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Philadelphia, Menday, March 17, 1919

#### CRIME AND YOUTH

NO ONE who reads police court news can fail to be impressed by the frequency with which very young men are getting into serious trouble. A sixteenyear-old boy was shot in an uptown street while attempting to hold up a woman. Most of the recent motor thefts have been charged to youths who were still on the far side of twenty-one. And in many cases the methods of these youthful offenders have been amazingly

What is wrong? This sort of thing used to be blamed on the movies. But the movies never fail to show that the man who breaks the law always finds a truly horrid end in complete disaster. It may be that the war and the smell of gunpowder that has been in the air for ost five years have had something to do with it. Certainly the situation is interesting enough to warrant serious

The movement on foot in New Jersey to make parents partly responsible for delinquency in children has a new significance when it is considered in relation to the recent police records in Philadelphia. Such a proceeding may reveal the cause of a new trouble.

#### STIMULATING, BUT OBVIOUS

MR. WILSON'S explicit declaration that "the league of nations," by the decision of the plenary council, "is to be part of the peace treaty" can hardly surprise anybody save those persons whose analysis of international affairs is flimsy and specious. Inevitably, the only sure guarantee of such territorial changes as will be specified in the treaty with Germany must be the concord of nations capable in partnership of preserving the new conditions.

Common sense dictates the forecast that clauses and paragraphs of the league covenant will not be physically dovetailed into paragraphs and clauses of the peace treaty. Any such jumble phraseology would, of course, be awkward and absurd. Literally, there will in all probability be two documents. It is in meaning that they will be interdependent and co-operative.

For some minds, however, it is necessary to "speak by the card or equivocation will undo us." This the President has done in his cablegram to Mr. Tumulty. In significance it is a restatement of the obvious, but in days of much mental fog even the reverberation of the axiomatic is to be welcomed.

# SUFFRAGE CLASS INTEREST

LL women, observes Miss Mary Ing-A ham, are against President Wilson because he didn't get the Anthony amendment through the Senate. Such a statement will carry but little conviction to any one who saw and heard the Senate in the final weeks of the recent session. It will rather inspire a belief that emotion is permitted too often to form a basis for votes argument and activity.

There was no measure that the President could have got through the Senate. And if he failed with the suffrage amendnent, that does not mean that he has failed in causes that are even closer to the hearts of women everywhere in the

Most of the women in Europe, for example, would probably be glad to relinquish all hope for the franchise if they were assured that their homes would never again be desolated by war. It is obable that the majority of women in the United States feel similarly.

Women should and will have the franchise. But militancy in theory or in practice will never help them.

# THE VANISHING JOB SERVICE

ORITICISM like that aimed at the Federal Employment Service by forer Lieutenant Governor McClain is to be regretted, since it is of a sort likely to dice general opinion against a principle that should be more broadly aped in the future rather than hindered. oreover, the former Lieutenant Govor has quite lost sight of the fundantal purpose and intention of the sysm in a disdainful reference to some of its minor defects.

Perhaps politics was felt here and ere in the administration of the plan e are few federal departments in aich politics doesn't react sooner or ater, and certainly there is no adminisdepartment in Pennsylvania ficians de not manage to have

badly administered isn't proof that it is not valuable.

The Federal Employment Service cannot be judged finally by its success or failure in placing men in given localities, though its record of achievements in Pennsylvania is admirable enough. The essential purpose of the service was to relieve congestion of the unemployed in various parts of the country, to offer such supervision and suggestions as would make it unnecessary for jobless men to crowd in discouraged groups in one community while there was a shortage of labor elsewhere. In a general way, it was intended to help men and to study the labor problem from a national viewpoint.

It is interesting to observe that the bitterest opposition to the Federal Employment Service was organized by employment agents, who formerly were able to fatten on the misfortunes of men out of work, The Senate when it talked to death the bill which carried the appropriation for the continuance of the service manifested a grievous disregard for the welfare of returning soldiers and a lamentable ignorance of one of the basic economic needs of the country.

#### A POLITICAL FARCE IN THE NAME OF DEMOCRACY

Government in Camarilla by the Nonpartisan League of North Dakota in the

Interest of Farmers EVERY small boy knows that if he puts one end of a rubber band between his teeth and pulls on the other end till he stretches it to the breaking point it will snap back and raise a painful welt on his cheek.

But there are statesmen who do not know so much as the small boy.

They see the people stretched dangerously near to the breaking point by the conditions under which they have to live and they do nothing to relieve the ten-

Thus revolutions are bred, with all their excesses.

Bolshevism in Russia is the snapping back of the rubber band upon the cheek of the men responsible for the old order.

