WEBSTER CITY FREEMAN

Issued every Monday by the Freeman-Journal Publishing Company Webster City, Iowa.

Entered at the Webster City Postoffice as Second Class Matter.

Foreign advertising representative—THE S. C. THEIS COMPANY, New York and Chicago.

The Freeman and Journal, both papers, per year.....$2.50
The Daily Freeman-Journal, by mail, per year.....$5.00
Delivered, in city per year.....$6.00

Quite a number of automobiles are seen without the 1922 license plate. The person who cannot pay the license cannot afford to own and drive a car. He would be wise to dispose of it.

And now "they are saying" down in Missouri that the opposition of former President Wilson to Reed is helping the senator in his race for re-nomination. But few are believing it, however.

As strange as it may seem, the Genoa conference has conceded that Germany and Russia are interested and should have something to say about the reconstruction of Russia and Germany. That is progress.

When the price of gasoline gets as high as it can go it will stop going up, is the conclusion of some wise philosopher. Do you remember before the war when it retailed at nine cents a gallon? The oil itself doesn't cost any more now than it did then.

Some of the highbrows are insisting that the United States can solve Europe's problems. Well, perhaps Europe can solve our problems, which is more than we have been able to do. This thing of solving problems off-hand is not as easy as it might be.

Somebody has charged that Director Dawes of the buget system has not succeeded in curtailing government expenses. Although we have not seen Mr. Dawes reply we can imagine it is something like this: ——!!! d——h——??? * * * liar! etc., etc., and then some.

Those two democratic newspapers, the Ringstad Dispatch and Boone County Pioneer, are taking unusual interest in the nomination of a republican candidate for congress from the Tenth district. They call themselves "independent," as democratic papers always do that are ashamed of their party.

It was announced a few days ago that the Iowa railroads are moving more cars of freight than at any time since the boom days of 1919. This is most encouraging even though most astonishing while the big coal strike is on and during a season when little grain is being moved.

Generally speaking, the minimum upon which a family can live is the sum which the provider happens to earn.—Lincoln Journal.

The Journal is not far wrong. The average family lives up about all it makes and then complains at the few who save and accumulate.

George E. Alter, candidate for governor of Pennsylvania against Gifford Pinchot, carried Philadelphia and Pittsburg by more than 126,000 majority, yet Pinchot was nominated by a substantial lead, the vote outside the cities, not quite complete, standing as follows: Alter 136,000; Pinchot 317,000.

President Harding and the republican national committee are wise in refusing to take part in the various contests between republicans for senatorial and congressional nominations. The president ought to be satisfied with the election of good republicans and the national committee should be concerned only in the election of the candidates nominated by the party.

E. E. Hunt, secretary of the president's conference on unemployment, declares in a statement that April showed the largest gain in employment of any month during the present year. The gain is steady and it is the judgment of Mr. Hunt that it is going to continue. This is most encouraging and is another indication that the worst is over.

Clifford Thorne would be a pretty good man for Iowa to send to the United States senate to co-operate with Albert J. Beveridge, whom Indiana is going to send to take the place of New. Thorne is much such a man as Kenyon and would be able to fill Kenyon's shoes. He is the only one of the Iowa candidates who could and would qualify to do that. Pickett could but wouldn't. He is on the other side of the political fence.

Mr. Stone, head of the locomotive engineers, presents another reason why prohibition is a good thing. He says it results in bad whiskey, very bad whiskey, which "kills off the parasites in the leisure class." Guess he is right about it. Society would hardly take an axe and kill these good-for-nothings, even if it does feel like it, and perhaps bootleg whiskey is performing a good public function after all.

National taxes are being slowly reduced and the rates of interest are gradually coming down. These two items enter largely into the cost of production and are paid generally by consumers. Interest is being reduced because of the curtailed demand for money. The people have stopped borrowing for speculative purposes and are paying up as fast as they can. If state and local taxes could only be reduced it would help materially.

Well, well, just listen to this from a paper published away down in Florida. The Florida Post: "The enemy of the American protective policy is ready to suggest any remedy but the only real and practical one for the defense of American producers against the destructive effects of competition based upon the cheap labor and cheap materials of foreign lands. The pretense that American productive industry can be kept going in open and direct competition with the output of plants in foreign lands where labor costs are but a fraction of the same costs here, is too preposterous to command serious consideration by people of common sense."

