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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

TOO MANY MINES AND MINERS.

Although the coal strike is settled for a few months at least, this does not take away some very sound reasoning advanced by J. Baron Nealey in the New York World, who says:

Close down 3,000 bituminous mines, discharge more than 150,000 coal miners, erect coal storage facilities, and organize the industry to save the country a surplus payroll of $150,000,000 a year, cheapen the price of coal to the consumer and give the remaining miners a fair living wage. This is the slack, conservatively estimated, that urgently needs to be taken up in the bituminous coal industry right now—the natural expansion of consumption would take it up in a few years, but the conditions under which the industray labors will not permit this inasmuch as they stimulate the development of additional capacity at a much faster rate. Therefore, the expanding demand can never catch up with the expanding capacity unless the latter is regulated. There are approximately 7,000 mines producing coal or more than 3,000 too many. Demand comes periodically and is thereby intensified. Prices advance, and the 7,000 mines are rushed into full operation. The demand is satisfied, prices drop, and many mines close down. This causes the average bituminous mine to operate on the average of only 215 days in the year and only 170 days last year. It destroys the morale of the miner and decreases his capacity and inclination for work. It periodically encourages the opening, equipping, and staffing of more mines to swell the seasonal and unnatural rates of output. Roughly, the coal industry works eight months and then closes down four. If it wasn't for these 3,000 surplus mines and 150,000 extra miners, the soft coal industry could operate continuously on a sound economic basis like other industries.

The steadily recurring strikes are not the cause of the demoralization rampant in the soft coal industry and their settling one way or the other goes no further toward curing the situation. Coal goes into consumption practically as fast as it is mined. When there is less consumption there is less mining. Apply this same system to grain and see where the country would be. Grain is produced in a few short weeks, yet its consumption is spread evenly over the entire year. What is the answer? Reservoirs in the form of grain elevators are provided to store the surplus against future demand. Not so the bituminous coal industry, which is vitally interwoven with our economic life and absorbs more than half as much again of the country's transportation as the next largest item—manufacturers and merchandise, including steel. Dig it and ship it as called for and sleep between orders is the routine, and this inefficient system and the present strike are seriously impending the progress of general business today, which was well started on its way to recovery. It is one of the world's greatest industries running wild, with the American public at large the sufferer.

Summed up in a few words, it amounts to this: The soft coal mines of the country have a potential capacity variously estimated at from 700,000,000 to 1,000,000,000 tons annually, while last year the total output amounted to only about 400,000,000 tons, and yet both mines and miners expected a year's wages for their work.

EXAMINE IMMIGRANTS ON OTHER SIDE.

Secretary of Labor Davis has arrived at an opinion about admission of immigrants that others formed some time ago. "After more than a year of administration of the 3 per cent law," he says, "I have reached the conclusion that blood, mental, physical and moral examinations should be held where the immigrants embark. The restriction has been of benefit, but types which do not fulfill our requirements or are inimical to our best interests are not barred."

Congress has been investigating the immigration question for a long time, and it would seem that sufficient evidence would now be in hand to permit the enactment of wise legislation. The emergency law was continued for the time being and a final solution of the problem is not at hand. Secretary Davis points out that the best of the aliens are kept at home by their own governments, because they are needed at home. The misfits, the unfit—the weaklings generally—are permitted to leave their countries. Thus the dregs are sent to America. This is not true in all countries, but generally speaking, it decribes the situation.

America has certain tests that are supposed to be met when the immigrants arrive, but the chief thing watched is the quota permitted from each country. Thus one of the unfit may come in if the quota is not filled and a desirable foreigner arriving on the next boat may be turned back. The restrictions also are unfair to the immigrants, because the latter do not know when they leave home whether they will be allowed to land. Those who sail on the fastest ships—and pay extra for the speed—stand a better chance of being admitted than those who come on slower vessels. When the quota is filled no more are received, no matter how well educated and physically strong they may be. The weeding out process should take place on the other side, and be carried on by representatives of the American government.

REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

The letters and diary of the late czarina of Russia, recently brought to light, make a curious study. They reveal what might be called the last stand of absolutism.

The czarina, sister of Kaiser Wilhelm, shared the Hohenzollern spirit. She had supreme confidence in herself and in the right and duty of rulers to rule as they pleased. She was always trying to stiffen the backbone of her poor, weak husband, Czar Nicholas.

"Oh, my dear," she wrote in one letter, "when will you bang your fist on the table and force them all to tremble before you? To love you is not enough; they must fear you."

Again: "The czar rules, and not the duma. You must let them feel your hand. Russians like to feel the whip. People told me that long ago. Oh, that I could pour my strong will into your veins! Be Peter the Great, Ivan the Terrible and Emperor Paul all in one."

She urged Nicholas to send Milinkoff and other Russian patriots into Siberia, and told him to be "a lion in a fight against a handful of beasts and republicans."

"I fight for my baby's future," she repeated again and again, referring to her son, the czarevitch. And all she accomplished was to bring that poor little lad, along with herself and her well-meaning husband, in one sad, crumpled heap at the bottom of a well, while the populace danced in joy at its liberation.

