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Thursday Morning, November 2, 1916.

THE "DRUG FIEND."

At a meeting of the American Medical Editors' Association in New York City, devoted to considering special narcotic legislation, an elderly physician from California made this plea:

"In behalf of the millions of drug users in this country, I beg of you to be merciful to the 'drug fiend.' Recommend no laws that will brand him forever as a being outside the pale of society. I myself have been a drug fiend for over twenty years. I have taken thirteen cures to free myself of the evil, and have spent long terms in many institutions. I know the tortures of the drug, and know how hard it is to free oneself from its toils.

"You call the drug-taker a 'fiend,' but you do not call the man who takes too much whisky a fiend. He is not an outcast from decent society merely because of his habitual drinking. His habit is recognized as unfortunate and injurious, but society lets him go without stigma or reproach. But the drug-taker, though the habit be no stronger upon him than the whisky habit upon the toper, is regarded as a man apart and not fit to associate with other men, and a man against whom harsh laws must be passed for the protection of the race.

"In behalf of the millions like myself, both those whose weakness is known to the police authorities and those whose weakness is concealed, I appeal for a better understanding of the evil and a wiser course of dealing with its victims."

This unfortunate physician was right. It is a false and pernicious idea that drugs are only used by habitues of the underworld, or that a drug habit is evidence of a vicious disposition and justifies treating its possessor as an outcast. The great majority of drug-takers fell into their slavery through ignorance, and are to be pitied and helped rather than treated with disdain.

This slavery has grown to appalling proportions in the United States in the last few years, and even the corrective legislation enacted by congress and state legislatures has merely checked its growth, not eliminated it.

There are two things that need to be done, according to the views of experts. The first is to prevent the sale of all habit-forming drugs except on the prescription of a reputable physician, in cases of imperative necessity. That aim has partly been attained through federal and state laws, but there are still too many leaks in the traffic.

The second new requirement, no less necessary than the first, is to treat the drug addicts as patients rather than criminals, and use all available medical resources to cure them. Nearly all of them can be cured, and can be kept cured, if when the drug-hunger has once been removed by recognized courses of treatment they are saved from further temptation by an absolute embargo on their accustomed drugs.

TEACHERS AS TOWNSHIP LEADERS.

The teaching profession seems to be coming again into its ancient honor, and taking on more than its ancient usefulness, especially in western rural communities. Nebraska, for example, is priding itself not merely on its better country schools and better buildings for township centers, but on the enlarged scope of work and influence of its head rural teachers.

The head teacher has an office in the central building and means of travel about the township. He gives close supervision to the regular school work, and sees that it is properly related to the rural life about him. He directs various educational activities that have sprung up as a result of the fuller use of the schoolhouses as social centers. He becomes a true community leader, organizing boys' and girls' clubs, inducing parents to form home clubs and making his position a center from which radiate all sorts of wholesome influences.

Thus a teacher of ability can find under the new system plenty of opportunity for the exercise of his talents. Rural teaching becomes a broad, big work, instead of the petty, narrowing routine that it represented not so very long ago. And as a result, men and women of larger caliber and better preparation are entering the field.

It's one of the many things that are redeeming country life from its old isolation and provinciality and making it in many respects superior to city life.

The Hughes attack on the Wilson program, like the Villa attack on our southwestern border, demonstrates that border warfare is scarcely to be commended for dignity, principle, or success.

FEED THE BOY.

"How that boy does eat!"
Well, why not? There are perfectly good scientific reasons for it. No matter how much he eats, he probably doesn't eat more than he needs. A writer in the Journal of the American Medical Association, reporting some experiments recently made in a food laboratory, declares that a growing boy of school age requires 50 per cent more food than a hard-working adult farmer. And the growing school girl needs nearly as much.

Have you ever seen a hard-working adult farmer eat? Or a hired hand? Then just remember that Johnny or Jimmy or Willy ought, by rights, to eat half as much again if he's to thrive and grow as Nature intended him to. And don't begrudge him the grub or stare at him with disapproval when he comes home from school and proceeds to eat his way through a small mountain of provender.

From observation 300 boys living a normal, healthful life at a private boarding school, and getting all the nourishing food they wanted, an investigator found that they consumed an average of 4,350 calories a day at the table, and in addition bought about 650 calories at a neighboring store—mostly chocolate. Thus they evidently required about 5,000 calories a day apiece. The farmer or other outdoor worker doesn't seem to need more than two-thirds that much, because he has his growth and needs nourishment only for fuel.

This 5,000 calories, needless to say, is a great deal more than most school children get, especially in the poorer section of cities. Many children of well-to-do parents don't get more than half that much, because their food is unwisely selected or they are allowed to develop unnatural appetites. That accounts for a great deal of slow development, stunted growth and poor school work.

OVERCOMING ILLITERACY.

Georgia has long been known as one of the backward states in the matter of education. While North Dakota was spending \$9.62 per capita in the support of public schools, Minnesota \$8.33 and Oregon \$7.60, Georgia was spending only \$1.98 per capita. Only three states paid less for educational purposes.

