

The Window Seat

Sitting in my law office window in the Southern Building, looking out (in my mind's eye) over the White House toward the balance of the country, things occur to me of passing interest. I like to jot them down.

By W. D. JAMIESON, Former Iowa Congressman

Washington, D. C., June 15.—To my million and more readers: This is my first message to you at the beginning of the Window Seat's 10th year. I've lived a fairly long and an exceedingly active life, and have had more contacts with a greater variety and number of people, probably, than 99,999 out of every 100,000 people in this country. I want to make two or three suggestions to young people—some of my conclusions out of this interesting experience.

First, I am convinced the Almighty wants us to have ounces of faith, but that it is useless unless thoroughly saturated with good works. We ought to laugh more, and not take ourselves too seriously. Our main business in life is to do the very best we know how, the most important thing immediately at hand, refusing either to worry or accept responsibility for results. We ought to accept life more as a big game, and take our hard jolts on the jaw with a smile, being thankful for them as training developers. And we ought not to kid ourselves that we amount to much except in proportion as we do worth while things every day. There are lots of other things, but this is enough for the tenth year lesson.

The standpatters, especially the Republican standpatters, are going around in circles. They are itching to get rid of the Progressives, and to get rid of the Democratic majority, but they don't know how to do it. I get a real kick out of watching their antics.

I was reading in the local telephone company advertisement today the story of a rather worthless and spendthrift son who said to his father: "What is the best way to approach you for a little loan?" Answered the father: "Well, if I were you, I would make the request by telephone, and then hang up before you receive an answer." I commend this story, with its moral, to these frantic but useless standpat Republicans.

One official they thereby despise is Senator Shipstead, the Farmer-Labor Senator who has represented Minnesota well for 12 years. There is about as much sense to their plan of trying to defeat him as there is to the spendthrift boy's telephone call. They have picked up this rattle-brained Congressman from that good State of Minnesota, a fellow by the name of Shoemaker, who boasts that he used to be in the penitentiary, a fellow who has been fined a number of times in Washington for fighting or reckless driving, and have put him in the race for the nomination against Senator Shipstead. Reports, apparently well founded, come to me that the standpat crowd have turned loose a big slush fund in the effort to put Shoemaker over, knowing that if he defeats Shipstead for the nomination the regular standpat Republican candidate will defeat him at the election. This is one of the most remarkable exhibitions of political nonsense that I have known about in all my experience.

This fellow Shoemaker is the only Member of Congress that I am ashamed of, and for whom I have only contempt. I can't understand for the life of me how such a man can be elected to represent a district of good people, like those in his district are. But then, politics is an inexplicable thing at times.

I don't suppose he had any chance of being re-elected Congressman. It may be he is like that George Norris clerk in Nebraska who was put up in 1930 by the same type of political gangsters, and paid by them, to run against Senator George Norris in the thought that the confusion of names would allow them to succeed in their dirty work of defeating this people's champion, Senator Norris. Now that I think about it, I am not sure that the George Norris episode was about as extraordinary even though not quite as nonsensical a political scheme as this Shoemaker thing.

When I think about the machine politicians who try to put over such rotten deals, the ones who care nothing at all for principle but who are interested solely in their greed, I say to myself, which are they, fools or knaves? The answer is found in the story of the two bachelor cronies who had been separated for a number of years. "Tell me, Jack, did you get married, or do you still darn your own socks?" "Yes," answered Jack.

Congress is going home very shortly. Not a few of the boys are feeling worried about meeting their constituents. However, I don't believe many of the Democrats need have a great deal of fear. They have gone along with President Roosevelt in pretty good shape, exercising some healthy independence from time to time, and they can look their constituents squarely in the face with confidence.

If they are criticised in the home districts they say: "Compare our situation now with what it was 16 months ago, on the fourth of March 1933, when President Roosevelt came in. Don't you realize that the country was right on the edge of a complete breakdown? Don't you know that after the President's first radio address, when he had just closed all the banks, that things everywhere looked brighter and better, just like the country fields do when a good rain succeeds a long period of drought? The NRA, on the whole, has done a world of good despite the fact that in numerous instances it has worked cruel hardships. Business of all kinds is better and picking up; prices, even farm prices, are, in many respects and in many commodities better; more people are employed and the federal government has brought relief to the distressed—maybe too much relief in some instances that it has worked hardship on some farmer employers who are compelled to have low priced help; the banks don't fail any more; deposits are insured; the general sale of worthless securities is practically a thing of the past; the insane and disastrous speculation by the Wall Street gamblers is a relic of our barbaric economic past; and above everything else, the leadership of President Roosevelt has inspired hope and courage."