Razing against democracy, the foolish czarina only hastened it and made it bloody and terrible when it came instead of calm and reasonable. It will be long before another exemplar of royalty will be so rash as to follow her example.

A POSITION IN READINESS.

Those who feared the reduction of army forces would leave this country a prey to her foes should find comfort in the announcement that plans for a "national position in readiness for defense" are practically complete.

Without going into details it may be explained that the plan contemplates such organization of regular army men, national guardsmen and organized reserves as will permit their being established at any menaced point without loss of time, in the event of threatened invasion of this country. The danger of "an adverse decision of arms at the beginning of a war" will be obviated by this proceeding.

While these men who are prepared for immediate service guard the dangerous objective, work can go ahead back of the lines for further defense. The scheme in hand has mapped out all the weak coastal and border points where attempts at agression upon United States' territory might conceivably be made.

With this preparation for immediate action, with the experience of the last war to guide us, and the immense resources of the country which could quickly be assembled for war and the manufacture of war materials it is believed that no cause for nervousness exists on account of reduced armies.

It is a pity with the world longing for peace, that such plans must go on, but it is wise.

THE SHALLOW POOL FOR KIDS.

The outdoor swimming pool for adults and older children is comparatively common. All too rare, considering its possibilities, is the shallow pool built especially for the very small children from two to six years of age.

Robin, bluebird and oriole, twittering and fluttering in the bird bath, never had a better time nor provided more amusement for the onlookers than do the tiny folk clad in their gay bathing suits and splashing about in their very own pool at an Ohio country club. All the fancy swimming and diving stunts of their elders in the big pool close by prove but scant attraction compared to the antics of the little tots.

The pool itself deserves a word of description. It is of cement, and not more than twelve inches deep at any point. If any child falls down his instinctive inclination to raise himself on all fours immediately brings his head clear of the water—an important item. About the edge of the basin is a rim of the cement just high enough and wide enough for the little bathers to sit on and dabble their toes in the water when they get tired of more strenuous aquatics. A fountain in the center showers a gentle spray over the children which they love and which keeps the water fresh. Gratings in the bottom of the pool carry off the overflow.

Such contrivances cost so little to install and operate and provide such safe and healthful amusement for little ones on hot days it is a wonder more of our parks and back yards do not boast them.

OSTRICH OR LEADER?

One of the speakers at the Williamstown Institute of Politics last week likened the United States to an ostrich hiding its head in the sand to trick itself into the belief that it could escape the menace of European conditions.

Scientists now tell us that real ostriches do not stick their heads in the sand when in danger. That is fiction pure and simple. Let us hope this is true also of America's attitude, for as Mr. Warburg says: "Whether we play the ostrich or not, our international finance and trade relations are such that we cannot possibly avoid being deeply involved in European affairs as, indeed, we were before the war and are today."

The United States' opportunity for leadership is great. Will the nation recognize in time that it is opportunity and not imposition which faces it in Europe?

THE OFFICE CAT

—BY JUNIUS—

The modern girl may be a little affected, but she doesn't "put on" as much as the old fashioned girl.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

"What do you think of Czecho-Slovakia?"

"Well, it's hard to say."

Why don't somebody mark these international booze highways, or does everybody know 'em? Somebody suggest a symbol!

THE NAME.

"An' phwat are ye thinking of callin' the bit of a baby, Mrs. Kelly?"

"I'm not ontoirely sure yet, but I think we'll be after havin' her christened Hazel."

"And are ye daft, Mrs. Kelly? Here's all the saints in Hivin with beautiful names for ye—an' yer namin' her after a nut!"

Always forgive an enemy if you can't lick him.

The other day I was in a candy store when a friend of mine entered. He stood at the counter where the almonds and pecans were on display, and after waiting ten minutes for a clerk to appear, he yelled:

"Hero! Hey! Who waits on the nuts?"

Instantly a girl shouted back at him: "I'll wait on you in just a minute."

There is no dog in dog biscuit, so why should you expect chicken in chicken pie?

SMILE.

"It's easy enough to be pleasant
When life goes by like a song;
But the man worth while
Is the man who can smile
When everything goes dead wrong."

"Any insanity in the family?" asked the insurance doctor of Mrs. Suffragist.

"Well, no, only my husband imagines he is the head of the house."

Crawford—"What's your idea of nice clean sport?"

C[illegible]—"Swimming."

GOOD PROPOSITION.

Dad—"Tommy, if you'll saw some wood I'll tell you what I'll do."

Tom—"What's that, dad?"

Dad—"I'll let you have the sawdust to play circus with."

What tickles us are those women haters with seven suits of clothes.

FROM A SCHOOLBOY'S ESSAY ON SOAP.

"Soap is a kind of stuff made in cakes what you can't eat. It smells good and tastes orful. Soap always tastes worst when you get it in your eye. Father says Eskimose don't never use soap; I wish I was an Eskimose.

ONLY IN FRANCE, DEARIE.

When the sexes have equal rights, will the men wear gardens on their hats and kiss each other when they meet?

