

# Reactions to Domestic News



## Wayside Points Of View

### Dry as a Saloon

THE dry law is said not to bother Maine at all, for that state is too near Canada, and Canadian liquor finds its way across the border. Maine has been under prohibition rule for a long time, but that does not mean that Maine has been without intoxicating drinks. Any one who knew how was able to get a drink almost any time.—*Utica Press.*

### Try This One

"Woman Asleep Three Weeks; Doctors Can't Arouse Her."—Headline. Wonder if they have tried: "There goes Mrs. Green, next door, in her new fall suit."—*Detroit News.*

### My Word!

"Took Victim's Trousers, Bonds and Cash," says a headline. How did such a thoroughgoing robber ever happen to overlook his shoes?—*Kansas City Star.*

### A Second Daniel

Another Daniel has come to judgment—in St. Louis, this time. Or, perhaps, you might call that judge who adjourned court in order to give the jury a chance to get a drink while drinking was lawful a darn good Samaritan.—*Buffalo Express.*

### Safety First

An Indiana farmer keeps his clover seed in the bank. We are not told what he does with his eggs, but probably he has made arrangements with the United States Sub-Treasury about that.—*Nyaok Evening Journal.*

### Period Furniture

"A movable moonshine still captured."—In other words, a Kentucky tea wagon.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

### Shave 'Em in Russia

Identification of Bolsheviks in Philadelphia is impossible now. The barbers are on a strike.—*Nashville Tennessean.*

### A Timely Reminder



—From The Fargo Courier-News

### Recollections of Maine

One of the things which has been prohibition long enough to get used to such that a tourist has discovered an animal that looks like a rabbit, barks like a fox, hibernates like a bear and is as bashful as a beaver. The description is surprisingly like that of the far-famed wwoof-woof of the Maine backwoods, except that the wwoof-woof has horns, and eight legs, and a large pair of green and yellow striped wings.—*Springfield Republican.*

### A Problem, Indeed

D'Annunzio is finding Fiume almost as tough as a street railway problem.—*Detroit News.*

### So Soon After

With cotton at its present price it is hard to realize that there was ever a "buy-a-bale" movement.—*Springfield Republican.*

### Expert Advice

Mentally, morally and materially, the world would be better off and the sooner freed from its troubles if it were to accept M. Clemenceau's advice and go to work.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

### Hard on the Prince

The Prince of Wales ran a locomotive in Canada the other day. He won't dare to do it here, since he can't show a union card.—*Philadelphia Record.*

### Certainly Not Here

The Columbia professor who says a family of five can eat on \$11.99 a week has never lived in this little old town.—*Detroit Free Press.*

### A Welcome Shock

A drop in food prices is predicted. Nobody is hurrying to stand from under. Everybody wants to feel the drop to make sure it is there.—*Baltimore American.*

### Ho, Hum

Around the town men sadly roam,  
But they find naught to cheer;  
They wish that they could have the foam  
They used to blow off beer.

—Milwaukee Sentinel.

### Without Revision

The United States has 4,225,000 mules, says a government statistician; but his report was prepared before the industrial conferences.—*Washington Post.*

### Strange Days

It's hard to tell any more what a new day will bring forth. Another Democrat—our minister to Switzerland—has resigned.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

### Would Depopulate Nation

As a rival to the "See America First" slogan France might whisper, "Visit us and get a drink."—*Detroit Free Press.*

