

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

(Published every evening and Sunday)
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The Register-Guard's policy is the complete and impartial publication in its news pages of all news and statements on news. On this page, the editors of the day and matters of importance to the community, endeavoring to be candid but fair, and helpful in the development of constructive community policy.

A NEWSPAPER IS A CITIZEN OF ITS COMMUNITY

McADOO HAS A PLAN

THE idea of forming a National Economic Council to plan defense against business depressions is not entirely new, but William Gibbs McAdoo, Woodrow Wilson's secretary of the treasury (and son-in-law), has just expressed some interesting thoughts on the subject.

Mr. McAdoo proposes the usual governmental board with "liberal appropriations," "powers to investigate," and "representation of all interests affected." Somehow we cannot get very enthusiastic about this part of his proposal. We have too many meddlesome, ineffectual and expensive governmental boards already. Why create another? But when Mr. McAdoo gets to talking about the need of a new business philosophy he says things which are worth attention. Says McAdoo:

"There is need for a new formula for human affairs in which industry will be devoted, primarily, in supplying human needs and, secondarily, to profits.

"Throughout the world the sun is setting on the theory of the acquisitive society in which profits are the chief end of all enterprise. We have gone far enough along the road of civilization to have learned that the acquisitive society—although it develops a high degree of talent—is wasteful, extravagant, inefficient and exceedingly costly."

In other words, nobody can prosper permanently if we tolerate conditions under which some people starve because supplies are too plentiful. Business men every where recognize this. They talk many remedies—unemployment insurance, five hour days and five day weeks, planned production, co-operative marketing. But they can't seem to get together to make any of these noble schemes effective. It's "after you, my dear Alphonse" in the grand old racket of industry.

We are all for a National Economic Council, or call it what you will, but we are convinced it will have to be voluntary. The spiritual change must come from the very heart of industry. Any other way lies socialism.

By the way, Mr. McAdoo, you weren't hoping to be invited to run for anything, were you?

WISE MR. COOLIDGE

HOW history will appraise the virtues of Calvin Coolidge remains to be seen. But his success with the people of his own generation has been so obvious that even his harshest critics would hesitate to deny that he has enjoyed the popularity reserved for a great man. And if an attempt is made to analyze his great popularity, it undoubtedly will be attributed in large part to the fact that Mr. Coolidge has known when NOT to talk better than almost any other public man of his times.

Wise Calvin! The Associated Press in one of those little intimate personality sketches it is running tells us that Mr. Coolidge does talk. He talks to dogs. He gives to dogs the benefit of most of those affectionate confidences which have been supposed to be impossible in this reticent and seemingly unemotional man. Wise Calvin, we say again!

Many an important man would have been happier and safer if he had done more talking to dogs and less of it to men. When you come right down to cases dogs are perhaps the most reliable friends. But we hear somebody saying, if Mr. Coolidge is so wise, why did he ever consent to writing and publishing his opinions? For if talking is dangerous, writing is even more so. Hence the old saying: "Oh, that mine enemy would write a book!" Well, strange things can happen when a man is offered many dollars a line. And it might be observed that Mr. Coolidge has been so discreet as to attach his name only to generalities which can seldom be disputed.

The dogs, romping in the garden, have the real confidences of the sage of Northampton. Wise man!

MORE WHEAT THAN EVER

THE plight of the wheat grower seems to grow worse instead of better. Canada, Argentina and Australia will have a surplus of 704,000,000 bushels for export this year, according to the latest figures; the United States will have an exportable surplus of 240,000,000 bushels, and Russia will have 120,000,000. Yet the world requirements are only about 780,000,000 bushels.

Thus far, all efforts to devise an international agreement to relieve the wheat grower have failed. Just what can be done to remedy matters is not at all clear. Neither limitation of production nor restriction of exports seems feasible. The whole problem, clearly, is a job for the very best brains the wheat-producing nations of the world can supply.

THE "SPHINX'S" BIOGRAPHY

WHY the late George F. Baker, "Dean of American Finance," paid \$125,000 to have his biography published, only to order it barred from the public, is a mystery almost as profound as was his sphinxlike silence.

According to Baker's reasoning, the account of his rise to eminence among the world's bankers was, to put it bluntly, his business and not the public's. In this assumption, we think, he erred.

The story of any American renowned for his achievements in industry, finance, and for his great philanthropies, it not only of interest to the masses but of great inspirational value. It should therefore be made common knowledge; there is a lesson and moral to be derived from every life.

A LITTLE BIT SILLY

NOT so long ago Miss Mary Anderson, chief of the women's bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, went to Europe. She planned to listen in on a conference at Geneva, held under the auspices of the League of Nations, at which the possibilities for an international agreement on night work for women were to be discussed.

Now, however, official Washington has decided

that our government cannot possibly have any such official relations with the League of Nations; and Miss Anderson, accordingly, has been instructed by cable to let the conference severely alone.

Apparently we have been saved from making a dreadful and costly mistake. Heaven knows what might happen if we had an official representative at a league conference. But doesn't the whole thing look a trifle silly?

