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

The Danger Signal

The public service commission hung up a new red flag of danger to the public interest when that body tossed aside a petition by citizens of Franklin for a new deal on electric rates.

The excuse given is that the people of that city had entered into an agreement with Citizen Jap Jones of Martinsville whereby he would receive compensation if he succeeded in getting relief for his people.

It is now a crime to attack utilities, apparently, for it is well known that, under the tax board, it is almost impossible to get appropriations approved which have for their purpose the spending of tax money to fight high rates charged to citizens.

Theoretically, the commission is correct in its position that no community should be put to the trouble of employing experts to obtain justice. The commission is presumed to take care of the public.

But in practice every city has to fight and fight again to even get concessions, to say nothing of fair play.

It is not of record that the commission stepped forward to interfere with extortionate rates when deflation had reduced the "reproduction" values of every plant in this state.

It is not of record that the commission has inquired into the extortionate charges of operation that are apparent through the fees given to holding companies for services such as the purchase of coal in this city by the electric company at a profit of at least 50 cents a ton to the parent concern.

It is not of record that the commission ever audits any report that is filed by a utility until some burdened community enters its protest and that then the utility companies usually get all the best of it.

So it is necessary for the different communities to get experts to fight their wars. The trouble is that most experts, and this goes for lawyers, auditors and engineers, are under the pay of the utility companies and that the people are handicapped from the start.

The barring of Jap Jones merely throws another obstacle in the way of utility justice. It means that the utility barons do not want any fighters against them. It means that the commission intends to discourage any man from becoming expert in his knowledge of the utility manipulations and practices.

The real danger is that the order is public notice that the utilities have become bigger than the government itself.

It is notice that the time has come for the people to decide whether they will run their own government or continue to assent to the secret domination by the utility group.

Of course, Jones should have known better. The way to get along in this state is to serve these interests, not to fight them.

Labor's Program

Just fifty years ago a little group met in Terre Haute and organized what now is the American Federation of Labor. Today this army of workers, now 3,000,000 strong, opens its fifty-first convention in Vancouver, B. C., in one of its darkest hours.

With 7,000,000 or more jobless men and women facing the third winter of want; with wage cuts menacing living standards gained from years of struggle; with basic industries like coal, oil, lumber, railroads knocking at the government's door for relief; with world problems calling for more remedies, American labor needs all the courage and statesmanship it can muster.

Will it assume leadership? What is labor's program? Subject to amendment by the delegates, the executive council report, out today, gives labor's answers.

Its winter emergency program is: The shorter work week and day; employers' responsibility for keeping a minimum force at work; speeding up and extending public works; "strengthening of employment agencies"; extending the compulsory school age; preference for workers with dependents; unemployment aid through private and public funds, federal if necessary. That is a splendid emergency plan.

The A. F. of L. long-time program leads with a plea for a "federal labor board" to "give labor the assistance and service comparable to that given farmers and industry."

This is not antagonistic to the suggestions of Gerald Swope or Senator Robert M. La Follette for an industrial planning board for the whole of industry.

Indeed, the A. F. of L. council bewails the fact that President Hoover has failed to call a national conference to outline such a measure.

"There must be comprehensive planning by all groups that affect each other," the report says. "No one industry can prevent business depression, nor even all industries, unless they work together."

The council is bullish on unemployment insurance. Labor wants jobs, not the dole, we hear. But "if compulsory unemployment insurance is fastened upon our industrial, political and economic life, it will be because industrial ownership and management have failed to preserve work opportunities for working men and women."

Its tax plan is clear. No sales tax! Instead we should tax the great estates through inheritance and gift taxes and, if necessary, increase the income taxes on the high brackets.

On international questions, the council's program lacks the world vision of British Labor party's Scarborough program and, indeed, of President William Green's recent interviews. We hear nothing of disarmament, war debt reductions, tariff reduction. It maintains labor's traditional attitude on Philippine independence, and immigration restriction up to 90 per cent of the present quota and non-quota groups.

consolidation, that workers' interests be protected. On the coal dilemma, it deplores President Hoover's failure to call a coal conference.

The council speaks firmly against child labor and against the drive for lower wages. It criticizes the defeat of the infancy-maternity aid bill; welcomes the new old age pension states, now providing pension laws for 42,000,000 inhabitants; promises support of the seamen's act and the anti-injunction bill.

It favors Volstead act modification for 2.75 per cent beer. It speaks ambiguously on the Doak substitute for the vetoed Wagner bill for adequate employment services. It fails to mention Mooney and Billings, and other civil liberty cases.

