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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

MONDAY, JAN. 1, 1934

## TWO REVOLUTIONS

THE recognition that the Hitler regime in Germany is one of the most deplorable developments in the political and cultural history of modern times should not prevent one from trying to understand how the Nazis were able to rise to a position of domination in contemporary Germany. By understanding the movement we can come to learn what it feeds upon. By eliminating the wrongs to Germany which have made possible the Hitler atrocity we may possibly be able to undermine the new system. A direct and head-on attack is likely only to drive the German people into more frantic and determined support of their new government.

Hamilton Fish Armstrong, editor of Foreign Affairs, has written perhaps the best brief introduction to the rise of Hitler and the results of his policies in Germany (Hitler's Reich: The first phase. By Hamilton Fish Armstrong. MacMillan Co. \$1).

For one who wishes to get the present German situation in a nutshell this volume may be recommended heartily. Mr. Armstrong's well known anti-Germanism has been kept under commendable control.

It should not be forgotten, however, that foreign affairs, with Armstrong as its editor, was one of the most powerful influences in America which kept alive the false theories about German war guilt and the Treaty of Versailles that were more responsible than any other single element in producing the Hitler uprising.

Professor Hoover already is well known for his excellent book on the economic situation in Soviet Russia. He now gives us the most satisfactory survey of the transition from the German republic to the Nazi dominion. (Germany Enters the Third Reich. By Calvin B. Hoover. MacMillan Co. \$2.50). Others may have described better the personalities and episodes involved, but no other book that I know of in English has discussed so satisfactorily the institutional changes involved. He writes from a first-hand knowledge, having spent the last year as a resident of Germany.

Professor Hoover shows how Hitler's advent was due to the resentment of the Germans with respect to the war guilt lie and the unfair Treaty of Versailles, to the resulting instability and unpopularity of the republic which had signed the Treaty of Versailles, and to the splits and quarrels among the Marxian Socialists.

He makes it clear that Hitlerism is something more than a movement for revisionism or a savage persecution of the Jews. In an economic sense it is the German "new deal" through which a desperate effort is being made to save German capitalism. While not in sympathy with Hitlerism, Professor Hoover writes with objectivity and shows that, whether we like it or not, Hitler and his group are likely to remain in power for a long time to come.

If this is the case, then little will be achieved merely by screaming at Hitler from across borders or across oceans. In the first place, it must be made clear to Hitler that he is alienating those formerly sympathetic with Germany by brutalities and intolerance which are by no means indispensable to the progress and success of his campaign to revise the Treaty of Versailles.

It should be borne in upon him that his foibles with regard to secondary issues in his program really are leading to encirclement of Germany such as was not known before 1914.

Incidentally, Hitlerism reveals with peculiar force the absurdity of holding that theory and practice can be divorced safely, and that sound practice can be derived from absurd theory. Herr Hitler has proved a very competent practical leader. The vicious aspects of his regime have come from the bad theory which he believes sincerely, such as his absurd racialism, the associated religious bigotry and his curious ideas about Socialism and Communism.

All of this suggests that perhaps the most effective weapon which can be utilized against Hitler is that which recently was recommended by Al Smith, namely, relentless and withering ridicule. A few Bayles and Voltaires would help more than all the French armies at the present writing.

Joseph Lewis, the well known free-thinker, has brought out a pleasant little volume contrasting pre-revolutionary and post-revolutionary Spain and laying much stress upon the religious emancipation which the revolution has brought about. (Spain: A Land Blighted by Religion. By Joseph Lewis. Free Thought Press Association. \$1). There is no greater contrast between the German and Spanish revolutions than that involved in the medieval bigotry of Hitler as set over against the liberalism, tolerance and enlightenment of the present rulers of Spain in the realm of religion and the intellect.

## A NEW WAY OUT

THAT electrical equipment scheme evolved by the Tennessee Valley Authority might be worth another look. There is just a chance that it could offer us the way to one of those great industrial booms that set the wheels humming across the country.

By making arrangements to finance consumer purchases of electrical equipment, and also seeing to it that unlimited quantities of cheap electric power are available, the government hopes to extend the use of electricity in the home to a greater extent than anything previously dreamed of.

