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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

A Weak Spot

No inquiry into the theft of automobiles in other States and their sale in this will be complete unless it reveals the manner, method and means by which titles to stolen cars were obtainable in this State.

The Federal Court has returned many indictments. The people should remember that not only does the law presume every one innocent until proved guilty, but every sense of fairness will indicate that judgment be withheld until a jury has the same evidence which was given to grand jurors.

It should also be remembered that men who have built up reputations and standings in the community by honesty and integrity are not likely to become criminals over night.

One of the self evident facts of the situation is that there would be no sale of stolen cars unless it were possible for the vendor to furnish State certificate of ownership.

The object of such certificate is not the collection of a license fee for building roads, but to protect the owners of cars against thievery.

Citizens who purchase cars have every right, when the State recognizes the title by issuing a certificate, to believe that the car is the property of the vendor.

That is not only protection for the purchaser. It is also a protection for the citizen who may desire to sell his automobile.

The law in this State is considered one of the best in the Nation. A certificate, issued under it, commands respect in other States and until very recently was considered as good as a guarantee.

Now it appears that very many cars were stolen in other States and that when they appeared on the streets here they bore a certificate of title in this State.

Before the inquiry ends, the public should know whether the laws needs changing or the trouble comes from the manner in which it has been administered.

A certificate of title ought to be just that. Any one who purchases a car certified by the State ought to be able to feel as secure in his rights as he does when he enters the corner grocery and buys a sack of flour.

Smith on Immigration

Smith prides himself on campaign frankness. But his St. Paul speech last night was evasive on the very important problem of immigration.

"There is no issue between either the parties or the candidates on the question of sustaining and keeping in full force and effective the restrictive features of the present immigration law," he said. "Where they are to be amended for the relief of hardship we are in accord."

The present immigration issue in this country is whether the 1890 census shall continue to be used as a quota basis, which in effect favors north Europeans rather than south Europeans, favored by the old law using the 1910 census basis.

This newspaper consistently has advocated retention of the 1890 census base of the present law. We think this country is better able to absorb north European immigrants at this time. That is Hoover's position. In his acceptance speech he said:

"The basis now in effect carries out the essential principle of the law and I favor repeal of that part of the act calling for a new basis of quotas."

But Smith in his acceptance speech said:

"I am opposed to the principle of restriction based upon the figures of immigrant population contained in a census thirty-eight years old."

Unless Smith has reversed his position, he is mistaken in his St. Paul statement that there is no immigration issue between the candidates. There is.

And, in our judgment, Smith is on the wrong side of that issue.

Not a Job for Science

Having discovered how to make an egg hatch a pullet rather than a rooster, science—the great God of the Present—no doubt will come along soon with a way to determine—and predestination—the sex of babies.

We wish science wouldn't. It is all very well to accentuate the sex of egg-laying birds. There is money in pullets, and roosters are not even so good for tourists' dinners. But ordering babies by sex would be quite another thing.

We have all known, of course, of the egocentric father who will not be satisfied with anything but a boy. A son and heir—a he-man just as big and strong and wise as he is; one to perpetuate the family name and inherit the debts.

And we know how discounted is the poor mother who does not happen to produce a son when wanted. Dear, dear! One girl! after another. And father the butt of jokes at the club. The girls may be athletic, or have a flair for business and get away with it. But they are not boys. The degradation of not being a boy!

With the aid of the new science, father could be pleased and mother saved the blame.

But aside from that, what of it? When kings were more important than presidents, it was regarded as desirable that a prince be born rather than a princess, to carry on the family business of kinging. A daughter could be sold to a foreign king, but she otherwise was only in the way.

Napoleon, of course, would have x-rayed all little girls into boys, so they could be put into his armies. Likewise the Bismarcks and Kaisers. But we know now that girls can bring aid and comfort to the boys in the trenches quite as useful as that brought by some men.

And what disputes there would be in families. Suppose mother was tired of boys with dirty boots tracking up the kitchen floor and wanted a girl. And suppose father had the masculine megalomania

A nice time they would have deciding the sex of the infant.

On the whole, it would seem to us just as well for science to lay off this subject, and let nature take its course.

Russia and Our Next President

Weared and discouraged by ten years of futile effort to lift herself by her own bootstraps, Soviet Russia appears today on the eve of another revolutionary shift of policy.

