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

A Dangerous Experiment

In an effort to check the admitted increase of crime, the local prosecutor proposes that the law be so changed that those convicted of crime be sent to prison pending appeals of their sentences to higher courts.

Those charged with enforcement of laws are naturally chagrined that men who are declared guilty by juries remain at liberty for many months while higher courts consider appeals.

But the remedy for this condition does not necessarily lie in sending men who may be innocent to prison, in order to get a larger number of really guilty behind bars.

The experiment is more than dangerous, not for the amount of wrong that it will do, but because of the principle and theory behind it.

It has never been the theory of our law that it is better to punish a few innocent men than to permit many guilty to escape. Exactly the opposite has been the basis upon which this country has always acted.

If the proposed change were made, very many innocent men would suffer, for the higher courts very frequently decide that the lower courts and juries have unjustly and illegally convicted those charged with crime.

There are remedies for the very real evil which does exist in the interminable appeals. One of these is sp. dier action in the higher courts and a change in methods which permit cases to be held up for months and years before any decision is reached.

It is not in the theory of speedy justice that an appeal wherein the liberty of any man is involved should be undecided for three or four years.

There are other ways of curbing crime than by jeopardizing legal rights. One of these is a reform in the legal profession.

While every man is entitled to a legal defense when charged with crime, no guilty man is entitled to the legal services of a lawyer who knows that his client is guilty.

Some very respectable and respected lawyers make real money by defending those whom they must be certain are guilty of the crimes charged. They resort to tricks to inject error into the records. They condone, at times, false testimony and some are suspected of suggesting plausible tales.

If every lawyer would act really as an officer of the court and inform the court when they learned of a client's guilt, there would be less crime.

If a lawyer were disbarred for concealing knowledge of the guilt of a client, guilty men would understand that crime does not pay. That would work no hardship on either the individual or society. No lawyer owes a guilty client any duty except advice to confess and, perhaps, a plea for light sentence on any grounds that might show reasons for mercy.

Crime is a problem. The legal profession could solve it by a few new standards of ethics.

Britain's Prime Minister

Britain's prime minister, Stanley Baldwin, must have a most engaging personality. Never, apparently is he personally responsible for anything that goes wrong. Always it is some wicked subordinate who has bungled a secret treaty with France, or failed to carry out a pledge of domestic reform. And, remarkable to relate, his opponents as much as his supporters forever are chorusing that it is not Baldwin's fault.

"He has not the strength to impose his personality on his followers," explains one of the latter.

The other day in parliament the government (Mr. Baldwin) was "interpellated"—questioned—by MacDonald and Lloyd George and was backed into a corner. There seemed no way out.

But Baldwin smiled and replied: "That touches me on a sensitive spot. I always felt that the factory acts should have had first attention. But it seemed necessary to take up these other matters. Rather a pity, wasn't it?"

And there you are. Can you dissolve a government that treats serious matters as if they were dinner-table talk?

The only response to the devastating charges in relation to the secret treaty over armaments with France which was opposed to the American entente was a polite suggestion by Baldwin that, tea time having arrived, adjourn to the terrace, and that disagreeable business be laid over until tomorrow or the next day.

Poor Stanley! It seemed a pity to plague him with such annoying matters.

Praise for the Blacklist

A New York pastor told a chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution from his pulpit that the use of the now famous "blacklist" showed high courage and common sense.

The blacklist, it will be recalled, was a compilation of names of persons of liberal tendencies who were banned as speakers before the D. A. R. chapters. It included such persons as Rabbi Wise, Senator Borah, Jane Addams, William Allen White, and many others equally prominent.

"Pacifists may be right in theory, but not in practice," according to the learned divine.

In other words, if you believe the abolition of war is the greatest boon that could come to humanity, and an object worth striving for, you are a pacifist, a red, a radical, a communist—a dangerous person. If you would keep armaments within reasonable bounds, you belong in the same category.

But if you swallow a big navy program like that offered to congress last session by Secretary Wilbur, as did the D. A. R., and approve constantly bigger military outlays, you become a patriot, and as such win the approval of the hereditary daughters and militaristic preachers.

It is strange when a pastor approves suppressing discussion about armaments and war, and stranger still to hear from a pulpit a condemnation of those who seek to establish peace on earth. Churches, among all human agencies, should be in the forefront of the movement to keep Christians from slaughtering other Christians.

