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BOYD GURLEY,
Editor

ROY W. HOWARD,
President

FRANK G. MORRISON,
Business Manager

PHONE—Riley 5551

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

Another Reason

If any added reason were needed for drafting of a new constitution, it is now provided by the spectacle of candidates for judgeships seeking the support of the politically powerful.

The candidates are not to be criticised. Under the system, the only way to become a judge is to go out into the byways of politics and become political.

The election of judges on partisan tickets, at the same election with candidates for other offices, brings the bench distinctly into politics. The inevitable result is a constant menace to justice and a continuous assault upon public confidence in courts.

At the election next fall there will be elected many judges. Two members of the supreme court will be chosen. The appellate bench has a vacancy or so. Locally almost the whole judicial system is to be revamped.

Mixing politics with the judiciary has a far-reaching effect. It hits at the basis of good government. It is, of course, absurd.

A constitutional convention would arrive at some system whereby the judges would not be compelled to play the part of petty politicians in order to gain office, or, if timid, permit themselves at times to be swayed by other influences than those of law and substantial justice in order to stay in office.

One of the most glaring evil results is the high cost of receiverships. There are others equally as bad.

If you make no other resolution as a citizen for next year, a good one might well be to vote and work for the approval of a constitutional convention.

If there is to remain any respect for courts and for law, the sooner the bench is removed from party politics the better is the chance.

His Own Defense

Somehow or other we can not enthuse very much over the efforts of the Washington Society of Alexandria, Va., to defend the reputation of the first President.

"Few great men," says John C. Fitzpatrick, author of a pamphlet and editor of Washington's diaries, "have escaped vilification of one kind or another, but the whispers against the morals of Washington seem more viciously continuous than the attacks on any other great American."

Presumably the defense was prompted to some extent by several modernist biographies which attempted to portray Washington as a human being, with foibles and frailties like the rest of us, and to destroy some of the legends of perfection built up around him.

There is nothing to be gained by besmirching Washington's character, of course. As a matter of fact, it could not be done successfully, if anybody wanted to. His accomplishments stand.

Trying to understand the man is quite another thing. Surely if he liked to dance, or take a drink now and then, or play a hand of cards, that does not detract from his greatness or require any defense.

Rather, it makes him likeable, as well as great. Most of us have weaknesses which we hope our fellow human beings will overlook, just as we are willing to overlook theirs.

The Washington to whom we were introduced in classrooms was an awful prig, and would have been a bad companion. His austerity would have repelled any but a saint. The George Washington we have been getting acquainted with lately seems to have been a pleasant person, and we like him much better.

The Lost Arctic Fliers

The speed and spirit with which the Russian government has responded to American appeals for rescue of the missing aviators, Carl Ben Ellsworth and Earl Bowland, is heartening evidence of readiness to cut red tape when a humanitarian cause is at stake.

On the very day Moscow received the cable appeals of the interior department and Senator Borah, it acted. Cabling that Moscow was sending plane from the capital and ordering two other planes in the vicinity of the lost aviators to join in the search, Litvinov, acting commissar of foreign affairs, added:

"The Soviet government will be happy if the purpose of the expedition will be achieved successfully."

Recalling the similar courageous Soviet relief work in the case of the Nobile dirigible disaster last year, there was of course no reason to doubt Moscow's response in the case of the Americans.

The unfortunate aspect of the situation is that Washington delayed its appeal so long. Why the administration should have waited six weeks before notifying Moscow that those Americans were lost in the frozen desolation off Siberia still is unexplained.

We find it very difficult to accept the current explanation that Washington that it was due to White House and staff department unwillingness to communicate—even unofficially—with a government lacking diplomatic recognition.

It is hardly conceivable that Mr. Hoover would have countenanced such petty quibbling by his subordinates had he personally been aware of the fate of the two lost Americans.

"Peace on Earth!"

Some sincere and patriotic citizens of the United States adhere to the conviction that world peace is to be advanced most effectively by war preparedness. One of these is Francis P. Garvan, president of the chemical foundation.

Chemistry, says Garvan in a widely circulated piece of Christmas season publicity, is a greater force for peace than all the pacifism in the land. His own words are worthy of attention in this season of goodwill to men. Hear them:

"Peace pacts and treaties are paper scraps, but the deadly vapors brewed in the chemist's crucible reek with assurances of peace. If ever consummated, the next war will be short, decisive and comparatively bloodless, for solid, liquid and gaseous poisons will

M. E. Tracy SAYS:

The Underworld Appears to Be Getting Respectable, With Racketeers Dining With Public Officials.