The key of the report is its analysis of labor's "new wage theory"—that high wages and shorter hours are not only the workers' salvation, but society's, since the workers are the consumers and prosperity depends upon high purchasing power, low wages and long hours would destroy our high-gear mass production industry.

We regret that the A. F. of L. did not go farther and present labor's plan for the necessary basic reorganization of industry, as Swope has presented the plan of advanced capital. That job still is waiting for the A. F. of L.

White House Whistlers

We have been accustomed for years to think well of the man who whistles, to refer to him as a courageous chap whose morale is good and whose opportunity for success therefore is good.

Yet Philosophy Professor Charles Gray Shaw of New York university asks us to put this notion aside and to regard the man who whistles as nothing but a moron, a vacant-minded fellow unable to think.

No great or successful man whistles, Shaw says, and to clinch his point he asks if one can imagine President Hoover whistling.

One can not. Mr. Hoover is not a whistling sort of person. His attention too often is fixed upon every scratch of his hair shirt. He wishes the attention of others focused there, too.

Yet it is not impossible to imagine a President whistling, nor to imagine a great and successful President whistling. Nor is it hard to believe that the ability to do so would help make such a man's administration a success.

Morale and courage are qualities a leader needs particularly in distressing times. They are qualities which win friends for a man and inspire confidence in him.

We will agree with Professor Shaw that whistling sometimes may indicate a wandering attention, and that it may be a social nuisance at the wrong time and place. But before we check it off the list completely we should like to hear from some psychology professor on the subject.

And to make the experiment complete we should like, just once, to try out a President who whistles when things go wrong.

Another Plan

The Muscle Shoals commission has a "plan" for disposition of the government's great power project. In ten years there have been too many Muscle Shoals "plans" to remember.

This new plan is a three-fold one, it is explained. Through it the commission recommends that the plants be leased—preferably to some farmer-owned and controlled organization—for the manufacture of fertilizer.

As one of the commissioners, when they met in Washington, said the members visited the White House to get their "orders" it is presumed that this is President Hoover's plan.

Congress has settled the Muscle Shoals controversy twice to its entire satisfaction, only to be thwarted by two Presidents.

Congress insisted on government operation; it will insist on that again. And there are those who predict it will succeed this time, the President notwithstanding.

Police say the third degree isn't used any more. Well, no, proportionately speaking.

A soft answer may turn away wrath, but never an insurance agent.

Rumor says Coolidge is coming out for beer. Maybe he's a few hops ahead now.

In one Ohio town it's against the law to get shaved on Sunday. Probably wouldn't tolerate murders either.

Fewer Americans are touring Europe this year, but they probably are enjoying every drop of it.

Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

"In spite of all the advice you women have," postcards a disgraced bachelor, "your children are brought up more badly than ever. All the warnings from authorities do not seem to be moving you from your stubborn, animal-like attitude. Why do mothers spoil their children instead of bringing them up intelligently?"

Well, the honest answer is that it is so much easier to spoil them.

The person who never has had a child finds it hard to get the light upon this question that is clear as crystal to the average mother. And our position is extremely difficult to explain. In fact, according to all the standards of common-sense, it is unexplainable.

Nevertheless, bad as they are, things probably will go on very much as they have always done between mothers and children. The teaching we get these days is excellent. It sounds fine to hear some lecturer tell us exactly how we should behave to rear fine progeny.

We read with avidity and the best intentions in the world the sensible precepts in the newspapers and magazines. Yet we go right on behaving like wax in the hands of our infants.

GOD made us like that, I suppose. And it's going to take a lot of thoughtfully hard work by all the knowledgeable folk to change us. Even then, I should not like to place any bets on their ultimate success.

You see, sir, it's something like this: We do so desire that our children shall get what they want. In a way it is a personal indulgence—our spoiling them. It is neither reasonable nor smart of us. But it's an unchangeable frailty of parenthood.

There is something pliable, even melting, in the heart of a mother that compels her to this course. And all this giving up of things that you hear so much about—this self-sacrifice—there's nothing to that.

The simple fact is this: She loves; it pleases her to give everything she can to the object of her affection. She is a mother, and therefore something of a fool. And what can we do about it?

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Silver at 14 to 1 Would Mean Enormous and Immediate Wealth for Certain Sections of This Country.

NEW YORK, Oct. 5.—A hectic fall this, with its plans and preparations for what every one admits will be the hardest winter in years—plans and preparations that go all the way from a silver conference to a pair of second-hand shoes for some poor kid.

Pope Pius asks for a "crusade of mercy" throughout Christendom, while the management of the World county fair in Georgia announces that it will accept cottonseed, shelled corn, peanuts or fresh eggs for admission.

