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BOYD GURLEY,
Editor

ROY W. HOWARD,
President

EARL D. BAKER,
Business Manager

PHONE—Riley 5551.

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

A Great Doctrine

Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson, at a critical time in world affairs, has underlined an effective American peace policy. In his address Monday night he reaffirmed the Hoover-Stimson doctrine of non-recognition of territory and agreements achieved by arms.

That doctrine, in our judgment, is the most important international step taken by the United States since the World War.

There was nothing academic about the Stimson pronouncement. It was timed to meet two immediate crises.

In the far east, Japan is resuming her conquest of China. A major war in Manchuria threatens to draw in Russia, and anything that touches Russia jars Europe.

Such a war could not be isolated. It is our affair. It is the concern of every peaceful nation which has learned from experience how easily and quickly a local war can become a world war.

So Stimson repeats, for Japan's benefit, the doctrine which he laid down to her last January—that the United States will not recognize any territory seized by her, any puppet state operated by her armies, any agreements wrung from China with bayonets.

But this doctrine has more meaning now than last winter. It no longer is merely an American policy; in March it was accepted by the League of Nations.

And within a week it has been made the policy of Latin America as well, through the joint declaration of all the American republics to Bolivia and Paraguay under the Chaco war threat.

As a background for stressing this new doctrine, the secretary of state discussed the Briand-Kellogg pact. We would not belittle that treaty. This newspaper fought hard for its ratification. Without that anti-war pact, probably the road to the later Hoover-Stimson doctrine would have been longer.

But there was one serious fault with the Kellogg treaty, as we pointed out at the time. It was only an expression of good intentions. And the good intentions in that promise to outlaw war were tarnished by the increase in war preparedness by virtually all signatories of the anti-war treaty.

It was a gesture, a valuable gesture; but ineffective standing alone.

The Kellogg pact needed teeth. It needed a definite commitment pledging the United States and other signers to do something about its violation. The Hoover-Stimson doctrine is that definite commitment.

It not only outlaws war theoretically. It outlaws the actual fruits of war.

Thus the Hoover-Stimson doctrine is not so much a peace doctrine as a method to enforce peace. It would use all the moral and diplomatic force of neutrals against a war-making nation.

True, it does not specifically provide for use of military, or even economic, force against an aggressor.

Obviously, however, it opens the way for economic force in cases where necessary. No nation which has been outlawed by the neutral world diplomatically can obtain easily the foreign commerce and credits essential to success in a major war.

In the long run, the use of such moral, diplomatic and economic weapons to enforce peace is apt to be more effective than foreign guns, which seem to endow the outlaw with martyrdom at home.

Only one thing cripples the Hoover-Stimson doctrine. Fortunately, that is only temporary. It is the Hoover-Stimson Russian policy. To go on outlawing Russia, who keeps the peace, is to nullify the Kellogg pact and the Hoover-Stimson doctrine.

The contradiction is more than theoretic. It is the most dangerously practical issue planted in the far eastern dynamite. Without Russian co-operation, any international peace action in Manchuria invites failure. Russia has been co-operating for peace as best she can under the handicap of our contradictory nonrecognition policy but the handicap has been too much.

In the name of the great Hoover-Stimson doctrine and of world peace—even if it does not care about the billions of dollars worth of Russian trade—we hope the administration will resume relations with Russia soon.

Burning Oranges

The Ventura Star reports the burning of 2,000 boxes of oranges in a deep barranca by a southern California company. The company's sales manager admits the destruction of several hundred boxes, explaining that lack of market and the fact that no charitable agency called for them made it necessary. "Overproduction," he called it, meaning underconsumption.

Oranges contain vitamin C, recognized as an essential diet for babies and children and as a preventive of scurvy. Tens of thousands of children these days go without it.

Surely we can evolve a system of relief distribution that will make unnecessary the burning of wheat, corn, oranges and other food at a time when people are hungry.