"We think the American people are entitled to have just what they want," says the Des Moines Capital. Wonder where the Capital got that idea? No people are entitled to have anything without earning it and about every people will have what they earn sooner or later. If the Americans had everything they wanted there wouldn't be anything left for anybody else. As vanters, the American people have no superiors, or even equals.

The friends of Congressman Dickinson are confidently expecting his renomination by at least a two to one vote. He has made the best record of any congressman from this district since the days of Dolliver and the people are going to show him that they appreciate it. The chances are there would have been no opposition to his re-nomination but for disappointments in some quarters over the division of socalled federal patronage.

The United Department of Agriculture has established specifications for 14 fruits and vegetables. The list is: barrelled apples, peaches, strawberries, cabbage, cucumbers, celery, lettuce, Bermuda onions, Northern grown onions, white potatoes, sweet potatoes, cauliflower and asparagus. Those interested in copies of the grade specifications for any of these can obtain the same by addressing the United States Bureau of Market and Crop Estimates.

The republicans of Iowa will be well represented in the upper house of congress if Burton E. Sweet is chosen as United States senator. He has a fine record as a member of the lower house and is a man who can be depended upon to stay hitched without watching. While the Freeman-Journal believes Clifford Thorne can serve the people better than any of the candidates, it will be very well satisfied with any nomination except that of Mr. Pickett and it will take Mr. Pickett if it must.

The Des Moines News, which had a disastrous fire a few days ago, is being printed in the office of the Capital and in acknowledging its obligation to its competitor says: "One test of a gentleman in that he extends a favor in a way that makes you feel that you are doing him a favor by letting him do it. That is the attitude of every one in The Capital office from the Lafes Young, Claude Jarnagin and John Ball to Messrs. Jones, Fowler and on down—or should one say "down" when starting with an editor?"

Senator New is what the boys would call "a good old sport." He was defeated for re-nomination in the Indiana primaries and now announces that he is strongly for the ticket, declaring that he "takes off his hat to the winner." That is the right spirit. The Iowa candidates for United States senator must do likewise, if they want to hold public respect, after the primaries here, or after the state convention. When the nominee is named the party must bury all differences and present an unbroken front to the enemy.

An old crab at our elbow says that Dr. Royal S. Copeland, commissioner of health in New York City, ought to be canned for telling people how to live 100 years. "Why," says this old crab, "a lot of fellows now live twenty or thirty years longer than they ought to for their own good and for the good of the country. Instead of telling people how to live longer Dr. Copeland ought to tell them how to live more in a year and how to be useful to the world." Guess the old crab is right about it. It is more important to live right than to live long.

Postmaster General Work has announced that 600 ex-service men have been commissioned as postmasters since President Harding issued his executive order May 10, 1921. This order authorized the Civil Service Commission and postal authorities to give a 5 per cent preference to ex-service men taking examinations for the eligible list of appointments as postmasters. This number is considered rather remarkable by the Postoffice Department inasmuch as nine of them had no previous postoffice experience and a large number of them had no business experience whatever."

Lenine says that the debts contracted by Russia when it was a monarchy are not binding on the present government. Why not? The Romanoff's governed Russia for centuries and if the debts contracted under their reign are not legitimate are other contracts entered into by the monarchy valid? If Russia can repudiate the debts owed this country for money borrowed cannot she now repudiate the deed conveying Alaska to the United States? If not, why not? Should the present Russian government undertake to violate that agreement and try to take possession of Alaska it would mean war.

Some of the papers of the state are making predictions of the way the senatorial primary is going to go. Some put Pickett in the lead, others think Thorne will be first and some believe Brookhart will get more votes than any of them. The Freeman-Journal is going to make a guess and its guess is just as good as anybody's, but no better. It is guessing that Thorne will lead, Brookhart will be second, and Pickett third, and the others will come under the wire in the following order: Sweet, Francis, Stanley. If the nomination goes to the convention the high man in the primary stands a good show, but the opposition may unite and defeat him and the nominee may be a man who is not now a candidate.

