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"SPLENDID ISOLATION."

Mr. Bryan once said with considerable emphasis that "no question is settled until it is settled right." Events appear to have disposed of the one he was discussing at the time, but others have arisen to take its place in American politics. One of these grows out of the late war, and concerns our relations with European nations. Critics of the policy of the administration find it comforting to dwell on the assertion that we have deserted Europe in the hour of its direst need. Other, and more insidious propagandists are steadily endeavoring to build up sentiment in favor of cancellation of the enormous debt owed our government by European nations. All of these refer continually to our "isolation."

Have we abandoned Europe, turning our backs coldly on the needy and destitute nations over there? Reference has already been made to the great work done in Russia by the American Relief, under direction of Colonel Haskell. It might not be amiss to note that this work was organized and carried on, practically to a successful issue, while the League of Nations, at the instance of Dr. Fritjof Nansen, was still investigating. That was but one item in the reckoning. The Near East relief work is another; the relief of Poland, of Austria, and other countries where food, clothing, and all sorts of supplies have been furnished by the United States government or its citizens, all combine to make a most imposing total in actual cash, with no relation whatever to personal service.

Since the armistice was signed American dollars to the total of 11,000,000,000 have gone to Europe. This post-war expenditure is represented under the following heads:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Government credits since armistice... \$2,500,000,000. Interest remitted since armistice... 4,000,000,000. Spent by government and private agencies in relief work... 2,250,000,000. Private loans to Europe... 1,000,000,000. Spent by American travelers in Europe... 1,250,000,000. Total... \$11,000,000,000.

America's per capita contribution to Europe every year since the armistice was signed has been nearly three times what the per capita cost of her own government was in 1916, or in any previous year except 1865. We have provided food, clothing, medical attendance, farm implements, seed, cash for working capital, and all imaginable forms of material assistance to nearly every country in Europe. Public and private funds have been lavishly poured out in the effort to sustain and encourage the people over there.

If there is anything in this record to indicate that America has abandoned Europe, it does not appear on the surface. If the wonderful work done by the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, the various church organizations, and the innumerable and uncounted gifts of private individuals have earned us, as some of the propagandists would like to have people think, only the hatred of Europeans, how could we reach their hearts?

And if our course has been aloof and indifferent, then our isolation is splendid. Ten million Russians, saved from starvation and death from epidemic disease; the rescue work done at Smyrna and in Syria, Armenia and other stricken regions; the flour, milk and other provisions and supplies sent to Central European countries, all testify to the continued and practical concern of America for the people of the war ravaged nations, and no amount of political prattle or sentimental twaddle can in any way diminish this record.

WHY AMERICA IS SAFE.

Government surveyors report now that eight out of each 10 farmers in the United States are their own boss, while the same proportion of mechanics work for somebody else. The argument, of course, is for the advantage of independence the farmer has, and this ought to have great weight in any consideration given the problem.

Out of 10,682,944 individuals engaged at farm work in the United States, 8,240,400 are classified as employers and independent workers. This means that they either own all or part of the plant and machinery employed in producing their output. Not all are land owners, but those who rent own a sufficient proportion of the machinery to give them the sense of proprietorship. It is this quality that gives them independence in action.

As long as this continues, and we hope that means forever, the men who produce the crops and bring forth the food in America will not be reduced to the status of peasants. "It was the aspiration of the peasant to become a land owner that gave the Russian revolution its terrible impetus. "Give us the land!" was the peasants' cry, and it swept away the czar and all he stood for. Lvoff temporized, and he went down. Kerensky said, "By and by," and he went down. Lenin said, "Now!" and he won. When he later undertook the nationalization of the farms, as he had nationalized the factories, his scheme of communism was as totally and effectually wrecked as had been the despotism it succeeded.

The farmer who owns his lands or his tools is independent, because he works for himself, employing his own capital as well as his own labor. While this condition prevails in America, the republic is in very slight danger of revolution, for citizens so substantial as these are not given to revolt. They may combine to effect changes, but they do not strike at the foundations of liberty.

Poli Negri, who changes her mind so easily and frequently, may live to learn that the great American public doesn't care a darn who she marries, or if she marries at all.