Premier Pierre Laval of France calls Lord Reading from England to "take up the general position" with money as the chief topic of discussion.

World's champion Max Schmeling, who made \$100,000 in his bout with Stribling, gives \$2,500 for relief, while Judge Dunklee of Denver reduces Mrs. Norman B. Smith's alimony from \$100 to \$80 a month on the ground that her former husband, whose salary has been cut, no longer can afford to pay on the 1929 basis.

Leads to Bankruptcy

WAGES are being cut, prices are being cut, and budgets are being cut, all of which means higher money and an increased hardship for debtors.

By stabilizing the franc at 4 cents, or fifty of its value, France made it possible for her debtors to pay off at 20 cents on the dollar.

Through tremendous issues of paper money, Germany made it possible for her debtors to pay off at as low a rate as one-tenth of one per cent in some cases.

An overdose of debt generally leads to bankruptcy, or inflation.

Wages Would Rise

SENATOR William E. Borah suggests a conference to stabilize silver at the rate of fourteen to one with gold. Sixteen to one was all Bryan wanted, but let's not waste time talking about that.

Silver at fourteen to one would mean immediate and enormous wealth for certain sections of this country, and would tend to make money cheaper and more plentiful all along the line.

Wages and prices would rise, for which politicians, labor leaders, and farm relievers would be quick to take credit, and creditors, though they would persist for many years, would be short-changed.

Try to Buy Groceries

DURING the last ten years, some of our greatest financiers and statesmen have been arranging settlements whereby nations were bound to pay off debts for the next half century. Does any one imagine that those settlements will stand, that the obligations will not be cancelled, or liquidated through the good old plan of inflation?

Here in America, we have loaded the people with debt through high power salesmanship, creating prosperity, as we told each other, but with a lot of overdue notes and worthless trumpery to show for it right now.

You still can buy an auto, or a phonograph on credit, but just try to buy a winter's supply of groceries.

The not only has been a great expansion of credit, but a great diversion.

Tickles Our Pride

WE have the gold standard, with \$5,000,000,000 to back it up. Our annual income amounts to billions of dollars. It is paid with paper of course, paper which is accepted on faith.

If the wheels should stop suddenly, every one who had one of those little green pieces of paper with the dollar in first place, it would be a real money for it, but you'd be surprised how few people actually had them.

England has abandoned the gold standard, and most every American feels a little cocky because that puts the dollar in first place. It ticks our pride to think that we now can buy the pound sterling for \$3.35, where we would have had to pay \$4.85 three or four months ago, but the English debtor, except where his obligation is in dollars, can pay off just that much easier.

Money Has Best of It

CHEAP money is tough on the creditor, though no tougher than cheap cotton or wheat on the farmer.

Those who deal exclusively in money want it stable. The same is true of those who deal in grain, steel or copper.

Generally speaking, money has the best of it because of government backing, yet there is just as great a need for stability in other lines. The dollar is not used as a prop in actually have lost half a year's money because of what has happened to the price of their products. That phase of our economic set-up is just as important as the note, or mortgage phase.

Some of those who shout loudest for stable money not only tolerate, but encourage, fluctuation in other fields.

TODAY IS THE ANNIVERSARY

TAKE 446 PRISONERS
October 5

ON Oct. 5, 1917, Field Marshal Haig, of the British forces, announced that his drive at Ypres had netted to date, 446 prisoners and was developing into one of the greatest battles of the war.

On this date also the French repulsed an attack on the Aisne, in Champagne, and in Upper Alsace, and the Russians, in the Kikash-Amadia sector of the Caucasian front, took the village of Nereman, fifty miles north of Mosul.

The British advanced up the Tigris.

Theodore Roosevelt and Mayor Mitchell of New York addressed a loyalty rally in Madison Square Garden, speaking to thousands of persons.

He Does Not Choose—



—DAILY HEALTH SERVICE—

Early Ills May Leave Lifelong Mark

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEN
Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

IT long has been recognized by doctors that diseases occurring during the first few years of life are more likely to leave permanent marks on the human being than those which occur later in life.

In the museums of disease accumulated by great medical schools, there are hundreds of examples to prove this point.

Children who have had rickets during infancy grow up with skeletons that are somewhat distorted because of the unequal growth of the bones. Nervous habits acquired in infancy persist for many years.

Recently Dr. C. E. Bloch of Den-

mark has made a special study of the permanent defects of teeth due to insufficiency of vitamins in the diet of the infant.

Thirty-eight boys and 26 girls, ranging in age from 8 to 20 years, were studied. All of these children had symptoms of deficiency of vitamin A in childhood.