The following, from the Democratic Dubuque Telegraph-Herald, reads as though it might have been written 18 months ago when Wilson was in the White house: "Big business and the administration are thoroughly en rapport. Watch the diplomatic moves made at Washington and you will know the international program which big business indorses. If you suppose we have delayed recognition of Russia on moral grounds your ingenuousness is refreshing. When big business feels investments in Russia are safe the soviet will be recognized. When big business collects its debts in Haiti our troops will be withdrawn. When Mexico is considered safe for commercial operations we will establish diplomatic relations across the Rio Grande."

With increasing prosperity come more opportunities to invest in wildcat stocks and it is reported that stock salesmen are increasing all over the country. Once in a while something of merit is offered, but probably ninety-nine per cent of the stock offered for sale is worthless and always will be. The stock is printed upon fine bond paper, highly engraved and stamped with a seal interwoven with blue ribbon. It looks good and is expected to create confidence. However, it is not really worth as much as it cost to execute it. The people of Iowa have had a lot of unpleasant experiences with various kinds of stocks and it would appear to be unnecessary to issue warnings against buying more. However, it is said that a sucker is born every minute and that one seldom dies. This puts hope into the heart of the grafters.

Moving picture producers would do a popular thing if they would cut out all parts of pictures showing cruelty to animals, whether beast or fowl. The sporting pictures are especially offensive to sensitive people, where birds are shot for sport or where animals are trapped for their fur. The exhibitions, too, that take place in England and elsewhere, showing the idlers hunting horseback following a pack of dogs after a fox or a rabbit are anything but pleasant to people of humane inclination. Then there is the trap shooting of live pigeons or other birds. Not one in a hundred like such exhibitions. The cruelties indulged in the wild west exhibitions, the branding of cattle and the misuse of horses, etc., are anything but edifying. Possibly they are true to life, but the average person doesn't want to see them on the screen.

There need be no surprise at the attitude of the present Russian government toward Germany. While the czar was in power Russia was with the allies and Kerensky was also pro-ally, but the bolsheviki leaders had other ideas and were against the allies from the start and have been against them ever since. It is not strange, therefore, that the Russian and German delegates got together during the opening days of the Genoa conference and formed a compact that is distasteful to the allies. Such a thing might have been expected. It makes absolutely no difference what the Russians and Germans agree to at Genoa they will do what seems best to them in the future, promises or no promises. Then what's the use of trying to reach agreements with them? Some day, however, Germany and Russia will have honorable governments when it will be possible to make worth while agreements with them.

Senator Borah introduced a resolution in the senate the other day in favor of this government recognizing the soviet government of Russia, as follows: "Resolved, that the senate of the United States favors recognition of the present soviet government of Russia." The resolution was very properly laid on the table. Recognition of the Russian government is a question that can be handled better by the state department than by the senate. The state department has more information; besides it is not so apt to go off halfcocked so long as Charles Evans Hughes is at the head and so long as Warren G. Harding is president. No matter whether one approves the general records of Harding and Hughes or not, every fair-minded person must admit they are men of cool judgment and sound reasoning faculties and are much safer than such senators as Borah.

That raid recently pulled off by Ku Klux Klans in Los Angeles is proving a boomerang. The raid resulted in a murder and the prosecuting attorney is making it hot for the guilty participants. He is publishing lists of the members of the organization and there is a great scurrying for cover. Publicity is something that masked raiders do not like and it is to be hoped the gangs that have been terrorizing certain sections of the country will be broken up. Masked bandits parading under the guise of a secret organization are just as dangerous as any other bandits and the strong arm of the law must crush them. By what authority do masked criminals presume to regulate the conduct of men and women? That is the function of the laws and the courts and such functions cannot be delegated to others. It is a serious thing for anybody charged with crime to be tried in secret and condemned without a hearing. Such a proceeding is contrary to the guarantees of our constitution and cannot be tolerated.

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS.

The medical profession has for years been strongly averse to advertising, insisting that to advertise is proof positive of quackery. Some of the more sensitive M. D's have actually objected to the publishing of news items that linked their names with certain cases of more or less importance. Newspapers generally have tried to respect this point of view of the very learned men composing the medical fraternity, but have not always succeeded.

