

## A PLEA FOR FREEDOM

Editor Warren's Speech Before the Federal Court.

### INDICTMENT OF CAPITALISM.

Despotism of Wealth Aided and Abetted by the Supreme Court—Property Rights Buttressed by the Decisions of the Judiciary.

Fred D. Warren, editor of the Appeal to Reason, was recently convicted of violation of the postal laws in the federal court at Fort Scott, Kan., presided over by Judge Pollock. Stating his reasons why sentence should not be pronounced, Mr. Warren said in part:

I wish to call the attention of the court to the fact that this case is the outgrowth of the kidnapping of three workmen by the agents of the great mining corporations, with the connivance of the state officials of Idaho and Colorado. The kidnapping of these workmen was acquiesced in by the president and sanctioned by the supreme court of the United States.

In referring to the manner in which these workmen were taken from their homes as kidnapping I wish it understood that no less distinguished a personage than Justice McKenna of the supreme court of the United States used this term in dissenting from the opinion of his associates.

It was during the heat of this struggle between the Western Federation of Miners and the wealthy Mine Owners' association of the west that I conceived the idea of offering a reward for ex-Governor Taylor, who, as was generally known, was a fugitive from justice from his home state of Kentucky and in hiding in Indiana, protected from the service of requisition by the governor of Indiana, whose position was endorsed by Governor Roosevelt of New York and every prominent Republican politician and newspaper in the United States.

Would the supreme court hold to its opinion that kidnapping was not a crime if the victim was a member of the Republican party and representative of the capitalist class? I did not believe that the \$1,000 offered by the Appeal would induce any man to undertake the abduction of Mr. Taylor.

But I did expect that the offer of this reward in the manner and with the language used would attract public attention to the kidnapping decision of the supreme court. I felt that if this decision, sanctioning the kidnapping of poor and defenseless workmen by rich and powerful capitalists, was understood by the American people a wave of protest would sweep the country and force the supreme court to recede from its position, as had been done before, notably in the famous Dred Scott decision, and will undoubtedly be done again.

The supreme court has become in fact the reigning monarch of the American people. No measure of relief demanded by the voters of this nation enacted into law by their elected representatives and signed by the president may become operative without its judicial sanction. At the command of the lords of privilege any obnoxious law is promptly declared unconstitutional.

The supreme court of the United States has today more real power over the people than is vested in any monarch of the old world.

The late Senator Hanna boasted that the courts are maintained to buttress property rights. Ex-President Roosevelt denounced a federal judge for his interpretation of the law in the government's prosecution of the beef trust.

In conclusion permit me to say that I am not asking the mercy or leniency of this court. I have committed no crime, and there is festering in my conscience no accusation of guilt, but if by my conviction and punishment will serve to rivet public attention upon the abuses which I have tried to point out then I shall feel that I have not suffered this humiliation in vain.

After all, this is the price of human progress. Why should I expect immunity? The courts have ever been and are today the bulwarks of the ruling class. Why should they not punish offenders against that class?

In feudal slavery the courts sustained the feudal lords, in chattel slavery they protected the slave owners, and in wage slavery they defend the industrial masters.

Whoever protests for the sake of justice or in the name of the future is an enemy of society and is persecuted or put to death.

In one of the most eloquent characterizations of history Charles Sumner, tracing the march of the centuries, pointed out that the most infamous crimes against the liberty and progress of the human race had been sanctioned by the so-called courts of justice.

This case is a mere incident in the mighty struggle of the masses for emancipation. Slowly, painfully, proceeds the struggle of man against the power of Mammon. The past is written in tears and blood. The future is dim and unknown, but the final outcome of this worldwide struggle is not in doubt. Freedom will conquer slavery, truth will prevail over error, justice will triumph over injustice, the light will vanquish the darkness, and humanity, disenthralled, will rise resplendent in the glory of universal brotherhood.

**Labor Disputes In England.**  
Owing to the northeast coast shipping and the Lancashire cotton disputes eight and a quarter million working days were lost last year in England.