# The Present Sugar Shortage and Its Causes

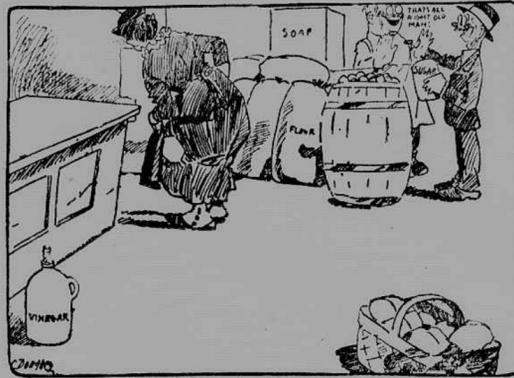
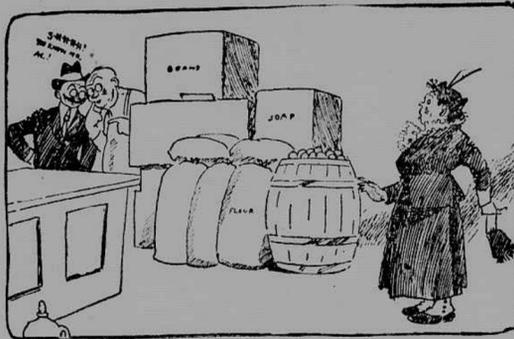
A 12 PER CENT increase of sugar consumption over the pre-war figure is the main reason assigned for the present sugar shortage in a recent report of the United States Sugar Equalization Board. During the first nine months of this year 3,263,000 long tons have been consumed, compared with an average of 2,900,000 long tons for the corresponding period for the years before the war. There is, strictly speaking, no shortage, but various causes have contributed to the difficulty of filling the domestic sugar bowl, of which the principal seems to be the enormously increased demand for sugar in the candy and soft drink industries, said to be a result of prohibition.

Labor troubles have contributed to this result, notably the longshoremen's strike of last spring and the one called off recently. Under normal conditions the refiners are just able to keep up with the demand, so that any interruption in the supply is bound to cause a scarcity. There also has been a longshoremen's strike at New Orleans, greatly impeding shipments through that port, besides strikes at the principal source of supply, Cuba.

The present shortage is largely due to a mental attitude, according to a letter to Attorney General Palmer from the Sugar Equalization Board—that is, reports of scarcity induce many people to try to hoard, which naturally aggravates the situation. People who normally buy a few pounds at a time at the groceries have been besieging the offices of the refineries, trying to purchase several hundred pounds at a time.

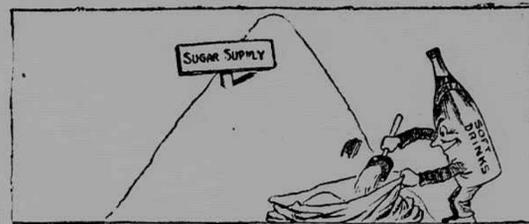
"The American Sugar Bulletin," issued by the American Sugar Refining Company, refutes the report that refiners have been keeping back sugar from the domestic market in order to sell it abroad at a higher price. The only considerable export has been 535,000 long tons of refined sugar to Great Britain. This, however, had been purchased from

### Not What Aunt Jane Thought It Was



—From The Cleveland Plain-Dealer.

### The Poor Relation



—From The Knickerbocker Press

the Cuban crop by the British Royal Commission and sent to the United States to be refined. Aside from this, about 100,000 tons, or ten days' supply for the whole United States, have been exported. The refiners' contract with the food administration prevents realizing greater profits on exports than on domestic sales.

At present over a quarter of the world's total production goes to the United States, which is very well off as to its sugar supply if we compare it with the situation in Europe. Here we pay 8.82 cents a pound (wholesale), while England pays 12 1/2 cents and France 16.8 cents. The supply in these countries is very strictly rationed.

According to "The American Sugar Bulletin," the United States

gets its sugar supply from the following sources:

Source	Amount (short tons)	Per cent of total supply
Cuba "preferential-duty" sugar	1,930,000	48
All other "full-duty" sugar	150,000	4
<b>Territories of the United States</b>		
Hawaii	550,000	14
Porto Rico	335,000	8
Philippines	115,000	3
<b>Continental United States</b>		
Domestic beet	610,000	15
Domestic cane	310,000	8
Total	4,000,000	100
Exports	60,000	...
Net available for consumption	3,950,000	...

years. The Sugar Equalization Board, a branch of the United States Food Administration, was organized in July, 1918, and has had full control of purchases, distribution and prices ever since. Its control will end with the ratification of the peace treaty, unless special legislation is passed to prolong its life.