Paul Polret, noted French designer of clothes for women (whose models are often pictured in this paper thanks to NEA), is disgusted with this fad for pajamas. Paul says he's going to design a new one for the ladies, a dress with a skirt for each leg. What a problem for those fashionable dames who are—ah, er, uh—knock-kneed!

Our own fashion expert says the problem is never going to be solved till Paul Polret designs a leg for each dress instead of a dress for each leg.

Col. and Mrs. Lindbergh are going to make a good-will flight across the Pacific. Russia is reported "disturbed." Good-will doesn't seem to be part of the program for proletarian uplift of the world.

Reno, aspiring to be the gambling capital of the U. S., has produced its first big-time gang murder. Easy money seems always to be complicated by troubles of one kind or another.

WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS

(Corvallis Gazette-Times)

THE Eugene Register quotes from an article by William Beazel in the late issue of the Atlantic Monthly, to the effect that only 11 per cent of the daily newspapers in the United States retain even the nominal political connection implied in calling themselves Independent-Republican and Independent Democratic newspapers. Forty-one per cent of American newspapers call themselves entirely Independent and they hold 22 per cent of the nation's circulation. Only one out of every four newspapers in the United States now calls itself Republican, and one out of every five calls itself Democratic. The author seems to be of the opinion that the reason for this is so many consolidations of newspapers and the fact that in the smaller towns most of the daily newspapers have been absorbed or discontinued.

That may account for a part of the papers calling themselves Independent, but another reason, and we think a more potent one, is the hypocritical pretense that goes with every newspaper that calls itself Independent. Take, for instance, the Oregon Journal. Until it became imbued with the idea of free electricity without cost to the taxpayers, as advocated by its principal advertiser, it was one of the most radical Democratic papers in the United States. It has always been Democratic, and yet it calls itself an Independent newspaper. The average reader gets the idea from that that it has no particular political affiliation. There, when it makes a pronouncement in which it damns the Republicans or lauds the Democrats, the pronouncement has that much more standing because the paper in the minds of a great many people, has no political affiliations. We have seen it quoted in the Literary Digest, and always after its name is the word Independent, and always too its quotation is damning the Republican party or some of its policies. So when the Atlantic Monthly contended that more papers are now Independent than used to be, he is overlooking the fact that when they claim independence it is merely to cover up their political affiliations, either in the hope of mollifying prospective subscribers or making their pronouncements seem more effective.

Most Republicans and most Democratic newspapers are Independent but all independent newspapers are for one party or the other. Then there are Republican and Democratic papers that are dependent on their leading advertiser. Names on application. See Portland.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER

NEA Service Writer

WASHINGTON, June 8.—Detailed plans of vast scope for mobilization of man power and industry when the "next war" breaks out have been formulated by the war department.

Immediate draft of 4,000,000 men and registration of 7,000,000 more within the ages of 21 to 30, creation of a powerful advisory war council, compulsory orders for 1,000 manufacturing plants and special low-profit contracts for purchase of necessary supplies are some of the most important phases of the general war plan. The war policies commission is now studying drafts of the plan along with proposals made at its recent hearings. This commission was created by congress to make a study and prepare legislation designed to equalize the burdens and minimize the profits of war. It consists of six cabinet members, four senators and four representatives. It will report to the next congress.

For Major Wars Only

Bills drafted by the war department, which congress would be expected to pass immediately in case of war, include measures making available to the president the man power and material resources of the nation, relating to federal acquisition of private property in emergency, authorizing or creating a bureau of marine war risk insurance, a war trade board and a war finance corporation and a bill covering the draft of man power.

The plans would apply to a major war. General Douglas MacArthur, chief of staff, points out that an emergency involving no more than the regular army, even raised to full strength and strengthened by some national guard units, "would cause scarcely a ripple in American life and industry."

The proposed selective service plan is based on the provision designating all able-bodied males between ages of 18 and 45 as the country's unorganized militia. It calls for primary selection of men "whose ages which best fit the needs of the particular war," pointing out that this range was originally 21 to 30 years, inclusive, in the World War.

There is an estimated reservoir of 11,000,000 registrants within the ages of 21 and 30 and the army estimates that about 4,000,000 men would be immediately available for induction into the armed service. These would be designated members of Class I by local registration boards. The other classes would be: II. Those whose drafting would be deferred because of the importance to the nation of their service in civilian life. III. Those whose drafting would be deferred because of dependents. IV. Those deferred from service by law whose induction would be undesirable.

No Exemptions

Each year about 800,000 men will arrive at registration age and be added to the rolls.

There would be no exemptions, but military service would be "deferred" by a man's own neighbors on the draft board "for industrial and humanitarian reasons only." After the group selections calls to service would be determined by lot.

About 5000 local draft boards of three members each would be functioning in decentralized local board areas each including about 30,000 population. The national system would be under a "director of selective service" with a headquarters staff, but operated within each state under direction of the governor. The president would proclaim a certain day on which all male persons between certain designated ages would register at their voting precincts. The local board then sends a questionnaire to each registrant to gather information about dependents, occupation, physical condition, any religious convictions against war, citizenship and any claims for deferment. This information is used to separate the registrants into the four classifications.

