

Rural Delivery Worth Many Times What It Has Cost

By N. J. BACHELDER, Master National Grange, Patron of Husbandry.



DO not understand why the word "free" is used in connection with rural delivery. Is it any more applicable to rural delivery than to city delivery?

In regard to rural mail delivery I will say, while I have no figures upon the subject, it is conceded on every hand that it is worth several times its cost. The deficit charged to rural mail delivery is only nominal, for it does not take into account the increase in receipts of the postal department from the increased postal business on account of it.

If the matter were stated in detail I believe there would be no deficit, but on the other hand there would be a profit from the rural mail delivery.

Outside of the direct result it has had such an effect in raising farm values, in increasing the intelligence among rural people and in bringing rural sections into direct communication with centers of wealth and population, that it has been worth all it cost were there no additional receipts to credit to it.

It is my opinion that no money expended by the federal government has brought greater returns to the country as a whole than the money expended in sustaining rural mail delivery routes, even were there no revenue therefrom. I believe it is a question upon which there is but one opinion and that every argument tends to the verdict that it has been worth many times its cost.

N. J. Bachelder

The Virtue of Economy

By REV. MADISON C. PETERS, D. D., Noted Preacher and Lecturer.

The economical woman is she who has acquired the habit of saving. She economizes in order to save.

Saving is akin to thrift, which is simply accumulation by means of saving, and both are opposed to penny-pinching, which is its true meaning is saving at the expense of suffering.

The saving woman is not to be confounded with the miserly woman who denies herself the necessities in order to hoard money.

Economy may be called a virtue in those whose means will not allow a lavish expenditure, or in fact, an expenditure that will carry them beyond the means they can practically afford. It is frugality, the frugal and judicious use of what they can command and which the dictates of reason and common sense regulate according to circumstances.

A woman can be as frugal and economical on an income of \$10,000 a year as on one of \$1,000, provided she keeps within her limit, and so orders her affairs as to correspond with her purse.

Circumstances must always regulate the expenditure. It would be very foolish for the laborer's wife to try to emulate the woman of millions. Such would be repeating the folly of the foolish frog who tried to rival the ox and in the attempt only burst itself with its own vanity.

In order that a woman in any walk of life may be frugal and saving, it is not at all necessary for her to be parsimonious, or, in other words, deny herself the comforts of life, nay, the necessities, to her love for gain.

On the other hand, the woman who is frugal and economical, not merely for her own sake, but because she realizes that unnecessary expenditure is waste, not alone does good to herself, but confers a benefit on her kind.

She sets the example of moderation and thriftiness, while at the same time conserving the interests of the future by economizing the present. A small income can be turned into a comparatively large one by the woman of economy, for she can make a dollar go as far as a gold piece by her care and foresight. She can turn every penny to the best possible advantage for herself and others. In any woman economy joined to industry is a dowry more valuable than gold.



Intellectual, artistic, spiritual wealth, increases in the sharing, each who shares adding to the store. This is the fundamental reason why progress towards peace and contentment must be towards intellectual, artistic development, and spiritual life, and not towards material splendor and the vulgarity of outer ostentation. These are for the undeveloped; the others for the developed. And, inasmuch as the ignorant will copy the more advanced and the lowly the highly placed, the example must be set by those who lead the social and intellectual world.

Unity of Mankind Is Attainable

By ANNIE BESANT.

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A man will ruin himself to pay a "debt of honor," while he seeks to evade a debt enforceable by law—a perverted sense of duty truly, but still eloquent of the important truth that more can be done by appealing to a sense of obligation imposed by the social opinion surrounding a man than by compulsion of an impersonal law. If the sense of honor, of duty to a class, can be expanded to include the nation, we shall have at work in our midst the most binding form of obligation. Duty will become the keynote of life, each asking, "What do I owe?" instead of "What can I successfully demand?"

It seems possible that in the future we may arrive, even by the slow method of failure, at some scheme of government in which the wisest shall hold the reins of power and obedience shall be gladly rendered to recognized superiors, and at some economic system in which wealth shall be distributed according to needs. Then the maxim will be acted upon—noblesse of all maxims when given by love, not by hate: "From every man according to his capacities; to every man according to his needs."

That which has been the battle cry of men maddened by suffering shall become the axiom of distribution in the rational human family.

Most certainly the putting forward of such ideas as are here suggested will not change social conditions in a moment, but no permanent improvement can be wrought in sudden fashion. Yet are they on the line of progress, of the upward evolution of man.



This Nature-Fake Story Was Too Much for Him.

WORK FOR CONGRESS

COMMISSION TO DEAL WITH TARIFF IS UNLIKELY.

Prominent Republican Organ Declares Subject of Revision Will Be Dealt with by Legislators Elected by the People.

In the senate a few days ago Mr. Beveridge explained his bill for a tariff commission clearly and forcibly. The importance of the tariff question is beyond dispute, and a revision of the tariff always calls for a great deal of information not easily collected. What Mr. Beveridge has in mind is the collection of this information by men entirely competent for the task, so that when congress takes up the subject of revision the work may be performed the more speedily.