### Half From Cuba

As is shown by the table, half of the total supply of the United States comes from Cuba. The Sugar Equalization Board purchased the 1919 crop under a contract running to the first of next January, paying the planters a fixed price of 5.88 cents a pound. The refiners pay 7.28 cents a pound for the raw sugar, and are authorized to charge 8.82 cents wholesale for refined sugar, bring-

ing the retail price to about 11 1/2 cents. The crop comes in during the first nine months of the year, and is distributed by the refiners over the country. After October 15 (October 1 last year) the equalization board forbade shipments of cane sugar west of Pittsburgh and Buffalo, so that region can be supplied by the domestic beet sugar crop, which produces about 800,000 tons during the last three months of the year. Negotiations have been going on between the government and the Louisiana growers for the purchase of the present crop. The government has decided not to purchase the crop, but, according to "The New Orleans Times-Picayune," the United States District Attorney at New Orleans has fixed 17 cents a pound as the maximum price. This decision has been bitterly opposed by various

planters, who consider it impossible to avoid a loss at this price.

Owing to strict control by the Sugar Equalization Board the wholesale price has remained unchanged, at 8.82 cents a pound, since September, 1918, which is unique in the year of rising prices. Future prices depend upon the fate of the equalization board, which is dissolved by the proclamation of peace. The present contract with the Cuban sugar growers expires at the end of this year, and, even if the life of the board be extended, it is too late, according to its president, Mr. Zabriskie, to purchase the 1920 Cuban crop. It would be useless, he said, to purchase the crop outright unless the board were sure of continued control during 1920, a thing which is still unsettled. Refiners have been advised to make their own purchases as soon as possible. Still, he thought, although it was too late to buy the Cuban sugar, it would be advisable to continue the board in order to prevent profiteering and undue absorption of sugar into the luxury trades. Prices seem bound to rise after January 1 to a certain extent, depending on how much government control remains, the uncertainty from which question having already caused some speculation and hoarding.

### Congress May Help

A bill has been introduced into Congress giving the equalization board control over beet and cane sugar until the end of 1920, but has not yet come to a vote. Continued food control would be welcome, says "The Seattle Times," which doubts whether the law of supply and demand and competition would be able to prevent a stiff rise in prices. Various other papers note different aspects of the problem; "The Christian Science Monitor" thinks it useless to fix a low price for sugar when it can only be had in the form of candy at 40 cents a pound or over, while "The Cleveland Plain-Dealer" advises moderate purchases and abstaining from candy and sweets. Inhibition, it thinks, has caused an increase in the use of home-made beer and candy. Apparently there is a shortage, but an increased supply, it reports of scarcity cause a panic in the public mind, which only makes it worse. A moderate use of sugar, with fewer purchases of candy and similar luxuries, should leave quite enough sugar for every one in this country.

# The Fight on Townley From Within His Ranks

A REVOLUTION has broken out in North Dakota, right among the Nonpartisan Leaguers, against the domination of A. C. Townley, says "The New Nebraskan," the newspaper opposing the league in Nebraska.

According to a dispatch from the Fargo correspondent of the foregoing publication, a thousand farmers of Steele County, North Dakota, at a meeting in Finley on October 27, adopted resolutions calling on the farmers of the state to "stand by Attorney General Langer, leader of the revolting farmers, in his fight on unscrupulous politicians and grafters." The resolution was adopted after Langer had delivered a stirring speech telling how the state is being exploited by Townley and his associates. The account reads as follows:

"Steele County is declared to be one of the strongholds of the Nonpartisan League, and farmers were attracted to the meeting over a radius of fifty miles. This action was in line with a sentiment that developed concurrent with the recent mass meeting of farmers at Fargo to demand, in effect, that the Supreme Court should reopen the closed Nonpartisan League bank at Fargo. A delegation of leaguers went to that Fargo mass meeting representing the farmer stockholders in a farmers' paper at Mandan that had refused dictation from Townley and the league's press bureau. They carried with them the following resolution, which had been adopted by the stockholders in the paper:

"Resolved, That we, members of the National Nonpartisan League and stockholders in 'The Mandan News,' in meeting assembled, do hereby go on record as requesting the executive officers of the National Nonpartisan League, within the next thirty days, to assist us in forming district and precinct locals, whereby provision shall be made that all projects and matters of impor-

tant that affect the principles of political and industrial democracy and public ownership of public utilities shall be referred to the membership, through the locals, for discussion."

