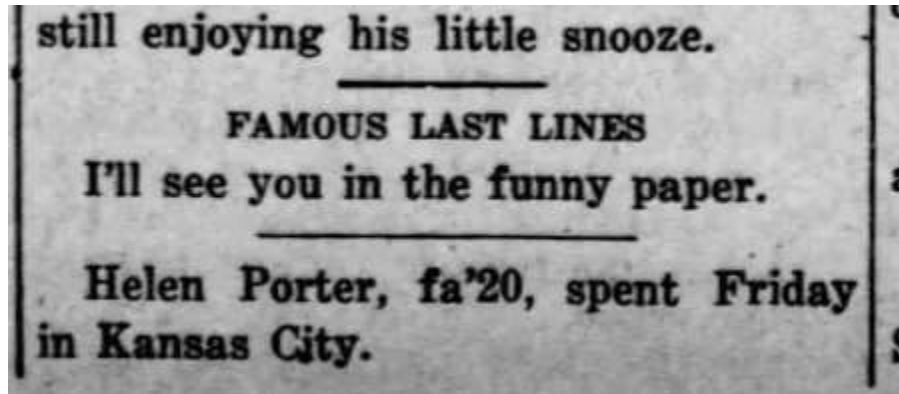


PAPER CLICHÉ



Thick as molasses,
like ugly on ape,
they cling to your britches,
no room to escape.

It's just a drop in the bucket
when you drop me a dime
but I rather you didn't
you're wasting my time.

Not worth repeating?
Then talk to the hand
then repeat after me:
they're the worst in the land.

More words without meaning:
so, um, especially, you know, RIGHT?
They stick in my craw
they get me uptight.

"See you in the funny papers?"
You know what I mean?
I'm so sick and tired
of making this scene.

But when push comes to shove,
and you're stuck in the clutch,
just paper it over
with another word crutch.

PAPER CLICHÉ

.....
April 14, 2023
(TG its Friday)

DAY 14 PROMPT: Write a poem using an idiom, or cliché, as a jumping off point. You don't need to use the idiom directly in the poem. If you can't think of an idiom, there are three suggestions below, and if they aren't helpful, this [website](#) should be.

“Don't count your chickens before they hatch”

“In a Pinch”

“Can't judge a book by its cover”

Prompter's note: Cliche language in poetry can really be distracting, yet there are very few ways one can get away from it entirely. I think a good way to offset cliché language is to focus on specifics, like sensory details, and that can also help elevate the poem as a whole

CREDITS: [Clipping](#) from the April 18, 1919 edition of the University Daily Kansan (University of Kansas).

ABOUT 30 in 30: April is National Poetry Month. Poets participating in “30 in 30” strive to write at least one poem each day. The prompts for this series were provided by Ella Peary and Emily Harstone, hosts of a 2023 poetry workshop sponsored by *Authors Publish*.