

THE OMAHA GUIDE

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All News Copy of Churches and other Organizations must be in our office not later than 5:00 p. m. Monday for current issue. All Advertising Copy or Paid Articles not later than Wednesday noon, preceding date of issue, to insure publication.

Race prejudice must go. The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man must prevail. These are the only principles which will stand the acid test of good.

EDITORIALS

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Happenings that Affect the Dinner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills of every Individual National and International Problems inseparable from Local Welfare.

When representatives of 32 nations recently met in France to discuss the refugee problem and attempt to arrive at some sort of a solution, it didn't make headline news. But to the thoughtful observer the conference served to emphasize the fact that this one of the most tragic and difficult social and economic problems of the modern age.

Never in modern history has the plight of racial minorities principally the Jews, been so bitter. The persecutions of ancient times almost pale into insignificance beside those of today. Germany, of course is the seat of the Jewish oppression. It is apparently Hitler's desire to completely eliminate Hebrew influence of any kind in Teutonic territory. In Germany, and also in Austria since the Anschluss Jews have been forbidden to engage in most field of profitable occupation. Even when they are not of business, their stores are placarded, and the German who trades with them comes at once into conflict with the dread Nazi secret police. Jewish professional men—doctors, lawyers, writers, teachers—are boycotted. In German schools the instructors tell their pupils to have nothing whatever to do with Jews, either socially or as a matter of business. Persons with as little as one-eighth Jewish blood are classified as Semites and are consequently ostracized. In brief the Jew under Hitler's dream of a race of Nordic supermen is regarded as an enemy of the state.

Matters would not be so bad were the Jews allowed to leave Germany and Austria with what resources they possess to seek a place in other lands. But the Jew who is given a German passport is necessarily a bankrupt. His money his property even his personal effects are taken from him. He must leave his home and his occupation with no resources with which to make a fresh start. And according to late reports the German government is going farther in the case of rich Jews and is virtually holding them for ransom. For example it is said that the release from Austria of Louis Rothschild head of the Vienna branch of the great European banking house can only be obtained when and if his foreign friends and relatives give \$10,000,000 to the Reich.

A biting commentary on the question is found in the fact that Myron C. Taylor, American delegate and chairman of the 32 nation conference, recently pleaded with Germany to permit refugees to take their personal belongings away with them—and received no answer.

Some time ago it seemed that the problem might be solved by the action

of England in opening Palestine to Jewish colonization, and setting aside as a land where the Jews might create a nation of their own. Today that hope is largely gone. The Jews came to Palestine. They liked it. They proved to be excellent settlers and capable business men. But the Arabs, whose religion is strongly anti-Semitic, immediately began to fight the migration. Hundreds have been killed in guerilla warfare, Arabian sentiment against the Jews has steadily increased, and it is said that there is grave danger that the cause may develop into a holy war. England now has 12,000 troops in Palestine to defend the Jews—and still the rapine, slaughter and pillage continues. The result is that only 12,000 Jews a year are to be admitted to the country—a drop in a gigantic bucket. There are about 1,000,000 Jews remaining in Germany and Austria alone.

The 32-power conference took all this into account. Its attitude was extremely sympathetic toward this oppressed people. But talk was about all that resulted. No major country is willing to open its gates wide to the Jew, of famous men, there is usually a place—many educators, for instance have left Germany for England and this country, and obtained suitable occupation. For the rank and file of Jews there seems to be nowhere to go. All the big powers are occupied with unemployment problems. There is not enough work for their own people, and not enough money to go around—and they regretfully say, no, when he asks permission to enter.

As Oswald Garrison Villard has written, "The man who could show the way out would deserve the greatest rewards bestowed ever upon anybody." That man has not yet appeared.

MEXICO'S PREDICAMENT

Almost four months have passed since President Cardenas of Mexico and his labor associates seized the properties of seventeen foreign oil companies. To date the story is one of decreased production, lowered refinery runs, lessened employment, wage reductions inferior products and near economic collapse.

Great Britain has withdrawn her ambassador after issuing a flat demand that the properties of the British companies be returned. The United States has sent a note acknowledging Mexico's right to expropriate foreign properties, provided she was prepared to pay their just value in good money. Without credit, Mexican bonds would not be acceptable.

The peso, worth 28c when expropriation occurred, is now down to 20c. The substantial payments of taxes by the foreign companies have ceased. The number of jobs has been slashed and the cost of living has taken a violent jump. The status of 18,000 workers is lower than it was before the expropriation.

