

## They See Approaching Storm

On another page will be found an interesting editorial taken from the Chicago Tribune, which calls itself "The World's Greatest Newspaper."

Its shafts are aimed at Minority Leader Kitchener, Samuel Gompers and Mr. Bryan. They are all guilty of the same offense, namely, pointing out that the Republican leaders in congress are trying to shift the burden of taxation from the rich to the poor. But why should it confine its attacks to these three. Why not denounce the Republican caucus that knocked out the retroactive clause and prevented a gift of 450 millions to the profiteers and 90 millions to the men with big incomes. Why does it not score the western Republicans who condemn the provisions of the tax bill as bitterly as the Democrats? The Tribune quakes as it thinks of the Ides of November, 1922. W. J. BRYAN.

### JUDICIAL "DIGNITY"

"Resolved, That the conduct of Kenesaw M. Landis in engaging in private employment and accepting private emolument while holding the position of a federal judge and receiving a salary from the federal government meets with our unqualified condemnation as conduct unworthy of the office of judge, derogatory to the dignity of the bench and undermining public confidence in the independence of the judiciary."

The above resolution, adopted by the American Bar association, deserves a place among the mock heroics. If the men who voted for this resolution had been as jealous of the honor of the court as they would have us believe, they would have included judges who receive an income from stocks and bonds of corporations. Such securities may influence the decisions of judges; the salary that Judge Landis draws will not.

### RESTRAINING THE PACKERS

At least we have a law restraining the packing combine. Think of it—the farmers secure protection from two enemies within the same month! The packers are controlled and the grain gamblers are restrained by THIS congress. And it is not because this congress is better than former congresses—it is because the farmer's condition COMPELS attention. The congressmen are all scared—they are afraid the farmers will revolt next year. They will.

### THE GAMBLERS SURRENDER

It took thirty years to round up the gamblers in farm products, but they have surrendered at last. On another page will be found a news item in the Chicago Tribune showing that the Chicago Board of Trade accepts the situation. It is a great victory for the farmers, but what a shame it should have taken nearly three decades for one-third of the country (the farmers constitute about one-third of the population) to protect themselves from a handful of speculators.

### WORK FOR THE JOBLESS

The jobless in Boston hit upon a good plan to invite attention to their condition, as revealed in the story of an auction sale told in a press dispatch on another page. The auction was a success. CITIES, STATES AND THE NATION MUST PREPARE TO FURNISH FOOD OR WORK FOR ALL WHO CAN NOT FIND JOBS. THEY MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO SUFFER.

### IT IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

The worst leak is the appointment of wet officials to enforce dry laws. It violates the constitution, which prohibits cruel and unusual punishments. What could be more cruel than to require a wet official to cut off his own supply by enforcing a dry law.

### NOT SUNSHINE BUT MOONSHINE

When the Palmer ruling was handed down the wets thought they saw a ray of sunshine, but it was moonshine. It was not much of a ray, and it quit shining on August 9 when the Senate passed the anti-beer bill.

Attorney General Daugherty said something when at the National Bar association he rapped the sympathizers with lawlessness for interfering with the enforcement of prohibition.

### LOWDEN SOUNDS WARNING

The following dispatch is respectfully commended to those who are expecting prosperity while agriculture is prostrated:

"Waukesha, Wis., Aug. 19.—'There can be no return to permanent prosperity as long as the great disparity in the price of farm products, as compared to other commodities, continues,' former Gov. Frank O. Lowden of Illinois told 2,000 Waukesha county Holstein breeders at their annual picnic at Lac La Belle today.

"Mr. Lowden is president of the National Holstein Friesian Cattle Breeders' association. He reprimanded bankers and other economic authorities for their repeated avowals that the period of depression has reached its climax and that prosperity is on the way.

"'Lying can't bring back prosperity,' Mr. Lowden declared, and added that no one industry could suffer unless all did and that if the equilibrium in one industry was disturbed depression was bound to come."

### LABOR SUPPORTS DEMOCRACY

Eleven million German members of organized labor pledge President Ebert their support in maintaining the republic of Germany. What other class will give the republic such an unanimous indorsement? Not the army, surely, for they are shouting for a return to monarchy. What other class offers its services on battlefields, if necessary, to preserve popular government in Germany?

### NOT BETTER BUT SCARED

It took nearly thirty years to secure a law protecting the farmers—one-third of the country—from a handful of gamblers on the board of trade, but it is done at last. Why? Not because this congress is better than preceding ones but because it is more badly scared. The congressmen know that the farmers are getting desperate.

