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Auto Stealing Becomes an Epidemic

In almost every locality there are complaints of auto stealing and the habit appears to be taking the form of an epidemic. It was reported last week that ten machines were stolen in Portland in one day, and while the traffic in this line has been comparatively quiet in this community there are countless other localities which have reported thefts of this kind. Perhaps one reason for the trouble is that auto stealing is not usually attended with punishment sufficient to fit the crime.

Everybody knows what the pioneer penalty was for horse stealing. That penalty was softened in the course of time, as transportation facilities improved, and the consequences of losing one's horse became less serious. Still, horse stealing has never sunk in the public mind at least, to the status of a minor and condonable offense. There are few more obnoxious terms, even today, than "horse-thief."

With the horse vanishing, it might be supposed that similar opprobrium would attach to the stealing of the automobile that takes the horse's place. And yet, though car stealing is more prevalent in every city than horse stealing ever was, the thief generally escapes scot-free; or, if he is caught, he gets off with an absurdly light sentence.

The loss of one's car, even temporarily, is always an annoying inconvenience, and often, as in the case of a doctor, may have serious consequences. All over the country there is an epidemic of automobile stealing. Stern measures ought to be adopted to stop it.

Problem of Unemployment Not Serious.

If Secretary of Labor Wilson is anywhere near right in his estimate of the labor supply—and he ought to know, if anybody does—there has never been much ground for fear of an epidemic of unemployment.

Addressing the conference of governors and mayors in Washington, Secretary Wilson said: "Even in busy times we have about 1,000,000 unemployed. Our reports now indicate an unemployment of about 250,000 from the districts these reports cover. We cover about half the country. Double that figure, and you have only 500,000 unemployed."

This seems to indicate that unemployment at present, in a period of comparative dullness and depression, is actually less than it used to be in "busy times." How can this be? The answer is given in the secretary's statement that "we are now short in our normal supply of labor between 3,000,000 and 5,000,000 men."

That is to say, we would probably need about 4,000,000 men more than we have, to operate our industries at full capacity. This situation is the combined result of diminished immigration and the absence of so many men in military service. It can easily be seen that it would take more than all the additional men coming home from the army to make up the deficit. The logical conclusion is that any considerable amount of unemployment is very improbable. Even a little speeding up of industry will absorb all the available labor, and it business becomes anywhere near normal in the next few months, at most business men

expect, there will not be enough men available for the jobs.
It is a cheering prospect. Lack of an ample labor supply, of course, is unfortunate in that it puts a limit on possible output. On the other hand, work for every man who wants work is the surest guarantee of prosperity.

Franklin and the Constitution.

When the constitution of the United States was drafted, Benjamin Franklin was not at all satisfied with it. But he finally decided to sign it, giving his reasons as follows:
"I confess that there are several parts of this constitution which I do not at present approve, but I am not sure that I shall never approve them. For having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged, by better information, or fuller consideration, to change opinions even on important subjects which I once thought right but found otherwise."

Headline: "Menu Study Urged." Why urge it? Most of us have to.

A visit I paid to the wife of Slade; She bade me to go to—glory.
A check I conveyed to the widow of Slade—
Now that was a different story!

I called one noon when 'twas certain that soon Her man would be home for his lunch.
No word had I said of my errand with "Fred";
But hers was the womanly hunch! She told me: "I know you are wanting to show My husband some schemes for insurance; But you better not wait; I emphatically state He's burdened beyond his endurance."

Well, I went—so would you! For what else could I do?
But I sought for her hubby later, Then he did what was right, though we kept it tight.
From his wife, the insurance man halter.
Not so much as a payment dragged.
Though he paid me by stealth from his worldly wealth,
In dread that he might be nagged.

One fine large day in the month of May Came a tragedy unexpected.
Her good old Fred was discovered—dead!
Fate often seems misdirected.
The widow's grief was beyond relief—
She was helpless beneath its sway.
Yet down in her heart did this question start:
"Where now is my living, pray?"

