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Immigration Law Defects

The new immigration law admittedly brings to a halt the automatic three per cent restriction gives relief to the country, in a time of business depression, and the breathing spell makes a little easier the assimilation of the aliens already here, but that is about all that can be said in favor of the measure. Its benefits are merely temporary—it has established no principle of permanent value for the solution of the problem. Moreover, its actual method of operation is mischievous.

Not a month passes now that does not bring to American ports thousands of foreigners who would make excellent citizens and useful additions to the man-power of the nation, but who cannot be admitted because their country's quota is already filled up. In many cases distinguished foreigners who have no intention of remaining in the country have been barred for similar technicalities, with resultant hardship to them and hard feeling against this country. Whole shiploads of men and women who will be admitted eventually are kept waiting for days or weeks on shipboard until another month comes and another installment of their country's quota can be received.

All of this trouble and ill feeling might be endured if it served a useful purpose, but generally speaking, it does not. The immigrants admitted sooner or later are not of any higher quality than they were before the new law became effective. The system merely counts heads without taking account of what is in the heads. It deals with mere numbers, not with character, intelligence and efficiency.

It is only fair to say that this law was intended primarily as a stop-gap measure. Surely, though, it is time for Congress to set about the formulation of a permanent, logical and effective system to replace it. The present experience of the Immigration Department at least shows what to avoid hereafter.

Interesting—If True

From San Antonio, Texas, where Mexicans as a class are none too popular, comes the report that the Mexican government is planning to lay formal claim to those delightful islands off the California coast which are preferred playgrounds for the winter tourist.

The Farallones, San Miguel, Santa Catalina, Santa Rosa, Santa Barbara, Santa Veracruz, Anacapa, San Nicholas and San Clemente, among others, would be surely missed. The Mexican claim is based upon Cabrillo's discovery in the sixteenth century, and the decree of the Spanish Queen Isabella II, in 1836, which relinquished to the Republic of Mexico all belongings of the Kingdom of New Spain.

It is pointed out by the Mexicans that the international code of the United States rejects the right of conquest, and that Mexico never ceded these islands to us. The islands, moreover, lie outside the three-mile limit, and at the time of the Mexican war were not under the jurisdiction of the Governor of California. Not the least interesting element in the case is the Mexican inclination "to permit the islands to remain under the American flag" in return for the extension of foreign credit; amount not stated.

But Californians need not worry, for all that the Farallones lie just off the Golden Gate and the more southern group commands the Southern California coast. Under the circumstances, possession is certainly all 10 points of the law.

Keeping Workers at Work

Samuel Gompers, transmitting to the President the proposal of the Denver labor convention to alleviate unemployment, deserves a thoughtful hearing from the government and the public.

The 4,000,000 American workers

now out of work, says Mr. Gompers, cause a loss to the nation of \$20,000,000 a day. That is an unprovable estimate, but it is probably not too high for the direct economic loss. There is great additional loss in the suffering and sickness that follow unemployment.

In behalf of the Federation of Labor, Mr. Gompers asks the government to consider the planning and undertaking in such dull times as this as great public enterprises by which workmen can be employed until economic conditions change and bring back their regular employment. He also wants an effort made to provide, regularly, work in the off seasons for workers in seasonal trades.

Neither the government nor the public is likely to take up these proposals practically at the present time. Public opinion in general has not developed far enough to demand action of the kind the union workmen desire. Yet it is sure to come sooner or later, if modern society is not hopelessly unintelligent and unprogressive.

In the ages we call "dark" there were no such periods of general unemployment. Workmen may not have made much, but their economic system was so organized that they were able to keep at work. Modern industry, enormously multiplying productive power, has failed to solve the problems of regulating production and distribution, so that every now and then the human machinery is brought to a stop.

A real solution would be one that kept the regular economic machinery running continuously. Eventually that must be found. Meanwhile it may be found advisable, in the near future, for governments to adopt the artificial device of providing, in dull times, the public employment suggested. There are plenty of great, constructive enterprises that could well be undertaken at such times. Foreign nations seem to be making more progress in these matters than we are.

Chinese Flour

For a generation American millers have looked upon the European flour trade as their own. There has been increasing competition from Canada and to a less extent from Australia and India, but it has never been disturbing. Now a new competitor enters the field—China.

Last year China sold more than \$18,000,000 worth of flour in Europe, mostly to the United Kingdom, and its production promises to increase rapidly. No longer are the Chinese good customers for the product of American mills, although a decade ago their flour imports from this country ran into many millions. The Chinese flour, which is of the best grades, is made from Manchurian wheat in mills built and equipped by Russian capital. Now that the Siberian and Russian markets are gone, it finds its way westward to compete with ours, and it competes advantageously, since Manchuria may easily become one of the world's great granaries, and labor is about the cheapest thing in China.

