

The Alliance Herald



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Governor Coolidge of Massachusetts is suggested as a likely candidate for governor by the republicans of his state. Coolidge came into prominence just one short year ago, when he was elected governor after a rather bitter campaign, even for Massachusetts. He was re-elected the first of this month. He has made an exceptionally good governor, and Massachusetts seems to be a hard state to govern successfully, but not every good governor is mentioned for the presidency.

Within a few weeks, all the favorite magazines will be back on the shelves again. The printers' strike in New York city ended Monday, when the men decided to obey the orders of the international officials and go back to work. The typographical union has an enviable record in the small number of authorized strikes, but every such occurrence as the New York walkout injures the cause of organized labor. The labor unionists themselves should be the first to condemn lawlessness.

There is getting to be less and less comfort for the man who has salted away a goodly supply of wet goods for the drouth that is to last. The past few weeks there have been numerous robberies reported from all over the country, and it has come to be almost as dangerous to have liquor in the house as it used to be to have diamonds. The story is that all these robberies are made by men desperate for booze, which may be true, but a likelier solution is the high prices which the bootlegger receives. It's easy enough to sell good liquor and no questions are asked by the purchaser, to whom an unbroken revenue stamp looks like a gold bond.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION

Within a few weeks the delegates to the constitutional convention will be at work on the task of framing a new document. It is no easy job, but it will be more difficult than necessary because from the minute that the first roll call is over, the convention will be besieged by reformers, who will hang around, buttonholing members and otherwise hindering progress, until the last

amendment has been adopted. As is in all such gatherings, the leadership will be taken by a few who will do the actual work of framing the new document. The others will attend all sessions religiously, care for their committee duties and look extremely intelligent when a constituent happens to show up.

The elected delegates to the coming convention are, with a few possible exceptions, representative of their constituencies. They are as competent as any similar group of citizens to frame a new constitution to fit new times. As a matter of fact, aside from the difficulty of amendment, there was little the matter with the old one.

The would-be reformers will see only an opportunity to fasten their particular governmental scheme on the state. Dozens of hare-brained and half-baked theories will be urged upon these helpless delegates. There will be short ballot advocates; minimum wages; single tax adherents; men who will urge higher salaries and men who will want certain salaries decreased; those who favor a one-house legislature, and those who would lengthen the terms of all officials; in short, there will be a bewildering lot of suggestions made by theorists who will fight for their favorite schemes until the cows come home. Out of the maze a new constitution will be framed.

If the leaders of the convention are wise, it will be a short, concise document, easy to understand and possible to amend. If that sort of a constitution is put up to the people, it stands some show of adoption. If the theorists get the ear of a majority of the delegates, the whole thing will be time and labor thrown away.

ONE MORE DRIVE

The inter-church movement is the latest thing in religious circles. On the face of it, the objects are most commendable, being, first, an actual survey of religious, social and economic conditions throughout the world, county by county and city by city in the United States and a more general survey in other countries. There is more duplication of effort in religious work than in any other field. There are cities and towns which boast of large numbers of churches, when as a matter of fact they are equipped far beyond their needs.

At the present, not more than a third of the churches are really needed to accommodate those who attend. The other buildings must be kept up at a big financial drain on the membership. In dozens of places several weak churches could unite and form an organization that would be strong enough to do the work that should be done, but petty jealousies, often fostered by the preachers themselves, usually stand in the way.

This state of affairs is not seen in the foreign mission fields, however. For years there has been inadequate

funds for this work, and one good result has been that the national organizations have districted the fields and allotted certain portions to each denomination. If the Presbyterians are holding the fort well in one field, the other denominations exert their efforts and spend their money in another. The ignorant heathen, not knowing the difference between the various roads to salvation, is content with what is offered him. To him, any organization that heals the sick and comforts the sorrowing is good enough.

