

THE DAILY MAIL

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1934

SLANG

A Pittsburgh pastor advances the theory that the current slang phrases reflect with significance the national attitude of the moment. "As its slang goes, so goes the nation," is the aphorism in which he costumes this idea.

He recalls, for example, that "23-skiddoo" was current during the Theodore Roosevelt administration and explains that this reflected a devil-may-care attitude popular in those times. The "apple-sauce" of the idealistic Wilson administration similarly expressed the undercurrent of cynicism soon to be manifested in the rejection of Wilson and all his works, while "Ish ka bibble" became the watchword of the post-war boom period, when nobody, so the legend goes, had anything to worry about anyway.

And so, says the Pittsburgh pastor, it is only natural that the slang phrase of our day should be "for crying out loud". For that, he says, is exactly what everybody has been doing for the last three years.

We do not question the accuracy of the pastor's short history of slang, but before accepting his theory, even provisionally, we would want him to bring it up to date. Indeed, if he had thought of it, he might have found further corroboration of his idea in the fact that "for crying out loud" long ago was superseded as the fashionable slang phrase of the present era.

It was superseded by the jauntily, if tentatively, optimistic interrogatory, "How'm I doin'?", which may or may not be a development of historical importance.

One meets some very fine Americans from "America," as they like to call it. But one is often surprised and disgusted at the abundance of slang used by the best of them. A nice man is called "a swell guy", a nice girl is "some jane" and so on. Perhaps this is a new "American" language which they are trying to "put over" as they would say. Our Canadian boys and girls have copied many of these slang phrases, and it does not add to their dignity to be able to talk slang instead of good old Anglo-Saxon.

"I'M ENTITLED TO MY OPINION"

Before us is a complete transcript of President Hopkins' address at the opening of the Dartmouth year. If any part is better than any of the excellent rest, it is that which says:

"Upon higher education in general the responsibility rests first of all for increasing and refining intelligence. Otherwise democracy will destroy civilization by elevating to power the unfit and destroying the influence and the potentiality for accomplishment of the fit."

Fervently do we endorse those words.

Is this an attitude of the snob? Not at all. First, President Hopkins is a relentless foe of snobbery, and so, we hope, are we. It is the attitude of a scholar who differentiates between education and intelligence—who would intelligently educate.

Nor does the responsibility rest solely upon higher educational institutions, but upon public and private primary, elementary and high schools as well.

There was a day when "education" was not so widespread. It was a day in which the wholesome virtues were considerably the fashion. "Educators" said that if they were given, say, 27 cents of the tax dollar, they would produce good citizens. Have they done so? And if not, are they to blame?

Too many of us are "educated" and too few of us intelligent. We emerge from the system with an ability to read, but not necessarily to choose wisely; with a slight ability to write and a knowledge of mathematics that enables us to keep from being short-changed sometimes.

We know how to read but perhaps have not been trained to discriminate. We lack taste, so we gravitate to cheap, emotional entertainment of other sorts.

Into our hands is placed a ballot, and we cast it.

Thus do we rule ourselves. And do

we vote for candidates? Occasionally.

Frequently we vote against candidates. Are educators to blame? It would be unfair to say so, yet untrue to say they are not. The child's home background must accept part of the blame. Economic hazards cause situations outside school control.

So what is to be done? To be done is the task of frankly telling pupils that they are not educated, that they do not know it all, that they have no right to an opinion, unless that opinion is based upon knowledge of the facts. Make that a compulsory course in every school, every grade.

And impress it upon editorial writers, as well.

SNAPSHOTS

To be good is often uncomfortable and to be bad more so.

Desire for leadership is a virus. One gets the first shot of it early in life.

There is a serious ending to most pursuit of pleasure. It is called "experience."

Somebody there is that will listen to your conversation even in a poorhouse.

There are so many details in every business that a man seldom masters more than those in one.

An Eastern judge decided that no pickered ever shrank an inch after it was caught. The court has been listening to fishermen.

A fork more than seven inches long was removed from the stomach of a Canadian girl, as her people were anxious not to break the set.

Well worn, as the plots of many movies are, they are not as threadbare as the old melodramas used to be.

The Princess Marina's wedding will be done up in style befitting royalty. They say the cake will weigh 500 pounds, even before eating.

DOUMERGUE HOLDS FAVOR OF THE VOTERS

Paris, Oct. 16—Final tabulations in the cantonal elections published by the Ministry of Interior bore out the trend of a week ago, showing the French nation squarely behind the Doumergue Government in its battle against the united Socialist and Communist front.

But Premier Doumergue's home district of Touraine turned its back on the Premier and voted for a Socialist and Communist.

The first ballot of a week ago on the 1518 seats at issue provided a signal victory for the Government. Yesterday's balloting on 317 seats which had not received a sufficient majority last week, brought only a few slight changes which did not affect the main set-up.

TO TAKE MOTION SHOTS OF GAME

Moncton, N.B., Oct. 16—Enroute to Newfoundland where they will hunt Caribou, Dr. Leo Cote and Mrs. Cote of Newburgh, N.Y., passed through Moncton this afternoon over the C.N.R. bound for North Sydney, N.S., where they will take the Newfoundland government steamship for Port Aux Basques, Nfld. They also intend to take motion pictures of Caribou.

Dr. Cote along with Mrs. Cote have hunted moose in northern Quebec and were successful in getting a forty-six inch head.

