Mayor Smith getting 103,534 votes to Dr. Hill's 65,261. Dr. Hill was ahead in the sixth, seventh, eighth, fourteenth and sixteenth wards, and Charles P. Woodbury, Fusion campaign manager, was still optimistic with regard to the election March 27.

of favors now and then from the machine.

When the indignant Kansans visited his shop and found goods they claimed were stolen from them it was said in political circles that nobody could "touch" that shop due to its political rating. So far nothing has been done, the grapevine reports being true up to this time. The Kansans have employed an attorney who is trying to get a cash settlement out of the pawn shop operator.

The fence racket is one of the oldest underworld rackets. To prosper, it must have political protection. Snooping and honest policemen could run the pawn shop racketeers out of town. But job-fearing policemen can't see stolen goods in a pawn shop.

Citizens have had experiences with the friendly relations between crooked policemen and the pawn shop fence. When a stolen article was located in a pawn shop the policeman would advise the robbed person to pay the pawn shop operator what had been "loaned" on the article as it would be "almost impossible" to get it any other way.

The crooked pawn shop fence buys "hot" or stolen merchandise from thieves at a very small

price and then resells it at a price less

Follow to page eight

The Home of

the FUTURE will be All Electric

Why not lead the march . . . with payments a little each month on your light bill.

Kansas City Power & Light Co.

ONE YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

March 1, 1934

Ewing Y. Mitchell of Springfield, an undersecretary in the Roosevelt administration, threw his own private bombshell into Kansas City's election campaign, striking at the corruption of the Pendergast machine in unmistakable terms.

"Nowhere in this country," he told the Star, "has there been a

Quality VEGETABLES Quality MEATS

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Hock Shop Paradise

From page one

outlying pawn shop owners and a Negro who sold overalls to one of them was given forty years.

The story of this episode is an illuminating one to the student of machine politics. The operator of the Ninth and Main streets pawn shop is reported to be politically favored. He stages a picnic now and then at Swope Park and has the machine orators come out and harangue members of his race. His pay, it is understood, is in the form bolder, more arrogant, ruthless and corrupt municipal government than in Kansas City."

Kansas City is one of the typical American cities of the country and yet its people live in a state of coercion from heartless exactions and atrocities of the machine.

Mr. Mitchell pointed to the overthrow of Tammany in New York, the Vare machine in Philadelphia, the Mellon Pittsburgh organization, and the powerful Republican machine in St. Louis and urged the same thing be done here.

He called the Youth Movement a wholesome and forceful influence and predicted it would be a factor in the coming election.

READY-MIXED

WHISKEY

There is much speculation as to why the price of liquor in Kansas City is higher than in other large cities. T. J. Pendergast, Kansas City political boss, is said to be the largest distributor of liquor in Kansas City through his T. J. Pendergast Wholesale Liquor Company, 2101 Central street.

Some of the larger retailers with stores in other cities are refusing to pay the price set here and are shipping in their liquor from other cities. The price in other cities is said to be several dollars less a case than the price fixed in Kansas City.

The stores that buy out of town are being threatened with a state law to prohibit a retailer of liquor from buying of other than wholesalers operating inside the state of Missouri. Such a statement has been made by salesmen to the retailers. The threat of forcing the retailers to pay

the price fixed here is that the present legislature will pass such a law.

It is charged that the Pendergast bloc in the state legislature is a law-making factor. The governor is Pendergast-picked.

The Pendergast wholesale liquor company is the representative for most of the large liquor distillers. The bars here have shown somewhat the same cooperation in buying Pendergast liquor that the builders of large structures have shown in the use of ready^mixed concrete.

The night clubs and bars that do not heed the closing laws are good customers of the boss' brands.

So They Closed These Little Ones, and Sent a Negro TjP for Forty Years for Selling Some Overalls
Nineteen Thirty-five

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March first

FUTURE

The Youth of Today is not Responsible for the Present Conditions; It IS Responsible for the
Conditions of the Future

FUTURE

The Newsweekly Today

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY

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NATURAL SELECTION-OR f PROTECTIVE COLORATION

O GENTLE READERS

ALARM AMONG BARNACLES

To FUTURE:

Why is it necessary to have two sets of officers, both City Treasurer and County Treasurer?

I understand there was a law passed consolidating the City and County Officers and this
would save the taxpayers money. This was declared unconstitutional because the boys had to
have the job.

Why not a little agitation along this line? Why not cut the salaries of some of these city or
county officers and employees, taking into consideration the same work done by the many
abler men in mercantile houses.

Why should the city license collector draw \$15,000 a year when the same work could be

done just as well by a man at \$3,000?

Yours truly,

J. R.

And one year he made \$25,000, they say.

To FUTURE:

Many think they know better how to poke a fire than those handling the poker. This applies to the editing of FUTURE in particular. Having been an interested reader from the very first number, may I be pardoned for suggesting that a careful scanning fails to find in its contents, any statement of aim or what you are endeavoring to accomplish. Finding fault with conditions as they are is a genuine virtue and ought to be specific and constant. On the other hand, might it not be well to set forth just how these conditions may be changed? Will proportional representation do it? If so, how may we hope to get such a radical change into our local system?

These are fair questions and require the same sort of answers. The National Youth Movement for whom your paper purports to stand, has many virtues but also some vices.

