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BOYD GURLEY,
EditorROY W. HOWARD,
PresidentEARL D. BAKER,
Business Manager

PHONE—Riley 5551.

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

Justice for Cities

Plain, ordinary justice demands that the legislature return to the cities the major share of the gasoline and automobile license taxes paid by their citizens to the state highway funds.

The fund at present is for political purposes and the enrichment of favorites.

In the last primary, promises of roads in return for political support became scandalous, even if they were ineffective.

Giving back these funds to the cities will serve two purposes. Tax burdens in cities will be lifted. The cities will be able to give employment to men who need work and are now supported by charity.

Unless these men get work soon there will be little need for any roads.

Liquor Legislation

That the repeal of the Wright bone dry law at the special session is being demanded by increasing number of legislators indicates a return to sane thinking.

One provision of that law condemns it as a monstrous invasion of every legal and moral tradition. It exposes the fanaticism and greed which dictated its terms.

That law gives to prosecuting attorneys a special fee for convictions of all violators of its provisions.

This one feature placed it above every other law in the state and made the possession of home brew of more importance to the prosecutor than murder, robbery or rape.

It was placed there under the theory that the Anti-Saloon League would be able to place its own attorneys in power as deputies to the attorney-general, give them the fees for listening to pleas of those arrested for intoxication or the possession of a few bottles of home brew.

That law made the office of prosecutor in counties which still have the fee system more profitable than any other office. In Lake county the fees were larger than the salary paid to the President of the United States.

Two young lawyers in this county made sizable fortunes as special prosecutors by sending men and women to jail for aggregate terms of about four hundred days.

There grew the common practice of obtaining pleas of guilty and then collecting these special fees on the installment plan. Neither justice nor morality nor sobriety were lifted to higher levels.

That provision was written in greed.

One other provision was written in fanaticism and ignorance. This was the prohibition of the use of whisky as a medicine under the direction of reputable physicians.

The effects of this provision are now known. The wife of a Governor was saved by the use of whisky, in violation of the law. The sons of an attorney-general were snatched from death, and Arthur Gilliom had the courage to so announce to the world and demand that the science of medicine be unshackled.

For this he was threatened with indictment by those who believed that the death of his boys was a small matter compared with the sacredness of this monstrous statute.

Repeal of this law means a step away from the jungle lands of superstition, tyranny, blind defiance of science.

Those who believe that the taxing of whisky used for medicinal purposes will produce large revenues are mistaken. That could only happen by a perversion of such authority as is granted in other states to physicians.

In those states the amount issued is not large. But it is used at times to save human lives and bring relief in some cases of illness.

Repeal of the Wright law will merely place Indiana under federal laws. It will not bring back the saloon. It will not bring back intoxicating beverages.

It will lift Indiana out of the bad eminence of being the most hypocritical, the most backward, the most tyrannical state in the Union.

The Army Attitude

Thousands of men, waiting to go to work on river and harbor and flood control projects as soon as the war department appropriation bill becomes law, are without jobs and without pay because of the stubborn fight being made in the senate against reduction of officer personnel in the army.

Army engineers say that if delays in making money available for their projects bring them into the season of flood waters, a great part of the work they expect to do this year will have to be postponed.

This is bad, both from the viewpoint of men who want work and people who might be in danger from floods.

And yet the army has been urging that senators insist in their disagreement to this bill, placing the jobs of 1,000 officers, who will have retired pay to live on if the active list is cut, ahead of the need of many thousand civilians.

The country is losing all patience with this dispute, and with the unreasonable attitude of the military in refusing to accept such reasonable economy as that proposed by the house of representatives.

If the officer personnel is reduced from 12,000 to 11,000, the national defense will not suffer in any way. The retired officers will not suffer, for they will draw three-quarters pay, thus taking less of a reduction in income than many civilian workers for the government.

Officers remaining on the active list will benefit distinctly from the proposed reduction, since promotions held up since the World War can be made. And the government will save between one and two million dollars, perhaps more.

Representative Ross Collins, chairman of the house conferees, has done the country a service in demonstrating the selfish indifference to the general welfare with which the army adheres to its point of view.

The La Follette Idea

In a challenge that recalls the militant utterances of his great father, Philip F. La Follette just has announced his candidacy for re-election as Governor of Wisconsin.

His success means more than just another two years of good government for the Badger state. Because the La Follettes have come to personify American liberalism at its best, the forthcoming September primaries and November elections will be watched by all America.

Young Phil La Follette has

two years. But this has been enough to prove him one of the nation's new school of statesmen.

He has cut through tradition in seeking his announced goal: "Equal and exact justice to every citizen and every interest." His program has been far from radical, as his enemies, the "stalwarts," charge.

In fact, the safety of the commonwealth through the parlous months has been uppermost in his mind.

With a state senate controlled by his opponents, Governor La Follette has forced annual state economies of \$3,000,000; effected the largest general property tax reduction of any state in the Union, a reduction of 11.6 per cent; passed legislation to lift all state operating costs from the backs of the general taxpayers, saving them \$8,500,000 a year; reduced highway costs to the general taxpayer by another \$8,500,000; provided localities with \$5,000,000 for direct relief through a state income tax; enacted a modern labor bill of rights and passed the Groves bill for unemployment insurance reserves; framed a comprehensive conservation policy; paved the way by constitutional amendments for a state-wide power development; modernized regulation of utilities.

