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BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.
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TAKING UP THE BURDENS OF THE SHIRKERS.

Desertion of families by fathers is one of the persistent social problems. Its causes are easy to discover, but its cure is difficult. "Desertion is sometimes premeditated, sometimes drifted into by men going out to look for work; it is sometimes due to intemperance or moral weakness, sometimes to temperamental infirmities of husband or wife," runs a re-

port of the Springfield Survey, Department of Survey and Exhibits, Russel Sage Foundation.

The report puts particular emphasis upon the social influence exerted by each case of desertion. "The spectacle, for instance, of rewarded desertion—that is, of the husband temporarily relieved of his responsibilities, the family in about as good shape as before he left, or in fairly good shape soon after his departure—may tend toward irresponsibility among other men wavering upon the border."

But "social influence" can work in several ways. One form of it can make desertion mighty unpopular. This is the form of pronounced public contempt. The man who deserts his family leaves them to be supported by the other men who make up the community. He makes his family a charge upon the man next door and the man across the street, and upon his neighborhood and city. He throws his responsibility upon all who pay taxes—and no one escapes some form of tax.

When the hard working independent citizen realizes that he is bound to assume the burdens of all the shirkers, he will soon see to it that fewer men get the chance to shirk.

Imprisoning a man has three ob-

jects: First, to deter others; second, to punish him; third, to reform him if possible. The first object, to our mind, is by far the most important. To the "modern penologist" the third seems to be the chief object, and the first is in danger of being quite overlooked.

HOW EMERGENCY MEN ARE MADE

One of the biggest financial men in the country is reported to be looking for an "emergency man" who will be capable of handling in detail that man's affairs. It's a big job and the "emergency man" who fills it must be everything that the name implies. The "emergency man" is the latest development of the business world. He is the man who must meet the sudden ordeal, whether a commercial house faces bankruptcy or a train is wrecked. In both cases he is developed in the same way.

What is his secret? "Hard grinding work," is the answer given by Prof. Stephen W. Gilman, addressing a body of students in a western university. "When I tell you to work, I do not mean work which is delirious and the result of a wool gathering and flabby mind. I mean intelligently directed work."

This kind of talk is good to hear. It is the dependable man who keeps at his job in an even, forceful, normal way who suddenly finds himself equipped for all emergencies. The reward is worth effort.

SOUTH AMERICAN TRADE.

During the month of October this country shipped to South American countries exports to the value of \$15,463,259 which is about three times the value of exports for the corresponding month last year. The increase has been of steady growth, and it is generally felt that but for the extraordinary market in Europe at the present time, the value of exports to South America would by this time have been much greater. There seems to be no doubt in the minds of American exporters that the South American market is all that it has been represented as being. American exporters have been accused of neglecting a field which as soon as peace in Europe is concluded will prove of great value to them and to the country, but this charge fails to take into consideration the nature of the demand for American goods. Europe is willing to pay the price, and it is getting the goods.

Although somewhat late to take advantage of the openings made by the sudden withdrawal of European ships from the South American trade, American merchants, it appears, have finally settled upon a definite policy toward South American exporters. Representatives of New York banks have for some time been engaged in perfecting a chain of branch banks in leading South American centers with the intention of arranging a system of credits similar to that which the Germans had in good working order before the war. Several trade societies have sent representatives to South America to lecture on subjects pertaining to commerce with the United States, and the government, through its commercial agents and special representatives of the Department of Commerce, has contributed its full share to the movement.

That results should be slow in manifesting themselves is only natural. Considerable emphasis has been placed on the fastidiousness of South American buyers, and with their customary readiness to adapt themselves to conditions as they find them, American salesmen are making capital of a trait which at first appealed to them as somewhat foolish. If a South American buyer wishes to make a social function of a business transaction he will be accommodated. He will pay for it, of course, but the cost is an item of secondary importance. But the main result to note is not so much the method of acquiring this business, as the extent to which it has been acquired, and in this respect, everything considered, American exporters have done well. An average daily sale of half a million dollars is by no means a small item when the tremendous pressure of European business is taken into consideration.

A LEADER AGAINST THE LEADER.

The democratic administration faces a peculiar situation. Claude Kitchen, the representative from North Carolina, holds the title of leader of the democratic majority. He is the head push and all the other fellows must bow to his will. Mr. Kitchen, however, is diametrically opposed to the real leader of the democratic party. President Wilson. Mr. Wilson is for a program of preparedness while Mr. Kitchen is an ultra-conservative. He leads away backward against the scheme of putting this country on a

basis where it will be ready to meet all comers.

Judging by the sentiment expressed by a majority of the members of the house of congress, Mr. Kitchen is not to find much support regarding his views on preparedness. Like Mr. Bryan he is at odds with the rest of his party.

There is an opportunity for a warm scrap in the majority party by the attitude of Kitchen. If other members are in a resentful mood, they will not re-elect Kitchen, but President Wilson is not in favor of this drastic treatment of a man who is honest in his opinions. Mr. Kitchen may be wholly right in his peace ideas, just as Mr. Ford may be wholly right, but the sentiment of the country appears to be against them. If the people of the North Carolina district from which Mr. Kitchen comes are opposed to strengthening the country's army and navy forces, then it becomes Mr. Kitchen's duty to work and vote in accordance to their wishes. He is their representative and should represent them honestly and without regard to his personal opinion. But if, on the other hand, his people are in favor of backing up President Wilson, and he fails to represent them in that aspect of the case, he is not doing his duty as their agent in the house.