"Everybody on the job, but everybody loaf," is the latest I. W. W. order. Trouble is, too many people have been practicing that ever since we got out of the war.

Greece proposes to refer the Lausanne treaty to the people. We will soon know whether the Greeks are ready to stop warring.

Wonder what Mr. Julian Baker thought the prohibition law is for?

Dollar wheat wouldn't be so bad if gas went back to 15 cents.

SHAKE HANDS WITH MEXICO.

Several years of broken relations with Mexico are about to end in the restoration of friendly governmental intercourse between the two countries. Commissions named to examine and adjust all points of difference have concluded their negotiations, and the report is now before President Obregon of Mexico. A similar report will soon be in the hands of the State department at Washington, and formal ratification of the treaty will follow without delay.

Generally, all that our government asked has been conceded by the Mexican commissioners. The last knotty point, and on which the longest delay was encountered, was that dealing with expropriations of land by the Mexican federal government. It was finally agreed that no American holdings would be seized without compensation, and that stockholders in corporations authorized by the Mexican laws would be protected in their rights. One of the earliest agreements reached was for the examination of claims for damage to American citizens through loss of life and property, incident to the long-continued disturbed attendant upon the various revolutions that disturbed Mexico for so long a time.

Mexicans are assured that the United States has no desire in any way to interfere with their right to adopt their own form of government, to establish their own constitution, and to enact and enforce their own laws. All that was insisted upon was that the Mexican government deal with our citizens after the customs of civilized nations. This has been agreed to.

Restoration of friendly relations between the two countries will be largely a matter of form, because communication has not been altogether broken off. Commerce has been carried on steadily, although it may be increased with the renewal of diplomatic representation by the governments. The big thing is that agreement resting on justice has been reached.

WHEN ART NEEDS THE MONEY.

One of the side issues of a great war is its effect on art. Naturally enough, one result is a stimulation of the production of memorials, and these give employment to many artists. Another, and less considered phase of the war is its influence on the artists in countries that are impoverished by the losses incurred in war. A good illustration of this is afforded by part of the cargo of the Albert Ballin, the new Hamburg-American boat that reached New York last week from Hamburg.

On board the boat is a great fair, at which are exhibited more than 6,000 articles, ornaments, jewels, toys and the like, produced by Austrian artists, who, finding no sale for the major have turned to the minor arts for a livelihood. The fair is frankly propaganda, an advertisement for the artists. None of the wares are for sale, and all will return to Hamburg when the Albert Ballin sails on her return voyage. What has been accomplished is to awaken interest in the venture, and to determine if a market can be created here for the wares offered.

Principally the articles were the product of Austrian artists, the venture being backed by a Vienna organization that is thus seeking to provide a means to live to its members. One hundred and fifty men and women contributed to the collection, and these ought to be encouraged by the reception their goods received from visitors. Stranded in the backwash of the war, with industry almost annihilated, Vienna has had a sore and continuing struggle with poverty and destitution, and none have felt this more than those who previously had lived by creative arts. Their present bid for attention is the more deserving because they are sincerely trying to bring forth something that will sell and help them win back some of the ground they have lost.

CENSORING THE TOMBSTONE.

How far may a man go in the expression of his opinion? In this land, where we have free speech, free schools and the like, the impression is abroad that one may say about what comes into his mind. Yet there is a limitation to this right, and it affects not only those who got into trouble through talking too much while the war was on, but others who are inclined to indulge too liberally in unrestricted criticism.

An illustration of this is provided in the case of a Tennessee man, who has just altered an inscription on the tombstone at his son's grave. The boy was executed in Georgia, for the killing of a deputy sheriff. The father took the body home for burial, and set up a headstone, on which was carved the statement that the boy had been "unjustly executed." To this the authorities took exception, and proceeded to institute a libel suit. The father has just withdrawn the offending words.

The lesson in this is that utterance should be guarded, however unruly the thought may run. Government in America is the expression of the people's will, and those in authority, charged with administering the law, are the servants of the people, chosen by the people. Any reflection on them is in a sense a reflection on the people. Not that officers are sacred beyond criticism; far be it from that. In most of the states of the union the courts have held that public officers are fair game for critics, but have the same rights as other citizens to protection against libel or slander.