One of the peculiarities of the profession is that in spite of its aversion to paid advertising it has no objection to having its practitioners designated as doctor, such as Dr. So-and So. It would be regarded almost as an afront to refer to a doctor as plain Mr. Smith or as John Jones. It is Dr. Smith or Dr. Jones, in spite of the aversion to advertising. Why not Groceryman Smith or Clothier Jones? These gentlemen believe in advertising. But we are digressing. What we wished to call attention to is the report from Texas to the effect that the physicians of the old Lone Star State are about to remove one of the bars against advertising, thus establishing what reactionaries generally would call "a dangerous precedent." The story is told by the Cedar Falls Record as follows:

"Ethics of the medical profession prohibit doctors from advertising themselves. The rules used to be so strict, and in some places still are so rigorous, that physicians shy at giving interviews. It would seem that ethical advertising would overcome unethical medical practice and rout unethical practitioners, but members of the profession have not been able to take this point of view.

"The Texas State Medical Association has decided on publicity measures that should tend to benefit the profession and the people. It has approved a plan to advertise medical truths and information. Articles on health topics will be published as advertising. This scheme should drive fakers and fakes from the field, as the authentic information will enable the public to decide who are capable physicians and what are efficiacious remedies and what is dope."

PINCHOT'S GREAT VICTORY.

The most notable victory won in a state contest in many years is that won by Gifford Pinchot in Pennsylvania at the recent primaries. Mr. Pinchot having been nominated for governor by a small majority over George E. Alter, one of the most popular men of the old Keystone state. Mr. Alter carried the city of Philadelphia by a majority of more than 83,000, but Mr. Pinchot overcame this in the outside districts and secured a substantial lead.

The Associated Press announces the result as a victory for the independent—progressive wing of the republican party and declares that the discerning leaders of the party so regard it.

Gifford Pinchot was one of the closest personal and political friends of the late Theodore Roosevelt and when that masterful executive was looking for a man to carry out his comprehensive conservation program he picked Pinchot. Roosevelt seldom made a mistake in his estimates of men and the selection of the Pennsylvanian for the important duties imposed proved to be a wise one.

After his nomination for governor was certain Mr. Pinchot issued the following statement:

"I want to express my deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks to the republican men and women who have given me their confidence. There are two things I want to do. The first is to make such a republican candidate for governor as every republican voter can cheerfully support in the election this fall. The second is to make a governor who will be good for the party and useful to the state.

"With the firm determination to carry out in letter and in spirit every pledge made during the campaign, with no grudges to satisfy, no enemies to punish, and with the support of a united party, I shall approach the great task with strong confidence that it can and will be carried through to the credit of the republican party and the advantage of all the people of Pennsylvania."

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.

Theodore H. Price, editor of Commerce and Finance, discusses with marked ability and candor "The Inscrutable Future" in a recent issue of The Outlook, and in closing says:

"Nearly every salaried wage earner in this country now expects at least two weeks vacation with pay. In most states there are twelve legal holidays. Saturday is generally a half-holiday, upon which not more than four hours' work is done.

"The eight-hour day is general, and the result is there are but few who work more than fourty-four hours a week for forty-eight weeks per year. This is 2,112 hours.

"A recent census bulletin reports that there are 41,609,192 persons gainfully employed in the United States.

"There are 8,760 hours in a year of 365 days, and these figures mean that we are trying to subsist and be prosperous upon the labor of 40 per cent of the population working 24 per cent of the time. Is it possible? If not, the only remedy is more work."

Of course many persons work more than the average hours as figured by Mr. Price. Some work more than they should and harder than they should. Many others do not work at all, never did and never will. But according to Mr. Price's deductions 100 per cent of the people are living on what amounts to the labor of all of them only 9.60 per cent of the time, and can they thus working produce more than all consume in 100 per cent of the time and more than is destroyed by all natural and artificial methods of destruction? If not, the country will gradually lose in real wealth, because more must be produced than is consumed to prevent such a result.

It is impossible, of course, for those engaged in gainful pursuits to work all the time. Perhaps eight hours a day is as much as any person should work at hard labor, either physically or mentally, but there is too much idleness in this country for the good of the country. Every person who is able, no matter how wealthy, ought to produce something to add to the real wealth of the community.

WOULD BE A MISTAKE.