Even though critics can't make reasonable answer in opposition to this appeal, yet my guess is there will be up toward 50 Democratic Congressmen defeated. These members are in districts which are normally and strongly Republican, but which edged over in the Democratic column in 1932 because of the immense swing to Franklin Roosevelt. If 50 Democrats are defeated this will reduce the Democratic majority in the House from 200 to 100.

Over on the Senate side, where one-third of the 96 Senators are elected every two years, the probabilities are the Democrats will increase their present majority of 25. I say this because I look at the group whose terms expire in 1935. I can see 6 or 7 Republicans who will, in my judgment, have a pretty hard time to be re-elected, while there are only 2 Democrats who will have any serious trouble for reelection.

What a reversal this all is in six short years. The Democrats then were in what seemed to be a hopeless minority, they were all split to pieces and the Republicans were riding rough shod over everything. Now the Republicans are pretty nearly down and out.

At their committee meeting in Chicago, this week, they elected an old-time standpatter, Henry P. Fletcher, a Pennsylvania millionaire, as Chairman. He belongs to the same school of thought and to the same group of backward looking partisans who brought this country into its fearful distress. I can't see for the life of me how the voters can think of turning our government back into those old, selfish, greedy hands. Our people may have many justifiable criticisms of the New Deal, but they certainly are bound to prefer it to the "old deal."

I have been looking at the nation

SAYS TAX MAPS SORELY NEEDED

Help to Obtain Complete And Accurate Assessments, Collections

A. R. Barnett States

Few can deny that the present system of general property taxation is little suited to meet present day needs, says A. R. Barnett of the department of agricultural economics at Cornell, who notes that the efforts to bolster that system have only resulted in an accumulation of more problems.

One of the important needs for complete and accurate assessments and tax collection, he says, are accurate tax maps or property maps. These should show the names of the owners, and the dimensions and acreage of all properties.

"Such maps make accurate and scientific assessment of property possible and help to prevent the omission of property from the tax rolls. Few rural towns and counties have such maps. One western New York county and one town in the Hudson Valley are now preparing tax maps as work projects under the temporary emergency relief administration. When completed, the maps will be of permanent value to the county and the towns."

According to Mr. Barnett, a study of tax delinquency in eighteen rural counties in New York state for five years from 1928 to 1932, inclusive, showed an increasing number of delinquents compared to the preceding few years. In 1928, the average amount of unpaid taxes at the time when first due was \$47,800 for each county or about \$3,310 for each town. Each year since 1928 has shown an increase. In 1932, the average amount for each of these counties amounted to \$86,850 or \$6,015 for each town. This represents an increase of eight-two per cent in five years, Mr. Barnett says. In some instances, he notes, towns were able to pay for tax maps in one or two years through taxes not previously levied on the assessment roll.

A mirror helps to brighten a dark corner.

wide poll as given in the Literary Digest. This magazine is having a vote on the question of general approval of the Roosevelt policies. The latest tabulation shows approval of these policies, on the whole, in greater proportion than the vote for Roosevelt in '32. 23 out of 25 states approve of these policies. My estimate is that if the election were held tomorrow President Roosevelt would get 6 or 7 or more votes out of every 10 cast.

And don't think for a minute that the Congress doesn't have confidence in Mr. Roosevelt also. Just this week the House voted to put in his hands, for relief and recovery, funds amounting to between 6 and 7 million dollars. The land slide vote for this was 300 to 46. The bill will pass the Senate too, by a comfortable majority.

I often wonder to myself, when I think about these things, where all the money is going to come from to pay these debts. I am Scotch enough to think that going into debt always institutes a day of settlement. (Except when foreign nations borrow from the United States.)

President Roosevelt goes along with his every day heavy duties with a cheeriness and a freshness and an atmosphere of good health which is amazing. 50 or 75 people or more come in to see him every day. Probably the great majority of them would do him and the country a service by letting him alone.

