

UPSHAW'S CRUSADE FOR HONESTY.

A singular, and not especially inspiring, spectacle is presented by Congressman Upshaw of Georgia in the house of representatives at Washington. Not that Mr. Upshaw lacks the support of right in his position, but that it should be necessary for any member to make such an announcement as he did on the floor on Tuesday. We may step over the question of one man's right to regulate the habits of his associates or contemporaries. That, so far as liquor is concerned, has been passed upon by the American people. A more vital principle is at stake.

The prohibition amendment was submitted to the people by a vote of congress; it was ratified by the legislatures of the several states with only three states declining to assent by ratifying the proposed amendment. Congress then passed the Volstead act, and on several occasions since has declined to modify its provisions to permit the renewal of traffic in mild alcoholic stimulants or beverages.

Admitting that a considerable number of congressmen and senators are opposed to prohibition, the question arises: Have they a right to select what laws of their own making they shall obey, and which they may ignore? If a member of congress is above one law, it follows very clearly that he is above all laws. Under the Constitution members of congress are immune from arrest "in all cases except treason, felony and breach of the peace," and for remarks on the floor, but this immunity is to preserve his integrity rather than to encourage his indifference to law.

One gentleman, accustomed to moderate use of liquor, on finding himself elected to congress, declared his intention of giving up even the social glass. However lightly he felt the law touch on his own person, he could not conscientiously continue using even a slight quantity of liquor, because it is forbidden by law, and in his capacity as lawmaker he did not want to set the example of a law breaker. His attitude may be commended to others at Washington.

Against this may be set the expression of another member of congress, who said if a secret ballot could be taken, the Volstead act would be repealed. Here is a confession that members of congress shrink from voting their convictions.

However we may regard the underlying principle, approval of the Upshaw crusade for honesty in congress follows because it is in accord with the high ideals of Americanism. Congressmen should obey the laws they make.

THE BANE OF DELAY AND UNCERTAINTY.

Is the ship subsidy plan dead? The importance of a definite decision, one way or the other, concerning this bill is plain. It is hard for the public to understand why a vote should not have been taken on this question instead of merely shoving it aside.

What America needs now is an end of doubt and the definite settlement of its problems. The development of a merchant marine, which might have been assisted by the subsidy, has been hampered by the uncertainty whether or not the government owned vessels were to be sold to private interests.

Let it be clearly announced that there is to be no assistance from the public treasury to the private shipping business, and the great ocean transportation interests are at once placed on their mettle. Experience has proved that there is no handicap that American business ingenuity is not able to meet if it has to. To leave the shipping interests in doubt as to what conditions they will have to operate under, is an unnecessary handicap.

This same thing is true of other great industries. The senate has also before it a number of proposals for a rural credit law that may be considered as a method of subsidizing agriculture. Though there have been countless investigations and reports on the need for this legislation and the form it should take, there is to be an extended period of debate on this proposal. Meanwhile uncertainty prevails, not as to the eventual passage of some credit legislation, for the need is so great that it can not be ignored, but as to exactly what form the aid will take.

More speed is needed in congress. Doubts that harass business should be removed and decisions made promptly and definitely.

IT HAPPENED IN OKLAHOMA.

Something like forty years ago an inspired Fourth of July orator, exploding on the greatness of the glorious west, spoke of "sky-bounded, horizon staked plains." The figure of speech was good then, but "them days is gone forever." That is what added zip and fizz to the ceremony attendant on the inauguration of Governor Walton of Oklahoma.

The governor went decorously enough to the stately house on Monday, took the oath of office, and assumed his duties as chief executive of the state and well behaved state of Oklahoma. On Tuesday, he went out to the fair grounds at Oklahoma City, and had the whole thing done over again, in a fashion the aborigines might understand, and took part in proceedings that will give great impetus to the moving picture conception of the wild and woolly west.

