

OCEAN OF FIRE BETWEEN EUROPE AND AMERICA. WISH OF JEFFERSON

Some of the larger aspects of the immigration problem are considered by Prof. Robert De C. Ward in the Scientific Monthly for October. At the outset he shows that it is an error to assume that our "traditional policy" has been to provide an asylum and a haven of refuge for the poor and the oppressed of every land. From the very foundation of the republic there has been shown a desire that there should be some restriction. Washington questioned the advisability of immigration, except of certain skilled mechanics. Jefferson expressed the wish that there were an ocean of fire between this country and Europe, so that it might be impossible for any more immigrants to come here.

It is true that immigration was welcomed and encouraged for many years because it was regarded as a source of national strength. The country was sparsely settled, there was much free land, and an insufficient amount of labor. The immigrants in the early decades of the national history were few and of sturdy stock.

Conditions Have Changed Completely

Prof Ward shows how this ideal in course of time came into conflict with changing economic and social conditions:

"In the face of cold, hard, present-day facts it has had to be abandoned. These facts are that the supply of public lands is exhausted; that acute labor problems have arisen; that immigration has increased enormously and fundamentally changed its character; that our cities are congested with aliens; that we have failed to assimilate them, and that large numbers of mentally and physically unfit have come to our shores. Our so-called traditional policy began, in fact, to be abandoned almost 50 years ago when Congress first put up the bars against certain classes of economically and morally undesirable aliens. It is now obvious that our "asylum" has become crowded with alien insane and alien feeble-minded; that our "refuge" is a penitentiary well filled with alien paupers and criminals.

The un-American policy is not restriction but indiscriminate hospitality to immigrants. It is un-American for us to permit any such influx of alien immigrants as will make the process of assimilation and amalgamation of our foreign population any more difficult than it already is. It is for the best interests of the alien as well as of America that our immigrants should be numerically restricted and wisely and carefully selected."

Cheap Foreign Labor is Dearest

As to the "melting-pot" idea, Professor Ward takes the ground that what goes into the "melting-pot" determines what shall come out of it. "If we put into it sound, sturdy stock; akin to the pioneer breed which first people this country and founded its institutions; if these new stocks are not only sound physically but alert mentally, then we shall develop a new race here, worthy to carry on the ideals and traditions of the founders of this country. But if the material fed into the melting pot is a polyglot assortment of nationalities, physically, mentally and morally below par, then there can be no hope of producing anything but an inferior race."

To the argument that each of the different alien peoples coming here has something to contribute to American civilization, Professor Ward replies that there is nothing in biological discovery which would lead us to hope that only the virtues of the races which are going to make up the future America will survive, and the vices be eliminated. In fact, the vices and the undesirable qualities are just as likely to survive as the virtues. Speaking of the racial aspects of the immigration question, General Leonard Wood has said: "The American cement has about all the sand it will stand."

The need of farm labor in this country is often emphasized, but Professor Ward points out that even if many

thousands of aliens were actually distributed where there is lack of farm laborers, the majority of them would not be effective. We do need highly intelligent labor, skilled in our farming methods, and able to manage modern farm machinery. Ignorant, unskilled, non-English-speaking foreigners would not meet the need.

Beware What Goes Into Melting Pot

It is said that "cheap labor" is needed to man our factories and mines and build our railroads, but Professor Ward contends that cheap foreign labor is often dear at any price; that it is usually in the long run socially and politically very expensive, and that a tremendous rapid development of our country is by no means altogether desirable. The vital question, after all, is not how fast can we possibly develop the country, but how best can we develop it.

"It is of vital consequence that the quality of these human beings—who come to us from other lands should be of the best, so that they shall not injure but improve our stock. Every day that passes witnesses the landing on our shores of aliens whose coming here is absolutely certain to result in a deterioration of the mental and physical standards of the American race of the future."

The assumption that we can safely admit as many immigrants as can be industrially assimilated, is a mistaken one. The real questions are: How many can be politically assimilated; how many can be thoroughly Americanized; and what sort of contribution are they likely to make in the development of our future race?—From Review of Reviews.

Our Jolly New World

By Julia C. Gray

DO YOU remember How in the old days We were taught That denial and repression Were the substance of religion? That joy was the devil's own device? That we should live Only to prepare for DEATH?

And do you realize That the world Is being transformed? That on our screen And in our literature, Yes, even in our pulpits, The Gospel of JOY Is being preached?

Everything now teaches "Express. Express." Every cell in the body says "Prepare to live!" Life has no limitations Except what we ourselves set; Health, Happiness, Prosperity Are our heritage.