A Modern Mid-Victorian

(An Editorial in the New York Times)

Ellen Browning Scripps was born in London a few months before Queen Victoria came to the throne. But though a mid-Victorian in the middle years of her life, she became the most modern of women through her early American transplanting; an equal suffragist, a temperance reformer, a practical protagonist of free speech, a keen sharer in business enterprises, and a generous nourisher of the sciences.

In the days when a college education was not common, she entered a co-educational college, Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., being graduated in 1885, the very year in which one of the Lincoln-Douglas debates was held beside its main building.

She founded a college in California for young women and so carried across the continent the torch put in her hands by that midwestern college which gave her the education that made possible an unusual career.

The inventive and artistic genius of the father showed itself in the unusual achievements of the sons, but also in her own and in her unique contribution to the success of their ventures. After teaching school for some years, she joined her newspaper brothers, carrying with her the meager earnings of those years.

At first, as author of "Miscellany," which was the forerunner of a special feature in the daily press, she became partner with her brothers in their great undertakings.

Milton A. McRae, who shared in some of these enterprises, said ten years ago that she then had given to schools, hospitals, churches of many de-

zoological gardens, natural history societies and other causes upward of two million dollars.

She kept on giving, notably for science and higher education. She had learned the "art of giving." But in her simple life at La Jolla, fronting the Pacific, she showed that she also had learned the art of living.

She had all the graces of a mid-Victorian in the midst of an active, modern, American existence, since she kept in touch with the affairs of the world, but participated in those of the community about her.

The daughter of the London bookbinder who became a prairie farmer gave a new glory to American womanhood by a life that added the best of the new to the best of the old.

Idle Men, Idle Lands

Next to the millions of idle men, the worst waste in the United States is in its millions of acres of idle lands.

When the Pilgrims landed, nearly one-half of our continent was in virgin forests. Of the original 800,000,000 acres of "forest primeval," only 137,000,000 acres remain standing. At the present rate of cutting and burning, this soon will have gone the way of the rest.

Because the timbermen did not replant, and because of wasteful farm methods, 21,000,000 acres of good farmland has been destroyed by erosion and gullying.

More tragic than either of these is the waste due to the attempt to farm poor or sub-marginal lands. A study recently was made of 1,500 such farms in one eastern state. It was found that one-half of them had been abandoned and returned to public ownership through tax delinquencies.

The farmers who remained were receiving an average income of \$98 a year. In five states—Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota and Oregon—nearly 40,000,000 acres, or 16 per cent of their total areas, have reverted to public ownership through farm abandonment.

It is estimated that 100,000,000 acres, or an area equal to half of the total remaining public domain, has come back into the public's hands through failures and delinquencies.

Efforts to make these slothful acres earn their way must be directed toward two ends, the planting of idle and submarginal lands to trees and the reseeding of good lands.

Attempts along both lines are afoot. The United States timber conservation board just has issued a constructive set of suggestions. One is that standing timber be made free of taxes and be taxed only upon its sale.

This would encourage private timbermen and farmers to replant logged areas. Another is that forest properties be permitted to merge for control of production.

States, notably New York, are reforesting submarginal lands. Last year New York planted 41,000,000 trees; Michigan, 23,000,000; Pennsylvania, 8,000,000; Wisconsin, Ohio and Massachusetts more than 3,000,000 each.

The "farm garden" movement, too, has begun in New York and Indiana. In New York state, 5,000 families in forty manufacturing communities have joined this "back-to-the-land" movement.

If you've ever gone through the experience of not having quite enough to seat you know what that means.

If you lack the experience there are millions in this country who can tell you all about it.

Fairness Is Foremost

As a matter of common arithmetic, you can save more money by cutting the pay of 100,000 low-salaried people by a certain percent than by cutting that of a few high-salaried employees twice as much, but that does not justify the idea of making it unnecessarily tough for the former.

Now take the man getting \$1,000 or \$1,200 a year, and what happens if you lop off even a small amount? Quite often it is the difference between enough and not quite enough to eat.

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