

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FEBRUARY 12 1938

A Great Fight

It is a great issue which is being fought out in the United States, the issue between Privilege and Popular Right, between Wealth and Poverty, between Plutocracy and Democracy. Is America to rule herself as a people, or is she to submit to the domination of Money?

We may illustrate the matter by the case of the great Tennessee Valley Authority, whose wonderful electrical works we have described in the C.N. Eighteen private companies challenge the existence of this public authority on the ground that such public competition is illegal, but so far President Roosevelt has triumphed in this all-important matter. The T.V.A. is a splendid undertaking, and it would be monstrous if the Supreme Court could put it out of action.

How remarkable it is that such a country as America should be in doubt as to whether it has the right to use its own water-power for its own people! The doubt goes to the root of the great issue of Public Right versus Private Monopoly, which is now being contested.

Because so much wealth has accumulated in a few hands in America, its owners have come to think they possess a right to govern, to exercise powers with which Parliament has no right to interfere. It is astonishing to find that there are 61 millionaires in America so rich that they have each a million dollars or more coming in every year.

With such extreme wealth we may contrast the accusing words uttered by Mr Roosevelt last year. After reminding his audience of the wonderful natural wealth possessed by America he went on:

I see tens of millions of its citizens who at this very moment are denied the greater part of what the very lowest standards of today call the necessities of life.

I see millions of families trying to live on incomes so meagre that the pall of disaster hangs over them day by day.

I see millions whose daily lives in city and on farm continue under conditions labelled indecent by a so-called polite society half a century ago.

I see one-third of the nation ill-housed, ill-clad, and ill-nourished.

American politics have become exceedingly interesting, especially as the Congress elections are due at the end of this year. If Mr Roosevelt's majority is then weakened he will lose power to carry on with his programme. Unfortunately, politics in America are as bitter as in France, and we do not know the outcome, but whatever may happen we are confident that in the long run the cause of Privilege will fail and the cause of Right prevail.



THE EDITOR'S TABLE

John Carpenter House, London

above the hidden waters of the ancient River Fleet, the cradle of the Journalism of the world



Our Reformed Navy

MORE comforts, hammocks to fit, and the rest of it—His Majesty's Navy is getting quite spoiled.

The latest news from the sea front is that when in tropical waters naval officers may disport themselves in white shirts and shorts! There may be grumbling below decks, however, for while the officers are to be cooled not a word is said about the men who apparently must continue, whatever the temperature, to wear those marvellous trousers that measure 30 inches or thereabouts round the ankles!

Hands Out of Pockets!

Is there an increase in the bad habit of placing the hands made by Nature into the pockets made by tailors?

Observation seems to show that it is so, and we notice that several recent episodes have directed attention to it.

A lad of 15 working on a roof fell to the ground and was killed. It was stated in evidence that he could probably have saved himself but for the fact that he had his hands in his pockets. A police-constable had to be rebuked by a London magistrate for having his hands in his pockets while in Court. This is what the magistrate said:

As a constable you should know how to conduct yourself. In the first place, take your hands out of your pockets.

It is not a little distressing to see boys, youths, and men in the streets so badly trained that they find it necessary to hide their hands while walking or lounging.

News From Sick Rooms

WE have been looking at an annual report; such things are not so dull as we may imagine. This one is on Clubland, the splendid Temple of Youth in Camberwell.

We read that Percy Tolley made £20 for his club during his long illness; that Mrs de Mouilpied, unable to leave her room, turned it into a Clubland workshop and made £100; and that a dear invalid lady walked to Clubland just before she died with a case full of a whole year's weekly envelope offerings.

Curious

It is good news to know that Chislehurst is not to lose the water tower leading to its common.

What is curious is that the Sidcup council decided to destroy the tower by one vote, and reversed its decision on receiving a protest from a thousand people; but far more curious is this—that, although it was decided to destroy this tower, the owner of the tower received from the authorities *not one single word*.