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RESCUES SISTER IN BURNING FLAT

Andrew Chisholm Cuts Hands Severely in Breaking Windows

Saint John Oct. 16—Smashing the glass in a window with his hands to let in fresh air for his sister, Mary, who fainted when their flat at 288 Prince Edward street caught fire about 9 a.m. Monday, Andrew Chisholm was badly cut on both hands and was taken to the General Hospital for treatment. Permanent firemen from No. 1 Hook and Ladder Company rescued the pair from the flat by ladders, dense smoke having cut off their escape by the stairs.

Chisholm and his sister were boiling tar on the kitchen stove when the black substance boiled over, setting fire to the woodwork in the kitchen. The flames spread rapidly and dense smoke filled the flat, on the third floor of the building.

Someone on the street saw the smoke and rung in an alarm from box 16. Chisholm had carried his sister from the front room and a ladder was raised from the sidewalk. Although bleeding profusely from his cuts, Chisholm had revived his sister and she was led down the ladder by firemen. Others assisted the brother down.

Chisholm was placed in the Salvage Corps truck and was taken to the hospital by Police Constable McElhinney. He remained in the outpatient department for more than two hours. Many stitches were taken to close wounds in both hands.

Dense smoke and terrific heat made it difficult for firemen upon their arrival. Several streams of water and chemical kept the flames confined to the one flat, chiefly to the kitchen and diningroom. The heat was so intense that a coffepot and a glass tumbler was melted almost completely.

The rear of the other two flats, occupied by William Stafford and Mrs. John McCluskey, were damaged by water.

SINGAPORE IS SEEN SECOND GIBRALTAR

Completion of Fortifications to Make Base Impregnable

Singapore, Oct. 16—Singapore and the British naval base at Seletar assume a new importance with the reopening of the naval talks in London this week.

This base was the subject of comment by Baron Wakatsuki, Japan's former Foreign Minister, when he said at the end of the London conference in 1930: "I don't like to see Britain arming against Japan".

Britain's new Gibraltar of the Orient may be vulnerable now—While construction is going on—but once completed Admiralty and Army authorities say Singapore will be as impregnable as the historic rock at the gateway of the Mediterranean.

Lying midway between China and India, Singapore has a strategic position on the great trading route to the Far East, also to the southeast lies Australia and New Zealand.

Naval activity at Seletar has rapidly transformed a stretch of swamp, over which the mosquito used to drone peacefully, to a partially completed modern dockyard.

Meanwhile, British military authorities are spending an additional \$7,500,000 on fortifications and the Royal Air Force base is growing up rapidly alongside the naval base.

Japan may view with alarm what Britain is doing at Singapore, but nobody in Singapore grumbles, for soldiers, sailors and airmen are good spenders. Hotels and boarding houses are full of officers. Rents are going up.

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MANILA TYPHOON HITS SHIPPING

Many Vessels Ashore But No Loss of Life Is Reported.

Hong Kong, China, Oct. 16—A wireless despatch from the steamer President Johnson at Manila stated that the worst typhoon since 1905 had devastated the city.

The message stated that seven ships including four liners were driven ashore and that Manila was isolated. The typhoon struck with only the briefest warning at 1 A. M., today.

Messages from the President Johnson said the damage was extensive, and that there was a possibility of loss of life.

Manila's main street, the Escolta, was reported to have been submerged by three feet of water.

Manila, Oct. 16—Heavy damage to property and shipping was caused by a typhoon which struck Manila early today. No loss of life was reported immediately.

Four ships were driven ashore by the raging storm. Tramways, telephone and light service were put out of commission and throughout the neighboring countryside there were reports of widespread damage.

Typhoons have caused hundreds of deaths and laid waste extensive areas in the past years in the Philippine Islands.

One of the most severe swept across the southern Philippine town of Jolo April 29, 1932, and the Red Cross reported 150 persons were killed and about 30,000 made homeless and destitute.

Miners Threaten Suicide En Masse

(Continued from page 1)
Funkirchen, Hungary, Oct. 15—Eighteen hundred and fifty hunger-striking miners, determined on mass suicide, held themselves in the depths of the Pecz mine today while their women pleaded with troops at the pithead to be allowed to descend and die with them.

The miners, demanding higher wages, threatened to cut off the ventilating fans and asphyxiate themselves, or stop the pumps and drown. Fifty of them were already reported seriously ill in the depths. Forty-five had been brought up, ill from gas fumes.

TO LAKEVILLE CORNER

The Devon Quartet and the Ladies Devon quartet, are leaving this evening for Lakeville Corner where they will put on a special musical entertainment. Miss Mary Grannen as reader, and Mrs. Allen Sewell, as accompanist, will assist in the program.

Harvest Supper St. Anthony's Congregation, Devon.

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Historical Society

The regular monthly meeting of the York-Sunbury Historical Society will be held at the rooms in the Post Office Building on Wednesday Evening Oct. 17 at 8 o'clock. Subject "History of Stanley" by Mrs. Arthur Pringle.

Public invited. All members requested to attend.
G. T. NUGENT,
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News—Comedy

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AIRWAY IS DENIED RIGHT TO APPEAL

Washington, Oct. 16—Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., today was refused Supreme Court consideration of its appeal attacking Postmaster-General James A. Fairley's cancellation of air mail contracts.

The company appealed from the southern district of New York Federal Court ruling which refused to enjoin the cancellation order.

Classified Ads.

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