Very many Americans have assumed, blantly enough, that all the Chinese live on rice. Perhaps they will be more interested in their neighbors when China develops into a rival producer of foodstuffs and goes out after the markets of the world.

The Charter Election

A discussion of the different amendments to be voted on August 9th.

Amendment No. 10.

(Concerning Minor Sidewalk Liens.)

Where only very minor improvements are required, this amendment would expedite matters and short cut, but without giving the property owner any opportunity to be heard, even in the smallest matters. However, the method for such minor cases is much simplified over the present cumbersome method. The text is as follows:

"An act to amend Section 35a of Chapter 4 of the Charter of the City of La Grande, Union County, Oregon, as amended at the general election in said City on December 13, 1915.

"Be it enacted by the People of the City of La Grande, Union County, Oregon:

"Section 1. That Section 35a of Chapter 4 of the Charter of the City of La Grande, Oregon, as amended at the general election in said City on December 13, 1915, be and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows, to-wit:

"Section 35a. Minor sidewalk assessments. The Commission may by ordinance provide for the repair or construction of sidewalks in front of or along abutting property and to make the cost of such repair or construction a lien upon the property abutting such sidewalks and the Commission may by ordinance provide for notice to the owner of property to be assessed for the cost of such construction or repair of a time set for hearings upon the amount of the proposed assessment. The Commission may by ordinance provide for the sale of property assessed for sidewalk repair or construction when such assessments are not paid as provided by ordinance.

Those provisions in show ought to be given a good hearing.—Dayton News.

IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



THE OFFICE CAT



Psalms of the Sheared Man.

The barber is mine enemy,
He will not wait,
He seeth me hard—
He leadeth me into his barber shop,
He telleth me of my many needs for his pocketbook's sake,
He prepareth a bath for me, filled with vitriolized water and charged 35c.

Yea, he then runneth his shears 'round my head, which costeth 65c more.
He shampooeth my head with coconut oil, and I fear no evil,
But his price, 75c, surely discomforts me.

He shaveth my face with ease,
His charge runneth over.
Surely to goodness, if I pay \$2.10 for bath, shampoo, haircut and shave all the days of my life,
I shall dwell in the house of the poor forever.

A fellow named Cicero Sapp
With a face like an unexploded map
Said, "Min, you're too thin,"
Yelled his wife, "Find your chin,"
Which settled that critical chin.

It is better to have loved and lost than to have loved promiscuously and makes less work for the courts, says a La Grande boy.

The man who has the worst time of life is the one who makes it bad for others, says one local minister.

An ex-rob has been found in a Pennsylvania woman. One woman who owes nothing to Adam.

A merry young gentleman who was trying to tie the bride and groom together, as a Goshen, Ind., wedding last week, preparatory to riding the couple in a calf crate, got his block knocked off by the happy bridegroom. Once in a while we see an item in the news that pleases us all over.

An adlet in an upstate paper, describing a Ford car in fine condition, concluded: "Ask Mr. Fibber."

Geo. Garrett asks what has become of the old-fashioned man who used to part his hair on the back of his head.

Some men do what their wives tell them to do and some men are not married.

It keeps old "buzzy" working overtime since the country went dry. Where they used to call for "schnoners," they now call for julep shakers. It's cheaper, too, for you can't fill your hole as full of milk as you could with "suds" and everybody gets home without a pilot now.

Miss Wise.

She is a great man's secretary. She keeps him aloof from the bunch, from bores and from pests who are long on requests.

By telling them he's out at lunch, She knows all his goings and comings. She's wise from her head to her toes, She's wise to his cares and his little affairs.

But never tells him how MUCH she knows.

And the great man, himself, would give much sordid pelf, To find out just how MUCH she knows.

A Breath of Garlic, As Twerk.

(From a talking machine ad.)

Recent Stracconi sings that lovely, well-known Neapolitan folk song, "Santa Lucia," which seems to give you the very scent, as well as the sound of Italy.

A Resemblance.

"Your husband says he leads a dog's life," said one woman.

"Yes, it's very similar," answered the other. "He comes in with muddy feet, makes himself comfortable by the fire, and waits to be fed."

According to reformers, short skirts shall be no longer.

Some girls study art and literature and make names for themselves. And other girls study men and make names for themselves by making men propose.

'Round The County

Incidents with Human Interest Attached, Gathered by The Observer.

