

Copia.

El Último Alboroto
en
México.

Artículo publicado en la revista semanal
"The Literary Digest"
del 19 de diciembre de 1925.

FAPECT

FOREIGN - COMMENT

MEXICO'S LATEST TURMOIL

A POLITICAL STORM of perilous possibilities is reported to have begun in Mexico as a result of a move by friends and sympathizers of ex-President Obregon to have it made possible for him again to be elected to the Presidency, after President Calles has completed his term. A motion has been introduced in the Senate and the House of Representatives to modify Article 83 of the Mexican Constitution, which prohibits the reelection to the Presidency of a citizen who has held that office. The friends of Obregon, it appears, base their contention for a change in the Constitution on the plea that the clause declares that "a citizen having held office can not be reelected," which means, they say, that he can not be reelected for two successive terms. The first gun in the battle, which is said to be threatening the tranquillity of the Calles Administration, was fired by the Agrarian leader, Congressman Soto y Gama, who availed himself of the first Agrarian Congress, lately held in Mexico City, to declare that:

"The fight has begun between Morones [Secretary of Labor of the Calles Cabinet], backed by the Mexican Federation of Labor, on the one hand, and Obregon, on the other, backed by the Agrarians and the plain people. The Agrarian National party will see to it that Obregon succeeds Calles, because he is the only one capable of carrying out Mexico's Agrarian ideals."

The Mexican press seems divided on the issue, altho there is a pretty general agreement on the potential danger it holds for the country's peaceful development. The Mexico City *Excelsior* declares bitterly that "the Agrarian declarations are not only unjustified but premature and dangerous as well." It asks:

"Can not we wait three years, till 1928, before discussing the merits of presidential candidates? Are we so lacking in self-respect and national dignity as to start new disturbances voluntarily, when we are only beginning to settle down after a long period of unrest . . . ?"

"Under cover of Agrarian and Labor legislative discussions, Congress has taken up the only question professional politicians ever consider important, namely, who is to be the next President. The fate of the workers and of the Agrarians of to-day, as well as the spirit of democratic principles of yesteryear, are relegated to second place. The watchword seems to be: 'Keep an eye on who comes next.'"

Mexico's political world is divided, according to Mexican informants, into two main sections, the Agrarian and the Laborite. The Agrarians advocate land confiscation, it is alleged, and resort to extreme measures in pursuit of their policies. The

Laborites, we are told, have identified themselves of late with the more conservative tendencies of President Calles, who is said to have greatly modified his preelection views on land ownership and extremism. So the Agrarian move is interpreted by some as a stroke at Calles, who was supposed to be on very friendly terms with ex-President Obregon. As to the extremism of the Agrarians, the Mexico City *Revista de Revistas* remarks:

"The Agrarians are sworn enemies of land ownership, and preach that all land should be divided among the proletariat. Now it happens that General Obregon owns an estate of 6,000 hectares [A hectare equals 2.47 acres], which according to the doctrines of the Agrarians should have been confiscated long ago. It will be curious to see how these Agrarian gentlemen reconcile the fact of General Obregon's ownership of this estate with their dogma. Or are they making a special exception in his case? Why do they not urge the authorities to confiscate General Obregon's land?"

One of Mexico's foremost political authorities, Nemesio Garcia Naranjo, whose articles are published simultaneously in the Vera Cruz *Dictamen*, the Tampico

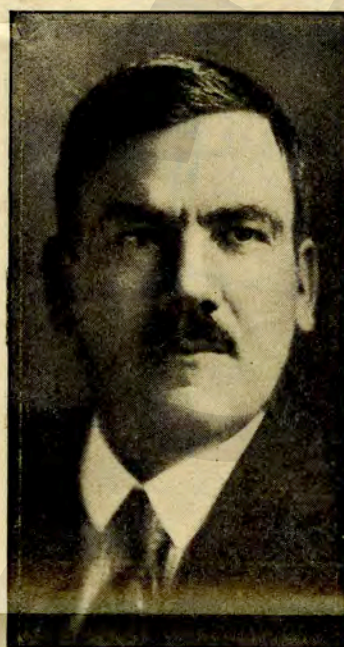
Opinion and the Mexico *Excelsior*, takes a gloomy view of the situation, as may be seen:

"The plan to pave the way for Obregon's return is no laughing matter and is the inevitable result of Mexico's political disorganization. As to the question of why we should always turn to the man-on-horseback, we might appropriately answer that we do so because of the popular distrust in existing institutions. As long as we lack political parties, the people will instinctively turn to the man with the most powerful Army and trust him with the destinies of the nation."

"Twenty-four years ago some one spoke of the sixth election of President Diaz as 'the only hook on which we could take hold in the existing darkness.' In to-day's darkness Obregon is the only hook on which we can rely. If no political parties are formed during the next three years, the country will be forced to take hold of the Obregon hook again."

"But the real drama of the problem lies in the fact that by the abolition of Article 83 of the Constitution, which is inevitable, the last hopes of real democracy disappear forever. The repeal of this clause of the Constitution means our return to the circle from which revolution freed us."

According to the changes proposed by the friends of General Obregon, we are told, not only would the reelection of an ex-President be permitted, but the presidential term would be fixed at six years instead of four as at present. Yet it is pointed out that proposed changes in the Constitution are submitted to the legislature of the Mexican States, which must pass favorably

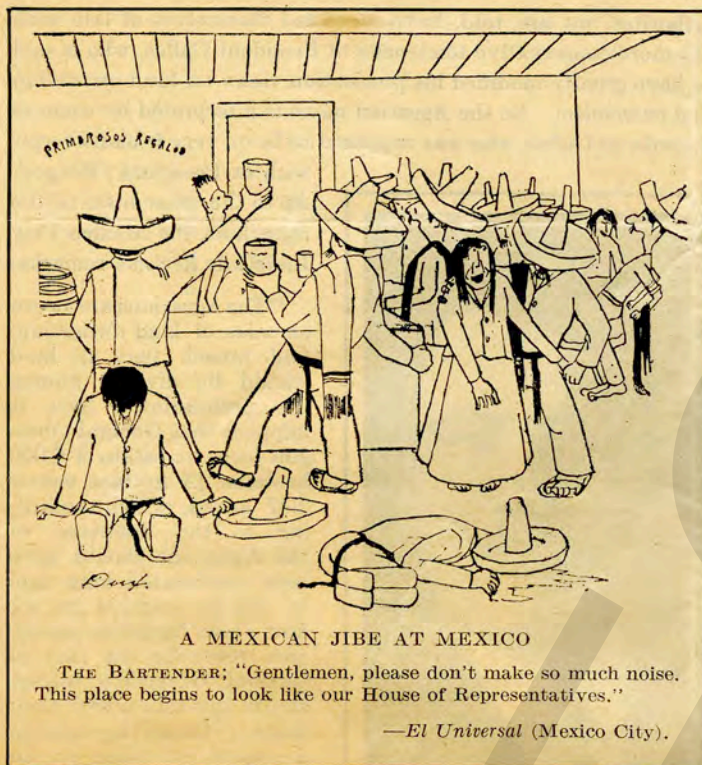


PRESIDENTS, PAST AND PRESENT

At the left, ex-President Obregon, whose reelection is being sought by his followers, who say he is the only man "capable of carrying out Agrarian ideals in Mexico." President Calles, at the right, declares "as a sincere revolutionist" that he does not sympathize with the movement to permit the reelection of a President, which is forbidden by the Mexican Constitution.

upon them before they can become the law of the land. Interviewed by a Mexican press agency, President Calles is reported to have declared sharply: "As a sincere revolutionist, I do not sympathize with presidential reelection." The Mexico City *Universal* says:

"Reelection is not a national problem, but a problem affecting the partizans of the present revolutionary régime. The will of the



people has nothing to do with it, but the people will endure in the same manner as they have suffered in the past. Who are the people that they should have a say in the matter? The real voters are the military leaders with armed forces at their command.

"The project of reelection concerns chiefly the members of the present political régime. They will do as they see fit. If the present Administration pledges itself to reelection, it will support the measure and the matter will be 80 per cent. settled. If Obregon can count on the Army, on the Agrarians, and on a handful of leaders, more or less powerful, reelection will be a fact, no matter what the people say or what the framers of the Constitution declare.

"Is Obregon's personality powerful enough to rout all of the possible candidates within the party now governing the country? If it is, reelection is certain. If not, anything may happen. In the conflict we may safely assert that the old saying, 'Whoever is not with me is against me,' holds good for all concerned."

Those in favor of permitting President Obregon to be reelected argue that when a man has proved his worth he should be permitted to serve his country to the best of his ability. It is noted by some Mexican editors with significance, that the ex-President has not done anything to restrain the efforts of his admirers, altho their whole campaign is frankly recognized as a distinct reversal of the objections against the Diaz régime, which was attacked with the slogan of "No reelection." The Mexico City *Universal Ilustrado* observes:

"The partizans of reelection say: 'Why should a man be forever forbidden to become President if he has once occupied that post successfully?' This apparently strong argument, however, is refuted by two facts: first, by the prohibition of the Constitution, and secondly, by the bitter fruit of experience. A man may serve his country in other stations than that of the Presidency."

THE WAY OUT WITH FRANCE'S WAR DEBT

ONE SUCCESS will be achieved by the Briand Government, it is said, which will make it famous in this country as well as in France, and that is if it finds a way out for the settlement of that country's war debt to the United States. We read in Washington dispatches that the Briand Government will follow very different tactics from those of Mr. Caillaux and experts, which resulted so very disappointingly, and much of the discussion, it is predicted, will probably be through the ordinary diplomatic channels. It is further related that Senator Henri Berenger, a noted French expert in finance, will represent France at Washington to continue discussion of the interallied debt problem. At the same time it is emphasized at the French Foreign Office that while he will replace Ambassador Daeschner, "no reflection whatever is being cast on the latter's ability or assiduity at Washington." The arrangement made by the American Debt Funding Commission with the Italian Commission as to the terms of payment for Italy's debt to the United States, leads the London *Economist* to meditate on France's case. This financial weekly reminds us that the agreement with Italy—

"Relates to a debt, the principal and accrued interest on which amounts to \$1,648,000,000, provides total payments amounting to \$2,407,000,000 spread over a period of sixty-two years. The basis of settlement is the repayment of the principal in full and interest in accordance with Italian capacity—the interest rate being nil for the first five years, then one-eighth of 1 per cent. for ten years, and so rising fractionally in successive ten-year periods to 1 per cent. in 1970 to 1980, and finally to 2 per cent. in the last seven years. Under this arrangement the total annual payments begin at \$5,000,000 and are graded upward to \$80,000,000 in the last year. This settlement is of the greatest importance as marking the abandonment by America of the absurd pretense of charging all her debtors alike 3½ per cent. interest after a short period of delay. We have many times urged that the utmost that the United States could expect would be a settlement based upon interest at ¾ of 1 per cent., or 1 per cent. in the case of Italy and 2 per cent. in the case of France. The present settlement substantially embodies this idea, seeing that the final rise to 2 per cent. does not take place until the bulk of the principal will have been paid off, and this rate will therefore be calculated on a very small sum."



In any case, *The Economist* goes on to say, "much water will have flowed round the Gulf Stream" before the next generation but one are called upon to pay their share of the debts of the Great War. In view of the economic situation of Italy and of the fact that she owes more to England than she owes to the United States, the present settlement is to be welcomed, not so

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"La lucha ha comenzado entre Morones (el Secretario de Industria, Comercio y Trabajo del Gabinete de Calles), apoyado por la Confederación Regional Obrera Mexicana, por una parte, y Obregón, apoyado por los Agraristas y el pueblo humilde, por la otra. El Partido Nacional Agrarista cuidará de que Obregón le suceda a Calles, porque es el único hombre capaz de realizar los ideales agrarios de México".

La prensa mexicana parece estar dividida respecto a la cuestión,

aunque prevalece la opinión bastante general de que ésta constituye un peligro potencial para el desarrollo pacífico del país. El "Excelsior" de la ciudad de México declara con amargura que "las declaraciones de los Agraristas son no tan sólo injustificadas, sino también prematuras, así como peligrosas". Pregunta:

"¿No nos es posible esperar tres años, hasta 1928, antes de iniciar la discusión de los méritos de los candidatos a la Presidencia? ¿Carecemos de respeto propio y de dignidad nacional hasta tal punto que queremos iniciar voluntariamente nuevos disturbios, cuando apenas comenzamos a entrar en calma después de un largo período de desasosiego...?"

"Bajo el pretexto de las discusiones relativas a las leyes agrarias y a las de trabajo, el Congreso se ha dedicado a la única cuestión que los políticos de profesión consideran importante, a saber, ¿quién será el próximo Presidente? Quedan relegados a un lugar secundario la suerte de los obreros y de los Agraristas de hoy, así como el espíritu de los principios democráticos de ayer. El lema parece ser: 'Hay que estar atento al que viene después'".

Según los informes provenientes de fuentes mexicanas, el mundo político de México se halla dividido en dos partidos principales: los Agraristas y los Laboristas. Se alega que los Agraristas abogan por la confiscación de la tierra, y que recurren a medidas extremas para lograr el triunfo de su política. Los Laboristas, se nos informa, se han identificado últimamente con las tendencias más conservadoras del Presidente Calles, de quien se dice que ha modificado considerablemente las opiniones que tenía antes de su elección respecto a la propiedad de la tierra y al extremismo. Por lo tanto, algunos interpretan la iniciativa agrarista como un golpe contra Calles, de quien se suponía que tenía buena amistad con el ex Presidente Obregón. Respecto al extremismo de los Agraristas, la "Revista de Revistas" de la ciudad de México observa:

"Los Agraristas son enemigos jurados de la propiedad de la

tierra, y predicán que toda la tierra debe repartirse entre el proletariado. Ahora, sucede que el General Obregón es dueño de un latifundio de 6,000 hectáreas (una hectárea equivale a 2.47 acres), el cual, conforme a las doctrinas de los Agraristas, debería haber sido confiscado desde hace ya mucho tiempo. Será curioso ver cómo estos caballeros agraristas reconcilian con su dogma el hecho de que el General Obregón es dueño de este latifundio. O les que hacen una excepción especial en el caso de él? ¿Por qué no insisten en que las autoridades confiscuen el latifundio del General Obregón?"

Una de las principales autoridades sobre la política mexicana, Nemesio García Naranjo, cuyos artículos se publican simultáneamente en el "Dictamen" de Veracruz, la "Opinión" de Tampico y el "Excelsior" de la ciudad de México, ve la situación con pesimismo, como puede verse por lo siguiente:

"El plan de preparar el camino para el regreso de Obregón no es ningún motivo de risa, sino que es el resultado inevitable de la desorganización política de México. En cuanto a la pregunta de ¿por qué hemos de recurrir siempre al caudillo?, podríamos contestar acertadamente que lo hacemos debido a la desconfianza popular en las instituciones existentes. En tanto que carezcamos de partidos políticos, el pueblo se dirigirá instintivamente al hombre que cuente con el ejército más poderoso y le confiará los destinos de la Nación.

"Hace veinticuatro años alguien habló de la sexta elección del Presidente Díaz como del 'único asidero del que podemos agarrarnos en las tinieblas existentes'. En las tinieblas de hoy, Obregón es el único asidero con que podemos contar. Si no se forman ningunos partidos políticos durante los tres años siguientes, el país se verá obligado a volver a agarrarse del asidero obregonista.

"Pero el verdadero drama del problema estriba en el hecho

de que mediante la abolición del artículo 83 de la Constitución, la que es inevitable, desaparecen para siempre las últimas esperanzas de la verdadera democracia. La derogación de esta cláusula de la Constitución significa nuestro regreso al círculo del cual nos libertó la Revolución".

De acuerdo con las reformas propuestas por los amigos del General Obregón, se dice que no tan sólo se permitiría la reelección de un ex Presidente, sino que también el período presidencial se fijaría en seis años en lugar de los cuatro que tiene actualmente. Sin embargo, se advierte que las reformas propuestas a la Constitución se someten a las legislaturas de los Estados de la República, las cuales tienen que aprobar las antes de que puedan constituirse en leyes. Se dice que el Presidente Calles, al ser entrevistado por una agencia de prensa mexicana, declaró bruscamente: "Como revolucionario sincero, no simpatizo con la reelección presidencial". El "Universal" de la ciudad de México dice:

"La reelección no es un problema nacional, sino que es un problema que afecta a los partidarios del presente régimen revolucionario. La voluntad del pueblo nada tiene que ver con ella, pero el pueblo la aguantará de la misma manera que lo ha hecho en el pasado. ¿Quién es el pueblo para que pueda decir algo respecto al asunto? Los verdaderos votantes son los jefes militares que tienen el mando de fuerzas armadas.

"El proyecto de la reelección les interesa principalmente a los miembros del presente régimen político. Obrarán como les parezca conveniente. Si la Administración actual se compromete a la reelección, apoyará la medida, y la cuestión quedará resuelta en un ochenta por ciento. Si Obregón puede contar con el Ejército, con los Agraristas, y con un puñado de líderes, más o menos poderosos, la reelección será un hecho, sin importar lo que diga el pueblo o lo que declaren los autores de la Constitución.

"¿Es la personalidad de Obregón suficientemente poderosa

para derrotar a todos los candidatos posibles que se encuentran dentro del partido que ahora gobierna el país? Si lo es, la reelección es segura. En este conflicto, podemos declarar, sin el temor de equivocarnos, que el antiguo dicho de 'quien no está conmigo está contra mí' es aplicable a todos los interesados".

Aquéllos que están a favor de que se permita que el Presidente Obregón sea reelegido arguyen que cuando un hombre ha comprobado su valer, debería permitírsele servir a su patria hasta donde pueda. Algunos editorialistas mexicanos observan que es significativo el hecho de que el ex Presidente no ha hecho nada para refrenar los esfuerzos de sus admiradores, aunque se reconoce que toda la campaña de éstos constituye un cambio completo de las objeciones que se hicieron contra el régimen de Díaz, al que se atacó con el lema de "No Reelección". El "Universal Ilustrado" de la ciudad de México observa:

"Los partidarios de la reelección dicen: '¿Por qué se le ha de prohibir a un hombre volver a ser Presidente si ha desempeñado el puesto una vez con éxito?' Sin embargo, este argumento, queda refutado por dos hechos: primero, por la prohibición contenida en la Constitución, y, segundo, por los frutos amargos de la experiencia. Un hombre puede servir a su patria en otros puestos que no sean el de la Presidencia".

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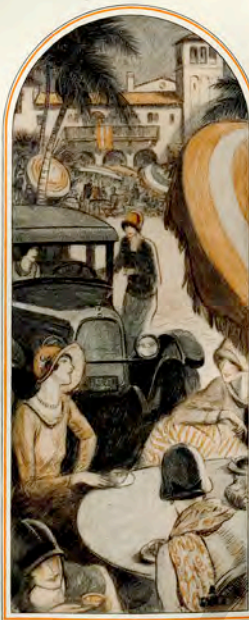
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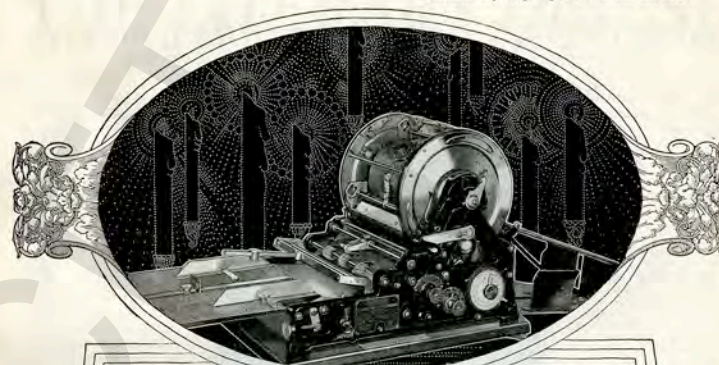
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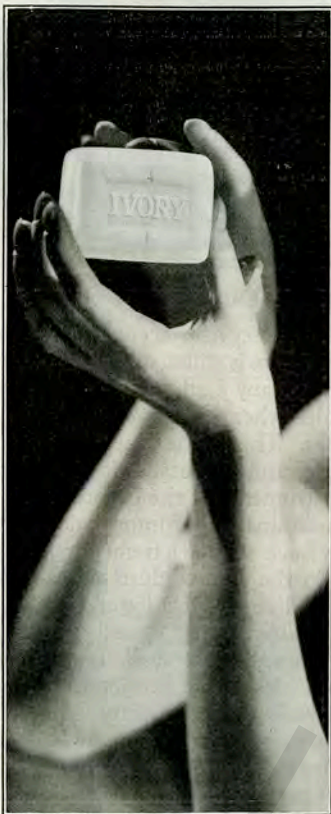


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PUBLIC OPINION, New York, and CURRENT OPINION, New York, combined with THE LITERARY DIGEST
(Title registered in U. S. Patent Office)

Vol. XCI, No. 13

New York, December 25, 1926

Whole Number 1914

TOPICS OF THE DAY

(This title registered in U. S. Patent Office)

FALL AND DOHENY ACQUITTED

AQUITTED, BUT NOT VINDICATED," seems to sum up the prevailing opinion of the American press on the verdict of "not guilty" brought in by a Washington jury in the trial of Albert B. Fall, an ex-Secretary of the Interior, and Edward L. Doheny, a multimillionaire oil operator,

"As Doheny says, 'a typical American jury,' after hearing all the evidence presented and after listening to exceptionally able arguments at the bar, has said that it is satisfied that the 'loan' was innocent and that the lease did not jeopardize the public interest. *The Advertiser* is satisfied that no other 'typical American jury' would have brought in a different verdict. We are satisfied that the verdict

is honest, and that it is based on sounder and more thorough knowledge of the whole case than any newspaper editor possesses. Moreover, the jury's opinion is more just and trustworthy than the opinion which any indignant politician may express. Andy Gump and Min will say: 'Oh, well, we are not surprised; you can't convict a rich man in this country.' The Andys and Mins, however, are not noted for their judicious temperaments—until they are drawn on juries, put under oath, and in the end exhorted by the presiding judge to 'weigh all the evidence and let your conscience be your guide.'"

Briefly told, the story of what has been called "the most famous political case since the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson," is as follows:

Five years ago—the exact date was November 30, 1921.—Edward L. Doheny sent \$100,000 in cash to Albert B. Fall, who was then Secretary of the Interior. The money was carried from New York by Doheny's son in a "little brown satchel"—which for a time was famous in the annals of the case, until Mr. Doheny himself set the matter right, as the "little black bag." Five months later Doheny's Pan-American Petroleum and Transport Company got from the Government a contract for the construction of oil storage tanks for the Navy at the Pearl Harbor base in Hawaii. This work was to be paid for with oil which the Navy received as royalty from drillers on Teapot Dome and other government oil reserves. Finding that there was not enough oil available from this source, the Government, about seven months later, signed another contract giving Doheny's company drilling rights in the 32,000 acre naval oil reservation at Elk Hills, California—a transaction from which Mr. Doheny estimated a probable profit of \$100,000,000.

These contracts and leases were all negotiated under the



F. and A. photographs
"NOT GUILTY" OF CONSPIRACY
The two lifetime friends, former Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall (at the reader's left) and Edward L. Doheny, photographed at the trial which ended in their acquittal of the charge of conspiracy to defraud the Government in the matter of the leasing of Naval Reserve oil land to Mr. Doheny's oil company.

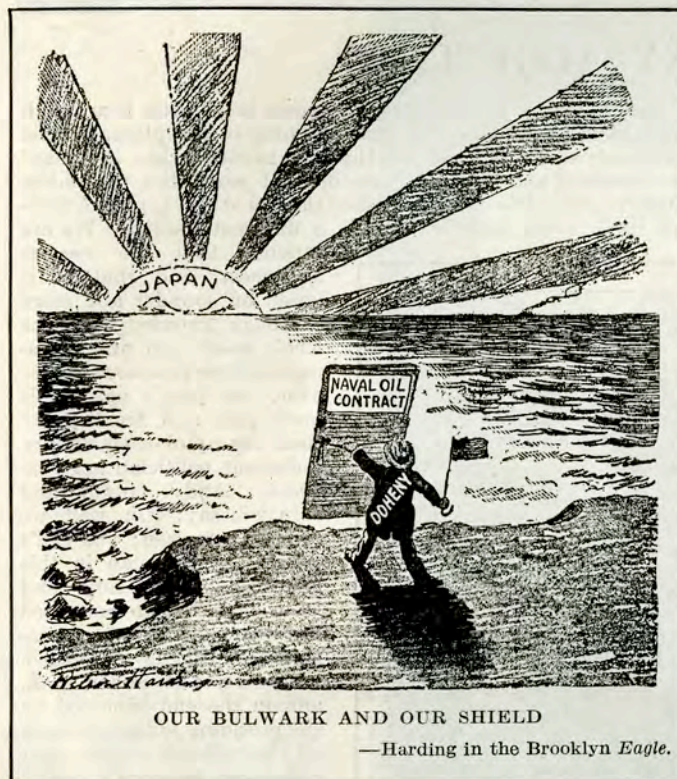
The verdict does not go far in clarifying the situation in the public mind," thinks the *Pittsburgh Gazette Times*; and still another Republican paper, the *New York Herald Tribune*, while welcoming the verdict as a sound one, remarks that "no one will conceive that the jury's decision is a clean bill of health for Mr. Fall." Curiously enough, considering the extent to which partisan interests were involved in the case, the most unqualified approval of the verdict we have yet encountered appears in the Democratic *Montgomery Advertiser*. Says this Alabama paper:

general direction of Secretary Fall, with only technical assistance from the Navy, because President Harding, by an executive order dated May 31, 1921, had transferred the naval oil reserves from the Navy Department to the Department of the Interior.

In 1923 these deals, together with the leasing of the Teapot Dome naval oil reserve in Wyoming to Harry F. Sinclair, were made the subject of a Senatorial investigation under the leadership of Senator Thomas J. Walsh, of Montana.

In March, 1923, Secretary Fall resigned from the Cabinet, and a year later Secretary of the Navy Denby, who also had approved the contracts, resigned.

In May, 1925, Fall and Doheny were indicted on charges of conspiracy to defraud the Government, the accusation being based chiefly on evidence brought out by the Senatorial investi-



gation. Their trial, which lasted twenty-three days, began on November 22, 1926. On December 16 the jury brought in a verdict of "not guilty."

The prosecution was in the hands of the Government's especially appointed counsel for the oil cases, ex-Senator Atlee Pomerene of Ohio, and Owen J. Roberts of Philadelphia. The groundwork of their argument was that the payment of the \$100,000, the manner of the payment, and the secrecy surrounding it showed it to be part of a corrupt agreement between a government official and Doheny's company; that the agreement was enormously valuable to Doheny's company, and that to make it Fall had to depart from the usual policies of the Government; and that the lease was granted to Doheny without competitive bidding. As a result of what the prosecution called a secret conspiracy, the oil involved in the deal became "not the Naval Reserve, but Mr. Doheny's oil preserve." The fact that the funds were transferred in cash was held up as additional proof of the shadiness of the transaction, as was also the fact that Secretary Fall persuaded E. B. McLean to say that he had lent the money instead of Doheny. Mr. Pomerene ridiculed the testimony of Admiral Robison to the effect that Doheny entered into the oil transaction because of the Japanese war scare; he pointed out that the Washington Arms Limitation Conference was going on at that time and the United States and Japan had arrived at a peaceful agreement.

