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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."

Landward Ho!

A new back-to-the-land movement is taking place in the United States.

Announcement from the United States department of agriculture's bureau of economics reveals that the farms of the country last year had a net increase in population of 648,000 over 1930.

Whereas 1,472,000 persons left farms for cities, 1,679,000 people moved farmward. Surplus of rural births over deaths was 441,000. The 1931 increase was "the largest and most significant" recorded in a decade.

We should like to hail this landward movement as an inspiring adventure, a return to the healing verities of the rustic life.

Unhappily, it is far from that. Unlike the earlier successive conquests of the American frontiers, this movement is described by the bureau as "almost wholly an attempt to obtain low-cost housing and partial subsistence."

These returning thousands are city failures. They go back to the land poorer in purse and faith than when they left it. And the land they are settling is poorer, too, than the fallow prairies and newly cleared forest lands that the old pioneers needed only to scratch to make blossom into wealth.

But these families probably have chosen wisely. They are likely to be happier, healthier and more secure than in the cities they left. If they do not become rich, at least they will not starve.

We should have prepared for a real back-to-the-land movement. We should have worked out a national land policy, retiring and reforesting the millions of acres of submarginal land, 100,000,000 acres of which have come back to public ownership through tax delinquencies, planning for small suburban garden farms where a partial living may be made from factory wages, conserving our good land, otherwise utilizing wisely our greatest heritage.

The new frontier is along the line of a recreated and readjusted agriculture that will insure a fair living to those who practice it.

We have ample good land, in spite of wasteful methods of the past. And we do not have to send city-weary folks back to what have become little better than rural slums.

That the United States has not worked out a land program is one of its major social failures.

The St. Lawrence Treaty

A dream cherished by the American people for many years seems near fulfillment, with signature of the St. Lawrence treaty.

The huge waterway, which is to connect the Great Lakes with the ocean, will open the inland cities of seven states to 90 per cent of the world's shipping. It will, midwesterners believe, reduce materially the cost of shipping grain.

Not only in the field of transportation will the waterway cause important economic changes. Five billion kilowatt hours of electric energy are to be developed in hydro-electric plants on this side of the river. This is more power than Boulder Dam, Muscle Shoals, and several other projects combined will generate.

Problems connected with opening the waterway are settled, with completion of the treaty. Problems having to do with control, development, and disposal of the power are not. International negotiations are finished.

Domestic negotiations, involving disputes as fundamental and of as great importance, have not begun, and until they, too, are complete, the treaty is not likely to be ratified by the senate.

It is well, under these circumstances, that the senate foreign relations committee is preparing to make an intensive study of the treaty and all its ramifications while congress is in recess.

Such study should give the country opportunity to become familiar with what has been done and what has been left undone toward settling the St. Lawrence power problem.

It should make clear the reasons for Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt's insistence that the governments of New York and the United States should have come to an understanding before the latter agreed to burden the cost of the power development with two dams instead of one; and the reasons for President Hoover's curt refusal to consult in any manner the state which is to bear most of the cost of the power project.

The point is an interesting and important one, because of Roosevelt's frequent promises that his state will retain control of its power and see to it that residents are able to purchase power at lower rates than any now prevailing; because of the bitter opposition of powerful utility companies to any such course; and because of President Hoover's frequently expressed opposition to public development of the power project.

The committee can perform a distinct public service if it divests this matter of all political trapping and gives the public a clear understanding of the actual situation.

Lausanne and After

The apparent settlement of the reparations problem at Lausanne and the building up of an Anglo-French entente are matters of great interest to students of European politics and international relations.

Those who comment on the settlement of reparations usually go to one extreme or another in their discussion of the implications and consequences thereof. One camp holds that there is no connection whatever between reparations and war debts and that we never should consider yielding another inch on wiping out the debts owed to us by foreign powers.

The other group contends that the reparations and war debt problems are bound inseparably together and that we must be willing to give the allies as generous a final settlement as they have accorded to Germany.

Obviously, the truth lies between these two opposing views. There is no historical, logical or normal connection between reparations and war debts. The war debts were loans, amounting with interest to about \$12,000,000,000, contracted by the allies during the World War.

