

## OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF JOHN H. HAMMOND

World's Greatest Engineer and Economic Expert Points to New Prosperity

Return to Normal Conditions Is Matter of Mutual Aid, Is His Assertion

By JOHN HAYS HAMMOND.

Editor's Note—John Hays Hammond, often mentioned as the world's greatest engineer, and one time mentioned as the probable Secretary of Commerce in President Harding's cabinet, is in addition to being a great engineer a highly developed economic expert and authority on international problems. His contentions as outlined in the following article give food for thought and the more they are studied the more possibilities are open for the average man to absorb.

The world just now seems to be deep in the slough of despond and nations in working out their own economic salvation seem to be trying to pull themselves out of the mire by their bootstraps. If they would adopt a policy of mutual helpfulness and reciprocity and exert themselves to extricate their neighbors, nations could soon again reach terra firma and thenceforth the road to that seemingly elusive normalcy to which we aspire would be safe to travel with only the ordinary obstacles incident to the onward march of civilization. This would be the spirit of enlightened self-interest, which is the only dependable motive for the co-operation of nations, or of individuals, and the only enduring basis for international or for industrial peace.

The spirit of enlightened self-interest presupposes the recognition of the principle of economic interdependence. One must emphasize the qualification of intelligent self-interest, for unintelligent self-interest is largely responsible for lack of remedial co-operation. There could be more useful campaign of education than to impress upon every class of every community its dependence for well-being upon the general welfare. This is not a preachment of an ideal, nor merely the enunciation of an ethical principle, but is the aim to develop the power conception of that great underlying principle which inevitably must be the guide in human relations. This conception does not in any way imply the subordination of high ethical standards to expediency.

### MUTUAL BENEFITS.

In order to attain co-operative endeavor essential to national industrial efficiency, we must recognize the interdependence of the industries of the country and the mutuality of interests. We must realize for example the dependence of agriculture upon the prosperity of the manufacturing industry, for in the manufacturing centers it finds its best market, and that conversely all industries are benefitted by the prosperity of the farmers, since more than fifty per cent of the country's purchasing power is derived from the products of the farms.

We must realize that the tariff is an economic and not a political problem and that it should be treated accordingly in tariff legislation, and that the keynote of our economic and fiscal legislation must ever be to preserve unimpaired the integrity of our domestic industries and the purchasing power of our incomparable home market—a market which absorbs more than ninety per cent of the products of American labor, in value twice that of the total trade of the entire world.

We must realize that in the building up of an American Merchant Marine, which is indispensable to the adequate development of our foreign trade, there must be no provincialism; that for example, our great middle west, which contributes almost one half of the total exports of the United States, is as much a beneficiary of an American Merchant Marine as are our seaboard states.

### AS TO IMMIGRATION.

It is important that a definitive policy be established, and that the admission of immigrants be chiefly determined by the labor required to supply the needs of our domestic market, plus the relatively small percentage of products destined for export. It is better in the long run to suffer from a temporary lack of labor than to face the danger of a congested labor market and consequent unemployment with resulting social distress.

There has been great improvement in the labor situation, not only in this country but abroad, within recent months. Productivity has increased very considerably, although by no means has it reached the degree of efficiency essential to industrial prosperity upon which the welfare of labor itself is dependent. The temper of the American people today is to pay labor so large a part of the profits of industry as can be done consistently with the healthy

development of the industries themselves. In this American display both sense of justice and appreciation of the need to maintain a high standard of living among wage earners in order to insure that high standard of citizenship which is essential to the security and prosperity of a democratic form of government. But labor must realize that even so rich a nation as ours would inevitably soon become bankrupt if the cost of production exceeds the value of the product. Especially if we are to successfully compete in our overseas trade, which affords employment for a large part of our labor, we must develop the highest possible efficiency of the wage earner, representing as labor does so large a share in the cost of the production.

### THE INEVITABLE RIGHT.

All intelligent citizens now agree that what our government could and should do, apart from its action in regard to national defense and kindred matters, may be expressed in a single phrase; it can see that the gates of opportunity are kept open for its citizens along the whole length of every road that crosses our political and industrial life. In other words, it can assure to all men and women a chance to work and win according to their talent and diligence and moral fibre, and can guard the paths to success from obstruction of trickery, fraud, oppression, or monopoly.

But the function of government is not to guarantee equality of reward for inequality of service. No inalienable right is guaranteed a citizen to unearned increment in the fruits of industry.

"As ye sow, so shall ye reap."

All a government can do in this respect, even a paternal government is to give equality of opportunity.

It is of vital importance to the United States that the Genoa Conference, or some future economic conference of world powers, take such action as will re-establish the confidence of investors in foreign securities. Repudiation on the part of any of the great powers of their financial obligations to other nations, especially obligations contracted before the war, would greatly militate against the interests of the United States, in that it would deter Americans from the investment of capital in the industrial reconstruction of Europe and in the development of the resources of the backward nations as well, upon which America in common with other commercial nations depends for future markets.

The good rains over the most of Morow county's wheat belt the past week failed to reach out to the Cecil section and crops there are beginning a need moisture quite badly. A drive down the highway to that point on Sunday afternoon revealed the fact that the hay farmers are a busy bunch right now and getting their first cutting of alfalfa into the stacks. As a matter of fact these people are not caring to have rain come for a few days, when they will be done with the cutting and stacking of the first crop.

STRAYED—One bay horse, white strip on face, nose and hind leg; brand BO on shoulder. XN on front feet. Liberal reward. Notify Geo. L. Wurster, R. F. D., Echo, Oregon.

## "Turn to the Right" Is America's Greatest Comedy

Clean, Sparkling Play of Winchell Smith and John E. Hazzard Given at Chautauqua by Keighley Players of New York City—Play Is Declared to Be a Powerful Sermon



"Turn to the Right," declared by competent New York theatrical critics to be America's greatest comedy, will be one of the feature attractions at Chautauqua. It is to be presented here under the direction of Wm. Keighley, well-known New York actor-producer, with a company of well-known Broadway players. The story was written by Winchell Smith and John E. Hazzard, and is "sweet as honey," clean, wholesome, with a sparkling humor that is irresistible. It is the story of an erring boy's regeneration through the Christian influence of his old-fashioned mother. An honest-hearted, exuberant youth leaves his country home to seek the city's riches. He returns stamped with a prison record. The sweet environment of a typical American home, the influence of a kind, old-fashioned mother, unite in swinging the boy back along the right path, with two of his prison "cronies" who had looked him up to "pull" another "job." It's a wonderful story—a sermon, if you please—and it will be presented with the usual fine settings and costuming that characterize the plays produced by the Keighley Broadway Players. "It's a peach of a play," said the New York World, following its premier appearance there a few years ago.

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