

The Indianapolis Times

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Envy not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.—Proverbs
3:31.

First 100 Years Hardest

IT'S a hard war to settle. For about five years the most acrimonious dispute raged 'round the world over who started the Great War.

For the next two years an even more heated arguments was kept up over who won the war.

Now it's something else again. They're fussing over who stopped the war.

The French and British are insisting America did it, and America just as vociferously blames it on France and England.

Rudyard Kipling, who has written no Page One stuff in so long his name is but a memory, barges back into the limelight for a moment to say some nasty things about America and charge this country with having brought about the armistice.

Secretary of War Weeks won't have it.

"All the evidence," he says rather warmly, "on the subject of ending the war indicated that the British and French leaders were responsible for the armistice and it was entered into over the protest of the responsible American military and civil representatives in France."

That ought to clear the fair name of America once and for all from the terrible disgrace of having deliberately put an end to that lovely war.

Scientific Crime

THE latest tools of criminals are displayed in New York at the international conference of police.

Detectives seem most interested in apparatus used by "rope workers." With the skill of "human flies," this breed of crooks get on a roof and climb down as many as fourteen stories to commit robbery, using only their muscles and a clothesline.

Burglars now have a fad of carrying their tools in violin and banjo cases.

Electricity is being used widely by yeggmen. Hooking to a light socket, they go through a safe door with electric drills. In blowing a safe, they even use an electric fuse-expander.

Detective Boylan says the yeggmen never have been able to perfect the use of acetylene torches for burning through steel vaults.

All around, the "scientific" tools of crime are disappointing to the curious. In the main they are crude, about the same as a decade ago, with nothing startling as in "master mind" detective fiction.

Each professional criminal, the convened police say, has a characteristic style of work peculiar to himself.

For instance, if a window is broken noiselessly by plastering flypaper on it to prevent the crash of falling glass, the police know instantly that the crook is one of a score or so who specialize in this method.

Further elimination is easy, for certain crooks work only on Saturday nights, at certain hours or only during storms.

Cocaine is the chief tool of the New York crook, says Detective Frank Quigley. He explains:

"Anybody that goes crooked begins taking it to steady his nerves. If a man shows a yellow streak, his pals make him take a big snuff of cocaine before they will go out on a job with him. I don't believe a loft burglary or any other dangerous crime has been pulled off in New York for years except after they have doped themselves to keep their nerves."

Crime and the drug traffic go hand-in-hand. To attack crime at its roots and paralyze its growth, stop drug traffic. That is the way, and police know it, but it's easier said than done. The job, however, is not impossible.

Post-Mortem Over Maine

TWENTY-THREE per cent of those who voted the Republican ticket in Maine in 1920 stayed away from the polls in the recent State election. The Democratic State ticket got 6 per cent more votes than it did in 1920.

The Democrats explain this by saying Maine Republicans are too "hidebound" to go over to the Democrats in any considerable numbers, so they showed their displeasure with their own party management by going "fishing" on election day.

But what the Old Guard is concerned over is this:

If the Maine percentage of election-day stay-at-homes—23 per cent—holds good for the rest of the country next November, and the Democrats make the Maine gain of 6 per cent over their 1920 vote, the landslide pluralities of the Republicans in 1920 will be wiped out in the following States: Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah and West Virginia.

The latest pre-election "dope" sheet of the Republican national committee shows the loss of sixty-two Republican seats in the House. This would give the Republicans a membership of 237 as against 299 at present, leaving them in control of the House by 38 votes.

Another bugaboo: The Old Guard sees a possibility of a balance of party power in the Senate passing over to the Johnson-La Follette-Borah crowd of progressives.

The defeat of Townsend in Michigan next November would make La Follette ranking member of the important Interstate Commerce Committee, and Sterling of South Dakota chairman of the Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads. The defeat of Lodge in Massachusetts would make Borah chairman of the vitally important Foreign Relations Committee.

The chairmanship of the all-important Finance Committee would be almost within La Follette's grasp, only Smoot of Utah standing in his way, and Smoot is liable to become head of the Mormon Church within the next few years and retire.

Yes, the Old Guard is considerably worried.

BOOKS

The Business Branch of the Indianapolis Public Library, Ohio and Meridian Sts.