It is almost two years since, to an accompaniment of clanging bank doors, Franklin D. Roosevelt became president of the United States. In the history of the country it is doubtful whether we ever had been nearer anarchy than we were in the last three months of the administration of Herbert Hoover. The government of the United States, to all intents and purposes, had lapsed. It commanded neither respect nor confidence. The electorate had repudiated it, and Mr. Hoover, in a fit of hysteria which was rather unlike his usual cautious self, had told the electorate in advance that it had the choice between him and pandemonium. The electorate chose pandemonium, being excessively weary of the game of hide and seek with prosperity that Mr. Hoover

Overconfidence is one such. The campaign of last year proved it. They have got to go deeper than mere agitation. That activity alone never won an election. Dilatory tactics and delayed organization is another vice of every reform movement. It is almost a fatal weakness that those proposing good government are inactive until an election is in the offing. Why not be using all the means at hand for preaching your needed gospel? FUTURE as a publication is good, but is it enough? Why not make some news for the daily press? Where is the NYM's widely heralded committee that was to attend council meetings and report on the proceedings? I am not attempting to suggest how your movement should be run but only to suggest some thoughts that I am confident are in the public mind regarding your organization.

I write as a friend of your movement and not as a critic. I am more interested in its success than these lines would suggest. In common with many citizens, I wish to assist if there is an opportunity. As I see it, Kansas City is going to get the sort of government the bulk of the citizens want. I firmly believe the NYM constitutes Kansas City's most promising avenue of hope for better government. There ought to be those in every precinct and ward who would carry this gospel into the homes of the people. There is where votes are made. Then there ought to be some method devised to insure that votes for the movement's candidates are counted as cast. This is a tremendously big problem, as you well know.

The charter of Kansas City provides for the recall of derelict officials. Has the movement considered attempting to use that charter section? Certainly there is abundant justification for it, and the time is rotten ripe to make use of it. Yours faithfully,

E. E. Elliott.

had been playing ever since 1929.

We all know in a general way what has happened under the Roosevelt regime. We remember the immense, the immeasurable feeling of relief that swept over the country when Mr. Roosevelt by executive order closed every bank in the United States and then called Congress into session to legalize his action. We remember the Hundred Days, in which veterans' graft was swept off the statute books, and the AAA, the NRA and much else made the law of the land.

Those persons who had been accustomed to wealth and privilege were so frightened during that incredible Hundred Days that they didn't even criticize Mr. Roosevelt except in the lightest whispers and after three looks around to see who was within earshot.

But that, of course, did not last long. As prosperity actually began to show some signs of returning, as the revival of business and the inception of the NRA began to provide jobs for more people, the mud balls began to fly.

Capital didn't like the NRA; it was a disappointment to labor, too. Both sides damned General Johnson, who eventually departed, with a curse on both their houses, and took to writing for the Saturday Evening Post, as is the habit of retired statesmen.

We have heard a silly educator from Ohio tearing the air about the Brain Trust and the Big, Bad Reds; we have been treated to the usual kaleidoscope of absurdities that make up American politics.

But out of it all we have made several very definite gains. In the first place we have found there is such a thing as a central government at Washington that is able to make its edicts felt. That was not true in the last months of 1932 and the first months of 1933.

We have begun to take hope about the country at large, and we have begun to take a great deal more interest than we have felt for a long time in scraping the barnacles off the ship of state, looking over her officers and crew, and taking steps to see that she is going somewhere, instead of just on an endless circle cruise for the benefit of the crew and the barnacles. That's a lot of gain in two years, and it is producing a definite uneasiness among the idle, incompetent members of the crew and the barnacles.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH

"The health of the people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and all their power as a state depend. ... It should be the first duty of a statesman." —Disraeli.

We know where he lurks, we know what he does and we know how he does it. We know we don't want him, we know how to get rid of him and we know how to avoid having anything to do with him. Yet, somehow the onslaught against the spirochete of syphilis has repeatedly been thrown back. And why? Largely because every campaign has had to buck the incalculable resistance of the campaigners themselves, but mostly because the charging legions have had to throw themselves against the rubber fence of Victorian smugness—the silly whispering campaign to subdue any mention of any so-called "social disease."

The time is here when we can and should consider syphilis in the same category with other communicable diseases. The last compilation of statistics for Kansas City revealed that over 1,200 new cases of the disease were reported during the year (May, 1934). This is truly "A GREAT PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM" as was stated editorially by the St. Louis Post Dispatch last October in its comment upon a forthcoming meeting of the Missouri's Social Hygiene

Association. As there is no way of learning the actual number of cases of the disease, we are obliged to use the statistics based on cases presenting themselves at public clinics,—that is, unless our new health department official, the DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF VENEREAL DISEASES should suddenly become active. We are at a loss to know why this new job need have been created since syphilis is just one of the “reportable diseases” upon which statistics are kept and about which nothing is really done by our Health Department. In a large proportion of cases it is as innocently contracted as is measles and scarlet fever. The very fact that it is listed as a venereal disease detracts from the chances of controlling and eradicating it.

Sir William Osier once said that if full information were available, syphilis would probably stand first as a killing disease. Most physicians know this to be true. Yet the spirochete is granted an immunity from assault—he hides behind the public apathy or provincialism and is safe in the lethargy of our present-day political health departments.

Fortified handsomely behind the queer public attitude, would you believe it possible, even if we had a modern health department, for the director of health to wage an adequate campaign for the control of syphilis? Probably not! Dr.