'Twas my fortunate fate to approach her gate
With a draft for the full amount
Of the money due, which her husband true
Had placed to her check account.
Did she chide me? No, for her weight of woe
Was lightened. She gloried then
That I'd sought to persuade beloved Slade
To do as do all wise men.

One visit I made to the wife of Slade; She told me "Go to—glory!"
A draft I paid to the widow Slade—
You see, 'twas another story.
—Life Association News.

AMERICANS STAGE RIOT

LONDON, March 10.—A riot on the Strand Saturday afternoon in which American soldiers and sailors and some Australians engaged resulted in three or four of the Americans being injured by a police baton charge. Seven of the Americans were arrested.

HANGING THE KAISER

(From The World's Work)
Several respectable authorities in England have declared that there is no tribunal before which the kaiser and his associates can be called to answer for their crimes; despite this, the peace conference had made an excellent beginning by appointing a committee to determine, among other things, "the degree of responsibility for these offenses attaching to particular members of the enemy's forces, including members of the general staffs and other individuals, however highly placed." Probably there is no settlement more generally prevailing in the world today than the demand for the punishment of those who have fought the most atrocious war in history in the most atrocious way. If no tribunal exists for bringing these arch criminals to book, it is simply because the crimes of which they stand accused have been hitherto unknown.

What, specifically, are these crimes? An industrious Frenchman, M. Tancrède Martel, has done the world a service by assembling in concrete form the particular offenses charged to particular individuals in his recent book, "What Will Be the End of William II and His Accomplices?" M. Martel has compiled a list, a kind of Who's Who in International Crime, containing 573 high-placed Germans who may with propriety be held before the bar of justice. Most of the German leaders who have figured in the war news of the last four years figure in M. Martel's list. Inevitably the kaiser stands at the head, and then the crown prince, Bethmann-Hollweg, Hindenburg, Mackensen and all the rest following in all their hideous eminence. The following are a few of the specific offenses which, according to M. Martel, demand the consideration of the allies:

Von Hindenburg: As commander-in-chief in East Prussia ordered that bread which had been found soaked in paraffin should be given as food to the Russian prisoners. Being at Roisel (Somme) on the 10th of March, 1917, gave the order that everything should be destroyed, burned and pillaged in the regions which the barbarians were about to evacuate. Was responsible for the violation of tombs at Carpiest, Candor and Roigisse in March, 1917.

Von Mackensen: Responsible for the theft, incendiarianism and the execution of notables and peasants in Rumania. Ordered about 1000 Rumanian children, 10 to 17 years of age, to be shot on the ground that they had conspired against him. Stole 10,000,000 lire in the occupied parts of Rumania.

Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria: Massacred and hanged civilians in Russian Poland in 1915. Is responsible for the deportations of Lille, Roubaix and Tourcoing, accomplished with the help of Von Graevenitz, military governor of Lille. Connived at the theft of money from the deportees.

Von Schubert: Shelled a number of old men, women and children whom he had collected in the hospital at Brouage, on the ground that they were "useless mouths." Caused thirty-one girls to be carried off and placed at the disposal of his officers.

Von Bulow: Posted the following notice at Antennes on the 22nd of August, 1914: "It is with my consent that the whole place has been burned and about 100 people have been shot." Posted the following notice at Namur on the 25th of August, 1914: "Ten hostages will be taken in each street. If there is any disturbance in the street all the hostages will be shot."

Klaus: Responsible for massacres at Gerbeiller and Fraimbou. At Gerbeiller alone sixty civilians were assassinated. One of them, engaged in Red Cross work, was soaked in petroleum and burned alive.

Remor: Author of the following order of the day: "All prisoners, even if taken in large numbers, are to be put to death. No living man is to be left behind us."
Von Graevenitz: Military governor of Lille. Carried 30,000 civilians, including many women and children, into slavery, and told the bishop, who protested, to hold his tongue.