As a result of this deficiency, one or both eyes had been removed in twenty-three cases. In thirty of the cases, one or both of the eyes had shriveled, and in all cases serious changes had taken place in tissue of the eye.

In a more recent study, having to do particularly with the effects on the teeth of the deficiency of other vitamins in childhood, Bloch found that a severe deficiency of vitamin

A in infancy, resulting in a disease of the eyes called xerophthalmia, has serious effects on the child.

Hardly two-thirds of the children reach the age of 8 years. After this their development goes on normally, except that the eye disturbance may result in impaired vision or complete blindness.

There seems to be no question that an absence of vitamin D in infancy results in disturbances of formation of the skeleton and dental cavities.

Dental anomalies in man seem to be due chiefly to abnormality of the way in which the body takes care of calcium and other minerals during the period when the teeth are calcifying.

Vitamin D is the chief vitamin associated with calcification process.

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

INTERESTING things in a London radio broadcast about what he would do if he were dictator of the world. He touched upon one theme, which possibly he developed at greater length, although the news reports are scanty. Mr. Wells is quoted as saying:

"My dictatorship would be essentially an educational dictatorship. For the better part of the twenty years I would have the young forgetting their old, narrow, blood-stained histories and learning of the great adventure of mankind."

Mr. Wells spoke of a general council which would work for peace. And he also suggested that there should be only one sort of money in the world.

I wonder whether the foundation of amity might not rest in a universal system of education to be supervised by delegates selected from each nation. I am thinking in particular terms of history.

Biased History

TO avoid all mention of war in the school books would be not only silly but less than frank. And yet I do object to the familiar practice of grammar and high schools in overstressing the military achievements of our country.

Moreover, I think it should be possible to reach some general agreement and interpretation of various conflicts. After all, the scientists of the world are able to meet in conclave and join in supporting certain undoubted facts in the particular field.

I mean we haven't a German version of chemistry and a French one and an English one. Boys and girls in every land are taught that water is composed of hydrogen and oxygen. The study of chemistry is universal. And from these men of science should come a true and rational education should consist of instruction in the mother tongue and one other language to be agreed upon by the delegates. This secondary study could be some artificial system, such as Esperanto. But I am afraid there is much to be said against this.

None of the created languages ever has achieved the warmth, the

color and the flexibility of a more slowly fashioned medium of communication.

But, after all, it is not a matter of patriotism as to whether English, German, French or Italian—just to mention a few—is the easiest tongue to acquire. A purely rational and scientific study could determine just which language should be employed as the stipulated secondary subject in every school throughout the world.

Increasingly we will need a knowledge of the words of other people. International broadcasts are moderately common now. And in a few years it is entirely probable that one may sit here in New York and tune in for China, Moscow or Vienna, as he chooses. Such easy access to the speeches of great men in other lands should move us to an eagerness for understanding.

Smatterings Won't Do
NOW, it isn't feasible for us all to become linguists and acquire an entire set of dialects. But any

average person ought to be able to master a fair knowledge of two tongues. As things are now, we dissipate the energy of the child into too many quarters.

For instance, in school I was taught a little French, a little German, a little Greek and a little Latin. I don't know enough of any one of the four to do even the most casual reading now. If this time could have been concentrated into a study of one universal language, I would be a wiser and a better person and more able to grasp the point of view of all my fellow-men.

If Mr. Wells did not say anything along these lines in his radio broadcast on international dictatorship, I suggest he do so next time. One of the easiest ways to avoid screaming at one another here within the narrow confines of this small planet is to know just what the other fellow is saying. It would avoid a lot of fights.

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The People's Voice—

Taxes 'Saved' That's a Big Laugh

Lebanon Man Scoffs at "Relief" Which Leslie and Legislature Would Give.

EDITOR Times—Having been a reader of your paper from its first issue, I wish to inform you that I approve of the fearless stand your paper takes in most of things. The worst error I ever have observed was your stand for Hoover for President in 1928.

I would think that a person as intelligent as the editor of The Times could take one look at Hoover's face and discover that he is an American joke without a single qualification or being President except to draw his salary. I see in your paper of Oct. 1, 1931, on the first page, an article showing that the farm bureau had saved the taxpayers of Indiana \$10,000,000.

I think they used the wrong word when they said "saved." They possibly have reduced the taxes ten million this year so they can add twenty million next year. The same article suggests the Governor call the legislature in special session to make tax reduction.

The writer has used the wrong word again. If the legislature will reduce salaries and state, county and township expenses, it will not need to say anything about tax reduction. The idea of the Governor calling a special session of the legislature and ordering it to reduce the taxes after he has spent \$25,000 on cigar stands and other luxuries and paying \$64,000 for cleaning the statehouse when it could have been done for \$25,000!

