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

Political Pardons

When the chairman of the political party in power becomes interested in the liberty of a Chicago gunman, holdup and thief, his value to his party should be drawing to a close.

There are generally other reasons than the warm glow of charity and human brotherhood that excites activity on the part of politicians in behalf of visiting gunmen.

The pardoning power has, very often, been a very fertile field of operations for politicians, especially if a susceptible governor could be persuaded to give clemency in a wholesale manner.

Last night at a meeting of the pardon board, the members denounced the "high pressure" methods used to obtain freedom for a man who is serving a sentence for the robbery of a local department store. The crime was desperate.

Ever since his sentence, powerful persons have enlisted themselves in his behalf. High priced and very respectable law firms have been busy. Especially active have been law firms with politicians as members.

It was openly stated that one of the lawyers now interested and presumably using the "high pressure" methods is the present state chairman of the Republican party.

Whenever a convict seeking a pardon hires other than the lawyer who defended him, there is a reason. And the reason for hiring lawyers prominent in politics is presumably their grip on officials, rather than their knowledge of law or ability as pleaders.

It will be remembered that a previous state chairman, no longer at liberty, interested himself in pardons and was quite successful in selling stock to relatives of those whom he set free.

When chairmen of parties are lawyers, it is probably ethical to take fees.

As long as the pardon board of the Governor refuse to listen to please for political pardons, there is no danger. Especially is there little danger when the board members openly point to the political character of the pleaders for clemency.

It might be a very good thing if it became generally known that any convict who hires a lawyer to plead his case would be very closely scrutinized.

Theoretically, no convict needs a lawyer if he is worthy, the board should know. If unworthy, it has the facts.

Other states have had grave scandals over the pardoning power. This state has had too many other scandals to afford one from that cause.

Senate Investigations

Senate investigations cost more or less money and the senate should consider the cost before undertaking them.

This notwithstanding the fact that the total cost of all such investigations in recent years really is insignificant compared to the money they have saved, or regained, for the government.

Complaints that the senate has become an investigating body instead of a legislature should be disregarded. Intelligent legislation requires investigation.

Those who would head off any investigation of the textile industry say the inquiry should be referred to the federal trade commission because the senate is not equipped to make the kind of study that is necessary.

By equipment is meant paid agents, accountants and other experts.

Congress is in danger of transferring too much of its authority to executive bureaus and commissions. One thing it must keep is its investigating power.

An Amazing Admission

When William S. Culbertson, member of the United States tariff commission, was named minister to Romania by President Coolidge four years ago it freely was charged that the purpose was to get him off the commission, where his activities had not been pleasing to certain influential persons interested in high tariffs. The charge was denied.

But now it develops that it was true. We are indebted to Senator James E. Watson for verification.

"I recommended to get rid of him," Watson said at a public committee meeting. "I recommended him for foreign service, the foreigner the better."

This is an amazing admission not because of Watson's recommendation of Coolidge's appointment, but because of Watson's effort in telling it at a time when the worst tariff holdup in history is being attempted.

"Scrapped at 65"

Old age pension surveys in a number of states reveal that of the 4,000,000 people over 65 years old, one of every three will become dependent either upon charities or relatives, while one of every five will incur the stigma of pauperism.

What of these hundreds of thousands of our aged poor? What of these 20 out of every 100 who, through no fault of their own, reach the afternoon of life, only to pass into some crowded, insanitary, pride-killing poor farm?

Their number will increase, for while science is lengthening life, industry is making it cheaper. "Scrapped at 65" is an all-too-familiar axiom of American industry, which requires the swift and steady hand of youth to run its machines and requires it more exactly each year.

Charles Dickens and Elizabeth Barrett Browning voiced the "cry of the children" that loosed the shackles of child labor from the hands of the little ones. No one is here to voice a still more pitiable cry from the aged folks whom sickness, ill-luck, and the demands of speeded-up machines are sending to the "industrial scrap heap."