The defense was conducted chiefly by Frank J. Hogan for Doheny and Mark B. Thompson and Wilton J. Lambert for Fall. They repeatedly argued that the lifetime friendship between Fall and Doheny was quite sufficient to account for the \$100,000 loan. Just as the loan was based on friendship, so the oil deal was based on patriotism, Doheny being finally persuaded to it by the argument that it was essential to the war plans of the Navy in view of secret information about trouble with Japan. The contract was approved by various Navy

Department authorities. Fall's declaration that he received the money from E. B. McLean was characterized as a justifiable lie to save his friend Doheny. Mention was made of President Harding's order stating his "very full and complete approval" of the oil deal. Much testimony was offered to show the good character and reputation of the defendants. It was declared, that the Senate inquiry under Senator Walsh was brought about for political purposes, and that there was also a political motive behind the conspiracy case. In the words of Attorney Hogan, "it was not in any higher motive that they crucified the man who stood at the bar 1,926 years ago."

Altho Doheny and Fall have been acquitted on the conspiracy charges, the newspapers point out that bribery charges against the two men are still to be tried, as well as the Fall-Sinclair conspiracy case, the case of Sinclair for contempt of the Senate, and the civil cases before the Supreme Court. We are reminded that the Government's civil suit to recover the Elk Hills lease from Doheny, won by the Government in the lower Federal Courts, has been carried by Doheny to the Supreme Court. The original court decision upholding Harry F. Sinclair's Teapot Dome lease was reversed last September by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, and has been carried to the Supreme Court.

The strongest comment on this case comes, not surprisingly, from Democratic sources. While Senator Walsh of Montana, prosecutor of the Senate oil inquiry which led to the conspiracy charges against Fall and Doheny, contents himself with the temperate remark that "the wide-spread conviction that the transaction was a reprehensible one will not be dissipated," ex-Secretary of the Navy Daniels denounces the verdict as "the worst thing that has happened to a free people since the barons obtained Magna Carta at Runnymede." After remarking that "the real thing I would like to say would have to be printed on asbestos, as it would burn up any newspaper," he adds:

"The verdict showed the inferiority complex of the jury. In order to acquit, they had to believe that Japan was about to capture the United States, and that 110,000,000 people had no protection from Japanese conquest except for Fall to turn over the naval reserves to Doheny so that the California oil man might make \$100,000,000.

"I didn't think there were any twelve men in America stupid enough to believe such an absurdity."

The great mass of the American people, thinks the New York Times (Dem.), still believes that "a scandalous impropriety, if not a crime, actually took place." The New York World (Dem.) reminds us that, while a District of Columbia jury has acquitted Fall and Doheny of conspiracy to defraud in the Elk Hills lease, the Federal District Court at Los Angeles recently rendered a verdict in a civil suit declaring that this same lease was actually made "in fraud and conspiracy," and restoring the oil reserve to the Government of the United States. And, remarks The World, "both decisions stand." The public, observes the Brooklyn Eagle (Dem.) "need not and will not believe that the acquittal of these defendants clears them of all blame for their amazing conduct." "They emerge from this trial freed of the charge of criminal conspiracy, but not freed of the public's suspicion of their duplicity," says the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot (Dem.). "Their claim of vindication is not likely to be accepted at its face by the public," agrees the New Orleans Times Picayune (Dem.). "If the practise of lending money to dear old friends who are in a position to promote one's business were to be condemned as corruption, the results would be deplorable," ironically remarks the Philadelphia Record (Dem.). The defendants "should be content with escaping jail, without asking their fellow-citizens to believe they were two persecuted patriots," thinks the Boston Post (Dem.). "Virtually all the people of the United States believe that the jury which acquitted the two men was derelict in the performance of its plain duty," maintains the Richmond Times-Dispatch (Dem.). The result is "a travesty on justice," declares the Dayton News (Dem.). "In public opinion both Fall and Doheny were long ago convicted," says the Nashville Tennessean (Dem.), and the Louisville Courier-

Journal (Dem.) remarks that the verdict "will not change public opinion." This view is shared by the Atlanta Constitution (Dem.), and the Mobile Register (Dem.) crisply observes:

"The outcome in this case is an ugly commentary on the method of administering justice in America. It is difficult to prove 'conspiracy' in any case; and it is doubly difficult where the persons accused are men of means and influence."

Turning to Republican papers, we fail to find any general jubilation over the outcome of the trial, even where the verdict is declared sound. "All good Americans will accept the verdict of acquittal in the conspiracy trial as right, proper and conclusive," remarks the Albany Knickerbocker Press. Nevertheless, thinks the Wichita Beacon, "the Fall-Doheny episode in the minds of the people remains about where it was before the trial." The jury, thinks the Philadelphia Inquirer, took a "lenient view" of the case. While technically the prosecution of Fall and Doheny has failed of its purpose, notes the Columbus Ohio State Journal, "it has been a terrible punishment to them, and it has impressed a solemn lesson upon persons in positions of public trust." "There is a flavor of gross impropriety about the transaction that no formal verdict of acquittal can quite remove, even if no actual corruption is involved," comments the Minneapolis Journal. "Mr. Doheny seems to have been the sort of man who would lend \$100,000 to a friend," remarks the Boston Transcript, "but the American people will be of the opinion that, in this particular case at least, he chose a most inopportune time to display the evidence of his friendship." The New York Herald Tribune, while conceding Mr. Fall's "total unfitness for public office," has this to say in behalf of Mr. Doheny:

"The Fall-Doheny jury could not ignore the patriotic motives behind the Doheny contract or the fact that the country benefited by the transaction in gaining the swift construction of oil tanks at Honolulu, of paramount importance to the safety of the whole nation. By comparison with these gains the partizan attacks of Senator Walsh and Wheeler could not but seem cheap, malevolent, and despicable.

"The character of Edward L. Doheny was an essential part of this trial. A large part of America, its entire pioneer, man-to-man development, was involved in his behalf. We think the jury did an American deed in exonerating him."

The incident of the \$100,000, thinks the Springfield Union, "was a bad business in a particularly bad period of our recent history." The Pittsburgh Gazette Times has this to say of the Washington verdict:

"The Government won its suits to oust the lessees from Elk Hills and Teapot Dome, the courts that have so far acted in the litigation deciding against Doheny and Sinclair on the ground that the transactions were tainted with fraud. So the verdict rendered in Washington on December 16 does not go far in clarifying the situation in the public mind.

"Much honest opinion was held that opening up the naval oil reserves to private exploitation was in the public interest and that the Government got a good bargain. Perhaps the jury believed the same thing. Perhaps it was convinced the defendants were animated by patriotic motives, as they claimed. But the verdict settles only that the jury was not convinced they were criminal conspirators."

And in still another Republican paper, the Syracuse Post-Standard, we read:

"The testimony of Admiral Robison, whose integrity is not impugned, that he approved the terms of the astounding agreement, withdrew the most substantial base for the conspiracy charge. When one of the parties to the transaction, Mr. Doheny, swore that his loan of \$100,000 was only his customary kindness to a friend, the jury felt that a conspiracy had not been established beyond a reasonable doubt."

Acquitted without vindication is what most of our papers classified as independent see in the Fall and Doheny verdict. "They have been acquitted by a jury, but they have not been acquitted at the bar of public opinion," remarks the Kansas

City Star, and the St. Louis Globe-Democrat finds the verdict "disappointing." "These defendants stand legally acquitted, but they are not innocent men," the Springfield Republican agrees. "The verdict is a great technical victory for Messrs. Fall and Doheny, but it is nothing more," notes the Providence Journal.

Commenting on the claim of the defense that the Pearl Harbor contract was prompted by pure patriotism on Mr. Doheny's part, he having been privately informed by Admiral Robison that the country was menaced with a naval attack from the Pacific, Mr. Hearst's New York American calls attention to these significant facts: "The record shows that the first Doheny con-



tract was signed thirty-two days, and the second Doheny contract 262 days, after our Senate had ratified the Four-Power Pacific Treaty pledging the United States and Japan to friendly arbitration of any trouble." But in this connection the Milwaukee Journal asks why the prosecution did not call ex-Secretary Hughes to testify in rebuttal of the alleged war scare.

In the Cincinnati Post and other Scripps-Howard papers we find the verdict discussed editorially in the following ironic vein:

"Doheny was just an impulsive Santa Claus to his old prospecting pal. So twelve young jurors played Santa Claus for him. Merry Christmas! What's a one-hundred-million-dollar profit, more or less, among friends at this glad time of year? What does the Navy's fuel matter, or the Navy itself mean, when you come right down to it? Who cares? A millionaire is happy, and his fellow defendant, who hasn't had much attention paid him in this case—just a former Cabinet member—is happy too."

The San Francisco Chronicle, while remarking that both Fall and Doheny ought to have recognized the impropriety of the \$100,000 loan from a concessionaire to a Cabinet officer, paints Doheny as the victim rather than the villain of the drama. Says this paper, published in Mr. Doheny's home State:

"Few persons who know Doheny believe he had any thought of bribing Fall. It is well known that Doheny is a very generous man, particularly to the old friends of his prospector days. It is not too much to say that for all his shrewdness his leg is rather easily pulled. The testimony in the case goes to show that both Fall and the Navy Department pulled Doheny's leg."

THE FIGHT OVER POISON GAS

AT THIS SEASON OF "PEACE ON EARTH," the people of the United States are favored with a remarkable controversy on the question whether this Government should sign on the dotted line of the Geneva protocol barring the use of poison gas in warfare. Those in favor of signing the treaty—which include Secretary of State Kellogg and General Pershing—believe that, since the use of gas in warfare has received the condemnation of the civilized world in general, as the Brooklyn *Eagle* remarks; since it produces unnecessary suffering and is certain to endanger the lives of non-combatant men, women, and children in "the next war," its use should be outlawed. Those approving the use of poisonous gases declare that this is a humane form of warfare; that the provisions of the Geneva protocol would be promptly broken in the event of war; and that the United States would need poison gas for its own defense against the world.

General Pershing, says an Associated Press dispatch, "believes that to sanction the use of warfare gas in any form would open the way for the use of the most deadly gases and the possible poisoning of whole populations." And, observes the Syracuse *Post-Standard*:

"This is the deliberate judgment of a man who knows what he is talking about. He is not a laboratory expert, but he can qualify as a judge by his experience in the World War. He, at least, believes that our Government should not fail to ratify the Geneva protocol."

"On such a question as this, essentially an international and a military question, we believe that the great body of American sentiment will be with Secretary Kellogg and General Pershing, and not with the chemists. Whatever the chemists may think, it would be a startling development, indeed, if the United States should refuse to give its assent to a declaration of nearly all the other great nations of the earth against the employment of weapons of warfare that would wipe out whole communities of non-combatants."

Senator Borah, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, points out that the Geneva protocol, which thirty nations already have signed, contains the same provisions concerning the use of poison gas that were incorporated in the Disarmament Treaty of 1922, which was ratified by the Senate.

But the chemists—or their spokesmen—declare that "the provisions of the Washington Conference and the Geneva protocol regarding the use of gas in warfare were born of hysteria and are fostered by ignorance." Thus speaks the Secretary of the American Chemical Society. In fact, asserts another expert, "the percentage of tuberculosis among gassed soldiers is not higher than among those soldiers who did not come in contact with gas warfare." Dr. James F. Norris, President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, even says that "chemical warfare is the most humane type of warfare." The Springfield *Union* remarks that "the American Legion's objection to placing a ban on poison gas, coming as it does from an organization of soldiers, can not be lightly dismissed." As Senator Wadsworth, Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, observes:

"The use of gas is cruel, but so are all weapons of war. If we are to abolish weapons because of their cruelty, why pick out gas, and not high explosives and shrapnel and the bayonet?"

"Chemical warfare provides a particularly complicated problem, so we are reminded by the Minneapolis *Tribune*, "because war-time gases are a necessary product of peace-time chemical manufacture."

WHAT WE MAY LEARN FROM ONTARIO

WE ARE BOUND TO LEARN SOMETHING from the action of the Province of Ontario in voting to discard Prohibition after ten years' trial and to substitute a plan for selling intoxicants under government control. The suggestion is made by a newspaper in the largest city of the United States located directly on the Canadian border, and quite naturally the dailies in the cities of our northern tier of States are particularly alert in trying to discover just what Ontario is teaching us. The Brooklyn *Eagle* speaks for a goodly company when it insists that since the world still has so much to learn about the best ways of promoting temperance, "Canada's various experiments are well worth watching." However the vote may

be interpreted, the Indianapolis *News* thinks "it can not be denied that the Ontario verdict is 'viewed with alarm' by American Volsteadians, and with great satisfaction by the anti-Volsteadians." Or, as the New York *Times* puts it, "to Americans seeking some practical way of settling their 'liquor problem,' made visibly worse since 1920, the almost continent-wide sweep of government control in Canada is a strong reason for encouragement and hope." The Cincinnati *Enquirer* declares that the voters of Ontario have administered to Prohibition "the most crushing defeat it has sustained on the American continent." The St. Paul *Dispatch*, bearing in mind also the recent referendums in some of our States, and the defeat of Prohibition in Norway, is convinced that "a world trend against the prohibitory method of seeking

temperance has set in." And yet, Wayne B. Wheeler, General Counsel of our Anti-Saloon League, belittles the Ontario vote and thinks that earlier referendums in favor of Prohibition are more representative of the actual feelings of the people. And several of our newspapers emphasize the fact that while some of the Canadian provinces have abandoned Prohibition, none of them has gone back to the legalization of the old-fashioned saloon, and that therefore there has been a net gain in the dry direction. In both Canada and the United States, declares the Milwaukee *Journal*, "it is accepted that the old days have departed for good."

Ontario is the fourth Canadian Province to vote down Prohibition since 1923, the Chicago *Tribune* recalls:

"In June, 1923, Manitoba voted down Prohibition by a majority of more than 30,000, inaugurating government-controlled liquor sales, after having been dry seven years."

"In November, 1923, Alberta voted for government sale of liquor instead of Prohibition, which it had had for eight years."

"Saskatchewan voted for government sale of liquor in July, 1924, after having been dry for several years."

"British Columbia had had government-controlled sales of liquor since June 15, 1921."

"Quebec never went dry, maintaining government-controlled sales."

"Only the Maritime Provinces, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick still have Prohibition, liquor being sold there only on prescription."

Naturally, observes the Detroit *Free Press*, located on the border, "a change in the liquor legislation in Ontario will not be hailed with any enthusiasm by dry-enforcement agents of the Government of the United States or the State of Michigan":

"Legalization of the sale of liquor in the Province will mean an increase of import and manufacture; and, whatever the law-

makers at Toronto may enact, this will bring about a material increase of the pressure against the already very leaky defenses supposed to prevent the flow of wet goods from Canada. In the region between Port Huron and Lake Erie, the task of fighting smugglers is going to be made very much harder."

However, adds the Detroit daily, "the Government will have time to prepare to meet the new situation." The new Ontario legislature, according to press dispatches from Toronto, will probably stand seventy-nine for government control and thirty-two for the existing Temperance Act, with one vote doubtful. It is thought unlikely that the new legislature will meet before January 15, or that the new law it enacts will go into effect before May 1. When the new law is in force, counsels the Syracuse *Post-Standard*, "there should be a stiffening of the Canadian police force to prevent smuggling out of Canada into the United States."

Newspapers which regret that Prohibition was written into the United States Constitution find a text here. Thus the Boston *Globe* is rather envious; "it seems so easy for Canadians to change their minds." We might be trying similar experiments, it adds, if Prohibition were not a part of the Federal Constitution. We ought to be glad that Canada's system is more elastic than

ours, opines the New York *American*, "since we get the benefit of the Canadian experiments without cost." Our problem, says the Syracuse *Herald*, is infinitely more difficult than Canada's, "thanks to the embodiment in our Constitution by subservient State legislatures of a police ordinance which should never have been put there." The Chicago *Tribune* agrees that "the misuse of the American Constitution made when sumptuary law was written into it continues to face the American people as one of the great mistakes of their constitutional history." "Even conceding"—and the Hartford *Times* does not concede it—"that the Federal Constitution should say anything at all on the subject of Prohibition, the most that the American people ever should have permitted it to say, is that Congress should have power to enact legislation dealing with the liquor traffic. Then legislation might, as it is about to in Ontario, reflect the changes in public sentiment."

But there seems to be another angle to this freedom of Canada's. "While our inflexibility has its disadvantages," the Detroit *News* suggests that the difficulty of altering our Prohibition Law "makes it certain that any change will be in the nature of a thoroughly considered conclusion that some other means of handling the question will be an improvement." The Springfield *Republican* develops the same idea at greater length:

"The history of Prohibition, wherever tried, discloses strong reactions in public sentiment. With Prohibition's attainment, popular support of it begins to waver and slip. The realities of practical enforcement cause a certain proportion of dries to lose heart and to yield to the wet propaganda that invariably is launched as a counter-offensive. It seems difficult to stabilize public opinion firmly in support of any system of liquor regulation for a great length of time, owing to the incessant controversial warfare that rages over whatever system may be established. The weaknesses of all regulatory systems—and all have

their special weaknesses—render these systems peculiarly vulnerable to counter-attacks."

"The American constitutional amendment affords the first opportunity in history for an experiment in Prohibition that is insured ample time in which to demonstrate its success or its failure with conclusiveness, irrespective of the swiftly shifting sentiment of a popular majority. As such as any device in government could be, the Eighteenth Amendment is politician proof. While Canada swings one way or the other, like a boat turning and running with the tide, the United States, perforce, is held fast to the course the Constitution has marked out."

And if this fixity of policy can not make Prohibition a success, in due time, nothing will and nothing can."

When we turn to the frank upholders of Prohibition in this country, we find Wayne B. Wheeler making the most of a recent reapportionment of election districts in Ontario which inures to the advantage of urban constituencies, which, as in this country, are more likely to be wet than the rural districts. Mr. Wheeler calls this a gerrymander, and also argues that Premier Ferguson strengthened his cause by making Prohibition a party issue. He thinks that Ontario will again go dry because recent referendum votes "show that the majority are favorable to Prohibition."

Despite the prestige given the wet cause by Ontario, the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* never-

theless feels that "the war-time victory of Prohibition has had a lasting and beneficial effect:

"None of the Provinces which have receded from Prohibition has taken back the saloon, and there is no likelihood that the saloon will ever again be tolerated in Canada. Nor does it appear that any considerable number of those who have voted wet have any desire for the return of this unquestioned evil."

The wets may be encouraged by Ontario's action, but the Pittsburgh *Gazette Times* feels that our dries may also extract "some grains of comfort" from it:

"Throughout the Dominion now beer and wine have been rejected as satisfactory alcoholic beverages."

"The American wets say all they want is beer. But what they really want is intoxicating beverages which in the end means whisky, gin, brandy and all the rest of the exhilarating drinks. Canada proves it. The result of the contests there should have the effect of making a clear-cut, honestly stated issue in our country. With all camouflage removed it is scarcely to be expected the United States will tamper with Prohibition."

And then as far as the policy of government control is concerned, the Boston *Christian Science Monitor* insists that students of the temperance movement know full well that in every location where it has been tried "it has been a failure in the lessening of the drink evil." In one of our Western border States, the Spokane *Spokesman Review* quotes the attorney-generals of the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, as authority for the statement that liquor-smuggling and bootlegging are rife in those government-control Provinces. "If you want the truth about the Canadian government dispensaries, you will find it in the official reports of the men who administer the system." If Ontario can make the plan work, asserts the Chicago *Evening Post*, "it will be the first among Canadian Provinces to make it succeed."



THE CLOAKMAKERS' WAR ON COMMUNISM

THE "WAR TO THE FINISH" against Communism in labor unions that has been declared in New York City, beginning with a "house-cleaning" of the Garment Workers' Union, seems, to the local *Evening Post*, "one of the most hopeful events in the history of organized labor." The revolt against the Communist leaders by the rank and file of the cloakmakers, says this paper, "shows that they fully realize the unfortunate position in which they have been placed by their Communist officials." In their effort to extricate themselves, we are told, they go to the length, not only of demanding the resignation of those officials, but also of requesting the international union to take charge of local affairs, including the conduct of the strike against the jobbers. This was done on December 13, the international union assuming charge of the strike and local union machinery. The next day it was announced that union leaders and garment manufacturers had agreed to submit their differences to arbitration.

Morris Sigman, leader of the international union, declares that the strike of some 35,000 cloakmakers, which began in July, was entirely unnecessary to begin with, and has been conducted, "at the cost of misery and privation to the strikers, with criminal indifference to the fate of the workers." The leaders of the strike, he asserts, took their orders from the Communist party, brushed aside the recommendations of Governor Smith's Advisory Commission, which might have been used as a basis for negotiations, and plunged the union into a disastrous conflict:

"For the first time in the history of the Cloakmakers' Union, a general strike was called without the vote of the membership. In organizing the General Strike Committee, no attention was paid to experience and fitness in the selection of members for the various committees. The leadership of the most important committees was entrusted to persons who had nothing in their favor except membership in and adherence to the Communist party. The Communist leadership of the Cloakmakers' Union has all but ruined the organization."

"It is a matter of general knowledge that we could have settled this strike more than once during these five months, on terms more advantageous than those secured now, but the leadership of the strike, which hoped its strike policy to suit the wishes of the Communist politicians, sidetracked all these opportunities."

"The chief issues for the achievement of which the cloakmakers of New York were called out on strike have been cast overboard or abandoned. They were abandoned solely through the incompetence of the Communist leadership of the strike, and through their criminal indifference to the fate of 35,000 workers."

"Weighing gains against losses, the cloakmakers have thus got less than was offered to them voluntarily about half a year ago. For this they have been on strike about twenty weeks. They have been deprived of earnings for a whole season, and have suffered untold misery and privation. The strike has cost the union about \$3,000,000, and has left it under the burden of a tremendously heavy debt. It will take the union years of hard work and sacrifice to repair the damage which the ill-fated strike has caused. The loss of a strike is not always the fault of the leadership, but we charge that in this case the strike was provoked without necessity and authorization, and that the defeat was brought about by the incompetence and criminal negligence of the leadership of the Cloakmakers' Union."

"Our international union and the American trade-union movement must not and shall not permit Communist blackmail chiefs, or such as serve their nefarious schemes and purposes, to assume positions of leadership in the trade-union movement. It is the sacred duty of the labor movement to rid itself of this pestilence."

In such a battle, *The Evening Post* is convinced, "there can be no question of where the sympathy of the public will be found to lie." Continues this daily:

"This house-cleaning means the salvation of the Cloakmakers' Union, and strikes a heavy blow at the violent and tyrannical tactics of the Left Wing all along the line."

"The wisest leaders of American labor unions are aware that

the very foundation stone of success for them is that their aims and methods shall be in accordance with the American spirit. American workmen are, first of all, Americans with American ideas and ideals. Some of their most important leaders, notably William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, have taken pains to emphasize this fact. They are fighting for changes in wages, hours, and conditions of employment, not for the adoption of a new political system."

"The local unions are to be congratulated upon their resolve to assume the aggressive against Communism within their ranks. Individuals, in labor unions or out, are entitled to hold what political opinions they please, but when Communists or other groups attempt to manipulate American labor organizations for political ends, there is only one course to take—open war."

"No group of persons in this country can make it better for the Communists than the labor unions. If the local organizations go into the fight with the spirit their leaders are displaying, the battle will be over almost before it has begun."

"This revolt against the Communist leadership is of particular significance" to the *Washington Star*. For—

"The principal organization of the Communist workers is the Trade Union Educational League, headed by William Z. Foster, with headquarters in Chicago. It is based upon the precepts of the Moscow Trade Union Internationale. It is believed to be the direct representative in the United States of that radical Communist organization. It is conducting a so-called educational work among the children in the industrial centers, and through the children with the parents, workers in various trades."

"One of the principles of Communism is to promote conflict between the workers and employers. Strike settlements are not sought in a spirit of adjustment. The performance in New York was obviously designed to continue the turmoil."

According to *The Daily Worker*, of Chicago, however, there is another side to the fight to oust the Communist leaders from the Cloakmakers' Union. The drive against the Communists and the Left Wing is merely "another scheme of the agents of imperialism," we are informed, "to enslave the working class." We read in this American organ of Communism:

"The present struggle in the Garment Workers' Union, altho pictured by the Right Wing and the capitalist press as a struggle against Communist theory and practice and against Communists, is in reality a struggle to preserve the trade unions as weapons of the working class. The fight on the Communists is made because the Communist party membership and its sympathizers in the Garment Workers' Union stand squarely in the way. The Right Wing would have the needle-trades unions tread the path to arbitration, worker-employer cooperation, and impotence. The Communists are the hardest fighters for a militant policy, and their devotion and organizational ability make it impossible for the Right Wing in the Garment Workers' Union to turn the union over to Tammany Hall through the medium of the Governor's Commission."

"The Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association is trying to smash the union, and force the workers back to slavery in the fetid atmosphere of their lofts. These lesser lords of cloaks and suits are demanding that the Garment workers' Union concede them the right to 'hire and fire'—especially fire, as they see fit. With the right to hire and fire indiscriminately and the speed-up system for which this would afford a perfect base, the contract shops would inevitably take on the most loathsome characteristics of the old sweat-shop system."

"The contractors have threatened to lock out the workers. They are backed by the big bosses, who see in this struggle the possibility of seriously weakening the union. It was no accident that the meeting of the Right Wing officials and the manufacturers were held simultaneously, and that the capitalist and Socialist press of New York began the attack on the union together."

"No good purpose is served by trying to minimize the seriousness of the situation which the union confronts. The Right Wing is desirous of a defeat for the union in the present struggle. It is willing to hamper the struggle in every way possible."

"The Left Wing has raised the issue of amalgamation of all the needle trades unions into one powerful union for the industry. This is the only effective reply the unions can make to the challenge of the bosses, but it is now clear that the Right Wing leadership of all the unions is willing to see the organization destroyed before they will consent to this logical and necessary step."



THE RIVAL SANTAS
—Or in the Chicago Tribune.



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SAINT "NICK"
—Rolly in Life.



OH, FOR A SANTA CLAUS
—Shaffer in the Cincinnati Times-Star.



SHUCKS, SAME THING HE GOT LAST YEAR
—Tilde in the Winston-Salem (N. C.) Journal.



MERRY CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS FROM THE CARTOONISTS
—Fox in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.



JUST THE VERY THING WE DON'T NEED
—Irland in the Columbus Dispatch.

TOPICS IN BRIEF

(An extension of this department appears weekly on the screen as "Fun from the Press")

WHAT some of our slippery citizens need is chains.—*American Lumberman*.

"WHEN in Rome do as the Romans do" is no longer advice; it's a command.—*Wall Street Journal*.

ANOTHER mistake China made was in having rivers big enough to accommodate gunboats.—*Chicago Evening Post*.

WELL, well; it must be hard for the Lakes to keep on the level so close to Chicago.—*Chadron (Ont.) News*.

A SHORT session of Congress gives greater assurance that the Federal list will not be.—*Chicago Evening Post*.

A CURRENT advertisement for an oil burner contains the slogan, "Pay as you enjoy it." We sometimes wish that Europe had fought its war that way.—*The New Yorker*.

IT must be nice to be a king in a land where somebody else is important enough to be the target.—*Rockford Star*.

THE boss that Al Smith has to pick with McAdoo may be assumed to be a wish-bone.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*.

By taxing the unmarried men, Mussolini apparently wants to foster the fighting spirit.—*Wall Street Journal*.

LATE estimates agree that 93 per cent. of the Christmas presents will be paid for by March 1.—*Publishers Syndicate*.

POULTERER says the male goose is the best behaved of all domestic fowls. Sounds like proper gender.—*Arkansas Gazette*.

WOMEN marry earlier than they used to, a statistician says. Figures with reference to frequency will be the next step.—*El Paso Times*.

