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TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1921.

To Control Brindellism.

The proposed legislation to put business, trade and labor combinations under the supervision and control of a central State authority is not in conflict with the common sense policy and economy programme of the new Governor and the new Legislature.

But because the State Government is to duplicate scores of overlapping, duplicating, needless bureaus and commissions of useless job holders going along with them, is no reason it should not set up other machinery that is wanted and can give efficient public service.

Heroines of the Air Service.

In the days of suspense concerning the fate of the naval aviators who left Rockaway on December 13, and from whom no word was received until January 2, when news of their safety relieved the nation's fears, nothing was more heartening than the quiet composure and confidence which marked the attitude of the women of their families.

Pashich Returns.

In the Cabinet installed at Belgrade yesterday by decree of the Prince Regent, acting for King Peter, Nicola PASHICH, Serbian Premier at the outbreak of the world war, became Premier and Foreign Minister.

Our National Library.

Representative Fess of Ohio recently delivered in the House an interesting lecture on our national library at Washington, still officially known as the Library of Congress, as if it remained to-day merely the aggregation of law books and political histories.

Review of a New Book.

It's bound in paper covers; its letter press is poor. But 'twill be truly cherished, of you may be sure. It isn't a best seller, you'd hardly call it such.

Going the Limit in Wisconsin.

From the Lancaster Teller. The low down senny half-breed that swiped our log cabin from the bridge where we were working does not need to bring it back as we have another one, but if there is a ball for dogs I hope he gets a seat in the front row with my compliments.

What We Are Getting.

Knicker-Like the old fashioned winter? Bookee-No, I prefer an open winter openly against it.

Always been peace in southern Europe.

and he will no doubt endeavor to secure this by the same policy which he pursued before the war, that of an amicable understanding among the Balkan States and their neighbors.

No Flood of Immigrants.

A careful survey made by THE NEW YORK HERALD in the great ports of Europe does not show 25,000,000 people, good, bad or indifferent, starting an overwhelming flood of immigration into the United States.

Furthermore, in some of the countries declared by the scatterbrains to be sending a big proportion of their population to us the people are not trying to come over here, don't want to come and could not be moved to come except under compulsion.

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workshop of students and scholars.

who, attracted in large numbers by its resources for research and reference, make Washington, Dr. Fess believes, the intellectual as well as the political capital of the nation.

The library is rapidly approaching in size the French National Library and the British Museum, and it is significant of its growing importance that reference readers in Washington are numbered as many as those who visit the national libraries in Paris and London.

The first turn in the native mind came, according to the report, through the publication in Mesopotamia of President Wilson's Fourteen Points and of the Anglo-French declaration of an intention to establish among the people long oppressed by the Turks "a national government and administration drawing their authority from the free choice of indigenous populations." Events in Syria gave malcontents opportunity to advocate a resort to force in Mesopotamia.

The result was that the political programme of these disturbers "gained ground as the weakness of the British garrisons became apparent."

The one point gained by the British administration is settlement of the hereditary disputes among the different tribal chiefs. The Turks kept these tribal strifes alive and on the principle of divide and rule managed to exercise control over the country.

But in this reversal of policy the report does not attempt to show that British influence has won the tribal chiefs' support or has secured any specific benefits.

The report is instructive and illuminating, but it is neither cheerful nor encouraging. An English writer who professes a knowledge of conditions in the East says in the British political review *The Round Table* that if Mesopotamia is assured of the same status as Canada or Australia it will cost no more in money and men than these countries do.

"The only alternative," he says, "is to hold on with ever lessening force till anarchy is too expensive and we let go." This may or may not represent British opinion, but it is very evident that to the Government the occupation and administration of Mesopotamia appears a much more formidable undertaking now than it did two years ago.

Over Mr. Wilson's Veto.

On November 2, 1920, the people of the United States voted for a reversal of the administrative policies of our Government. Yesterday the United States Senate started the reversing process. The President vetoed the bill reviving the War Finance Corporation, a measure urged by banks and business men and passed by Congress to help clear up the chaos in our export trade.

The British in Mesopotamia.

British administration of Mesopotamia has come in for considerable criticism in England. One of the reasons for this is that despite the loss of men, the expenditure of large sums of money and the apparent lack of satisfactory accomplishments there was for a long time practically no official statement regarding the policy of the Government or of the results attained. The report on the Mesopotamian civil administration which has just been issued as a White Paper by the India Office is designed to answer some of this criticism. Consequently it has attracted an unusual degree of interest.

