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W. HAROLD KINGSLEY, Editor
GROVER C. WHYTE, Business Manager

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JUDGE POST, MAN AND BANKER

IN THE passing of Judge G. W. Post Torrance loses a man whose chief interest was the welfare of the community he helped to build. Affiliated with the late J. S. Torrance in the original work of starting the city of Torrance Judge Post has kept at the work of building that city, kept at it unceasingly and with the respect of all his associates.

As a banker Judge Post was ever fair and liberal—always guarding the interests of the city he loved.

As a man he gave unstintingly of his time and energies to the public welfare. He was pleasant to meet. His acquaintance was cherished by all. His advice was sought by scores who knew that from him they would get honest counsel and frank replies.

By such men as Judge Post cities and empires are built. A notable success as jurist and banker in Nebraska, he came west to crown his past achievement with another series of victories.

Judge Post succeeded because he was frank and because men trusted him implicitly.

The work that he has done here will remain always. And when Torrance arrives in the big city class it will have Judge Post to thank for much of its success.

A city is like a ball of snow rolling down hill. It takes some real energy to get the ball started. Once it moves, however, it proceeds by its own weight and grows as it goes. Judge Post helped start the ball rolling here. As we progress and advance let us not forget the work that this man did.

Torrance has lost a good man, with a great soul and a keen mind.

The entire city and hundreds of old friends in Nebraska and California mourn the loss and share the grief of the bereaved family.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION

POLITICAL wiseacres size up the coming presidential campaign, as it affects Warren G. Harding, in this way:

"Harding is a 'dry.' As such he has already lost New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Illinois. He cannot win the South. Ohio and Indiana are now, as always, in the doubtful column. To be elected Harding must win and carry the west. His managers know this. That is why the President is out here now."

Forgetting for a moment the "wet" and "dry" issue, one must admit after looking facts in the face, that the political wise ones are right.

Yet we cannot assail the President for coming west. Nothing broadens the American viewpoint like travel in America. If the President's mission is primarily political, where is the sense of argument against it? This government is a great experiment in popular democracy, under which presidents are elected by vote of the people. If the President sees fit to talk to the people and to let the people judge him at first hand, then the people, who must do the popular choosing, should not object.

We Americans have a penchant for bringing self-respecting words into disrepute by twisting their original meaning. We have done this with the word "politics." Really in its first sense politics is the science of government. Yet we have so twisted its meaning that now to brand any move as "political" is tantamount to labeling it "perfidy." The President's trip most certainly is political. What he sees and does has an important bearing upon the present and future operation of our government. Probably he hopes to glean a few votes, too. He may even hope to "win the west and hold it."

But what if he does? The west is not populated by dunces. The President will browbeat none of us into voting for him. Our choice rests with ourselves. He may win some of us and lose some of us. In any event his trip is perfectly justified—and it would be equally justified if he sought nothing at all but votes. For as long as votes are needed to win men will seek votes—even Presidents. And if it is wrong to seek votes, do not blame the seeker, but the system of popular elections that makes vote-seeking necessary.

Harding, Ford, Underwood, McAdoo, Cox, Johnson, Beveridge—any or all of them, have as aspirants to the next presidency, a perfect right to campaign openly for support.

So whether one is pro-Harding or anti-Harding he should not attack the President for coming west.

For our part, we hope every candidate heads this way. We'd like to hear them all

LOOKING AHEAD A BIT

SECRETARY HARRY GADEKY of the Chamber of Commerce is responsible for the act of reviving the Western avenue paving project. He appreciates its great importance to the entire Torrance district. When

the mountains-to-the-sea traffic to be counted by hundreds of cars a day begins to roll this way, we all will pat ourselves on the back—even the obstructionists and say "I was for it all the time."

DREAMS ON THE BEACH

SITTING on the beach, watching the white-combed breakers roll in from China, one may think of many interesting things.

A gull sails by and higher up an aeroplane. Natural and artificial flying. The best man can do is imitate nature or make nature do his work for him. It is marvelous that he has imitated the gull and made a successful aeroplane. What wonders may we not expect?

And those breakers. What a giant energy is expended as each one crashes into foam along the sand. Some day man will put that power to his use. He will hitch up the horses of the sea and make them haul his loads and turn his wheels and light his lamps at night.

There will be no worry about a coal shortage when man turns the energy of the sea to his uses—when he harnesses the tides. Do you think it can't be done? See the gull and the aeroplane.

Man has but fumbled at possibilities. The brave little biped will do still greater things. The tide is heat and power and light.

Our descendants will move about in vehicles run by electric power taken from the sea.

The roar of the breakers some day will be echoed in the wheels of great industries not yet dreamed.

But here—I am thinking editorials on Sunday and I said I wouldn't work today.

WHO LOSES IN THE END?

GERMANY owes France money. She cannot pay her bill. So France takes what security is available. The Ruhr happens to be both available and good security. So France occupies the Ruhr. Why all the hullabaloo? Germany, beaten on the field of battle, agreed to pay. True, she could do nothing else. But that is the fortune of war, the misfortune of defeat. France paid her indemnity in 1871. Had she lost the late war, she would have been expected and made to pay. But she won—with help. Now it is Germany's turn to pay and France intends to make her do so.

This is not an argument over "who started the war." History alone can tell that. We are simply trying to put the tangled European mess into understandable terms.

Germany lost. She agreed to pay. The agreement was like a note. Germany now says she cannot make the payments. France forecloses. That's all there is to it, confuse it as you may.

Who is Germany? The German people. It is they who will pay. Certainly they did not start the war.

Who is France? The French people. If Germany does not pay, they must. Certainly they did not start the war.

The people never start wars. But they always pay—in blood and bone and gold. In the end they pay.

So the pitiful part about the occupation of the Ruhr is that it sows the seed of another war, for which some people some day will pay—in blood and bone and gold.

There is the tragedy. But the French are not demi-gods. They refuse to suffer that future generations may be safe from war.

Would any other people? The occupation of the Ruhr is a business proposition. Business is hard. There is little of the milk of human kindness in it.

Business is economics. So is war. The underlying causes of the world war were economic. So is the occupation of the Ruhr. It is international business.

Until men get better there will be little consideration for the other fellow in business and less in war.

So the poor, stumbling, blind mortal souls that go to make up the nations of the earth will go on paying—in blood and bone and gold.

But don't blame the French people. Nor the German people. Blame the imperfections of human nature which are shared by all the peoples of the earth.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

IF YOU were to be transported to an island, abundant with food but to be inhabited by none but yourself and if you knew you would spend the rest of your days on that island, and if you were allowed to take with you just one article you now possess, what would you take?

Put that question in your head for a while, if you want to know what is your most valuable possession.

And if you can decide, write us a letter and tell us your decision and your reasons for arriving at it.

What would you take? Come on folks. What's your answer?

LET YOUR BODY BREATHE

MEN and women forget restraint when they go to the beach. Their bodies are free from the weight of heavy clothes. They play like children. Sunshine, salt-water and fresh air. Give them to your body. Go to the beaches often. Wear as little as the law allows. Let your body breathe. Let the sun take the kinks out of your back. A day in the sun and open air is worth more than a carload of medicine. And it's a heap cheaper.

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