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CHOOSE YE.—Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.—Romans 12:9.

A Patriotic Service

A booklet issued by the department of commerce in furtherance of the "own your own home" movement notes that 461 families out of each 1,000 owned their own homes in 1900, while in 1920 the number had declined to 456 a thousand. The difference is not great, but it is in the wrong direction.

It is possible a better showing would have been made had not the war operated to stop building for a time and then as a resultant effect increased prices to the point of discouragement for many who have the desire but may not feel equal to undertaking building or purchase under present conditions. The department of commerce publication is designed as a guide for the prospective small-home owner and in a foreword Secretary Hoover says that "maintaining a high percentage of individual home owners is one of the searching tests that now challenge the people of the United States."

The desirability of home ownership needs no argument. It is axiomatic, but there is such a thing as impossibility. Many could have their own homes who do not, other with the will dare not risk the excessive cost. Scarcity of building trades labor, taking the country as a whole, is one great obstacle in the way. The wage scales are two or three times what they were in pre-war days but that does by no means measure the cost. Large bonuses are paid by contractors in order to entice labor, thus piling up the expenses hugely. Materials are on a level with labor costs so that the money which would have built a good house before the war will not insure a shack today.

As was once said of another situation, "it is a condition and not a theory" with which the would-be home owner has to deal. Those who are not driven to consider expense may now satisfy their desires—and are doing it—but the mass of those who would be most benefited by home ownership are not possessed of plethoric purses. They need to count their dollars and get full return. If the department of commerce can point the way to a small home at a cost which is within reach of those whose ambition is in that direction it will have performed a patriotic service, and not less a miracle.

One Is Good, More Is Better

Having tried monogamy for about a year some Turks are not satisfied and long for the return of the harem and a plurality of wives. Probably they miss the old associations. Mustapha Kemal,

himself is opposed to polygamy and thus far has been able to defeat the movements, but the advocates of a return to former customs do not give up hope.

In favor of the re-establishment of the harem it is pointed out that there are a half-million more women than men in Turkey. It is contended that Turkey is unable to absorb this excess unless some men are permitted to take several wives. Thus the movement appears to be predicated on the interests of the women, though men are pushing it; the latter are so unselfish. The Koran is appealed to for indorsement of the plan and, since the Koran carries weight in Turkey, the polygamists have the better of the argument, but not of the votes in the national assembly.

It was the excuse for polygamy among the Mormons that few practiced it because of the expense. It was the resort of the wealthy who were able to indulge in luxuries. The Turks, too, would confine it to the wealthy, though we see wherein a practical application of the principle might lead from poverty to comparative wealth. Were wives not earners they would constitute a liability. Yet there is such a thing as turning a wife into an asset, as some men have learned. Suppose a wife supports her husband by taking in washing. Some do. Would not two wives then be able to support him in better style than one.

There may be method in the Turkish movement. Perhaps some Turks are not living so comfortably as in the old days and see a way to regain lost luxuries. Perhaps it is considered that any man who has several wives possess potential wealth, thus complying with the injunction of the Koran. At any rate some Turks are not happy at present. If one wife is a blessing two or more may multiply the boon.

Football

Football is with us again. Sporting pages already have carried the first tentative lineups, the first signal practice, even the first minor injuries from the big varsity camps. Football is not far away, and coaches and captains wisely take the earliest possible look at their new material.

At that it's only a trifle over one month and a half to Thanksgiving Day, which will find all of our colleges and schools resting on gridiron laurels or looking forward to the next fall as the best way of forgetting their recent past. It is now time to deplore the hazards of the game, to grieve at its expensiveness, to point rebukingly at its abuses of amateur standards, and otherwise to make ready to get out and whoop it up on the sidelines or in the stands some clear, crisp Saturday afternoon in the near future.

The person who depends on others is usually looking for an opportune time to importune.

"Reactionary" and "radical" are terms frequently applied to one who seems to have common sense which is not common at all.

Many a husband is willing to accept advice from almost any woman except his wife.

Those who deplore kissing evidently would take the infection out of affection.