New York Fruit Crops Very Light

While New York State is one of the most important fruit growing states of the country this season's production of most types of fruit will be light according to a state-federal report just issued from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

No forecast of apple production is made at this early date but with a great many of the Baldwin and Rhode Island Greening trees so damaged by the severe winter that a large number have partially or entirely died, there is no opportunity for even a fair production. From present indications there should be a fair crop of Dutchess, Wealthy and McIntosh but these are all early apples.

Peaches are practically a failure throughout the state with the exception of a small area in the northwestern portion of Niagara county where the temperature did not drop so low as thru the other portions of the state. A condition of two per cent of normal is indicated at this time and forecasts a probable production of about 41,000 bushels compared with 1,092,000 bushels a year ago. Production also promises to be low thru the other late peach growing states. The important southern peach states however, have a good production in prospect as has California in the west. Total production promises at this time to amount to about 48,673,000 bushels compared with 45,326,000 bushels last year.

While pear production promises to be less than a year ago and less than one-half of the five-year average, the pear trees of the state came thru the winter in much better condition than the apples and peaches. From the present condition a state production of about 682,000 bushels is forecast compared with about 900,000 bushels harvested last season and 1,413,000 bushels for the five-year average. Thru the Pacific Coast states—a good production of pears is indicated at this time so that total production for the entire country is expected to amount to about 21,425,000 bushels compared with about 21,192,000 bushels last year.

The grapes of the state have been injured quite severely by the low temperatures during the winter. Many of the vines of the Niagara, Delaware and Catawba varieties were killed and many of the vines of the important Concord variety have been left in a weakened condition so that some of the growth has been slow in starting and some has

failed to start. A condition of 52 per cent of normal is indicated at the present time compared with 82 on June 1st a year ago.

Present indications point to a cherry crop considerably above last season's light crop. While the sweet cherries of the state were considerably injured by the severe winter weather, the sour came thru generally in good condition. From the present condition of 66 per cent of normal compared with 42 a year ago a total production of 18,460 tons is forecast compared with 10,764 tons harvested in 1933. Michigan has prospects for about 22,000 tons compared with about 25,700 tons harvested in 1933.

The loss of vitamins in cooking is less when foods are cooked rapidly at high temperatures than when they are cooked slowly for a long time. Use as little water as possible in cooking, and utilize what is left in soups, broths or gravy.

Substitute whole wheat flour for half of the white flour in biscuits, and get a new flavor as delicious as it is wholesome.

Training Unit Officers

A Home Bureau officers' council meeting was held Thursday at the parish house in Independence for the training of newly elected officers of local units. The program was arranged for instruction in parliamentary procedure, conducting a meeting, duties of officers, etc. A complete program for activities in 1934-35 is being presented, with actual dates. Mrs. Myrtle Guild of Cuba, chairman of the council, was presiding. The Independence unit planned to serve a noon luncheon.

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see

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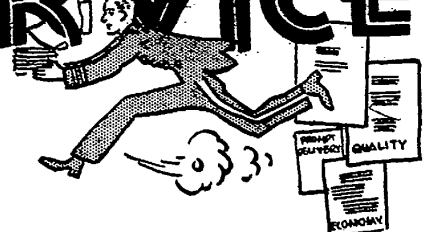
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The Andover News

for Pleasure or Business

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BETWEEN CLEVELAND AND BUFFALO. Season May 10 to Nov. 10. Steamers leave nightly each way at 9 P. M. Eastern time. Fare one way \$3.75; round trip \$6.50; week-end round trip, leaving Friday or Saturday, returning Sunday night, \$3.95. Niagara Falls week-end round trip, \$4.45.

BETWEEN CLEVELAND AND PORT STANLEY, CAN. Season June 30 to September 3. Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays. One way fare \$3.25; round trip \$5.50; week-end round trip \$3.50; Sunday day excursion \$2.00.

CLEVELAND TO CEDAR POINT, PUT-IN-BAY AND DETROIT. Season June 16 to September 3. Day outings to Cedar Point \$1.00; Sundays \$1.25; to Put-In-Bay \$1.25; Sundays \$1.50; to Detroit, daily except Monday and Tuesday, one way \$1.75.

BETWEEN CHICAGO, CLEVELAND AND BUFFALO. Beginning week of July 8 continuing through to week of September 2. All-Expense Seven Day Cruises as low as \$9.00. Six days as low as \$14.50. One way, three or four day cruises proportionately low. Special illustrated cruise folder free.

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