

The San Diego Union

AND DAILY BEE
The Pioneer Newspaper of Southern California
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Justice Above the Law

THE Santa Rosa lynching will find ample apology for its defiance of the law. The victims of this summary vengeance were accused of the most atrocious crimes in the calendar. There is little doubt of their guilt. One of the accused had confessed to killing three officers of the law while endeavoring to place the guilt for offenses not less heinous than murder itself.

In addition to this specific excuse for the action of the citizens who took the law into their own hands, a general indictment of the administration of justice in California will be offered. It can be shown that the death penalty is not always inflicted upon those who most richly deserve it.

The merely human element must also be considered. One of the men murdered was Sheriff Petray of Sonoma county, a citizen highly respected in the community where he lived. It was but natural that his friends, neighbors and fellow citizens should desire that his death should not go unavenged upon all who were implicated in the killing.

On the other hand there is much to be said in condemnation of such "wild justice" as was meted out to these gangsters.

The law must be maintained supreme over every action of those who consent to be governed by law. Otherwise there can be no safety for any. If the individuals of every community constitute themselves a law unto themselves, only anarchy can result. Life and property would be as unsafe as it is in the jungle where only savages and wild beasts abide.

Private revenge and rapacity of every degree would predominate. There would be but one law—the law of might. The strongest, the wildest, the most unscrupulous would prevail. Communities would always be at the mercy of just such men as were lynched by those citizens of Santa Rosa.

In view of these contingencies consequent upon the administration of such "justice" as was inflicted by those citizens, the contention that the law as it is now administered does not always perform its function adequately, or that the guilty sometimes escape condign punishment, is exceedingly weak.

It is not likely that any attempt to arraign these Santa Rosa lawbreakers for their violation of the law will be made. The justification of their action will be sufficient in the community where they live, and it must be admitted that in view of all the circumstances, the irresistible provocation, and the extreme atrocity of the crime from beginning to end, there is little need of further interference in the matter even by the law which has been so flagrantly outraged by all concerned.

San Diego's Schools

ITS publicity campaign literature the high school committee of this city urges closer attention by the citizens and parents of the community to the work of the local schools. It is a timely and necessary admonition.

As a general proposition we manifest less interest in the conduct of our public schools than in many other matters of public interest not nearly as important as to the general welfare.

Our seeming indifference probably is due to our confidence in the school administration. We are willing to trust the school officials and teachers in the details of their work, knowing that when school affairs become too complicated or troublesome for those employed to manage them the officials or teachers will appeal to us.

It is quite true, however, as set forth in the statement of the committee, that the national aspect of school problems frequently overshadows local conditions, leading the average citizen to believe that while other cities are in a bad way his own is in much better case—because he has heard nothing to the contrary, and because he has no personal knowledge one way or the other.

As a matter of fact, our local schools should be one of the first public considerations, as important as any other, and in some things, the foremost thought in our civic legislation. The school committee asks for the co-operation of parents and citizens in the effort to maintain the highest standard attainable; but seems to deprecate what may be called "criticism" of the school work, the system and the general functioning of the school department.

We heartily commend the purpose of the committee to promote closer and kindlier relations between the general public and the schools. We fully agree that our high school should attain the same position of respect and esteem enjoyed by the various religious, charitable and fraternal organizations of the city.

It is here that much of our best citizenship has its source; it is one definite educational opportunity on the broad highway of learning; it is a constant incentive to the youth of our city—it should be so complete in its equipment, its instruction, its final purpose, that if there were no other schools in the country it would be sufficient for the intention in which it was designed.

San Diego should regard its high school as the capstone of its local educational structure, resting upon a firm foundation of public pride in its purpose, its ability, and its successful achievement. For the high school of every city is the epitome of the

Answers to Questions

Q. Is the expression "Tsh-kak-bible" really Yiddish?
A. Students of Yiddish say that "Tsh-kak-bible" does not belong to that language.

Q. Who originated state fairs?
D. E. L. A. Elkannah Watson, a prosperous merchant of Albany, N. Y., originated the idea of agricultural fairs such as state and county fairs.

Q. Which birds have the longest and the shortest lives?
A. The Bureau of Biological Survey says such birds as warblers, wrens, sparrows, are the shortest-lived.

Q. Are the British Isles part of Europe?
A. The British Isles are part of the European continent. Originally, they were joined to the mainland.

Q. What is the meaning of the abbreviation D. V.?
A. The letters "D. V." are the accepted abbreviation for "Deo Volenti," meaning "God willing."

Q. What is acetic ether and how produced?
Acetic ether is more generally known as acetic ester. It is an ester of acetic acid, especially the ethyl ester, or ethyl acetate, a colorless, mobile, volatile liquid.

Q. What is arbitrage?
A. This is a term applied to transactions taking advantage of differences in price in different markets for the same articles.

Q. Can peanut butter be made at home?
Yes, with a meat grinder the process is simple. Roast the peanuts moderately, if they have been purchased raw.

Q. Who invented the game of baseball?
A. Abner Doubleday, who later went to West Point, and ultimately became a major general in the United States army, is given the credit for originating the game in 1839.

Q. How deep do divers go and how long do they stay?
A. This navy department says that divers can reach the depth of 250 feet with the most modern apparatus, and can stay down about two hours.

Q. Where are the deepest oil wells in the world?
A. The geological survey says that three of the deepest oil wells are in the country and one in Germany.

Q. Is colored hearing a disease?
A. Colored hearing or chromesthesia, is found quite as often among normal individuals as it is among neurotic persons.

Q. What is the weight of 1,000,000 \$20 bills?
A. The treasury department says that 1,000,000 paper bills, which weigh 360 pounds, would weigh about 3000 pounds.