Prison Spies

Members of a special committee of the House of Representatives who have been investigating federal prisons have expressed themselves as shocked and more or less outraged at the discovery that the department of justice had "planted" agents in the prisons in the guise of prisoners, to get inside information on the misdeeds of wardens and others in charge of prisoners.

Before getting terribly excited over the method

used to get evidence on prison abuses, we would be inclined to consider the abuses themselves. The whole problem is appallingly difficult. There is overcrowding. That is admitted.

Penitentiaries like Atlanta are housing a third more prisoners than they are built for. (Thanks to the Volstead act.) There is favoritism. Everybody has heard how a special suite with private bath was built to accommodate a very wealthy bootlegger.

But the worst evil and the hardest to get real evidence about is the sale of drugs to the prisoners. It has been testified that more addicts come out than go into our prisons. The drug habit is formed in these institutions.

And the reason for the continuance and spread of the evil is the fact that there are drug "rings." There is profit to be made in the selling of the drugs. Prisoners are able to get money for dope if they want it. And they are taught to want it.

Planting under-cover agents in the penitentiaries is not a nice practice, but anything that can be done to clean up the very bad conditions prevailing in those institutions perhaps may be excused.

Lives Vs. Profits

The ugliest of the many charges in the Vestris disaster is that lives were sacrificed for profits.

The old ship was not as safe as modern invention could make her, and Captain Carey withheld the radio call for help, which would have saved lives but increased salvage fees.

Unless Carey was incapacitated mentally during those fateful hours of negligence, he must share some of the blame, though he went down with his ship.

But that in no sense explains the tragedy. It only raises a larger question.

This captain was known personally to thousands of passengers and to hundreds of seamen for many years as an able master and as a humane man. What fear was greater to him than the fear of jeopardizing the lives of his passengers? What sense of duty was so strong that it could overcome his duty to his passengers?

Here is the explanation of other captains, as recounted by Charles Johnson Post, marine expert, in his Vestris articles appearing in this newspaper:

"In the name of God, don't forget the strain Carey was under. Strain of what—the wreck that was going down under his feet? No. He had to save money for his owners to the last gasp—even his own last gasp—and he dared not risk the expense involved in an appeal for help for the sinking ship except at the expense of all that his job meant to him and his dependents.

"At present human lives are cheaper than safe ships. Hazards of the sea? The ship owners are the worst perils of the sea that are surviving today."

Here is the explanation of Andrew Furuseth, veteran leader of the seaman's union:

"The captain is dead and it is perfectly safe now for everybody to lay the blame on him, because he can't defend himself; but seamen know that the master has been shorn not only of his power to see that the vessel is properly stowed, but also of his power to see that the life-saving appliances and crew are, in fact, seaworthy."

If these charges are true it means that the whole system is criminally wrong. That goes much farther than the captain or owners of the Vestris. It applies to all ship companies. It reveals the inadequacy of national laws and international regulations. It risks the lives of all crews and passengers at sea.

This is a conflict between property rights and human rights. That conflict is as old as civilization. It was the heart of the slavery issue. It was the issue which finally forced pure food laws, labor safety conditions in industry, regulation of railroads.

Human life is more precious than profits. But this is rather late in the day to be making that discovery regarding ships.

Unless the public insists on enactment and enforcement of national laws and international regulations guaranteeing safe ships and free ship officers, there probably will be many more Vestris disasters.

David Dietz on Science

Whole World His Field

No. 214

THOMAS A. EDISON is known to most people as the inventor of the phonograph, the incandescent light and the motion picture camera.

Few people realize, however, the vast number of important fields in which Edison had a part. These were stressed recently when congress conferred its medal of honor upon Edison.

Edison began his career as an inventor by making many improvements in telegraph machines. His first patent, awarded Oct. 11, 1868, was for an electric vote recorder.

From that day on, the whole world, practically, has been Edison's field.

In 1869 he was Franklin L. Pope as an electrical engineer, and his next inventions were improved stock tickers.

In 1870, he received \$40,000 for some inventions, the first money which he received for inventions.

In 1872, he assisted Sholes, the inventor of the typewriter to make the first working model of that machine.