The report covers the period from the landing of the British forces at the mouth of the Shatt-el-Arab in November, 1914, to the arrival of Sir Percy Cox at Bagdad in July of last year for the purpose of taking preliminary steps to establish an Arab Government. In the first place, the administration was successful in an unexpected way; it accumulated in the first four years, a considerable surplus, although in that time roads, bridges, ports and other works of a lasting benefit to the population were constructed. An explanation of this surplus may be found in the fact that much of the public work was done by the army and charged against the military administration. It is estimated that the value of the permanent improvements made by the army of occupation alone is upward of \$30,000,000.

The problems of population and of conditions which may bring about economic progress have not been satisfactorily solved. While the railroad mileage has been greatly increased the demand for both skilled and unskilled labor is, and for a considerable time will be, far in excess of the supply in the country. Less than 15 per cent. of the railway workers are natives and at least 80 per cent. are Indians.

Man power is a very important matter in Mesopotamia. A substantial addition to the population is absolutely necessary if the natural resources are to be developed.

The introduction of foreign settlers of alien race or creed might be attended by grave political consequences, while the Persians, Kurds and other peoples who would be acceptable to the Arabs will not emigrate to Mesopotamia in numbers sufficient to make up the deficiency. The only hope apparently is in improved health and

sanitary conditions. "If infant mortality were arrested," the report says, "and children given a better prospect of reaching adult life the population might not improbably be doubled in the next thirty or forty years."

The Arabs are difficult to govern. The British understand them better than do any other Europeans, and it was largely due to British influence that their Kingdom of Hedjaz was established. Before the armistice the people of Mesopotamia were resigned to the prospect of living under British administration.

The first turn in the native mind came, according to the report, through the publication in Mesopotamia of President Wilson's Fourteen Points and of the Anglo-French declaration of an intention to establish among the people long oppressed by the Turks "a national government and administration drawing their authority from the free choice of indigenous populations." Events in Syria gave malcontents opportunity to advocate a resort to force in Mesopotamia.

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Beltegeux the Big.

He's to the Earth as the Kansas Crop is to a Grain of Wheat.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: A fairly comprehensive illustration of the size of the Alpha star in the constellation Orion would be as follows:

Let one grain of wheat represent the earth. Let four bushels of wheat represent the sun.

Proportionately the Alpha star would have to be represented by 168,000,000 bushels, or about as much as the Kansas winter wheat crop will amount to.

FRANCIS CARTER, NEW YORK, JANUARY 3.

Birds on the Farm.

Their Superiority to the Cat as an Asses Is Asserted.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: I had not supposed it possible that in 1920 a correspondent of your paper could make the assertion that "a cat is more useful than all the birds can possibly be" to farmers. Therefore I was surprised to read A. C. Weeks's letter.

For some years in our public schools in the country even the children have been taught the great value of birds from an economic point of view. The migratory bird law has attracted so much attention and the bulletins of the Department of Agriculture have been so carefully studied that I thought every one living in the country or the suburbs understood the devastation wrought by insects, and that apart from the costly and difficult job of spraying trees and bushes the only way of keeping the hordes of marauders in check is by the help of the birds.

Elaborate calculations have been made by biological experts and it has been determined how many insects are put out of commission during the nesting season by a single pair of adult birds through the destruction of the insects themselves and their eggs and larvae, which would later develop into insects.

The amount when multiplied by the number of birds in a single State becomes almost unbelievable.

The cat is valuable to the farmer's wife by killing the mice in the pantry, but carefully set traps would dispose of these and very few cats would or could keep the gray squirrels or the great rats which prey upon the grain in the farmers' granaries. As for the field mice so destructive to fruit trees, the slow sailing hawk, not the swift small chicken hawk, but the butecs, cope with them more effectively than domestic cats, whose name implies their nature and habits.

The guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Sherrill in the Astor were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gilkpie, Mr. Charles A. Childs and Mr. Ruter B. Jewett.

Toscanini Orchestra at Benefit.

Arturo Toscanini and his La Scala Orchestra gave an extra concert outside of their Metropolitan subscription series at Carnegie Hall last night for the benefit of the Italian War Relief.

Wall Street.

A bull who went to heaven was slain and to hell he went. He could not be paroled.

A bear who went to hades For all the gloom he preached Did not believe it likely That bottom had been reached.

A little lamb who gambolled Upon this mundane ball Had doubts that terra firma Was really firm at all.

Disarmament.

Effect of the Inventor's Labors on National Psychology.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: As the initiator of a provision in the 1916 naval bill, quoted in your paper of January 1, I may perhaps be permitted to throw some light on its application.

I am of course aware of the fact that neither he who proposes legislation nor lawmakers who adopt it can claim any other role than that of commentators in respect to its interpretation. That important operation must, in the first instance, be performed by administrators, and in the last instance, by courts.

Income of a Mechanic.

It May Not Be as Large as the Rate of \$9 a Day Suggests.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: The comparison made in a letter printed in your paper of the pay of policemen and mechanics is unfair.

There is a vast difference between a job and a permanent place, between