The Tennessee man might have proved his case, had he gone to trial, but he has chosen discretion, and probably has served himself and his country better than if he had measured his right to utter what others regard as a libel on the courts of the land.

L. V. Nicholas tells the oil producers at Chicago that one way to solve the problem of over-production is to cut the price. Strange talk. Somebody may try that plan yet.

Homespun Verse

—By Omaha's Own Poet— Robert Worthington Davis

THE GOOD AND THE HONEST MUST PAY.

The good and the honest must pay For the deeds of the sordid and grim. The laws of the whole world today Speak mortal adherence to Him— The man who is faithful and true. The man who is seeking life's height Needs naught but the Bible and blue Of Heaven to lead him aright.

Of evil he hasn't a fear; He isn't deluded by grim— 'Tis ever his effort to steer Away from dissension and crime: 'Tis ever his hope to achieve Some virtuous duty, and turn His future to goodness, and leave A lesson for others to learn.

The good and the honest must pay For the faults of the shallow and low. The statutes that rule us today Are teachings the Testaments show— The man who is faithful and true, And shuns the illusion of night, Needs naught but the Bible and blue Of Heaven to lead him aright.

Wheat Holds the Spotlight

Nebraska Editors Discuss the Omaha Plan and Other Ways of Solving the Problem

Quite naturally, the editors of interest in the wheat situation, and range. The following opinions of well known editors, expressed in their papers, will give an idea of what the Shelton Clipper says by its views of the wheat situation in these words:

"Farmers of the grain belt must get less wheat and more of the products which the markets of the world are willing to pay higher prices, in the opinion of Arthur Capper, United States Senator of Kansas. In the great wheat-growing regions of the country, where the soil is not adaptable to other crops and where one man has several hundred acres of this cereal, there is a chance for him to make a profit growing the yield up to the average and the price does not take too great a slump. In most of the wheat-raising sections of Nebraska, however, farmers have made a profit raising wheat that was sold for 75 cents a bushel, but that day has passed. In this section of the state the farmer, who stuck to corn, alfalfa and livestock and who did not go into the wheat-raising game on a big scale, has little to regret. In fact he has made dollars where the wheat raiser made dimes. Wheat raising may again become profitable in this part of Nebraska, but it is not advisable for any one farmer to increase the acreage he has been seeding, especially not until there is indications of a better market for the product."

Anthony Buechler of the Grand Island Independent looks at the matter from this standpoint: "The remedy of our economic ills is to be found in the United States—not in Europe. We need not cancel war debts to equalize the situation that is typified by the eastern brick-maker who gets 45 per cent and the sugar baron 12 cents per pound while the Nebraska farmer is given 70¢ for wheat which it cost \$1.10 to produce. No French chamber of deputies, no British bushels, German rice, or stag ought to be called upon to aid us in remedying such a situation, and the politician who tells us we must lie, at best, still listening to the 'voices in the air'!"

"The Nebraska City Press says that 'paying a bushel of wheat to help the farmer is a good idea—if enough wheat can be encouraged to buy it.' M. A. Brown of the Kearney Hub finds 'fish market prattle' last Monday. Well, land is land, and you can't keep it in the dumps, but we will not see it."

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severish baby for a nickel while the residents of other cities and towns are paying 70 cents to a \$1.25 a hundred for ice. Mr. Lovell seems to like insurance figures so we will feed him some more. The Prudential Insurance Company collected \$535,613 in premiums and paid out in losses \$98,355. The Commonwealth Life collected \$509,978 and paid out \$72,770. The Northwestern Life collected \$219,418 and paid out in losses \$11,900. In the language of old Jim Jones "Where in bl is does all of this money go to?" Of course we will be told that it goes into "reserves." There is a world of mystery in that magic word "reserve." When the Pulo investigation of the "money trust" was started Samuel Untermyer, a noted lawyer and financial expert in America, testifying stated this country was in no danger from the money of any single individual. "It is the reserves in the hands of fiduciary agents that carries the peril" said he.

