

"WITH EXACTNESS GRINDS HE ALL"

For several years Miss Phoebe Couzins, famous as a lecturer has advocated the restoration of the army canteen and other "practical efforts at reform" which appear to be most acceptable to the liquor interests. Many people were surprised at Miss Couzins' activity but the secret is now out and it is told in the following dispatch, carried by the United Press:

"Washington, Oct. 11.—To the fact that the United States Brewers' association paid her \$350 monthly for years until last January, when it was suddenly cut off, Miss Phoebe Couzins, famous woman lawyer and advocate of the army canteen, today attributed her sudden descent from luxury to absolute poverty and threatened starvation.

"For many years Miss Couzins maintained an expensive suite of rooms at the Riggs house here, but her troubles all came at once last January, when her income was cut off and the hotel was torn down to make way for a new building. Through her long occupancy she would have been allowed to retain the quarters if it had not been razed.

"Now I am penniless," she sobbed, as she reclined in an invalid chair in a large bare room in a local lodging house today.

"I never saved a cent. I always thought the United States Brewers' association would continue my annuity as long as I lived and I had every right to expect it.

"I put in years of work for the army canteen traveling all over the country. I learned to live in luxury and my money went rapidly. I traveled a great deal in my work for woman's suffrage and never put by any money for the future. Then came the crash and I was left high and dry."

"Miss Couzins is sixty-eight years old. She is feeble and unable to do any profitable work.

"Of course the brewers' association gave a reason for cutting off my annuity, but I did not think it was sufficient. I had grown accustomed to that money and now I am forced to appeal to the board of charities. I had plenty of friends when I had money, but they seem to have become fewer and fewer since last January and until today I thought they had all forgotten me."

"Arrangements were made today to provide comfortable quarters for her in a local institution for aged persons if her friends do not make other provisions."

This revelation may provide the key for the explanation of other similar "mysteries" in various sections of the country.

Can it be possible that the United Brewers' association has on its pay roll certain machine politicians who have suddenly manifested such peculiar devotion to the public interests that they are enabled to abandon their regular business and devote their time and energy to politics? There are several notable cases where there has been general suspicion that somebody has been paying a pretty heavy bill.

"It is an ill wind that blows no one good" and the sad plight in which this talented woman lawyer finds herself will operate, through the expose she has made, to the public good.

"Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small; Though with patience He stands waiting, with exactness grinds He all."

MR. BRYAN'S PEACE IDEA

President Taft, with the candor characteristic of him, not only acknowledged in his Lincoln speech the value of Mr. Bryan's general appeals for peace and arbitration, but directed national attention to a feature of the treaties with England and France which he directly "owed" to the most distinguished democrat of Nebraska.

Mr. Taft stated that it was from Mr. Bryan that he had first heard "the scheme of appointing a commission to make a preliminary investigation, prior to the actual submission of a question to a board of arbitration, with the further proviso that the commission should have a year in which to do its work."

This is a very important safeguard and preventive of rash, angry, demagogical action under the influence of jingoes or unscrupulous politicians. It is a feature which even the senate committee did not attack.

The fact that Mr. Bryan first suggested it in one of his excellent peace speeches was not generally known, and Mr. Bryan himself never claimed his idea. It was handsome in the president to give credit where it was due in so public a manner and at so appropriate a time and place.—Chicago Record-Herald.

DEMOCRACY'S OPPORTUNITY

Governor Woodrow Wilson, at Harrisburg, Pa., said: "Beyond all these, waiting to be solved, lying as yet in the hinterland of party policy, lurks the great question of banking reform. The plain fact is that control of credit—at any rate of credit upon any large scale—is dangerously concentrated in this country. The large money resources of the country are not at the command of those who do not submit to the direction and domination of small groups

of capitalists, who wish to keep the economic development of the country under their own eye and guidance. The great monopoly in this country is the money monopoly. So long as that exists our old variety and freedom and individual energy of development are out of the question. A great industrial nation is controlled by its system of credit. Our system of credit is concentrated. The growth of the nation, therefore, and all our activities are in the hands of a few men who, even if their action be honest and intended for the public interest, are necessarily concentrated upon the great undertakings in which their own money is involved and who necessarily, by very reason of their own limitations, chill and check and destroy genuine economic freedom. This is the greatest question of all, and to this statesmen must address themselves with an earnest determination to serve the long future and true liberties of men.

"I have said that the democratic party is now to attempt constructive statesmanship. There are well known conditions which surround so great a task. In the first place it can not be executed if attempted with inconsiderate haste. That is not constructive which is loosely or hastily put together. Its parts must be sound, and their combination must be true and vital. No man can in a moment put great policies together and reconstruct a whole order of life.