Follow to page five

Nineteen Thirty-five

March first

FUTURE

5

FINANCE

With such heavy subjects as the gold clause cases and the banking legislation out of the way we feel like going on a spree and discussing various subjects of more or less general interest. First, however, we want to hark back to those gold cases, but only for a moment.

You remember what they were, we trust, and how the decisions were awaited with bated breath by everyone? As was predicted in this column, their importance proved to be highly overrated and now that the decisions have come and gone we can see how foolish it was to have been so disturbed. Conditions now are little changed from those that obtained two months ago—business is going on as usual. The only difference as we see it is that it has been officially decreed the moral code as embodied in the Constitution does not apply to this administration.

Puzzle

The stock market has fallen back into the rut it occupied before the gold decision. The gains made in the hour or so following the announcement were entirely lost the next three days and prices then proceeded to slip lower with volume again down around the half a million-share-a-day level. Wall Street is disturbed by the wide discrepancies in the stock list. Industrials are near the best levels of the last two years, while rails and utilities are bumping the bottom.

Weakness in the utilities has been a feature of the market for several weeks. Power stocks have dropped almost daily to new average lows for the year on liquidation based on holding company legislation. There is a growing belief that the bearishness on the entire utility list is being overdone, however. One thing seems certain—either the utilities are a buy or the industrials are a sale. Wall Street would like to know which course to take.

Gold Supplies

Attention again has been directed to the nation's gold supply in relation to outstanding

currency. The weekly federal reserve figures show the monetary gold stock at a new peak of nearly 8 1/2 billion dollars, compared with less than 5 1/2 billion in total money circulation. In addition the treasury has 732 million dollars in silver. Thus, dollar for dollar, outstanding currency is far more than covered by the metallic backing.

When gold payments were suspended in the 1933 banking crisis the situation was reversed. Circulation shot above 7 billion dollars as depositors withdrew their money from banks and the gold supply dwindled to less than 4 billion in the former gold value of the dollar.

Now the United States dollar has the highest metallic coverage of any of the leading currencies in the foreign exchange list. Why, then, it is argued, can gold payments not be resumed, internally at least?

Processing Taxes Those who are feeling the pinch of sharply increased living costs, particularly food (and there are few of us who aren't), generally are unaware of the fact that the

MAY WE PRESENT BELLE EDWARDS

Our city fathers, a quarter of a century ago, adopted a civic slogan, "Make Kansas City a good place to live in"—thus, plowing the first furrow in that field which was to yield us so fine a crop of boosters, go-getters and dynamic visionaries. With time the slogan changed. A bronze George Washington now stares across Pershing Square at the new version, a huge poster stating "Kansas City is a Friendly City."

Our search for a Kansas Citian to whom these two expressions had a significance, led us to the door of Mrs. Belle (Edwards, to find there a woman who for over forty years has been a property owner, tax payer, a force for good in her community and a grateful citizen. Belle Edwards humbly helped make Kansas City a good place to live in, and today, with intelligent reservations, thinks of it as a friendly city.

This negro child was born in Paris, Missouri, on March 15, 1863. Two years later the 13th amendment was to be passed by Congress freeing the child from the bondage into which she was born. Then, her mother, who had been brought to Missouri from Virginia, gathered her scattered children together and moved them to Shelbina, Missouri, for the family to whom she had belonged in

Paris had been shattered by the war. There must have been much real dignity and valour in Aunt Rena, as Belle's mother was called, for her family prospered in Shelbina.

Belle came to Kansas City as a young girl to work in the laundry connected with the old Blossom House. Later she married Edwards, a colored member of the police force. In 1893 they bought their home, a corner lot on 24th and Woodland.

Edwards' death shortly afterwards necessitated Belle's return to the working world. She was employed by the Mastin family. With them for 19 pleasant industrious years, she helped make Kansas City a good place in which to live. She cooked for the young society people of the nice Nineties, watched over the romances of many of today's leading families, helped found the colored Episcopal Church, became the God-Mother for many, many colored children whose parents found inspiration in her serenity and integrity.

Today at 72 she continues to work, sewing for the children and the grandchildren of those families she served in her early days: the Townleys, the Withers, the Faxons, the Mastins and others.

Her old home, which she owns free of mortgage, needs painting,

processing taxes enforced on products of wheat, corn, and hogs are contributing a heavy additional burden to the higher costs of living.

These levies, conceived in the guise of farm relief, are proving a decided hardship to millions who are struggling for means of existence, and should be removed. It is high time the unfairness of the processing taxes is recognized.

With all respect to the farming classes who undoubtedly have had a difficult time for the last few years, it is inequitable to put a tax in the mouths of the great masses of urban dwellers who in our opinion have suffered to an even greater extent. The processing tax amounts to little more than class legislation. Now that agricultural prices are high, why should this excise on bread be continued?

In the case of hogs, a tax of \$2.25 a hundredweight is added. Hogs now are selling around the \$9 level, making the total cost, live weight, \$11.25, a 25 per cent tax. In wheat, which is selling currently at around \$1 a bushel, the tax is 30 cents, making the total cost to the consumer \$1.30, an excise of 30 per cent. In addition to hogs and wheat, two of the chief food products, there is a tax on corn and all of its products. It does not stop there, however, cotton also is carrying a tax as well as numerous competitive fabrics. B. O. B.