Therefore in order to concentrate those reserves so that agriculture, manufacturing and transportation may be clubbed into submission at any time we have an army of electric fan clerical parasites wished on to us. New watch those insurance magnates grab the halter and jerk this colt back into the barn. He pushed the gate open and there is a danger of some of those wild horses trampling some of the flower beds. Governor Bryan's present position or conviction on this question bears no relevancy to the issue at hand and uses Mr. I. Nebraska repudiate state fire insurance he would not be the first politician that used one platform to step into office but a different one after he was elected a position of power. We note that Governor Bryan has reneged on this fundamental however.

We fancy that the newspapers have had a surfeit of this rag chewing and this is our final effort. At the outset we were so anxious to spread a barrage for future purposes that we did not stop to question whether Mr. Lovell was a catnap, a burlesque or a member of the "insurance ring." However we are not in the habit of standing out in the open and allowing our adversary to fire from behind a magazine and legal and financial expert in America, testifying stated this country was in no danger from the money of any single individual. "It is the reserves in the hands of fiduciary agents that carries the peril" said he.

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B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr. V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of July, 1923. W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public.

More Insurance Figures. Omaha—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Mr. Henry Lovell weighs for the poor insurance companies and the taxes they pay. The stock companies wrote \$1,181,857,423 worth of fire insurance on which they collected \$7,769,956. Of this total \$20,248,000 with premiums of \$256,313 was written by Nebraska taxing companies, who invest those premiums at home, and \$182,317,289 with premiums of \$241,635 was written by London, Liverpool and other European and continental companies. The balance \$969,203,739 was written by insurance companies outside the jurisdiction of Nebraska assessors.

This "socialist," "bolshhevik" and other derivate drivil, in lieu of statistical argument, has had its day. Minnesota rang the death knell upon that fish market prattle last Monday. The insurance interests put out the same kind of propaganda that the ice companies put out when R. B. Howell proposed the many ice stations. The ice and some of the special interests cried "wolf," "wolf" so often about Commissioner Howell that the people finally became so that they would not believe those interests, even when they were telling the truth, and the ice man was elected United States senator. Today a hard-working mother in Omaha can buy a 16-pound chunk of ice to cool the milk for her

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People who ride up Cummins street past the Methodist hospital and look at that splendid agency of philanthropy that has been there for a matter of fact, it was not there 32 years ago, but did the Methodist hospital exist then, as is shown by this account of a meeting, held in the hospital, reported in The Omaha Bee on the following day:

"THEY WILL HAVE A HOSPITAL."

"Primary Steps Taken at the First Methodist Episcopal Church." "For the purposes of taking preliminary steps for the establishment of a Methodist hospital in Omaha about 150 members of the church, including the leading ministers of the city, gathered at the First M. E. church last night. The project has been the subject of consideration in Methodist circles for some time, and considerable enthusiasm has been aroused. Dr. E. K. Young was introduced by Presiding Elder Clendenen, in a speech outlining the objects of the meeting. "Dr. Young is the pastor of a leading M. E. church of Philadelphia and is on his summer vacation. He opened his address by explaining that he was not in Omaha to talk, and followed up his introduction with an eloquent address, illustrating the beauty and helpfulness of organized benevolence. He explained that when the Christian put his hand to any enterprise which relieved suffering or sorrow he was doing what God ordained him to do. We who profess to follow Christ, he said, are God's helpers in this world. These hospitals and other church charities are the means of calling out the benevolence of men. He spoke of how the benefactions of Carnegie, Girard and other millionaires who realized the needs of humanity, would live in the hearts of Americans for generations. In contrast he spoke of the work of those who had amassed millions and left it to their children, who should go on accumulating. In view of this he did not wonder at the unrest of the labor world, who saw this mass of wealth increasing itself with no benefit to the world.

"The speaker concluded an eloquent address of half an hour's duration with a poetical peroration, exhorting the people present to go on in their great work, realizing that in carrying it to a successful termination they were doing the will of the Master. "Dr. Kynett of New York was then introduced and explained that the address of the evening had been delivered. He told of how a hospital was secured for the M. E. church of Philadelphia, and held up the work of those Methodists who realized the needs of the people of Omaha. "Dr. Merrill then took the platform and delivered a short and pertinent

address, explaining the needs of finances to keep the enterprise on its feet as well as to pay for the expense of the present meeting.