Von Drellet: At Arlon, being drunk, ordered the execution of 117 hostages. Laughed when he was told, on recovering sobriety, that the order had been carried out.
Reigen: Responsible for the destruction of Dinant and the massacre of more than 600 persons, including 31

old men, 71 women, and 17 children under nine years of age.
Von Manteuffel: Ordered the burning of Leysen and the expulsion of 10,000 civilians from the town.
Von Rodeiski: Gave a formal order that all Cosacks who surrendered should be shot or hanged.

Major von Bulow: Author of the destruction of Aerschot. Ordered 150 civilians to be shot. Compelled the women of the town to stand by, with their arms in the air, for six hours, witnessing the conflagration.
Eberlein: Boasted, in an article printed in the Munchener Neuest Nachrichten, that he had compelled civilians to march in front of his man as a screen against the enemy's fire.

Von Tirpitz: Responsible for the earlier submarine outrages.
Von Capelle: Responsible for the later submarine outrages. Gave stringent orders that hospital ships were not to be spared.
After reading such specifications as these, the learned disquisitions of international lawyers that no machinery exists for bringing the perpetrators to punishment, makes little impression. The world is not so much interested now in legalistic complexities as in the exact apportionment of justice. There is a well-known principle that a wrong which is not punished is a wrong which is condoned, and, should the civilized powers now assembled at Versailles ignore such depredations as those they would admit that they were justifiable practices in civilized warfare. Unless Von Tirpitz and Von Capelle are punished for murdering women and children on the high seas, then this kind of warfare would be practically regularized in the future. If Mackensen is permitted to shoot a thousand Rumanian children and suffer no penalty, if Von Schubert is permitted to shell old women on the ground that they are "useless mouths," if Klaus is permitted to soak a Red Cross worker in petroleum and burn him alive, if Von Graevenitz is permitted to carry 30,000 civilians into slavery, what complaints can the world make if things like this happen in another war? If these men did not commit these crimes, of course they should not suffer for them, but the only way to determine that is by an orderly judicial proceeding. Such a proceeding will accomplish more than merely to bring the accused to trial. It would place eternally upon the records the precise facts regarding the German atrocities and forever remove the subject from the field of controversy. All the first-hand witnesses could go upon the stand, state exactly what their own eyes have seen, and thus in coming generations there would be little field for argument or discussion. Certainly the peace conference owes it to history to make this record as complete as possible. If the facts coincide with the charges made by M. Martel and countless other investigators and observers, then the common sense of mankind will have little difficulty in fixing the punishment.

Summation sale in Presbyterian Sunday school room, March 12.

NOW IS THE TIME to think about your car. The Standard Auto Repair shop, corner Adams and Fir, is doing very satisfactory work. ED CYR, Prop. 2-1-1m

Our office will be maintained where it was prior to the stores closing. All accounts are due now and we would like to have all who are owing call and settle before March 15th. Golden Lule Co.—Adv.

Strychnine in any quantity you wish for your squirrels. 5-10-3

Silverthorn's FAMILY DRUG STORE LA GRANDE, OREGON.

MONEY ON CITY PROPERTY Jack Oliver has money he will loan on city property on very easy terms. 1-11-394

Stop Itching Eczema
Never mind how often you have tried and failed, you can stop burning, itching eczema quickly by applying Zemo furnished by any druggist for 35c. Extra large bottle, \$1.00. Healing begins the moment Zemo is applied. In a short time usually every trace of eczema, tetter, pimples, rash, blisters and similar skin diseases will be removed. For clearing the skin and making it vigorously healthy, always use Zemo, the penetrating, antiseptic liquid. It is not greasy and does not stain. Wear others find it is the one dependable treatment for skin troubles of all kinds. The E. W. Rose Co., Cleveland, O.

CHICHESTER'S PILLS THE DIAMOND BRAND. Sold by Druggists Everywhere.

Observer ads are wisely read.