"We must remember that the abuses we seek to remedy have come into existence as incidents of the great structure of industry we have built up. This structure is the work of our own hands; our own lives are involved in it. Reckless attacks upon it, destructive assaults against it would jeopard our own lives and disturb, it might be fatally, the very progress we seek to attain. It would be particularly fatal to any successful programme to admit into our minds, as we pursue it, any spirit of revenge, any purpose to wreak our displeasure upon the persons and the institutions who now represent the abuses we deprecate and seek to destroy. I do not say these things because I feel that there is danger of vengeful action or of revolutionary haste, but merely because we ought always to recognize that it is of the very essence of constructive statesmanship that we should think and act temperately, wisely, justly, in the spirit of those who reconstruct and amend not in the spirit of those who destroy and seek to build from the foundations again.

"The American people is an eminently just and an intensely practical people. They do not wish to lay violent hands upon their own affairs, but they do claim the right to look them over with close and frank and fearless scrutiny from top to bottom; to look at them from within as well as from without, in their most intimate and private details, as well as in their obvious exterior proportions; and they do hold themselves at liberty, attacking one point at a time, to readjust, correct, purify, rearrange; not destroying or even injuring the elements, but filling their altered combination with a new spirit. This is the task of the democratic party. It is the task of all statesmanship. It is a task which just at this particular juncture in our affairs looms particularly big."

WHAT DO ITS READERS THINK

Referring to Mr. Bryan's criticism of "the rule of reason," the Chicago Record-Herald concludes an editorial in this way:

"By the way, when and where did the president's appointees on the supreme bench 'take the trust side of the question?' Were the oil and tobacco decisions pro-trust decisions? This would be news, indeed, to Wall street and trust promoters."

The editor of the Record-Herald must have a poor opinion of the intelligence of the readers of his newspaper.

The immediate decision in these trust cases seemed, on its face, a victory for the public interests. The trusts were ordered to "dissolve" but it is noticeable that they are doing business at the old stand having been put to some inconvenience by way of reorganization.

But this decision was wholly insignificant compared with the "rule of reason" opinion which the court went out of its way to declare and which was, in fact, the important feature of the opinion delivered.

In this "rule of reason" opinion the court "took the trust side of the question" and it is a pity that so excellent a newspaper as the Record-Herald would undertake to pull the wool over its readers' eyes with respect to this point. Mr. George W. Perkins, the well known New

York financier, says that this "rule of reason" decision was the republican party's "only vestige of keeping faith with the people" in accordance with Governor Hughes' Youngstown, O., promise that the republican party would amend the anti-trust law in harmony with the "rule of reason" theory.

TO ABOLISH TREATING

The Chicago Record-Herald prints the following editorial: "That the treating habit is one of the causes of excessive drinking of intoxicating liquors in this country has long been apparent to all who are interested in the drink question. It is, therefore, a matter of public concern that the National German-American Alliance has adopted a resolution calling upon its executive committee to present to the next biennial convention a practical plan of abolishing the custom of treating at public bars.

"The treating habit in most cases is born of generosity or a desire to appear generous. It results in several men taking several drinks each because each thinks he can not afford to be thought mean or stingy. Many saloon-keepers encourage the practice, believing it brings revenue, by 'setting up' a round of drinks occasionally 'on the bar.' Yet there are men, not teetotalers, who avoid drinking in saloons because of the treating habit.

"To bring into use the 'Dutch treat,' as the alliance proposes, may be difficult, but it ought to be brought into use if possible. In Europe the custom is for each man to pay for what he drinks only, and as a result intoxication in public houses is rare."

This is a wise move on the part of the National German-American alliance. More power to that organization's elbow in its practical effort at reform.

CALIFORNIA PROGRESSIVE

California prepared a fine greeting for President Taft in the shape of an overwhelming victory for the initiative and referendum and recall, the later including the judiciary.

The vote by which these great reforms were written into California's organic law was as follows:

For the initiative and referendum, 138,181; against 44,850.

For the recall, 148,572; against 46,290.

Good for California. She has taken an advanced step and posterity will bless her for it.

THE CARDINAL IS WRONG

Cardinal Gibbons, in celebrating his golden jubilee, took occasion to criticize the direct election of senators and also the campaign for the recall of judges. The cardinal is a great church man and a very great citizen but his political opinions carry only their own weight and the weight of their author. In matters of faith and morals those under his spiritual authority must obey the church laws as interpreted by such high authority but on matters political citizenship comes first and every one must be guided by his own intelligence.—Creighton (Neb.) Liberal

A DEMOCRATIC DAILY

There lies before us a copy of the Norfolk Morning Press, the new democratic daily recently started by our friends, W. H. Weekes and wife. It has the distinction of being the only democratic daily in this congressional district, and surely there should be a field for such a paper. The Press is filled to the brim with the news of the city it represents and ably written articles upon the affairs of the day, politically and otherwise. It merits success.—Howells (Neb.) Journal.

300 PER CENT PROFIT

Ed C. Lasater, president of the Texas Cattle Raisers' association, says that 300 per cent profit disappears somewhere between the producers and the consumers of beef; that prices paid producers are decreasing, while prices extorted from consumers are increasing.

He and his fellows, owning together some 9,000,000 head of cattle, are going to find out who gets those fat profits.

We violate no confidence in saying that they suspect the packers.—Wichita (Kan.) Beacon.