The reason is the need for manufactured goods which can be sold to the Russian peasants at reasonable prices. Russia can't manufacture these goods in anything like the quantity necessary and foreign industrialists are afraid to take the risk of building large plants in the Soviet Union.

At the present the only alternative is to buy the goods abroad. But even that is difficult, because Russia's export trade is too small to provide the necessary foreign exchange to pay the bill. Continued purchases abroad, year in and year out, would wreck the Russian ruble.

What, then, is to be done? The answer made to this question by the Moscow government, according to reports reaching this country, is to offer the necessary inducements to make it worth while for foreign industrialists to enter the Russian field.

Agriculture always has been, and for a long time must remain, the backbone of Russian economics. Farm products, grain, mostly, have been Russia's chief exports. At present, however, her export trade is in a bad way, put there by the attitude of the peasants, who compose more than 80 per cent of the population.

There is about as much wheat, for example, produced in Russia today as there was before the war. But the amount of wheat available for export is fifteen or twenty times less. All sorts of excuses have been advanced for this state of affairs, but the real reason is that the peasants object to selling their grain to the towns when the towns are empty of goods which the peasants must have. Money is no good if you can't buy what you need with it.

The position of the peasants is very human. They work hard all year raising a bumper crop. At harvest time they haul their surplus to town and sell it. Then, with money in their pockets, they enter a store and call for plows, tools, clothes, pots, pans, medicine, furniture and whatnot, only to be told by the merchant that he has none in stock. Or, if he has a limited supply, that the prices are prohibitive.

Disgusted, the mujik returns home, determined not to raise such a big surplus next year, else keeps his surplus himself. At least he can make samogon, Russian moonshine, out of it, which many of the peasants are doing.

All manner of tricks have been tried to make the farmer cooperate and all have been in vain. There have been searches and seizures of stored grain with lines, super-taxes and confiscation of property.

Russia, not being an industrial country, can not produce the goods within its own borders. So she must do two things. First, she must buy all the goods abroad that her credit will permit, without disturbing the value of the ruble, and, second, allow foreign investors to enter the Russian field on a basis satisfactory to such investors.

Russia is said to be particularly desirous of interesting American business men. She wants and needs American capital and American industry.

Thus, while it is unlikely any steps will be taken in that direction pending the American elections, as soon as a new President has been named, Moscow likely will make another bid for some sort of recognition by this country.

Helen Wills says she improved her tennis by playing against men. It doesn't seem to work out that way in bridge, however.

—David Dietz on Science

Letters Were Valuable

No. 167

PATHOLOGY—the science of what happens to the organs and parts of the human body during disease—had its beginnings in a series of letters written by an 80-year-old man.

His name was Giovanni Battista Morgagni.

Morgagni was born in Forlì, Italy, Feb. 25, 1682.

At the age of 16 he entered the University of Bologna to study philosophy and medicine. He graduated three years later with honors. Shortly after

graduation he was made an anatomical demonstrator.

He seems to have been unusually brilliant for at the age of 24 he was elected president of the local academy.

In 1712 he went to the University of Padua to become professor of the medical school. Three years later he became professor of anatomy, thus succeeding to the post which had been held by many famous men, among them Vesalius, Fallopius and Fabricius, whose acquaintance readers have made in these articles.

In 1717 he turned his attention to the changes which took place in the organs of the body as the result of disease.

Very little work of any value had been done in this field. There was one fairly important publication, Bonet's "Scripulum," but it was full of errors.

Morgagni, however, did no writing upon this particular phase of the subject until he was 80.

At that time he was fond of discussing medical matters with a young friend.

At the friend's request, Morgagni wrote a series of letters to him. The friend encouraged him to continue these letters until they numbered 70.

Then the friend urged him to publish them as a book.

The result was the book entitled "De Sedibus," in which Morgagni set forth his many years of observations on the anatomical changes which take place during disease.

The book made pathology a science.

Morgagni was a lovable and splendid character from every point of view. Sprengel wrote of him: "It is hard to say whether one should admire his rare dexterity and quickness in dissection, his unimpeachable love of truth and justice in his estimation of the work of others, his extensive scholarship and rich classical style or his downright common sense and manly speech."