AFTER all the criticism that has been passed upon them it must be admitted that the women of to-day are the greatest conservationists when it comes to fabrics.—*Minneapolis Journal*.

OUR own attitude toward Santa Claus is that we are always able to identify him positively on January 1.—*Dallas News*.

As long as Ontario remains wet, the people of Michigan will be living in a state bordering on intoxication.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*.

THE plum, one reads, was first cultivated in Persia. But it was its present high grade of development to the G. O. P.—*Arkansas Gazette*.

HAPPY thought. If the Democrats make a few more gains, the Republicans may get desperate and suspend taxes entirely.—*Tribune Free Press*.

THE average married man wouldn't worry about his wife wearing her skirts a little shorter if she'd only wear her dresses a little longer.—*El Paso Times*.

THE correspondents tell us that a tax-reduction bill will soon be framed, but we are afraid that in the wrangle to ensue, the boys will leave the taxpayers, as usual.—*Houston Post-Dispatch*.

FORTY THOUSAND PERMS are said to be transferred with each good-night kiss. The scientifically educated flapper, when her sweetie asks for a good-night kiss, will reply, "Don't bacilli!"—*Chicago Daily News*.



ROMANIA evidently doesn't want any Christmas Carols this year.—*New York Americans*.

ALL would be well if the silk-worm could work up a fondness for the cotton-plant.—*Arkansas Gazette*.

THE only man who makes a quick clean-up in Wall Street and gets away with it is a janitor.—*Dallas News*.

A MIXED party has one advantage. It needn't spend so much for whitewash.—*Quincy Whip-Journal*.

MODERN woman's place seems to be in either the delicatessen store or the beauty parlor.—*Wall Street Journal*.

ACCORDING to a morning paper women are now buying their dresses on the installment system. We seem to have seen some of them wearing the first installment.—*Punch*.

EVERYBODY seems to speak with conviction on the subject of crime except our juries.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*.

DOUBTLESS the kangaroo was nature's first abortive effort to produce a cheer leader.—*Palatka (Fla.) News*.

MUSSOLINI is hailed as a deliverer, but what Europe needs isn't a deliverer but a receiver.—*American Lumberman*.

ONE difficulty in maintaining a stable government in Mexico is that there are too many stalls.—*El Paso Times*.

IN the new Commonwealth, England has one-seventh of the authority and five-sixths of the trouble.—*West Palm Beach Post*.

A LADY M. P. is demanding equal rights for men and women. All men will support her in her gallant fight for their interests.—*Punch*.

MUSSOLINI has imposed a bachelor tax. Whether the move is designed to raise revenue, inflict vengeance or exact justice is not stated, but we are inclined to favor it.—*Houston Post-Dispatch*.

CONGRESS faces 12,000 bills at opening, "but think what dad will have to face after Christmas."—*Wall Street Journal*.

EVERYBODY seems to be prosperous, but only the reducing experts can really be said to live on the fat of the land.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*.

THERE'S an old saying that "charity should begin at home." And why shouldn't it? That's where poverty usually begins.—*Fergus Falls Journal*.

A BACHELOR may feel more lonely at Christmas time, but he at least knows when he receives a present that he won't have to pay for it later.—*El Paso Times*.

WOMEN, according to a leading feminist, "are making greater strides than ever before." Naturally. They are less impeded than ever before.—*Arkansas Gazette*.

THE Indian Bureau announces that the per capita wealth of the American Indians is \$4,700, which makes them the wealthiest people in the world. Lo, the rich Indian.—*Seattle Times*.

FRANCES is sending Claud, writer of novels, poetry and drama, to the United States as Ambassador. All we have to do now is to think up some simple and efficient way of getting four billion dollars out of a poet.—*The New Yorker*.

FOREIGN - COMMENT

MEXICAN RAGE AT WASHINGTON

RESENTMENT AND SCORN born in the Mexican press, it appears, because of what is called the "contemptible" policy of the American Government in issuing an official statement accusing Mexico of helping the Nicaraguan revolutionists to set up a Bolshevik State in Nicaragua. The diplomatic bombshell exploded at Washington, say Mexican editors hotly, was a smoke-screen, designed ostensibly to awaken the American people on an issue vital to American national interests, namely, the defense of the Panama Canal, but really aimed to win public support for a more drastic policy toward Mexico with regard to the land and oil laws. Three days after the publication of the Washington official dispatch mentioning the grave concern felt at the intervention of a foreign Power "in Nicaragua's affairs, Mexican newspapers note, came the publication of diplomatic exchanges between Mexico City and the Department of State, which revealed what they call "a diplomatic impasse" between the two Governments over the interpretation of the oil and land regulations which are to become effective January 1, 1927. As contrasted by Mexican editors who claim to be "impartial," the Mexican and American view-points disclose themselves as follows:

1. Mexico holds that she has the right to pass any regulations she deems necessary to enforce the provisions of the Constitution of 1917, which nationalized the subsoil and the large estates.
2. Mexico recognizes the validity of all grants and titles legally acquired before 1917, and holds that they shall be vested in their rightful owners until their death. Any person or society acquiring such titles or rights by bequest or purchase shall become Mexican within a period of ten years.
3. Mexico does not acknowledge that the informal "conversations" held in Mexico in 1923 with Messrs. Warren and Paine, as the representatives of President Harding, possess the force of an international treaty, inasmuch as they were not submitted to Congress in the United States, or to the Mexican Chamber and Senate.

The American Government, on the other hand, according to the Mexican press, maintains the following points:

1. The regulations to be enforced on January 1 are confiscatory in fact, and in open violation of the pledges given by the Obregon Administration to the representatives of President Harding, which were the basis for the recognition of the Mexican Administration at the time.
2. Due compensation has not been forthcoming for properties already nationalized.

To this the Mexican Government is described by Mexican editors as replying that:

1. In international law, no protest can be made against the laws of another country until its effects have actually harmed the subject or subjects of another nation.
2. The Mexican courts are open to consider all protests.
3. The conversations of 1923 were never considered by the Mexican Government as forming the basis of the recognition of the Obregon Administration.
4. The oil and land laws are not confiscatory.
5. The regulations will be enforced at all cost, Mexico being a sovereign nation perfectly free to legislate as she sees fit.
6. Whatever may have been the impression gained by President Harding's envoys, the conversations of 1923 could not reasonably or legally be considered anywhere as a pledge to stop all present and future legislatures from passing such laws as they considered proper.

The controversy between the two countries, remarks the Mexico City *Universal*, exhibits on one side the haste shown by Washington in protecting interests which have not been endangered in the least, and, on the other, the care with which Mexico always has and always will defend her sovereign rights, and this daily proceeds:

"Mexico acted as a free and sovereign country in drafting and adopting such laws as she found suitable. It is evident that if the enforcement of these laws proved harmful and caused real damage to foreign interests which could not obtain redress or satisfaction from the Mexican courts, a diplomatic claim would be logical. But this case has followed an unprecedented breach of all diplomatic use and custom. The United States began to oppose the laws and regulations because it considered them as retroactive, many years before the alleged confiscatory phrases could be noticed."

At the same time this journal does not think the incident so very grave, tho it admits that it is a serious misunderstanding, and adds:

"As a matter of fact there has been and there is no conflict. Mexico acknowledges that the law has no retroactive features and that all property rights are duly recognized. The United States, on the other hand, has not brought out a single case in which her nationals have suffered or been deprived of their due by these laws. Where is then a cause for alarm?"

But the Mexico City *Excelsior*, not so calm, protests bitterly against the "radical legend" spread abroad picturing Mexico as a hotbed of Bolshevism, and it declares:

"As a hot even a high school student could confound the social evolution of Mexico with the Soviet ideology. The revolutions and political crises of Mexico are characteristic products of Latin America as a whole, and of our country in particular. Any onlooker could easily note that the only point in common between the problems of Russia and of Mexico is the liberty of



the people, oppress by centuries of serfdom. Outside of that, everything differs. The soil, the population, history, creeds, commercial intercourse, customs, are all different. The Russian problem is typically Slav, Oriental, political, the connecting link between the Orient and the Occident. The Mexican problem is a social problem, the struggle of a people eternally despoiled, an obscure aspiration to better things, the problem of educating the masses, of irrigating our lands, of building up highways and commercial intercourse. . . .

Mexico never has intervened and never will in other countries, not even to extend her ideals, but even if she did so, we could not see any harm in it. The only thing morally forbidden to every nation on earth is to disturb the internal peace and tranquility of her sister nations, as well as to intervene in any way in their own sovereign affairs."



A LATIN-AMERICAN COMPLAINT

LATIN-AMERICA: "You lend your money freely enough, Uncle Sam, but you demand entirely too much for your benevolence."

—Corre Valia (Santiago, Chile).

The Vera Cruz *Diet-men* see the whole dispute hinging on the different meanings given to the two countries to the conversations of 1923 between Messrs. Warren and Paine on the one hand, and Ross and Gonzalez Rosa on the other. When they took place, this newspaper avers, it was common belief that the American representatives were fully satisfied that our laws formed no obstacle to the maintenance of friendlier relations between the United States and Mexico, and it is then pointed out that:

"This popular impression seemed to be confirmed a little later when Washington recognized the Obregon Administration. It was taken for granted that the regulation and application of the laws would not be causes of new friction."

"Secretary Kellogg, however, dispels that illusion, stating emphatically that his Government considered the assurances obtained by the American Commissioners as forming the basis for the recognition of the Obregon Administration, and that such a formality would not have taken place if the said pledges had not been given."

"The Mexican Government maintains that this contention has been a great surprise, inasmuch as nothing of the kind was even hinted at in 1923, the conversations being designed to clarify the Mexican law for the benefit of the White House."

Meanwhile, press dispatches from Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, record a statement of Dr. Juan Bautista Sacasa, head of the Liberal Government set up in that city, in which he says that the charge of Adolfo Diaz, the Conservative President, with respect to the Mexican Government's support of the Liberal movement in equipping ships to act under escort of Mexican gunboats, is false and was "invented for the purpose of exciting the suspicion of American public opinion against the just cause for which the Nicaraguan people are fighting."

BRITISH CRIME INCREASE

CRIME-RIDDEN AMERICA, as some foreign editors speak of this country, is the subject of frequent comment, not only in English newspapers but also in those on the Continent, so it comes as something of a change to find a British judge saying that there is a marked increase in crimes of house-breaking and shopbreaking throughout England. What is more, he avers that the number of persons brought to book for these very serious offenses, in comparison with the number of cases reported, is insignificant. The author of these charges is Judge Atherton Jones, K. C., who has been judge of the Mayor's City of London Court since 1913, Recorder of Newcastle since 1909, and who is also a Commissioner of Assize at the Old Bailey. A great army of police is maintained, he writes in the *London Evening Standard*, to counter the cohorts of crime, and he specifies that there are some 60,000 policemen in England and Wales, which means more than one for every person convicted of an indictable offense. Continuing, he tells us that:

"In the Metropolis, including the City, there are over 21,000 constables. Their pay, materially increased since the outbreak of the Great War, exceeds that of the skilled artisan; and in addition to this they receive a liberal pension on retirement, usually between the ages of forty and fifty, as also do their widows."

"This exceptionally generous treatment is explained by the undeniable fact that having regard to the responsible duties a constable has to perform, it is necessary to secure trustworthy and fairly educated men."

"While the excellent conduct of the force must be fully recognized, yet as a preventive and detective agency the results are far from satisfactory. It is disconcerting to find that while in 1924 there were known to the police 112,547 indictable crimes, only 57,374 persons were tried for indictable crimes."

"In the Criminal Statute for this year the compiler observes: 'The disparity between crimes committed and persons tried must not be used as a test of police efficiency.' Yet making all due allowance for the fact that one person committed more than one crime in this period, and that the criminal of to-day is more skilled in avoiding detection, as urged by the compiler, the considerations do not account for this marked disparity."

"I would rather attribute it to the tendency of recent years to transform our peace officer into a gendarme. The militarizing of the police has been a marked feature in the modern organization."

A military force is not effective as thief-catchers, according to Judge Jones, who relates that a distinguished member of the Royal Irish Constabulary told him that the military character of that force rendered it less capable of dealing with ordinary crime. It is this military character of the London police, he adds, that undoubtedly led some members of the Labor party to attest—but "without good reason"—that the police were maintained to protect the capitalist against the workingman. The real reason for this form of organization, says this judge, is mainly if not entirely due to the fact that the chief officers of the police, both in London and the provinces, are military men whose genius is to encourage militarism. On the subject of the insignificant number of prosecutions as compared to the number of crimes of housebreaking and shopbreaking, this expert observer remarks:

"If I state the case of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, it is by no means a truly typical case in support of my criticism, for in that city the proportion of persons brought to trial for indictable crimes is much higher than in many other towns of similar magnitude, but in 1924 there were 112 cases of houses and shops broken into and only sixty-four persons were brought to trial."

"Police forces are graduated according to population, and Newcastle has a large and efficient force. Why were only half of these cases brought to justice? I think the true explanation is that under the present antiquated 'beat' system, the house-breaker is able, with the utmost ease, to elude detection. It may be a 'short beat' or a 'long beat,' but the thief remains the thief in a comfortable pass and the time he will return, and in the interval he commits the crime."

HAS GERMANY A SECRET REICHSWEHR?

FOR THREE YEARS there have been rumors and gossip all over Europe, it appears, as to whether or not there is a "Black" or Secret Reichswehr in Germany, which in case of necessity might be converted into an entire army uncontrolled by the Allies. According to the Treaty of Versailles, it will be remembered, Germany is allowed a Defense Force known as the Reichswehr, whose strength is provided for by the Treaty. In some quarters it is now asserted that there really is a secret force, the Black Reichswehr, which is a distinct menace, but in others the existence of the Black Reichswehr is said to be only in the imagination of romancing journalists. All the present excitement over the rumored secret force results, it seems, from the trials in a provincial court of alleged Black Reichswehr men, who were charged with crimes committed as long ago as 1923. Says the *Hamburger Nachrichten*:

"The four successive trials at Landsberg [Eastern Prussia] were devoted to the investigation of two murders committed in 1923 at Kustrin [near Poland] in the so-called Labor Battalions. These battalions, authorized by the Treaty of Versailles, were entrusted with the task of recovering arms and munitions left over from the war for the purpose of delivering them to the German authorities for use in case of need to defend the country. This was a highly important assignment because it was feared at the time that Poland might attack Germany. The possibility of coping with such an attack depended to a marked degree upon the quantity of arms that should be found. But some of the hot-headed members of the Labor Battalions began to suspect their fellows, Janke and Gaeckle, of a clandestine aim to give these arms to the German Communists who were especially active just then. Such a deed, of course, would be high treason."

"The Labor Battalions were seriously disturbed by the rumor, because everybody felt that it was the eve of a war. So the hot-heads decided to murder their fellow workers under suspicion. An attempt at poisoning Janke by two men, named respectively Thoen and Rothmann, formed the case of the first trial and the alleged poisoners were condemned each to two years in prison. The second trial concerned one Erich Klapproth, who attacked and beat Gaeckle, inflicting serious injuries. The third trial brought forth Kowalewski and Fahlbusch, charged with having murdered one Brauer, said to be a spy for the Allies. Kowalewski was condemned to six years at hard labor, while Fahlbusch, the more important of the two criminals, disappeared. The fourth trial resulted in the banishment to various towns of Klapproth, Schulz and others who participated in some way or other in the assassination of one Grosseck. But these trials have not revealed anything that the papers of the Left believed they would reveal."

Dr. Otto Gessler, the Minister of the Reichswehr, contributes an article to the *Berliner Tageblatt* in which he says that the President of the Landsberg Court was "both right and wrong" when he asserted in his verdict that no Black Reichswehr has ever existed. Dr. Gessler continues as follows:

"The Black Reichswehr has never existed as a secret army, or as a secret organization provided for by the Treaty of Versailles. But this Reichswehr has existed as an idea, as a scheme, and as a subject of propaganda widely spread in certain circles of German society. This idea was based on the contention that the official Army of Germany is not strong enough to defend the country against the aggression of an enemy without or against a serious revolt attempted within its boundaries. Both I and General Von Seeckt refused to endorse the idea of the Black Reichswehr. It was not only illegal, but was also absolutely impractical from the military viewpoint. It was based on a complete ignorance of contemporary methods of warfare."

"As to the Labor Battalions, in which the crimes were committed, they were perfectly legal organizations provided for by the Treaty of Versailles. Their purpose was to put in order the German fortresses in the eastern part of the country, and this purpose was permitted by the Treaty. Among their members were some who had formerly belonged to the so-called Silesian Militia. This organization was recognized by the Allies, and it was known that it would be allowed its men to be used in the defense of the German population. . . . The Labor Battalions were in no way connected with the Army."

But an altogether different picture of the activities of the

Labor Battalions appears in the testimony quoted in the German press of a certain Major Buchmeier, who also was one of the accused at Landsberg; and who is said to have testified that:

"Officially these battalions were trying to locate arms. But this was only a pretext to save them from possible charges of treason. The real purpose of these organizations was quite different. The Minister of the Reichswehr knows what it was."

We learn further from the German press that Major Buchmeier told the Court of a letter addressed in August, 1926, by Dr. Gessler to his lawyer, in which the Minister is said to have declared that the affair of Kustrin had destroyed the whole system of defense, which had been so carefully organized in the eastern part of the country, by throwing the light of publicity on it.



FRENCH SUSPICION

"While Mr. Briand dials only with the German Government the shadow of the Black Reichswehr comes ominously into view."

—Aux Eclaires (Paris).

The *Hamburger Fremdenblatt* does not think that the crimes committed in Kustrin indicated the existence of a secret military organization, but believes they can be explained, tho' not justified, by purely psychological motives characteristic of the period. This newspaper adds:

"Among the men in Kustrin were many who had taken part in encounters and skirmishes with the Poles. They considered themselves above all as defenders of the fatherland against traitors. And they perceived treachery even where it did not exist."

"They felt that they were being watched all the time by the Communists. This finally led them to assume the duty of self-appointed judges of their fellows suspected of treason."

Says the Social-Democratic *Vorwaerts*:

"One of our editors visited Kustrin and talked there with members of the Reichswehr. He came to the conclusion that the Reichswehr soldiers had a strong feeling against the 'Blacks' who were, so to speak, their rivals and who got better pay. It was known at the time that the 'Putschists' concentrated at Kustrin were entrusted with various acts and tasks directed against the republican régime. . . . They recently had any idea of the credulity they practise on their comrades in camp."

"Lies and secrecy for a long time rendered the prosecution of these criminals impossible, and they continued to work under their slogans of 'national interest.' Even when their case attracted the attention of the courts, they were tried in a half-secret manner, and with no publicity. Under the pretext of the 'safety of the State' the Courts of Schwerin and of Berlin handled these cases in a special manner. But the Court of Landsberg decided to give the matter full publicity."

DEATH FOR ITALIAN ASSASSINS

EVEN IF HE FIRES and misses, as fortunately the recurrent Italian assassin does, when he makes an attempt on the life of Premier Mussolini, Italy's new law insures the would-be murderer death. But justice, not vengeance, is the aim of this law, we are told, which provides the death penalty for



A GERMAN THRUST AT ITALY'S DEATH PENALTY

"Hail, oh, Duce, we who are about to die salute thee!"

—Kladderadatsch (Berlin).

attempts against the lives or liberty of the Premier or of the royal family as well as serious penalties for opposition to the Fascist régime. Premier Mussolini, in introducing the bill to the Italian Senate, where it was favorably received by a vote of 183 to 49, said that "these attempts against my life leave me perfectly indifferent," and, as quoted in Rome press dispatches, he continued as follows:

"If people who make me the special object of their sympathies hope to make the slightest impression upon me they are grossly mistaken; such an idea is excluded, because it is ridiculous and funny. Whatever happens, I remain at my post, because it is my firm intention so to do.

"However, if these episodes leave me indifferent, they do not have the same effect on the Italian people. There have been days of prolonged unrest in the nation's life, and it is the nation itself which has demanded the death penalty in many manifestations. I wish to add that the special tribunals (the military courts which will try cases under the law) will be composed of persons quite above all suspicion, and will not wreak vengeance, but administer justice."

According to the Manchester Guardian's Rome correspondent, the revolutionary tribunals will have power to judge foreigners who make attempts on the life of the King, Queen, Crown Prince or Premier Mussolini, or plot against the integrity of the State, and will thus try Miss Gibson, who attempted to assassinate the Premier. This informant goes on to say:

"But foreigners guilty of other political offenses will come before the ordinary tribunals.

"I gather further that the dissemination of Liberal doctrines will not be considered as a political offense, only Communist and anarchist propaganda coming under this heading."

The Milan *Corriere Della Sera* speaks of the new measures as being of both a political and juridical character, and it advises us that the first ones resolved themselves into a series of provisions for security, calculated to curb the work of opponents of the régime. The next measures serve to modify the penal punitive laws by the insertion in the code of the death penalty which is applicable through an extraordinary procedure, and this newspaper continues:

"All in all, the decisions of the Council of Ministers appear grave. But it should be borne in mind that they were framed in order to meet the necessity of the moment, and that they are commensurate with the scope at which they aim, without, however, introducing substantial principles in conflict with the structure of our legislation.

"In fact, these laws for the introduction of the death penalty, and whatever goes hand in hand with it, are designed for a period of five years—a fact which shows, for the time at least, that it is not meant so much as a new juridical entity of an abstract nature, but to afford the régime a more effective weapon."

The new proposals for the defense of the State in Italy, writes the Rome correspondent of the London *Daily News*, practically amount to the establishment of military tribunals formed by militia officers to deal with political offenses. This informant notes also that the death penalty is established not only for those

NON TOCCARE



A FASCIST WARNING

"He is not to be touched under penalty of death."

—Il 426 (Florence).

who commit acts against the life, health or personal liberty of the King, or Regent, the Queen, the Crown Prince or the chief of Government, but also for any act which might lead to the subjection of the State to any foreign Power, and for those who reveal political or military secrets, take part in an armed uprising against the State, and who incite to civil war.

SCIENCE • AND • INVENTION

FOR SAFE AND SANE CHRISTMAS-TREES

SAFETY AND SANITY are in order on December twenty-fifth, it would appear, as well as on July fourth. We need not give up our Christmas-trees, thinks *American Forestry and Forest Life* (Washington), but we certainly should not abandon ourselves to an orgy of destruction in order to get them.

And in particular we should not cut thousands more than we need and then burn the left-overs. Furthermore, we should stop putting roadside shade-trees. To plant trees by the score on Arbor Day and cut them down by the hundred on Christmas may be magnificent, but it is not business. There has lately, the paper just named reminds us, been an extensive discussion in the press for or against the use of Christmas-trees. It has been strongly opposed by many local civic clubs. Professional foresters are nearly unanimous for unlimited use, and last year the U. S. Forest Service sent out an official news item practically to that effect. We read:

"While in the main this is a sane and proper attitude, certain unfortunate results have followed that may still further arouse many civic organizations to oppose the unrestricted use of Christmas-trees. In order to get a better grasp of the whole Christmas-trees situation, the writer last year employed, during November and December, two of the largest Eastern and Western press-clipping bureaus to furnish a copy of every article relating to the subject. With the large amount of material received, with practically no duplication of material by the two agencies, it is evident that there is still a great need in some sections for moderation and education in Christmas-tree cutting. As to market conditions for the last two years, the Washington, D. C., market is typical of what happened in many sections. As a result of much agitation against the unlimited use of Christmas-trees, two years ago the Washington market was for the first time in many years not overstocked, and by six o'clock on Christmas Eve only a few poor-grade trees could be found unsold. Last year, with the announcements above referred to as a precedent, probably the largest supply of trees in history was placed on the market and a correspondingly large supply was left unsold, and burned."

In cutting Christmas-trees, the United States Forest Service advised that it be done by thinning out groups of crowded trees, and that in the national forests such trees could be obtained by applying to the supervisor in charge. Unfortunately, very few people cutting from private places gave this advice any consideration. If they had, there would be no complaint. Practically throughout the country most of the cutting was done along roadsides, and quantity cuttings took everything usable, without a thought of leaving mature trees to beautify the landscape and to mature for serviceable timber, pulp, or firewood. It is almost axiomatic that unless land is to be cleared for some definite purpose, owners should insist, and civic clubs should urge, that in cutting Christmas-trees a sufficient number of properly spaced trees be left to mature at least six-inch trunks before cutting. Many automobile clubs are showing a great interest in

preventing the destruction of the spring landscape, and it is hoped they will extend their interest to preventing such winter roadside vandalism as may be seen in most places where extensive commercial cuttings are made.

"No one wishes to deprive children or adults of the joys of the Christmas-tree, and, with care in cutting, most coniferous wooded



Photograph by Underwood & Underwood

THE CHRISTMAS-TREE IN THE LAND OF CHERRY-BLOSSOMS

Even in far-off Japan, with its old, old customs so different from ours, here are children singing Christmas songs around the Christmas-tree in the Giza Church, Tokyo.

localities will furnish an endless supply for such purposes. On vacant land farmers could utilize to advantage the less busy periods by setting out seedling trees taken from crowded areas. Or, if no such areas exist, small trees may be purchased."

The movement to "plant your own Christmas-tree" is an excellent one and should be encouraged, the writer thinks. In this respect some parts of Iowa lead all other sections of the country by planting not one but several evergreens in the yards along the road and decorating them at Christmas. He recommends the extension of this plan. To quote further:

"Another practice new to most sections of the country is the purchase of 1,000 or more Christmas-trees by municipalities for street decoration. Certainly a very attractive custom. Last year some municipalities were forced to abandon this custom by a public protest against such a waste of trees which could only be burned after the holiday season. If, however, these are cut with due regard to the above suggestions, this custom also might well be emulated.

"Municipalities within easy reach of a State or national forest could frequently obtain all such needed material for the cost of cutting and hauling.

"In the Southeastern States the scrub pine is the most used for



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SYMBOLS OF PEACE AND GOOD-WILL—GERMANY AGAIN SENDING CHRISTMAS-TREES TO ENGLAND

The Christmas-tree idea is said to be of German origin and was made popular in England in the last century by Queen Victoria. Germany is the biggest exporter of Christmas-trees for English homes, and as the picture indicates the traffic has quite recovered from the effects of war. Here are trees being collected in German forests for export to England.

Christmas-trees. It is abundant and of very little value for any other purpose except firewood. Hemlock and red cedar of the East, while used to some extent, are not well adapted for Christmas-trees. Spruce and fir supply them for the most part to the Eastern market from the section embracing northern New York to Maine and the adjoining parts of Canada. While these trees are moderately priced in the Northern States, they sell in the Middle Eastern regions and South for from \$1.50 to \$5.00 each, and will never compete seriously with the native scrub pine, very good specimens of which sell from 50 cents to \$1.00.

"In the West, native spruce and fir constitute most of the Christmas-trees, and like those of the East are largely shipped to the Middle States.

"In the last few years numerous nurseries and individuals have begun growing Norway spruce for Christmas-trees, and the practice is likely to increase extensively, as it is one of the most rapid-growing conifers. A new crop of seed should be planted each year and transplanted to the nursery row when the seedlings are one year old. If spaced three feet apart in each direction they will plant 5,000 trees to an acre, and in five to seven years will be ready for marketing. One grower makes a practice of cutting at this time every other row and every other tree in the remaining rows, leaving the remaining trees to grow to maturity each way to mature. The net yield from this practice, if the Christmas-trees are sold at an average of 80 cents each, is about 1,800 an acre for the five to seven years' growth or nearly \$900 at such a year. This is considerably more than the average yield an acre for most annual crops, and involves very much less labor.