And it wasn't mere stinginess on the part of Georgia's citizens. As the state superintendent of education explains, it was largely a matter of principle. "Although nominally democratic, education in this state was actually aristocratic until a recent period. The idea seems to have been that it were better to educate a few of us to rule over and manage the affairs of the many. To this hour it is practically impossible to change the inborn and inbred feeling of many old leaders on this subject."

But real democracy has triumphed. The majority of citizens have swung around to the view that it is the chief duty of any state to train and educate all its citizens, and that no parent has a right to refuse his child an education. So Georgia has enacted a compulsory school attendance law.

Having provided for the instruction of the children, the state is now turning to the problem of educating illiterate adults. One white man out of every six cannot read the ballot he casts or write his name. Even for these, says the state superintendent, there is hope.

"It has been shown by work in several counties," he says, "that the ordinary man or woman can be taught to read, write and do simple number work—enough to remove forever the stigma of illiteracy—within the space of five or six weeks, even if there is not more than an hour or two of training each day."

If it's so easy as that, what excuse is there for any state having any illiterates at all except its few mental incompetents?

ABUSING PROSPERITY.

Never has American labor made so much progress toward high wages and short hours as in this war time. An industrial commission reports that in New York state the number of persons engaged in gainful occupations has increased 25 per cent and the wage disbursements have increased 40 per cent. National labor organizations estimate that workers numbering nearly 6,000,000 have received wage increases aggregating \$360,000,000. Others put the figure still higher.

Now, what are the employees doing with these added millions? Much of their added income is no doubt wisely used to pay old debts, to buy necessities and deserved comforts formerly unobtainable, to purchase property and put away savings. But there is evidence that a good many workers and their families are neglecting their opportunity to get ahead.

The federal reserve agent in a big iron district reported recently:

"Workmen are reducing the week's work to four or five instead of six days. Absences are being taken whenever desired, regardless of the effect on production. In the face of a higher wage and a shorter day, workmen are seemingly content to average the previous rate of wage." There is said to be testimony to the same effect in many manufacturing districts. And men who are working as hard as ever, and therefore making considerably more money, are said to be spending their earnings as if they expected the present run of prosperity to be everlasting.

The corporations are not so short-sighted. It is pointed out that fifty manufacturing firms are holding out of their profits, against a rainy day, a volume of cash equal to the total amount of the wage increases granted to all the workmen in the country. Thus, if hard times ensue, the employers will be far better able to meet them than their employees.

It may be argued that it's easier for the capitalists to put away a surplus, because they're making so much more than labor in spite of the big wage advances. But the question is, are the laboring men saving what they can? They now have the best chance they have ever had to put themselves beyond the fear of future want.

ADAMSON BILL IS GOLD BRICK

(Continued from page one.)
iron and steel industry.

"We know that on account of the European war the exports of iron and steel jumped in a year from \$51,000,000 to over \$621,000,000 an increase of two and a half times because of the great demand created by the European war. That demand was caused in a very large part by the needs of munitions; it also was caused in very large part by the fact that men on the other side were taken away from their pursuits and productive activities and were put in the trenches to fight.

"Now, when that demand for war materials ends, when the war orders come to an end under our present policy, as embodied in the Underwood tariff passed by our opponents, you can see yourself going back to work for one or two or three days a week.

"This is a severely practical proposition. We know what happened to us twenty months ago. There are some who say, 'Why, America is ready.' Look at great, strong America. Can America stand anything? Well, America was just as strong and just as great 20 months ago as it is today. They say, well, look at the men in America. Can't they do anything? I reply, well, the men in America were just as great 20 months ago as they are today.

"You've got to have something besides this greatness that we talk about in such eloquent phrases and you have got to have something more than these alert and splendid men. You have got to have business policies that protect the industries of the United States.

"It is a perfectly absurd thing that any intelligent man should stand before the American community and talk about tariff for revenue only. You cannot run the United States in that way. The nations on the other side are learning the necessity of protecting their interests. Even Great Britain, who, on account of her special conditions, favored the free trade policy so long, has come to a protective policy.

"And what will you see when this war is over? In the first place, you will find that nations over there have

learned a great deal. They learned more in the years of this war than they have learned in a long period before. They have learned about themselves. They have learned how to cooperate. And we have got to learn a lot more of that in our country."

WOODROW WILSON
President of the United States



"HE HAS KEPT US OUT OF WAR"

This is the face of a man strong, courageous, patient and kindly, a man—
Always alert to the aspirations of his fellow-man and sympathetic toward their fulfillment;
Never complacent toward the encroachments of privilege nor tolerant of social wrong;
Always seeking to enhance the dignity of labor and better the state of the toiler;
Never lending an ear to the sophistry of exploitation or the blandishments of expediency;
Always patient to hear and weigh, to appraise and analyze, and passionate to find the way of right;
Never premature in purpose nor prejudiced in judgment, and never headlong in decision—
Such is WOODROW WILSON.

CRUSHED



RED SOX MANAGER IS SILENT UPON OFFER.

LEWISTON, Me., Nov. 1. William F. Carrigan, former Red Sox manager, made no comment when informed to-

night of the sale of the team. He said he was not with the purchased team and had no knowledge of the deal, though he had known that the club was on the market.

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