Half the world may not know how the other half lives, but it has its suspicion.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By Stanley



Editorials From Over the Nation

THE FARMER TAKES A SECOND LOOK

Christian Science Monitor: Quite convincingly it is indicated that the American farmer, speaking collectively, is turning away from those who so long and so insistently have appealed to him to seek emancipation from what he has been told is economic slavery, through processes of legislation which, it has been promised, would insure a better return for the products of the land which he must sell. He has taken a second and a somewhat more considerate view of the situation, apparently, with the result that he is beginning to doubt the efficiency of bloc systems in state and national legislatures, and to believe that recourse to calmer, if not actually saner, processes will bring permanent and logical relief.

The appeal to class spirit, no matter how benign and docile it may appear to be, is as unwise as it is un-American.

Many, it is true, find it easy to excuse of condone, in undertakings which they approve and whose ends they believe to be entirely worthy, methods which are quickly condemned when applied in an effort to perpetuate the alleged rights of others. Thus the agitator and ambitious politician has not found it difficult to create among the farmers of the Middle Western sections of the United States a sentiment in favor of what, if it were shown to exist among the producers of other commodities, would be denounced by the same farmers as monopolistic and selfish. Bloc rule, by whatever name it may be called, is not easily asso-

ciated with democratic ideals. There is seen in it the seed of ambition or selfishness, which, if left to grow, will overrun and disrupt the very foundation of the structure of democracy.

THE CRAZY PROFESSOR AND HIS GERMS

New York World: Ever since the germ discoveries came about to explain inexplicable things, hard-pressed sensational editors have used them as an old reliable stand-by. When there were no earthquakes, the Gulf stream had not been shifted; Mexico had no revolution, and bathing suits were not in season, there was always the crazy professor to fall back upon. What if such a professor should suddenly let loose all the germs in his laboratory? Would countless thousands perish? The war gave the enfranchised germs another twist. The crazy professor became a spy extremely sane but literally sowing disease broadcast out of mysterious little bottles.

Well, the crazy chemist had to come true sometimes. It happened in Paris. He threw his test-tubes into the street, precisely according to schedule. People who knew about it went into a panic. Not until the Pasteur institute announced officially that germs of the most hardy varieties died after no more than one hour's exposure to light and air was the population of the district quieted.

But it may not be so easy to kill the crazy professor myth as to kill the germs. With his ruffed hair and his shell-rimmed spectacles he makes such a lovely boy-man picture in the upper right hand corner of the old-numbered page.

READ THE WANT ADS.

FARM BUREAU BARES PLANS TO COOLIDGE

According to the Oregonian News Bureau at Washington, D. C., the members of the legislative committee of the American farm bureau federation had luncheon with President Coolidge at the White House Thursday and discussed with him in detail the bureau's legislative program for the next congress. The committee bared its desires as well as its likes to the president in several proposals which may be summarized as follows:

1. Would have government accept Henry Ford's offer for Muscle Shoals with prospect for cheaper fertilizer for farms.
2. Selective immigration favored with passports void at port of embarkation; quota to be limited to 3 per cent of foreign born in this country in 1890, instead of 1910, as at present.
3. Excess profits tax favored if government must raise additional money and irrevocably opposed to general sales tax, consumption tax or expenditure tax.

Wage Increases Favored.
 4. For wage increases for farm labor provided it can be shown labor efficiency has been increased by mechanical devices, but opposed to any wage advances unless cost of production can be decreased at same time.

5. As to merchant marine informed co-operation between government and private shipping interests though effecting some rulings of shipping board.

6. For crop insurance but opposed to government entering the insurance business.

7. For enactment for truth-in-factories law.

8. Opposed to government price-fixing on any agricultural commodities.

9. Indorsed present federal program of highway construction.

The president also was told that the American farm bureau federation will soon take a referendum of the soldiers' bonus, reparations, and the question of farmers exchanging agricultural products produced in this country for supplies produced abroad, obtaining thereon the same favorable tariff terms now enjoyed by other buyers of raw materials in foreign countries, namely, a drawback of 99 per cent.

Transportation Is Studied.

The committee indicated it would have something to say on transportation legislation when congress meets, the entire proposal of consolidation, pooling of cars and terminal facilities being now under consideration. As to wage increases the president was told it was time to call a halt on any further advances except on the condition of increased efficiency and decreased production costs.

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