As the senatorial campaign has progressed it has developed that the old standpat contingent of the republican party in Iowa is almost solidly lined up behind the candidacy of Charles E. Pickett of Waterloo, and his friends are making every effort to secure a majority of the delegates to the state convention, believing that the convention will make the nomination.

Personally there is no objection to Mr. Pickett. He is an able man and has had congressional experience, but he is hardly the sort of material that should be selected to carry out the policies advocated and the principles espoused by Kenyon and those who stood with him in the senate.

Mr. Pickett said in one of his addresses, in substance, that the farm bloc movement did not have his sympathy. That was not his language, but he declared there should be no groups in congress to control legislation. But that is just what the farm bloc is and just what it is trying to do. It has succeeded, too, in securing a number of important legislative enactments of benefit to the great agricultural interests of the country.

Really, Mr. Pickett is the one candidate against whom the farming and allied interest should combine. All the other candidates stand firmly upon the Kenyon platform and in the event of their election will not be under special obligations to the interests that have fought the farm bloc and kindred movements.

Friends of Mr. Pickett will use every known political device they can to secure delegates to the state convention and the county conventions in counties that are not for Pickett must see to it that they send delegates to the Des Moines convention who will oppose the nomination of the Waterloo candidate.

Nobody need be deceived by the plea made by friends of Mr. Pickett to secure delegates for him. They will present to the county conventions men of wide acquaintance and popularity and plead for the personal recognition of such candidates as delegates, insisting that their work for the party in the past entitles them to the honor. It is not going to be easy to prevent the selection of some Pickett delegates even from counties that are strongly against Mr. Pickett and the chances are that if Mr. Pickett is nominated it will be by the votes of delegates from counties that go strongly against him at the primary.

RENTS COMPARED.

There has been some complaint in Webster City by tenants that rents in the business district were higher than they should be and to ascertain how rents here compare with rents in other towns of about the same size the Freeman-Journal addressed letters of inquiry to parties at Ames, Sheldon, Cherokee and Spencer.

By the census of 1920 Webster City has a population of 5,657, Ames has 6,270, Cherokee 5,822, Sheldon 3,488 and Spencer 4,559.

The letters of inquiry were addressed to H. W. Stafford, formerly member of the Hamilton county board of supervisors, regarding rents at Ames, where he now resides, and to E. L. Richards of Sheldon, a former Webster City boy. A real estate dealer by the name of C. J. Mulvaney was asked about Cherokee and the editor of the News at Spencer furnished the information regarding the rents in that town. Information was sought as to rents in the best locations and following are the replies received:

Ames. Three 25 by 150 feet buildings, first floor and basement, $150 each; two 25 by 150 contracts made four or five years ago and for long terms, the entire buildings, $175 per month. There are small rooms 25 by 50 and 75 that rent for $45 and $55 per month. The foregoing are for store buildings such as merchandise, hardware, groceries, dry goods and confectioners. Restaurant buildings rent for considerable more, depending on size and location.

Cherokee. Buildings 25 by 100 feet. The best ones well located rent for $150 to $250 per month. Impossible to rent a building on Maine street and it seems all they have to do is to set a price and they get it.

Sheldon. Store rooms here 22 by 80 and 22 by 100 rent for from $50 to $100 per month. The average would be about $75. Of course wider rooms rent for more.

Spencer. One store on Maine street here pays $200 per month for a room 25 by 100 feet. In the main block here they run about $150. Old wooden buildings, operating under old leases, $70 and up.

Here in Webster City the highest rent paid for a store room 22 by 100 feet is $125 per month and the average is not more than $100.

From the foregoing facts relating to rents in other towns in central and northwestern Iowa the reader can figure out for himself how rents paid in Webster City compare with rents paid in other places of similar size.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

"Evidence continues to accumulate to the effect that the primary system of making nominations—at least as practiced in Iowa—is more or less of a joke. Whereas its original advocates assured us that it would place in office men of much higher quality than those who held office under the old system, it has fallen far short of working any improvement. It is an exceptional citizen who, without referring to a congressional directory, can name the eleven men who today represent Iowa in congress. What a contrast to the days when Gear, Hayes, Hepburn, Updegraff, Cousins, Lacey, Hull, Hepburn, Hager, Dolliver and Perkins made up the delegation."—Rock Rapids Review.

