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DONATIONS. No donations to charities or otherwise will be made in advertising or job printing—our contributions will be in cash.

A BILL TO PRESCRIBE HIGH SCHOOL STUDIES. The Eddy bill, which has passed the senate at Salem, would make compulsory the teaching in high school of spelling, arithmetic and grammar, in place of some of the less essential branches.

The idea appears to be sound. It cannot be said with truth that the general run of boys and girls of high school age are fully competent to select their own studies. The average boy or girl of high school age does not know what is most essential.

As for selection of their own courses by the students of high schools, its fallacy is demonstrated among students past high school age every year, for it is a matter of common knowledge that many college students abandon after their freshman year some or all of the studies that they had chosen for themselves.

BAD FOR THE OPIUM CONFERENCE. In its insistence upon a declaration by the international opium conference for limitation of the use of opium and narcotic drugs to medicinal needs, the American delegation at Geneva was entirely right.

Mr. Porter, head of the American delegation to the conference, said he withdrew because he had become convinced that the purpose for which the conference was called—the definite limitation of traffic in opium and other drugs—could not be achieved.

A POOR ARGUMENT FROM AN AMERICAN. Many silly and foolish reasons have been advanced as to why the United States should not redeem its solemn pledge of independence to the Filipinos.

But it has remained for Judge Newton W. Gilbert, former acting governor of the archipelago, to advance the flimsiest of all. In a recent speech in New York, he declared that the United States must hold the islands lest "it set the world aflame."

And this is the line of reasoning the Judge pursued: If the United States grant freedom to the Filipinos, it will encourage similar aspirations on the part of the peoples of the Dutch East Indies.

BEET SUGAR A LABOR PROBLEM. A number of western states are planning to encourage more beet sugar production and find it is basically a labor problem. Small tracts will tax the labor supply of almost any

neighborhood adapted to the culture of beets. It is the one crop—like truck farming—that requires a great deal of hand labor—what might be called back-breaking labor.

A large part of the work can be carried on with machinery, like preparing the soil, sowing the seed, and plowing out the beets when grown.

Cultivation of the crop is also machine cultivator work, after the planting has been nursed to a size and thinned in the rows by hand.

But thinning the beets in the rows and the first few times they are cultivated, and topping the beets after they are grown, is hand work.

In many of the sugar beet states special labor is brought in, like Russian and Mexican labor, where the whole family works in the fields.

Some states have labor conditions that oppose bringing in any such labor and might as well give up the idea of building sugar refineries.

It is the greatest crop in the class of mixed farming, as a money crop and as a crop to promote stock raising, hogs and dairying.

A STINGY REWARD. Richard Braden, of Berwyn, Md., works for the United States Government. He is assistant superintendent of the stamp division of the Post Office Department. It seems that he has developed a device for the precanceling of stamps, a device estimated to accomplish an annual saving of \$250,000 to the Government.

Braden developed the device, which is used as an attachment to rotary presses, with the assistance of Blair McKinzie, a machinist in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The Department recognized McKinzie's assistance, but the law made no provision for an award to him.

In competitive business their work might have received greater award, as they probably know. To save a quarter of a million dollars for any employer is important and notable. Although the name of the committee concerned with the award suggests that individual initiative is not unusual in the postal service, the inventive enterprise of the two men cited is refreshing evidence that the committee does have occasion to recognize and reward progress in behalf of the public interest.

A village is a place where everybody knows where to take the pedestrian after it happens.

"People who try to run the church" usually means "people who are willing to do the work."

ENGLISH FEARFUL OF U S CONTROL OF WORLD'S GOLD

LONDON, Feb. 11 — England is in a hub-dub, aroused lest the United States has already become the money master of the world. Reports that Great Britain is about to return to a gold standard have caused a sudden commotion, with outcries and warnings from many sources that Great Britain will soon be under the heel of American financiers, if she is not already so.

The United States controls the world's gold supply, and when Great Britain returns to a gold standard she will be under the control of those who hold the strings of the world's gold bags, it is argued. The pro and con of this question is being bitterly fought out in the columns of the English newspapers.

An amazingly frank article, printed in The Referee, a Sunday newspaper, has attracted some attention.

"British Finance a Back Number," is the Referee headline with a sub-heading reading "Our obsolete methods are losing an empire."

"Mr. Bruce, Prime Minister of Australia, protested to the Imperial Conference over a year ago against the submission of Britain to what he called the dependence upon the United States," said The Referee.

"And a pitiful dependence it is! Dependence brought about by our inept and perilous finance—brought about and persisted in to our decline, and perhaps our fall."

"The policy of the Bank of England, and of government after government—during and since the war—is to make an old system work unmodified, in conditions which imperatively demand its modification."

"The old device of raising the bank rate will not work now, either to stop exports, or to attract imports, of gold. It will not now affect gold, but it will injure industry, fill the Gazette, create unemployment, and add to the dole tax."

"We do not need the gold! We can get back to the gold standard of value, and to legal tender fully backed by gold, by a modification of our system of finance!"

"The steps to be taken in unison that are necessary to restore our money are the steps necessary to restore our independence of America. These steps are:

"The limitation of legal tender to paper fully covered by gold; the limitation of the issue of such paper to the equivalent of the gold we have got; the establishment of an elastic banking-credit currency; the intensive cultivation of the check system, and the issue of credit, practically interest free, under proper safeguards, for productive purposes alone."

In News Spotlight of the Day



DR. FREDERICK COOK & DR. MARION V. BURTON. Below: EARL B. MAYFIELD & COL. W. J. DONOVAN.

The United States Senate has unanimously dismissed the contested election case against U. S. Senator Earle B. Mayfield, of Texas, and he has been officially declared elected. Dr. Marion Leroy Burton, president of the University of Michigan, who nominated President Coolidge at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, O., is critically ill at his home in Ann Arbor.

YALE WILL ELECT NEW GOVERNORS

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 10. — Nominations for election to Yale Corporation, the governing body of Yale University, are already reaching the university secretary's office here. Six members of the corporation are by law selected by graduates. The term of former President William Howard Taft expires next June, and while it is certain Mr. Taft will be re-elected, Yale Alumni Weekly is urging that "nominations now should be as many and as free as possible."

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