But Russia is not the only place where revolutions are in progress. Political and social changes are making right here in America, the end of which no man can foresee. The center of revolution just now is in North Dakota, where the Nonpartisan League has secured control of the state government and is putting into effect a program of legislation which cannot be contemplated without alarm. We print on this page today the first of two articles describing what the North Dakota Legislature has done in its recent session. We commend it to the consideration of every business man and every politician and every student of popular government.

The Nonpartisan League was accused last year of pro-Germanism and opposition to the war, and its leader was indicted for disloyalty. But this is a mere incident, which should not blind us to its real purposes. The league sprang out of the dissatisfaction of the North Dakota farmers with the methods by which they were compelled to sell their grain. They charged the railroads, which owned the grain elevators, with co-operating with the bankers and the flouring mills and the grain buyers in preventing them from getting a fair price for their wheat. They voted, under their referendum system, for state-owned elevators in which they might store their grain to be kept until the market was favorable, but the Legislature, controlled by the railroads and the politicians, refused to do anything. Then the farmers began to organize. They make up eighty per cent of the population of the state and knew that they could get what they wanted if they took matters in their own hands. After a thorough but quiet campaign they succeeded in electing a Governor and a majority in the larger house of the Legislature. This happened within less than two years after the movement began. This year they have controlled both branches of the Legislature and elected all the state officers except the superintendent of public instruction.

The league has exercised its power to the limit. It has submitted to the dictation of its leaders who framed its programs, as the Bolshevists have submitted to Lenine and Trotsky. These leaders sat in a hotel room in the state capital during the session of the Legislature and issued orders. The league members with seats in the Legislature were told every morning what the leaders had decided the night before, and they voted as directed. No political bosses of the old parties ever were guilty of more complete and unblushing exercise of dictatorial power than these officers of an organization with no official connection with the government. They met in secret, made their decisions in secret and issued their orders to their willing followers. And some of the leaders were not even citizens of the state.

Now, what did the Legislature do? It bonded the state for \$17,000,000. Of this sum \$2,000,000 was set apart for organizing a state bank to free the farmers from their dependence on the banking institutions "controlled by the money trust." Five million dollars is to be used for building grain elevators and starting flouring mills to free the farmers from dependence on the railroad elevators and the milling trust. And \$10,-000,000 is to be used in making loans to the farmers, secured by mortgages on

their land. The elevators and mills are to be operated by an industrial commission, and the commission will also direct the state bank and administer the loan fund. The commission is further empowered to fix the price of everything it buys and

of everything it sells. The tax laws were changed so as to exempt all farm buildings and improvements from taxation, while the owners he fact that a plan may be of buildings in towns and cities are

allowed an exemption of only \$1000. A sop was thrown to the townspeople by providing that their residences and business structures should be assessed at only 50 per cent of their value, while

farm lands are assessed at 100 per cent. An anti-sabotage bill directed at the I. W. W. was introduced in the Legislature, but the league leaders, sitting in their secret session, ordered that it must be defeated, and this, too, in spite of the fact that anti-sabotage measures had been enforced in the state by the Council of Defense during the war.

The conditions in North Dakota are not surprising. They are the logical outcome of the disregard by the commercial and political powers of the state of the justifiable discontent of the farmers with the conditions against which they have had to contend. The farmers have taken matters into their own hands, and under the leadership of extreme Socialists, in sympathy with the anarchists of the I. W. W., they have put through their

And the Nonpartisan League is active in many other states in the Northwest. Last year it had its agents working among the farmers of New England with little success, and during the session of the Legislature in this state in 1917 it had a committee in Harrisburg watching legislation.

Its appeal is to the workers, whether they be farmers or mechanics or factory operatives, to take control of government and pass laws for their own benefit regardless of people engaged in any other occupation. If it were democratic in its methods it would not be such a menace to American institutions as it now is. But it is autocratic. Its members do not decide on its policies. They are fixed by a secret camarilla composed of theorists and visionaries working on the known grievances of large groups of the population. It is not only autocratic. but it plays upon the susceptibilities of a class seeking not good government but favoritism in legislation.

It is important that the nation inform itself on what is going on in the center of contagion in the Northwest, that it may be prepared to check the evil before it spreads and undermines the healthful Americanism of the whole body politic.

#### LOGIC AND BRASS BUTTONS

WHEN Police Lieutenant Elvidge, of the Germantown station, got upon his feet and delivered an easy-going and perfectly friendly speech to a meeting which he attended in the role of censor he manifested an original twist of mind and a gift of logic that might well be shared by members of American police departments everywhere.