FUTURE

For News Behind the Scenes

Used Office Furniture

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Eighth and Troost

The Public Health

From page four

John L. Rice, Commissioner of Health of New York City, was cut off the air when he attempted to tell his audience how public funds were used in combatting syphilis and gonorrhea. Still later, New York State Health Commissioner Parran was not even permitted to make a scheduled address containing information and advice upon the same subject.

But, you say, "that is New York and this is Kansas City." All right, ask one of our most prominent health columnists why he cannot advise the public upon one of our scourges and do a constructive service to our race, and his reply will simply be that it is taboo! Here is a menace which all adults know about, and yet press and radio censorship is so rigid that the most enlightened community in other respects, may be made me- daeval in this respect. With 100 new cases reported each month the year around and many more unreported, we would say that the new addition to the payroll of the city had his work cut out for him. Let us help by facing facts and laughing down this last barrier against the control of syphilis.

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but taxes have been heavy and must be met, so it goes unpainted. Nobody “fixes” her assessments but Belle does not complain. Kansas City is a friendly city and her people have good schools here; she carries her share of the burden willingly.

Through her church and her clubs Belle Edwards’ gentle influence reaches the lives of many of her people. At the past election, the valiant woman walked to the polls to vote for the Citizens’ Ticket, rejecting the chance offered her to ride in an elegant car provided by the machine party workers. In her train came many others of her people, quickened to a real civic consciousness by her example.

As a good citizen, we salute Belle Edwards.

Trivia

From page two

seem utterly convinced that every voter is at least a potential election crook. In order to cope with frauds, which are in actuality of no consequence in determining election results, the professional reformers would throw many silly obstacles in the way of the electorate.

What the reformers want is the admission that wholesale frauds are the rule and that elections are won dishonestly. In this city the Republicans, who go into every election with a pad, and who will bear all the watching the Democrats can provide, have howled fraud for a quarter of a century or more.”

I think that stands alone as the prize wise-crack of the week.

So we’re shooting at ghosts, are we? Well, so is J. Edgar Hoover. He attacks “the power, the influence and the constant interference with the course of justice pursued by those persons who make crime (commercialized crime) possible; the criminally-minded attorney and the criminally-minded politician.” So long as we’re in J. Edgar’s company we can take the ridicule of policemen.

Don’t get too blithe over the city manager’s announcement that “for the ninth consecutive year we are going to close the city’s books with a surplus.” Remember the sinking fund. And hold your breath for a swell alibi about two years hence.

F. R.

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F U L T U R E

March first

MANNERS

MODES

New York, February 25, 1925

Sorry about last week but Sandy and I were busy at the dog show. . . . Saw a lot of smart sport things there . . . mostly Britishy tweeds with sweaters or tailored silk blouses . . . some tweedy knits, too . . . Ronwit Teller's feature these as Craignits . . . A great many suits everywhere these days . . . Every influence from Russian to Regency and back to Mandarin . . . and many just plain American . . . Chamois continues in popularity at Ford and Taylor's and McCreery's, but the newest in accessories is a navy cotton lace blouse from Ronwit Teller's . . . It's to wear with tweeds . . . and the latest hat is called Bengal Lancer at Russek's and Safari at Franklin Simon's but it's one and the same . . . felt topi with a contrasting chiffon scarf. Rita.

Kansas City seems to have gone "continental" this week, what with five "openings of note" to be noted, but between the dark and the daylight of billowing chiffons and English tweeds should come inevitably (with apologies to Longfellow and Lillian Heilman) the Children's Hour. For January and February with their seemingly endless and practically vacationless weeks of school are just as hard on Janie or Mary as on their style-conscious mothers, with the result that a new yellow linen dress trimmed in the same brown as Mother's new chamois hat or a dark blue pique like Mother's new blouse will probably work more wonders than all the Vitamins A through G combined (with apologies to Parke Davis).

To get down to business after recording all due apologies, the subjects of colors and materials in children's clothes and more specifically little girls' clothes (little boys' clothes even in early sizes seem to be more in the domain of Esquire than of Vogue, and while we don't mind treading on the toes of Vogue now and then, we'd hate to incur our Esquire's wrath!) should be discussed. For in childish fashion where almost all small numbers have pleats down the front and larger ones pleats held, in by a belt— except such ingenious things as Mary Forsythe's red and white broadcloth "tulip" dress from the Children's Shop of Richmond, Virginia—color and material provide more possibility for variety than do cut and form. And variety leads to distinction and individuality even in frocks and smocks!

Colors

Colors, in the first place, should always be bright and gay, the more sombre tones begin usually (and rightly so) with "College Boards." And in the second place, if it's possible for second place to be as important as first, they should be becoming. In childhood there is no such thing as a fashionable hue, and although fashion often forces milady to choose emerald green when

she would like sapphire blue, it demands no such consideration from milady's daughter. In other words, anything from deepest red to palest violet is "right" if it's "right" for the child. (If you're skeptical, take a look at the variegated varieties of color at the Girls' Shop on the Plaza.)

THE WALRUS AND THE CARPENTER

By KATIE

" 'A slice of bread,' the Walrus said, 'is what we chiefly need.' " This is perhaps one of the most notable things ever written about oysters, or at least one of the most quoted. G. K. Chesterton's sensitive poet in "The Flying Inn" calls the oyster the "creature that man forgets." He meant it in a humanitarian sense and he learned better, with a little help from the donkey. It was when—oh, go and read it for yourself. After all the oyster wasn't nearly as important as the rum and cheese. But right now I am concentrating on the oyster.