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M. E.

TRACY

SAYS:

"It Will Be Startling to Most Folks to Learn That Canada Is Our Best Customer, Her Trade Exceeding England's by \$100,000,000 This Year."

THE Radio Corporation of America asks for the privilege of establishing domestic service in thirty-two cities of this country. It claims that it has been unable to make satisfactory arrangements with telegraph companies for the transmission of the 10,000 radiograms it handles daily over the Atlantic and the 2,000 it handles over the Pacific. It claims further that such a service would bring about a reduction in domestic telephone rates.

Whatever one may think of these claims, the Radio Corporation's move is significant. For one thing, it suggests that the future holds more for wireless than the transmission of jazz, concerts, stump speeches and other forms of audible entertainment.

To be sure, messages have been passed north and south across the ocean for several years, warships have communicated with each other and vessels in distress have sent out calls for help. This aspect of radio, however, has been overshadowed by the noise of 'steen million parlor sets. The general public still regards radio as something to be turned on when one can not think of anything else to do.

Inventions for Play

One of the strangest features of this age is that so many devices should be introduced and perfected as play things. The old adage that "necessity is the mother of invention" seems to have become obsolete.

We learned to drive pleasure cars before the truck came into its own. Aviation is still in the "stunt" stage. The motion picture continues to hold our attention as a medium of amusement. Like radio, all of them are drifting toward more serious uses.

Some day, the bulk of our gasoline will go to commerce. Some day, we will fly, not for the mere sake of getting up in the air but to reach a definite goal. Some day, the movie will appeal to us because of the accuracy with which it records the habits and customs of past generations. Some day, the radio will be employed largely as a means of communication.

Stunts Hurt Flying

During the first eight months of this year, German air lines covered more than 5,000,000 miles and carried more than 100,000 passengers, not to mention 750 tons of freight, 750 tons of baggage and an equal amount of newspapers and mail matter.

In spite of all this heavy traffic, there were but two fatal accidents, which shows what can be done when men settle down to business.

Stunt and demonstration flying continue to take a ghastly toll. That hurts aviation more than anything else. The splendid records established by mail and commercial lines get scant publicity compared to the tragedies which occur in the field of experiment and adventure.

If an aviator falls while performing some risky trick, or trying to hang up a new mark, it is spread all over the front page. But the precision and regularity with which scores of pilots traverse mail routes or carry passengers from city to city attract little notice. They, however, are proving the airplane's practicality.

Canda Chief Buyer

What country is our best customer? Ten to one, you will say England or France or Germany. It is a common habit to think of best things as far away. It effects our ideas of foreign trade, as well as missionary work.

For the same reason that we would give a dollar to convert the heathen Chinese, where we would not give a nickel to help the heathen of our own town, we imagine that the bulk of our foreign commerce originates a quarter of the way around the world, if not on the other side.

It will be startling to most folks to learn that Canada is our best customer, that during the first six months of this year her trade exceeded that of England by more than \$100,000,000 while it was more than double that of Germany. We do not hear so much about Canada because we get along with her so well.

The greatest fault with news these days is that it centers on disagreeable events. Routine, constructive work gets scant attention.

Mexico Needs U. S.

Staging a rumpus has made us too familiar with Mexico. She has gone so far in that line as to create the impression that she has little else to offer. Mexico's trade, however, is not an item to be sneered at.

Mexico contains one and one-half times as many people as Canada. If her resources were properly developed, her commerce organized and her industrial structure put on an efficient basis, she would be in a position to offer a proportionately large market.

We take a business attitude toward Canada and make business, but we take a political attitude toward Mexico and make politics.

Politics is all right, except that it often fails to produce bread and butter.

With Portes Gil, a civilian, chosen to succeed Calles as president of Mexico, and with Dwight W. Morrow, a financial expert, representing the United States, it seems as though something might be done to increase trade between the two countries.

While this would do us a deal of good, it would do Mexico more good. The people of Mexico need nothing so much as a fair chance to earn a living. We are in a position to help them and turn an honest penny at the same time.

Community cooperation, could it be put in working order, would work wonders, but here is the stumbling block of mistrust—most unfortunate, but true.

To one in close touch with the farmer during the last few weeks

Birds of a Feather



DAILY