

1 s N his inhugural address President Harding said some splen-
did things He is a good speaker and a good writer and he
enters the white house in a spirit of service that cannot be tion prosper and to be a force for peace and harmony throughout the world. It is a laudable ambition and in that ambition
the world will wish him well. wo are. We furty mity deny tho equi
 What he says is true. Let those who want revolution turn to
Hussia or to South Dakota. They have it aplenty. At the sam tume the antidote for revolution is not to be had from the ultra conservatives. It must come from intelligent progressivism. able break as czarism in Russia proved,
chosen system," says the lies in efficient administration of our conditions and reir. It is constantly being modified to meet new there are some ox cart methods in government and business that must eventually go. We should not go too fast, nor yet too slow.
The new president will not be too radical, we can count upon to be, seen.
On the subject of the League of Nations the president talks
as he did during the campaign last year. He takes a pronounced stand in favor of a world court and favors an associacovenant on the ground it would impair the nation's sovereign fy: He speaks of a "world super government" and of a "mili-
tery alliance." Needless to say this view of the league is not tary alliance." Needless to say this view of the league is not
held by the league champioss in this country or abroad. They or independence of action. They will claim that the covenant as it stands will meet the Harding specifieations.
It is rot clear whether President Harding will seek an arfended league covenant or wil insist that this country go no
farther than to cooperate in the formation of a court for a court and a court only the test will come in securing the stricken world feel that a court without force behind it can serve as a guarantee of peace. nd Rumania feel that a world court can assure against aggresaisarmament and security? Possibly, but it must be admitted kaiser's horde in 191'4.
may be some time before isout the president's position and it squares with his platform and with his campaign speeches, but he has Hughes and Hoover in his cabinet and these names ap
neail strongly to people who believe in a forward looking policy. Are they there to guide the president or were they named to appease a certain element of the public? Time will tell. The
record of the Harding administration is yet to be written and the hisesident w let it be hoped he has the vision that the position calls for and that the politicians will give him a chance to do his best

> PENALIZING THEMSELVES AND EVERYBODY ELSE

I N allowing the telephone compary to make a further heavy
advance in rates at $s$ time when prices are falling and all
and basis, the public service commission made a blunder. It is a as to the public
as to the public.
The railroads have learned to their sorrow that $r$ ate ad-
vances uave stifled business and the roads are making less money than formerly.
The phone company may face the same experience. Tele-
hone and telegraph charges are now far above the hone and telegraph charges are now far above the pre war
basis. It costs a smalf fortune to phone or wire a message from basis. It costs a smalf fortune to phone or wire a message from
Pendleton to Portland or any other distant point. The only re-
course is for people to use the wires as little as possible. This course is for people to use the wires as little as possible. This
they will do and many who can dispense with phones in their homes will do so.
hould retrench by providin rates the telephone tompany reduce costs. In that way the comprany could have increased its
volume of business. The result of the rete advance will volume of busines
cortail basiness.
In allowing the phone rate advance the pubilic service com-
mission has acted in characteristic fashion. The chief business of the commission for some years past has been to grant rate in-
creases. From a public standpoint the creases. From a public standpoint the commission is about as
v.luable as a tallow dog in August. Some stronger men should viluable as a tathow dog in August, Some stronger men
te chosen for the commission or it should be abalished.

The new president has a hard fob but he is a man of rugged physique and he has a noble wife to encourage him; he should



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