When it comes to you strictly fresh, the shell just opened and the oyster but newly severed from its anchorage the best way to deal with it is on the half-shell, with a squeeze of lemon and a touch of sauce made to your taste from chili sauce, horse radish and a dash of tobasco. But when you have to buy your oysters by the pint, it's safer to cook them.

Frying them is a high art. Brushed with cracker crumbs, fried lightly and swiftly, drained carefully on brown paper, and served hot and succulent they are perfection. But never let them go on greasy, or hard or dry—not if you love the person to whom you serve them. Escalloped oysters make a good cold weather dish, and an easy one. Arrange alternating layers of small bits of bread and oysters, well sprinkled with pepper and dabs of butter, with a final layer of bread over the top. Moisten with the liquor of the oysters, add a bit more butter and bake in a fairly quick oven

New Materials

Materials, too, are all-important, and besides, present to a certain extent trends that make for style in little girls' dresses. Dotted swisses are as popular now, of course, as when Mother was a girl; but there are printed dimities and pique voiles and shadow lawns and opal cloths that are really new and different. A Nathan Krauskopf shadow lawn, at Harzfeld's, for instance, comes in geranium red with a white dimity collar edged in Valenciennes lace and a matching ruffle all the way down the front quite in the present "lingerie" mode. A blue opal cloth with ruffles from Mary Forsythe has all the soft femininity of the old South combined with the practicability of the new (it wrinkles less than the handkerchief linen that it resembles) and a Betty Wallace creation from Mrs. D. A. Poyser's collection presents blue dimity printed in tiny red and white stars in the "spirit of '76" but the "manner of '35."

Less flattering, but more practical, are the piques, gingham, and linens that Taylor's, Harzfeld's, The Tiny Tot's Shoppe, and others seem to feature so well. They're a little stiffer and consequently less cherubic (diminutive for "feminine") than voiles, etc., but even this stiffness can be avoided by the right light touch. Thus a blue shantung Marguerite double-breasted coat frock from Harzfeld's gets a little frilliness from a soft white collar edged in Irish lace, and the little brother and sister suit in blue linen sketched here from Taylor's gets similar relief from cleverly patterned white at the neck and sleeves.

"Dressmaker" Touches

The role played by these light touches is a more vital one, how-

KITCHEN

for about thirty to forty-five minutes, letting the bread on top take on a nice, crisp brown. Note:

Don't start with your oysters too dead cold. It takes too long to get them heated through.

But let's get to the recipe I really want you to try, the one I mentioned last week, oysters Rockefeller. As to the quantities, I had to work them out from the generalities of a chef who was accustomed to a hit of this, and a pinch of that, but the flavor attained was authentic. First, select your oysters, opened fresh on the half shell. Arrange them, in their shells of course, on pans of hot rock salt and run them under the gas flame for five minutes. As they are to be served that way you want to plan on one pan for each person served. The amounts given here will take care of at least three dozen oysters. Chop together very fine about two cups of green spinach, a half-dozen green onions, a bunch (a small one) of celery, three or four sprigs of parsley, and half a head of lettuce. Mix with them a third of a pound of butter, softened, a quarter of a cup of bread crumbs, a tablespoonful of Worcestershire Sauce, a tablespoonful of Anchovy Sauce, and two-thirds of an ounce of Absinth, if available. (It isn't important enough to invest in heavily.) Put this sauce over the oysters, being as generous as the amount permits, sprinkle them with very fine crumbs and Parmesan cheese, and shove them, on their rock salt, under the flame until the crumbs on top brown. Serve hot and at once.

At Taylor's

ever than merely relieving stiff materials; because, it is in them that real individuality in children's clothes can be achieved. Clever collars, such as a beautiful lawn one from Mary Forsythe's collection with a panel of ruffled val lace, or a net one from Mrs. Poyser appliqued in color in a lily design are often the making of the simplest dress. In fact, "dressmaker" touches of any kind, whether they be smocking, briar stitch, ruffles, or rick-rack, give chic to youthful models. There is a drawback, of course, to these individual touches in that they are usually found best expressed in hand-made and consequently more expensive wear, but a cleverly smocked Patricia Moody frock from Harzfeld's or a yellow linen dress from Taylor's with a cunning yellow and brown "hand- turned" collar show what ingenuity, can do for very little.

And it must be remembered that in children's

clothes as in everything else, you usually get what you pay for—so if you pay for faggoting on a sleeveless voile party dress from Virginia or for rick-rack on a French ging ham from Iowa (the Betty Wallace line originates in Davenport), you get deep hems and made-to-measure shoulders in the bargain.

Coats

The same principles that make little girls' dresses distinctive apply equally well to coats and suits —although more mannish tailoring seems to have ruled out real dress maker touches in most cases. Thus the blue suede cloth coat illustrated from Harzfeld's is double-breasted At Harzfeld's in front with silver-centered self- rimmed buttons and belted in back in the best "tailored tradition." And similar well-cut lines mark a raspberry coat from Taylor's with a

At Taylor's

smart white pique over-collar and lapels. In fact, even raincoats (which phrase is a warning to the old established tribe of topcoats that they'd better perk up if they expect to keep ahead of their be- checked and beprinted rubber competitors!) reflect the best modes of the moment. Just imagine parading off to school on a rainy day in a red or green number (see sketch from Taylor's) printed all over with fascinating ducks—and then consider the relative merits of Cod Liver Oil versus Children's Clothes.