Even a Dictator, we feel, would have been kinder than that.

Wheat and the World

WE are glad to see Liverpool Corn Trade Association contesting the conception that the world may soon be producing more wheat than it needs.

As its President says, there has never been too much wheat in the sense that the wheat of exporting countries was nowhere in the world required for consumption by men and animals. What has been called "an unwanted surplus" is merely a part of the world tragedy that the goods and services of one country cannot be freely exchanged for those of another.

What a fine human race the world would acquire if a splendid output of food were matched against a satisfied consumption!

Tip-Cat



NEWSPAPER poster: *Under Hollywood's Hat*
A vacuum, no doubt.

THE BBC is to have brighter programmes. Most of the music will be light.

GAS is to be dearer. People will turn it down.

TELEVISION in colour is coming. We shall see red and get the right blues.

THE franc has fallen again. And it is always difficult to raise money.

Peter Puck Wants To Know

If a man of grit gets in the public eye



HOSIERS are having a conference. Will they give each other socks?

WE are all getting the feeling of Spring. Jumpy.

LAST year was the wettest for ages. For all ages.

PRINTED tablecloths are popular in Paris. In some homes newspapers are popular.

THE BROADCASTER

C.N. Calling the World

THE National Gardens Scheme has raised £114,000 for nurses in ten years.

LAST year's new Boy Scouts brought the world membership to 2,855,000.

OVER £7,000,000 has now been raised by Poppy Day.

JUST AN IDEA

We like that saying of Stephen McKenna that some people are born with a determination to get the best out of life, not to cry over spill milk, not to fold their hands and resign themselves; while some people seem to make up their minds to have the worst of everything.

The Unseen Brother

We have received this letter from a rectory in Wales in reference to the story of Maurice Wilson of Everest and his feeling that there was another Presence with him.

I AM chaplain to Glanely Hospital, Cardiff, and hold services in the hall. At one service I noticed that one crawled in who, I thought, ought not to have left his bed, because he looked so ill. I called at his bed afterwards to see if he was all right; and this is what he told me.

He said: You were surprised to see me at that service. Well, I had to come. I was in the battle of Jutland and was thrown into the cold grip of the North Sea for an hour or two. I would have been drowned in no time, but I felt the Presence of a Loving Brother coming into me, who said, *Cheer up; we will get through this*. In time I was picked up.

I have been through two operations since then, and my Divine Brother has come back to me each time and carried me through. I am going through another tomorrow morning, and I lost heart a bit and crawled out to the service to get a little help.

Well (I said), did you get it?

Yes, Padre (he said), it's all right now. He is with me. Goodbye! He is taking me home this time.

I called the next morning to find that he did not regain consciousness after the operation. He was a fine young man in the prime of life. His death is another witness to the promise of Christ to His disciples: I shall be in you.

This Slow Motor Age

IN New York the foreigner soon finds that it is waste of time to take a taxi. As soon as he acquires wisdom on the subject he finds it quicker to take to the Underground.

So in London. Not long ago the Manchester Guardian experimented with the two journeys, Marble Arch to Piccadilly Circus and Charing Cross to St Paul's. Comparison was made between bus, bicycle, and pedestrian. On the first route the order of speed was Bicycle, Pedestrian, Bus. On the second route the order was Bicycle, Bus, Pedestrian, the pedestrian being only five minutes behind the bus.

We can understand, therefore, why last year's bus strike led to a fall in bus earnings when traffic was resumed. Many people had been driven to take to foot and bicycle and so to save their pence, and large numbers continue to do so.

A general point of interest is that speed sometimes defeats itself. The bus was speedy, but so many have been made that they now obstruct each other.

The fact is that the Motor Age has slowed down speed in town.

Be Noble

Be noble; and the nobleness that lies in other men sleeping, but never dead, Will rise in majesty to meet thine own.

James Russell Lowell