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

An Historic Vote

Friday the house of representatives takes a vote which will be historic. The measure probably will become the twentieth amendment to the Constitution. It is the amendment sponsored so long and valiantly by Senator Norris, for abolition of the lame duck sessions of congress.

At present the legislative branch of government, the one designed to give direct expression to the country's voters, can not do this for two reasons. Congressmen are elected in November and are denied the right to begin work until thirteen months later. After the people of the country have issued their mandate on current questions, holdover legislators, often men who have been repudiated at the polls, control an entire short session of congress.

Now there is no way in which the voters can secure a prompt change in the policies of their national government.

The second bill which the amendment seeks to correct is the inability of the legislative branch, the people's branch of the government, to meet and act without consent of the President. Under the Constitution, every second session of congress must adjourn on March 4 and can not be reassembled again until the following December unless the President calls it into special session.

To ameliorate this condition, the lame duck amendment does away with the date for mandatory adjournment.

Finally, the amendment would end the protracted filibuster, the weapon with which opponents of legislation have prevented action until arrival of the fixed adjournment date. It will do away with physical endurance as a test of whether laws shall or shall not be enacted.

The measure has been delayed many years by party machines seeking to preserve presidential control of congress.

Now that there is definite prospects of its passage, it should be passed in a form that accomplishes all the ends sought. Half-way reforms usually are self-defeating.

Amendments fixing a date for adjournment of congress should be rejected, for, unless they are, the people will not secure the fuller measure of representative government for which they have waited 150 years.

Let the Ban Be Permanent

America loves to organize. And Washington is the natural shrine. Clubs, lodges, associations and societies beat a constantly widening path to the capital. All the delegates share one supreme ambition. They want to shake the hand of the President—and then go back home and tell about it.

The whole span of national life is represented. From obstetricians to undertakers, they come, thousands strong, reaching the crescendo with the spring, when it's cherry blossom time in the tidal basin.

At last the hand has rebelled. Politely, but firmly, it is announced that receptions of visitors appearing for hand-shaking purposes only is off, during this season of emergency.

The ban should be made permanent. The hand-shaking job is too much. Even if that were all the President had to do it would be too much. But when added to the multitude of necessary work the President has to perform, even in the calmest times, the extra load is killing.

If the visiting hands must be shaken, let the nation hire a greeter. Great though the need for economy be, let that expense be added, rather than ever return to a custom which is nothing less than torture.

Pilots' Pay

Twenty-one pilots flying passenger planes on regular schedules for Century airlines between St. Louis, Chicago, Detroit and Cleveland have been discharged after threatening to strike because of a drastic pay cut. Century has suspended service until new pilots can be obtained.

The pilots claim it is a 40 per cent cut. If it is, Century pilots in the future will make only about \$2,500 a year.

The human element—the pilot—still is the most vital and important link in aviation. So long as that situation exists the pilot should be worth more than \$2,500.

It takes him years to acquire the skill, experience and judgment necessary to fly on the airlines. In the air the lives of human beings depend day after day on him and him alone.

If an airline can't afford to pay its pilots what they are worth to safeguard its patrons and to insure regularity of its schedules, then it should get out of the business.

Twenty-one pilots have sacrificed themselves for the continuance of a decent wage in aviation. Every pilot on the airlines of this country will benefit if the fight is won, and suffer if it is lost.

Shanghai Dynamite

The situation at Shanghai is explosive enough without the threat of the British commander to fire upon Chinese troops if they are driven into the international settlement. If that threat is carried out anything may happen—at best, there probably would be a stampede of Chinese soldiers and civilians, resulting in the loss of lives of foreigners as well as natives.

China has replied, through a statement from the headquarters of the Nineteenth route army, defenders of the native city, who have held back the invading Japanese for nearly two weeks. The statement properly objects to use by the Japanese troops of part of the neutral international settlement as a base for attack on the native city.

It points out that, in withdrawing, the Chinese troops would be under attack from four sides, from the Japanese on three sides and from the British or international settlement troops on the remaining side.

The appeal to world opinion and to the foreign powers, which China makes in this statement, is tenable and fair.

No time should be lost by the Washington government or the United States commander at Shanghai in disavowing the British ultimatum.

If the vacillating powers will not, or can not, make Japan respect the neutrality of the international settlement by ceasing to use it as an offensive military base, their position is virtually that of passive intervention in the war on the side of Japan.

If the Chinese troops are forced into the international settlement they should not be fired upon. The most the powers would have a right to do would be to disarm the Chinese troops, as is customary when belligerents enter a neutral zone—a rule which the powers have failed to follow in the case of the Japanese invaders of that neutral zone.

Stacking a Commission

M. E. Tracy

Says:

The Stage Is Being Set for More Lying, Deceit and Hypocrisy by the Kind of Talk Now Going on at Geneva.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Horror at the destructiveness of modern devices has played a major part in turning people against war.

For the first time in history, mortal man is afraid of his power to kill; afraid of the devilish instrumentalities which science has placed at his disposal.

This fear is slow, but steadily crystallizing into an incentive for peace.

Realizing our helplessness in the face of such devastating power as twentieth century civilization can mobilize, we are beginning to think of safety through order and protection.