I. E.

OPENINGS OF NOTE

The Parisian habit of launching new modes with little or no warning resulted last week in Hindu-standi draperies with saris or ihram scarfs at Schiaparelli's, Arabian gold-bordered gauzes at Alix's, and Turkish skirts with elastic under-bloused hems at Main-bocher's—which may, of course, be very well for Paris where East meets West at La Coupole but seems a little rich for plain Americans who have already suffered a Russian winter and a Regency spring. In any event, Kansas City openings, also of recent date, although they did not pretend to “stun the Western world” (Vogue marches on!) offered style and chic in saner but no less appetizing doses.

Swanson's—Hattie Carnegie and others expressed the American point of view to a T at this opening. Satin-backed crepe in black or blue were to be noted especially, used as well for evening as for street. A cocktail dress in blue with lime binding at the neck and a Chinese girdle in the same color was followed by a black afternoon frock adorned with Carnegie's favorite white pique grapes. These served as trimming, too, for a gray taffetas cocktail dress dotted in white with a full skirt and a white pique collar. And there was a great deal of accordion-pleated net for evening and stitched taffetas for day-time wear. Even a stunning yellow wool sports coat had a double scarf lined in taffetas.

Harzfeld's—Soft imported woolens in black or colors gave distinction to day-time wear in this collection. To be particularly noted were a chaterreuse ensemble in Rodier material consisting of a simple dress and a full-length coat with a beautifully shirred back and a lovely wolf collar; and a black and red printed light-weight wool dress that had a stand-up taffetas collar.

Follow to page seven
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Nineteen Thirty-five

March first

FUTURE

7

LEAVES WITHOUT FRUIT

Columns of Criticism and Comment

MUSIC

Nathan Milstein, young Russian violinist who played in Kansas City recently with the Philharmonic, first came to America in October, 1929. That was five and one-half years ago; Milstein is now (and was when he was here) on his sixth consecutive American tour.

Milstein with his violin, Vladimir Horowitz and the piano, Gregor Piatigorsky and his violincello: it has not-been lost upon the musical world how remarkable it is that these three great artists, of like age, should be offered to fame at the same time. It is more remarkable that they were all three boyhood friends in Russia and, it is said, have continued a warm relationship up to this day.

March 21 will be the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Johann Sebastian Bach. Among the countless festivals and observances of the date, one of the important ones will be held at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Bethlehem was founded in 1741 or 1742 by Moravians, and has always been musical. The specific and immediate reason why the Bach festivals were begun there was the energy and devotion of John Frederick Wolle, American organist, who played organ for many years at Lehigh University in South Bethlehem, and at the Moravian and Trinity churches in Bethlehem itself.

Dr. Wolle began the Bethlehem Bach Choir in 1882', developing and strengthening it until its full blooming in 1900 under that name. Before that, it had been the Bethlehem Choral Union and had sung, with some Bach, the choral works of Haydn, Handel and Mendelssohn. In 1900, the B Minor Mass was given after fourteen months of rehearsal in the Moravian Church. The great Mass has now been given nearly thirty times, as the high point in two and three-day festivals. No festivals were held in the period 1905-1912. The Christmas Oratorio, the St. Matthew Passion and the Magnificat have each been heard several times, and over sixty cantatas have been performed in the history of the choir. Dr. Wolle died in January of 1933; the planning for the festival of that year faltered. It was at first thought best not to observe the occasion, but then it went ahead, as the most fitting memorial to the man who had created the choir and the Bach tradition in Bethlehem.

The religious feeling in Bach, and its recreation, was a large part of the reason for the Bethlehem festivals, and the B Minor Mass, performed every year as the climax, has been considered the most elevated expression of Bach's religion. A recent biographer of Bach, with what right you may yourself question if you choose, points out that when the Mass was written, Bach was a good deal more concerned with his bread and butter than with hymning God.

Bach was cantor at the Thomasschule in Leipsic from 1725 until his death. In 1723, Augustus III, Elector of Saxony and King of Poland, ascended the throne, a member of the Roman Church. Bach, already in a difficult position politically, had at once to write music which would assure support from the new king, although Bach was a man of the Protestant people. The B Minor Mass was then commenced as a work of art to please the new royalty, to guarantee livelihood for the composer and a family of generous numbers.

So (if the notion satisfies you) the B Minor Mass was composed by a man “shorn of the urgent emotional impulse which produced the St. Matthew Passion” . . . “in it he is chiefly concerned in developing his mastery to its highest technical point.”

The ideal concert-hall would have soft leather chairs set twenty feet apart, with footstools in front, so that loud breathers, people who whisper about other people who sit in boxes, and squirmers, would be stripped of their worst vice, nearness. Until that happy day, consider a plan of one Walthers, a brainchild of Robert Haven Schauffler’s, who gathered round him an Ear Club. Walthers was a brave hisser, but hissers are always in a minority, and he found the trouble of hissing noisy neighbors to silence in order that he might enjoy a concert was more than the silence was worth, frowning and heavy with animus. So he got together some choice and silent spirits to take a bloc of seats in Section K; as he singled out creative listeners from the audience he asked them to sit in, and the Ear Club grew amazingly. Its motto was: “No gold can buy you entrance there But beggared love may all go bare.” N. L. S.