This country, now the wealthiest in the world,



Physical Basis of Life

No. 395

THE flowers that grow in your garden have so many points of similarity with your own body that biologists today feel justified in considering all living things as being constructed out of the same stuff.

Its technical name is protoplasm. Huxley, the great English scientist and popularizer of science, called it "the physical basis of life."

This does not minimize the difference between organisms. It doesn't take a scientist to observe that there are tremendous differences between a human being, a frog, and a head of cabbage. And no scientist tries to minimize these differences.

But science has shown that these differences are in many ways, differences of degree rather than differences of kind. This is particularly true when we get to the microscopic structure of organisms.

The microscope reveals that all organisms, both plants and animals, are built up out of little units or building blocks known technically as cells.

These cells differ in size, shape, and general appearance, but nevertheless, they have so many features in common that it is apparent they are fundamentally pretty much alike.

When we turn to the chemical analysis of the cells, we find that they differ to a very considerable extent, not only between organisms, but between different kinds of cells in the same organism.

But again, we find the differences are of degree and not of kind.

Fundamentally, the similarity is sufficient to justify the biologist in considering all organisms as being formed from the same chemical mixture and in giving a single name to all living material.

We find a third point of resemblance between all living material in the matter of functions.

There are certain functions, growth, reproduction, metabolism, response to stimuli, and so on, which characterizes all living material.

The reader may feel that at this point, perhaps, we should define "life." That, alas, no one is able to do.

Life, unique as we can find no adequate definition,

only to describe the ap-

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

A New Alignment Is Developing Against French Aggressiveness, England, Germany and France Are Being Driven Closer Together.

THE tenth anniversary of peace finds Germany denouncing the treaty of Versailles, denying responsibility for the war and refusing to continue a law which forbids the Kaiser to come back.

The Echo de Paris, influential French journal, blames the British labor victory for such an attitude.

The French government of today and the French government to follow," says this newspaper, "will be obliged to unite against those who wish to overthrow all the conservative forces on the continent."

One need not be a prophet to realize that a new alignment is developing with French aggressiveness as the motivating force. Slowly, but inevitably, England, Germany and Russia are being driven closer together, in spite of their divergent aims and clashing theories.

We Still Are Human

BUT who cares to speculate on such a situation, with Ambassador Davies declining to array himself in knee pants and a Scotch golf club trying to get Ramsey MacDonald back on its roster.

Whether we have gone sex mad, as Rabindranath Tagore declares, we still prefer human interest stories to the problems of statecraft.

For one thing, they are much easier to understand. For another, we are human.

The News of Interest

BISHOP CANNON is found to have made a stock transaction recorded on Sunday; Czechoslovakia is in a row over the teaching of evolution; a New York theater doorman is arrested for making announcements on the sidewalk; a New Jersey mother of six will ask the court to impose birth control on her husband by injunction; the Republicans in Maine are in a turmoil over the wetness of Senator Gould; all of which is mighty interesting, and not without reason.

Such items come close home, they get right down where we live. And what is better than all else, they require little study or thinking.

Stunts Go Good

NOT that we are opposed to study or thinking, but that most of us have enough of it in connection with our own personal affairs.

Unless the news touches our personal affairs, we prefer what is interesting to what is serious.

That is one reason why we pay more attention to stunts flying than to the constructive side of aviation, why we had rather read about a trans-Atlantic hop than a merger of airplane manufacturers.

Enthralled by Drama

THREE men dive to their death in Egg Harbor, Viola Gentry is injured, while her co-pilot is killed, and Captain Hawks flies from New York to Los Angeles in nineteen hours and back in seventeen hours.

The drama of it enthralls us the dare-devil spirit, the gamble with fate.

The bigger, surer play of engineer, efficiency sharp and capitalist seems not only tame by comparison, but too complex and involved.

Speeding Up Travel

WRIGHT and Curtiss combine, taking in eight other companies by way of good measure, forming a \$70,000,000 concern and giving aviation the benefit of organized, scientific management.