And if the Tennessee Valley experiment works, and proves contagious, the groundwork would be laid for a vast industrial revival.

So far there is hardly a home in the country that makes the maximum use of electricity. There are electric refrigerators, electric stoves, electric mangles, electric

vacuum sweepers, electric heaters, and so on through a long list—but how many homes are built with all of them? Only an insignificant minority.

Suppose, now, that though cheaper electricity rates and cheaper equipment, electrification of the home really gets under way as a national movement; suppose, for example, that some fifteen or twenty million households begin to spend around \$500 each or better on electrical equipment. You don't have to meditate very long to see that this would touch off a business boom of enormous proportions.

A dream of that kind may sound a bit overoptimistic. It can be objected, of course, that twenty million households might have difficulty in finding \$500 each to spend on electrical equipment.

Still, an even larger number of citizens managed to find that much money to buy automobiles in the decade of the twenties. If it happened once, it can happen again.

Senator George W. Norris, who fathered the whole Muscle Shoals experiment, believes that cheap power and cheap equipment will open up a "new world" for America.

There is better than an outside chance that he is entirely right. It may be that this development can serve as the foundation stone for a whole decade of prosperity.

## 1934 AND LOVE

IF you want more than a temporary parking place in a man's affections next year, make your plans now, m'ladies, make your plans! Don't leave it to chance. The dice are too apt to be loaded—unless, of course, you have curves that would straighten out Mae West and the pleasure-cross-the-ocean look that launched the Trojan navy.

Even then the surface view is as eel-like as toothache or snow or roses.

A woman who wants to be as dearly beloved when 1934 begins as she does now, must make some resolutions. You know your own power, of course, but the New Year's resolutions do not vary.

First, never, never telephone the man. Though you sit by the telephone and recite the ABC's backward, don't lift the receiver. No man wants a lollipop that melts in front of his big eyes.

The courtesans of France work by certain definite rules. The first in their book states that no wise woman ever calls a man. The move is his—even in 1934.

In the second place, don't be too suffocatingly nice. If you smother him with devotion he will think that you are no more important than a clean white handkerchief or a popcorn ball. Be nice, of course. Be sympathetic.

But make him realize the sympathy is a gift and he isn't doing you a favor by accepting a cool white hand on his hang-over brow. Of course you are putting it there because you want to. But don't tell him!

Resolve, in the third place, to debunk the idea that a man's temperature goes up like a 25-cent piece skyrocket when you tell him he has rivals. Arousing male jealousy is as mid-Victorian as Queen Mary's hats. If he likes you of course he expects that other men will find you passably fair.

The fourth resolution concerns smoking. If you smoke more than five cigarettes a day, carry your own brand and matches. Men hate to be inconvenienced.

Don't make feline remarks about the other women whom the gentleman knows. Maybe they do wear brown hats with black dresses, and use nail polish as red as a wounded tomato. Don't you mention it. Just watch your own taste. That will keep you busy.

Men often are quite intelligent. They have even been known to see through the too-persistent use of Mr. Webster's adjectives. But if you cultivate a genuine sympathy you are a long way toward the Yale-Harvard prom or whatever it was had in mind. Anyway, when you think a man is so wonderful that you outline a campaign to please him, you won't have any trouble telling him that he is!

Resolve to apply this question to the man who speeds your pulses. Do you have a good time together whether you are slumming in Harlem, reading aloud by an apple-wood fire or dancing under a snow-white moon on the China sea?

If you don't, kiss him fondly—you may just have something to remember—and say farewell. Unless two people click they haven't any more place in each other's lives than a bar of June geranium soap has in a man's bathtub.

Dido, you may recall, literally burned up when Aeneas wouldn't take her along. Cleopatra was stung so badly by Mark Antony that she let an asp finish the job.

Cinderella won her prince. But that is a fairy tale!

## CROP VALUES UP

THAT something pretty substantial actually has been done to better the condition of the farmer is shown by the United States Bureau of agricultural economics crop report for 1933, recently issued in Washington.

This report shows that the value of the nation's farm produce in 1933 jumped fully \$1,000,000,000 more than the figures for 1932.