"The paper in which these men are stockholders is 'The Mandan News.' 'The Merton County Farmers' Press,' a Mandan league paper, having become involved some time ago in a controversy with the head of the Nonpartisan League press bureau, was outlawed and its editor had his head punched by Liggett, St. Paul manager of the league press bureau, whereupon the deposed editor was engaged by an organization of league farmers to start a new paper, which they financed, and in opposition to the restored 'Farmers' Press.' This new paper is 'The News.'"

"When the delegation got to Fargo with its resolution favoring a more democratic administration of the league, they presented it to Governor Frazier for his approval, but he was too busy. Then they presented it to Hagen, president of the closed bank, but he couldn't see the idea, declaring that 'no political organization can succeed without a head.' When presented to Justice Robinson of the Supreme Court for his approval, that Townley-chosen justice responded, 'wiser heads than yours will attend to this matter,' doubtless meaning Townley and his henchmen.

"But the sentiment embodied in that farmer resolution has been growing, as witness the indorsement of Langer by the Steele County farmers. "Meantime Attorney General Langer is seemingly bent on making good in his fight against Townley and Townleyism in the state, for under date of October 25 he issued the following challenge: "To A. C. Townley: I hereby challenge you to meet me in public debate at Fargo, N. D., to debate the following: "1—The Valley City bank deal. "2—The looting of the Scandinavian-American bank. "3—The Miss Minnie J. Nielson controversy. "4—Why J. B. Waters was ap-

pointed bank examiner and later manager of the Bank of North Dakota.

"5. That the organization of the Nonpartisan League is not democratic, but that you are an autocrat absolutely controlling the same.

"The committee on arrangements

### Where Was the First Printing Press?

THE location of the first printing press in the Northwest is being disputed by two states, Minnesota and South Dakota, says a dispatch to "The Minneapolis Journal."

The historic printing press, an old Washington hand-press, which, it is claimed, printed the first newspaper in the Northwest, is now in the hands of the Minnesota Historical Society. The Minnesota contention as to the history of the press is substantially as follows: "Its active career began back in 1856, when John King, of Dubuque, purchased it in Cincinnati. He arrived in Dubuque with the new press on May 1, 1856, after a tedious trip on a river steamboat. The first issue of this paper, 'The Dubuque Visitor,' appeared on May 11. It is said that the 'Visitor' was the only paper north of St. Louis and west of the Mississippi River at that time.

"For some six or seven years the press did excellent service, but in 1843, for some reason or other, it was sold to three representatives of a stock concern, J. Allen Barber, Daniel Benfill and Nelson Derby, who later was to become Wisconsin's first governor. These men took the press across the river to Lancaster, Wis., to print the Grant County 'Herald,' of which L. O. Schrader was the first editor. "The 'Herald' changed owners several times in the next few years, passing finally into the hands of James M. Goodhue, a lawyer by profession and a fighting editor of the old school. Goodhue tired of publishing long columns of withering editorials, and in the spring of 1849 shipped his press up the river to St. Paul, Minn., where he founded the 'Pioneer,' which years afterward became the 'Pioneer Press.' "In 1855 the press passed into the hands of Jeremiah Russell, who took it to Sauk Rapids to use in printing an-

other pioneer venture, 'The Frontiersman.' After that it changed hands frequently. It printed 'The Sauk Rapids New Era,' 'The St. Cloud Union' and 'The Sauk Valley Press,' conducted by Herman Muhlenberg, state adjutant general. The material of this publication was later sold to 'The Lindstrom Citizen,' a Swedish newspaper. Shortly after this old press found its last home in the state museum in St. Paul.