The picture is pleasing, not merely because it reveals a competent son carrying on the tradition of a gallant family. It also gives hope that the newer generation may find a way out of the blind fog into which it has been born.

Mine Terror

Congress, before adjourning, should pass the Cuttling-Costigan resolution to probe conditions in the Kentucky soft coal region.

Testimony taken in early May before the senate subcommittee revealed a situation in Bell and Harlan counties that called for federal investigation, if not intervention.

To outsiders, it looked like a case of slow massacre of the striking miners and their families. Since then, what few reports the mine guards and local officials have allowed to seep through a virtual censorship indicate that conditions have become much worse.

A private war between the miners and deputies, resulting in the killing of two deputies, has spread a sort of hysteria throughout the region that makes well-nigh impossible a fair trial for some thirty Harlan county miners accused of murder. Casualties to date are nine killed and a dozen wounded.

From West Virginia, too, came harrowing tales. Following a strike in Kanawha county a year ago, some 12,000 miners' families have been suffering hunger, malnutrition, and disease. Blood flowed there recently, when mine guards near Morgantown fired with machine guns on a group of strikers, killing one and injuring several.

Three hunger marches have moved on Charleston, and conditions are ripe for serious rioting.

We do not pretend to know what should be done with the soft coal industry. We do know that pioneering American miners and their families should not be allowed to starve.

Since these states can not give adequate relief, nor keep the peace, they should welcome what help may come from Washington.

F. D. R. and H. H.

President Hoover's reply to Franklin D. Roosevelt regarding the progress of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway is one of those little crackers in politics which delight onlookers.

In effect, the President said, "Don't bother to come to Washington. We're getting along nicely, thank you. Inasmuch as I have been pushing this waterway for ten years, it is really delightful to know that you, too, are enthusiastic and will lend it your support."

But Roosevelt already had made his master stroke. Republicans out in the middle west were getting all set to campaign against the Democratic nominee on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence seaway issue.

Roosevelt is a New Yorker—that was to be the line of reasoning.

"Get him in the White House and he's likely to block this waterway. You know New Yorkers. Down in his heart he'd be working for the All-American (New York state) waterway."

Now they must think up something else. They will.

In Japanese movie houses they pay a man to tell the story of the film as it goes along. Over here we have plenty who do that for nothing.

New dress materials include one which changes from one color to another. Just anticipating the face of the husband when he sees the bill.

Six Soviet officials are to be shot for grafting. Evidently the Russians don't believe in officials learning by their own mistakes.

Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

ON July 12, 1918, French troops stormed German positions on a three-mile front north of Cantigny, and advanced more than a mile in the face of fierce resistance and frequent counter-attacks.

They seized and held Castel during the day's fighting.

In Asia Minor, Turkish troops attacked British positions in Palestine, commanding the crossings of the River Jordan, but were driven off with great loss.

It's an awful picture. And this is followed by a plea for more strength and more man power and more money for the army and more business for the cannon manufacturers.

Pacifists, according to this editorial, are cowards, Quakers, mock peacemakers, and fantastic day-dreamers, guiding their country to destruction.

It bangs the war drums with this sort of thing: "These Japanese invaders never will leave our shores. We shall have to pay tremendous indemnities. We shall be enslaved. We shall be able to do nothing."

BUT that, my friends, is an exaggeration. In the event that such a terrible catastrophe should happen, there always is one thing left for Americans to do.

We can die. We can die, as we always have died, to preserve our honor and our freedom.

But God grant that it never may be said that Americans ever again will offer themselves as a willing sacrifice to the ballyhoo of the military element that for thousands of years has held the common people in subjection to destructive ideas.

When the time comes, we always can die. But we shall not die because we have been duped or frightened by any such bogies as these.

Americans are dying today, dying of starvation in a land where bread never was more plentiful, dying in a land where billions already have been wasted on war, dying because all over the earth this kind of propaganda has enslaved the minds of men.

No being, shackled in chains, ever was more of a serf than he who submits to the tyranny of militaristic coercion.

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M: E. Tracy

Says:

It Is Strange That Hoover Suddenly Should Contract Such a Violent Case of Constitutionitis on the St. Lawrence Waterway.

NEW YORK, JULY 12, 1932.—Considering his fondness for conferences, it seems as though President Hoover might have accommodated Governor Roosevelt.

The fact that no binding agreement could have been made is of small consequence. President Hoover has participated in many conferences which lacked power to make binding agreements. Indeed, few men in his position ever have shown such a penchant for unofficial conferences.

He has tried them not only to re-organize the world, but to re-organize his own rights as defined by law and precedent. He can, if he chooses, ignore the state of New York, not only before a treaty with Canada has been signed, but afterward.

The President has acted clearly within his rights as defined by law and precedent. He can, if he chooses, ignore the state of New York, not only before a treaty with Canada has been signed, but afterward.

Such things should not be forgotten by those who pretend to be horrified at what they are pleased to describe as Governor Roosevelt's attempt to play politics with the power issue.

He can cause useless delays by merely letting negotiations take a normal course. He can favor a type of construction and a proration of costs that virtually would block power development.

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