The Freeman-Journal is not a stickler for the primary law as it now stands, but believes that on the whole it is quite satisfactory. It is well to have county officers, congressmen, senators and governors nominated by a primary and it is also well to have delegates to county conventions elected as now provided. However, state officers below the governor ought to be nominated by a state convention, as it is impossible for any considerable portion of the people to become familiar with the qualifications of such candidates. It is probably true that not one voter out of ten could name today off hand the candidates for state officers.

Perhaps it is also true, as the Rock Rapids paper intimates, that the present Iowa delegation in congress is not as strong in point of ability and experience as the delegation it names. However, in service to the people it has done more than any other delegation ever did. Yes, more than any half dozen other delegations ever did, and service to the people is the real test.

It is a pleasant pastime for certain critics of present day officials to compare them with those of former times, but the Freeman-Journal challenges such critics to submit a bill of particulars showing what delegation in congress accomplished as much for the people of Iowa as the present delegation, including Kenyon among "those present," has accomplished. This delegation is composed of Senators Kenyon and Cummins and Congressmen Koop, Hull, Sweet, Haugen, Good, Ramsayer, Dowell, Towner, Green, Dickinson and Boies.

Here is a partial record of congress during the past two years and in making this record the Iowa delegation was among the leaders. It took more active part than the delegation from any other state and here is enumerated only that portion that is for the direct benefit of agricultural interests:

Capper Co-operative Marketing bill.

Future Trading bill, regulating grain exchanges.

The Federal Land Bank Relief bill.

The revival of the War Finance corporation as an aid to helping move farm products. As a result of this legislation over $23,000,000 have already been sent to Iowa.

Increasing funds available for loans by the federal farm loan board by $50,000,000.

The passage of the emergency tariff act on agricultural products, to prevent flooding of our markets.

The passage by the house of the permanent tariff bill for the benefit of the agricultural and business interests of the country.

The Packers act, to regulate interstate and foreign commerce in live-stock and dairy products, poultry and eggs.

The passage of the bill giving agriculture a representative on the federal reserve board. This bill has been passed by the senate and will soon be passed by the house.

The Anderson Intermediate Credit bill should be immediately considered and passed.

The Federal Blue Sky bill to prevent the sale of spurious and fraudulent stocks and securities. This bill will soon become a law.

These are some of the things the present Iowa delegation in congress has been instrumental in securing, but perhaps its best work for the state has been along lines calculated to impress upon the people of the east the dependence of industry and business upon the prosperity of the agricultural sections of the country.

ILLOGICAL.

One day in the senate, after several elder statesmen had been telling what this country needs, Vice President Marshall was heard to remark in a hoarse whisper: "What this country needs is a good nickel see-gar."

The tariff framers evidently do not agree with Tom Marshall, even if millions of smokers of moderate circumstances do.

It was developed in the tariff hearings that we can't have a good five cent cigar unless we can import Sumatra wrappers free of duty.

The general interests of the country require that this be permitted, but the general interests are not heard regarding cigars any more than regarding thousands of other manufactured articles, whose economical production will be made impossible by the impending tariff.—Des Moines News.

What this country needs more than five cent cigars and "thousands of other manufactured articles, whose economic production will be made impossible by 'the impending tariff,'" is jobs for the unemployed. If the importation of wrappers from Sumatra will seriously cripple the tobacco growing industry in this country such wrappers should not be imported free of duty, and what is true of cigar wrappers in this respect is true of every manufactured article that can be produced here.

What profits it to have five cents cigars if a man is out of employment? Or what benefit to the wage earner or to the farmer to buy cheaply if thereby the American factory is closed and the things the wage earner and the farmer have to sell cannot find consumers?

It may be that in the application of the principle of protection certain articles should be placed on the free list. That is a question to be determined by careful study of the problem. But as a general proposition impost duties should be laid in such a way as to make it possible to produce in the United States everything that can be produced here at reasonable cost based on the American wage scale and the American cost of production.

Give our men employment, start the mills going, build fires under the boilers, increase home consumption for farm products and stop worrying about the reasonable price of cigars or anything else if the price is established upon a fair basis and not arbitrarily fixed by combinations and monopolies. And a protective tariff scientifically laid with due consideration to the cost of production here and elsewhere will be a fair leveler of prices, because excessive prices will invite destructive competition from abroad, hence prices will be maintained at fair levels unless controlled by world monopolies, like oil and kindred products. This evil must be reached in some other way.