Two Wonderful Jerseys

Appropos to the movement now on foot to stimulate the dairy business in Union County, it is of special interest and pleasure to note two wonderful Jersey cows owned by Leon Levy of Union. The fact that the two animals cost the owner \$3050.00 is not the chief item in their connection. Probably the cow that would interest the public most is the one that cost the least money. She has a calf a week old that romps and plays, content with all it surveys, showing classy breeding in every twist of its tail and toss of its shapely head. The mother is Pauline Le Grosse, and she has an enviable record of her own, aside from being the offspring of one of the most famous cows of recent years. Mr. Levy's cow has a record of 9,947 pounds of milk and 664 pounds of butter in one year. Her dam gave 1200 pounds of milk and 853 pounds of butter in a year. Her mother's name is Diamond of Fair Acres, from the Stamp herd at Monmouth. With a breeding of this sort it is not at all improbable that the little week-old calf over at Union has a remarkable career before it.

In another stable Mr. Levy has one of the highest priced cows of Union County. He was required to pay \$2,000.00 for this animal to the Stamp herd. She is an ex-junior world champion, attaining that great distinction as a three-year-old. Of her and her record the Observer will write at a later date.

Another interesting thing in connection with these two cows is that it was Mr. Levy's good fortune to obtain three heifer calves from the two cows in one year. While the future only can tell what these three calves will do, it is not a wild guess to say that they will not be the breeder as much as he paid for the two mothers.

When there is a disposition among Union county farmers to pay \$3,000.00 for two milk cows, it is certainly not a far cry to the time when hundreds of other people will devote special attention to breeding and milking purchased dairy herds.

K. OF C. TO WAR ON PROPAGANDA

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4.—If necessary the Knights of Columbus will "put in whole force of eight hundred thousand members into the movement to end foreign propaganda in America," says a European or Asiatic Supreme Master John R. Redlin, of Denver, told the thirty-ninth annual international supreme convention of the Knights Wednesday.

"If need be, we will flood every town in the country with pamphlets that tell the true tale of America's great origin and America's greatness, stripped of all manner of European or Asiatic coloring," Redlin said.

Edward F. McSweeney, Boston, chairman of the national American history commission of the order, in his first report said that Japan was equally guilty with European nations in spreading propaganda agencies in the United States.

The Knights of Columbus, he said, "can do no more than to the United States, their country, to expose and correct the impressionable and insidious attempts of so-called Americanization societies to poison the wells of historical truth."

Archbishop Edwin J. Hanna, of the Catholic archdiocese of San Francisco, in an address on divorce, said that the "luxury of certain American divorce laws is a national shame. The tendency is to treat divorce as a national idiosyncrasy when in reality it is a national menace."

Professor Einstein says American women are lovely. How much better to understand the professor when he cuts out theory and gets down to fact!—Marion Spar.

N.W. West & Co.
THE QUANTITY SPECIALISTS

"Work or Play" Cloth

For Wash Suits, Rompers, Aprons, etc.

20c yd.

A firm, durable fabric, 30 inches wide, for any number of uses, principally Play Suits, Coveralls, Rompers, Skirts, Aprons, etc. The colors are absolutely fast—guaranteed. Several patterns are on display in our cotton goods section. Ask to examine them. Priced at 20c yard.

CLOTHES LINE

Two window shoppers were looking at our \$1.60 blouses. "Humph," muttered one. "They must be cheesecloth." Her friend replied, "Even if they were they'd be cheap at \$1.60." So they both went in and bought one apiece.

CLEARANCE SALE OF Summer Dress Goods 25c - 39c - 60c

Every remaining yard of figured Voiles, Organdy, Lawn, etc., gathered together for a final clearance while it is still time for sewing. They have been placed in this group at 25c, 39c and 60c.

At 25c there are Printed Voiles and Organdies that were priced in regular stock upwards to 50c.

At 39c there are Voiles and Organdies, 36 and 40 inches wide, reduced from 50c and 65c.

At 60c there are all \$1.00 and \$1.35 Printed Voiles—40 inches wide and a variety to choose from.

Full Fashioned WHITE SILK HOSE \$1.95

"PHOENIX"—first full fashioned silk white hose we've had for weeks, and a limited supply of these. All sizes today at \$1.95 pair.

JAP LUNCH-CLOTHS From \$1.25 to \$2.65

So practical that every woman will not be without two or three. Very easily laundered and fast colors—blue and white. Different sizes are priced at \$1.25 to \$2.65.

Union Cheese is Staple and Permanent Product

To assume that all good Oregon cheese comes from Tillamook is manifestly wrong because it does not. Union, Oregon, commonly thought of as a farming and beef cattle country, is the center of a large circle of small dairies from which come milk and cream in plenty and to which go hundreds of dollars of cream checks every week. It is in such a country that the Union Cheese company has developed and is now producing a commodity that is proving its worth by a rapidly-spreading clientele. Capitalized almost entirely by Union money, the institution is looked upon, and is, a Union county enterprise, one that has opportunity to spread and grow to almost unlimited capacity.