Q. What is the speed limit for automobiles in Buenos Aires?
A. In the city of Buenos Aires, traffic regulations require motorists to keep to the left of the road and drive not more than 14 kilometers.

Q. Was the tower on Madison Square Garden modeled after some other tower?
A. A tall tower, over 300 feet in height, was copied from the Giralda at Seville, Spain. The Giralda, now standing in the city of Seville, at Seville, was built between 1184 and 1196 as a minaret of a mosque.

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More Truth Than Poetry By James J. Montague



THEY LEARN QUICKLY

The new winner of the Nobel prize was for some years a tramp in America. A gentleman called at my kitchen door. To apply for a job, said he.

Another man with a mildewed face. And arranged in a fashion strange, Accosted me in a public place.

A portly man with a halting gait. And in somebody else's coat, Stopped at my house on the state.

And the self-same day a battered wreck. Whom I met by the mereest chance, Threw his greasy arms around my neck.

It would appear that Mr. Wilson is more disposed to take Mr. Bryan's advice than that he will.

ROUGH LUCK The football hero is compelled reluctantly to put his glory in moth balls till next fall.

It is not likely that any attempt to arraign these Santa Rosa lawbreakers for their violation of the law will be made.

Out for Himself Recently there was announced the incorporation in Denver of the Roosevelt Steamship Company.

Capital's Best Speller Frank B. Willis, Ohio's successful teacher, has secured a position in the United States senate, qualified as Washington's champion speller during his term in the house.

Work for Man While beavers have a propensity for aggravating ranchers by building dams that impede the flow of irrigation waters, the forward march of the Mink Creek station in the Cache Forest claims to have located a colony of beavers philanthropically inclined.

KAISER AT BEDSIDE BERLIN, Dec. 10.—The declining strength of the ex-kaiser's heart is still constant, and the former emperor never leaves his wife's bedside except to eat and snatch a few hours sleep, according to news from Doorn, Holland.

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Science and Nature By GARRETT P. SERVIES

Man through a long course of evolution—the latter part of which was unusually rapid—has been embracing virtually the whole history of his psychic development—has now become the apparently undisputed master creature of the earth.

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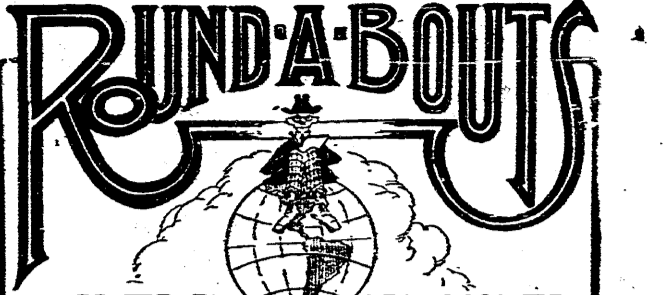
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It's a long time between thinks. B. K. of Mission Hills, says his idea of something terrible is to come home tired from work, and find that his wife has a house full of female company.

Dear Roundabout: These "famous firsts" should knock 'em dead: Adam—baby—husband—Ladies—cigar—George Washington.

It seems highly appropriate that an article in the Osteopathic Magazine, entitled "For the Stomach's Sake," was written by a gent named Sweet.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS YOU MAY HAVE KNOWN They evidently were on the way to high school and their names were Gertrude and Mabel. The street car was crowded and their conversation was in tones that carried far.

HOW CHEERFUL? Frank Lockridge and Miss Helen Fraser of Sacramento were married in Sacramento last week. After a honeymoon trip in the south the couple will depart for Little Rock, Ark., as the groom is going to enter the undertaking business—News Item.

The average American male has the mentality of a child of 13, avers Prof. A. K. Rule of Friends' University. I am not inclined to argue with the learned professor, although I think he is stretching things a little.

Even Christmas toys are now looked upon with suspicion by the prohibition sleuths. A toy elephant was discovered recently that possessed a somewhat alarming chemical property for two pints of fine old booze.

THE TRANSPORTS New Mayflowers daily leave our coasts. New Pilgrims eastward bent. And oh, gee whizz! what countless hosts Will proudly claim descent.

Mr. Bout's: The following, from the Omaha, Neb., World-Herald, is submitted without comment: "FOR SALE—Two elegant Simons for baby crib and carriage. George Stout, 111 South 25th St."

Dear Sir Roundabout: I have found the contents of your Office Grouch. His name is Oswald Ignatz Lick and he is described in the Cincinnati Enquirer as follows: "The world with Oswald Ignatz Lick will never make a hit."

NEW YORK HOTEL MANAGERS have cut their dinner prices from \$4.50 to \$2.50, but until such a time as they make it an even dollar, I shall still hold them in the same category with plain, ordinary highwaymen.

Some of the policemen who are inspecting automobiles in this newest safety drive don't know any more about motors than the drivers themselves.—New York Tribune.

Editor "Bouts": Several years ago you printed a beautiful little poem by James Whitcomb Riley, concerning "He is not dead—he is just away." Would you please reproduce it?

He is not dead—he is just away. I have lost the clipping, but I believe I can repeat it from memory. Here it is:

EDITORIAL JOHN: DIG RIGHT IN John J. Clark, editor of the Bedford Times-Republic, took a fall out of us recently for taking an item from his paper and creating it to the Free Press, so he gets even in Monday's issue by taking no fewer than a dozen editorial squibs from this paper without giving any credit whatsoever. Help yourself, John.

ABE MARTIN This farm for sale. Abe Martin is a well-known humorist and cartoonist. The cartoon shows a man standing in a field, looking at a sign that says 'THIS FARM FOR SALE'.

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