President Wilson has not fully outlined his wishes on the question of preparedness. His position will be stated in the message which is now in the hands of the printer. It may so turn out that Mr. Kitchen and some others of the conservatives will feel that the president is not far out of the way and will turn in to support his plans.

Fortunately the question of preparedness has not been thrown into the political hopper. It is a non-partisan issue. The president will find some of his warmest supporters among the republicans in both houses of congress.

ARE THE SEASONS CHANGING?

Every once in a while people will tell you that the seasons are changing. They say it is warmer longer in the fall, warmer in the winter, cooler in the spring and that there is more rain and coolness in the summer. Doubt their word and they will point to Alaska, which they say was formerly so cold and cheerless that nothing would grow there. Now it is quite different. Even the United States government believes Alaska can be made an agricultural country. At least it is going to find out the facts, for it has established four agricultural experiment stations up there and is going ahead with the work in a way that will be of benefit to everybody.

The experiments are of course not complete. It is not as yet known just to what extent crops can be grown, nor is it certain what are the best crops to plant. But the results this year show conclusively that Alaska is not to be despised as an agricultural region, and the department states positively that even at this time there is no reason why enough produce should not be grown to supply the local demand.

But however much Alaska may be boosted as an agricultural state, and however much the government may learn about crops and how to grow them up there, the country is going to be a mining camp rather than an agricultural section. Agriculture may help out; it may and unquestionably will in time, be of a great benefit to the inhabitants. But the money to be made in Alaska will be from mining, not from growing crops.

OUR EXPANSIVE LANGUAGE

Language undergoes many changes with the passing of time and many words have been introduced into the English language which were once slang expressions. The O. K. of business is of such long usage that no positive explanation can be given as to its origin. A recently coined word is jitney, which is the equivalent for a five cent piece. It is now applied to the automobile bus and has been largely used, without quotation marks or explanation, in magazine and newspaper articles. If the jitney buses survive the word may fasten itself in the language and in a few years find regular place in the dictionaries.

For the determination of a new object there is no real objection to the introduction of such a word. Language is for the purpose of communicating thought and if the word jitney conveys the meaning exactly what is the use of a number of words to express the same thing? It has been said of the English language that it is the most convenient because it employs no useless words. It employs shortcuts and expresses thought quickly and decisively. There is nothing, however, to be gained by the

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use of slang. It is neither logical nor sensible. It crowds out the refined and the elegant and brings the language to a level not desirable.

The Oregonian of Sunday contains the following editorial paragraph:

Pat Foley keeps a hotel in La Grande and it goes without saying that it is a good house; but hotel-keeping is only an item of the day's work with him. His specialty is to go into the highways and byways of his city at holiday time and see personally that every youngster under 15 is not forgotten. This year he will distribute 600 pounds of candy. There ought to be a Pat Foley in every town and city in Oregon.

Mr. Taft has reiterated his charges that the Philippines are not being governed properly. There is a suspicion that Mr. Taft believes that the best government the islands had was that over which he presided.

Moving pictures according to one of their sponsors, have revived the lost art of love making, which will be news to the hosts of young persons who had not before been aware that the pastime had died out.

Norway and other European nations say they do not want Mr. Bryan. What then in view of this country's three time verdict, is eventually going to become of him.

Two dead and 10 wounded as a result of a battle between Bulgarian and Serb miners in United States. War correspondents should "see America first."

It is to be feared that the ventilating experts who built the capital building at Washington never foresaw the amount of hot air that would be emitted therefrom.

France asks Uncle Sam to coin for her two million metal discs a week. It looks as if a charge on the enemy's gum machines is contemplated.

It is necessary now to see their faces before classifying them as little girls "with skirts at their shoe-tops."

Much Adler-i-ka Used in La Grande. It is reported by C. D. Putman that much Adler-i-ka is sold in La Grande. People have found out that ONE SPOONFUL of this simple buckthorn bark and glycerine mixture relieves almost ANY CASE of constipation, sour or gassy stomach. It is so powerful that it is used successfully on appendicitis. ONE MINUTE after you take it the gasses rumble and pass out. It is perfectly safe to use and cannot gripe.—Adv.

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Newlin Drug Co., can tell you of many well known people in this city who this remedy has restored to health, often after they have tried many other methods of treatment with little or no benefit. No other dyspepsia remedy has made so large a percentage of cures as Mi-o-na. It is so large that Newlin Drug Co., stands ready to refund the price to any customer when it does not help. The best kind of advertising is the

praise of a pleased customer, and there are hundreds in La Grande today praising Mi-o-na because it does what it is advertised to do. A few months ago they could eat nothing without wondering what the result would be. Since using Mi-o-na, they eat what they want and when they want with no fear of suffering.—Newlin Drug Co. 11-9-5

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