STRAWS show which way the wind blows, which is enough to make the Johnson case now going on in New York worth more than a passing thought.

Ordinarily such a case would be dismissed as of purely local significance, but this one is too typical of what is going on throughout the country for that.

Whether the evidence thus far brought out is to be relied on, or whether it is just some more of the fantastic adventuring in which the case originated, makes little difference.

The whole performance justly might be described as a fierier racketeering, a rather vivid illustration of how criminals have profited by studying modern social, political and commercial methods.

First, we have a dinner, with not only a judge, an ex-judge, and court attendants present, but at least seven persons with police records.

More amazing still, the dinner is held in a club supposed to be political, but with 68 per cent of its membership ineligible to vote.

Incidentally, the club is named Tepecano for no reason in the world except that some one did not know how to spell Tepecano.

Holdup Is Staged

WHILE the dinner is in progress, and more particularly while the judge is making a speech, a holdup takes place, in which not only the guests are held, but Detective Johnson of his gun.

Some hours afterwards, and without any assistance on the part of the authorities, the gun is restored miraculously to Johnson, while all the jewelry finds its way back to rightful owners and all the cash excepting \$600, which appears to have been retained by the holdup men as compensation.

Be sure to see the show looks rather fishy. Detective Johnson first is demoted and then suspended, with a hearing by Police Commissioner Whalen and an investigation by the bar association as the result.

At the hearing before Police Commissioner Whalen, Inspector Donovan comes forward to explain that the holdup was a fake designed to get back a \$20,000 contract for the murder of Frankie Yale and Frank Marlow which a New York racketeer had entered into with a Chicago gunman, and on which \$5,000 had been paid.

By implication, the racketeer would have been apprehended and lodged in jail, if the police could have found him, which listeners all right until a New York Telegram reporter experiences difficulty in locating said racketeer and getting an interview.

Outgrowth of Politics

THE racketeer—Circo Terranova by name—says that he will surrender any time and submit to questioning by the police, that he is innocent of signing any contract for murder or of staging any fake holdup and that the whole thing is just an episode of the political row now going on between followers of Mayor Walker and followers of Governor Smith.

Whatever one may think of these widely divergent views, there are certain facts with regard to the holdup and the subsequent events concerning which no doubt exists.

In the first place, Frankie Yale and Frank Marlow were killed.

In the next place, law enforcement officers broke bread with known criminals. In the next place investigators appear to have known enough about the background for earlier and more effective action on their part.

Underworld 'In Right'

THE worst part of it is that such episodes are becoming tragically common.

One constantly hears of this or that racketeer being on surprisingly good terms with this or that alderman or even magistrate.

To a measurable extent, the underworld appears to be getting respectable, especially at dinners in political clubs.

Millions of people condone bootlegging because they do not believe in prohibition.

If that is right, why shouldn't thousands of people condone racketeering because they do not believe in some other law, or because they find it the most effective means to protect themselves against the gang?

This idea that it is justifiable to encourage law breaking because one does not favor some rule, regulation or party has come to exercise a big influence on private opinion.

This government was strong enough to break the Hindenburg line twelve years ago and it is strong enough today to break the conspiracy of the grain commission men and food pirates to defeat the efforts of the federal farm board to lift the farmer out of the depths by marketing his crops.

RAMSAY MACDONALD'S narrow escape from death on the coal mines bill makes one think what a grim jest it would be if he should have to resign before the convening in London of this international conference which he has sponsored.

Senator Nye of North Dakota might as well save his time and strength instead of trying to unseat Grundy, for the southern states, devoted to the proposition of states' rights would rally to the support of the right of a Governor to appoint anybody so long as the appointment is not corrupt.

Secretary of Labor Davis states that if the demand keeps on growing he may not be able to get out of running for Governor of Pennsylvania.

And if it should stop growing, the secretary is good enough to know how to handle the oxygen tanks.

The greatest Christmas gift that will be given by anybody in this world is that law appropriating enough money to take care of the disabled veterans of the World war.

Coming on the Run!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Advance Is Made in Difficult Surgery

This is the fourth of a series of six articles in which Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and one of the Medical Association's standard authorities on health subjects, summarizes the accomplishments of medical science during the year 1929.

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

RAYNAUD'S disease is one of the most peculiar conditions known to scientific medicine. In this condition the extremities, either the arms or the legs, become blue and indeed proceed to gangrene.

There are neuralgic pains, diminished sensibilities of the skin and a general sensation of coldness. The disease occurs more often in women between 18 and 40 years of age, although cases are frequently seen in men.