It may be that the new movement will accomplish much. It has nothing to lose but its time—it has a world to gain, to paraphrase Karl Marx. But judging by past performances, one may be justified in having his doubts. Nearly every denomination has been working along similar lines—in a more limited way, of course—for years, yet definite results are apparent in only a few isolated instances. It is one thing to make a survey and another to have the recommendations adopted. Church organizations are conservative, and loth to make changes. All through the church there is needed, not only men with broader points of view, but men with an actual grasp of affairs and knowledge of conditions. It is high time that common business principles find their way, through the pulpit or otherwise, to the church membership. Too many drives will hasten the day.

THE COAL TANGLE

A week ago, the coal situation seemed in a fair way to be settled. The miners had announced that they would obey the mandate of the court and return to work, pending adjustment of the wages question. They have announced that they will accept an increase of 31 per cent, which seems not to be exorbitant, although other workers, not so well organized, have not enjoyed anywhere near such good fortune.

The operators seem perfectly willing to grant the increase, provided they receive assurances that the burden will not fall on them, but on the public. Mr. McAdoo has charged that the operators are making "enormous profits" and the impression seems to be general among those informed on the subject that they are perfectly able to meet the increase and still make a reasonable profit.

In this connection, the announcement of Secretary Garfield Tuesday to the effect that the public must not be asked to pay more for coal than present prices unless it is necessary to provide reasonable wages to the miners and reasonable profit to the operators assumes interesting proportions. The whole question of wages and profits will receive a thorough airing, and in time both sides will be forced to accept an equitable settlement. In the meantime, the public suffers. The time will come when state wages boards will take care of all such questions unless the two parties to labor disputes can learn to settle their difficulties without inconvenience to the third party.

THE PRICE OF MILK

The state department of agriculture is now putting into effect the provisions of the new dairy law passed by the last legislature. Two provisions of the law are worthy of attention, the first being that an annual license fee of a dollar is exacted from dairies having more than five animals in their herds. The other prohibits the sale of milk or cream from any animal that has not been examined by a licensed veterinarian within one year, and this applies to the sale of all milk or cream, notwithstanding the size of the herd. Milk is selling in Alliance now at prices ranging from 12 1/2 to 15 cents a quart. Not so very long ago there was a big supply at half that amount. Why the increase?

Ten or fifteen years ago, a lot of families kept a cow. They used only a small part of the milk, and sold the rest to their neighbors. Then came the law requiring cattle to be examined by a veterinarian when milk was sold, and though the cost was slight, it was sufficient to make a good many of these families give up their cows. It wasn't so much the money—it was simply a distaste for all the monkeywork the law caused.

Now, with butterfat bringing unheard of prices, the dealers are having hard work getting sufficient milk to supply the demand. It's too much work for the farmers to bring milk to town, when by using the separator, they can get more money for their cream and still have the skim-milk left to feed to the hogs. The price of milk will be higher before it is lower.

In the name of protecting the public, these inspection laws raise the ante until the small producer doesn't have the money to look at the cards. You can't blame the dealers—they make a mighty small margin of profit on milk as compared to other commodities. You can't blame the producer. Sometimes it's a question whether these barriers thrown up to protect the public are worth all they cost.

Father's Punishment

"Out after hours again, eh?" said the father.
"Only ten minutes," replied the son.
"Well, go at once to your room, sir, lock yourself in, and bring me the key. This thoughtlessness must be checked."—London Tit-Bits.

THERE'S NEVER A TIME

when you will regret having commenced a bank account. Certainly you will have no regrets after a comfortable little sum has accumulated to your credit—ready for your use in an investment or some emergency. And you will have no more than a feeling of slight inconvenience at the time you are putting away the weekly or monthly percentage of your salary to increase the account. From either point of view, then,

Right Now or Later

it is unquestionably an advisable action to take. The greatest step is the first deposit—the others come very easily. All you have to do is to step into the First State Bank the next time you are in the city. We are doing all we can to encourage the habit of saving. All this month we have been

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We want everybody to profit by our offer, both the older folks and the children. Give the little folks the habit of thrift while they are young and you need not worry over their future. Why not start them in this habit by giving them a Thanksgiving present consisting of enough money to commence this savings account? It will be the best day's work you have done for perhaps many months.