It is true that the meeting at the Germantown Forum proved not to be radical. But suppose it had been, as they say, radical? Wouldn't it be far better in the case of almost every assemblage of the restless-minded if the police had the knack of telling their own side of the story, as the Germantown lieutenant told his, instead of calling the wagon for arrests that are often futile and very frequently unjust?

Here in Germantown was an officer who was able to talk lucidly from the viewpoint of a service that is pledged definitely to maintain law and to recognize no distinction between the ups and the downs, the rich or the poor. It is conceivable that a similar approach to a radical thinking group, which usually is lisposed to ignore all interests not its own, could be made diverting and even

More than half of the so-called radi cals who assemble and talk aren't radicals at all. They are groping for the truth like the rest of the world. Of half hundred men and women trundled to New York police station in patrol wagons the other day after a raid on their meeting place only four were found actually guilty of any offense. Police oppression is neither wise nor just in such instances.

Talkative policemen might tell the ultra modern theorists many useful things from their own rich store of knowledge. They might say what they have good reasons to know, that good and evil are not matters of class, but of human nature, and that nothing of value will ever be gained by supposing that all the poor are good and that all the rich are wicked.

The primary object of Germany's interest is the league of rations.

With yesterday to think it all over the outgo tax seemed really the most fitting name.

Judging from certain forecasts, temper and temperance are going to be intimately blended next summer.

The weather man has been demonstrating that a March may be retrogressive as well forward.

The reports that tipping has vanished from Russia is probably explainable on the ground that restaurants disappeared

Not the most confirmed pessimist can deny that there will be a net increase in the food supply when the Delaware shad

Poles should sound fewer discordant notes

when a great musician came to direct

After all it was only natural that the

Spring thoughts are not so prevalent in Germany now as they were a year ago this week when she took her big jump to destruction.

It is worth remembering that victory is a permanent acquisition, while a loan is all that will be asked of the American people when the short term note campaign

Although it was only a first edition of "The Pickwick Papers" which sold in London the other day, the price seems more commensurate with that of a sensational

# SOCIALISM IN THE WEST

How the Famous Nonpartisan League Is Applying Its Theories in North Dakota

By GEORGE E. AKERSON

George E. Akerson, political editor of the Minneapolis Tribune, has written for the Evening Public Ledger the following story of the work of the Nonpartisan League in the North Dakota Legislature, setting forth clearly the radical changes in the laws made in the name of the farmers.

NORTH DAKOTA has now become the public ownership experimental station in the United States.

The sixteenth assembly of the North Dakota Legislature, completely dominated by the Nonpartisan League, enacted into law the entire program of the lengue before its recent adjournment. That program calls for state-owned and operated elevators, flour mills, packing plants, a state-owned banking system and a home-building association. The credit of the state will be pledged back of these movements.

Steps are now being taken by the officials of the state to embark upon the publicownership enterprises authorized by the Leg-

Opponents of the Nonpartisan League are planning a referendum on some of the measires. It is certain, however, that such enter prises as the publicly owned and operated elevator and mill system will not even be referred to the people.

THE sixteenth session of North Dakota's Legislature is perhaps unique in the history of American legislative bodies. It certainly is unique when the program of legislation enacted is considered. A sovereign state has been committed to a series of social experiments which have long been advocated by the Socialist party. The leaders of the Nonpartisan League—the men really in control at the Bismarck state capitol-admit that the state has become a social clinic.

It must be remembered that the Nonpartisan League is in complete control in North Dakota. All of the state officials, from Governor down, with the exception of Miss Minnie Nielson, superintendent of public instruction, were elected by the Nonpartisan League, of which A. C. Townley is the president. Miss Nielson defeated the league candidate by a heavy vote, largely because the women of the state were able to vote for that office.

The Legislature was controlled by the Townley followers by a two-to-one vote in both branches. In the House there were seventy-nine league members out of a membership of 113. In the Senate there were thirty-five league members out of forty

Four of the five justices of the State Supreme Court owe their election to Townley's Nonpartisan League. The old parties have virtually disappeared in North Dakota. There are now two groups in the state-the league and the anti-league.

DERHAPS no political group was ever more autocratically controlled than was the league group in the legislative assembly. Those who were elected on the league ticket were required to sign a pledge agreeing to vote as ordered by the league secre caucus.

The league caucus, held in the McKenzie Hotel every night, really became the Legislature. Here the league leaders-A. C. Townley, Walter Thomas Mills, William C. Lemke and others expounded the program of legislation to the members. Whatever the majority of the caucus decided, that was the thing done in the Legislature the next day.