If these matters concerned only the oil companies and the Mexican people they would not disturb the average citizen of the United States. Unfortunately, part of the costs of Mexico's action falls on us. There are some 300,000 investors in the United States who are the real owners, through their companies, of the oil properties. They have a right to demand that Mexico return the properties or buy them at their just value. There are a larger number of citizens engaged in the production and manufacture of products going into export business, who are likewise losers. Unable to sell the seized oil in the United States Mexico has been trading it to foreign coun-

tries for equipment and supplies formerly bought in this country. The biggest purchaser to date has been Germany.

Our State Department has followed a policy of kindly patience. This has apparently been misunderstood by the Mexicans as tacit approval of their actions. It seems to be time for the State Department to take further action in such a manner as to be understandable to the Mexican government.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS

A spokesman for a government bureau recently said that if the electric rates charged by the TVA were applied to Oregon, for example, the saving to the domestic users would be \$2,000,000 a year.

This made a considerable impression on his listeners until an engineer observed that if the Oregon electric utilities were free of taxes, as the TVA is, the two largest companies in the state alone, could cut their household rates by more than \$2,000,000!

It should not be forgotten that Wendell L. Willkie President of the Commonwealth and the same Southern Corporation, has stated that if his companies in the Southwest were given the same privileges as TVA—such as tax freedom, cheap money, mail franking, etc.—they could cut TVA rates by at least 25 per cent. And it is a matter of record that in many states heavily taxed private utilities are operating next door to untaxed public utilities, and charging rates as low or lower.

Whenever a fair comparison is made between private and public operation, taking all factors into accounts, it is almost invariably found that the private companies give the lowest rates—and infinitely better service.

HAVEN FOR SAVINGS

Proof of the fact that the American people look upon life insurance as a safe haven for savings as well as a protector of dependents is found in some figures concerning the sale of annuities.

An annuity, strictly speaking, is not insurance at all. It is all investment and savings. Yet in recent decade the premiums paid for annuities increased relatively six times as fast as the premiums paid for life insurance. And during that decade life insurance premiums, as well registered substantial advances.

The wise policyholder buys two kinds of contracts. One is for the benefit of his dependents in case of his death. The other is for the future, in case he lives to retirement age. That program gives full protection.

SAFETY MOVEMENT

Schools and communities are showing increasing interest in the traffic safety problem. Educators, traffic officials and others have come to the conclusion that something to be done—and that the time to do is now.

Proof of this is found in the widespread acceptance of two standard books on traffic safety issued by the National Conservation Bureau. "One, "Man and the Motor Car," is designed for high schools. Its sale has exceeded 120,000 copies and numerous special editions have been issued by state departments. It is used as a standard text in thousands of schools and its vivid message is reaching hundreds of thousands of young people.

The other book, "Creating Safer Communities," is a guide for planning and executing sound community traffic control programs. So far 31 of the states have published authorized edi-

tions of this text. The book recommends and completely describes proven techniques for engineering, driver education and community law enforcement.

This is the kind of "scientific accident prevention, which gets results. Hit and miss efforts have proven worthless. We must look to the teacher, to the educator, and to the authorities in the safety field for guidance which will reduce accidents. The fact that so many states and municipalities have eagerly seized the chance to get books such as these, written by experts for the layman, is the most cheering and significant sign in the accident field.

OUTWIT ECONOMIC MISFORTUNE

As an authority points out, life insurance has not one, but four distinct functions. First to guarantee security in old age, if the wage earner lives.

Third, to enable the insured, after he has reached retirement age, to liquidate his accumulation gradually through some income or annuity plan.

Fourth, to enable anyone to accumulate an emergency fund to protect his family, his business, his investments, his property, and himself.

A well insured individual adopts a program that takes all these functions into account. The result is real social security against economic misfortune.

DICTATORS FEAR FREEDOM

News: Marshfield, Oregon.

"One of the first things dictators and communists demand is the right of free speech, and one of the first things to which an end is put when they get into power is freedom of the press. There is no freedom of speech or of the press in Russia, Italy or Germany. Dictators are afraid of the truth." —Southwestern Oregon

Business Week says that "the main thing to hold to is that a broad turnaround in direction is being achieved this summer, and that the last half of 1938 will be marked by a significant revival from last year's collapse."

Most business publications and commentators are in accord with that view. The boom in the stock market fooled almost everyone—and the fact that the relatively high levels reached have been held, is perhaps the best sign of all. The status of individual an corporate sentiment is definitely better than it was a short time back.

Substantial improvement has appeared in consumers' goods industries. Comparable betterment in heavy industries is hoped for the fall.

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