"Abandoned farm lands in many sections of the country are well adapted to such forest growth. The trees not cut will reach a trunk diameter of six inches in about thirty years. If such plantations are made within reasonable marketing distance of paper or pulp mills, they will at the end of thirty years meet with a ready demand for that purpose and give a further very satisfactory profit.

"Several States have endeavored to encourage such plantations on unoccupied land by passing laws freeing the trees from taxation for a definite period of years, or until sales have actually been made. These laws, however, have not always worked out as satisfactorily as they were expected to work, and at present a government commission is making a study of such laws with a view to recommending a satisfactory model law to encourage tree-planting.

"In Massachusetts the town forest movement is receiving excellent support, and where local land is available for the purpose offers opportunity for obtaining not only a constant Christmas-tree supply but of an excellent town or excellent profit either for improvements or for reduction of taxes. Town forests should in a few years be self-supporting. In many places, particularly in Europe, where the movement has long been in practice, they have resulted in freeing the town from debt or taxes or both.

"Civic clubs in every locality would do well to consider directing their efforts to such ends. In some cases land is already owned by municipalities or can be purchased by them. In others, public-spirited individuals will donate the land or subscribe money for the purchase. A few years of well-directed effort and every such locality may not only take pride in their conservation and recreation work, but may without fear of criticism indulge in an annual Christmas festival with evergreen trees aplenty for street decorations."

FEAR REACTIONS IN THE CHILD

AN EPISODE THAT RECURS in almost stereotyped form was described recently at an inquest upon an English child who fell into the Mersey while at play with three others, who were too frightened to tell any one. This sort of thing teaches a lesson, thinks *The Lancet* (London):

"Accidents are inevitable as long as rivers and children are in proximity, but such behavior as the companions of the victim showed is not inevitable; yet it occurs with sufficient frequency to make us suspect that the cause to be found in general principles rather than in individual tendencies. We recently commented upon a parallel case in which a corner severely condemned a lad of fifteen who had hidden the fact of a playmate having been shot in the palm. The corner adopted a different attitude in trying to lessen the remorse shown by the boy concerned in the drowning accident, and when we consider the impression that a fatal disaster can make upon adult participants, we must agree that in such cases no words are wasted that can alleviate self-reproach in a child. We might, nevertheless, distrust the corner's view that the three were silent because 'you can't put old heads on young shoulders' and 'boys of their age have not been trained to think and do what was the right moral thing to do.' They knew as well as any adult what was the right thing to do, but were prevented from doing it by fear, and the fact that leads to such incidents. Apart from knowledge, the instinct of the child is surely to turn to the adult for help; the secretive behavior we are discussing indicates an inhibition rather than a lack of knowledge or moral training, and its causes are to be sought in our attitude toward the child. Perhaps we may reach an understanding of the mind of the child in such circumstances when we remember what care we take to avoid any censure upon sufferers from certain diseases lest that may lead them to hide them. If such care is necessary between man and man, we must recognize the need for avoiding the introduction of fear into the relation between the child and the omnipotent grown-up. Besides its influence upon behavior, this fear is shown by modern research to underlie many nervous symptoms both in children and those of mature years—playing, indeed, a part greater than that played by actual terrifying incidents."

TAKING THE "O" OUT OF RADIO

YOUR RADIO NEEDS HOWL NO MORE. This nuisance has been eliminated, we are told in the New York Times, by the introduction of a new circuit, the debut of which was synchronized with the opening of the English radio season. This circuit is associated with the name of Sir Oliver Lodge, and consequently his claims for it carry considerable weight. The Times quotes Sir Oliver as saying:

"In designing the receiver, which has now become known as the 'N' circuit, my object was first to provide a wireless set that would not oscillate or cause interference with neighboring sets (and this is very necessary), and yet would receive programs from the local stations as well as the distant stations."

"If the 'N' circuit were universally adopted, there would be an end to the oscillation nuisance."

From this short statement, the writer goes on to say, it will be seen that the scientist's prime object has been to eliminate the "bloopers." Regenerative circuits because of their excellent amplification have always been popular, but their use has been coupled with the "howling" nuisance. We read further:

"The fundamental principle of the 'N' circuit is the employment of a single connection between the antenna and detector tube. It is nothing more or less than a closed oscillating circuit. The antenna circuit itself need not be a tuned circuit, but can be of the aperiodic type, and is heavily damped. The 'N' circuit has a very low resistance, so that comparatively high voltages can be generated by small voltage impulses.

"Sir Oliver Lodge maintains that for good quality of reproduction, there should be no more than one tuned circuit, as, if two tuned circuits be employed, there is a great liability to distortion, owing to heterodyning between the circuits.

"In the 'N' circuit the coil is made of a fairly high inductance value and the capacity of the condenser small. Owing to the much greater length of the antenna system, and to its damping, it is impossible for radiation from the antenna to occur.

"The ground is also connected to the plate of the detector tube, and there is a small resistance between the grid and the filament circuit."

Mr. R. H. Manson, chief engineer of the Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Manufacturing Company, is reported as making this statement:

"Successful operation of a modern radio set depends upon the elimination, or control, of the natural feed-back from the output of the radio-frequency amplifier tubes to the input of these tubes. Without some adequate means for overcoming this troublesome feed-back a receiver will squeal and howl, disturbing the listeners, and what is worse, radiating this disturbance so as to affect a whole neighborhood. Even if this feed-back is kept down just below the squealing stage and not substantially eliminated, there will be distortion in the amplification that will impair the total quality of the reproduced signal, due to cutting down the width of the audio-frequency band.

"To-day there are many schemes directed to either the control of the amount of the feed-back or to the neutralization of this feed-back. In general, these various stabilizing schemes may be divided into three main groups: Stabilization by means of losses, by adjusting amplification, or by balancing or neutralization.

"A popular method for stabilizing contemplates some form

of balancing or neutralizing the feed-back that is inherent in the radio amplifying tube, due to the capacity between the plate and grid elements. The early attempts to do this job were directed to neutralizing at once definite frequency, and were deficient when applied to the modern radio receiver, which includes a wide band of frequencies (wave-lengths). The present-day neutralizing methods either completely balance out the effect of feed-back or give partial neutralization, allowing a certain amount of regeneration for the advantages that are gained through increased amplification and increased selectivity. As stated before, such a procedure has many objections, chief of which is impaired audio quality.

"Thus, for best quality of reproduction, the tuned radio-frequency stages should be perfectly neutralized for all wave-length settings of the station selectors. Under these conditions and with modern shielding of the radio stages there is no possibility that oscillations will be caused in the tuned radio-frequency stages that can reach the antenna and radiate to neighboring radio receivers."

"With correctly designed and balanced stages and careful application of shielding, the effect of the natural feed-back of stabilization gives the maximum amplification that can be expected per stage without the impairment of total quality that usually is present when regeneration is employed."

BRITAIN'S AFTERMATH OF WAR

WHAT THIS HAS BEEN may be partially appreciated from a survey of the activities of the Joint Council of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England and the British Red Cross Society, which has just issued its sixth annual report. Says *The Lancet* (London), in a review of this document:

"The purely after-war activities of the Council, as set forth in the report, are many and extend to all ranks of the Services, but perhaps the most important of them are those undertaken by the Auxiliary Hospitals for Officers Department which seeks to relieve ex-officers suffering from sickness or disablement attributable to, or aggravated by, their service in the war. More than 17,500 of such cases have been helped during the last six years, and it is melancholy to have a record that the majority of them have been tuberculosis cases. The Department puts them into hospitals at Brighton, assists them to go to Switzerland or the Riviera, helps them with the cost of treatment while their cases are being officially investigated, and does not pass over unnoticed those whose applications have been rejected by the Appeal Tribunal. There are, unhappily, still many ex-officers who require surgical, medical, or convalescent treatment for disabilities for which the Ministry of Pensions could not accept liability, but are unable to pay operation and nursing home fees. Here the hospital steps in with its inestimable boon and removes the much bodily suffering and mental anxiety. As regards more extent, however, the activities of the Emergency Help Committee stand at the head of all these works of mercy. Last year 17,855 cases were helped, and half a million dollars have been spent, mainly in grants of a fixed amount, for some specific purpose calculated to confer permanent benefit. Very often the money is eventually refunded, and many men, their physical handicaps notwithstanding, have been able to become self-supporting. In addition to all this, money is found for materials and training for bedside occupations, for drives and entertainments, and for Christmas gifts. The report makes a splendid record of public service, most of it performed voluntarily by those whose patience and sympathy provide the human touch that lights up so many lives upon which the shadow of war has fallen, never entirely to be removed."

LETTERS - AND - ART

LITERATURE DRAMA MUSIC FINE-ARTS EDUCATION CULTURE

THE WORLD'S MOST FANTASTIC CITY

SEEKING FOR THE "MOST MODERN of the big cities of Europe," an American would, no doubt, think least of Barcelona. Travel to Spain is increasing, but the popular mind looks at her as among the backward ones of Europe. But Barcelona, we are assured, deserves the palm for modernity, for she has produced "most of what is new in the spirit of Spanish architecture, by breaking away from tradition and creating new forms and values." New York with its towering buildings may scrape the sky, but in their general character there is little of fantasy. Barcelona, says Mr. Herman G. Scheffauer in the *New York Times Magazine*, is "the most fantastic city in the world." Glorifying commerce and industry as she does, her architecture expresses these progressive aspirations, and she "spreads out her arms, captivating, if also amazing, the newcomer." Her look is far ahead, as Mr. Scheffauer goes on to show:

"The streets—especially in that section radiating from the Catalan Square—are planned to suit the needs of a city of a million inhabitants, approximately the present population of Barcelona, but to meet the needs of a city of four or five millions. That one sees visualized the Barcelona of the future."

"The architecture that has sprung into being here, like some strange orchid in a hot-house, nevertheless has roots that are Catalan—neo-Catalan, they should perhaps be called. For audacity, eccentricity, defiance of precept and inherited form, for sheer originality and beauty that is at once perturbing and vital, its like would be hard to find elsewhere in the world."

"Barcelona," the Chicago of Spain, upsets all our romantic conceptions of things Spanish. Our fancies, haunted by visions or memories or pictures, actual or literary, of Madrid, Córdoba, Seville, Cadiz, and other classic Spanish cities, refuse at first to accept this vigorous, modern, pushing Barcelona as a Spanish city at all. We miss the air of sleepy, century-old decay. We miss the crumbling ruins, the old palaces and churches, the customary sunny incidence and untidy picturesqueness of streets and houses."

All this argues no break with tradition and a frenzied desire to be modern at all costs. For the Catalonians are a race distinct from "real" Spaniards. They stem from "two vigorous Nordic races, the Goths and the Alans, and their country,

comprising the provinces of Gerona, Barcelona, Tarragona, and Lerida, was once a Roman territory—the Hispania Tarraconensis. Considering that Barcelona is so frequently in the news of the world as a center of disturbance, one's curiosity is alert to know what manner of man and city are found there:

"Catalonians are proud of their distinctive race, their own speech (harder than the mellifluous Castilian); they are proud of their teeming, boisterous, prosperous and commercial Barcelona. They are proud of the rebellious spirit that has frequently manifested itself, both in former and in recent times. Barcelona has no time to be medieval. . . ."

"The neo-Catalan style is the flower of the urge toward independence that burns in the hearts of Barcelona's architects."

"The real pioneer in this movement was Señor Gaudí, who some twenty-five years ago began to create that wonderful and fairytale park called Park Güell—so named in honor of its founder and owner. Here Gaudí set to work as if he were designing houses, chapels and buildings for a race of Martians. In time Gaudí began to restrain some of his wilder flights, and the style he had invented began to be more amenable to artistic laws."

"A new and more permanent note began to creep into his work. A return to some of the more traditional forms was seen. These were never copied, nor even adapted; but the new forms were in some way reminiscent of the old. Race memory was awakened. The fantastic had found a secure anchorage in the native soil. The private houses he designed, the revolutionary villas—such as the Casa Güell and that well-known apartment-house on the corner of two streets, a structure that seems to move with the rhythm of wind and wave—have become famous."

"But the greatest, the most overwhelming creation of this builder is the Cathedral of the Holy Family, a structure that has taken many years to rear. Indeed, it is not finished even now, tho the foundations were laid more than twenty years ago."

"Here we have the semipreciousness of tradition. In the outward lines of this stupendous building, in the general forms, masses and contours, we have a harking back to the Gothic. And yet everything else is defiant and new. The detail borrows its forms from the animal and vegetable world, as all architects have done, but the grouping, the treatment, the play and interplay are so new that we are at first amazed to find such weird and daring fancies devoted to the purposes of a house of worship."

"The four slender spires rival the daring of Indian architecture,

yet they are so wholly Northern, too, in spirit, that we must regard them as true evolutions of the Gothic. These smooth spires designed in conference form show the delicate swelling curve that marks the classic Greek column. Also they ape the long, slender, tapering lines of the Rhine-wine bottle."

"Barcelona, however audacious, believes in one ancient law: A city or State dominated by a healthy, proud, art-loving people will always find its true expression in art—even in the very midst of its commercial prosperity. Venice was one striking example. Barcelona, now, is another."

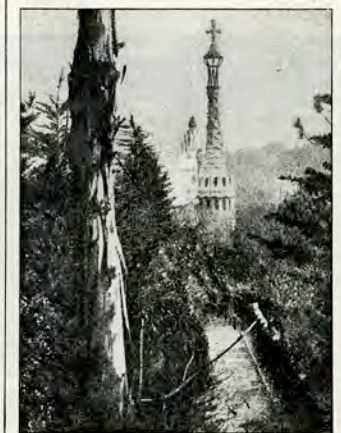
LONDON'S DESPISED LANGUAGE

LONDON HAS A LANGUAGE of its own, and is ashamed of it. Such is a charge brought by W. Wilson Disher in the *London Daily Telegraph*. Few are the cities which can claim such a personal possession. Our own "East Side" may have a language in making; but the cockney speech of London is a settled thing of years. "West-end playgoers who eternally snigger over the Irish brogue, or the 'slow grave music of Scottish speech,' will not tolerate the accent of Westminster's twin city," says Mr. Disher, who thinks that the prejudice is held by people who never even have heard the accent, but "merely use its name to denote any particularly slipshod and unnatural manner of speaking." The cockney dialect has an interesting history which the writer unfolds:

"Centuries before the word ever had reference to people born within the sound of Bow Bells it was a term of abuse—literally, 'cock's egg.' Not until 1600 does the first hint of its modern meaning appear; then Day mentioned in 'The Blind Beggar of Bethnal Green,' the 'London cockneys that ask't whether Haycocks were better meat broyl'd or roasted.' Seventeen years later a fictitious derivation decided that cockneys are those for whom all Christendom stretches no farther from Cheapside than Greenwich. According to this story, a citizen's son, riding forth into the country, 'asked, when he heard a horse neigh, what the horse did. His father answered, the horse doth neigh. Riding farther, he heard a cocke crow, and said, doth the cocke neigh too?' Evidently Londoners were not liked."

"Partly in consequence of this etymology everything cockney has been condemned thoroughly as everything Irish has been hallowed. In the theater the cockney of tradition—descended, perhaps, from *Eccles*—is often a coward, cad, butt, and idiot. When Eugene O'Neill makes the most despicable character of 'In the Zone' a cockney, the arrangement impresses an intellectual audience, who have studied just such another 'offspring of coarser folk' in 'Captain Brassbound's Conversion' as inevitable. At a performance of 'The Plough and the Stars,' you can sense the general disappointment that Sean O'Casey should have represented his cockney Waltham—not an error, for there were also cockneys in kilts before the war had ended—as ordinary human beings. All the highbrows laugh and ap-

plaud when the Dublin plumber answers the sergeant's objection to sniping as being unfair, and there is a distinct chill when Mr. O'Casey shows, almost immediately, who pays for the glory of guerrilla warfare, thus robbing the Irishman's outburst of its point. That, according to the rules of the intellectual theater,

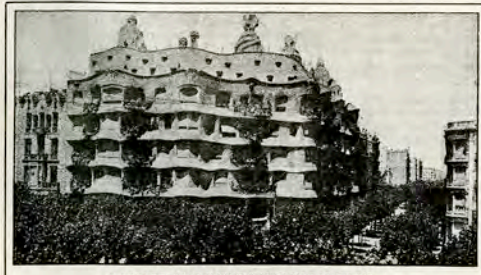


TURRETS IN PARK GÜELL, BARCELONA'S FAIRY SECTION
Where buildings were designed for a "race of Martians."

is wrong. As playgoers are firmly convinced that the cockney accent is ugly, so the cockney's soul, except for the purposes of melodrama, must be ugly too."

We are swayed less, Mr. Disher thinks, by esthetic standards than by associated memories; and he imagines a situation where things might be reversed:

"To a cockney the accent of the Ulster Players may be as unendurable as his own accent may be to a critic from Belfast; but this is probably due to unfamiliarity. If you cherish remembrance of a happy childhood, an accent that recalls your birthplace will be pleasant in your ears, becoming an essential part of the loveliness of the dream. When Sir Gerald du Maurier was addressing a gathering of stage pupils some years ago, he declared that birds never sang in cockney. It might have been said with about the same amount of truth that sparrows never speak anything else, for that is how they would sound to you if you were the offspring of cockerfowl. But, alas, it is now barely possible to spend a happy childhood in Cockney. Those who have been born there have to 'forget,' not 'to remember. In consequence, for fifty years past it is not cockney that we have heard, but 'anti-cockney,' an artificial, and therefore hideous, accent brought into being by the desire to avoid the Londoner's natural speech at all costs and by the greatest possible effort."



A CORNER APARTMENT HOUSE IN BARCELONA
"A structure that seems to move with the rhythm of wind and wave."

HIGHEST PRICE FOR "PINKIE"

"PINKIE" WILL SHORTLY come to join the "Blue Boy," if not in the same gallery, yet in a new country.

Thus two of the most famous paintings of eighteenth-century British youth will have left their native shores to grow old in America. Their radiant youth will be a lasting inspiration.



SHE BECAME MISS BROWNING'S AUNT

But when she was young this portrait of Mary Moulton Barrett was painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence and the art world knows it as "Pinkie."

So it is no wonder that heaps of money was paid for them. "Pinkie," the work of Sir Thomas Lawrence, was sold on November 25 in a London auction-room for 74,000 guineas, or about \$377,000, "the highest price ever paid for a picture at auction anywhere in the world," so the auctioneer declared. Gainsborough's "Blue Boy," which has become acclimated in Mr. Huntington's California home, did not quite reach this figure, but the two came to us through the same channel of the Duveen Brothers, one of whom, Sir Joseph, has promised that the Lawrence picture will come to America some time in the spring. While fabulousness of price may cause some to turn a curious eye to learn the reason, there are yet other qualities that awaken interest. "Pinkie" herself belonged to the family that produced the poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning. She was Mrs. Browning's paternal aunt, Mary Moulton Barrett, a daughter of an old Isle of Wight family. Harold E. Scarborough, writing in the *New York Herald Tribune*, says:

"The famous 'Pinkie,' by Lawrence, comes to Duveen with the reputation of being one of this master's most delightful paint-

ings. It presents the full-length picture of a young girl standing on the crest of a hill overlooking a low landscape, with a cloud-swept sky as a background.

"She is looking with great animation toward the observer, is dressed in white with a pink sash and a hat with pink ribbons floating in the breeze. The picture, which measures about 57 by 39 inches, is painted with great spirit and animation. It was painted in 1795, remaining for years in the collection of O. Moulton Barrett, of the Isle of Wight. The subject was the sister of Edward M. Barrett, the father of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, the poet. It was exhibited at the Royal Academy the year it was painted and at Burlington House in 1927.

"Sir Walter Armstrong, in his book on Sir Thomas Lawrence, writes: 'It may be considered the masterpiece of Lawrence, during his early maturity, in that lively, momentary manner which he was afterward to make so popular.'"

The sale of Lord Mielcham's collection, which contained "Pinkie," was the event of the present art season in London. Collectors' agents were present from the United States, France, Germany, and countries as far remote as Japan. Fifteen important canvases were sold within an hour for \$2,150,000. Only a few years ago the price of \$100,000 for a canvas was regarded as phenomenal; but the esteem in which the English eighteenth-century school is now held is evidenced by the following imposing list of prices:

"Boucher's 'Pipes aux Oiseaux' and 'La Fontaine d'Amour' were sold to Capt. Jefferson D. Cohn for \$239,250; Gainsborough's 'Miss Tatton,' to Duveen for \$231,000, which price also was paid by Captain Cohn for the same artist's 'Master Heathcote,' as well as Romney's favorite, 'Anne, Lady de la Pole,' obtained by Agnew & Sons.

"Other Romneys sold were 'The Children of Captain Little,' to Sir James Hall for \$110,250; 'Lady Hamilton as an Ambassador,' to Captain Cohn for \$210,000, and 'Lady Elizabeth Forbes,' for which \$116,000 was paid by Duveen.

"Raeburn's 'Mrs. Robertson Williamson' fetched \$123,375, a record price for this artist, from Mr. Knodler, while for Hopner's 'Lady Louisa Manser' \$78,750 was the successful bid.

"In the same group Lawrence's portrait, 'Mrs. Angerstein,' brought \$11,500.

"Among the pictures by famous or well-known artists which commanded by contrast very low prices were Reynolds's portrait, 'Countess Essex,' at \$385; and a small Turner for \$100.

"By way of comparison with to-day's prices, when Gainsborough and Boucher also attained their highest records, it is recalled that the highest previous record was set last July at Christie's when Sir Joseph Duveen purchased Romney's portrait, 'Mrs. Davenport,' for \$304,500."

In the next future THE LITERARY DIGEST will present on the cover a color reproduction of "Pinkie."

RAPHAEL ON THE COVER—It is hardly necessary to introduce Raphael to modern readers. Whoever has turned with any interest to the contemplation of Italian art has made his acquaintance. The crowning glory of the Renaissance in painting, his pictures are found in every great gallery of Europe. The Metropolitan finally acquired this wonderful example in 1916, and the sensation of its first revelation here was long-lived. It was originally called "The Madonna di San Antonio," and was commissioned by the nuns of the Convent of St. Anthony of Padua at Perugia in 1504. Raphael completed the work in 1505. It was sold by the nuns in 1677 and passed into the possession of the famous Colonna family, and it still survives in its present title. The picture hung in the Metropolitan from 1912 to 1916, when the J. P. Morgan estate made the loan a gift.

RELIGION-AND-SOCIAL-SERVICE

YOUTH NOT GOING TO THE DEVIL

A COMPLETE ABOUT FACE in their judgment of youth has been made by many educators, preachers, and sociologists, and the youth of to-day is generally exonerated of the charges heaped on them in the bewildering years following the war. In that hectic time, when conventions were broken into as many bits as Moses smashed the first copy of the Ten Commandments, it was the younger generation which was said to be skipping its way to perdition. At length a calmer view absolved the younger generation and put its parents in the dock; and we have now several educators endorsing the old indictment and preparing a new one for another defendant. Looking over his own boys, said Mather A. Abbott, headmaster of Lawrenceville School, in an Armistice Day address before the Rotary Club of Trenton, New Jersey, he finds that they are more clean-living than any he has ever known, and that what they may lack in religious instruction is due to parental neglect. There are no evenings spent at the fireside now; no bedside talks such as were customary in the days before the movies, the automobile, the modern dance, and the emancipation of women. Then there were no cheap theaters; it was the day of the horse and buggy, and a woman with a cigarette in her mouth and a cocktail ready in her hand was unknown outside of the underworld. The generation of to-day came into a maelstrom of change to which their parents themselves had not become accustomed. Despite it all, asserts Mr. Abbott, as his address is quoted in *The Nation* (New York), youth is not going to the devil—in a long shot. Mr. Abbott has been teaching boys for thirty years; he now has 540 in his charge—collected from every State in the Union, and he says: "I have never known a more truthful, clean-living, honorable set of young men. They are as different from the boys of my youth as the sun is from the moon—full of nonsense, full of passion, headstrong, mischievous, but five times as decent, as truthful, and as manly."

Mr. Abbott describes them thus: "In the first place, their leading characteristic is that they must prove everything by trying it. They do not begin where we leave off, as we want them to do; they must go through every experience themselves. They take nothing for granted. They want facts, not camouflage. They can see the false through a ten-inch board. They have an almost devilish intuition—I say devilish, because I have been caught so often! They will have nothing of what they call 'bull' on the part of any other person. I would rather talk to 5,000 people of your age than to I would to my 500 boys. I have to be so abominably careful that I can prove every word I say!"

Secondly, the absence of religious instruction in their youth. Unfortunately, the mothers are too busy to give the fireside and bedside talks that they used to give the little fellows, and the fathers are too busy in business even to tell them the truth about the sex problem. Now you can not prove the other world and

you can not prove God, and the modern generation will not accept anything you can not prove. So, the 'fear of God' is the beginning of wisdom; the modern generation is practically without it. Since the great fear which held us is absent, these boys, having the spiritual longings that all boys have, are restless. Unwilling to face the deep questions of life, they try to seek happiness in the material, and most of this desire that we hear so much of for a thrill, for breaking the law, and so on, comes from an unanswered longing within, which they think they are going to satisfy with material things, only to find that the material things can not satisfy. So these lurid tales we hear are usually caused, not by any evil in the boy or girl, but by the untrammelled pursuit of truth which is so evident in all the young of our generation. They want to realize everything, and, of course, you and I, in our maturity, know that very few things in this world can be realized."

CHRISTMAS EVE

By CATHERINE PARMENTER

PINE-CROWNED hills against the sky,

Kneeling low to pray;
Friedly, lamp-lit villages

Along the snowbound way;

Myriads of silver stars

Gleaming softly bright . . .

Little King of Bethlehem,

I see Thy star to-night!

Fragrant wreaths and candle glow

In a city street;

Songs of Christmas carolers

High and clear and sweet—

Echoes of the angel host,

With wings of shining gold . . .

Little King of Israel,

I hear Thy song to-night!

Words of ancient prophecy

Are mine to take or leave;

Visions of a golden age

This happy Christmas Eve;

Peace on earth, good-will to men—

Oh, dim and holy light! . . .

Little King of all the world,

I share Thy dream to-night!

The Ladies' Home Journal (Philadelphia).

individual. And then—what will always happen where God is not regarded as supreme, what has happened throughout history where a nation has given up its God—a restlessness that is always unquenchable, a dissatisfaction of mind which makes the youth probe into things we never thought of going into, which we took on faith. Also, many failures, many disasters, as there always are in a great upheaval, where freedom gets confounded with license. No, gentlemen, the youth of the present generation, as far as I know, and I know 500 of them very intimately, are on the way to great discoveries, have made a step toward happiness and a step toward self-government far ahead of anything we had in our youth. They need very careful handling. They need all the love and affection that a man can give them, and they are going to bring this old world of ours one step nearer heaven in the end."

Of those growing out of their adolescence, the college students, Dr. Ernest M. Hopkins, President of Dartmouth College, says his only criticism is that they do not understand the imperative necessity of self-discipline. They are, he says, in need of the inauspicious of his brother, Louis B. Hopkins, as President of Wabash College, Indiana, confronting "a world of bewildering perplexities unreamed of in any previous generation, and face it

unafraid." As he is quoted in an Associated Press dispatch, Dr. Hopkins refers to the doubts and misgivings afflicting the mind of youth and to the manner in which youth is meeting them, and goes on:

"Possess of abundant argument for doubting the validity of old loyalties which men have declared and then ignored, repelled by the interpretations of religion which pander to bigotry and intolerance, they revolt from the tawdriness and futility of it all."

