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THE LANGUAGE LAW.

It is the right as well as the duty of every child in America to learn the English language. When this is done, it should be the privilege to study any other tongue that may be desired.

A proposal to remove this restriction has now been brought before the state legislature. Modification of the Reed-Norval law, which forbids the teaching of any foreign language in schools below the ninth grade, is sought in a measure proposed by Representative A. W. Elsass and George B. Collins.

Under the pressure of war-time hysteria, some things were done that now are being undone. It can safely be recognized that no one's devotion to the principles of Americanism is weakened by the fact that he speaks a foreign language.

It is worth noting that one of the proponents of a modified language law in the legislature is a member of the American Legion. This fact may be taken as guaranteeing that the is nothing un-American in the proposal now made.

During the campaign of Governor Bryan many voters interested in the modification of the language restrictions came to believe that he would assist them if elected. If he now will break his silence on this question and give his support to the proposed measure, there will be good hope for its passage.

PROTECTING NEBRASKA'S WILD LIFE.

Some real food for thought was given by H. N. Wheeler of the forest service in his address before the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. Commenting on the fact that in the Nebraska state forest in the sand hills there are twenty-five white-tailed deer under protection.

Yet despite the fact that these deer are protected, last fall a hunter did his best to kill one. "He was thinking of the venison he wanted for his own use," said Mr. Wheeler; "he did not care about the rest of the state of Nebraska and its desires.

There are two ways of hunting—one with a camera and the other with a gun. The former method gives pleasure and happiness to scores of folks who visit our parks and our bird and game preserves. Laws have been established in the various states for the protection of our wild life.

Our game laws must be respected. A real test of citizenship is appreciation of natural beauty and an interest in the preservation of natural resources. We can not afford to countenance the ruthless destruction of Nebraska's game.

REFORM WITH A LAUGH.

There is perhaps as much reason for the formation of an "Anti-Gimme" league as for a number of other present day organizations. The founder of the new club, which has taken hold in Minneapolis, announces that its purpose is to eliminate all forms of petty grafting; to stop tipping in restaurant, hotels, trains, cabarets and elsewhere except for satisfactory service; to establish a basis of agreement with wives so as to do away with continual and unreasonable demands on the husband's income.

A small button labeled "Gimme" is the insignia of the order. There is about the whole performance a note of rally that may be counted upon to discourage the impositions of those who habitually seek something for nothing.

BRADY'S TRIBUTE TO CRITICS.

Mr. William A. Brady is but the latest of irascible managers to go before the curtain to denounce newspaper critics. Ever since writers for the press began to note seriously the doings of actor folks, the warfare has been continuous.

Opinions as to the merits or demerits of a play or anything else may reasonably differ, and in the present instance it appears the critics for the Chicago newspapers were not in line with Mr. Brady's views. What is more important, the public seems to have accepted the judgment of the newspaper writers, rather than that of the producer.

On the other hand, Mrs. Fiske, William Hodge, Elsie Ferguson, Wallie Edinger and Mary Nash, and several others who offer something beside "bare legs and bum jokes," are getting along quite nicely with the Chicago public and presumably with the Chicago critics.

A NATION OF SPENDERS?

This, we are told, is a "thrifless age, filled with waste and extravagance. You have all heard that charge made by serious minded men who are convinced that the American people are living beyond their income.

Somehow, that accusation hasn't created a great deal of excitement. Perhaps it's just as well, for it isn't true. In fact, the figures show that at no time in history has there been such a volume of savings in America as right now.

The monthly review of the Federal Reserve bank for the district including Omaha shows savings deposits of \$94,311,245 in 58 banks, a gain of about \$3,000,000 in a year. Five Omaha banks reporting showed 30,083 savings depositors, with a total of \$5,154,406 to their credit.

The same situation exists the nation over. The facts are utterly confusing to those prophets of ruin who declare that people are living too well and spending money too freely. A man of moderate income buys a motor car, a musical instrument or some new furniture and immediately some critic arises to warn him that this is the sort of thing that is eating the heart out of national prosperity.

There is much to think about in this situation, wherein the standard of living has advanced and at the same time savings have increased. The simplest way to explain it is that the increased demand for the comforts of life have given more employment to those engaged in the production of them.