### ALABAMA REPRESENTATIVE SPEAKS

Congressman Henry B. Steagall of Alabama delivered a forceful speech in the House of Representatives, August 23, upon the pending revenue measure brought before that body by the Republican majority. It will be published in part in the October issue of The Commoner.

### WHAT CAN HE DO?

What can the farmer do? His cattle, his hogs and his grain have gone down, and now his land is falling in price, but the middleman is keeping up store prices. There should be trade commissions in every state and city to deal with the profiteers.

Letters continue to get lost in the mail in spite of the fact that Mr. Burleson is no longer postmaster general. At least that is what one must conclude, judging from the war news from Greece and Turkey, with respect to their invitations to attend the disarmament conference. Another explanation may be that each expects to disarm the other before November, thus reducing the necessary number of delegates by one.

If all the Republican senators were like Kenyon and all Democratic senators were like Kendrick, it would not take long to make the Senate the most respected legislative body in the world. The bill to restrain the packers is an illustration of their team work.

Some of the doctors are denying that there is any such disease as auto-intoxication, but we notice that most of the lawyers who are defending booze runners find considerable difficulty in convincing juries along that line.

Marconi thinks he has intercepted a wireless message from Mars, but can not understand it. If he will use the War department code on it he may discover that it is a protest against the disarmament conference.

Can the militarists and the manufacturers of munitions prevent disarmament? They have failed to prevent the calling of the conference, but they may be stronger at London, Paris and Tokio.

The ex-service men can now understand why it was impossible to secure a bonus—the poor profiteers who made millions during the war and are still at it must have relief.

The middleman blocks the way to returning prosperity. He is crushing both producers and consumers; he is the common enemy.

## Why Not Tax the Bonds?

When tax free bonds constituted but a small part of the nation's securities the exemption worked no great injury, but with 40 billions of dollars worth of tax free bonds on the market the nation confronts a real danger.

The plutocrats are now insisting that high income tax rates should be reduced because so much money is being invested in tax free bonds. The remedy is not to lower the income tax rates but to substitute taxable bonds for non-taxable ones. New conditions require this change; it should be made at once. W. J. BRYAN.

### THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

From statement issued by Senator Walsh of Massachusetts:

"Concerning the way in which the negotiations of the coming disarmament conference are to be conducted much uncertainty and not little dubiousness appears to be in the air, and it has not yet been stated in official quarters whether the hearings of it shall proceed with open doors and in full public view, or whether they shall be closed, and their happenings kept secret from the knowledge and disposition of the public. It is my opinion that the first single feature of the modus operandi of this conference which should be at once determined is the question of open sessions. I do not mean by that that the doors of the conference should be thrown open to the general public because that obviously involves practical difficulties in negotiating which would gravely interfere with and impede progress and expedition. But I feel most strongly that these hearings should be accessible to representatives of the press just as the Senate Committee hearings are, so that a complete report of the claims and proposals of the various powers as well as the final decisions of the whole conference and the reasons therefore may be daily given to the people of the world. If at times during deliberations it is impractical to have outsiders present, executive sessions can be resorted to, but even then the results of the same should be available for the use of the press.

"I am, therefore, presenting for the consideration of the Senate a resolution urging upon the President the desirability of open sessions in this conference. I feel it to be the sense and wish of the American people and the people of the world that they should be so."

### JUDGE LANDIS

The greatest public service of the year has been rendered by Judge Landis. He has knocked down a pernicious and destructive system of operation which prevailed in the building trades and which kept the people from getting the homes they needed. He has obtained a settlement which removes an obstruction to industry and housing.

He was able to accomplish this by the weight of his own character, by his vigor, by his reputation for equity and public spirit which has been earned on the federal bench. He is the one man in the city who could have done it, probably the one man in the country who could have done it.

We do not believe that any commission would have succeeded. It would have left the situation just as it found it, if not worse. Statutes had been unavailing. Threatened prosecutions were not having effect, and Judge Landis did succeed because all the emphasis of his character is on the side of equity.

If he had been merely a distinguished jurist, a profound legalist, he could not have accomplished it. He could and did because back of him, springing from the record of his acts and words, was a body of public opinion which people do not care to offend. If Landis found outrageous, iniquitous, and lawless combinations, agreements, and restrictions in the building trades the people would know that his condemnation of them came from his sense of equity and that men who opposed him or tried to block him did not have a leg to stand on morally.—Chicago Tribune.

Every time the German government shows signs of refusing to meet the money payments involved in the war indemnity France wants to move more soldiers to the banks of the Rhine, which seem to be about the most solid banks in that part of the world.