Total value of all farm crops grown in the United States in 1933 is set at slightly better than \$4,000,000,000—as compared with a 1932 valuation of approximately \$2,879,000,000.

It is worth remembering, too, that this increase took place in spite of diminished production—or, perhaps, if the farm doctors at Washington are correct, because of it. Total volume of crops for the year was unusually low.

In one way or another, farm prices have taken a healthy boost. Whether this happened because of or in spite of the federal farm program, it is a good omen for the future.

There are said to be many thousands of varieties of weeds in America. So it's hard to tell which kind you got for Christmas.

For weather men, winter started Dec. 1 and will end March 1. But don't put away your overcoat and galoshes in March just on the weather man's sayso.

The rubber code finally has been signed, after both the administration and the industry had to stretch a point or two.

Sixty children got the run of the White House recently, but they found all presidents broken already.

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## ON THE PUBLIC PAY ROLL

FROM 1870 to 1930, the number of persons in public service in the United States increased 1,000 per cent. Today two and a half million men and women are on government pay rolls—federal, state and local. Out of all tax money collected for ordinary purposes in the United States, 63 per cent, or \$4,000,000,000 annually, is spent directly for salaries and wages.

These facts are pointed to by the social science research council as showing the need for its new commission of inquiry on public service personnel.

A year ago such facts were being cited by other organizations as an argument for reducing the functions and cost of government. Today this organization uses them to show the need of high standards in the recruiting, compensation and promotion of public employees.

Still, an even larger number of citizens managed to find that much money to buy automobiles in the decade of the twenties. If it happened once, it can happen again.

Senator George W. Norris, who fathered the whole Muscle Shoals experiment, believes that cheap power and cheap equipment will open up a "new world" for America.

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THE cry of "less government" now is recognized as the dying gasp of an old order. We are going to have more government. The only question is whether it is to be political or nonpolitical, democratic or undemocratic, bureaucratic or intelligent.

The very increase in the number of public employees is tending to take their jobs out of "politics." Government functions have become so numerous and so vitally affect the daily life of the average man, it is obvious that men who administer them should be chosen solely on the basis of character, ability and training, and without regard to how they voted.

It is not surprising that the inquiry has the explicit approval of President Roosevelt, who has paid little attention to politics in making appointments, and in some cases, as in the Tennessee valley authority, has kept politics wholly out of the picture.

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## M.E. Tracy Says:

NOTHING illustrates the change that has taken place in life like snow.

There is about eight inches on the ground, as I write, with more falling. Traffic has practically come to a standstill and neighbors are wondering whether they will go to town tomorrow. As for making a call, or even going to the movies, it is simply out of the question. Every one is waiting for the streets to be cleared. Every one is becoming a nuisance.

It is not surprising that the value of the nation's farm produce in 1933 jumped fully \$1,000,000,000 more than the figures for 1932.

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It is worth remembering, too, that this increase took place in spite of diminished production—or, perhaps, if the farm doctors at Washington are correct, because of it. Total volume of crops for the year was unusually low.

Well, we have left all that behind. Our modern methods of transportation are not designed for snow. I have an idea that this will affect the drift of population and, of course, the development of business as well as political power.

I HAVE an idea that the next great movement of the American people will be southward, where golf can be played the year round and where it is not necessary to dig a path to the front door or the garage every few days from December to March.

Refrigeration tends to bring about the same result. People used to appreciate the cold of winter as a preservative. It helped them to keep meats and vegetables, adding greatly to the comfort and economy of living. But electric ice boxes and cold storage plants offset all that.

Science has liberated us from the necessity of living in a cold climate to be sure of adequate supplies of food from one harvest to another.

The ice house has gone the way of the ox cart. Beef can be frozen as easily in Texas as in Labrador, or apples kept from rotting.

Still, and making allowance for all these changes, winter has certain advantages. One of them is its effect on human character. The ice house has gone the way of the ox cart.

It is hard to admit it, they do walk off and leave their children; they give their babies away so they can marry worthless lovers;

they turn them over to institutions;

so they may have more money to spend on themselves. Often they seem to be

dangerous. Because they are likely

to succumb to cold feet.

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