"I CAME," said the Master, "That ye might have life. Life more abundant." And we may have Abundant, radiant life HERE AND NOW. The old world passeth, THE JOLLY NEW WORLD IS HERE. (From The Nautilus, December.)

The point won by a lie generally impales the victor, for the burdens of victory ride light on the shoulders of honor.

Priests Misbehave Like Evil Brutes

"Trip to England full of interest," says the modest heading over an intensely gripping column of comment and new notes in The Foster Road News of Dec. 15, giving the observations of Mrs. F. W. Tussey of Portland during a recent visit to Mother England, her ancestral home.

Mrs. Tussey tells how the people live, sketching the hardships and privations of their daily lives. The contrast with America proves once more that the United States is a paradise when compared to conditions in England and all other European countries.

The article contains a heart-thrilling paragraph concerning a visit to the grave of a fallen hero in France, and another of absorbing interest relative to the status of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England and the typical deportment of its "celibate" priests. Read the two items below:

"A friend of Mrs. Tussey's made a trip to France to see her boy's grave and with the thought in mind that she would place a monument at the head of the grave. Upon her return she said she was entirely satisfied. She saw many a French lady or girl and even children with their arms full of blossoms, going to decorate the graves of the fallen heroes. She abandoned the idea of placing a monument at her son's grave, as she felt he was not better than the thousands of others who lay beside him. She sent word by Mrs. Tussey to other mother's whose sons still were in France to feel at ease and rest assured that France was not forgetting the boys who gallantly said 'They shall not pass.'"

CATHOLICS ROUSING ENGLAND

"There are Catholic schools in England while no active interest has been aroused against them there is a tide of feeling which is slowly rising and gaining momentum every day. People in England do not see the Irish question discussed in the news of the day as we do. They say that we are foolish to mix into the Irish question as we do and that most of the agitation in this country in favor of the Irish Free States comes from the Catholic Irish in America. Most of the very best Irish Catholic families do not want to see Ireland under her own rule as they regard the people as not qualified to rule themselves. The Protestants of England are thoroughly disgusted with the way things are handled in Ireland.

On the boat going to England there were eight priests who were drunk nearly all the time and busily engaged in dancing, hugging the girls of their crowd, and gambling. Many started gambling as soon after the mass as they could get to the table and be seated. One priest was arrested for disorderly conduct.

GET JOBS BEFORE HAND

Many people were coming to the United States and it is singular indeed that nine out of every ten had a position ready for him when he landed.

One man's wife was going to New York. He was already a policeman, having been in this country but five months and he was a native of Ireland.

This securing of paying positions is not right, when a native born American is taken into consideration, and through a league of state federated fraternal societies such as we have in Oregon it can be stopped and must be stopped.

Mrs. Tussey is glad to be back and we are certainly glad to have her and Mr. Tussey back with us. Possibly, later, Mrs. Tussey will tell us more of Old England, her former home.

SERMON IN DARK AND EVIL DAYS

Fifteen hundred years ago, during the Dark Ages, when the Church, despite the degradation of the times, was keeping the world sweet for posterity, the good Bishop Saint Eloy delivered before his flock the following fervent exhortation:

"It is not enough, most dearly beloved, for you to have received the name of Christians, if you do not do Christian works. Come, therefore, frequently to church; humbly seek the patronage of the saints; keep the Lord's day in reverence of the resurrection, without any servile work; celebrate the festivals of the saints with devout feelings; love your neighbors as yourselves. What you would desire to be done to you by others, that do you to others. What you would not have done to you, do to no one.

"Before all things, have charity, for charity covereth a multitude of sins. Be hospitable and humble, casting your care upon God, for He careth for you. Visit the sick; seek out the captives; receive strangers, feed the hungry; clothe the naked; set at naught all soothsayers and magicians. Let your weights and measures be fair; your balance just, your bushel,

your pint, your pound and yard honest."

In that early day, when all the world was ignorant and barbarous, the Christian church taught love, purity and gentleness, and in its mighty effort it raised the nations and was dragged down only part way to their level.

ONE ON MR. OLCOTT

When the language of business is applied to politics, the effect may be instructive as well as startling.

Two darkeys came up to the outskirts of a crowd where Governor Ben W. Olcott was making a campaign speech. After listening to the speech for about ten minutes, one of them turned to his companion and asked, "Who is dat man, Sam?" "I don't know what his name is," said Sam, "but he certainly do recommend hisself mes' highly."

BLAMES INNOCENT WORM

Two Scotch miners went on a fishing expedition. They were novices at the game. "How are ye gettin' on, Jock?" asked one. "Och, simply rotten!" was the reply. "I don't believe my bloomie' worm's half tryin'."

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