The opponents of the measure rest their case largely upon the contention that the work can be done now, as in the past 20 years it has several times been done, without the aid of a commission. A commission appointed by this congress would report to the next, but that congress, it is suggested, will insist upon an examination of the whole subject by and for itself. It will be responsible to the country for whatever changes may be made in the tariff, and consequently it will consent to act only upon data of its own ascertainment and approval.

Time is an element in the matter, and we may consider how much time may be devoted to the collection of the necessary information if, as is likely, Mr. Beveridge's bill fails to pass. If the session of the Sixty-first congress, if the Republicans win in November, that will be notice that in April, at further work on tariff revision will begin. Between November election day and April—some five months—all interests affected will be employed putting statistics in order for presentation to the body charged with the duty of making the new law. And in five months much may be done. With this information, therefore—not prepared by official experts with communications from the previous congress, but by the business interests to be affected by the changes made, and themselves at the call of congress for explanations and elaborations—congress should move quite rapidly and in a few months be through. Midsummer next year should see the new law signed, sealed and delivered.

Of one thing we may all be sure. The tariff is not to be taken out of politics. It is there to stay. As it was in the beginning it is now, and ever shall be. Protection, for its own sake, and free trade will continue as cries dividing voters at the polls.—Washington Star.

Poor Party Circulation.

Mr. Bryan is "not prepared to say for a few months yet whether" he stands "for the Democratic party or not." Ordinarily as between the man and the mule, it is a question of whether or not the mule will stand for the man. But that mule degenerates the more. That the ass should become so feeble he can progress only upon the back of the man and that the man should so far lose his self-respect that he compels the ass to mount him are signs of poor circulation in the body politic.—New York Evening Sun.

The Aldrich Bill.

The Aldrich bill is being criticised from all sides. It is not likely that any alternative bill would escape similar treatment. But a solution for the problem must be found, and found at this session of congress, while the memory of the panic is vivid and the pressure for relief and preventive legislation strong and universal. We have escaped disaster without the help of congress, but now congress must do what it can to prevent future panics and crises.

AS TO BRYAN POLICIES.

Claims of Nebraska Man Without Foundation in Fact.

In connection with the declaration of Mr. Bryan that he is content to furnish policies for the president it is pertinent to recall a few of the policies of the Nebraska man that have not been accepted by Mr. Roosevelt or any other exponent of Republicanism. The recent speech of Gov. Hughes serves to emphasize some of these. In reciting his adherence to the constructive policies of Republicanism the New York governor laid special stress upon the perilous time of 1896, when his party rallied to the support of an honest currency. He also reminded his hearers that the nation had been a cowardly act for the Nebraska man when he abandoned the Philippines to their fate without first preparing them for self-government.

They have pointed out on various occasions the fallacy of the claims of Bryan, Watson and others of the poplaric tribe to authorship of the policies of the administration. But for the moment we may disregard the constructive policies of Republicanism to advocate, as Gov. Hughes did, the divergence of the Republican and Democratic parties. Mr. Roosevelt has never shown anything but contempt for the policies on which Bryan fought his campaigns.

If the Nebraska leader desires to be understood as having suggested the Roosevelt policies since his defeat in 1900 we must still demur. There is a world of difference between public ownership of railroads and governmental regulation thereof. There is just as wide a difference between annihilation of the "trusts" and the effort to simply control their capacity. Mr. Bryan is content to tag on after an administration's policies after they have been adopted; we are certain no one will object. The objections to his candidacies, now and in past years, have been concerned with his radical and monstrous departures from rational finance and the individualistic system.

Mr. Bryan's Paramount Issue for 1908. At the Lincoln dinner Mr. Bryan pointed out how the work of the convention at Deaver could be simplified if he decided to nominate himself for president, as he expected it will do.

"The most far-reaching, the paramount issue is not the tariff, railroads, labor or money; but, shall this government be run for the people by the people, not by the few for the few?"

In 1896 the free coinage of silver was the paramount issue, and in 1900 money, and at that time he was anti-imperialist, but now he is pro-imperialist. We see in his new proposal a conviction that the platform makers scattered their fire even in 1900, when imperialism was particularly designated as the paramount issue; there were many planks, it was only one, and now Mr. Bryan allows that it is a failure. If he can run on the platform of his choice in 1908 it need consist of only one plank, an omnibus merger plank: "We believe that the government should be run for the people by the few." Government ownership, the initiative and referendum, and all the other planks which Mr. Bryan shares in common with the Populists and Socialists would be implied.

With Mr. Bryan making a campaign on this concise plank of his own composition and without a campaign fund, for fear it might contain tainted money, the Democratic party would have a complete and exhaustive demonstration of Mr. Bryan's strength as a popular leader. In the following February the electoral votes would be counted, a ceremony which would have little interest for the Democratic party.