Openings of Note

From page six

collar and repeated the print in the cuffs of the accompanying plain black waffle wool coat. Black and red were favorite colors for evening, too, an outstanding example being Nettie Rosenstein’s black crepe dinner dress with full marquisette cellophane dotted sleeves caught in at the wrist with shirring, and a red and white Bianchini print evening dress edged in Regency pleating and supplemented by a red wide-waled cordoroy cape. And Regency was the note, for the bridal party, where the soft period sleeves of the green chiffon bridesmaid’s gowns were repeated in the flattering satin gown of the bride.

Woolf Brothers’—Beige carpets, fresh paint, and a complete rearrangement of fitting rooms, etc., have transformed an already attractive department into a real “Salon des Modes.” At the Open House, mannequins presented everything from a red cashmere suit, two-pieced with a narrow leather belt, to a pink lace evening dress whose skirt boasted row after row of filmy ruffles. And there were suits for street with or without fur—a thin black wool one in particular with a collar and vest of pink matelasse and a sleeveless coat furred in silver fox, and a light blue one with a printed attached blouse and a short coat also furred, this time in blue dyed fox. Lots of stunning sweaters added to the attractions of the new Sports’ Shop, and best of all was a riding-habit of checked wool with a top-coat to match.

Patronize

FUTURE

Advertisers

THEATRE

The- following motion pictures have been shown here recently at first-run houses, and these notes are for the benefit of those who may want to catch them at the neighborhood theatres.

“The Scarlet Pimpernell,” with Leslie Howard and Merle Oberon, is taken from the famous old adventure story of the French Revolution by Baroness Orczy that everyone read in his youth. Leslie Howard plays the young English nobleman, heading a daring band of his countrymen, who spend their time secretly snatching condemned French aristocrats from the guillotine. This British production provides a good supporting cast for Mr. Howard, who plays his role with his customary finesse and elegance. Merle Oberon, who has been imported by

Hollywood since this picture was made, proves to be an unusually beautiful young woman, with only ordinary acting ability. The picture is fast moving, exciting, and good fun for people who line the Dumas type of adventure.

Another production which encourages us to believe that the British are finally learning how to make good pictures is "Evergreen," a musical play starring Jessie Mathews. The story concerns a young woman who gets her chance in a London revue by impersonating her own mother, who had been a famous star of the Edwardian era. The mix-ups that occur during the process of the hoax provide some amusing situations for Miss Mathews to handle. We don't join in the chorus that proclaims that Jessie Mathews is the cinema find of the country, although we do admit she has improved a good deal since she appeared on the New York stage seven years ago as Jack Buchanan's partner in Cole Porter's "Wake Up and Dream." She has a nice personality, a better than average singing voice, and can dance rings' around Ginger Rogers or Ruby Keeler. This picture is pleasant entertainment, with attractive tunes by Rogers and Hart of "Connecticut Yankee" fame, good sets, and an agreeable cast that includes Sonnie Hale and Hartley Powers.

"The Good Fairy" stars Margaret Sullavan. She has the role of an orphan who steps out of the orphanage and into a series of impossible situations which deal with an elderly, kind-hearted playboy, a husband selected from the telephone book, and a hotel waiter who acts as duenna. The plot is unquestionably Ferenc Mornal, the whimsy and treatment are Hollywood. Miss Sullavan is very pretty, and turns in a good performance as the incredibly naive orphan. Frank Morgan as the would-be roue, and Reginald Owen as the waiter, are splendid. The pained expression of Mr. Herbert Marshall is also present.

"After Office Hours" is a melange of the newspaper game, murder, and high society, combining the talents of Constance Bennett and Clark Gable. While not up to the level of "The Thin Man," it has fast dialogue, plenty of action, gowns by Adrian, and comedy by Stuart Erwin and the increasingly capable Billie Burke, all of which make a good background for the brusque Mr. Gable and the sweetly acid Miss Bennett. You'll like it.

M. J.

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Nineteen Thirty-five

8

FUTURE

March first

SPORTS

Kansas City track devotees will get the opportunity to see Glenn Cunningham in action tomorrow night, Saturday, March 2. Glenn, along with Charles Hornbostel, is the headliner at Dr. J. A. Reilly's convention hall show.

After a lapse of three years Dr. Reilly is renewing the Kansas City Athletic indoor meet. This track carnival returns with an exceptionally attractive program. There will be about fifteen individual events, with about the same number of relays. The relays have always been the big feature of the Blue Diamond event.

The special three-quarter mile race between Glenn Cunningham and Charles Hornbostel will be the real classic of the meet. Hornbostel is the record-holder for the half-mile and Glenn for the mile. This distance is new to both runners. Regardless of who wins, the time will be mighty

fast.

K. C. Blues

In two weeks more the Blues start spring training at Mobile, Alabama. It still is uncertain just what players the Blues will get from the majors. Johnny Kling is in a very receptive mood concerning additional talent.

The roster of the club now includes twenty-nine players and only about six are sure to be with the club when the season starts. The six players who Kling says are not for sale or trade are Dale Alexander, first baseman; Herman Bell, Roland Stiles, and Phil Page, pitchers; Mike Kreevich and George Stumpf, outfielders.