"In search for better ways, they commit new follies. They defy conventions, they shock sensibilities and, too often and most seriously, they inflame each other upon themselves. But in the main this generation of youth is an indomitable one, seeking to be captains of their own souls and promising to succeed. In straightforwardness, in unpoetical honesty, in clearness of thought and integrity of action, in aspiration and idealism, their like has not been seen before."

"The question is not more logically to be asked whether the colleges can find men worthy of their advantages than it is whether this oncoming generation of youth can understand them and competent to inspire them."

To give an additional word of commendation, Cameron Beck, personnel director of the New York Stock Exchange, told the International Boys Work Conference, meeting recently in Chicago, that the present generation of boys is the finest in history. The New York Stock Exchange employs about 450 boys, and Mr. Beck is quoted as saying: "They are exceptionally honest, and business men are trying to do everything they can to help boys." Judge Benjamin F. Jones, of Newark, New Jersey, Past President of the Lions International Organization, says, according to the same Associated Press dispatch, that Judges, publicists and writers generally are painting dark and alarming pictures of juvenile crime, but that, in his opinion, present-day boys and girls have a finer conception of life than ever before.

THE NEW CHINA'S SPIRITUAL NEEDS

IN SPITE OF THE PRESENT POLITICAL CONFUSION in China, the attacks on mission stations, the capture of missionaries by Chinese bandits, and other evidences of anti-foreign and anti-Christian sentiment, the missionaries in China are still hopeful that the country will be saved to itself and to Christianity. They favor, we are told by *The Missionary Review of the World*, a speedy revision of the treaties on the basis of national freedom and equal rights, the abolition of extraterritorial rights, and the grant of full autonomy to China in tariff regulation, in courts of justice, and in other matters in dispute. But Chinese recognize, too, that they must also help themselves. A Chinese view-point of the present situation is given by Prof. Hu Shih, described as the leading figure in the modern literary movement in China. Speaking before the Central Union of Chinese Students in London recently, he said, as quoted in *The Missionary Review of the World*:

"We have never whole-heartedly recognized the merits and spirits of modern civilization or prepared our young men to undertake their great task. Our young men have gone abroad merely to acquire technical education, not to be trained as statesmen. When the revolution came, we were caught unprepared. To-day, men fitted only for drill-masters are governing vast provinces, and petty politicians are entrusted with the

WE NEED HIM

By ELLEN MARION WELSH

'TIS Christmas Eve; o'er all the earth
A solemn stillness lies;
The noise and turmoil of the day
Are hushed 'neath starlit skies.

'Tis Christmas time—'tis Loving time
In our dear land of Home;
'Tis Dreaming time—'tis Memory time
Wherever we may roam.

The Prince of Peace is knocking, Oh,
Will Nations bid Him stay?
We need Him! How we need Him
Every minute of the day.

We need Him in the Castle and
The Cottage in the glen;
We need Him in our home life and
Our touch with fellow-men.

Frail Human Hearts, oh heed the Bells
Of Christmas as they cease;
The King of Nations—Christ is here;
Through Him alone—comes Peace.
—Success Magazine (New York).

helm of State. This is the real tragedy of China.

"What is needed is a completely revolutionized outlook on life, a new recognition of spiritual values and the possibilities of modern civilization. We need a new appreciation of material progress, not as a means of money-making, but as the effective means of emancipating human energy from the pitiful struggles for bare subsistence. We need a new conception of government for bringing the greatest well-being to the greatest number, a new conception of science, not to produce smokeless powder or airplanes for destruction, but as the road to truth and the liberator of the human spirit. The laborers are few, but we must prepare ourselves for the leadership of the nation."

THE NEW DAWN IN THE NEAR EAST

FORMATIVE PROCESSES are working in the Near East, we are told, which will greatly affect the destinies of those countries and have much to do with the peace and stability of the world. Outlining

briefly the political changes which have occurred, notably in Greece and Turkey, reclamation of land and home-building in Macedonia and Salonica under the League of Nations, the rehabilitation of Armenia, road-building by the British in Palestine, the general desire for education, and the changing attitude of the Moslem countries toward the West, *The Herald of Gospel Liberty* (Christian) quotes Clyde F. Armitage, who has just returned from a study of conditions in the Near East, as stressing the new attitude of the Eastern Orthodox Church toward Western Christianity. It has been a complete reversal, and the Eastern Orthodox Church "is begging for the Western evangelical interpretation, social application and practical example of Christ's teaching and living," which "has been brought about in part by the long and patient service of the missionaries," and partly by the generous aid of America. Still another factor of hope, which may also work mightily on the Church in America, we are told, is the movement toward the federation of the Christian forces working in the Near East. Says Mr. Armitage:

"The American agencies working in the Near East—the Presbyterian and Congregational Mission Boards, the Episcopal Church, the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, the American Bible Society, the World's Sunday School Association, the Near East colleges—all have cooperated heartily in Near East Relief, and have found it a correlating agency. There is now hope that their work in the future can be coordinated through an official Correlation Committee which has been formed with representatives of these organizations and of the Eastern churches."

"This committee has a lesson committee which is writing Sunday-school lessons for the orphans and for native churches. This is being done by the request of various Greek and Armenian leaders, who are also begging Americans overseas to form Sunday-schools through their dioceses and to preach Gospel sermons where for centuries only ritual has been heard in many churches. Through this agency and its correlating committees that are being formed in leading centers overseas, we may have the first demonstration of an interorganizational administrative work on a foreign field. And where could a more strategic field be found than the Bible Lands? The opportunity is now ripe, since the unselfish giving of America has convinced native leaders that we have no ulterior motive. Here is the time and place for the demonstration of the new spirit and method in missions."

EAT
SOUP
and
KEEP
WELL



There's sunshine in the flavor of
Campbell's Tomato Soup!

CURRENT POETRY

Unsolicited contributions to this department can not be returned.

CHRISTMAS display and the Christmas spirit may be drifting far apart in this so-called materialistic age; or is it possible that the increasing Christmas display means no real lessening in the spirit of Christmas, underneath and behind it all? A balladist in the current *Bookman*, at any rate, finds enough in the question to point a moral as well as adorn this song:

BALLAD OF THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

By STODARD KING

There was no sorer man than I,
(A singing star in the winter night)
Who saw the Spirit of Christmas die,
(O evergreen bough and holly)

The Spirit of Christmas, year by year,
Grew thin with horror and pale with fear,

Pale with fear for the vanishing worth
Of the Angel Song and the Manger Birth.

I saw the Spirit shudder and stop
Before the door of Ye Xmas Shoppe.

And the Shoppe was full of trumpery toys,
Gilded trinkets, and money, and noise.

Hands that were soft and eyes that were hard,
Buying Good Will on a colored card.

The Spirit of Christmas went to see
The dollar sign on the lighted tree.

Never a candle burning dim,
But placards shrieking: "For Hee!" "For Him!"

Money flowed in a smothering tide,
And the Spirit of Christmas drooped and died.

And over the snow the wind was cold,
As the buyers bought and the traders sold.

Dead the Spirit of Christmas lay,
And a small child came along that day.

Proud and happy, the child displayed
An awkward gift that her hands had made.

I am the gladdest of mortal men,
(A singing star in the winter night)
Who saw, at the touch of a child of ten,
The Spirit of Christmas live again.
(O evergreen bough and holly)

Thus Christmas sees a renewal of the protests against the wide-spread destruction of young evergreen trees, slaughtered to make our great American holiday. While the Christmas-tree habit is condemned on the one hand, and defended on the other, *Scribner's Magazine* presents the following brief *ex parte* statement:

THIS PINE-TREE

By ELIZABETH MORROW

This pine-tree, loved by many a passing moon,
When needle plumes have nodded to the skies,
Tearing from tempest wind a giant tree,
Goes to his end in tawdry sacrifice.
No sword-bright lightning, but a blunt axe scar
Has brought green-needle-plumed branches to the earth,
Cheap counters now for toy and tinseled star,
May-pole of winter, ribboned for short mirth.
So season after season have known
Bright company of cloud and neighboring sun,
Tired boughs bear gilded trinkets to atone
For thefts, wounds, stumps, white red cedar run,
Remembering in this stifled hour of death
Bleak hillsides and the north wind's living breath.

ZOE AIKEN, it might have been thought, had permanently deserted the poet's lyre in favor of writing or adapting plays for Broadway. Here, however, is a sign to the contrary from *Palms* (Guadalajara, Mexico):

LYRIC

By ZOE AIKEN

With my love beside me,
I have often said:
Of what might beside me,
I shall have no dread.

But he is sitting yonder,
And I am sitting here,
Trying not to ponder,
Trying not to fear.

Palms also publishes, in the same issue with Miss Aiken's lyric, this tragic, incisive narrative poem, with a tragic turn:

PALMS

By LEONARD HINTON

At the edge of the California desert, farmers conquer drought with gasoline engines that pump rivers from deep wells, with railroads that carry fruit swiftly to market, with radio beacons on fertilizers, over-crops and pruning. But before these were other pioneers...

Here are palms:
Let them speak,
Seed was strong
When both was weak.

Five English boys
In an eager band
Came out West
And took up land.

Five striplings made
Their first survey
Of the wilderness
A queen's highway.

Each planted palms
To please a bride
Waxed in the dun
Fog of Chiquito.

Harry thought,
"They're none too good;
The tallest palms
Are only wood."

Thought Tom, "My Boss
Will forget the tanner
She was so daff
Ruling a manor."

The Lords of Land
Wrote letters home
That a thousand acres
Of wheat were sown.

Wheat was withered,
Barley died
In sight of snow
On a mountainside.

Each boy learned
That year to bear
In a friend's eyes
His own despair.

And the wheat withered
And barley died
Four years under
The mountainside.

Millie stayed on
For father's house,
Proudly fading
In marriage vows.

Boss went wild
And ran away
With a saddler's son
From Inverary.

Five ageing men
Are hard to trace:
A pauper, one;
A prison face;

A graveyard marker
(Home at last);
Two left to find
Out of the past.

Here are palms;
Let them speak,
Seed was strong:
Flesh was weak.

Since resigning his professorship in English at Princeton University, in 1923, Alfred Noyes, returned to his native England, has written a novel, but no new volumes of poems have come from his pen. The following verses from *The Spectator* (London) may suggest comparison with his much-criticized poem on the London Armistice Day Ball, published shortly after the end of the war:

APPEARANCE AND REALITY

By ALFRED NOYES

Re-dedicated to the Spirit of Armistice Day, 1926.

In those great realms of light—
From which our rounded skies, the wide, the deep,
Seem but a small dark cloud, a sphere of night—
Where embryonic lives are drowned in sleep—
They that were born through death
To life at last, and have stripped off all dreams,
Draw with new joy their deep untroubled breath
Walk on firm ground, and swim in living streams.

We are the ghosts, not they;
Ghosts with a cheating cloud-wracked sun
Furled.
Theirs is the substance; theirs the shining day;
Theirs are the rising high-roads of the world;
Theirs the strong hills to conquer;
Valleys of Beauty; bare scarred rocks of Truth;
Theirs the full life that uses time and change
To sing with music an eternal youth.

Theirs the great company, too,
The century-peopled cities, the world's host;
The dark dwellings; ours an earth-bound few;
Theirs is the central, universal host.
And when we too are born,
And join that great company of mankind;
When these blind gates burst open to that morn,
And these blind eyes perceive that they were blind,

When this dream-burial ends
And all the sensuous veils of colour and sound
That will not let us see our unseen friends
From our true selves like cere-cloths are un-
sounded;

In the first wonder and awe,
When the dryd seals are shattered and we see
Light beyond light, freedom at one law,
Thought, passion, will, one absolute harmony;

O, what shall be our choice,
On our first waking, to that exquisite maze?
One living truth that even on earth we know
In human form shall meet our withered gaze?
A voice: a living hand;
The knower, white-robed, all that vast unknown;
The full memory; eyes that understand;
And the inarticulate love that claims its own.



Is happiness made at your kitchen sink?

It IS such fun to do the nice little extra things—to delight the children with gingerbread men—to have hot biscuits, a flaky pie, or a rich, spicy cake as a surprise at dinner. Impossible, though, with so many weary household tasks. That is why women prefer **Standard** One-piece Sinks. **Standard** Sinks are just the right size, the right height, to make your work easier. You can do more for others because you have more time—more energy—a freer mind. And these bring happiness for all the family to share.

"Save time, energy, footsteps"—that is what a Sink should do, kitchen experts say. Does your sink stand that

test? Only if it gives you all of these:

1. Right height—"yard stick high" is the comfort line.
2. Drainboard and working space a-plenty.
3. One-piece whiteness for health and labor-saving.
4. Faucet-spout that swings where needed.
5. "Tempered" water, hot or cold, from one spout.
6. Easy cleaning without a joint to hide dirt.
7. Ample width for dishes and pans.
8. Constant drainage—no water standing.
9. Splash-up-back to prevent soiling of the wall.

"Standard" Sinks are made like this. No delay or inconvenience to put in a "Standard" Sink. Your Plumber should be able to install it in a day, if water supply and drain connections need no considerable change.

Standard Sanitary Mfg. Co.
PITTSBURGH

"Standard"
PLUMBING FIXTURES



7-1/2" Plumber Projects the Health of the Nation

WHEN BETTER AUTOMOBILES ARE BUILT

BUICK WILL BUILD THEM



First for Nine Consecutive Years ~ ~

For the ninth successive year, Buick has won first choice of exhibition space at the National Automobile Shows.

Chance plays no part in this annual award by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. It goes to the member who has done the greatest volume of business during the preceding year.

Sales leadership for nine consecutive years is, therefore, most significant. It points to value.

It directs attention to the unremitting search by Buick for the new and better thing.

For anyone else even to equal this brilliant Buick accomplishment, first place would need to be won now, and each year until 1936.

Let leadership be your guide to motor car satisfaction. Only an extraordinary product could have earned the volume and sincerity of public approval which today belong to Buick.

BUICK MOTOR COMPANY, FLINT, MICHIGAN
Division of General Motors Corporation



for Economical Transportation

CHEVROLET

40,000
have bought
Chevrolet
the Certificate Way!

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6%
**PURCHASE
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ISSUED BY

ECONOMICAL
CHEVROLET CO.



DEALER

OF
KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI.

TO

J. H. Hughes
Kansas City, Mo.
DATE *September 15, 1926*

THAT the Chevrolet 6% Purchase Certificate Plan is the most economical method ever devised for buying a car is proved by the fact that over 40,000 people have already purchased Chevrolets the certificate way. A vast majority were already motor car owners—owners who anticipated the time when they would want a new automobile—

—and who arranged to accumulate, by weekly or monthly deposits earning 6% interest, the sum that would enable them to pay cash for their cars and effect a substantial saving.

The success enjoyed by the Chevrolet 6% Purchase Certificate Plan is due to its exceeding soundness and safety and to the fact that the buyer earns full 6%, and receives additional credits on all service and accessory purchases.

Ask the nearest Chevrolet dealer about the certificate plan. Let him tell you how it is possible for any Chevrolet buyer to enjoy the economies of paying cash.

CHEVROLET MOTOR COMPANY, DETROIT, MICHIGAN
Division of General Motors Corporation
Touring or Roadster \$510, Coupe or Coach \$645, Sedan \$735,
Landau \$765, 1/2-Ton Truck \$375 (Chassis Only), 1-Ton Truck
\$495 (Chassis Only). All prices f. o. b. Flint, Michigan.

QUALITY AT LOW COST

PERSONAL GLIMPSES



Photograph by courtesy of The American Museum, New York

WHEN THE LEVEE GIVES WAY AND THE MISSISSIPPI TRICKLES O'ER THE LAND
This crevasse, or breach in the artificial embankment, occurred at Fort Jackson, Louisiana, in the spring of 1920. Such a breach rapidly widens, and the alarm "Crevasse!" is a signal for a general precipitate exodus throughout the adjacent low-lying country.

WHEN THE "FATHER OF WATERS" SPILLS OVER

A LOW ROAR LIKE FAR-OFF THUNDER fell upon the ears of two men who had halted their motor-truck, laden with vegetables, to ascertain why they were driving through water. It was two in the morning. The men, Guerra and Serpas, were bound for the French market in New Orleans. Their road led them along the Mississippi, from which it was separated by the levee, "a gently sloping embankment of grass-covered earth, thirteen feet high." In other words, the road and the adjacent countryside were that much below the level of the river, which had been propped up by human hands in a channel that would keep it out of mischief so long as the levee held. This story is told by George W. Gray in *The American Magazine*—to which, by the way, our readers were indebted for that admirable story, "The Spiritual Genius of a Hound," presented in our "Beasts, Birds and Trees" department a few weeks ago. Fourteen miles below the city of New Orleans, it is explained, the Mississippi River turns to the right in a sharp bend opposite a stretch of rich sugar land, formerly known as the Poydras Plantation. It was at this point that Guerra and Serpas met with their adventure. The night was warm and moist. The river was at flood, and "pushing with the tremendous hydraulic force of millions of tons of water, piling up in the lower Mississippi from its swollen tributaries above." When the two men heard the "low roar like far-off thunder," Serpas exclaimed: "It's the river! Something's happened to the river!" "Twas then that they made out, through the uncertain light, what looked to Guerra "like a low barrel rolling toward us." He described it to Mr. Gray as having been "whitish looking and just coming along quietly. I thought it was a bank of fog. The roar from the river was getting louder, and we knew what that meant." Every fellow who lives back of the levee, adds the narrator significantly, gets to know what a crevasse sounds like. A crevasse is a breach made by the river in a levee, as depicted at the head of this page. That is how the Father of Waters breaks out of bounds, and makes men feel like insects. At the time of this particular occurrence, the valley population had been on edge for days. "High water is always scary," as Guerra explained, "No matter how long you live back of the levee, you can't help worrying. Every time the river gets up, and the land begins to sweat water in every plowed furrow, and the levee gets

soaked through and through, you begin to wonder what's going to happen, and just where, and how soon." To be sure, the levee was patrolled. Guards and engineers had been seen walking along it the night before. Guerra himself had walked it. All were on the lookout for the first sign of weakness. Five days earlier, a crevasse had opened about eleven miles downstream, on the opposite shore. Naturally, such news made one feel sorry for the other fellow, but "you naturally thank God that it wasn't your truck-farm the river picked to wash away. And you hope the break there will relieve the strain on your own levee." Hence when Guerra and Serpas saw the barrel-like wave of the crevasse, they were stricken "just dumb"; and Guerra's narrative runs on:

"I could hear the water lapping around the wheels of our truck. And above everything else was that almighty roar from the river. It sounded like all the water in the world pouring down into Poydras Plantation. We drove our truck up the side of the railroad track, which ran along by the public road, and then we jumped down and began to wake up the people."

Through the slushing water the two men ran from house to house, crying "Crevasse! Crevasse!" In a few minutes people were pouring out of their houses, some of them half-dressed, some carrying babies and small children in their arms, others with a gun or a bird-cage, or some other prized possession.

If the terrifying cry of "Crevasse!" were not enough to speed their flight, the experience of stepping suddenly from their doorways into six or eight inches of water was. People scurried for the high places of the neighborhood—the general store, the schoolhouse, the railroad, and the levee. Kerosene lanterns bobbed about, casting a yellow light on the yellow waters. Here and there a man could be seen leading a cow or a horse to the high land. One man tells of seeing a tiny negro farmer carrying a coop of chickens balanced on his head, dragging a sleepy piousness with his free hand.

When daylight came, and engineers were able to view the break, they found that the river bank had caved in, carrying with it about one hundred feet of the levee. For a hundred feet there was no restraining wall against the high water of the river, which was full from brim to brim for one thousand miles, from Cairo to the Gulf of Mexico.

Through this gap the water poured in a muddy torrent, and for six days it roared at incredible velocity, eventually widening the breach to twelve hundred and sixty feet. Engineers cribbed the broken ends of the levee with sheet piling, and the flood,

having arrived somewhere nearer equilibrium, raced through less boisterously, tho it continued to flow for weeks. It was June before the water had subsided.

As it poured through the crevasse, the water not only ate into the levee horizontally but it also cut into the ground beneath and scoured a gully back into the plantation land for more than half a mile—a channel five hundred feet wide and ninety feet



FLOOD-FIGHTING UNDER ARMY DISCIPLINE

These negroes have been ingested into service to wheel loose earth to repair an imperiled levee. In some cases convicts are used.

deep. To-day, more than four years since the crevasse, that gully is still there, a ragged scar in the countryside.

But events like this that happened at Poydras are mere incidents, says Mr. Gray, in the vast panorama of the Mississippi at flood; and he goes on to relate:

I was talking with William T. Newton, field superintendent of the Army Engineer Office in New Orleans, a veteran river man who has been building levees and fighting high water on the Mississippi for the past twenty-five years.

"The levees of the early days were loys compared with the embankments which the Government is building now," said Mr. Newton. "Three or four feet was a usual height in Colonial times, and even well into the present century. When I was a boy in New Orleans, we thought a ten-foot levee was a whale. But to-day, that doesn't make track beds for our big machines. As a specimen, take a look at that pile of earth yonder."

We were speeding in a jitney from the little town of Garyville, fifty miles above New Orleans, to the river front, six miles to the west, where a government unit was building a new levee. As I looked, an excavating machine was emptying a bucket of earth on a fresh embankment.

"You use machines to dig up the earth?"

"We use everything," answered Mr. Newton. "At some places we use men with shovels and wheelbarrows, at others, horse-drawn scrapers. But to pile up earth in such quantities as this new levee requires, would take years if we depended on hand labor. That machine there is one of the largest. Its bucket scoops up and dumps seven and a half tons of earth at each haul—five cubic yards. It works continuously day and night, with a crew of three shifts, eight hours to a shift. And yet it is taking six months to build a mile of that levee with the largest machinery we can get."

Six months to a mile, working twenty-four hours every day!

Now they had reached the works, and the immensity of the thing was obvious, says Mr. Gray:

On one side was the river, scarcely a ripple on its mile-wide surface to the other shore. On the bank, some feet back from the river's edge, was the old levee. Farther inland was the new levee that was to take the place of the old one.

"What's the matter with the old levee?" I asked Mr. Newton.

It looked substantial, thickly sodded over with Bermuda grass. "The river bank is caving," he answered, "and in another year or two it'll cave the old levee. When that levee was first built it was two hundred feet back from the water's edge, and now look at it! At some places there's not twelve feet margin, and the current is eating into this bend all the time."

"We want at least twenty years' life for our new construction, so we're locating this embankment five hundred feet back."

And what an embankment! The old levee is 18 feet high. The new levee is to be 22 feet above the public road, and to allow for shrinkage it is being made 27 feet high. The base measures 180 feet across; its crown, or top, is ten feet wide, and it curves back from the river bend in an enormous horseshoe, like a tremendous fortification.

There are more than fifteen hundred miles of these earthworks along the Mississippi, reaching from Cairo to the Gulf of Mexico. They vary in height, of course, according to the level of the land. On the west shore the levees are practically an unbroken wall, the only openings being at the mouths of tributary streams. The east shore has long stretches of bluffs and hills, but there are many isolated levees above Cairo.

"These levees constitute perhaps the largest system of public works in the United States," said Mr. Newton; "but every now and then we get a wallow that makes us realize how little we are. Engineers build with a liberal factor of safety—a margin to take care of the unexpected. And yet—well, here's an example of the sort of thing that has happened:

"Back in late September, 1915, we were visited by a violent tropical storm that swept in from the Gulf of Mexico on a ninety-mile hurricane. It overflooded southern Louisiana and destroyed more than forty miles of our levees."

"Ordinarily, levee troubles occur in the spring, with the seasonal rise of the river, and we have until next spring to fortify ourselves against the next rise. But here the break occurred in the fall, and we were faced with the problem of renewing those forty miles under the handicap of winter, with the possibility of being overtaken by high water."

And that's exactly what happened. I went to work with a unit under the Army engineers on the broken levee at Myrtle Grove, thirty-five miles south of New Orleans, early in October. We still had our hands full down there when, on February 1, I was ordered to Natchez, three hundred miles up-stream, where a



THE BARGE THAT SAVED THE DAY
Loaded with dry earth from a distance, it arrived "just in time to save St. Delphine Levee, May, 1922." More than half of all the Mississippi levees are in Louisiana.

large government dredge was endeavoring to hold the dike at Cowpen Neck against the rising river.

"On the Mississippi we distinguish two kinds of protective embankments: A 'levee' is built on the bank of the river, some distance back from the river's edge, to protect the land from overflow. A 'dike,' on the other hand, is built out in the water

Most closely-priced six in the market 10 per cent higher in quality and in value

All previous peaks of Hupmobile quality and value—even high as they were—are excelled in this Six.

It is truly a triumph of the precision manufacturing and thorough-going shop practice which have made the name Hupmobile mean fine motor cars throughout the world.

A demand that goes on increasing from month to month is the response from those who seek all that a six should be, and at a reasonable price.

The actual increase in quality is 10 per cent—a deliberate stepping up of manufacturing cost a full tenth, in order to be doubly sure that the car yields back every dollar the buyer puts into it.

But there is no corresponding increase in price. Hupmobile is the closest-priced six in the market.

In performance, in reliability, in staunch service—in low costs and long life—the buyer benefits; and his satisfaction and loyalty are enough for us.

Gladly we pay the higher price of Grade "A" materials, where we could use Grade "B" or "C" and save money and increase our own profits.

It costs us more to maintain our own inspectors at the material sources; and again to analyze and re-check these materials in our own laboratories as shipments arrive.



Every twentieth man in Hupmobile factories is an eagle-eyed inspector, armed with gauges and dials which tell him to a hair that Hupmobile manufacturing standards are being maintained.

Hupmobile has invested a quarter of a million dollars in its own heat-treating plant—modern and complete—to be sure that heat-treated parts have the long life, the strength, the margin of safety, which Hupmobile demands.

Hupmobile, building for the owner rather than for mere sales volume, insists on these extra processes, in spite of the added cost.

You sense the result when you drive the car—when you feel its overflowing zest and "go". You see it in beautiful bodies, in beautiful colors and upholstery, in the wealth of high-grade accessory equipment.

Every Accessory Item the Modern Car Should Have

Thermostatic Heat Control • Gasoline Filter • 4-wheel Brakes • Color Options • Vision-Ventilating Windshield • Clear Vision Radiator • Dash Gasoline Gauge • Force Feed Lubrication • Oil Filter • Mohair Upholstery • Rear View Mirror • Special Vibration Damper • Snubbers • Tilt-Down Beam Headlight • Automatic Windshield Cleaner • Walnut Grained Instrument Board and Window Ledges.

Sedan, five-passenger, four-door, \$1385. Coupe, two-passenger, with rumble seat, \$1385. Roadster, with rumble seat, \$1385. Touring, five-passenger, \$1325. Equipment includes 30 x 5.25 balloon tires, four-wheel brakes. All prices f. o. b. Detroit, plus revenue tax.

Hupmobile Six

to control the current of the river and protect a bank or bend from erosion.

"At Cowpen Neck the Mississippi curves in a fifteen-mile bend. There is only a mile of land between the two arms of the bend, and to keep the river from making a short cut here, and threatening the cities of Natchez and Vidalia, the Government built this seventeen-foot dike which stretches out from the shore three miles into the river.

"This dike was now seriously threatened. When we got there, all the low land within the levees was inundated. A levee machine had been caught by the high water, and all that could be seen was its boom, sticking up above the flood. The river had long since passed the flood stage at Vicksburg. When the next rise reached us, it was practically certain to carry the water over the present height of the dike.

"Our plan was to build a box on top of the dike, eight feet wide and four feet high, and fill it with earth, thus raising the dike four feet.