A barbecue and all that goes with it was provided to keep alive some of the things made famous by "Bill" Cody's great galaxy of wild west riders, shooters, ropers and the like. The "101 Ranch," Col. Zack Mulhall and a few eminent statesmen and diplomats gave zest to the affair, where food was provided for 200,000 hungry, and nobody has yet stated how many thirsty were looked after.

It was a glorious reminder of a time that has gone before the open world was all cut up into little patches by barbed wire fence, and when a man when he wanted to go any place just rode across the country till he got there. Millions will never know anything about the life of that day, save as they glimpse it in such exaggerations as the Oklahoma inauguration festivities, but here and there linger men who took part in it, and to them it will be the most cherished memory.

Something wrong somewhere when a woman who feeds stray cats dies of hunger herself. Yet such a case is reported from New York.

GETTING THE ARMY OUT OF EUROPE.

Orders for the removal of the remaining American troops from the station on the Rhine are issued at a time when the effect will be the most pronounced in Europe. Our men were stationed at Coblenz in the beginning to give moral support to the commissions that were working to restore peace. A treaty between the United States and Germany has been signed and ratified, and that ended our mission on the Rhine. If our soldiers have remained there, it has been to give evidence of good intent, rather than to overawe anybody.

Conditions have arisen that require that the United States do one of two things—either withdraw its few soldiers from German soil, or accept tacitly the implied support of a French policy, the details of which are unknown to Americans. France has been warned that the United States is not ready to support the attempt to enforce collection. The Hughes' proposal to call a financial conference before invasion of Germany remains unanswered from Paris.

Withdrawal of troops from the Rhine is not scuttling out of the country; it is solemn notice that America will not consent to be drawn deeper into European entanglements; that assistance from this nation will depend on better efforts by France, Germany, Belgium and Italy to come to an understanding that does not employ force.

The effect of the French march on the Ruhr valley must await the issue, but France certainly now understands that the move has not the approval of either the United States or England.

FACTORIES BEHIND THE BARS.

The proposal of the Farmers' union for a twine plant at the state penitentiary represents a praiseworthy move toward putting this penal institution on a self-supporting basis. The cost to the people of maintaining prisoners in idleness is growing too heavy in Nebraska. At present a part of the convicts at Lincoln are given employment in a furniture factory, and a few more in the manufacture of work clothing, but there is no reason why the entire population behind the bars should not be put to some useful task.

In a number of wheat growing states the prisons produce large quantities of binder twine. An official of the Minnesota state penitentiary told the farmers' meeting in Omaha of the successful operation of a twine plant at Stillwater. That prison is run as a factory, whose product is not only twine and other material things, but men trained to support themselves. Part of their earnings is sent to their families outside. Furthermore, when men are released they are in good physical condition and skilled in some useful occupation.

Some such humanitarian and economical arrangement is needed in Nebraska. The state legislature, which is now in session, should consider this question when it comes to the matter of appropriating money for the penal institutions.

NEBRASKA IN THE LEAD.

A survey of the general situation so far as business prospects are concerned is encouraging. In The Omaha Bee on Monday was published some statements from Nebraska editors as to the outlook in their communities, all but one full of healthy optimism. What reason is there for this?

The December report of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, in which district Nebraska is contained, carries a comparative summary of the money values of eight principal farm crops in seven states, as follows:

Table with 3 columns: State, 1922, 1921. Rows include Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Totals.

The hopes for the coming year have a substantial basis in fact. An increase of \$225,000,000 in farm crop values for the seven states, with \$80,000,000 as Nebraska's share, is impressive enough to attract attention anywhere. Business is good and will be better in this region.

Nikolai Lenine is gravely ill again, according to reports from Moscow. His companions are more worried about him than the outside world, for they will have to pick his successor should he not recover.

John J. Stream having been elected head of the Chicago Grain exchange, the daily quotations obviously will consider whether it be upstream or downstream.

Vilhajmur Stefansson may find that selling town lots at the North Pole is different from disposing of stories about his adventures in the Arctic region.

It's a little early yet, but the base ball magnate is crowding his way to the center of the stage, just the same.

"Better homes for Omaha" is a good slogan.