OFFER ENDS SATURDAY, NOV. 29

First State Bank

Only Bank in Alliance That Offers Its Depositors Protection

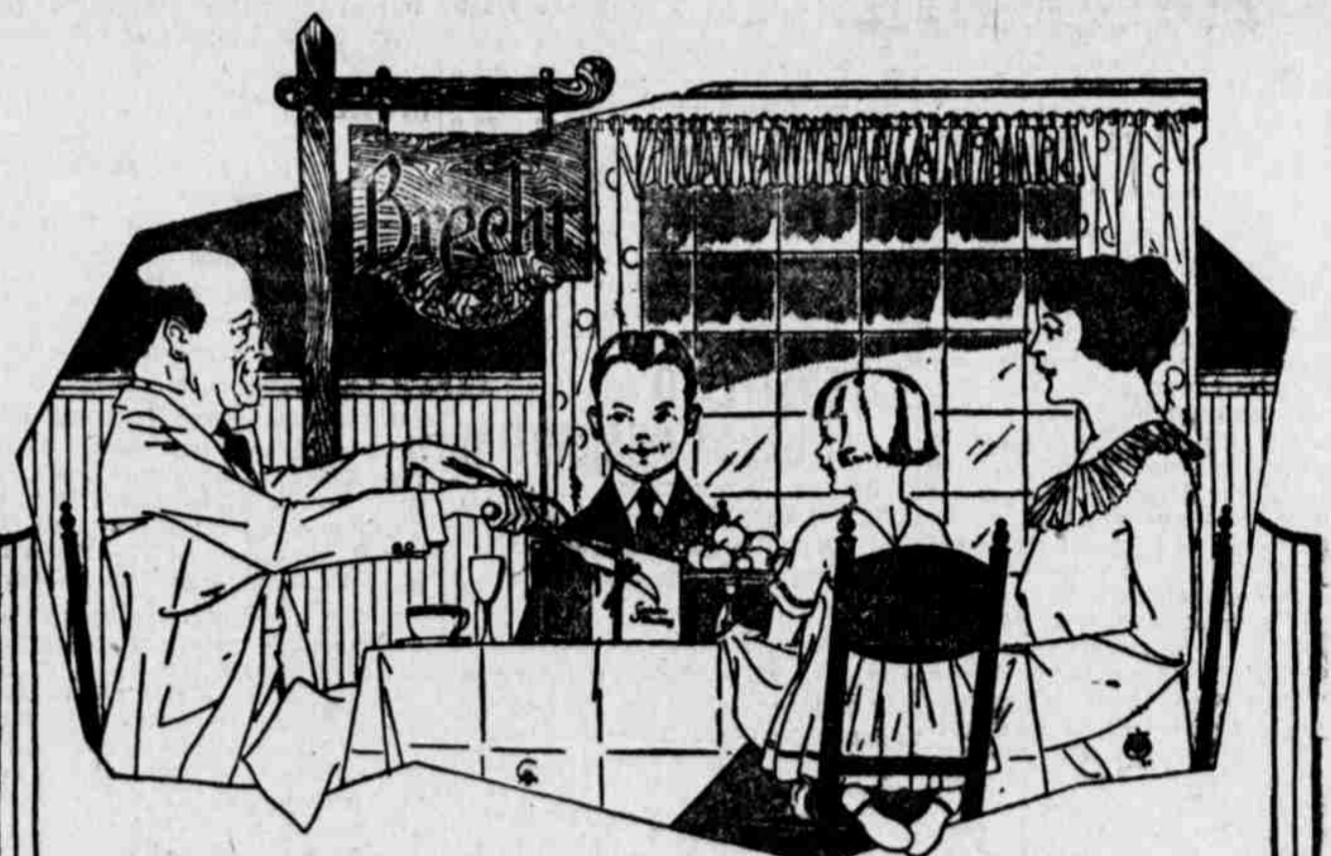
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5c a package before the war

5c a package during the war

5c a package NOW

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