Learn a Word Each Day

Today's word is—PORTE.

It's pronounced—port.

It means—the government of the Turkish, or Ottoman, empire, called officially and in full "the Sublime Porte," from the name of the sultan's palace gate at which justice was administered anciently.

It comes from—French "porte," gate or door.

It's used like this—"Although Kemal Pasha's successes against the Greeks are favorable to Turkish arms, they are not necessarily favorable to the Sublime Porte, since the Kemalists' ambitions are of a nature which the porte may not find it convenient to gratify."

MEDICINES LOWER IN COST BECAUSE OF LICENSE PLAN

Chemical Foundation Saves American Consumers Large Sums.

QUESTION OF OBLIGATIONS

United States Held to Have Violated International Code in Seizure.

By SIDNEY E. WHIPPLE, Times Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Backed

by those who claim the 4,700 German

patents and formulas seized by the

United States during the war were

to all intents and purposes "stolen"

from their rightful owners, President

Harding, through Attorney General

Daugherty, now seeks to force the

"holding company," the Chemical

Foundation, to return them to the

United States.

Francis P. Garvan, president of the

foundation serving without pay,

claims the Government is playing

right into the hands of the former

German cartel, or monopoly.

Fraction of Their Value

Garvan's opponents claim the \$250,000 paid for the 4,700 German patents

was but a fraction of what they were

worth. They claim the United States

violated its international obligations.

The foundation claims the United

States had a perfect right to seize the

patents and the price at which they

were sold had nothing to do with it;

That what was wanted was to prevent

swapping a German monopoly for an

American one; to encourage American

industry and prevent either Germans

or Americans levying tribute on the

American people to the tune of millions

of wage earners.

Meanwhile it is admitted the founda

tion has permitted competition;

that American chemists operating

under licenses granted by the founda

tion, have materially reduced prices

for many medicines made under Ger

man formulas.

Salvarsan, cure for blood poison,

used to sell for \$3 per ampule. It

is now sold for seventy-five cents to

the public, and twenty-eight cents to

the Government.

Veronal used to sell for \$3 for 100

five-grain tablets. Now it sells for

50 cents.

Novocain is a perfect anesthetic.

Your dentist, if he is progressive,

uses it when he is working close to

the nerves of your teeth. Novocain

used to cost 2½ cents a dose. Now it

is about 1 cent.

Aspirin used to sell for \$8 a pound

in the United States. It sells today at

between 75 cents and \$1.

The average price of American dyes

is about three cents a pound.

Imported dyes now cost \$1.22 a pound.

Daugherty says his interest in the

matter forced the foundation to

yield up the patents. Congress, then,

he declares, can do with them what

it pleases.

THE REFEREE

By ALBERT APPLE, Wood-Alcohol

Wayne Wheeler, head

palibearer for John Barleycorn,

says 35,000,000 gallons of wood-alcohol

a year are used in

American manufacturing.

It is the only deadly poison easily

obtained.

APPELLE.—Wheeler, rating to

the Chemical Exposition in New York City, urges wood-alcohol makers

to put "Poison" labels, with

skull-and-cross-bones, on every

container of this liquid death.

More effective—and it will be

to come in time—would be to make the

sale of wood-alcohol in beverages pun

ishable by imprisonment at hard la

bor for at least twenty years. The

bootlegger who serves wood alcohol

commits premeditated murder.

BUNK.—Hindenburg, in a letter white-washing

the ex-Kaiser's flight to Holland,

refers to Bill as "Most Exalted, All

Mightiest Kaiser, Most Gracious Kai

ser, King and Lord."

This should appeal to any one with

a sense of humor.

Fortunately, such adulmentation comes

only from the extreme royalists, and

then only occasionally. What the

German radicals think of Bill is

probably unprintable. Luckily, the

radicals have the balance of power.

There may be another monarch sched

uled for Germany, but it will not be

William Hohenzollern. He is through

Stock market continues climbing;

Bull markets usually, but not always,

last twenty months. This one has

been going up since June, 1921. That

is what lures shoestring investors.

They will be unloaded, wiped out,

when the market gets high enough.

Then the big fellows will buy in

cheaply.