During the next four years he made some dozens of inventions, ranging from paraffin paper to the quadruplex telegraph. The quadruplex made it possible to send four messages over one telegraph line. This meant the savings of millions of dollars which otherwise would have gone into additional telegraph wires.

He also invented many other electrical devices during this time. During the course of his experiments, he recognized the existence of certain electrical forces, the exact nature of which he could not ascertain. He called them "etheric force." Today, we know that Edison had come upon the electromagnetic waves which made radio possible.

In 1876, he moved to Menlo Park, N. J., where he located his laboratory.

This same year, he invented the carbon telephone transmitter. This transmitter made telephony a commercial possibility. The radio microphone in use in broadcasting stations today is essentially a telephone transmitter, so that Edison also deserves considerable credit for radio broadcasting.

Edison's inventions up to 1876 would have constituted a considerable career for most men. But Edison was only getting under way. He was yet to patent the inventions for which he was chiefly famous.



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL AWARDED TO EDISON

TRACY

SAYS:

"The Mad Rush of Stock Trading Is a Menace to the Nation."

SIX million four hundred thousand shares a day, where 5,000,000 was a record only a few weeks ago and 4,000,000 only a few months. Five hundred twenty-five thousand for a seat on the Stock Exchange, where one could be bought for \$290,000 in 1927, \$76,000 in 1923, and \$45,000 in 1918.

Are we crazy, or have we found a golden egg-laying goose that can not be killed?

Men of supposedly sound financial judgment stand amazed. Leonard Ayres of Cleveland points out that we have had twelve well-defined stock market booms; that they have averaged a run of about two years, and that, according to such average, the present one soon should complete its course.

Alarmed at what might happen if the craze were not checked, the federal reserve has forced call money up by raising the rediscount rate. No good!

Those who fancy the upward trend irresistible are not dismayed by 7 per cent money. The chances are they would not be dismayed by 10 or 15 per cent.

Borrowing Is Difficult

Ten or fifteen billion dollars has been added to the capital investment of certain great corporations since the first of the year, with little more to show for it than the swapping of paper certificates and the childish notion that we at last have struck such a good thing that cannot be overdone.

While it has had little, if any effect on the gambling, the advance in interest rates has served to divert a vast amount of money from legitimate business.

Merchants, manufacturers, and farmers find it difficult to borrow what they need.

Our entire economic structure has been weakened by the concentration of public credit in support of what amounts to little more than a high-class poker game.

The idea that creating wealth involves nothing more serious than watching a blackboard and barking orders has developed to the proportions of a mental disease.

Millions of people have laid aside their ambition, to play an even-odds market. Not only that, but they have swallowed the pleasant gospel that the market never will sag.

Patriotism Makes Fools

One might as well spit against the north wind as to be cynical. "Don't sell the United States short," has become a national slogan, which means that we have made patriotism an excuse for playing the fool.

It requires no financial shrewdness to understand that bubbles cannot be blown eternally without the certainty of bursting.

When we make the value of stocks, oil leases, or real estate depend on the notion that no matter what we pay for them, some one will pay more, we are playing a game that can have but one end.

The mad rush of stock trading in progress since the first of the year, which has become a veritable frenzy since the election, is the worst danger we face.

The god of prosperity is being overthrown. Those who are laying their fortunes, careers, and aspirations on his altars with such reckless abandon are only creating a pile of prayers he cannot possibly answer.

To put the proposition in a more practical way, we are subjecting business to a demand for dividends through this arbitrary inflation of capital investment and this boost in interest rates that is unreasonable.

Self-Control Gone

Good times not only have made us drunk with reference to the stock market, but with reference to self-control and a decent sense of responsibility.

Justice becomes a matter of wind jamming, law a matter of red tape, morality a matter of quibbling, and government a matter of politics. Colonel Stewart may have lied, but no quorum was present, so he could not be convicted.

A thin excuse, perhaps, if measured by abstract principles, but none the less effective, the point being that others were in the same boat.

According to the record, a quorum was present. If the record was false, why be hard-boiled toward a witness who might have gotten his facts mixed?

Common sense suggests that all hands should be punished, but senators and senatorial committees, are, to a measurable extent, above the law. That being so, the court thought it fair to treat Colonel Stewart with similar indulgence. Fair, maybe, but what are we to teach our children about the necessity of telling the truth under any and all circumstances?