Socialist agitators and organizers of the league were the brains back of this secret caucus. Like the "carpetbaggers" in the South after the Civil War, men from other states framed and pushed through their pet socialistic schemes in many instances.

ONE of the first acts of the Legislature was the passage of constitutional amendments making the industrial program possible. The Legislature had to repass the amendments, which had been initiated and voted on by the people last fall. Once the amendments had been repassed

by the legislative body everything was in readiness to proceed with the industrial program. It is well to point out here that the Legislature authorized \$17,000,000 worth of bonds to finance the various protects. Of these \$17,000,000 bonds \$2,000, 000 are in the Bank of North Dakota series and are to provide capital for that bank. The mill and elevator series call for an issue of \$5,000,000. In the real estate series there are \$10,000,000. The latter issue is for the purpose of financing farmers who desire to borrow money from the state on farm mortgages.

The measure providing for the creation of an industrial commission forms the very keystone of the public-ownership arch. The commission, composed of the Governor, the Commissioner of Labor and the Attorney General, is created to "conduct and manage on behalf of the state of North Dakota certain utilities, industries, enterprises and business projects." The Governor is chairman and head of the state industries.

Specifically, this commission is charged. in subsequent bills, with operating and controlling the state elevators, the flour mills the home-building association and the Bank of North Dakota.

The law gives this commission the power "to fix the buying price of things bought and the selling price of things sold."

EAGUE leaders decided that a state bank was necessary in order properly to finance the many industrial enterprises the state is entering, and the Bank of North Dakota was established "for the purpose of encouraging and promoting agriculture, commerce and industry."

All state, county, township, municipal and school funds are to be deposited in the bank, as are all funds controlled by the charitable, pehal and educational institutions of the state. The bank is permitted to do a general banking business and all de posits are to be guaranteed by the state. Such deposits are to be exempt from state, county and municipal taxes,

Incidentally it is estimated that deposits of this bank will perhaps run as high as \$100,000,000 or more. The school funds now amount to more than \$27,000,000, and will ultimately go to \$60,000,000. The industrial commission is the con-

trolling board of the bank, with powers to appoint the manager and various employes. (Mr. Akerson's article, going into further details of the subject, will be concluded tomorrow.) ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN THE MORNIN'



# THE CEDAR CHEST

phetic gestures.

With Mr. Kipling's Permission

WE HAVE long wanted to reprint Rudyard Kipling's poem, "The Press," but Mr. Kipling has very strict rules about permitting his poems to be reprinted-and quite rightly, having suffered much in earlier years at the hands of American pirate publishers. So we thought we had better consult him about it. He writes from the Grand Pump Room Hotel, Bath: "You have my permission to reprint the poem on 'The Press,' only it will be necessary for you to say that it is printed with my permission, and to add the name of the volume from which it is taken and the American publisher."

The poem is to be found in "A Diversity

Page & Co.

Ere we forget the Press!

The Press THE soldier may forget his sword, I The Sailorman the sea, The Mason may forget the Word And the Priest his litany: The maid may forget both jewel and gem And the bride her wedding-dress-But the Jew shall forget Jerusalem

WHO once hath stood through the loaded

Ere, roaring like the gale, The Harrild and the Hoe devour Their league-long paper bale, And has lit his pipe in the morning calm That follows the midnight stress-He hath sold his heart to the old Black Art We call the daily Press.

WHO once hath dealt in the widest game That all of a man can play, No later love, no larger fame

Will lure him long away. As the war-horse smelleth the battle afar, The entered Soul, no less, He saith: "Ha! Ha!" where the trumpets And the thunders of the Press.

MANST thou number the days that we fullfil, Or the Times that we bring forth Canst thou send the lightnings to do thy

And cause them reign on earth? Hast thou given a peacock goodly wings To please his foolishness? Sit down at the heart of men and things, Companion of the Press!

THE Pope may launch his Interdict, The Union its decree But the bubble is blown and the bubble i pricked

By Us and such as We. Remember the battle and stand aside While Thrones and Powers confess That King over all the children of pride Is the Press—the Press—the Press! RUDYARD KIPLING.

Where They Learned It

On July 4, 1917, a Belgian hotel-keeper was fined 200 marks for having trained his fox terrier as follows, in the words of the German authorities: The accused says to the dog: "What will the Germans have to do when the

war is over?"
The dog lies down flat, stretches out his paws and crawls on his belly till he reaches his master, wagging his tall and making supplicating motions with his front paws.
Again, if the accused throws a bit of bread to the dog and says "That comes from Germans," the dog looks at it with lisfavor, makes no move to take it, de

attempt to eat it.