"We drove twenty-four posts into the top of the embankment, and then boxed them in with one-by-twelve planking, tying the whole thing together with telephone wire. We found an old farm four miles up the river that was about one foot above the flood, and that could provide dry earth. We bought the farm, dug it up with one of the excavating machines, towed the earth in barges to the danger point, and filled in the top of the dike.

"The flood kept rising; but our dike held. We had added more than 2,500 sacks of earth, two bargeloads of rock, and more than 90,000 cubic yards of loose earth. Freezing weather had added its hardships to those created by high water, and by March we were praying for a respite.

"But the Mississippi was not through. Suddenly the main levee at Buckridge, Louisiana, eight miles above us, blew out under the pressure of the flood. The water rushed a gap 3,000 feet wide, through which the water simply roared like Niagara. It flooded three parishes, sent people scurrying from the lowlands to the hills, and threw upon Uncle Sam the job of feeding and clothing thousands of refugees.

"We were ordered by the district engineer in New Orleans to mobilize every unit, proceed immediately to Buckridge, and close the gap before a second rise came through. And we went with as much speed as we could make towing our heavy equipment against the current."

It was a cold, windy night when they reached the vicinity of Buckridge, "dark as a mine"; and as their boat churned laboriously up-stream, "they heard blood-curdling screams from the direction of the levee." The narrator explains at this point:

"We had picked up some refugees en route, taking them off the tops of floating houses and drifting logs, and apparently here was another one. We swung the searchlight around, and there was a negro woman, wildly gesticulating and screeching in fear lest we should pass her. The flood levee had stripped her of everything, and she was marooned on top of the levee—because, by the way, it is generally the safest place of refuge in a flood, which is usually the highest ground.

"We dropped the gangplank and let her aboard, and she went back to the kitchen of the quarter-boat, where she clothed herself temporarily in some old gunny sacks. That woman stayed in that kitchen four years. She was one of the finest cooks we ever had, and I reckon Uncle Sam never had a more grateful creature on his payroll.

"The nearest to the crevasse that we could float our machines was a point six miles below Buckridge. We unloaded them there across the top of the levee, and then started one of the most dramatic races against high water in the history of the valley.

The problem was to close that 3,000-foot gap before the river

took a second rise—and a second rise was a certainty. We couldn't hope to do it with hand labor. The only way we could fill the crevasse in time to do any good was by using excavating machines, which could scoop up many cubic yards of earth at a time and dump them with one motion where the work was needed.

"Twelve hundred men, divided in shifts of eight hours each, were used to man the machines in this six-mile race across recently overflowed farm land. By continual tracking day and night, the crevasse was reached in eight days.

"Eight days to go six miles may seem the speed of a tortoise. But when you consider that each machine weighed two hundred tons, that it had to lay its own tracks over muddy, soggy land, and propel itself, picking up each section of track after it had passed over—well, any engineer will tell you that that was speed. The water from the crevasse was frequently only fifty or a hundred feet ahead of us, and we were working in one or two feet of mud.

"A cleanup gang of fifty men traveled ahead of the machines, gathering up the carcasses of drowned live stock. In some cases I saw them removing these animals from the limbs of trees, where they had been swept in the overflow, and left high and dry after the flood receded.

"Drinking-water for the men had to be hauled five miles by wagon. Two hot meals, served on the ground each day, came by the same means. Thirty-five tons of coal daily were sent into the furnaces of the machines, and this fuel had to be hauled five miles. Water for steaming the machines had to be pumped two miles. All these services were carried on while the machines were in transit, for we were pushing ahead every hour of the eight days.

When we reached the broken levee, the weather report showed that a second rise was already on the way. We distributed the four machines along the gap, and began to fill it in. After four days, 1,800 feet still remained to be filled; and measures from the river indicated that the rise would strike Buckridge in three more days. So the slogan became, 'Fill her or bust!' And we filled her.

"Just four hours after the last bucketful of earth was dumped, the high water hit us, and it rose four feet on the new embankment.

"This 'fill-her-or-bust' work was of course only temporary, to hold against the immediate rise. We stayed at Buckridge all summer, rebuilt the levee to a standard section, finally completing it in September, 1916. We had been fighting continuously, then, since the previous October, a whole year—and in all my experience with high-water fights this was the most prolonged. The work the Army engineers did then equals anything we did in the World War in mobilization. I was in the war, and I know. They did it under the most adverse river conditions—under the combined attack of river and gulf.

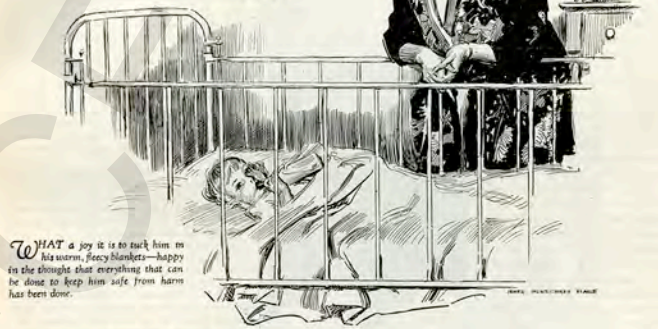
"What is the closest call you've ever had?" I asked Mr. Newton.

"The nearest I came to losing a levee was in 1922, I suppose," answered the river man. "That was the year of our last big flood, and the water reached its highest levels at practically all points on the lower Mississippi.

"The usual procedure in building or repairing a levee is to take earth from the bank between the levee and the river. But, with the water over the banks, it was necessary to go into the truck farms, cane fields, flower gardens, and even the door yards of the homes back of the levee, and dig up the earth for strengthening our threatened embankment.

"Hundreds of negro laborers were hired. The State placed one thousand convicts at our disposal. With this labor we built wooden fences on top of the levee to a height of two to four feet, and filled in back of this wooden construction with more dirt.

Tuck him in—Safe



WHAT a joy it is to tuck him in his warm, fleecy blanket—happy in the thought that everything that can be done to keep him safe from harm has been done.

FORTUNATE are the mothers of today. They can tuck their babies in bed and rest secure in the knowledge that many of childhood's greatest enemies need never touch them. For one thing, their babies probably will never have smallpox. These wise mothers have seen to it that their little ones are protected by vaccination.

How different it was before vaccination was discovered. Then mothers were powerless against this terrible disease. Among children who died, under 10 years of age, smallpox was responsible for one out of three deaths. Smallpox was more prevalent than measles. Few escaped and the children suffered most. Over and over again it swept the world, leaving its thousands of dead, thousands cruelly disfigured, thousands blind and deaf.

Then came the history-changing discovery—vaccination—and the number of deaths from smallpox went down and down. The end would have been reached but for the well-meaning, but misinformed persons who clamored that "vaccination is a crime"—that "sunshine and cleanliness, not vaccination, drive out smallpox."

If such reckless statements are believed and parents do not have their children

vaccinated, smallpox may again attack the children as it did a little more than a century ago. In certain parts of the country, smallpox among children is again on the increase!

In the past, when arm to arm inoculation was common and persons were inoculated direct from smallpox patients, there were many deaths following attempts at prevention. Today, vaccination is safe. The only mishaps that can occur are due to carelessness in protecting the vaccinated area. The vaccine now used is produced under the control and supervision of the United States Government.

Smallpox comes from unsuspected sources. Because it takes 12 days to develop, it is possible for immigrants or returning travellers to bring smallpox into the country with them.

Smallpox can be stamped out only by systematic vaccination. Every child should be vaccinated before he is one year old and again during school years. Immunity wears off in time—anywhere from five to fifteen years—and leaves one again susceptible. Is it more than seven years since you were vaccinated?

Now—before the danger is upon you—make sure that you and yours are properly protected. Be safe.

Before the Philippine Islands were occupied by the American Army in 1898, thousands of persons died from smallpox every year. Vaccination carried on under the direction of Army officials drove smallpox down to only 273 deaths in one year.

Then came a period when vaccination of children was neglected. As a result, the worst epidemic of modern times broke out in 1918-19 with 69,853 deaths—75 per cent of which were of children under 10 years of age.

Our last states can be said to have been in the "compulsory" status, the next highest average in the "optional" states and the highest in the "no-law" states.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is gladly met, without cost, by the well-meaning, but misinformed persons who clamored that "vaccination is a crime"—that "sunshine and cleanliness, not vaccination, drive out smallpox."

HALEY FISKE, President.



Published by

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY—NEW YORK
Biggest in the World, More Assets, More Policyholders, More Insurance in force, More new Insurance each year

CHINA'S NEW STRONG MAN

"WHERE CHIANG KAI-SHEK?" inquired the visitor, using simplified English.

"Yes, Chiang Kai-shek," replied the young man who had met the visitor at the top of the stairs in the "inconspicuous two-story modern dwelling-house" that constitutes the General's headquarters in Canton. He was "a pleasant-looking young man in an officer's uniform without distinguishing marks of rank," and his response puzzled the visitor—Lewis S. Gannett, who now tells the story in the New York Times Magazine.

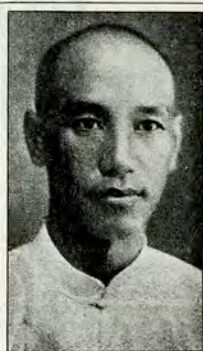
"Where," repeated Mr. Gannett—"where Chiang Kai-shek?"

The young man, without further speech, pointed to a bedroom. The visitor entered and took a seat. And now appeared a master of English in the person of Chen Tsu-yen, a former Lehigh University student, who "explained that the pleasant young officer was the Commander-in-Chief himself." The "master of half of China," he was also the master of this bare bedroom, which served as his work-room. Modest setting for such a conqueror! Almost unbelieved, as Mr. Gannett notes, he had led his little army a thousand miles to the north from the isolated province of Canton, where the ginger grows—led it "across mountain-passes that have no railway and hardly any road; wiped out Wu Pei-fu, who had been one of China's big men for five years, and captured Hankow and Wuehang, the great industrial cities in the heart of China." No parallel for "this amazing series of sudden victories," we are assured, is to be found in all the centuries of Chinese history. Hence the visitor's amazement at the simplicity of the young leader, contrasting so absolutely with the magnificence of China's other war-lords—notably Chang Tso-lin, master of Manchuria and of Peking, who "will receive you like a King, dressed in fine robes, in a throne-room hung with tiger-skins." But simplicity was not the only extraordinary quality to be found in the Canton leader. He refuses, it appears, to accept "any interpretation of his successes in terms of his own character." He represents a party, and his soldiers, "trained in a school of politics as well as in a military academy," are "like nothing else in China." When Mr. Gannett asked him what he thought of Feng Yuh-siang, the "Christian General whose Northwestern Army flirts with the Nationalists in the South," the answer was one that his interlocutor does not think "would have occurred to any other of China's thousand generals." It was:

"You can not tell anything about an army by looking at its General. You must look into it, and see what kind of men make up the ranks."
Returning to the conquering General's bedroom interview, we learn that "the inevitable tea appeared, also a plate of hard candies, and another of exceedingly stale rice cakes." However—

The General ate nothing, and instead of tea, he sipped hot water. Most of the time he sat erect, his folded hands on the table before him. There was no bombast about him, hardly any gesture, but he had a quiet dignity, and a quality rare in Chinese, rare enough anywhere—he smiled as he spoke. A tall, slight man under forty, there was nothing in his appearance to mark him as a leader of men; his high forehead, which seemed higher because of his close-cropped head, his delicate features and small-boned hands seemed rather to indicate the scholar type.

Chiang's relations with Russia are an object of anxiety to most foreigners in China. We are told that it was with the aid of



GEN. CHIANG KAI-SHEK

The Cantonese Revolutionary who has won great successes, and whose Russian sympathies have caused some anxiety among foreigners in China.

General Gallant, one of Borodin's assistants, and a small subsidy, that Chiang "trained a corps of boys to be officers in China's future Nationalist Army." Mr. Gannett inquired:

"What do the Russians actually do here?"

He smiled, but all he said was, "We employ some of them to help in technical training of various kinds."

Later, he added: "Ours is part of a world revolution and we can use people from any nation if they sympathize with and are ready to serve our nation. Russia, in general, has treated China better than the other nations. She has given up extraterritoriality, renounced territorial ambitions, and canceled her unequal treaties, and we like the Russians who have been here at Canton."

But two months later, by a sudden coup d'état, he rounded up most of the Russians in Canton and deposited them on an outbound ship. "They had been playing too lively a part in stirring up extremism on board one of the ships of Canton's Navy."

"What do you look forward to?" I asked him. "What will be the outcome of this Canton movement?"

"We will join with the Kuomintang members in other provinces and unite China," he answered briefly.

"That's a large order," I said.

"Yes, but we'll do it," came the reply. "We have just begun. To-day for the first time since 1921 this Province of Canton is united. (This was in February.) It is the busiest and richest province in China, with more people in it than all England. We have proved our strength by boycotting British goods since the massacre on Shamien last June [when British and French machine-guns shot down fifty-three Chinese paraders] and patriots everywhere are looking to us. Three other provinces have already made overtures to us. Others will follow."

We may not need to fight much; we will organize. Perhaps within a year we shall start our Northern expedition, for the Kuomintang is strong on the Yangtze River and we have many calls for help."

It seemed an impossibly rosy picture of foreign Powers.

He waved me aside. "Those are political questions; they will settle themselves when China is united. Unity is our first job. Extraterritoriality and customs control will, of course, go before we recover Hongkong."

And then he began to catechize me keenly about America's attitude toward China and Japan. "Your statement talk in a more friendly way," he said, "but in the end they sign the same treaties as the British and the Japanese, and we like an attitude of straightforward opposition better."

There was no questioning the sincerity and intensity of the man as a Chinese patriot. But can he work with other men? Is he really a party man, a cooperator, or just another personal dictator? Strong men have risen and fallen interminably in China since the revolution. Will Chiang go the way of the rest, or is he a strong man come to stay—a man who understands how to work with a national party and move from military dictatorship toward a measure of democracy? I do not know; but his prophecies of military success which seemed so swollen last winter, have proved uncanonically accurate.

Here is the General's history, as written by his own hand: "Born in Chekiang Province, educated at Pootung Military Academy and in Japan with Sun Yat Sen since the revolution."

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WATCH YOUR THROAT!



Don't let it become serious!

AS you probably know, certain harmful bacteria are constantly present in the mouth and throat. And unless proper precautions are employed these disease germs may often get the upper hand and multiply more rapidly than nature can fight them off.

At such times your throat becomes irritated—Nature's way of telling you there is danger ahead.

Particularly at this time of year everyone should watch

the throat very carefully. The ideal mouth and throat protection is the systematic use of Listerine, the safe antiseptic.

Its regular use by the entire family, as a mouth wash and gargle, is an easy way to be on the safe side.

Also, then you will be on the polite side in regard to that insidious condition, halitosis (unpleasant breath).—Lambert Pharmaceutical Company, St. Louis, U.S.A.

Risk a quarter! Risk a quarter on our reputation. Buy a tube of Listerine Mouth Wash. The reputation won't suffer. A LARG TUBE—50 CENTS

LISTERINE

—the safe antiseptic

THE "INVISIBLE REFEREE" OF THE MATRIMONIAL RING

HARTS HAVE BEEN TURNED TOPSY-TURVY since Dorothy Dix became a dispenser of confidential advice to the troubled. The girls no longer want to know how to be worthy of a man's love, but demand advice on hooking him securely. The boys no longer need a recipe for winning a maiden, but crave a hint on escaping the matrimonial net. Moreover, continues Dorothy Dix, as reported by Isabel Stephen, in the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*, the young wives of to-day are not so well equipped to be good home-makers as the ones who used to pour out their confidences to her in the early days of her career as a universal confidante. If women would qualify to be wives as they qualify to be business women, and "would strive to cater to their husbands' moods and tempers as carefully as they do to their employers," Miss Dix is convinced that there "would not be so many domestic upheavals." And here, with characteristic impartiality, this popular confessor and adviser of the troubled of both sexes puts in a word for a masculine exercise of courtesy and tact in the domestic circle, at least equal to what is necessary in business relations. "If the man would try to be as good a husband as he is an employer to his secretary, and if the woman would try to be as good a wife as she is an employee, not nearly so many distracted letters would be written to 'the little lady in New Orleans, counselor extraordinary and counselor to millions,' as Mrs. Elizabeth Gilmer (Dorothy Dix), is characterized by the *Ledger* interviewer. Generation after generation has poured out its woes to her in gallons of ink, records Miss Stephen; but, although "manners and methods of life have changed considerably in that period," human nature has remained the same, and to-day's flapper echoes the wails sent forth by the more or less demure damsel of an earlier generation. In introducing us to the subject of her article, Miss Stephen writes:

While waiting for Dorothy Dix to keep an appointment in her New York hotel while en route from Europe to her Southern home, I glanced over the introduction of her latest book—"Dorothy Dix, Her Book" (Funk and Wagnalls). She has entitled this chapter, "My Philosophy of Life." "I have had what people call a hard life," she wrote. "I have been through the depths of poverty and sickness. I have known want and struggle and anxiety and despair. . . . As I look back upon my life, I see it as a battle-field strewn with the wrecks of dead dreams and broken hopes and shattered illusions—a battle in which I always fought with the odds tremendously against me, and which has left me scarred and bruised and maimed and old before my time." Keeping one eye on the book and the other on the lookout for a "very little gray-haired lady, wearing a dark blue dress trimmed with very bright embroidery and a velvet hat in several shades of brown," which was the description I had received of the writer, I mentally pictured a rather nervous, worried-looking person. When, finally, a very small woman wearing the designated apparel drifted into the lobby, she turned out to be more like a cheery, little red-haired than a scared veteran of the Battle-field of Hard Knocks. "I want to know just how the letters and requests for advice

which you receive to-day differ from those you got thirty years ago," I told her as soon as we discovered a couple of empty chairs. Bright, dark little eyes twinkled merrily as she replied: "They don't differ much. They ask the same questions and deal with the same problems, but they don't have the same solutions. 'In the old days the girls used to ask whether it was proper to go buggy-riding with the boys as they ask now whether they are cheapening themselves by going out joyfully in automobiles. Just as much anxiety, too, they express over the necking and petting under the shaded lamp in the parlor—albeit they used other terms—as in the stalled car along the lonely roads to-day."

"The only difference is that the girls are much more candid nowadays. When I first received those letters, I had to read between the lines. Now my correspondents take care to leave nothing to the imagination."

"In the old days the boys used to write telling me they wanted to know how to win a girl. The girls were more coy about it, but they wrote me long letters asking me how they might become worthy of a man's love."

Miss Dix paused. Then continued with a little chuckle: "To-day the girls come right out and ask what is the best line to use to catch a husband, and the boys write wanting to know how to dodge the husband-hunting girls. But fundamentally they are just like their parents and grandparents. You know Talleyrand wrote: 'There are many histories, but only one human nature.' Outward conditions and social conditions have altered and so have slightly changed the attitude of the sexes toward each other, but the underlying tone is the same."

"The subject of disagreeable in-laws is just as prominent now as ever it was. Also, the man complaining of his nagging wife and the wife who seeks advice in regard to her husband and the nagging wife first appeared in the Garden of Eden."

Economic conditions are cited by Dorothy Dix as being responsible for many changes in the attitude of married couples toward each other. For instance:

"Thirty years ago there were very few jobs open to women. I received only despairing wails from unhappy wives—they sought sympathy, but saw no outlet. They seldom asked about divorce. Now that is the first question."

"I receive two or three hundred letters daily. Everybody has some different angle to his problem. There are always different complications. The causes, however, remain much the same; only women used to suffer and be silent, while now they broadcast their woes and demand a solution to their difficulties."

"Do most of the letters come from married people?" Miss Dix was asked.

"A great many of them do," she replied, thoughtfully. "The young people of to-day are not so keen on asking advice; they think they know it all."

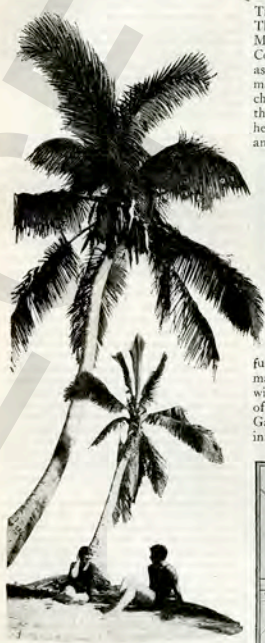
"There is one new type of correspondent which has developed within the last few years. Daughters who write to me complaining of dancing and flapper mothers. Their letters are really very sad. They suspect their parents of carrying on all sorts of serious flirtations and are just as anxious to leave home as the poor little luxury-starved girls who write to me from the tenements."

"I have a flock of society girls who are disgusted and bored with their lives, and are sick and tired of the petting cake-eaters whom they meet in their own narrow little circles. Most of them want to enter the movies or become writers."



FIRST AID TO THE PERPLEXED
Completely surrounded by letters that pour in daily to her home in New Orleans, Dorothy Dix spends a busy life dispensing good advice.

3⁸/₁₀ miles—the distance from the heart of Miami to its finest suburban unit, Coral Gables

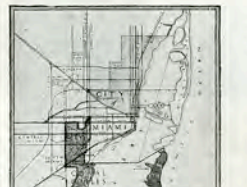


The future of Coral Gables is indissolubly linked with the future of Miami. Their boundaries coincide for a distance of 13 miles. Every dollar spent in Miami and every addition to its population build Coral Gables' values. Coral Gables does not need to rely upon its own resources, dependable as they are. For each of these cities shares in the other's prosperity. In fact many of Miami's prominent business men, literally hundreds of them, have chosen Coral Gables as their permanent home. Coral Gables alone offers the high type of suburban life that such people require. It is spacious and healthful, wonderfully beautiful in architecture and landscaping, and all shops and industries are permanently zoned away from the residential sections.

The selection of Coral Gables as the most desirable location in the Miami district has not been confined to home builders. When the site for the great Pan-American University of Miami was considered, Coral Gables was chosen. When the magnificent Miami-Biltmore Hotel was planned, Coral Gables was selected. Miami banks, business houses and social organizations are establishing branches and constructing buildings in Coral Gables. The new Ponce de Leon High School group, drawing pupils from the entire southwest section of Miami, is in Coral Gables.

In volume of building construction, Miami was the twelfth city in the United States during the first six months of 1926. In the same period, Coral Gables' building volume almost equaled that of Miami. The amazing rise of Miami from a village to a great city in 30 years is one of the most dramatic chapters in business history. As the gateway to Latin-America, as a world port, as the possible metropolis of the South, Miami's future seems as brilliant to the international economist as to the local business man—and where Miami goes, there goes Coral Gables. . . . Will you go with it? Write to Dept. LD-6, Chamber of Commerce of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, for facts and full information.

Did you realize that the city of Miami, itself, bounds Coral Gables on two sides for 13 miles? Along the Atlantic, from Key Biscayne to Ragged Key, Coral Gables' boundaries extend for 13 miles, and in addition there are about 6 miles of bay frontage, and about 23 miles frontage on canals and lagoons now partly completed. Its area is 16 square miles or about 10,000 acres.



This is the residence in Coral Gables of Clifton D. Bovee, frequent member of Miami's Inverness law firm—Bovee, McGuire & Allen. It was the site of the month period between May 1st and September 1st of this year. 71 homes in Coral Gables were bought by residents of Miami through a single broker.



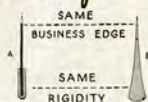
The skyline of Miami. This magnificent city of 300,000 estimated population has but one suburb adequate to the needs and tastes of its best citizens—Coral Gables. The unexcelled living conditions of Coral Gables are proving as irresistible to Miami citizens as to residents of workers cities.



The Coral Gables Rapid Transit Corporation trolley, serving over 172 miles of track in Coral Gables and Miami, running directly into downtown Miami, were the first trolley routes, supplemented by bus services covering all residential areas.

A Unit of Greater Miami, Florida

Tempered to diamond hardness
Blade built like an old fashioned razor!



YOU can compare Ever-Ready shaves only to the shaves you've always wished were possible.

For Ever-Ready has the same business edge as the old-fashioned razor.

The blade is sturdy, staunch, substantial. It has the body and the "temper" to take and hold a microscopically keen edge. Rigidly reinforced with a solid steel backbone, it doesn't bend or wobble—it makes a clean sweep the first time over!

Beards Bow to Ever-Ready Razors!

Perfectly balanced, splendidly machined, the Ever-Ready Razor brings out your smiles as it takes off your beard. It's the finest razor you ever used. If your old Ever-Ready isn't giving you 100% satisfaction, our service department will replace it because you bought it with a 10-year guarantee. Send it to

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Ever-Ready Razors and Blades are sold everywhere.

Ever-Ready Blades



WHEN DID JOHN WILKES BOOTH DIE?

WAS John Wilkes Booth really burned to death? Did Lincoln's assassin really perish when the barn in Virginia, in which he had taken refuge, was fired? There have been persistent rumors for seventy-one years that he did not, and now, says the Knoxville *Sentinel*, "comes McCager W. Payne, of Fayetteville, Tennessee, sixty-two years old, who claims to be a stepson of Booth, and declares that Booth died in Enid, Oklahoma, in 1903, from the effect of poison taken with suicidal intent."

The *Sentinel* fails to understand why Payne maintained his secrecy regarding the identity of his stepfather until so many years after his death. But the story is an interesting one as written by Robert Hunt in the Nashville *Tennessean*. Payne asserts that the man he believes to have been Booth married his mother, Mrs. Louisa J. Price Payne. She was the daughter of a minister, one of a large family, and her first husband, Z. C. Payne, whom she married at the outbreak of the Civil War, died shortly after the end of the conflict, leaving her with his young son to support.

"The training Louisa had received when she turned her elder brothers' outgrown pants into garments for the smaller boys served in good stead, and she found it possible to make a living with her needle among the students at the University of the South, at Sewanee, where she moved after her husband's death," relates Mr. Hunt. Through the efforts of a friendly boarding-house keeper, Mrs. Travis, she became acquainted with a handsome, dark-haired cabinet-maker who was living at the Travis house, and of the romance we read:

Perhaps the stranger was attracted to the fair Tennessee and followed her home to see if her house were any warmer than this clothing, for he had a kind heart, the story-teller indicates. A dozen possibilities might be conjectured as to how the two were drawn together. The fact remains that they were, and that Booth, for the stranger's name was John Wilkes Booth, he said, he being a distant cousin of that celebrated actor who struck down the great war-time American President—was to leave an indelible trace in the young widow's life.

A rapid courtship followed, and a license for the marriage of Mrs. Louisa J. Price Payne and John W. Booth was issued by the county clerk at Winchester on February 24, 1872. The next day the couple were married by C. C. Rose, a justice of the peace at Sewanee, in a house that stood within 100 yards of the spot where the bridegroom is said to have first laid eyes on his bride. Louisa, raised in the strict atmosphere of a Presbyterian home, was gently bewildered at the idea of being married by an officer of the law instead of by a minister of the gospel; but the swash-buckling romance of being carried off by hat stood within 100 yards of the spot where the bridegroom is said to have first laid eyes on his bride. Louisa, raised in the strict atmosphere of a Presbyterian home, was gently bewildered at the idea of being married by an officer of the law instead of by a minister of the gospel; but the swash-buckling romance of being carried off by hat stood within 100 yards of the spot where the bridegroom is said to have first laid eyes on his bride. Louisa, raised in the strict atmosphere of a Presbyterian home, was gently bewildered at the idea of being married by an officer of the law instead of by a minister of the gospel; but the swash-buckling romance of being carried off by hat stood within 100 yards of the spot where the bridegroom is said to have first laid eyes on his bride.