Plan Deferments

The matter of deferments, General MacArthur points out, is one of paramount importance. Disturbance to the economic structure of the nation must be kept to a practicable minimum and essential factories and industries must not be robbed of necessary man power. Also, MacArthur says, "if the selection of a certain able-bodied man would cause his invalid wife and three small children to become public charges, it is evident that the public interest will not be served."

Instead of building great armaments as in the World War the army plans to shelter troops in federal, state, county, municipal and—if necessary—private buildings. The director of selective service would maintain close liaison with the army and navy and know weeks in advance the calls for men which he would be required to fill.

SIDE GLANCES



"This will make a swell picture to send the dames I'm writing to. Hurry on and snap it before the owner comes along."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE
RISING COST OF MEDICAL CARE
DUE TO PROGRESS OF SCIENCE

By DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN
(Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association, and of Hygeia, the Health Magazine)

THE progress of scientific medicine is, no doubt, chiefly responsible for the increase in the cost of medical education, the increase in the cost of medical care, the rise of specialization, and the tremendous development of hospitals.

Modern medical education requires at least eight years of a young man's life at an annual expense of \$1200 a year. Modern scientific diagnosis in a difficult case demands the use of a tremendous amount of scientific apparatus and the application of the highest medical talent. In the hospital, such apparatus is made generally available; in the hospital, also, the services of many physicians in various specialties are easily accessible to the patient.

Hospitals have increased from approximately 1000 in 1900 to 5000 in 1910, and to 6719 in 1930. There are today almost 1,000,000 beds available in hospitals, and at least two-thirds of all of the physicians licensed to practice in the United States are associated with the hospitals in some manner. Of the 98,491 physicians now associated with hospitals, 45,000, or almost 50 per cent, are specialists, contrasted with some 15 per cent of specialists in 1905.

Another factor has been the development of technical assistance in medical care, including dietitians, physical therapy technicians, X-ray technicians, nurses, orderlies and social service workers, so that today, in addition to the 155,000 physicians licensed to practice medicine in the United States, there are at least 2,000,000 additional workers who devote practically all of their time to the care of the sick. Since labor cost is one of the highest costs in any service, these facts must be considered in connection with the cost of medical care.

The development of university practice, group practice, medical centers, contract practice, industrial practice and similar changes in the nature of medical practice, has been the response to an attempt to decrease the cost of medical care by lowering the cost of the overhead through better distribution.

In every scheme that has been developed the chief fault is the lessening of personal relationship between the physician and the patient. It is human nature for the worker to feel his responsibility to the source of his income. It is safer for the patient if the physician feels that he is responsible primarily to the patient. Any plan that lessens the responsibility of the trained physician to the patient or that denies him the reward of individual effort of superior ability is detrimental to the welfare of the patient. It must be remembered in this connection that medical education in this country has been improved constantly and that the medical profession of the

next generation will be in general of a much higher grade than that of the present. It must be remembered also that research has shown that 10 per cent of the diseases affecting human beings can be diagnosed and treated by a general practitioner with the amount of equipment he can carry in a handbag. It is only the remaining 10 per cent of difficult and serious diseases that requires hospitalization and the co-ordinated services of numerous specialists.

MAIL BAG

RELIGION AND AMERICANISM

EUGENE, Ore.—(To the Editor).—Considering the unwelcome tendency of religious leaders to introduce and instill religion into civil matters at every possible opportunity, in these times, it has been with great delight I read the valuable thoughts presented in this space, in your issue of June 5th by Pastor Martin F. Simon.

He presented the beauty and sacredness of prayer as in the right spirit and occasion in contrast to the degradation of prayer when used in the wrong spirit and wrong occasion. All should read his words and take them to thought. So also his reference to similar misuse of religious reference in civil matters such as "In God we trust," as though this nation was a church society instead of a civil nation of all and for all peoples.

I am pleased to know we have this man of religious conviction here in our Eugene who will honorably hold his God in sacredness above the degradation of the common and meaningless misuse of His name in purely civil or public service. Also that though he counts his God as holy and distinctively above the profane, worthy of all worship; he has by his article proved himself truly an American in our midst. May all of us Americans do as well to guard our civil commonwealth from becoming invaded by religious sentiment of any kind.

Every religious conviction naturally feels his religion is the right one. If by error he is inclined to civilly make it the religion of his neighbor, he is a danger and menace to the commonwealth at large. If we have such inclinations ourselves, let us beware. Jesus Christ who was truly loyal to the civil government of His day never would force His faith and religion upon others under any pretense of civil law or custom. The conviction of the individual conscience alone counts in religious matters. As His followers, whether as Christians or as citizens only or as both, let us guard ourselves against misdirection of our faith and against misuse of our civil privileges.

Let us as American citizens protect our commonwealth from religious inroads of any nature whatsoever. This

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