Tradition of Empire Not Broken

Dr. Gilbert Shaw in Review of Reviews.

Sums thus squandered by Europe, in provoking discord and retribution in the near east, would have paid the interest on the American loans with the utmost ease, whereas that interest has been wrung from the American taxpayers with a continuance of war-time levies and severe pecuniary sacrifice. It would be mere idleness to reproach the people of Great Britain, or France, or Italy, or of unfortunate little Greece, for these costly mistakes made by their governments. It is very hard to break the tradition of an obsolete and harmful imperialism. There is no such thing as foreign policy in the United States that is apart from the things that are popularly decided at the polls. But the structure of imperialism, as the rival European nations have created it, began several centuries ago; and, although that structure seemed at first bequeathed down to wreck and ruin in the great war, the sequel shows that it survives. It is true that reigning dynasties were overthrown in four great empires—Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia, and Turkey. But it is by no means certain as yet that the Turks returning to Europe with Europe's disgruntled acquiescence—will not endeavor in due time to re-establish themselves in Egypt and across North Africa as well as in Arabia and perchance in Persia. There is no satisfactory evidence that Russia, under new leaders, is not aiming at the earliest opportunity to re-establish control over all of her former dominions. It is true that Germany's present position is difficult, but it would be hard to make any intelligent Frenchman believe that Germany will cease to be imperialistic at heart, for so long a time as what were once German colonies are in the control of other imperial governments which have taken them for imperial motives and are using them for commercial advantage. To put it another way, what well informed person is there who believes that the Germans will be content to live on nonimperialistic principles in a world that tolerates imperialism in general? The Italian revolution which brings the fascists into power is distinctly imperialistic in its mental state, if not in any definitely expressed program for immediate fulfillment.

"From State and Nation" —Editorials from Other Newspapers—

related to the intelligent exercise of that power. If that is the fact, both congress and the country cannot know it any too soon.

No Such Thing as Overwork. From the Sioux Falls Press. No person has ever suffered from overwork, according to Prof. William Palmer Wynne, noted nerve specialist, and in the same edition it is announced that Dr. Emile Coue, French exponent of auto suggestion, has said and is getting nearer the United States day by day. Well organized propagandists, it may be, have determined upon a great final offensive to make man "master of his fate and captain of his soul."

It is easy to prove that there is such a thing as overwork. An engine can be run at maximum speed for a long time if it is given the best care, but eventually there will be a breakdown. A furnace can be fired to produce seemingly unlimited heat, but a little too much heat will melt the instrument or cause an explosion. It must be admitted, however, that man seldom is overworked. Nervous breakdowns and illness usually come from dissipation and worry. There is a tendency to drive the human machine beyond its limits, to start it suddenly and stop it quickly, and to fail to make repairs. Prof. Wynne would give everyone an opportunity to have a clean mind, a clean body and a clean home, and consist to the hangman those who failed to take advantage of it. A healthful environment, he believes, would wipe out disease and morbidity.

There is an old idea in a new dress. Prayer, in all religions, is a form of auto suggestion. The theory is dangerous, beyond its limits, to start it overexaggerated. It is possible to attain self-discipline by auto suggestion; possible for the grouch to become genial; but it is not possible to get the ocean by that means. Otherwise Dr. Coue would not have bothered to board a ship.

Fads, theoretical and mechanical, come and go, and still the race lives. Too much enthusiasm at the start usually brings a quick death. Fads also can be overworked. Still, the new school is preaching optimism, and giving humanity confidence and strength. It is much better than psychoanalysis and other subjects for polite conversation which in the past have been inflicted upon society.

To Cure Crime. From the Albuquerque Journal. Dr. Vernon L. Briggs, expert on criminology, wants to "beat the crime wave exactly as we fight disease epidemics." He suggests three steps as part of the process:

- 1. Abolish capital punishment. 2. Sentence criminals guilty of capital crime to life imprisonment and let science study their cases. 3. Establish "habit clinics" in every city for subnormal and abnormal children between 2 and 7 to prevent possible future criminality.