Diamonds and Duties

We have a duty on diamonds—20 per cent for cut stones and 10 per cent for uncut. That duty is for revenue only, the theory being that those who can afford diamonds best can afford to pay taxes.

Enter the smuggler, promising to get diamonds in for 8 per cent and enter the jeweler willing to deal with him for additional profit.

The government must quit, we are told, because there are too many smugglers and too many dealers willing to deal with them.

Why not repeal the income tax on the same theory, or every other law that presents a tough problem.

The creed of "you can't" has come to cut both ways. "You can't," says the government to the citizen in a multiple chorus. "Neither can you," yells back the latter. "Let's both quit."

All Set for Him



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Danger in Overdoing Ultra Violet Rays

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEN

Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

OUR public responds to the introduction of any new measure or activity in its daily life with tremendous waves of enthusiasm, which fail to consider scientific fact.

When it was shown a few years ago that ultraviolet rays had the specific property of preventing rickets in the child, they began to be recommended as a panacea for almost every type of disturbance to which the human being may be heir.

Chronic rheumatism, baldness, pernicious anemia, and tuberculosis were only a few of the diseases or conditions for what they were sold.

As a result of this widespread dissemination of this potent method of treatment and as a result particularly of overdosing, reports have already become available of bad effects following the use of these

lamps under conditions that are not controlled.

A common effect of overdosing is sleeplessness, restlessness, loss of weight, and nausea.

Scientific reports indicate that resistance of infections by bacteria may be lowered if too large a surface of the body is irradiated at one time.

The second or third day after a large overdose, the skin becomes hot, red, swollen, and inflamed and in some cases may seem to be burned severely.

Too long repeated applications may result in thickening of the skin; sometimes severe overdosing is associated with headaches and pains in the eyes.

The eyes are especially sensitive to ultra-violet rays and must be protected by wearing goggles during the treatment.

People who are highly nervous and neurotic are more sensitive to

the rays than are those apparently of more settled nervous systems.

On the other hand, it is reported that in many cases instability of the nervous system may be the result of insufficient ultra-violet.

In the presence of kidney disease, heart disease, high fever or periodic activity in women, ultra-violet rays must be used with great caution. It is an aphorism in medicine that every force which is potent for good may also do harm.

The superior council of public hygiene of France, in view of the possible dangers from ultra-violet rays, recently issued the following statement:

"Given the serious accidents which may result from the use of ultraviolet apparatus handled by incompetent persons, it is necessary in the interest of public health to confine the use of these procedures to a hospital service and to authorize their application only by a specialist physician."

THE GREATEST FARMER

AN ENDLESS APPETITE

HIS HINGES ARE RUSTY

THERE'S something about ships which stirs the nation's imagination as nothing else and we are glad to hear that two of the largest to be constructed for service between lines ever built in this country are San Francisco and Australia.

How strange that we should all realize that the foreign sale of our surplus is indispensable to our prosperity, yet fail to build a merchant marine, which is the delivery wagon of foreign commerce, and without which a nation is at the mercy of its competitors.

There should be a special corner in hell set aside for such a bird.

The assertion that science may be able to build artificial men a century hence to do the work of the world and let the natural born have a good time, is very interesting, but it won't do you and me any good, unless we sometimes think, death may slip a round-trip ticket into our slippers.

THE mayor of Herrin, Ill., and the state's attorney of the county are among the 100 just indicted for violating the liquor laws, which, with the corruption scandals of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago and other places, together with all that we know is going on, should convince any normal mind that unless we can throw around law enforcement the great educational campaign which made the adoption of the eighteen amendment possible, we are facing a situation which we cannot dodge forever.

Chicago's latest murder uncovers a bootlegger, who specialized in the sale of liquor to boys and girls.

Highly imaginative Britons will get a thrill out of the lion-hunting of the Prince of Wales in Africa, but it is all as safe as eating fried oysters, the prince's hunting completely shielded from danger.

Few lion hunts, for that matter, are arranged for the convenience of the lions.

A gentleman in the southwest who just shuffled off this mortal coil at the age of 102, asked that it be recorded on his tomb that he had never voted anything but a straight party ticket.

Which is just another way of saying that the hinges on all of the doors of his brain cells were rusty.

About the only improvement that has occurred in the matter of American crime is that the criminals are better looking, at least, we used to imagine they were all repulsive, while most of our present killers are perfectly beautiful.