A snake sneaked into police headquarters at Toledo, Ohio, and bit Chief Harry Jenkins. And there's no cure for it now.

FIND IT HERE

NOTICE.

If you want milk call Hillsdale Dairy or phone 349-J. 8-15-6tp

Weekly and often Daily shipments of candies are received. This is done so we can guarantee freshness.

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Engine Lost Its Cow Catcher and Taxi Men Had to Miss Dinner

A story come to light last Thursday that is too good to leave out even though it happened Wednesday, August 9th, says the Enterprise Chieftain.

It seems that the branch line train had the misfortune to leave La Grande 20 minutes late and as a result was hustling to make up time between there and Enterprise, for the especial benefit of jitney drivers and draymen who love to swear at the railroad when the train is late and they miss their dinner.

It was steaming along up the canyon when suddenly to the discomfort of the passengers the cowcatcher hit a rock which had spitefully placed itself in the center of the track. Of course this is no place for a rock but there it was. The result was the engine lost its cowcatcher and it was quite a task to replace it on the rails and make it behave as all good cowcatchers should.

The moral of this story is that cowcatchers are made to run in front of locomotives and not butt headlong into hard unyielding boulders.

Dry Land Winter Wheat Turns Out 27 Bushels on Hills Near Enterprise

ENTERPRISE, Aug. 19. — First dry land threshing returns from the Enterprise district came in last week and they showed precisely what was expected. Where land was farmed well, the yield was fair.

On 110 acres of hill land north of Prairie creek, J. A. Eggleson's crop averaged a trifle over 27 bushels to the acre. This land slopes to the south and received practically no rain after the first of June. It is a farm recently bought by Mr. Eggleson, and its former owner never was able to get any crop from it, in the most favorable seasons.

Threshing is still under way in the large Bauer wheat ranch immediately east of town and the returns thus far have been between 25 and 28 bushels to the acre. The land was worked with great care, thus ensuring a crop in this dry season.

The quality of the wheat on both these farms is excellent, which is one compensation from a dry, hot summer. Both crops are winter wheat.

Alleged Horse Thief is Arrested at Pendleton

WALLOWA, Aug. 19. — Parrick McDougal, who is alleged to have stolen a horse, saddle, bridle, and chaps from J. A. Fitzpatrick near Enterprise on July 15, was arrested recently at Pendleton by Sheriff Rinehart. McDougal finished a sentence ten days ago on July 12 for stealing a pistol. He was arrested in Walla Walla after having traded horses, from there being taken to Pendleton, where he was secured by the sheriff and taken to Enterprise in his car.

HUNS DISGORGE LIVESTOCK

(By Associated Press.)

BERLIN, July 19. (By Mail). — Gold payments are not Germany's only worries in meeting the demands of the entente. Official reports indicate that she has had to disgorge liberally from her livestock assets. These deliveries are in compensation for requisitions made by the Germans during the war.

More than half a million head of livestock, besides poultry numbering nearly a quarter million, were delivered to the entente by Germany up to July 3 of this year, the government announced in reply to an interpellation by the Bavarian People's party. There then remained 251,212 head of livestock still to be handed over.

The deliveries thus far made included 143,525 horses, 175,606 cattle, 209,231 sheep, 21,441 goats, 246,700 head of poultry. Those yet to be made comprise 81,712 horses, 92,100 cattle, and 77,400 sheep.

Deliveries of livestock to Italy from South Germany are expected to be made early in September, while shipments to Serbia probably will take place soon. Ten thousand cattle and 4,000 sheep are to be sent to Italy. The Serbian consignment will consist of 57,000 sheep.

Song Heard a Mile.

The nightingale's song may be heard at a distance of a mile on a calm night.

n Sleeves

not as loose and flowing as

S·H.E·R.R·Y.'S

SUNDAY AND MONDAY

"The Woman Who Walked Alone"

WITH

DOROTHY DALTON

Most Women are Going to be Surprised—

—When you visit our ready to wear department and learn what extensive and varied assortments of beautiful new Autumn apparel are here—waiting for selection.

COATS, SUITS, DRESSES

—Showing all that is new.

—Even though you are not quite ready to select your new apparel you must be anxious to know just what is new for fall, just what you will have to choose from.

—And here, that you may know, are the most exclusive of new garments. Styles that accent the attractiveness of American women, and they are a revelation of loveliness, to say the very least.

—Come any time. We're glad to show you the new!

Welcome to Our New Costume Room

—An added service for women who desire the exclusive and best in apparel, is our very new costume room, just opened in our ready-to-wear department.

—The things that make for particular distinction—fabrics of fine quality, niceness in finishing and detail — and above all style — newness. These are the things found in our Costume Room — quite the smartest place in La Grande just at present for everything is new.

—Welcome—enjoy the advantages of this addition.

The Promise of Tomorrow

The possibilities of the future are the incentive to work and strive for the attainment of something we think is in sight for tomorrow. It gives courage and strength to endure hardship and disappointment.

You may insure your future by opening a savings account with us from a small portion of your earnings of today and build upon it as a means of garantee of the promise of tomorrow.

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PHONE MAIN 40

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