It is a suggestive program. Manifestly present methods of crime prevention are not effective, or murders, for instance, would not be three times as common today as they were 20 years ago. Points 1 and 2 are possible steps toward reforming the present system. As for the third point, "Give me a child until he is 7 and I care not who has him afterward," said the philosopher. Train him in those early years to play and read and sing and do habits, and the development of criminality later will be far more rare.

It is significant that those who have made a study of crime are giving credit to the influence of the seldom vindictive in their suggestions. Experience has shown them that what is vindictive is seldom constructive. That is why their advice is worth heeding.

The Secret of Success. From E. W. Howe's Monthly. Look around you and note the great number of common men who are making a success of life.

There is plenty for those of us who have no great genius; all we need do is to take advantage of abundant opportunities. Examine into the history of any man who is "getting along" better than the average, and you will find the secret of his success is no secret at all; all he does is to be reliable, work hard, watch out for practice politeness. And the importance of these things have been dimmed into our ears since birth.

Almost everywhere I meet a very successful man who does not seem to know any more than I do, but on investigation I conclude he more steadily practices a few of the more necessary good habits.

Common Sense. Don't Think Yourself into Old Age. If looking at yourself in a mirror causes you to feel that you are getting old, refrain from using a mirror, any more than you have to.

Do not think yourself into old age. Just because some other person of your age is crippled up with some ailment do not begin to worry about getting into the same condition soon.

At times you may be too active, too enthusiastic, too carefree for a person of your years. You feel that you ought to be more sedate.

Get rid of such thoughts. Be young in spirit, quick in action, spontaneous in manner as long as you can.

Why hasten the days of a drab old age? Just because some one you know is slowing down account of age is no reason for you to slacken your speed to settle down to a prosaic old age.

You are as young as you feel, and the someone who said it tells the truth. Keep happy, young, free, buoyant and enthusiastic as long as you can. Keep your heart young. (Copyright, 1922.)

Daily Prayer

The faithful God, which keepeth covenant.—Deut. 7:9. Our Heavenly Father, we come to thank Thee for Thy many mercies, and to invoke Thy protection and guidance for all the way of life. We rejoice that we may know Thee and love Thee and serve Thee and be like Thee. Grant us grace to please Thee in all that we think and plan and do. Help us to live in such Fellowship with Thee that Thou canst not only dwell in us, but work through us. Help us to share our blessings with others, and to be content with what we have. Help us to live in such Fellowship with Thee that Thou canst not only dwell in us, but work through us. Help us to share our blessings with others, and to be content with what we have.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION for DECEMBER, 1922, of THE OMAHA BEE Daily . . . . . 71,494 Sunday . . . . . 78,496

B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr. ELMER S. ROOD, Cir. Mgr. Successors to and successors before me this 4th day of January, 1923. W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

"The People's Voice"

Editorials from readers of The Morning Bee. Readers of The Morning Bee are invited to use this column freely for expression on matters of public interest.

A Reflection on the Town. Howells, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I read an article in The Omaha Bee of January 1 about Arbutle, entitled "Faithful to Fate," and would like to know who wrote this letter. I have lived in this locality all my life, but never heard that a party by the name of T. P. Road lived here. Nor did anybody else; and, if it is a stranger that sent this article in, then he put a stain on our town. We are against Arbutle and his kind. R. M. FIALA.

Begins Debate on Taxation. Kimball, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: I believe Mr. Lukenbill's article in The Omaha Bee of Monday needs answering. It seems that he would like to bring the American public schools down to their old standard, especially the high schools, and discontinue free tuition. He doesn't realize that many an ambitious boy or girl could not attend without that free tuition, that many are having a hard time getting through with it, that in the present day it is very hard to get anywhere without a high school education unless you're foremost ambition is to be a day laborer. Why discontinue most of the athletics because in your school days you did not indulge in such "nonsense." You wish to kill all the joy out of the present school-going generation. A very foolish idea, Mr. Lukenbill; it would never bring down taxes.