The effect of this behavior is damaging to the dignity of the German power.

that excellent animal with close scrutiny. to have been closely modeled on his pro-

A boy does not forfeit all sense of humor just because he happens to be born a prince. Clement Shorter tells a good story of Henry, King George's third son. When the king was crowned, Henry was ten years old. Having committed some mischief, his governess told him that unless he was a good boy he would not be allowed to go to his father's coronation. He was quite undismayed and replied: "I don't care. Perhaps Westminster Abbey will be blown up with all the family. Then I shall ascend the throne as King Henry IX and have a many wives as I like."

President Wilson had his teeth filled while he was in Washington, and now faces the Italian and Jugo-Slav irredentists with greater confidence.

The mere fact that a poem has been published before does not prevent us from reprinting it if it seems to us of cosmic consequence and we deem that our readers may not be acquainted with it. How many of our readers are anxious to have us reprint Charley Towne's "On Seeing a Nun in a Taxicab"?

Quite a number of suggested desk mot toes have come to us from our readers This is Mowry Saben's favorite, taken from some Oriental poet:

> He who has a thousand friends Has not a friend to spare; And he who has one enemy Will find him everywhere.

The news that Marse Henry Watterson has been asked to take the chairmanship of Mr. Pepper's new organization to combat the league of nations suggests that Lodge, Borah, Knox, Sherman and the other protagonists are running short of profanity Marse Henry is a fine old warrior, who might better be known as Mars Henry but we still think that if profanity is the only argument against the league it will get by all right.

Mr. Pepper's organization, intended to throw large handfuls of salt on the tail of the league, is going to send "couriers" to England and France to "educate" those nations in the real meaning of the present crisis. But what if England and France show no particular desire to take postgraduate courses?

The present governors of Germany seem to be almost the only persons of promi nence who have never been accused of being pro-German.

Those who say that after all Mr. Wilson knows nothing about politics because he used to be a teacher always take care to forget that Clemenceau also began life as dominy.

For Luwyers Only Booty draws us with a single heir, said

the residuary legatee when he heard of the death of his twin brother.

Concerning St. Patrick, the nearest cyclopedia-nearest to our desk, that issays: "Of the existence of this holy man there is no question, but every other fact bout him has been hotly dispu

# GO, GIVE THE WORLD

T DO not crave to have thee mine alone, dear.

Keeping thy charms within my jealous sight: Go, give the world the blessing of thy beauty.

That other hearts may share of my

delight! do not ask thy love should be mine only

While others falter through the dreary Go, kiss the tears from some wayfarer's vision.

That other eves may know the joy of light! Where days are sad and skies are hung

Go, send a smile that sunshine may be

Go, give a song, a word of kindly greeting, To ease the sorrow of some lonely life! -Otto Leland Bohanan, in the Crisis.

If certain reformers really want to prohibit smoking their most effective campaign could be waged by encouraging the sale of Swedish matches.

It's almost a pity that William Hohenzollern can't go to Sweden and have it out with Eric Ludendorff. A bout for the championship of Gehenna would be a really sensational event.

Opponents of adjustment processes at Paris might profitably be reminded that even the accepted date of the widely celebrated St. Patrick's Day is the result of

It is particularly to be noted that the Paris conferees have branded the work of the authors of the war as "anomalous," not "anonymous."

# What Do You Know?

 With whom is Senator Lodge to engage in a public debate in Boston upon the league of nations? 2. Who was Andre Chenier?

3. Which of the four gospels is the least concerned with the narrative of the life of Jesus and dwells particularly on his discourses and sayings? 4. What bank is called "The Little Old Lady of Threadneedle Street"?

5. What is the esophagus? 6. What is the triforium of a church?

7. Which is the "Old North State"? 8. What is the origin of the word shilly-shally? 9. How does Latakia tobacco get its name?

10. How many furlongs make a mile? Answers to Saturday's Quiz

1. The brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright played a conspicuous part in the devel-2. Feral means wild, untamed, uncultivated,

brutal. 3. Robert Bridges is the present poet laureate of England.

 Ary Scheffer was a popular Dutch paint-er, who ranks, however, as a member of the French school. 5. Venezia is the Italian name for Venice. 6. The German Crown Prince undertook his disastrous siege of Verdun in 1916.

cular or polygonal recess, arched or dome-roofed. Schnapps is Holland gin. George Ellot said "The wit of a family is usually best received among stran-gers."

7. The apse of a church is the semicir-

10. St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, lived in the latter part of the fourth and the first helt of the fifth century.

A. D. The date of his death is sometimes given at 465.