\$300 Weekly for Labor
This is The Observer's weekly pay roll. Every merchant, butcher, theatre, cigar store benefits from this pay roll, for our printers are union printers who sincerely believe in spending their money in the town that supports them. Think of the pay roll when you have a job of printing. We play back with real money—does the other fellow?
Observer Job Department
Lowest Prices—Printing That is Good Printing.

YOUNG MEN! Here is the style FOR SPRING

One thing that resulted from the restoration of peace has been the emphasis given to "style" in clothes.

THE VERY LATEST are the waist-seam models. You're sure to like them, especially young men. They're going to be the style for the coming season. Just a slight military touch that makes quite a hit with the boys coming back, as well as those who are here.

HART SCHAFFNER & MARX make them and you know what that means. We've just received a shipment of these waist-seam models and we want you to see them now. Come in and try on some of them. You'll surely like them.

New Stetson Hats For Spring
The newest shapes and colors in J. B. Stetsons—just in. All prices.

HART SCHAFFNER & MARX CLOTHES
West & Co THE QUALITY STORE
HART SCHAFFNER & MARX CLOTHES

Try This for Sour Stomach. Eat slowly, masticate your food thoroughly. Eat but little meat and none at all for supper. If you are still troubled with sour stomach take one of Chamberlain's Tablets before going to bed.—Adv.

THE REX BARBER SHOP Cantrell & Holliday, Props. Union shop, everything clean and sanitary. All first-class workmen. We solicit a share of your patronage. 2-27-1f

MONEY TO LOAN. On improved real property in Union county. No delays. Current rates. La Grande Investment Co.

Stop Itching Eczema
Never mind how often you have tried and failed, you can stop burning, itching eczema quickly by applying Zemo furnished by any druggist for 35c. Extra large bottle, \$1.00. Healing begins the moment Zemo is applied. In a short time usually every trace of eczema, tetter, pimples, rash, blisters and similar skin diseases will be removed. For clearing the skin and making it vigorously healthy, always use Zemo, the penetrating, antiseptic liquid. It is not greasy and does not stain. Wear others find it is the one dependable treatment for skin troubles of all kinds. The E. W. Rose Co., Cleveland, O.

CHICHESTER'S PILLS THE DIAMOND BRAND. Sold by Druggists Everywhere.

Observer ads are wisely read.

La Grippe Coughs—
Stop those ugly hard la grippe coughs that weaken the system and lower the vital resistance to more serious ailments, by taking Foleys' Honey and Tar. Some victims of la grippe never fully recover the health of the lungs and the cough that "hangs on" is the cough that threatens.

Foley's Honey and Tar helps from the very first dose. It puts a soothing, healing coating on the inflamed surfaces, relieves the tightness and soreness, raises phlegm easily, and gives comforting feeling of ease and warmth. It is also good for bronchial coughs, troublesome night coughs, tickling throat and hoarseness. Do not accept a substitute.

"I had an attack of pneumonia, both lungs felt as if they were filled with lead, and I suffered severely from coughing. I took one bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar, and it took all the soreness away and cleared my lungs of the collection." Yours truly, J. D. Esterlin, Winston, Ga.

"I was sick in bed with La Grippe and had a very bad cough. I took Foley's Honey and Tar and it helped me so much. I got up and it stopped my cough and I got better. So now I can go around the house again. I am 73 years old." Mrs. Mary Kelly, Spokane, Washington.

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There has been no raise in price of **INSTANT POSTUM**

This economical table beverage continues to be the logical resort of the coffee-drinker when health or other reasons dictate a change.

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J. C. HENRY
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FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND LICENSED EMBALMER
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The problem of readjustment from a war basis to a normal peace basis requires that every citizen assume his portion of the responsibility.

You can do this best by increasing your own resources, by saving and conservative investments.

We are anxious to help you and invite you to avail yourself of our banking facilities. You will be treated with courtesy and consideration at all times.

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Member Federal Reserve System
Chartered in 1887. Sound, Reliable, Progressive