"The constitution of the Methodist Episcopal scheme of hospitals provided for 30 trustees, nine of whom are allowed to be laymen or members of any or no church. Rev. Mr. Dawson was selected secretary. A meeting of the ministers had previously been held in which it was arranged that each of the 12 churches in the city should have a member of the board of trustees and that the remainder of the board of 30 should be elected at large. The following were elected from the various churches: Trinity, J. J. McClain; Seward street, E. F. Cook; First, J. McConnell; Monmouth park, —; Newman, L. O. Jones; South Tenth, David Cole; Danish, Thomas Erickson; Swedish, O. Polander; German, George Duttwiler; South Omaha, E. M. Richardson; Hanscom park, —; Hazard; Second, Charles Johnson; Colored, Rev. Moore. The following members-at-large were unanimously elected by the meeting: Bishop Newman, Rev. Roe, Savage, Shank; Messrs. Rector, Dale, Fowler, C. O. Loback, George Baker, Frank Bryant, Sam Burns, J. R. Francis, F. A. Johnson, John Thurston, Guy Barton, Clark Woodman and J. H. Millard.

"Dr. Foote, secretary of the hospital committee, then took the floor and explained the plan of working of the hospital and claimed he knew of \$50,000 which would be consecrated to the work. The meeting was closed with the benediction by Rev. Dr. Kynett."

Daily Prayer

God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.—Rom. 12:3. Our Father, we thank Thee that Christ hath led us to Thee, and now in His Name we pray for Thy perfect blessing. Refresh us with Thy joyous strength. We humbly await Thy Spirit's work in us and through us. Cleanse our hearts and free our lives from every defiling and hindering thing. Fashion us into the Master's mind and habit. Let our thoughts run self to the need of others. Give us to see the fields of humanity white to harvest. Lay heavy burdens of toil upon us, and give us the joy of the reaper in the sure wages of the Kingdom. May we give in running over measure, so that those who receive shall become generous also. May we so rejoice ourselves without mercy—and others in love—that we and they shall be glad to correct our ways. Provide for our real needs out of Thy un-wasted fullness. Keep us so near to Thee that we may know the joyful sound and walk in the sight of Thy countenance. And whenever we are allowed to choose our topic, may we triumphantly present Jesus to those with whom we walk and talk. And now as we go forth or stay in, may we have the grace of God from the God of Peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen. HERBERT JUDSON WHITE, D. D., Hartford, Conn.

Abe Martin



Regardless of what the two big political platforms may say about the liquor question, a booze appetite knows no politics. Lafe Bud allus plays golf with a girl so he won't look up.

Homes and Autos.

From the Norfolk News. A business statistician finds that sections of the country which have the highest percentage of homes owned by their occupants also have the most automobiles in proportion to the population. A practical automobile dealer starts right out figuring on this basis, logically enough, that he is going to sell more cars in his city because there has been a big increase of home-owners there. There has been an impression that people were preferring cars to houses, often deferring the purchase of dwellings in order to indulge in the luxury of their own little transportation plants, and even selling or mortgaging homes, when they owned them, in order to buy cars. It is good to have this testimony on the other side. It seems to indicate that the home, after all, still comes first in this country, and that the purchase of an automobile may be really a proof not of extravagance, but of thrift.

HAVE The Omaha Morning Bee or The Evening Bee mailed to you when on your vacation. Phone AT lantic 1000, Circulation Department.

Money to Loan on Omaha Real Estate The CONSERVATIVE SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION 1614 HARVEY

Builders of Omaha A Highway East and West First railroad to reach Omaha from the East—in March, 1867—The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company likewise was first to complete a double-track to Chicago—in 1902—and first to equip its entire Omaha-Chicago line with automatic block signals. Today, The Chicago & Northwestern operates thirty-one passenger trains into and out of Omaha daily, linking this city with Chicago on the East and with a rich Nebraska farm territory, extensive Wyoming oil fields and the picturesque Black Hills of South Dakota on the West. The Northwestern operates 1,818 miles of track from headquarters in Omaha. The Omaha National Bank is the depository for The Chicago & Northwestern lines west of the Missouri river—in Nebraska, Wyoming and South Dakota. Each of 160 stations remits daily to this bank. Capital and Surplus Two Million Dollars The Omaha National Bank Jarnam at 17th St.