Little Left for Democrats. After some deliberation members of the Democratic party have decided to make their fight upon the tariff question. The party will surely have a little trouble selecting some questions upon which there is a possibility of difference of opinion. The present administration has appropriated nearly all the obviously popular and practical theories in sight.

Chicago Directory

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CUT OUT FOR A FINANCIER. Shrewd Rascal Made Good Thing Out of Whistling Geese.

HOW DO THEY GET IT? Physiological Problem That Nora Could Not Solve.

Two rogues passed a poultry shop. Seeing two geese hung up for sale one of the rogues inserted in the gullet of the geese a little bulb with whistle attached. When the bulb was pressed the whistle sounded. Then, entering the store, he told the proprietor that he had hanging outside a very rare kind of whistling goose. The proprietor at once sold the geese for a big sum to a very learned professor, who was astonished to hear about the whistling geese. Seeking the man who had placed the whistle in the gullet of the bird, the proprietor asked him if he knew where others like it could be obtained. "Well," said the crafty fellow, "I know of only one place, and if you will pay me a big price I will get several for you."

A Philadelphia physician tells of an amusing conversation between two Irish girls in domestic service who were on the board walk at Atlantic City one day not long ago, were exchanging views as to their various physical ailments. "It's a strange thing, ain't it, Nora," asked one of the girls, "how many new kinds of diseases people get these days. One time I was readin' an advertisement of a new medicine. It said it were wonderful for a sluggish liver."

So the rogue brought a dozen fowls, in the gullet of each of which he thrust a whistle, and was paid an exorbitant price for them before the hoax was discovered.

"Gwan!" exclaimed the other girl, scornfully. "Liver trouble ain't no new disease. Me own grandfather was havin' liver trouble when I was more'n ten years old."

HER CHOICE OF DEMISE.

Pathetic Thought of Little Girl Who Had Lost Playmate.

Mary had for neighbor a small playmate, a much-loved and attractive boy. The little lad rushed across the street one day, carrying a glass in his mother. At that instant a trolley car swept around the corner and the resulting tragedy threw the town into mourning. Each family wept, as though its own son had been lost. Mary was utterly inconsolable, and little as she had previously known of death, realized in a childish way the added horror of this one. In her convulsive grief, and while her father and mother sat with sobs in their throats and tears overflowing, Mary straightened up and sobbed: "Mother, when I die I hope it will be of a disease and not a damage!"

TOO MUCH.



Eddie—I don't mind so much that I quit smokin' cause you say me ter, but ter be refused after I'd gone an' washed me hands clean face for a week straight—well, honest, I didn't think of it yer.

Chance for Conversion.

In the ante-bellum days, when Anson P. Morrill of Maine was making his first run for congress, a benchman of his opponent met an old minister of that section slowly jogging along the road on his old horse and hailed him with: "How do you going to vote for?" "Well," said the old man, "I thought I should give Anson a vote. Anson has good timber in him, I believe." "Oh, how I don't see how you can vote for him! Don't you know he's a Universalist! He doesn't believe in a hell." With a quiet twinkle in his eye the old man said: "Well, send him to Washington. When he has served his two years if he doesn't believe in a hell I shall be very much surprised."

Dogs to Watch Churches.

Ever since the robbery of a valuable banner by Dick at Courthouse of churches of Bruges, which contain so many treasures, have taken extraordinary measures to prevent similar losses.

At the Church of Notre Dame, Bruges, a watchman perambulates the church at night accompanied by a dog.

A similar course was adopted at the Cathedral of St. Saviour and other churches.

Modus Vivendi.

The handsome but impecunious young chap who had married the rich and elderly widow began to hint that it was time to give him the control of her funds and the management of her estate.

"Launcelot," she said, "I shall allow you a sufficient income for the supply of your wants, but I expect to keep my business affairs in my own hands. This is a limited partnership."

Meat of the Cocoon. "Your honor," said the lawyer, "I ask the dismissal of my client on the ground that the warrant fails to state that he hit Bill Jones with malicious intent."

"This court," replied the country justice, "ain't a graduate of none of your technical schools. I don't care what he hit Bill with. The plant is, did he hit him? Proceed."

Getting His. "Of course, you don't want anything you are not entitled to," said the conscientious man.

"Of course not," answered Senator Sorghum, "but I will incidentally remark that I always have the best legal talent available to ascertain what I am entitled to."—Washington Star.

Three Alarming Symptoms.

Physician—Madam, I can find no traces of disease in this boy of yours. What made you think he was ill?

Mother—Well, doctor, he behaved in such an odd manner when he came home from school. He spoke kindly to his little sister, didn't kick the cat and offered to carry coal for me.

The Winning Smile. "Say, Mac," said Max, "I don't see how you got so stuck on him. He ain't good-looking nor nothin'."

"I know he ain't," replied the lover's Maggie, "but didn't you never notice what a lot of gold he's got in his teeth?"

Make Ideals Practical. We may not realize our ideals, but we may always idealize our realities, and our ideals must be practical if we are to make a religion of them, and live by them.—Helen Keller.