At this point in his story, Mr. Payne interpolated a description of Booth. "He

was of medium size," said Mr. Payne, "black-haired, with hair of the kind that curls easily if allowed to grow to any length; very dark eyes and a black mustache, slightly curled at the tips. He appeared to weigh about 145 pounds, and was always well dressed and good-looking. He was as distinctly a theatrical man as he was a painter and cabinet-maker."

It soon developed that the personable Mr. Booth was a gentleman of parts, requiring the most amazing amount of attention and petting, so that life for Louisa Booth became even harder than during the round with needle and thread. But a glance, a gesture from her husband, repaid her, and besides Booth was making good money at his trade, for which his dainty hands seemed eminently disqualified.

Booth often used to give sleight-of-hand exhibitions before university students, and readings from plays. "He loved the center of the stage, actually and figuratively, and sometimes he would become temperamental and moody reading from tragedies, which Mr. Payne could not identify," says Mr. Hunt. It was in one of these dramatic moods that he made a confession which is still vivid in his stepson's memory:

One night, Booth was putting on a clean suit of underwear, preparatory to giving a show for the group of students. The glamour of the stage, be it in a barn or on Broadway, must have gripped him even before he left the sordid earth to assume the color and fire of a Shakespearean character, for he turned to his wife, and indicating some scars on his leg, he said, "Miss Lou, do you know what made those knots? I got them in a fall on the stage of Ford's Theater when I killed Abraham Lincoln." Booth's manner was dramatic, and perhaps the sense of a great scene filled Louisa's mind when she failed to allow her Puritan complex full in condemning her husband for his crime.

Cabinet-making did not appeal to Booth as a permanent profession. A fortune which he claimed was in keeping for him began to call him. One hundred thousand dollars was waiting for him as his reward, put up for killing Lincoln by the group of conspirators who planned the deed. Could he not reach New Orleans or Little Rock, Arkansas, he would be his—and Louisa Booth's dramatic revelations began to increase. "Boy," said he, addressing McCager, "if you ever tell anything of what you've heard me say, I'll slit your throat from ear to ear."

Louisa was awed and believing. She consented to leave Sewanee for Memphis. They left on July 1.

During the stay in Sewanee, a daughter had been born, and named Laura Ida Elizabeth Booth. Had the child been a boy, Louisa told her son before her death, it would have been called John Wilkes Booth Jr. Reading on:

In Memphis, Booth hired out as a laborer in a cotton-seed oil factory and procured a rooming place for McCager and his mother in a hotel near the Union Station.

Louisa had ears as sharp as a mule's. Some one of a group of men who she learned to recognize was always slouching along the street in front of the hotel. There were conferences, words were said just out of her hearing as she peered from

behind the curtains. But one day she heard what they said. It was, "That's where he lives, the dirty skunk."

"Run! and your pa there's men here to kill him," she said, dispatching McCager to the factory. Booth told the boy to inform his mother that transportation would be awaiting her within the hour.

In southwest Memphis, where they next moved, the Booths were pursued by mysterious men and disconcerting poverty. And then, we read, the break came:

Booth disappeared. One night when he didn't come home, Louisa went to the company officers. Yes, he had left just after receiving his pay check. Standing at the cashier's window, he was approached by two gentlemen who bowed and tipped their caps to the right with elaborate manners. Booth responded.

Louisa again had to support herself and her children, which she did by opening a steam laundry. Her daughter lived with an aunt until she was fourteen, when the traditional call of the stage led her to join John Robertson's circus. She later married Charles Levine, and on his death, Artman Driver, known on the stage as Art Norman. "Ida also had a son who followed the footlights." In 1903, news came to McCager Payne of his stepfather's death. "A fortune of from \$100,000 to \$200,000 hinges on his relationship with Booth, Mr. Payne believes," for—

In 1903 Jerome F. Payne, an uncle of McCager Payne, wrote him that a man, who had lived for thirty-two years in El Paso and Enid under the name of Dan E. George, died in the Grand Hotel in Enid as a result of poison administered by his own hands. On his death-bed, he made the identical confession, referring to the scars on his leg and to other points of proof that he made to Louisa Booth at Sewanee. Failing at an attempt at suicide by pistol at El Reno, the so-called George crawled out of bed there and made his way to Enid, where he successfully administered poison to himself.

Jerome Payne also wrote McCager Payne, who corresponded with Mayor Hensley of El Reno. The Mayor reported that upon the opening of a sealed will addressed "to whom it may concern," it was found that all insurance, personal properties and papers should go to one Smith, who immediately left for Halifax, never again to be heard from. F. L. Bates, of Memphis, attorney for Booth, accompanied by Ida Booth, visited Enid, and Bates identified the body, which was exhumed eleven times for examination.

McCager Payne was unable to press suit for the large tract of land that belonged to Booth, or George, after his sister refused to sue with him, her refusal being based on her grounds of poverty. Booth's body was too high. Ida died in the spring of 1925.

Mr. Payne has not kept up with the property for a year and a half and does not know whether the Government is keeping up the taxes on it, or what has happened.

In accounting for the man who was taken for Booth and killed at the parents' home in Virginia following President Lincoln's assassination, Mr. Payne said that Booth declared the man killed in Virginia was his cousin, mistaken for him. He had no idea all night before attempting to start on his way south.

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No spotlight needed to find this keyhole—it comes to meet you in the knob of the Corbin Unit Lock

Yes, an unusual place to put a keyhole but a convenient place to find it. But this is an unusual lock. It comes to you completely assembled—not "knocked down." You can apply it in five minutes—and it will work perfectly ever after.

Whatever your hardware need may be you will find Corbin Hardware unusual—unusual in the way it works, the way it lasts, distinctive in the way it looks. No wonder we say Corbin Hardware is Good Hardware.

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"SCULPTOR AND BIOGRAPHER OF THE AFRICAN WILD"

UNABLE TO SHAKE HIMSELF FREE, Carl Akeley fought desperately, while the leopard "seized his arm and began to chew it." As the animal turned slightly, the naturalist, "almost fainting as he heard the leopard crunching his arm," managed to swing his right hand over until he reached the big cat's throat. With a final despairing effort he gripped the beast's windpipe, and, summoning all his waning strength, slowly strangled it. At length, relates William O. Trapp in the *New York Evening World*, "the leopard toppled over and Akeley was free." This adventure occurred while the mighty hunter and student of wild life was hunting near the Tana River in Africa. He had shot the leopard in the left leg, and the maddened beast leapt upon him. But to Akeley's way of thinking in later years, "life's darkest moment" was not when the leopard lunged itself at his throat. No, it had occurred years earlier, when, as a nineteen-year-old boy, he had paced up and down in front of Ward's Natural Science Establishment, in Rochester, New York, trying to nerve himself for the terrifying ordeal of applying for his first job. And when, finally he did summon up his courage to enter "a brusque, busy little man snapt out, 'What do you want here?'"

Still further disconcerting him, all the youth wanted was to show "his skill and art as a taxidermist," and he gladly seized the opportunity of doing so—at a wage of three dollars and a half a week.

Later this boy "was to carry the jungle and its dwellers to the eyes of millions," as the *New York Sun* expresses it. For he combined, says the *New York World*, the qualities of artist, museum expert and hunter, and he could "bring home visually to the ordinary man the irresistible power of a charging rhinoceros, the beauty of a leaping antelope and the exotic charm of an African river, with animals drinking and wild fowl bathing.... He could make them look as if they had just stepped out of the wilderness."

Born on May 19, 1864, Carl Eilkan Akeley became connected with the Field Museum in Chicago in 1885, after an apprenticeship with the kindly Dr. Ward, who had at first so terrified him. In 1899 began his association with the American Museum of Natural History, which was to continue until his death. In 1896 he made his first trip to his beloved Africa, and from then on, his life, as described by Mr. Trapp in the *Evening World* article previously quoted, "was of the stuff that men dream of," to wit:

Fierce fights in the tangled underbrush, hair-breathed escapees from maddened animals, and then the meed of praise chanted

by the dusky camp followers in the glow of the fire at night, while lions roared in the distance.

Many a peace-loving comrade seated by his own fireside in the evening had no difficulty in transporting himself to the Dark Continent and enjoying the vicarious thrills of big-game hunting.

Akeley told one of an encounter with elephants near the top of Mount Kenya, 17,000 feet high.

"Suddenly, without warning, we heard something coming on us," Akeley said. "Before I could seize a gun, a great bull elephant dashed through the bamboos straight at me and struck me with its trunk."

"I was falling face downward, but luckily, as I fell, I had sufficient presence of mind to twist my body in the air and caught the lowering tusks in my hands. I was thrown flat on my back, but I managed to do the one thing needful to prevent the animal from tucking me, and that was to get between the tusks just as they plunged into the soft earth on each side of me."

"Then I heard the elephant making a noise somewhat between a hiss and a grunt as his tusks bored into the earth and his head came down on my chest. That is all I remember."

"Four and a half hours afterward, so I was told, I regained consciousness. The elephant had left me for dead; so had my boys, for it is against their religion to touch a dead body."

"But I heard them chattering a little distance away and shouted to them. Very astonished they came to me and sent off runners for help. I was almost done for, but not quite, and they rigged up a stretcher for me and carried me back to camp."

Mr. Akeley's other adventures are recounted in his recent book "In Brightest Africa" (Doubleday, Page), as well as the steps by which he developed naturalistic methods in taxidermy. Apropos of which the *New York Times* recalls that:

Young Akeley's first attempt, mounting a zebra by molding a papier-mâché framework over a plaster coat, failed and was discarded, but the method, believed to be thus first tried by Akeley, now is generally used, because it permits preservation of the muscular formation beneath the skin.

Continuing in Mr. Trapp's article we learn that:

Akeley's life ambition was to establish a great group of animals in some museum where the public might see them in a reproduction of their habitat.

That idea has been developed in the American Museum of Natural History, where the much-discussed African Hall is in a fair way to being realized in a new wing that has been planned. Four elephants in a group constructed by Akeley may now be seen there, and other groups which he suggested and worked over will soon be ready for public view.

Two of the elephants were killed by Akeley, a third by the late President Roosevelt, and the fourth by Kermit Roosevelt.

Akeley died in the Kivu District of the Belgian Congo, and

a cable received by the American Museum of Natural History explained that his death was caused by a hemorrhage. Earlier in the year it was expected that he would recover from a fever which he contracted while a member of the George Eastman expedition.

One of the things he hoped to accomplish on the trip was a completion of the gorilla group for the African Hall of the Museum.

The naturalist was particularly interested in gorillas, and with the cooperation of the Belgian Government established a sanctuary for them in the Belgian Congo. Of his later activities, we are told:

In recent years the sculpture of wild animals occupied much of Akeley's time, and three beautiful bronzes in the Museum of Natural History testify to his ability in that difficult art.

One of his groups aroused considerable controversy. That was "The Chrysalis," showing a man emerging from the shaggy hide of a gorilla. It was rejected by the National Academy of Design after Akeley and his friends had hoped it would appear in the Academy's exhibition two years ago.

Akeley, in answer to the storm of criticism, explained that he did not intend the bronze to show that man descended from the gorilla, but merely to indicate that the gorilla, as the highest form of anthropoid, and man had a common ancestor.

"But science is on the trail to find that ancestor," he added. "The hide of the gorilla is indicated to be burst asunder as the butterfly emerges from its chrysalis."

In his studies of animal nature, Akeley made several observations long remembered. The lion he called a gentleman and a sportsman. The gorilla is pathetically affectionate. The elephant is a charming creature.

"For me it is impossible to argue on evolution any more than I would be disposed to argue on the rotundity of the earth," he said before a church congregation here. "Most of my worshiping has been done in the cathedral forests of the African jungles with the voices of the birds and animals as music. I am here to make a plea for animals."

In that same address he said that after killing an elephant on one occasion, it had seemed to him like "slapping God Almighty in the face."

When he saw his first gorilla, he continued, it was forty feet away.

"It was shot, but not fatally. As it turned to escape it looked over its shoulder at us with an expression which plainly said, 'What have I done that you should hurt me?' Killing gorillas was no sport. It was too pathetic."

"One of my native boys speared a young gorilla. I came to it as it lay dying. Its mother was already dead. When it saw me it stretched out its infant arms in appeal and cried when I touched it. Is that your 'bestiality' or is man the beast?"

Dr. Henry Fairbairn Osborn described Akeley as "Sculptor and Biographer of the vanishing wild life of Africa." In a statement issued at the American Museum of Natural History it was said:

"If Mr. Akeley had expressed a wish in the matter, he undoubtedly would have chosen to die just where he died, in the heart of the gorilla sanctuary which he had conceived and the Belgian Government established for the preservation of those animals which Mr. Akeley had long studied and loved."



Photograph copyrighted by the Karpis, New Orleans

AKLEY AND HIS FAVORITE WORK OF SCULPTURE
"The Chrysalis" is its title, and its aim is to symbolize evolution by representing civilized man emerging from the cast-off form of the gorilla. The group gave rise to a lively controversy between friends and enemies of Darwinism.



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SANTA CLAUS'S LIVERYMAN

THERE is no lack of prancing reindeer to take Santa Claus skimming over the snowy roofs this year, thanks to Carl Lomen, of Nome, Alaska, who supplies him with the very fastest Dashers and Daners and Prancers and Vixens and Comets and Cupids and Donders and Blitzen that can be found. Elisabeth Sears, writing in *The American Magazine* tells us that last Christmas the good saint made personal appearances in ten different cities, driving his reindeer. "How he managed to be in so many different places at the same time," she remarks, "is a detail only the ingenious Mr. Claus can explain. How he got his reindeer is easily explained; they came from the Lomen ranch in Alaska." She also tells us how Mr. Lomen came to choose such an interesting occupation. Twenty-five years ago, before he began building up his herd, which now numbers 90,000, there were but 1,200 reindeer in all Alaska, and before he began supplying Santa, the old gentleman sometimes had to go all the way to Siberia for teams. Of course, in those days, it didn't matter so much, for there were not so many boys and girls with gaping stockings as there are now—days, nor so many roofs to get over in a single night. When Mr. Lomen went to Alaska, related Miss Sears, the few reindeer there had been introduced through the efforts of Dr. Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian missionary. He had persuaded the Government to import them, and issue them to the natives, in order that they might raise their own meat. They were under strict agreement not to sell the animals to any white settlers, "a regulation designed to protect the native owner," for, as Mr. Lomen explained, food with the Eskimos had always been a hand-to-mouth affair, "and as whaling and sealing vessels came in more frequently and cut into the food supply of the natives, families began to be more and more common." Such was the situation when Mr. Lomen, at the age of nineteen, saw his first herd of reindeer. He had been lured to the northland by the discovery of gold, and this is the way he described the scene to Miss Sears:

"I was on the trail coming into Nome with a small poke of gold dust. Away off in the distance, I saw what appeared to be a bunch of animated brush. As I drew closer, I discovered that it was the high-branched horns of a herd of reindeer which produced this effect.

"I suppose some long-buried instinct in my Norse ancestry must have come to life at the sight of that herd, for as I walked on into Nome I determined some day to own a herd of my own.

"This gold stampede won't last forever. I reasoned: 'and after the gold has gone, and the drifters have passed on, here's an industry that will be permanent.'

"Now, it happened that my father, who had established a law practice in Nome, had for his clients some Laplanders who had been brought over by the Government to teach the Eskimos how to raise reindeer.

My father is of Norwegian extraction, and the Laplanders were delighted to find some one who could speak their language. They always came to him for such business as they required transacted, and he learned much from them about the reindeer industry.

"The night after I encountered that splendid bunch of reindeer on my way to Nome, I confided to my father my ambition to own a herd. To my surprise, he told me that all the reindeer in Alaska were the exclusive property of the natives, and that the animals could not be sold to white men."

From this time on, Carl talked nothing but reindeer. When the Laplanders came into his father's office, he pumped them for information. He knew what he wanted. So the third season passed, and he once more made ready to take the trail into Nome and wait for the boat that was to take him and his father home. And then one of his associates fell ill of typhoid. It was Carl's job to get the sick man to Nome, where he could receive medical treatment. Loading the patient on a sled, he "mushed" to Nome one hundred miles away, over a rough road; and, thanks to his careful nursing, he got his sick comrade safely into Nome, with a day or two to spare before the sailing date. But for the last few days of that tedious trail Lomen himself had been in the first stages of typhoid.

"Well, there I was," he said. "I just seemed to me that I could not stand one more year in Alaska without seeing the folks at home. But the boat authorities refused to take me as a passenger. Finally, we found a captain who would take me, provided a physician went along."

At Seattle, a thin, white wreath of a boy staggered ashore. Here he stayed in a hospital for three months before he was able to go on to St. Paul.

"Nobody dreamed that I would ever want to go back to Nome," he said; "I hadn't made any great gold strike there, and my folks thought my thirst for adventure had been satisfied. I was offered a good job in the office of the Secretary of State. But the craving for that Northland had bitten deep into my blood, and I figured if I settled down to a soft job at home the three years I had spent in Nome would be lost in the spring. So I went back. I still wanted that reindeer herd."

"I concluded that the Arctic would not always remain a cold and uninhabited land," he went on. "The weather around Nome was no worse than it was in some of the States except that there was more of it."

Some of Carl's enthusiasm was communicated to his three brothers, for the next time he and his father set out for Alaska, the brothers went along, and started in business in Nome. Continuing:

"All of this time, while we were growing up with the new country, and licking new problems every day," Carl Lomen told me, "I was still figuring on that reindeer herd. I had seen it, and with a tundra that was going to be mine, and the summer, and the moss and lichen in the winter. They require no feed or special care, and they double in numbers every three years. It seemed to me that with the increasing population and the decreasing meat supply of the country, here was a chance to try out a new industry in supplying a meat

that was equal to any domestic meat on the market.

"One day, I heard a most interesting piece of news. Some one told me that Alfred Nilima, a Laplander who had come over with the first consignment of reindeer, wanted to dispose of his herd and go back to Norway. As the embargo on the ownership of reindeer by white settlers had now been lifted, I hurried straight to my father with this news, and suggested we buy Nilima's herd outright."

"Now, it happened that Nilima was a client of my father's. Our credit was good with him, so when we wrote and asked him for an option on the herd, he agreed to it. The option was to be taken up in September. Money was none too plentiful in Nome, and it took considerable hustling to mobilize that five thousand dollars in cash. The local banks did not carry bills in the larger denominations; most of the paper money was in five-dollar bills. Our five thousand made a pretty big wad of money in all stages of age when it was gathered together. But we got the cash, because we knew that the Laplanders usually demanded payments in cash. Alfred, my younger brother, was to go to Canada and complete the deal."

Alfred was still hardly more than a boy, but life in Alaska in those days made grown men at a pretty early age. He set forth on his long, lonely journey with Johnny Raana, a wizened little old Laplander, as his only companion.

"It was heavy traveling over the hummocky tundra, and fording the rivers," went on Mr. Lomen, "and the little Lap rather insisted on carrying Alfred's pack for him. Indeed, old Johnny was so insistent about the pack that soon the kid began to wonder if his companion knew anything about the money. One night, Alfred woke to find the little Raana kneeling beside him, cautiously running his hand under his head. You can imagine the boy's consternation. There he was—alone on that tundra with a Lapp who knew he was carrying five thousand dollars in cash. And he hadn't seen a weapon with which to defend himself."

In that critical moment it seemed to Alfred Lomen that his brother's vision of the reindeer herd, and his thirteen years of patient waiting, saving and plugging, were about to end ignominiously in a sordid murder on the desolate tundra. But here an important spiritual lesson awaited him. As we read on:

Alfred discovered something that made him almost sick with shame. Fearing that the boy might chill in the rain that had come on, the faithful little guide had risen in the night to tuck his own blanket about Alfred. Later, we learned that Johnny had known about the money all along, and that when he offered to carry the pack through the rivers, he had simply been concerned for the safety of the precious bundle.

"And, after all that trouble, Nilima demanded a check when they reached Canada! He said he didn't want to be bothered carrying the cash to Norway with him. So Alfred sat calmly down and wrote out a check for five thousand dollars. He knew that if the check was presented before he could get the cash back to Nome, we'd take care of the matter somehow. You see, we always make a point of banking each other up."

So, after thirteen years of waiting, Carl Lomen saw his vision come true.



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\$400,000,000 IN THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS-CLUB FUNDS

MORE PEOPLE EACH YEAR are realizing the fact that it is easier to prepare for Christmas giving by saving in a Christmas club than by trying to pay for Christmas gifts out of present income," remarks Charles O'Connor Hennessy, President of the Franklin Society for Home Building and Savings of New York, in commenting on the recent announcement of the extraordinary increase in the number and volume of Christmas-club funds this year. "The question of where to get money to buy Christmas gifts has been solved this year by 7,800,000 people who, by their thrift through the year, have accumulated nearly \$400,000,000 in Christmas clubs throughout the country," we read in the *New York Evening World*. According to a statement sent out by the president of the Christmas club in New York, club distributions of \$398,268,000 are being made by 7,600 banks in the United States this month. The sum is about 27 per cent., or \$85,000,000, more than last year's, and the membership has increased 11½ per cent. The average distribution is \$51.32 for each member as against \$44.88 in 1925. Checks to members, we are told, vary from \$12.50 to \$1,000. Massachusetts leads the States in per capita Christmas-club savings, with New York and Pennsylvania not far behind. The largest Christmas club operated by a financial institution in the United States is that of the Bank of the Manhattan Company, with 65,000 club members depositing altogether \$3,500,000. It is estimated that \$179,421,380 of Christmas-club savings are flowing into the country's stores to pay for Christmas purchases, \$110,146,400 are being deposited in permanent trust and savings accounts, \$47,186,382 are paying insurance premiums and mortgage interests, \$42,761,100 go for taxes, and \$18,752,648 are being applied on first charges maturing in the holiday season.

With this year's Christmas-club funds thus put to use, starting between now and the middle of January enrolment for the Christmas club of next year will be undertaken, says the *New York Evening World*, which explains that:

These accounts are opened at the bank, trust company, or financial institution, and the members select the class of payments best suited to their individual requirements, varying in amounts from twenty-five dollars to twenty dollars a week, and continue the payments in the classes selected for the period of fifty weeks. There are no fines, no dues, and all the money is returned by the bank in one lump sum just before Christmas. It has been conservatively estimated that over 2,000,000 new permanent savings accounts have been opened as a direct result of the Christmas-club plan.

Then, too, the *New York Sun* reminds us:

Out of the Christmas-club idea grew the vacation club, which puts money to pay vacation expenses into the hand of the worker as he or she departs for summer rest at seaside or in the mountains. A good many American Legionnaires are going to Paris for their vacations on money they will put by in regular installments week after week between now and sailing day. The plan is capable of a thousand modifications, all utilizing the amazing potentialities of regular, persistent saving. It brings banks into new relations with many persons who without it would never have stepped up to the receiving tellers' cages. One day a Jerry Dublons, explaining his rise from poverty to wealth, will start his story: "I saved my first \$1,000 in a Christmas club."

Sometimes the expense incurred is all out of proportion to the profit a bank derives from a Christmas club, but *The American Banker* (New York) is nevertheless impressed by the success of banks which "first sow the seeds in Christmas-club members, and follow this up by encouraging them later to transfer funds saved into regular savings deposits. Some banks have reported that they have retained as high as 60 per cent. of their Christmas-club money in regular savings."

AND NOW WE HAVE THE BIGGEST BANK IN THE WORLD

PERHAPS IT WAS BOUND TO COME. With the United States becoming the world's premier creditor nation, it is not so surprising to find an American bank challenging the long-established supremacy of several British banking institutions as the largest in the world. The National City Bank of New York, by increasing its capital from \$50,000,000 to \$75,000,000, brings its total capital surplus and undivided profits up to \$143,000,000. Here, observes the *Washington Star*, "is another sign that the financial supremacy of the world has moved westward across the Atlantic." The four great British rivals now outstrip by the New York bank are the Midland, with a total capitalization of \$130,000,000; Lloyd's Bank, \$129,000,000; Barclay's Bank, \$125,000,000, and the Westminster Bank, \$99,000,000. The National City stockholders receive a Christmas "melon" in the privilege of buying the new stock at about one-third the current market price. Each stockholder can subscribe to one new share for every two now held. With the stock selling around \$640 and the new shares offered at \$200, the *New York Herald Tribune* computes the rights attaching to each present share at about \$145. "With 500,000 shares outstanding, the total value of such rights aggregates close to \$71,000,000." This New York paper further points out that:

The National City Bank has for several years been acknowledged the largest banking institution in the United States. With total assets of \$1,200,000,000 and with deposits verging on \$1,000,000,000, it is one of the country's biggest corporate enterprises, rivaled in magnitude only by such capital aggregations as those of the United States Steel Corporation, American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and the New York Central Railroad. Organized in 1812 with capital of \$800,000, it is one of the nation's oldest banks, as well as its largest, and through its commercial department it has, in its century of existence, extended credit to commercial and industrial enterprises in every part of the world. Its facilities for foreign service are among the best.

The world's greatest bank, so the *New York Evening World* recalls, dates back to June 19, 1812, when it was founded by thirteen men meeting in the old Tammany hall on Nassau Street. There were then only six banks in the city. In its statement explaining the action of the Directors, President Charles E. Mitchell said that the present dividend rate, equivalent to twenty dollars a share annually, could be maintained with the larger capitalization. He gave as reasons for the increase the policy of extending branch banking in New York City as evidenced by his company's recent purchase of the People's Trust Company of Brooklyn; the growth of foreign branches, and the need for more building both at home and abroad. "Furthermore," he said, "expansion means increased deposits, and the directors deem it wise to continue the traditional policy of maintaining a somewhat larger ratio of capital and surplus to deposits than is dictated by general banking practice."

"Banks of great resources are needed to care for the country's financial needs, both domestic and international, in this new day," the *Chicago Journal of Commerce* is convinced, and it adds:

What the National City Bank has done is a demonstration that large banking units, sufficient to serve the country's increasing necessities, can be constructed despite the absence of the nation-wide branch-banking methods in use in Britain.

Britain's economic prestige as a world Power has depended principally upon shipping and finance. And finance has rested chiefly upon branch banking. Each of the big five British banks has branches galore. Individual American national banks are unable to dot the country with their branches. Yet a single American national bank, with only local branches, has

reached a greater size than the greatest of Britain's chain banks.

Since the trend of American business in recent years has been toward operations on a larger scale, it is inevitable, says J. C. Royle in a Consolidated Press dispatch from New York, "that the financing of industrial and commercial obligations should require large sums; the banks have had to follow this trend or lose pace with the profession." For example, he goes on, a New York bank under existing laws may lend to one individual or corporation only one-tenth of its capitalization including surplus and undivided profits. Thus the National City Bank can now lend to one borrower approximately \$10,000,000; "when the proposed addition to its capital is made, it will be enabled to make a single loan of approximately \$14,000,000." The writer continues:

America, together with England, now is financing the world. And world requirements have necessitated the providing of additional banking capital. England, although a small nation, and as one business man put it, "always about two steps from the poorhouse," has one advantage—she has only about four big banks which have innumerable branches. This is not possible under existing laws here.

The bankers are as deeply interested in the cutting of costs as are makers of automobiles or other products, and economy is another factor which has produced the present policy. Additional capital means the opportunity to acquire additional business which can be handled without corresponding advances in cost. This trend works right through the business, since, as one banker expressed it, the bank will get more deposits, and thus be able to loan more money to its customers and make more profits to acquire more customers and deposits.

The cost of doing business for banks has grown to an extraordinary extent owing to the effort of bankers to give service to customers. Customers now not only ask but get service which never would have been thought of ten years ago.