They did not depend for their validity upon any theory of fact regarding the responsibility for the World war or the end thereof. They were out and out foreign loans granted by the United States.

If there was any legal or moral reason for payment of them in 1919, there is the same obligation in 1932. Indeed, there is perhaps more of a psychological reason for payment today, since we have learned how grossly the allies deceived us with respect to the reasons for our participation in the war.

Reparations represent the actual indemnity imposed by the allies on Germany because she lost the war. To give this indemnity moral fragrance, it was

M. E. Tracy

Says:

The Ottawa Conference of Britain and Her Dominions Rests on a False Theory Regarding Trade.

NEW YORK, July 20.—We have little to fear from the Ottawa conference. It rests on a false theory regarding trade. Trade never was, and never will be, controlled by politics. Trade is a matter of geography, climate, transportation and reciprocal interest.

Ever since its foundation, the British empire has sought to control trade with and among its dependencies. The American revolution was born of such a policy. The conference idea is merely the old chartered monopoly in disguise, and it won't work any better.

Trade must be allowed to take its normal course, to emanate from fertile soil and mineral deposits, to seek the most convenient markets. Failure to realize this is responsible for most of the world's present-day trouble.

In so far as the Ottawa conference attempts to promote trade within the British empire at the expense of trade outside the British empire, it will prove just one more blunder.

Mandate of the Age

STANLEY BALDWIN is right when he says that Great Britain must look to world trade, rather than her own. All nations must look to world trade. Such is the mandate of this age.

For the first time since the dawn of consciousness, men are able to draw supplies and exchange commodities on a world-wide basis. That, more than any other fact, represents the triumph of modern civilization.

While equalization of prices may be desirable, especially between countries that maintain widely different standards of living, trade restriction is out of tune with the times.

Not only the prosperity, but the progress of every land is dependent on the freest possible exchange of goods. We could not operate the existing industrial system much less expand it, on any other basis.

Must Trade With World

IT is understood generally that we must buy from other people if we expect to sell, but that does not tell the whole story. We must buy some things from other people, whether we sell or not, because we have developed a type of life that calls for materials which we do not produce.

We need East Indian rubber, for instance, to run our autos, and English tin for our canning industry. Other nations are in the same boat. It has become impossible to enjoy the advantages of civilization without calling on the world.

There is no country on earth that could exist on its own resources, without giving up innumerable comforts and conveniences, not to mention commercial assets.

Method Is Hopeless

A DESPERATE scramble for revenue has led many governments to impose high tariffs, regardless of their detrimental effect on trade. Each move in this direction has led to other moves by way of retaliation.

England was forced to abandon free trade, or thought she was, and the Ottawa conference comes about as a logical climax of her new policy.

"I've got a swell substitute," he told me. "You go away and take a good rest, and don't worry about anything."

Naturally he frightened me. There was a swell substitute last year who wrote under the signature of "The Spectator," which is not his real name.

And when I returned after a brief two weeks my mail was largely made up of letters saying: "Stay away another fortnight. Stay away forever as far as we're concerned. W.L. like this new boy better."

Something must be done to restore wages and prices, or, to put it another way, bring money down.

Only two courses are open—either remove the barriers which now block trade, or go in for inflation.

Questions and Answers

I Premier Benito Mussolini is a Roman Catholic?

He was baptized and instructed in the Roman Catholic church. He became a radical Socialist and anti-clerical, and after the formation of the Fascist party, he declared himself "at heart, deeply religious." As head of the Italian government, he negotiated treaties with the pope which resulted in restoration of Vatican City to the temporal power of the pope. He believes in Roman Catholic religious instruction for the people of Italy. His last child was baptized in the Roman Catholic church, and his wife is a member of the church. He is not a regular communicant and, therefore, is not a member in good standing.

Who were the first white couple married in the United States?

The first of record were Governor Winslow and Susanna White. The ceremony was performed in New England, shortly after the death of the latter's first husband, during the first winter at Plymouth.

When was paper money first issued in America?

The first paper money was issued by the general court of Massachusetts in 1690, to pay the soldiers returning from an expedition against Canada.

How many members has the United States senate and the house of representatives?

Senate, 96; house, 435.