## IMITATION PLANTS.

Scientist Produces Vegetable Life by Means of Chemicals.

Chemical imitation plants are amusing Professor Leduc of Nantes, France. Professor Leduc introduced a drop of sugar solution with traces of potassium ferrocyanid into a dilute copper sulphate solution. The drop covered itself with a copper ferrocyanid membrane, impervious to sugar, but pervious to water. The water percolated through the membrane which the sugar was unable to traverse. The cell thus grew on.

In a few minutes a bud sprang up from some point in the surface. This was surrounded immediately by a copper ferrocyanid membrane. On the top of this bud would be produced another bud, on this a third one, and so on, each bud constituting a cell, all of which would arrange themselves slowly in a continuous row, forming a hollow rod, the length of which would exceed by more than ten times the diameter of the original cell, of which the others were offsprings. The artificial cells absorbed from the surrounding medium the substance required for their growth and thus produced the bulky growths exhibited.

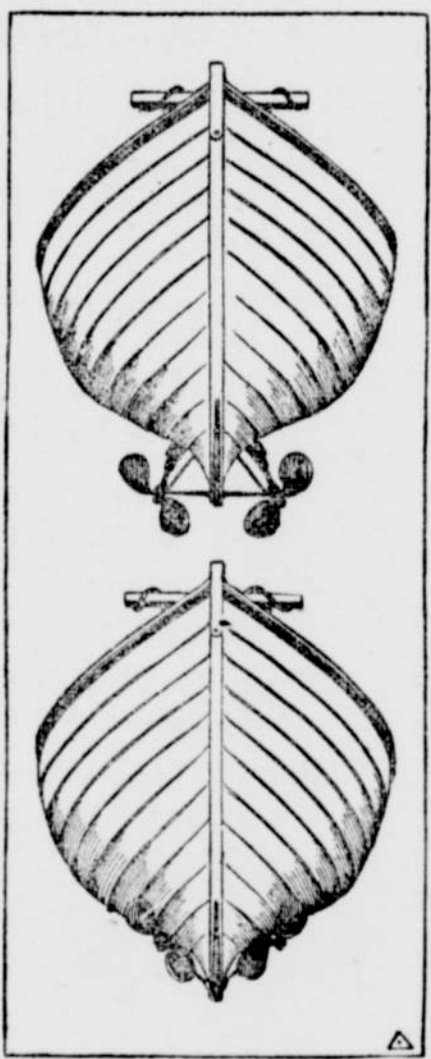
A droplet sometimes was projected in the course of the experiment, being entirely detached from the original drop, in order afterward to grow on and give off buds and growing rods, which finally produced a form similar to the original one.

At the recent exhibition of the French Physical society Professor Leduc showed a number of examples of the way in which the diffusion of solutions could be made to assume not only plant forms, but decorative patterns. The study of these phenomena and the unravelling of their intricate connections are of fundamental importance. More and more the reactions of inorganic substances, whether liquid or solid, are referred to their properties in a state of solution, while every process of life to be examined by the biologist seems capable of interpretation only through attention to the conditions thereby involved.—Chicago Tribune.

## UNCLE SAM'S NEW LIFEBOAT.

Craft Rights Itself When Capsized and Throws Off the Water.

The latest addition to the United States life saving service is rightly called the Storm King, but she could be more properly called the Storm Fox, says Popular Mechanics. She can sail, swim, throw over in the water, right herself, throwing off the water like a fish, and go ahead at a ten mile clip. The new boat has a length of 36 feet 8 inches. The 1,500 pound bronze hull aids it in self righting. In a recent test this boat, after being capsized with all machinery aboard, righted itself, threw off the water and



SELF RIGHTING LIFEBOAT.

had the gasoline engine running in less than three minutes. Besides her equipment of a power plant, two masts and sails and a set of oars, the boat can carry seventy-five passengers.