Winners Here and There—

The K. C. Greyhounds are still on the rampage, their last wins putting them in undisputed possession of second place. . . . Didn't know the Spanish and Irish were so good,,but Azucar (Irish-bred, Spanish name) certainly had everything his way at Santa Anita. . . . Glenn Cunningham continues to show his heels to all competitors; even breaking records has become commonplace to this star of the track . . . K. U. seems bound for another Big Six basketball championship. . . .

C. M. L.

"Now, listen, son, the next time you go out shooting, don't pick the Sheriff for a target"

CHEESE

JOURNEY

Drive east on highway 50. You can either pick up the markers and follow them out of town or you can go out by way of Swope Park and pick up the highway on the other side. If you continued far enough east you would reach Jefferson City, and beyond that, Washington, though quite a way beyond. But considerably nearer is the settlement of Knobtown. You can go to Jefferson City for bills on permanent registration and to Washington for practically everything else, but if you want Swiss cheese, don't go beyond Knobtown.

The town itself is not arresting. Growing up, apparently, as a center for a farming district, it is clean and unpretentious, like most of its clean and unpretentious neighbors. Except that it shelters in its boundaries a cheese factory. The place moves from time to time, but when last seen it was located in an immaculate little house just west of the railway bridge that spans highway 50 as you come into the town. The proprietors are Swiss and the cheese is authentic.

A clean, sour smell of whey hangs around the stone-floored room where a brisk woman will give you generous samples to help you decide just how fresh you like your cheese. The older it gets the nipper it is. A huge copper cauldron is in the middle of the room, and on a table at the back are wooden frames in which the cheeses are first shaped. But the really impressive department is back, and down a flight of wooden steps to the cellar where the cheeses are ageing quietly. There are all degrees, from the pale newcomers, just fresh from the molds, to hardy veterans that have aged so long that only the most jaded palate would find them acceptable. They are for the most part rectangular in shape and rather small. The huge round shape is the one Swiss characteristic that is lacking.

The craft, then, is inherent, not in the country, but in the countrymen. There is very little in the scenery to suggest the Alps, but in the accent and aspect of the man and woman who run the place there is plenty to suggest the Alpine dweller. And the cheese compares so favorably with the imported brands that it has no apologies to make.

We didn't test the likeness too far. We didn't ask, for example, if they could yodel. We asked a guide once, up on the everlasting snows of the Jungfrau, if he could yodel and he explained that one never yodelled alone or up on a mountain, inhaling all that cold air. So we didn't ask if the Swiss ever yodelled in their cheese factories. By and large, it didn't seem to matter. The holes in the cheese were genuine and the cheese around the holes beyond reproach.

Hock Shop Paradise

From page three

than the honest merchant can sell it for. His records show he acquired the goods by making a loan.

It is commonly known that Kansas City is a clearing house for many thieves. The local fences do not resell all the merchandise. The goods that are "too hot to handle" here are shipped to a pawn shop dealer in another city. In the same way some of the goods stolen in other cities is sent to Kansas City.

The Kansas merchants, who buy from Kansas City wholesale firms, became indignant when they discovered that thieves were taking their merchandise back to Kansas City and reselling it. The three sheriffs came to town and things started popping. They did not know the political ropes and things happened too fast to keep them under cover.

The three sheriffs were William Schmidt, Ellsworth County; C. J. Anderson, Saline County, and Roy S. Thoman, Russell County. Out their way they enforce the law and don't know the ins and outs of a political machine that thrives from crime protection.

With them were the following Kansas merchants:

Will C. White, Ellsworth, former president of the Midwest Retail Merchants Council.

H. E. Dryden, Salina.

H. W. Eisner, Russell.

Frank Bangs, Salina.

The sheriffs brought with them two boys who confessed to robbing the four stores of about \$3,000 in merchandise. They said they sold the goods to a Kansas City pawn shop and told the operator it was "hot." The boys were H. C. Smith-ers, 22 years old, and Pat Colden, 22, both from Salina.

Several hundreds of dollars of the merchandise stolen in Kansas was found in the Ninth and Main streets pawn shop, the merchants and sheriffs said. After walking into the pawn shop and identifying the merchandise the group went to the prosecutor's office. NO warrant was issued and the first the public learned of it was when the merchants took their case to the Chamber of Commerce.

Checked up to the chamber by the Kansas City-buying merchants, the chamber designated a representative to meet with the merchants. This resulted in a move to force the pawn shop operator to pay them for their losses.

This was reported back to the chamber and was expected to be placed before the chamber's meeting of its board of directors. Ruby D. Garrett, member of the machine city council, who is general counsel for the chamber at a fat fee, sat in on the meeting and no action was taken on the pawn shop case by the board.

There is every evidence that the stink stirred up by the politically uneducated Kansans is about to blow over.

There are many pawn or hock shops in Kansas City, out of proportion to the demand for their necessity. Some of them injure the legitimate merchant by handling stolen goods at low prices. The boys brought here from Kansas said they sold \$85 rings for \$5 and stolen clothing at even a lower comparative price.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY NEWS BEHIND THE SCENES?

If you have read the article which finished in the above column we believe you will agree the slogan is not exaggerated.

JUST HAPPENED TO BE IN KANSAS CITY

Russel (Spike) Lane, former night club owner in Leeds, has been arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Beasley on a charge of harboring and concealing one Volney Davis, implicated in the Bremer snatch. The number of fugitives taken by federal men who just happen to be in Kansas City is astounding.

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