Competition for the little factory is keen. To the west is the famous Tillamook cheese and to the east the Idaho brands, and in between these two forces the Union institution must establish itself. It is doing well at it, too. Organized only recently, and in fact, not fully incorporated yet, it has done remarkably well for a beginner. F. S. Slater, cashier of the Union National Bank, is president of the company, which is now undergoing incorporation, and L. C. Haynes is secretary and manager. With W. O. Haggerty, the cheese maker, is treasurer of the company. Mr. Haggerty has had a long experience with the cheese business and the policy of his department, and of the company, is to make a cheese that is richer than common, and that is the reputation in the early field. The plant has a capacity of 4500 pounds of milk.

"We are not making a cheese that will compete with the cheaper grade," explained Manager Haynes in an interview a day or two ago. "Our purpose is to make a rich, good cheese that will be the peer of any, and to that end, we are laying our campaign. There are cheaper brands of cheese on the market, but we maintain none are better. To have capitalized and launched this institution at a time when business is off its stride was in itself a considerable feat, and that we are being well received is shown by the orders we are filling not only locally but into Washington points."

The company is paying more than the market butter fat price for its milk, and issues pay checks twice monthly. At present its source is almost entirely in the immediate vicinity of Union, but as the plant grows and expansion takes place, the sources of cream and milk buying will naturally enlarge itself.

"We believe that as long as we produce the right quality, and keep the money necessary to its operation circulating in Union county, that we should be looked upon as a local concern by all Union county towns," commented Mr. Haynes.

Chicago has voted from text-books for children and against a \$5,000,000 jail. With few text books they don't need such a big jail.—Haville Times.

They may not be veritable about trying war criminals, but it will be a long time before they try another criminal war.—Buffalo Evening News.

Professor Einstein says American women are lovely. How much better to understand the professor when he cuts out theory and gets down to fact!—Marion Spar.

RESERVE BANK NOW A TARGET

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Criticism of federal reserve system credit policies, continued Wednesday before a congressional committee by John Skelton Williams, former comptroller of the currency, aroused resentment by the system's two highest officers, Governor Harding of the reserve board and Governor Strong of the New York reserve bank. In one of the frequent verbal interchanges Governor Harding charged across the committee room, swinging his fist, but was halted by struggling associates just in front of his adversary, who remained cool but was rising for the threatened encounter.

A few minutes later Mr. Strong, while reading to the committee a report which charged Mr. Williams with "false and misleading statements," was interrupted by the former comptroller, who shouted:

"That statement of yours is false."

Governor Strong, however, continued reading, and presently referred to Mr. Williams as being "jealous of his prerogatives."

"And that's a lie, too," the latter interjected.

"At this point I request the committee to require the comptroller to make out whether he has stated the whole truth or not," Governor Strong exclaimed.

Chairman Anderson ruled, amid the confusion, that it was "not feasible to adopt the policy at this stage of the game."

Reserve System Attacked.

Both federal reserve officials, with a number of associates, had sat ap-

parently unmoved during two days, along with an audience which numbered many senators and representatives allied with the "agricultural bloc" in congress, while Mr. Williams elaborated three general charges. He said first that the board and countenanced undue lendings to a New York banking group during the last two years, for speculative uses, while forcing liquidation in southern and western agricultural districts, and that it had allowed extortionate interest charges, had generally failed to "ease down" inflation.

Governor Harding Wednesday rose out of the audience and demanded a hearing on personal grounds, to deny allegations concerning himself, as Mr. Williams had made them, and presently, with Governor Strong, produced from the confidential files of reserve officers correspondence and reports to combat Mr. Williams' criticisms.

GASOLINE, COAL AUTOS FOR TAX

HELENA, Aug. 4.—Imposing of a tax on every gallon of gasoline, a tax on every ton of coal, and a tax on all automobiles coming into the state from other states was advocated by Lewis L. Emerson, president of the National Association of Secretaries of State and secretary of state of Illinois at the opening of the session at the capitol today. Emerson stated that it is not a question of expenditure reduction in most states today, but of revenue increase and that indirect methods of taxation are most successful.

The question of meeting with National Association of State Auditors and Treasurers was considered, and the chair was empowered to appoint a representative from the secretaries' organization to attend the next meeting of the auditors and treasurers and present to them the proposition of a consolidation of the two associations.

Surely we ought to get one Yip out of the jaws of peace.—Washington Post.

ARCADE

FRIDAY—MATINEE and NIGHT
SATURDAY—MATINEE ONLY
Adults 25c, Children 10c

Be in on the Joy when This Scandal Bursts

—AND—
The Adventures of Bob and Bill
"CATCHING A COON"