A distinction has to be made between this disease and a similar condition known as Buerger's disease or thrombo-angiitis obliterans, in which the blood vessels primarily are involved.

In many instances in Raynaud's disease there seems to be some relation to a severe psychic disturbance, although associated with this there have been crushing accidents of one type or another.

The conditions heretofore seldom

of treatment. Some years ago it was suggested that the nerves of the sympathetic nervous system, which control the contraction and relaxation of the blood vessels, might be cut apart and in this way permit free circulation of the blood to the extremities affected by Raynaud's disease.

Recently an operation was performed on a patient with this condition in which the nerve roots were removed. In the hand on the side on which the nerve roots were removed, the temperature was increased and the circulation was improved.

The benefit was so great following the operation on the one side that the patient asked voluntarily for an operation on the other side, with similar good result.

More than three months after the operation the results were still maintained. The procedure is one of the most difficult known to modern surgery, but the results so striking as to cause the investigators to believe that the surgical control of this disease is an accomplished fact.

One of the significant observations of the current year has been the establishment of the fact that life expectancy after forty years of age has decreased by one year during the last quarter century.

The conditions which carry men off after middle age are those associated with degenerative diseases, such as high blood pressure, and disease of the heart, kidneys and blood vessels.

It has been the general impression that degeneration of the tissues is to some extent associated with diets containing insufficient amounts of the necessary vitamins which are found particularly in fresh fruits and vegetables. For years the diet of the American people consisted primarily of meat, potatoes, coffee and sugar.

Dr. Lowell Langstroth of San Francisco, carefully recorded the diet of 501 people with degenerative diseases and found that they had eaten few protective food substances. Non-protective foods formed 54 per cent of their diets. If all protective foods were considered, the Shennandoah because helium was available for that ship, but that if hydrogen were put into her, appropriations would stop.

"If there had been no Shennandoah, there would have been no Los Angeles, and the building of the Los Angeles not only kept the Zeppelin organization together, but encouraged the British again to take up lighter-than-air craft development.

"Without this train of important events, it is doubtful if there would have been a ring-laying in Akron last month.

"The success of commercial dirigibles will depend upon the use of helium, because our public will not tolerate the hazard involved with hydrogen.

"It is the work of chemistry and physics which has made the whole enterprise possible through providing helium in great quantities and in devising means for its purification."

Next: The development of tularemia.

IT SEEMS TO ME By HEYWOOD BROUN

BITTERNESS is my lot around

like a book reviewer, "the thing has no sensitive perfume. I heard a man explain the other night, "certain exotic fragrances which make me little better than a brute."

By this I mean no disrespect to men who spray their handkerchiefs. I see no reason why perfumes should be restricted to a single sex.

Only a few years ago the wrist watch was denied to men. The war changed that or should have. However, within a week the police chief in Newark advised all members of the force to wear their wrist watches to their aunts and sisters.

I seem ignorant of the universal use of this sort of timepiece by men in every army. Even rings and bracelets are not exclusively the right of women.

At a night club recently I saw Kid Chocolate, most exciting of all the recent fighters. This small Negro pugilist was decked out in two slave bracelets and four rings. All the better ball players go in for diamond solitaires.

There used to be a good deal in the advertisements about fashioning perfume to the personality.

If that's feasible, it sounds to me like an excellent idea. Under such auspices the night club do-tender would begin unfastening the locks even before he heard the ring and to the bank teller who required an identification the customer might simply pass his handkerchief through the grating.

Maybe it was luxury, for once you enter into the luxury there is no limit to the fabulous lengths of which women are capable.

Once again I tried to make some personal contact between my own sensibilities and the exotic fragrance. I bent over the little bottle like a bloodhound and my sniffs were so sincere that they shook the room.

At the end of three minutes I did detect a faint and pleasant fragrance much resembling bay rum which is one of the most agreeable scents in the world. Still, there must have been something missing. Bay rum is much cheaper.

But at that I want to know just what is this artistic standard often raised in regard to perfume. When novelists speak of "cheap scent" they mean to suggest something more than inexpensiveness.

I understand it, to some nostrils certain perfumes are silly and vulgar. Indeed, I've read in the advertisements of "sophisticated scents." I wonder if there are any humorous scents.

One misses much imagined by being modest.

Modest Violet

BUT, of course, I would never undertake to equip myself with a perfume expressing my individuality. The shopkeeper could fool me too readily.

He might hand me "modest violet" or something like that, saying that this was the essence of my personality and send me out into the world a living and reeking lie.

One misses much imagined by being

Daily Thought