"After the press had printed 'The Pioneer Press' of St. Paul for several years, Governor Samuel J. Albright, associate editor of the St. Paul paper, purchased it in 1858, carted it 400 miles across the prairies to Sioux Falls, Dakota Territory, where, July 3, 1859, he established and printed 'The Dakota Democrat,' said to be the first newspaper published in the Dakotas.

"During the Indian hostilities of 1862, Sioux Falls was abandoned and the Indians took possession of the place. During their sack of the town they found the old press and broke it to pieces. The settlers found the fragments but could not put it together again. Senator R. F. Pettigrew, of Sioux Falls, is understood to have secured the plate and made from it a doorstep which was in his possession for many years. "The South Dakota story has been verified satisfactorily so far as the South Dakota department is concerned, by Governor Albright, who wrote in regard to it that 'it was so stated, so understood and, I believe, so published upon its removal to Dakota.' "But, on the other hand, in the Minnesota museum stands a press which is claimed to be the one in dispute. This one is simply constructed and from its appearance might have printed every pioneer newspaper in the Northwest. Whatever the true story of the identity of the press may be, it is well worth contention."

is to be selected in the following manner: I to select one, A. C. Townley to select one, and these two to select the third.

"I promise to treat you like a gentleman and you can treat me any way you like.

"This challenge is to you and to you alone. You will not be permitted to substitute for yourself, the night of the debate, either Victor Berger, Walter Thomas Mills, Kate O'Hare, Lynn J. Frazier, Emma Goldman, Bill Hayward, or any one else."

"Last reports from North Dakota indicate that Townley has been too busy to either accept or reject this challenge, and it is believed he will so continue.

"But, say, it is warming up in North Dakota, despite the arrival of winter snows and the scarcity of fuel.

"A recent issue of the Nebraska organ of the league carried a cartoon depicting a farmer snoring blissfully away in his bed, oblivious of the fact that all of the rest of the world was in turmoil. He was supposed to represent the State of North Dakota. Yet there is nowhere any greater commotion than is to-day rallying the forces of Nonpartisan League farmers into opposing camps. There is a veritable upheaval among the farmers of that state in an effort to free themselves from the tyrannical and expensive domination of the Townley socialistic bund, many of the processes of which would be riotously funny if not so stupendously serious and important.

"Here is how Townley receives any suggestion of a relinquishment of the socialistic crown he wears, as told in 'The Fargo Forum': "A. C. Townley to-day asserted to two Nonpartisan League members that 'he built the organization,' and that he would decline to give control of it to the members of the league until he had 'finished his job.' "An account of an incident that strikingly portrays Mr. Townley's attitude toward attempts at democratizing the Nonpartisan League

was furnished to 'The Forum' today, as follows:

"Two well known staunch Nonpartisan League men met A. C. Townley, president of the league, this morning, and still having faith that that gentleman still might have a germ of desire for putting the government into the hands of the people instead of a political gang, they courteously and directly stated their view. The result was as follows: "Townley—Tell me what there is that is not democratic about the league."

"First Leaguer—The executives can float private enterprises without first consulting the membership; also the nominating power is vested in you and two other executives."

"Townley—Come up to my office and we will talk it over instead of on the street here. You may have a better plan than I have. I do not know."

"First Leaguer—All right."

"Townley—I built this organization."

"First Leaguer—You helped build this organization."

"Townley—If it wasn't for me you would have no organization. I am putting across what you fellows want. In four or five years I will have accomplished what I want, and then you fellows can take it and run it and do as you damn please. What the hell do you want to be butting into my business for? This is none of your damn business."

"This final declaration was made while the trio was ascending the stairs to the Nonpartisan League office; Mr. Townley's courtesy, apparent at the outset of the interview, had disappeared, and in its place was anger, malice and contempt.

"The leaguers abandoned their task there, leaving Mr. Townley to enter his office alone, as one of the leaguers commented: 'Come back, do not go in. His words and attitude are sufficient.'"