A National City Bank official is quoted by Mr. Royle as saying:

What we really do is to run a department store of banking. We can and do take care of our customers from the cradle to the grave. The National City has become the biggest bank in the world, yet on January 1st will start a campaign to attract one-dollar savings accounts. The bank now has some \$70,000,000 on deposit representing such accounts. Some of the service departments we operate are not in themselves produce a profit, but we believe they induce thrift and the habit of doing a banking business which eventually returns profits.

The need for bigger banks is also emphasized in the *New York Sun*:

Borrowers prefer to deal with one or two banks. They like to feel that they are getting two things at their bank—security and ample resources combined with the best possible financial advice. It has been said by analysts of the banking and business situation that New York ought to have at least four billion dollar banks to keep pace with business.

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CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, U. S. A.

"THE LITERARY DIGEST"
Diciembre 25 de 1926.

COMENTARIO EXTRANJERO

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Trad.:MCM.

"THE LITERARY DIGEST,"
Diciembre 25 de 1926.

COMENTARIO EXTRANJERO

LA IRA DE LOS MEXICANOS CONTRA WASHINGTON

EL RESENTIMIENTO y el desprecio arden en la prensa mexicana, según parece, debido a lo que llaman "despreciable" política del Gobierno americano al publicar una declaración oficial acusando a México de ayudar a los revolucionarios nicaraguenses a que establezcan un Gobierno bolchevique en Nicaragua. La bomba diplomática estalló en Washington, dicen los editores mexicanos acaloradamente, pero no es sino una pantalla, tramada ostensiblemente con el fin de despertar al pueblo americano a un asunto vital para los intereses americanos nacionales; es decir, la defensa del Canal de Panamá, pero en realidad de lo que tratan es de ganar el apoyo popular para poner en práctica una política más drástica en contra de México en lo que respecta a las leyes de petróleo y extranjería. Tres días después de la publicación del parte oficial de Washington mencionando la grave preocupación que sentía ante "la intervención de un Poder extranjero" en los asuntos de Nicaragua, hacen notar los periódicos mexicanos, vino la publicación de notas diplomáticas entre la ciudad de México y el Departamento de Estado, que reveló lo que ellos llaman un "impasse" diplomático entre los dos Gobiernos por la interpretación de las leyes de extranjería y petróleo que entrarán en vigor el 1.º de enero de 1927. Comparados por los periodistas mexicanos que se tachan de ser "imparciales," los puntos de vista mexicanos y america-

Y esto, según los periodistas mexicanos, el Gobierno-
cionalizadas no ha sido entregada.

2. La deuda compensación por las propiedades ya na-
ministración mexicana en esa época.

Harding, y que sirvieron de base al reconocimiento de la Ad-
Obregon y su Gobierno a los representantes del Presidente -
violación de los compromisos empeñados por el Presidente --
de enero son confiscatorios de hecho, y están en abierta --
1. Los reglamentos que van a ponerse en vigor el 10.-

sa mexicana, sostiene los puntos siguientes:
El Gobierno americano, por otra parte, según la pren-

Unidos, ni a las cámaras de Diputados y Senadores en México.
sometidas a la consideración del Congreso en los Estados --
la fuerza de un tratado internacional, puesto que no fueron
como representantes del Presidente Harding, como poseyendo-
soberanías en México en 1923 con los señores Warren y Paine,
3. México no reconoce las "conversaciones" informales

vertirá en ciudadano mexicano en un período de diez años.
chos títulos o derechos, por herencia o por compra se con-
su muerte, y cualquiera persona o compañía que adquiere di-
ne que estos serán entregados a sus legítimos dueños hasta-
nes y títulos legítimamente adquiridos antes de 1917, y sostie-
2. México reconoce la validez de todas las concesio--

nacionalizaron el subsuelo y las grandes propiedades.
fuerza a las estipulaciones de la Constitución de 1917, que
cualquier reglamento que crea necesario para darles mayor -
1. México sostiene que está en su derecho al aprobar-
nos se descubren de la manera siguiente:

de México ha replicado que:

1. Conforme a la ley internacional no pueden hacerse protestas contra las leyes de otro país hasta que sus efectos han perjudicado al subdito o súbditos de otra nación.

2. Los tribunales mexicanos están abiertos para considerar cualquier protesta.

3. Las conversaciones de 1923 nunca fueron consideradas por el Gobierno mexicano como formando la base del reconocimiento de la Administración de Obregón.

4. Las leyes de extranjería y petroleo no son confiscatorias.

5. Los reglamentos serán puestos en vigor cueste lo - que cueste, pues México como nación soberana es perfectamente libre para legislar como le convenga.

6. Cualquiera que haya sido la impresión recibida por los enviados del Presidente Harding, las conversaciones de 1923 no podían ni razonable ni legalmente ser consideradas en ninguna parte como un compromiso que impidiera a las legislaturas presentes o futuras aprobar las leyes que consideren necesarias.

La controversia entre los dos países, dice el UNIVER-
SAL de México, exhibe por un lado el apresuramiento demos-
trado por Washington para proteger intereses que no han cor-
rido el menor peligro, y por el otro, el cuidado que siem-
pre ha puesto México; siempre pondrá para defender sus dere-
chos soberanos, y este diario prosigue:

"México ha obrado como país libre y soberano al proyec-
tar y adoptar las leyes que ha juzgado convenientes. Es e-

vidente que si se comprobara que la ejecución de estas leyes es perjudicial y causa verdaderos perjuicios a los intereses extranjeros que no pudieran obtener reparación o satisfacción en los tribunales mexicanos, una reclamación diplomática sería lógica. Pero este caso ha revelado contravención -- sin precedente a todos los usos y costumbres diplomáticas. -- Los Estados Unidos comenzaron a oponerse a las leyes y reglamentos porque los creyeron retroactivos, muchos años antes -- de que las supuestas fases confiscatorias pudieran ser notadas."

Al mismo tiempo este diario no cree que el incidente sea tan grave, aun cuando admite que es una seria equivocación, y agrega:

"La verdad de los hechos es que ni ha habido ni hay --- ningún conflicto. México reconoce que la ley no tiene carácter retroactivo y que todos los títulos de propiedades están debidamente reconocidos. Los Estados Unidos, por otra parte, no han presentado un solo caso en que sus nacionales hayan sufrido o hayan sido privados por estas leyes de lo que les corresponde por derecho. ¿Dónde está entonces el motivo de -- alarma?"

Pero el "EXCELCIOR" de la ciudad de México, con menos calma, protesta amargamente contra la "leyenda radical" divulgada en el extranjero pintando a México como el foco del bolchevismo, y declara:

"Ni siquiera un preparatoriano podría confundir la evolución social de México con la ideología sovieta. Las revoluciones y crisis políticas de México son productos caracter

rísticos de la América latina en general, y de nuestro país en particular. Cualquiera observador puede notar fácilmente que el único punto en común entre los problemas de Rusia y los de México, es la libertad del pueblo, oprimido durante años de esclavitud. Fuera de eso, todo difiere. Ni el --- país, ni la población, ni la historia, ni la religión, ni el intercambio comercial, ni las costumbres, se parecen. El problema ruso es típicamente eslavo, oriental, político; es el eslabón que une al Oriente y al Occidente. El problema mexicano, es meramente social, es la lucha de un pueblo eternamente despojado, la aspiración confusa por alcanzar mejores cosas; el problema de la educación de las masas, de la irrigación de las tierras, de la construcción de caminos e intercambio comercial.....

"México nunca ha intervenido ni nunca intervendrá en -- otros países, ni siquiera para dar extensión a sus ideales, pero todavía si lo hiciera, no veríamos ningún mal en ello. Lo único que está moralmente prohibido a todas las naciones de la tierra, es perturbar la paz y la tranquilidad internas de las naciones hermanas, lo mismo que intervenir en sus soberanos asuntos."

El "DICTAMEN" de Veracruz dice que toda la disputa depende de los distintos sentidos que los dos países le han dado a las conversaciones de 1923 entre los señores Warren y Paine por una parte, y Ross y González Roa por la otra. Cuando éstas tuvieron lugar, el periódico afirma, la creencia general fué que los representantes americanos habían quedado plenamente satisfechos de que nuestras leyes no eran un obs-

táculo para el sostenimiento de relaciones más amistosas entre los Estados Unidos y México, y despues hace ver que:

"Esta impresión popular parecía haber sido confirmada más tarde cuando Washington reconoció la Administración de Obregón, en que se dió por hecho que la reglamentación y --- aplicación de las leyes no serían causa de una nueva fricción.

"El Secretario Kellogg, sin embargo, disipa esa ilusión, declarando enfáticamente que su Gobierno considera las seguridades obtenidas por los comisionados americanos como la formación de la base para el reconocimiento de la Administración de Obregón, y que dicha formalidad no habría tenido lugar si no se hubieran hecho las promesas.

"El Gobierno mexicano sostiene^{q. la} disputa ha sido una --- gran sorpresa, puesto que nada por el estilo fué siquiera -- sugerido en 1923, siendo las conversaciones designadas para esclarecer la ley mexicana para beneficio de la Casa Blanca."

Entretanto, los partes de la prensa de Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, recuerdan una declaracion del Dr. Juan Bautista Sacasa, jefe del Gobierno Liberal establecido en aquella ciudad, en la que dice que el cargo de Adolfo Díaz, Presidente-Conservador, referente a que el Gobierno mexicano apoya el movimiento liberal equipando barcos que irán escoltados por cañoneros mexicanos, es falso y fué "inventado con el fin de exitar las sospechas del público americano contra la justa causa por la que el pueblo de Nicaragua está luchando."

AGOSTO 1926

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"THE LITERARY DIGEST"

ACTUALIDADES.

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Trad:MCM.

A C T U A L I D A D E S

EL CONFLICTO DE LA IGLESIA Y EL ESTADO EN MEXICO.

Una "Lucha a Muerte" se está llevando a cabo entre la Iglesia y el Estado en México, lucha, que, según dice nuestro editor, jamás se había visto en el continente Occidental. El Gobierno de Calles, conforme a las declaraciones y mensajes oficiales de México, considera la lucha necesaria para abolir de una vez por todas el poder político que la Iglesia católica ha ejercido hasta ahora en México, mientras que en la Iglesia, la campaña del Gobierno es considerada como una guerra contra la religión, bajo el pretexto de destruir las actividades religiosas del clero. Aun cuando esta es una contienda entre la Iglesia y el Estado, todos los observadores están de acuerdo en que difiere de los conflictos civiles, a que tan acostumbrado está México, pues ambas partes se oponen terminantemente a promover una verdadera revolución, descansando el Gobierno en su autoridad y prestigio principalmente, y la Iglesia concretándose a una campaña de "resistencia pasiva". Al poner en vigor las leyes anteriores contra las actividades de la iglesia, descuidadas durante muchos años, al igual de las "blue laws" de nuestro propio país, el Presidente Calles hostiliza a la Iglesia, a quien debe obediencia cuando menos el 90 por ciento de su pueblo. y en la cesación de los oficios eclesiásticos en las iglesias, la

Iglesia católica de hecho reasume el uso de sus antiguas armas, el entredicho que humilló al Rey Juan manejado — por Inocente III, hace siete siglos. Esta "guerra santa" en el año de 1926 le parece un anacronismo extraño a nuestra prensa americana.

En lo que respecta a la política de nuestro Gobierno, aunque algunos católicos ven motivos para la intervención, nuestra prensa en general cree que este es asunto que incumbe solo a México, y que los Estados Unidos no deben inmiscuirse en él de manera oficial. No puede decirse que la opinión pública esté de parte de Calles o de sus contrarios. "El Independiente" cree, sin embargo, — que en estos casos es difícil encontrar el termino medio; "o se cree en la preponderancia de la Iglesia o en la — del Estado". El "weekly de Boston se inclina a creer lo último:

"Nosotros no juzgamos la acción del Gobierno de Calles como un movimiento organizado y deliberado de parte de influencias ateístas y bolcheviques para eliminar el cristianismo como fuerza organizada. La reacción contra la Iglesia católica — y todas las demás iglesias organizadas de México — puede ser excesiva pero no es fundamentalmente injustificada. Un pueblo miserable y explotado, tiene el derecho — en lo que al Gobierno concierne — a — que se le dé una oportunidad para mejorar su standard de vida, con todo lo que esto implica, y solo de manera secundaria debe buscar los consuelos de la religión. Cuando la religión organizada interviene o parece intervenir

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contra el bienestar físico del pueblo, esta debe controlarse y disciplinarse. El bienestar físico es un hecho; mientras que los consuelos de la religión son los recursos de una teoría. Los racionalistas, por lo tanto, exigirán primero que los mexicanos estén bien alimentados, bien alojados, bien vestidos y bien educados, y como cosa secundaria que tengan el derecho a la libertad de cultos. Hasta donde las Iglesias católicas o protestantes pretendan tener un derecho previo sobre los cuerpos, las mentes y las almas de ciudadanos mexicanos potenciales - hasta ahí están justamente sujetos a las disposiciones - y sanciones del Gobierno."

Por otra parte, existen varios periódicos que se inclinan a pensar con el "New Haven Register", que "todo el mundo cristiano debe simpatizar con la Iglesia católica en esta lucha." El Brooklyn "Eagle" opina que "Calles está acusado ante el alto tribunal del sentimiento mundial." Las severas leyes promulgadas por Calles, y que limitan las actividades de la iglesia, le parecen a "la prensa" de Grand Rapids, "un conflicto con la naturaleza humana y las mejores aspiraciones de la humanidad, y --- aplicables solamente en un Estado que, como la Francia revolucionaria o la Rusia moderna, en un bautismo de sangre, ha arrojado lejos de sí toda tradición, destruido toda enseña, y ha establecido una rebeldía popular contra todas las antiguas instituciones." El "New Bureau" de Boston, no es, ni con mucho, el único periódico que sospecha que en México "se hostiliza a la iglesia porque

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creo firmemente en el sistema capitalista, más bien que en el comunista. El "Evening Post" de Nueva York, considera que esta opinión está muy generalizada en este país, "a pesar de toda la simpatía que pueda haber para la ~~idea~~ idea fundamental de las acciones de Calles, respecto a ~~que~~ que la iglesia es una influencia fija en México, que es una barrera contra las actuales tendencias bolcheviques, y que sin ella el país corre el peligro de retroceder al periodo de 're-indianización.'" Y otro órgano más radical de la opinión, "The Nation", aunque "simpatizando con la decisión de México de ~~acabar con el control de la igle~~ ~~sia~~ no podemos menos que "lamentar sus métodos":

"Comprendemos la oposición de México al clero extranjero que controla virtualmente su sistema de educación y que ~~incitan~~ incitan a las masas ignorantes a desobedecer sus leyes agrarias y sus ~~decisión~~ decisión de nacionalizar las propiedades de la iglesia que en esencia no es sino una reliquia de un pasado feudal. Pero con la pretensión del ~~Gobierno~~ Gobierno mexicano de suprimir la crítica de sus propios actos, no tenemos la menor simpatía."

Los extractos anteriores representan la opinión de ~~la~~ la prensa americana respecto a la crisis mexicana. La ~~opinión~~ opinión de la prensa mexicana no es fácil conseguirla, ~~en~~ en vista de la prohibición gubernamental a todo comentario editorial sobre política. Las respuestas a la solicitud telegráfica de comentarios, de "The Literary Digest" demostraban una cautela propia de las circunstancias, pero es de interés encontrar que hay acuerdo en que

la solución pacífica debe esperarse muy pronto. El Editor de "Excelsior" de la ciudad de México, cree que "ya pasó la crisis". "El Universal", que también se publica en la capital, cree que el conflicto se ha consumido has ta convertirse en una controversia ^{de} sobre principios "que, según se espera, será arreglada en forma de problema político del orden administrativo, puramente interno y enteramente nacionalista." El editor de "El Mundo" de Tampico, quien fué encarcelado cuando la excitación estaba en su apogeo, también nos informa, que "los ánimos se están calmando en todo México," y espera que los representantes del Gobierno y de la Jerarquía católica "lleguen a una inteligencia favorable."

Puesto que la guerra entre Calles y los dignatarios de la iglesia católica, ha sido más bien de pronunciamientos, sus distintas declaraciones serán mejor comprendidas si se presentan en su debido lugar en una revista de la crisis que ha estado convulsionando a México este verano. Muchas personas de las que escriben para los periódicos nos recuerdan que esta historia viene de épocas en que los actuales mandatarios de la nación mexicana — aun no habían nacido. El catolicismo vino a México con el conquistador español Cortés, hace cuatrocientos años. Vamos a citar las palabras de un escritor de la Prensa Asociada que desde la ciudad de México compendia la historia de las relaciones entre la Iglesia y el Estado:

"En los siglos subsiguientes, la Iglesia católica se hizo formidablemente rica y poderosa en México. Cuando

México consumó su Independencia en 1821, la Iglesia, según dicen, era dueña de la cuarta parte de las riquezas de México.

"La oposición a esas riquezas y poder, tanto tiempo latente, fué fomentada y nutrida al abrigo de la independencia. Comenzando en 1855, los Gobiernos de la República mexicana, han ido doblgando el poder de la iglesia - por medio de leyes y decretos, y confiscando sus propiedades. Esta fué la causa de la Guerra de Reforma, lucha entre clericales y liberales; éstos últimos apoyaban la política anti-clerical del Gobierno. Ganaron los liberales, y la iglesia no ha podido nunca recuperar su antiguo poder ni retener sus riquezas anteriores.

"La Constitución de 1857, y las leyes y decretos de la Guerra de Reforma, declararon todas los bienes de la Iglesia confiscados en beneficio del Estado, restringiendo las actividades de la iglesia y de sus órdenes, y limitando estrictamente las actividades de los sacerdotes, monjas y clericales. Las constituciones subsiguientes han reafirmado esta política, aun cuando ha habido periodos en que se ha descuidado su efectividad. La Constitución de 1917, que es la ley orgánica actual, las proclamó formalmente, y las administraciones de Obregón y Calles han ido poco a poco poniendo en vigor varias de las limitaciones religiosas. Desde hace seis meses el Gobierno de Calles ha activado mucho su observancia.

"En estos años de controversia, los gobiernos han expulsado de México a los nuncios papales, a los obispos -

católicos, sacerdotes y monjas, se ha apoderado y vendido los bienes de la Iglesia, ha cerrado las iglesias católicas, los conventos, las escuelas, excepto la Iglesia católica mexicana, que se ha declarado independiente de la iglesia romana, y niega la autoridad del Papa. Pero la mayoría de los mexicanos continúan siendo miembros de la Iglesia católica romana."

El corresponsal sigue luego explicando que:-

"Entre los años de 1872 y 1875, la única orden religiosa que aun permanecía en México, la de las hermanas de la Caridad, fué suprimida por el Gobierno. Durante el periodo contado desde las Leyes de Reforma hasta la exaltación de Díaz al poder, la Iglesia conoció sus días más negros en México. Díaz no era un católico declarado, pero su esposa sí lo era, como lo son la mayoría de las mujeres mexicanas. Aun cuando las cláusulas referentes a la religión permanecían en la Constitución, no eran estrictamente observadas, pero las propiedades de la iglesia, eran, según la ley, bienes del Estado.

"Después del periodo revolucionario de 1910-20, el Presidente Obregón comenzó a hacer efectivas las leyes religiosas, y el Presidente Calles, sigue la misma política. En enero de 1923, Obregón expulsó al nuncio papal, Mons. Filippi, basándose en que este había dirigido algunas seremonias religiosas, desobedeciendo la Constitución.

Un poco más tarde, en ese mismo año, otro Nuncio Papal, Mons. Cimino, fué enviado por el Vaticano a México, y el Gobierno mexicano, solicitó del Pontífice romano, -

que lo retirara, lo cual fué hecho. Este año, Mons. Caruana, ciudadano americano, fué enviado aquí como Nuncio Papal y fué también expulsado debido al cargo que se le hizo por el Gobierno de México, de haber entrado al país indebidamente, ocultando su identidad en la frontera, — cargo que él negó después.

El actual movimiento, que ha puesto en vigor estrictamente las cláusulas de la Constitución, empezó en el mes de febrero, después del arresto del arzobispo de México, Mora y del Río, quien fué acusado de haber criticado al Gobierno, lo cual está prohibido por la Constitución. La queja se basaba en una entrevista del arzobispo con un periódico de la Ciudad de México, la cual fué negada por éste, y fué puesto en libertad."

El 3 de julio, el Presidente Calles promulgó varios decretos que fueron puestos en vigor el día 1ro. de agosto, para la ejecución de las prevenciones antireligiosas de la Constitución de 1917, que no son sino la repetición de la que fueron adoptadas en 1857. Estos decretos *han sido compendiados* por la Asociación de Política Extranjera de la manera siguiente:

"1. Ningún extranjero puede ejercer la profesión religiosa en México.

"2. La educación debe impartirse en las escuelas oficiales y tiene que ser laica.

"3. Las órdenes religiosas, conventos y monasterios, serán disueltos.

"4. Cualquier ministro de la religión que incite al público a que se rehuse a reconocer las instituciones públicas y a obedecer las leyes será severamente castigado.

"5. Ninguna publicación religiosa o que demuestre - tendencias religiosas, podrá hacer comentarios sobre los asuntos políticos de la nación.

"6. No podrán formarse organizaciones cuyo título - contenga alguna palapra o indicación de que está relacionado con las ideas religiosas.

"7. No podrán celebrarse juntas políticas en la -- iglesias.

"8. Todo acto religioso o ceremonia del culto se celebrará dentro de la iglesia.

"9. Ninguna órden religiosa del culto que sea, podrá podrá poseer o administrar bienes o capital.

"10. Las iglesias son propiedad de la nación, y todas las propiedades del clero, tales como los palacios - de los obispos, las casas de los sacerdotes, asilos, seminarios, colegios, conventos y demás edificios construidos para fines religiosos, pasarán a ser propiedad de la nación, y el Gobierno determinará el uso a que deben dedicarse.

"11. A las autoridades que no den el debido cumplimiento a estas disposiciones se les inpondrán severos -- castigos."

Antes de la publicación de este decreto se había promulgado cierto número de reglas que limitaban las actividades de la Iglesia, y el delegado papal, Arzobispo Ca--

ruana, con otros religiosos y monjas, había sido expulsado. En los primeros días de julio, la Liga Nacional de Defensa de la Libertad Religiosa, organización laica y católica de México, para hacer presión sobre el Gobierno, y obligarlo a que cambiara de política por medio de una crisis económica, formularon un programa de abstención de todo artículo de lujo, entre todos los miembros de la liga, tanto en la capital como en toda la República, — (Se dice que los miembros de la Liga llegan a 600,000). Y de hecho han restringido todos sus gastos, como parte de la campaña defensiva contra la "guerra a muerte que se ha decrado^{ta} en México a la Iglesia católica." Al mismo tiempo las mujeres católicas acordaron un boycott contra todas las diversiones públicas. Los líderes de la Liga, pronto fueron arrestados, pero su lugar lo ocuparon otros miembros de la misma.

El 25 de julio, una carta pastoral, firmada por el arzobispo de México y por otros miembros de la Jerarquía, suspendió, comenzando el 31 de julio, todos los servicios religiosos en las iglesias, donde hubiera necesidad de los sacerdotes; esto lo hicieron con el fin de evitar la sumisión de los sacerdotes o un choque de estos con las autoridades. En esta carta, los obispos mexicanos, le encargaban las iglesias a los fieles, les aconsejaban que no dejaran de concurrir a ellas, y que buscaran los medios legales para anular las leyes promulgadas por Calles. En respuesta a la carta pastoral, el Presidente Calles publicó una declaración en la prensa, ridiculizan

do el boycott económico. El mismo día, el Ministro de Relaciones exteriores, que se encontraba de vacaciones en Los Angeles, publicó una declaración negando que su Gobierno fuera intolerante o se opusiera a la libertad religiosa, y afirmando que después de que la Iglesia empezó una campaña de oposición a la Constitución mexicana, el Gobierno respondió simplemente, poniendo en vigor las prevenciones de las leyes mexicanas referentes a las iglesias." Al día siguiente, Pascual Díaz, Obispo de Tabasco, y Secretario y portavoz del episcopado mexicano envió una declaración para que fuera publicada en la que censuraba las leyes de Calles por ser "contrarias a los derechos naturales que sancionan la libertad religiosa," y expresaba que "sobre la Constitución están los derechos de Dios y la manifiesta voluntad del pueblo que se siente esclavizado."

En estos días, México fué testigo de los fenómenos más raros de los tiempos modernos. Según las palabras de un conresponsal de la Ciudad de México, "de las miserables covachas y de la suntuosas residencias de los poderosos, de un oceano al otro, desde los ranchos solitarios hasta la misma plaza donde se encuentra el palacio del Presidente, y a donde da frente también la gran catedral de la ciudad de México, los fieles de la iglesia católica, en innumerables multitudes se acercaban a sus lugares acostumbrados del culto, pidiéndole al Todopoderoso que viniera en auxilio de la fé que les es tan cara." Se anunció que el Gobierno tomaría posesión de las iglescas

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por medio de personas nombradas para el objeto, y que — las propiedades de la Iglesia que no estuvieran dedicadas al culto se convertirían en oficinas o dependencias del Gobierno. El 29 de Julio, la C R O M , o Confederación Regional Obrera Mexicana, la organización principal de México, publicó un manifiesto, adhiriéndose al programa político de Calles y el Presidente Calles reiteró su cargo de que el clero había retado al Gobierno, aconsejando la desobediencia a la Constitución, y que éste se veía obligado a combatir la "arbitraria actitud del clero". Las autoridades federales, previendo desórdenes o disturbios, ordenó que todos los católicos fueran desarmados; y otra declaración del Obispo Díaz expresó que — los católicos "están empeñados en una guerra de vida o muerte para la libertad religiosa" pero "están empleando medios negativos vitales, y que por lo tanto no hay sedición."

En día 30, el Gobierno expulsó a Mons. Crespi, encargado de la Legación Papal, después de la expulsión del Nuncio. El domingo, 1ro. de Agosto, una formación de — 50,000, compuesta por los miembros del trabajo organizado, desfiló por las calles de la ciudad de México, en demostración de apoyo a la política de Calles, llevando estandartes con inscripciones que atacaban al clero. Todavía salió otra nota de los obispos mexicanos en que declaraban que el Gobierno mexicano "sembraba la semilla de la discordia al promulgar sus opresivas leyes." Solo

dan parte de uno que otro acto de violencia; los títulos de los periódicos hablan de calma, a pesar de esta gran-revolución en las costumbres de las gentes. Los rumores de paz fueron negados una y otra vez, pero los mensajes dicen que se hacen constantes esfuerzos de ambas partes para no llegar a un conflicto armado. La enfática declaración del ex-Presidente Obregón en apoyo de Calles puso fin a las insinuaciones de que éste podría encabezar algún movimiento revolucionario. Las organizaciones representativas de la industria y el comercio se rehusaron a tomar parte en la controversia, de uno u otro lado. La actitud de la Iglesia fué de nuevo definida por el Obispo Díaz, quien dijo a la "Associated Press," el 4 de agosto: "Estando la Iglesia, fuera, y sobre cualquier partido político, nunca podrá aprobar que la religión sea usada como bandera de ningún partido, y mucho menos puede aprobar un movimiento armado, pues este sería en detrimento del pueblo y del mismo país." Al preguntarle lo que haría la Iglesia en el caso de que el Gobierno de Calles persistiera en su política de observancia drástica de las leyes, el Obispo Díaz contestó: "La Iglesia llegará con paso firme hasta el calvario, si es necesario, pero con la convicción de que se levantará, más poderosa, más esplendente y más gloriosa al tercer día."

"EL RESULTADO ESTA EN MANOS DE DIOS"

Dice Mora y del Río, director de la residencia a los decretos de Calles, y Arzobispo de México.