Railroads and airplane companies working in conjunction have already started on transcontinental service. Two more will be started within ten days.

The man in a hurry can now go from coast to coast in forty-eight hours.

Eleven more the time will be reduced to thirty-six. When the railroads are eliminated, as they will be, and an all-air route is established, it will be reduced to twenty-four, if not less.

Where Will It End?

ONE wonders where the craze for speed and power will end.

Apparently, each new device calls for a greater degree of mechanized life, and in that lies the real danger.

For the last few years, we have tried to imagine that flying was a matter of individual effort, courage and skill, that all it needed was a race of Lindberghs.

That, more than anything else, is what has held it back.

Aviation, like the auto, demands organized production, organized distribution. Unlike the auto, it seems to demand organized opera-

Personal Liberty

SOCIETY, politics, even government itself, are becoming subordinate to mechanical life.

Men are being swept into one kind of organization or another, whether or not.

Where we used to regard personal liberty as a matter of law, we now behold it as a matter of industry, of factory whistles, boards of directors, trade unions and time tables.

At present, we can see little but the advantage of system and discipline. Tomorrow, or the day after, we shall face their tyranny.

300 AT WET CONGRESS

World Anti-Prohibition Delegates Drink Toasts With Wines.

COPENHAGEN, June 29.—Drinking their toasts with eleven different wines, 300 delegates to the International Anti-Prohibition congress reaffirmed their conviction that prohibition legislation is harmful and adjourned their three-day

What! Another One?



HEALTH IN HOT WEATHER

Be Sure Swimming Pools Are Sanitary

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN, Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygeia, the Health Magazine.

THERE are in the United States

at least 5,000 indoor swimming pools and no one knows how many beaches there are along the shore of lakes, rivers and the oceans. In 1920 there were said to be only sixty-seven swimming pools in the country.

This has brought about problems of sanitation of these places, since the human contacts take place tend to spread bacteria from one person to another, and in this way to spread disease.

Some swimming pools are merely formed from streams near which they are located and the water which is let into the pool is muddy and contains sewage. In others, pure water is let in, but it is used over and over again because of the expense of control and eventually becomes exceedingly foul.

The bather who wants to be safe

will find out just how the water that comes into the pool is secured and what is done to keep it safe.

Recently, I. M. Glace, district engineer of the Pennsylvania state department of health, has surveyed conditions relating to pools in various places and has called attention to the excellent regulations which govern the situation in Pennsylvania.

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will find out just how the water that comes into the pool is secured and what is done to keep it safe.

There must be adequate dressing rooms, guard rails, life guards, bathing suits and provisions for boiling water.

The drinking water must be controlled and bathers must co-operate thoroughly in observing the regulations.

The common use of all drinking cups, towels, combs, hair brushes and other toilet articles should be strictly prohibited.

It is most important that the water be clear, comparatively colorless and odorless and that chemical or other disinfecting methods be constantly maintained to be sure that the water in the pool is safe.

If the swimming pool happens to be in a free flowing stream not contaminated or in a beach in which the water changes regularly, chemical disinfection may not be as important as under wholly artificial conditions.

The causes which led to the grant, briefly, are to be found in the conditions of the times, the increasing insularity of the English barons, the substitution of an unpopular for a popular king and the unprecedented demands for money, coupled with defeats of the English army abroad.

Smarting under King John's enormous demands for money, the northern English barons renounced their allegiance to the king and marched toward London.

After several futile attempts to delay the crisis, the king, promising to assent to the barons' demands, agreed to meet them in a meadow between Staines and Windsor, called Rummimede.

The malcontents presented their demands in a document of forty-eight articles. The articles were converted into a charter and signed by King John, providing for various civil and religious liberties and aimed to eliminate the king's cheating and oppression of the English people.

Although in later years its importance enormously was magnified, the charter differed only in degree, not in kind, from other charters granted by the Norman and early Plantagenet kings.

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