It is true that money spent for useless trinkets, unwholesome diversion and for folly is wasted, for these not only bring no lasting satisfaction to the buyer but also cause the withdrawal from useful employment of the labor necessary to supply them.

If France is no more successful in dealing alone with Turkey than in carrying out her German policy, she will not get very far.

If the Nebraska state government is not reorganized, it will not be for lack of plans.

What Is Middle Class?

Rev. John Haynes Holmes, a New York radical clergyman, said, in an address in St. Paul before the Women's City club, that civilization is headed for oblivion, through the disappearance of the middle classes.

Classes of people are pretty well defined in Europe, where the middle class generally includes professional people, with some, but not much, property. They have suffered severely, either by direct proscription, as in Russia, or by the annihilation of property values and fixed incomes, as a result of currency inflation.

It is not so easy to define the middle class in the United States. Class distinctions in this country are not clear nor permanent, which is a good thing. Who are going to be wiped out, as Rev. Holmes fears? The criterion cannot be education, as some of the rich have had little scholastic education, while many of the comparatively poor have been through college.

"From State and Nation" Editorials from Other Newspapers

What is Academic Freedom? From the Minneapolis Journal. Radical members of the legislature have raised the ghost of academic freedom at the university. The practical desirability of asking professors and assistant professors to add to their burdens that of acting as jurors upon undesirable colleagues, need not now be discussed.

The main question is, "In what does academic freedom really consist? Academic freedom actually means the right of an instructor to teach his proper subject, according to the best of his scientific knowledge, without discipline by his trustees or regents."

Originally the universities offered support, so as to bring pressure to bear upon our administration to act, not in favor of "political advantage" or for "personal or partisan ambition," nor yet "for this or that theory of nationalism or internationalism," but for making an end of chaos which threatened to destroy the world.

Common Sense

Banish Extravagance in the Home. Does absolute confidence exist between you and your life partner? Or, are you always keeping back something which should be known to the other?

As a husband, are you afraid to tell your wife your financial condition, because you fear she might make additional demands on you?

As a wife, are you doing little things to earn money to gratify the extravagant habits you have?

Men often spend more, each week for personal comfort and pleasure, than they would be willing to have their wives spend.

My Pard

He's my pal, so he is, and he's loyal. He's kind and sincere and he's true; And when that there plix is a beamin' What he says is a perfect good one.

Daily Prayer

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven.—Ps. 32:1. Almighty God, we praise Thy name and worship Thee. Thou art infinitely holy. Through Jesus Christ, our Elder Brother and Mediator, Thou art our Father. We pray Thee to come very near to us, as we come to Thy throne of grace.

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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. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of January, 1923. W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public (Seal)

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"The People's Voice"

The European Crisis. Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Your editorial of the 29th, "Jumping Off Place for Politics," draws a conclusion which I am sure is not justified.

It is true that the man interfering in a family quarrel is often unfortunate, but the quarrel between France and Germany is much more than a family quarrel, the outcome of which will affect not only the whole of Europe, but the United States as well, and if France is permitted to proceed in her present tactics the effect will be most disastrous.

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The Spice of Life

"He was driven to his grave." "Sure he was, did you expect him to walk?"—Lord Jeff.

Don't refuse to marry a girl because she can't cook. She may have money enough to pay your board.—The Medical Quip.

Teacher—"Johnny, what is velocity?" Johnny—"Velocity is what a fellow lets go of a bee with."—The Forecaster.

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A Strain on the Family Tie



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One of our country correspondents, telling about a fire in his town, wrote: "The fire department was called but not much damage was done."—Capper's Weekly.

First Kid—"Sure, Charlie Chaplin's 'in' to heaven when he dies." Second Kid—"Gee, pretty soft for Saint Peter."—New York World.

"Yessuh, Ix done proved dat honesty is de best policy after all." "How?" demanded the friend. "You remember dat dawg dat I took?" "Sure I remember." "Well, see, 'tween of two whole days I set dat dawg and nobody offers more'n a dollar. So, like an honest man, I goes to de jail dat owned him an' sho give me \$2.50."—The Christian Register (Boston.)