How long after the war with Spain was the tax on bank checks maintained?

The tax was in effect July 1, 1898, to July 1, 1901.

Why do desert regions have such scant rainfall?

On account of the prevalence of dry winds; isolation by mountain barriers along the borders, and great distance from areas of evaporation, in their sleeves at the righteously we preach abroad.

The vital essence of our religion thus is confessed to be meaningless claptrap. Our Bibles conceal bavotons.

Let us, then, like honest men and women, stand forth for those things which we believe to be true.

If peace on earth is a hollow ideal without substance, not worth striving for, let us abandon it and become plain pagans, ready at least to uphold sincerity and candor, deceiving no one, not even ourselves.

What is the nationality and meaning of the name "Leinendecker"?

It is a German family name derived from an occupation and means "one who chips off slate," or "one who quarries slate."

Looks Like He Put His Foot in It!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Harm Seen in Regurgitation of Food

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

IT generally is known that such

rumination is more commonly found in high-strung, neurotic people and that the habit also may be acquired by imitation.

Cases have been recorded in which fathers, sons and grandsons practiced the habit, so that there may be some hereditary background.

Such cases occur in human beings from time to time, but are more common among infants during the first six months of life. The child will bring up milk and then re-chew it.

If the food is regurgitated from the stomach immediately after being swallowed, it still may have the original taste and re-chewing may be agreeable.

However, the habit in general is not healthful and may lead to starvation and emaciation.

Some people who ruminate do not suffer from the condition, but find it most embarrassing. They usually are rapid eaters who also attempt

to eat large amounts of food at one time.

Re-chewing of food is not uncommon in infants during the first six months of life. The child will bring up milk and then re-chew it.

Some of it may flow out of the mouth, but most of it will be re-swallowed.

As a result, the child does not get sufficient nourishment, and fails to gain in weight, become irritable and nervous.

In such instances the physician will modify the nature of the diet so as to thicken it somewhat, which, in many cases, results in enabling the child to keep the food down and thus avoid the initiation of a harmful and distressing habit.

Moreover, this rate was 0.4 per cent lower than the average rate from 1909 to 1928 inclusive.

It is quite obvious, therefore,

Professor Beeley says, "that there was no marked increase in the general suicide death rate for 1927 in the United States."

He turns next to the question of suicides among the age groups which would include college students.

The Figures Tell

PROFESSOR BEELEY analyzed the figures to find what percentage of the total number was included in the age group between 15 and 24 years of age.

He found that in 1927 the percentage due to suicides of males in this group was 6.9, an increase of only 1 per cent over 1926. For females the percentage was 14.8, a decrease of 1.8 over 1926.

In addition he found that the percentages for both sexes in 1927 was lower than the average for the twenty years from 1909 to 1923, inclusive.

It might be objected, however,

he says, "that since the total number of students in American colleges and universities constitutes only about 6 per cent of all the young men and women 15 to 24 years of age in the general population, it still would be possible to have an increase in suicide among college students without such a fact being readily apparent in the totals for this entire age-group."

True, but when it is remembered

that the total number of all suicides in this age-group in 1927 was only 1,225 (742 males, 483 females), it will be seen at once that any significant increase in the number of suicides within this age range would be readily apparent.

The Empire State building tosses into the sky a lovely line. It is our version of the old East Indian rope trick. And quite a little better, I believe, for this time girders of steel and blocks of masonry have been flung aloft to stand under their own peculiar magic and not return crashing down upon our heads.

But a man who has covered the waterfront will have a vision to observe things which are all too familiar to these old eyes. I wish Max Miller luck and make of him a man less burdened by years and more naive about the city scene. Yet in this respect I must defend myself. In the matter of being a sentimental sucker for urban adventures, I have not grown up so much as half an inch in a quarter century.

When I was a sophomore at college, I had a notion that it was in some queer way smart to stay up all night in poker games. And now, in the sere and yellow, I must admit that I still get some inner satisfaction out of defying those hours which are conventional.

New Lamps for Old

A well record all those things which are vivid and surprising in the daily panorama of Manhattan. If dwarfs pass by, or men on stilts, I accept them as part of the regular procession.

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