Possibly President Coolidge does not wish to submit a long program of legislation to congress, because he expects to be engaged in arranging for John's White House wedding to Miss Trumbull.

Nov. 22
1843—Birth of Robert de La Salle, French explorer in America.
1801—Pillory used in Boston for the last time.
1867—Louisiana repealed its ordinance of secession, abolished slavery and disfranchised confederates.
1867—Jefferson Davis, president of Richmond.

This Date in U. S. History

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LAY out the cards on a table, as shown in the diagram, and study the situation. See if you can find a method of play that will give North and South two tricks. The solution is printed herewith.

The Solution

THIS is a case of forcing the opponents' most dangerous trump without destroying your own hand by leading trumps.

South leads the ace of hearts, which North trumps with the eight. If East then discards his spade, North leads the eight of spades.

Daily Thought

Some therefore cried one thing, and some another; for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.—Acts 19:32.

THE mob have neither judgment nor principle—ready to bawl at night for the reverse of what they desired in the morning.—Tacitus.

What does a blue discharge from the Army signify?

Blue discharges were given during the World War to men who were discharged from the Army on account of physical disability, or for a similar reason.

KEEPING UP THE NEWS

BY LUDWELL DENNY

(Copyright, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, 1928)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—Imminent overthrow of the Soviet government has been reported by "czarist emigre stories in anti-Russian newspapers so often during the last eleven years, that the hardly annual this fall is dismissed by most American officials with a yawn.

So long as there is a large corps of American correspondents and business men in the interior of Russia sending out daily reports of normalcy, Washington apparently will refuse to get excited by these revivals of fantastic tales from Riga, Warsaw and Paris.

The latest long-distance reports of Soviet collapse happen to coincide with visits to Russia of hard-headed capitalist investigators who are so sure these czarist emigre yarns are lies that they are gambling several millions of dollars on the stability of the communist government.

Charles Dewey, American financial adviser in Poland, former assistant secretary of the treasury and a close friend of Herbert Hoover, is leaving Russia this week and soon coming to the United States. If there is an active counter-revolution in Russia, he has failed to report it to his friends here.

Standard Oil, General Electric Company which this month extended a \$20,000,000 credit to Moscow, and the New York banks doing business with Russia, all usually know what they are doing.

It is precisely this rapid increase in Russia trade and credits in the United States which explains the new crop of anti-Russian "myths" from such places as Riga and Paris, in the opinion of Boris E. Skvirsky, director of the Soviet Union information bureau here.

Today he expressed agreement with a New York Times Moscow dispatch of Nov. 17 "characterizing the stories of a separatist uprising in the Ukraine as an 'exploded myth.'" Skvirsky, in reply to questions charged that:

"All these yarns are deliberately concocted by interested persons with the purpose of driving Soviet credits abroad. The recent marked increases in American-Soviet trade and the closer relationship established between Soviet producing organizations and large American business concerns have caused a desperate activity among the fabricators of such mendacities."

TO the emigre stories that Russian cities are starving because of a grain famine caused by crop failure and a general uprising of peasants, the Soviet information bureau here replies:

"The grain crop of last summer approximately was half a million bushels above that of last year and about equal to the pre-war average. The peasants have been selling their grain in larger quantities and at better prices than last year. Procurement in October was 1,778,000 metric tons, 77.3 per cent greater than in October last year. The peasants have also had the best cotton and sugar beet crops since the war, respectively 16 and 4 per cent larger than the pre-war average.

"It is true that some unconstructed kulaks or wealthy peasants who had become speculators and middlemen rather than producers under the old regime, resent the taxation scheme which is scaled to assist the needier peasants, and recent the coming of education in the villages. The Soviet press has reported that kulaks have caused the murder of some fifty peasant correspondents and village educational workers during the last three months."

To the emigre yarns that the Soviet state is tottering into bankruptcy, the bureau replies with these statistics:

"On Nov. 15, the gold fund of the department of issue of the state bank was higher than at any time since the stabilization of the currency in the summer of 1924. Industrial production for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30 last, increased over 20 per cent above the previous year, and was 25 per cent above that of 1913. The value of the agricultural output was the greatest since the war. The foreign trade turnover was the largest since the war."

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any answerable question of fact or information by writing to Frederick M. Kerby, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1225 New York Building,