Air raids, mustard gas and the possibility of man-made epidemics have done a lot to enlighten us on this point.

Not Far Enough

TAKE the ugliness out of war, and it is right back where it used to be—a sporting proposition, in which the chance for individual glory offsets the risk.

That, however, is what the disarmament conference at Geneva seems bent on doing.

The thought of a general reduction in military establishments appears to have been supplanted by the idea of eliminating this or that instrument of terror.

All the plans and proposals thus far submitted are much stronger in their soothing effect on fear than in their bearing on the amount of money spent for equipment, or the number of men under arms.

Futile Reform

OBVIOUSLY, we still are trying to civilize war, still trying to surround it with such rules and regulations as will make it a reasonably comfortable game, especially for generals and statesmen.

Such an attitude is futile.

When men are ready to kill each other, they are ready to lay aside all their refinements and grab the most effective weapon within reach.

The world war began with the highest kind of ideals, but how did it end?

Rules for Murder

AS a Russian delegate once said, "the way to disarm is to disarm."

This effort to cure the evil by bombing the submarine, bombing plane, poison gas, or any other specified device only represents so much wasted time and talk.

We can reduce the armies and navies of the civilized world to the requirements of police power, to what is necessary for the maintenance of order within the respective governments.

We can quit talking about imaginary enemies and imaginary conflicts as an excuse for a free all race in armaments.

Above all else, we can cease teaching our children that wars represent the most glorious phase of human progress.

What we can not do is make progress by formulating a few inconsequential rules as to the way men shall be murdered.

Breeding Deceit

THE stage is only being set for more lying, deceit and hypocrisy by the kind of talk now going on at Geneva.

As long as war is visualized as the greatest game on earth, as long as it is considered probable, as long as nations feel they must protect themselves by force, every government will strive to outmatch the others in the deadlines of its military machine, and what it has agreed not to do in public, it will practice in secret.

Coughs sometimes are associated with heart disease, when there is a sufficient amount of fluid accumulated in the lungs, because of the inability of the

heart to push the fluid around in the circulation.

Almost every mother knows

ways of relieving a cough. One of the best is to inhale steam from water to which a few drops of the compound tincture of benzoin have been added.

This merely relieves the tension in the tissues and soothes them; it is not a cure for the basic cause of the cough.

Hot drinks produce a similar relaxation of the tissues, and since the cough usually is associated with some infection, it is customary to add the juice of lemon, orange, or grapefruit to help out the alkalization of the body and to make the flavor of the drink more agreeable.

If a cough is associated with the production of a considerable amount of material that is expec-

torated, the person certainly demands most careful medical attention.

Such material may indicate an infection in the throat or in the lungs with the formation of pus.

It may indicate a serious infection of the nose or of the sinuses with the infectious material dropping back into the throat.

It may indicate an infection in the throat itself as sometimes occurs with an abscess in the tonsils. A cough, therefore, must be considered not as in itself a disease, but as a warning signal, ringing like a bell, to indicate that danger lurks elsewhere.

The detection of that danger, provided the cough does not yield readily to the simple measures that have been suggested, is a problem that will demand the most careful study by a competent physician.

Ideas and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not of the newspaper. They are not necessarily in agreement with the editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

Recent Researches

DURING the last six or seven years there has been great stimulation of research on the problems of oceanic circulation, Dr. Vaughan said.

"Much of the credit for this stimulation belongs to Alfred Mertz, who contemplated an expedition to the Pacific and organized the 'Meteor' to the South Atlantic," Dr. Vaughan continued.

"Mertz died in Rio Janiero in August, 1925, but his plans for work have been carried out by the other members of the staff of the 'Institut für Meereskunde' of the University of Berlin.

"George Wust has published two longitudinal sections of the Atlantic ocean and two for the Pacific, one for the western and the other for the central Pacific, and Lotte Moller has published sections of the Indian ocean.

"Besides the compilation mentioned and the attempts of Wust and Moller to interpret the results, there has been much other oceanographic activity, especially in the Pacific.

"The work of the Japanese, the internal fisheries commission in Alaskan waters, and the Scripps institution should be mentioned.

"Johannes Schmidt, on the voyage of the Dana around the world, has made important contributions.

"The greatest role during recent years in adding to knowledge of circulation in the Pacific was played by the Carnegie, which to the regret of all the world was destroyed in Apia harbor in November, 1929, when its commanding officer, Captain J. P. Ault, lost his life.

"The results of other important expeditions are not yet available for use. They are those of the Russians in Okhotsk sea and in the northern part of the Sea of Japan, the Netherlands expedition in the East Indies and Sir Douglas Mawson's expedition in the Antarctic Indian ocean."

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DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Cough Is Warning Signal, No Disease

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

A COUGH is a sign that there is some interference with breathing. The interference may be in the throat, due to tickling from mucus; it may be in the lungs, due to obstruction of some of the passages from the lungs into the throat, or it may be some involvement of the nervous system reaching the tissues involved in coughing.

Probably most ordinary coughs are due to irritation at the back of the throat, and represent an attempt by the body to throw out the irritating substances.

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tissues to push the fluid around in the circulation.

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