The latest device for lifeboats is on this boat. Her two screws can be folded up under the stern of the vessel, as shown in the lower illustration, to be out of the way when the boat is beached.

### Observatory on Mount Whitney.

The Smithsonian Institution of Washington will erect on the very summit of Mount Whitney, California, 14,500 feet high, an observatory which will enable investigators to study atmospheric conditions at great elevations in dry air and in clear skies. The observatory will be erected from the Hodgkins fund and will comprise a three room structure of stone substantial enough to stand for centuries.

### Delicate Drilling.

An expert workman in one of the great needle factories in a test of skill performed one of the most delicate feats imaginable. He took a common sewing needle of medium size, an inch and five-eighths in length, and drilled a hole through its entire length from eye to point, the opening being just large enough to permit of the passage of a very fine hair.

## JOKES ON MONARCHS.

Some Daring Pranks Played Upon Royal Personages.

### A FLOWER FOR THE KAISER.

Decorations That Made His Majesty Explode With Wrath—A Medical Diploma For a Prince of Wales—The Duke and the Stockbrokers.

Some years ago a paragraph appeared in a Berlin daily stating that Prince Henry, who had just returned from his visit to the United States, had brought home as a present to his brother a number of plants of a new variety of crimson carnation. "As every one knows," the paragraph concluded, "the red carnation is his imperial majesty's favorite flower."

On the day after the publication of this news the kaiser was due at Aix-la-Chapelle. A member of the town council suggested that every one in the town wear a buttonhole of the kaiser's favorite flower.

The suggestion was at once acted on. The frock coated members of the deputation which waited next morning on the platform each wore proudly a buttonhole of the deepest crimson.

The poor fellows could not conceive why the kaiser's demeanor was so freezing. He dismissed them with a few words, got into his carriage and drove off.

At the town hall was another deputation, similarly decorated. Then his majesty's wrath exploded. "What is the meaning of this insult?" he demanded. Some one explained, and then one of the kaiser's attendants took the mayor aside. "My dear sir," he said, "surely you know that the red carnation is the emblem of the Social Democrats and of all flowers the one which his majesty chiefly detests!"

Many years ago King Edward VII, then Prince of Wales, was the subject of a stupid hoax. He received a letter informing him of his unanimous election as honorary member of the Princeton medical faculty and signed by three students. With his invariable courtesy the recipient requested his private secretary to acknowledge it. The reply said, "His royal highness will remember with pride and satisfaction the mark of distinction received at the hands of the Princeton medical faculty."

As a matter of fact, there is not and never was such an organization.

As impudent a hoax as ever was heard of was perpetrated in 1904 upon a Belgian paper. A letter purporting to be in the handwriting and above the signature of Princess Louise of Coburg was received by the editor, who very foolishly published it without first assuring himself as to its genuineness.

This letter gave a long catalogue of the wrongs of Princess Louise and of her sisters and constituted a most brutal attack upon her father, the king of the Belgians.

The letter was at once copied by a number of other papers, including more than one in England. Naturally it gave great pain to the princess herself, and the only wonder is that a prosecution for libel was not the immediate result.

Some years ago a young American woman who was staying in Copenhagen made a bet with a friend that she would propose to the king of Denmark.

On one of the king's public reception days the American lady found her way to the royal residence. "What can I do for you, madam?" asked the king.

"Your majesty, I desired to ask you if you would like to marry me?" was the reply.

The king merely smiled. "I am afraid I am a little too old," he said, and at the same moment he beckoned to one of the officials to conduct the lady to the door. He had put her down as a harmless lunatic.

A joke of rather a rough order was played upon the first cousin of the emperor of Austria, the Archduke Salvator, once when he was in Paris. He was passing the bourse—the Parisian equivalent of the Stock Exchange—when his companion, a lanky young French count, suggested that he might look inside.

"If you walk straight in," he said, "no one will notice you. They will take you for a stockbroker."