Don't think for one minute that taxes will be reduced as long as such legalized robbery exists. The legislature should meet and impeach the Governor and also disfranchise him for life. Our levy was reduced in Boone county last year 4 cents, to be raised 9 cents this year.

H. M. COULTER.

cents was put on a delinquent, if for a few days, and has been raised to 16 cents in the last month—for the poor starved, helpless man to pay to the Light and Power company.

A READER.

EDITOR Times—Your recent enlightening editorials regarding the public utilities have won my sincere admiration for your excellent paper. It is my belief that if we are to win this fight against these ravenous utilities, we must join forces. We must not stop with a mere protest.

The Times has shown the people the way. The Times has disclosed to the public the enormous profits reaped by these utilities, profits entirely out of proportion with the true valuation of the property held by the various companies.

Rates are allowed in proportion to the valuation placed on the property used by the utility to give the public service. The law reads, the rates, tolls and charges shall be such as will provide the amounts required over and above the reasonable and necessary operating expenses to maintain such property in an operating state of efficiency corresponding to the progress of the industry.

It can not be said truthfully that the operation expenses and the expenses of maintaining the property of the utilities are at the same level they were in 1929. Everything has been reduced but the rates. These utilities are taking advantage of valuation placed upon them when everything else was valued much higher.

The public service commission may, at any time, on its own initiative, make a revaluation of such property. It is quite evident that the public service commission does not intend to act on its own initiative. It has ignored the press and the public's demands.

It remains for some group of

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Science Centers Its Interest on a New "World Picture" Drawn by a British Philosopher.

AT the moment, the chief topic of discussion in the world of science is the address which Gen. Jan C. Smuts, statesman, diplomat and philosopher, and former premier of South Africa, delivered before the British Association for the Advancement of Science, General Smuts, as president of the association, made the principal address at the opening session of the convention in London.

His subject was "The Scientific World-Picture of Today."

One of the chief activities of the philosophical side of modern science is the making of "world pictures," that is, the attempt to formulate a unified scheme of the universe.

One of the greatest accomplishments of twentieth century science is that it has reached a point where the findings of various branches of science can be put together into a picture of the universe.

To date, the chief makers of a world-picture have been Professor Albert Einstein and the subsequent workers in the relativity field, Edington, De Sitter, Lemaitre and others.

The recent survey of the astronomical universe undertaken by the Harvard observatory under the direction of Dr. Harlow Shapley is so important because it will contribute new evidence for the making of a better world-picture.

Picture Understandable

THE "By-Product" column of the Sunday New York Times observed that General Smuts' world-picture starts under the severe handicap of being easily understood.

Many readers who have struggled with some of the complexities of relativity may indeed feel that modern scientists go out of their way to be complicated and involved.

We must remember, however, that new and strange things always seem complicated. Newton's theory of gravitation seemed just as strange and complicated in its day as does Einstein's theory of relativity today.

The great difficulty, as General Smuts points out, is that we gain an obvious and superficial view of the universe of our own senses. We call this the "common sense view of the universe." Then we become surprised, and often irritated, when science comes forward to tell us that there is more to the universe than our senses perceive.

"I am going to use the question," said General Smuts in beginning his address, "what sort of world picture is science leading to? Is science tending toward a definite scientific outlook on the universe, and how does it differ from the traditional outlook of common sense?"

"The question is not without its interest. For our world-view is closely connected with our sense of ultimate values, our reading of the riddle of the universe, and of the meaning of life and of human destiny."

"Scientific world-picture will draw its material from all the sciences. Among these, physical science will—in view of its revolutionary discoveries in recent years—be a most important source."

But no less important will be the contribution of the biological sciences with their clear revelation of organic structure and function as well as of organic evolution.

"And last, not least, the social and mental sciences not only will supply valuable material, but especially methods of interpretation, insights into meanings and values, without which the perspectives of our world-picture would be hopelessly wrong."

Change Is Eternal
THE great question, says General Smuts, is this: "Can we from some reunion or symposium of these sciences obtain a world-picture or synoptic view of the universe, based on observation and calculation, which are the instruments of science, but reaching beyond the particular phenomena which are its immediate field to a conception of the universe as a whole?"

"That was how science began—in the attempt to reduce to some simple substances or elements to which the complex world of phenomena could be reduced in the last analysis," General Smuts continued.

"The century over which we now look back, with its wonderful advance in the methods and techniques of exact observation, has been a period of specialization of decentralization."