PEACE TODAY, BUT TOMORROW?

Sioux City Journal: Europe today is a kaleidoscope of human emotions, fears, distrusts, hopes, aspirations, jealousies, rivalries and suspicions. Today the topic is peace and how it may be saved; tomorrow there is talk of war and more war. Nothing seems settled or agreed. Everything is up in the air. Europe is like a forest fire that, smothered in one place, persists in breaking out in another, and which requires the most constant vigilance to prevent a sweeping conflagration. A chaos of ideas is constantly twisting in all directions over there. It is a medley of cross purposes, a riot of views. No one seems to be able to straighten things out and, as is said in America, to make head or tails of them.

The power of suggestion is strong for good, and it is equally powerful for that which is evil. Under the present European circumstances, it may have a greater potentiality for wrong because humanity is still fermenting there. The ill wind will fan the slumbering fire in the forest into flame instead of blowing it out. Therein lies the danger to Europe, and, naturally, to the rest of the world. In America it appears as though the Europeans are fascinated by the horrors through which they have passed and which again threaten, that they are being drawn closer to the abyss which they would avoid if not held under a malignant spell.

The opportunity for the appearance of a powerful leader, such as Tolstoi predicted years ago in forecasting the world war, never was greater than the present one. Where could such a leader be found? The candidate does not appear at the moment. A single leader among mortals who could effect the desired transformation might never develop, but if Europe would turn to spiritual instead of material things long enough to canvass their advantage a way might be found to reach a settlement. Beyond question, the passions cannot be stilled so long as hates are nurtured, so long as vengeance is sworn, so long as scores are held unevened and so long as the power of might is given precedence over right. Sir Harry Lauder, well known to Americans, recently told his fellow countrymen at home that the world never could be pacified until the enemies of the past became the friends of the present and the future. He urged the forgetting of animosities, the forgiving of wrongs. Sir Harry is a stanch Britisher and he lost a beloved son in the world war, and yet he is ready to let bygones be bygones. More ambassadors of peace of that type are needed. What the world, and especially Europe, needs at this time is an uplift such as nothing but the brotherhood of man could bring. Then perhaps, there might be peace today and peace tomorrow.

MORE EMPLOYMENT.

Des Moines Register: The secretary of the conference on unemployment, which is functioning under the call of President Harding, has issued the following bulletin which covers reports from thirty-four states and the District of Columbia.

"From all figures available, employment is showing a steady and sustained gain. April reports are the most encouraging of the year and clearly indicate the upward trend of industry and business.

"Based on returns from the United States employment service, April has shown the greatest gain of any month in 1922. For every 100 jobs listed during the month there were 150 applicants as against 182 in March, 205 in February and 226 in January. This is a decrease of 33 per cent in the number applying for work during the first four months of the year.

"In April, fifty-four applicants for employment were placed for every 100 registrations, as against forty-five for March, forty-one for February and thirty-eight for January—a gain of 42 per cent.

The state represented in the figures include the chief cities of the country, the department of commerce explains.

No interpretation is necessary. The showing of increased employment is a good gauge of bettering conditions, and as such is very encouraging.

SUSPICIOUS FRANCE.

Waterloo Courier: It is difficult for the observer of events to escape the conclusion that France is opposed to any plan that will rob her of her present power and preparedness and her ability to enforce her will over Germany. Her statesmen fear, apparently, that any kind of an arrangement that disturbs her present position; even a purported compact for peace; would take from her the only assurance of safety she possesses or has possessed for half a century. It seems France is suspicious, even of assurances from England. A pledge from America would no doubt change French attitude, but this pledge will not be given. Hopeful as has been the world that out of the Genoa conference substantial benefits and better understandings might come, the fear is general that the affair will be largely a "waterhaul."

Sacrifice Desired.

Meggendorfer Blaetter: The Fiancee—You will give up smoking when we are married, won't you, Felix?

The Fiance—I don't smoke at all.

The Fiancee—Oh, what a shame.

"Cyclones go 585 yards a second"—news item. But hasn't the size of the yards anything to with it?