

tices which have existed in America. Secret societies and other organizations in foreign languages are aware of the fact that we have arrived at the crossroads. The national unification thought is gathering strength and gaining ground. Language standardization is an epoch-making issue that moves forward. The press of the land must follow. Foreign language newspapers must begin to change form and gradually adopt the language of the country if they are to continue to function as a helpful unit in the movement forward toward greater achievements.

The cards must be laid on the table. It can no longer be tolerated that any person of any nationality, shielded by a foreign language, may express himself in a manner he would not in the language of the country. Too many committed that crime during the war. It cost the United States many millions of dollars to keep the authorities reasonably well informed on the contents of some 1200 foreign language newspapers for the short period of the war.

Why the necessity for this expenditure?

No institution so discolored by sedition and imbued with enmity toward the interests of this country in her hour of travail that it must be placed under surveillance can, with reason, claim right to continue undisturbed and unmolested in the old, accustomed way. Better far will it be for the foreign born to see himself forced by sheer necessity to seek the intelligence of the public prints in the American language than to gain a wrong impression of the better things in the interest of his adopted country.

The Pacific Skandinaven has, as one of the humblest representatives of the foreign language press in America, held to the precept that it is the duty of every immigrant to learn to understand more fully and more clearly the institutions of the country he has chosen to make his home and thereby learn to render the love and loyalty due. Our people here in the State of Oregon, with few exceptions, have become imbued with this deeper understanding of the demands of their adopted country. While we may not have been able to interpret the American spirit in all the fulness of its better meaning we have never belittled or beclouded any of the institutions of this country, veiled by derisive, sarcastic and "smart" utterances that have been as effective as open attack from other sources in some of the foreign language papers we have had access to during the past few years.

The open contempt which the foreign educated newspaper editors have shown for America only proves that they lack conception of the deeper source and significance of American ideals and the spirit that vibrates in the true interpretation of the liberty that had its birth on American soil—that idealism which had its inception in the covenant which bound the poor and oppressed of Europe who came to this new country enduring attendant hardships and tribulations—the substance of the dream they saw realized in the birth of this new nation which brought joy to their hearts and which should bring happiness to their kindred and those who came afterward.

We, too, have now come to the crossroads—to a milestone of action. We look back upon many a struggle to maintain

this publication in the Norwegian-Danish language. The capital of others has never been used in the enterprise. From year to year it has represented personal effort and we have progressed.

A call of duty has now come to take another step forward—a step into a new epoch, in a new language, the language that is America's own. The name, form and size of this publication will be changed. It will go to our present subscribers and many others with greetings and messages from the old world in the field of cultural value as well as matters of the deepest interest to all striving toward a higher plane of citizenship in America.

Remain with us in our new field. It will have a double reward. We need not throw overboard the things of cultural value we have brought with us to America to show a willingness to adjust ourselves to a new form of expression. With gratitude for the kindly patronage we have enjoyed in the years that have gone, we hope for a continuance of the relationship.

In the broader field we shall endeavor to maintain a position of usefulness and helpfulness to our old as well as our new constituency, in a manner creditable to all.

#### NON-PROGRESSIVENESS IN POLITICS

TRUTH remains constant but conditions are ever changing. It is one of the peculiarities of statesmen and politicians that they are seldom able to grasp this fact and keep pace with the progress of events. It is to be deplored that among venerable legislators in point of service we find a pronounced proneness to hold to the issues of yesterday; to consider problems of state in the light of the past decade and to talk of things which are as dead as the first Rameses as though they were living questions of the hour all un-mindful of the fact that they have failed to keep pace with the movements of Old Father Time, and that they present a figure at once pathetic and ridiculous. They continue to cling to precedent and drag forth the past as a guide to present action affecting the future, forgetting that Progress is the law of life in politics as in other things.

#### PROGRESS OF CHURCH RETARDED BY HOLDING TO FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Dr. G. A. Brandele, of Rock Island, Illinois, President of Augustana Synod, of the Swedish Lutheran Church of America, delivered a lecture in Immanuel Lutheran Church of Portland on the 13th instant, in the course of which he said:

**If the American language had been used from the beginning the church would have had much greater and more rapid progress than it has by insistently holding to the "old country" language.**

Probably no man in America is more competent to deliver an opinion on this subject, and his statements are causing consternation among those who would hold to the Swedish language in the press and pulpit perpetually in this country.

#### INTERRACIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON NATURALIZATION.

AT A MEETING of the National Conference on Immigration, held in the City of New York on April 7, 1920, under the auspices of The Inter-racial Council, the following resolution relative to naturalization was adopted:

There are now in this country several millions of unnaturalized aliens. From time to time there will be others who under existing laws will be eligible to citizenship. There are those who insist that whoever comes to this country must become a citizen. There are others who deem it desirable to dispense with the present qualifications for citizenship. There is a general failure to recognize the distinction between immigration and citizenship and the laws that should appertain thereto. While we believe in a liberal immigration law for the reasons already stated, we are of the opinion that citizenship should not be easy of attainment, but should be regarded as so precious a privilege as to make it synonymous with the possession of those qualities which justify the exercise of the elective franchise. While, however, the qualifications should be of high grade, the machinery for granting naturalization should be simplified. Be it therefore;

Resolved: (1) That it is the sense of this National Immigration Conference that there be no relaxation of the present requirements for naturalization and that proficiency in the American language to the extent of ability to read it fluently and to understand it be made a prerequisite.

(2) That naturalization be permitted without exacting a compulsory preliminary declaration of intention; that proceedings for naturalization may be transferred from one State or District to another; that the present requirement of one year's continuous residence in the State in which the application for naturalization is filed be repealed; that depositions of witnesses within as well as without the State in which the application for naturalization is made may be taken, and that but one fee be required of the applicant for citizenship upon admission.

(3) That sessions of the various courts having jurisdiction to naturalize be frequently held within the several districts and, if practicable, in the communities in which there is a large immigrant population, and that such sessions be held at fixed times, not only during the day, but also in the evening, in accordance with the special needs of the several communities.

(4) That such naturalization courts be empowered to accept as evidence of the possession of the necessary educational qualifications for citizenship certificates issued by public schools testifying to the attendance and proficiency in the standardized courses of instruction in the American language and civics maintained by such schools.

(5) That public officials be charged with the duty of assisting the courts in their investigation into the qualifications and character of the applicant for naturalization, to the end that the proceeding shall be regarded as one of due solemnity.

(6) That the induction into citizenship of those who have met the necessary requirements shall be accompanied by a fitting ceremony that will impress not only the applicant, but the public generally, with an appreciation of the honor and dignity conferred.

(7) That the opportunity to earn a living shall not be contingent upon citizenship, to the end that the desire to become an American citizen may be through devotion and loyalty to the new country and not from mercenary motives, or from necessity to comply with industrial compulsion.

You can think American in any language, but other languages are not usually concerned in expressing American ideals.

There is one broad sky over all the world, and whether it be blue or cloudy, the same heaven beyond it. Dickens.

The great thing in the world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving. Holmes.

It is a prince's part to pardon. Bacon.  
More things are wrought by prayer  
Than this world dreams of. Tennyson.