The duke took him at his word, but of course he was no sooner inside than he was recognized as a sightseer. His silk hat was instantly spirited away, and he was at once surrounded by a mob of dealers with notebooks shouting fabulous offers to buy or sell stock.

The duke had a desperate struggle to reach the front lobby, and when at last he got there, hatless and breathless, he found that some genial soul had pinned a long price list to the tails of his coat.

## PORTABLE ELEVATOR.

Labor Saving Device For Handling Heavy Merchandise.

The accompanying illustration shows a portable elevator and tiering machine. The wide application of the device is obvious, and, besides its advantages in the saving of labor and storage space, it has proved a great advantage in repairing and erecting shafting, hangers and pulleys.

The base is of malleable iron in two sections. The wheels are fitted to the bottom base, and between the two is the top base, and between the two is fitted a ball bearing base. The ball bearing base is a distinguishing feature of this elevator. The revolving base makes it possible to load from either direction in narrow aisles and also unload at any point of the compass. The circle described by the extreme point in making a complete revolution is 4 feet 2 inches in diameter. The wheel base consists of only three wheels, and it will stand, therefore, solid on the roughest floors, whereas if there were four points of contact with the floor only three would touch at a time, except on perfectly smooth floors, because it is impossible to use a fifth wheel and turn as short as desired, owing to other important features.



REVOLVING PORTABLE ELEVATORS.

The gears are all cut from steel blanks, except the largest one, which is cut from a gray iron blank. The platform is thirty inches long by twenty-four inches wide, fitted with reversible rollers, so that it can be loaded from front or side, as desired.

The brake is made of a flat steel spring wound around two drums, and by a very small pressure of the hand on the brake lever a full capacity load can be lowered at any speed desired or stopped and held at any point. The ratchet, which is designed to catch the load at all points, is so constructed that the operator is compelled to remove the crank from the shaft and place it on the pawl shaft in order to lower the platform, thereby eliminating all possibility of the crank hitting the operator when lowering the platform. The floor space occupied is no more than required for an ordinary hand truck.—Engineering Magazine.

## FACTS ABOUT THE EARTH.

Some Astronomers Believe Aleyone Center of Our Universe.

Our dear old earth, which seems immovable and solid as we go about our daily work or travel over its furrowed surface, is yet spinning and rolling and swaying in complex but orderly motion. Its axial rotation gives us day and night. Its circuit round the sun brings the seasons and the year. The circling of the poles produces the procession of the equinoxes. The planets perturb it in its courses. The plane of its orbit sways up and down, and its perihelion is slowly shifted. The moon swings it round a center of gravity common to both, which the sun and all our system speed onward to some far distant goal. And, if the bright star in the constellation Taurus is the central point round which this vast orbit sweeps, then Aleyone is the center of the universe for us.

As far as astronomers can judge, this motion through the vast abyss of interstellar space is at the rate of about a million miles a day, and it is in the direction of the constellation Hercules. The motion through space is believed to be away from Argus and toward Hercules. Some have thought that Aleyone, in the Pleiades, is somewhere near the center of the vast circuit swept over by the sun and his attendant worlds. If this is true, that beautiful star as it silently twinkles in the constellation Taurus becomes of surpassing interest to mankind.

### Steel Made Rust Proof.

Aluminous coated steel sheets are the product of a Pennsylvania company, and they have been adopted by the United States government for use in the construction of vessels. The coating is applied at a very high temperature when the metal has great fluidity, and the sheet of metal is not only rendered rust proof, but also much more durable. The coating applied hot makes a very serviceable covering, which withstands all kinds of hard usage without fracturing, as it has penetrated into the surface of the steel.

### The Earth's Light.

That the earth must shine on the moon even as the moon shines on the earth is obvious. To detect this light from the earth on the lunar surface and scientifically prove its existence is another matter. It is interesting to find that a recent number of a French astronomical paper contains two photographs of parts of the moon illuminated by earth light. They were taken by M. Queinisset at the Juvisy observatory.

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