These taxes are the aftermath that follows each war. Every one thought he was rich, went too deep; towns of less than a thousand paved and put in sewerage systems that would have been a credit to any city; property valuation was trebled; so, of course, taxes went accordingly.

Tax property at its real value and your taxes will be much lower, but the joy of the present school-going generation. A very foolish idea, Mr. Lukenbill; it would never bring down taxes.

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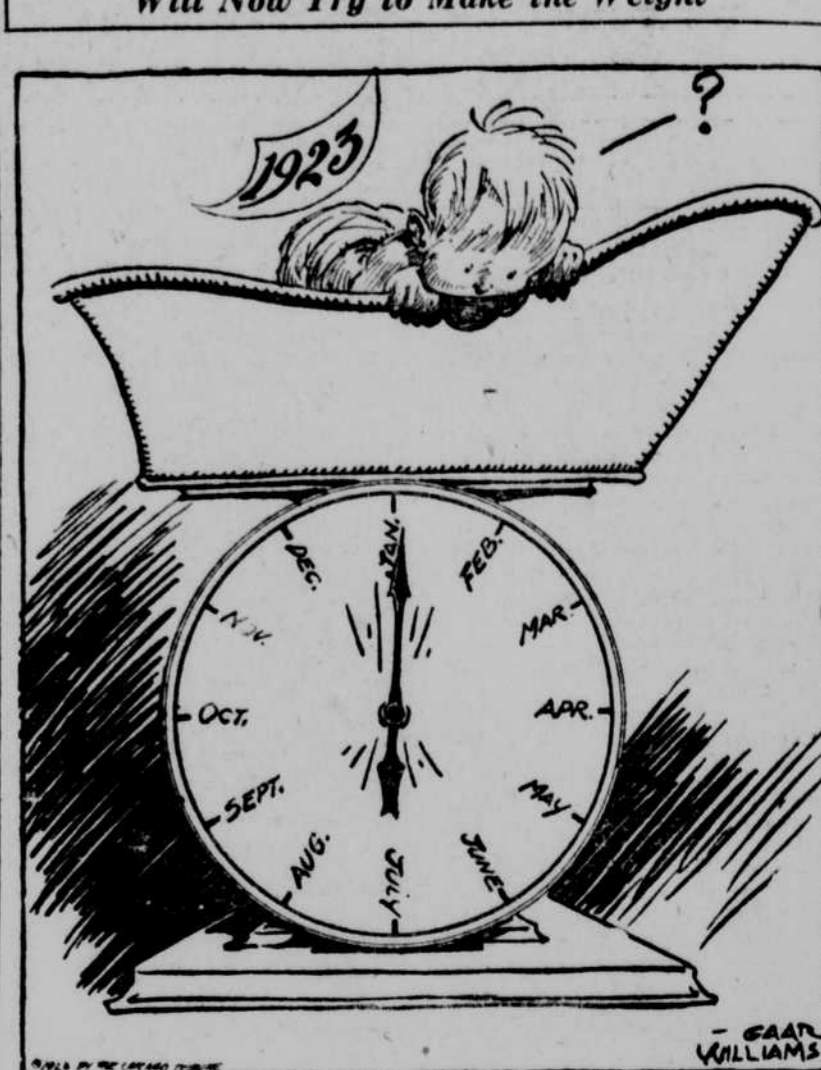
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Will Now Try to Make the Weight



There's a Raisin. An 1,100-acre vineyard in Merced county—said to be now the largest in the country—has just been sold for \$1,100 an acre. This is possibly twice as much as it would have brought in the days before prohibition. The grape growers, who are supposed to be brought to beggary by the 13th amendment, are fattening on their punishment. The payment of \$1,200,000 for a single vineyard is an example in fact.—Los Angeles Times.

Nature Faking as an Art. Nature faking is by no means a lost art so long as the milliners can convert a common or barnyard rooster into a bird of paradise that will deceive the most modish wearers.—New York Herald.



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