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"THE BREAD LINE"

A significant item of news appeared in the daily papers Saturday. It bore the date line of Toledo, Ohio, and stated that thirteen hundred unemployed men had been fed at the free soup kitchen. This is startling information, coming from such an industrial center at the Ohio city. It presages evil for the working class in the large municipalities of the country, for as employment slacks the needs of the people increase.

During the piping times of bloated prosperity, only a few months ago, the laborer earned unheard of wages and spent it all with a lavish hand. He failed to look forward to the future and all the future holds. No thought of the proverbial rainy day touched his mind, and he determined to live today and let tomorrow take care of itself. Now he is suffering for the sins of his extravagance. To these former plutocrats of the labor world appearing in the bread line as mendicants seeking food and sustenance so soon after their riot of extravagance must be humiliating indeed.

This Toledo news, disheartening as it is, is fair warning to the tenant farmers of the south to stick to their calling and turn a deaf ear to the temptation to desert the farm and join the wage-earning class that but a short time back simply wallowed in money and evaporating prosperity. Allurements of big pay for work performed faded with the revolution in commercial and financial affairs, and the labor market today in the industrial centers is crowded and the weeding out process is rapidly thinning the ranks of the inefficient, and only the man who can make good on the job is kept on the payroll. The man who has followed the plow all his active life and is to the manner born will find that he is not fitted to the new condition and will suffer when the weeding out process reaches him.

No better advice could be offered him for his serious consideration, than to stick to the farm and avoid the bread line, and in no other way can he retain his independence and be sure of tomorrow's meal.

CONFISCATION OF PROPERTY

By a vote of eight to one, the supreme court of the United States last week decided that the automobile of an innocent owner can be confiscated if the car is used by a second party to transport intoxicating liquor, and that by the same principle and for the same "offense" a steamboat or railroad car can suffer the same fate.

This may be a wise interpretation of the law, and that is all the court can be expected to decide. The court does not make the law and hence its opinion is only a judicial expression of what the infamous Volstead act really is. The court can not be held to blame for the law's existence, for only the legislative branch of the government is responsible that we have such an iniquitous act on our statute books.

The Volstead act may be constitutional but its moral effect is strictly contrary to Americanism, for it smacks too strongly of the very thing which the world objected to in the German system of government. We believe the founders of this nation left their native shores in order to escape just such tyranny and this country was free of such laws until the present one was incubated and finally hatched in the fertile but dwarfed imaginations of narrow-minded individuals.

We can easily figure that a person can violate the law by transporting intoxicating liquor in a borrowed or rented automobile, but why should the innocent owner of the vehicle lose his property by confiscation because of this transportation? This is a puzzle to the man of average intelligence, but it is one of the concealed "teeth" of the Volstead law, and, incidentally, it is one of the rocks on which the law and perhaps the entire structure of prohibition is eventually going to smash. The framers of the law, in their zeal to make prohibition more drastic, overstepped themselves and went far beyond the bounds of justice and reason, and the "cause" they so woefully misrepresent is going to suffer thereby.

MORE PROPAGANDA

German school children, it is said, are being taught that there will be other great wars and that the next one will be between the United States and Japan and that in such a struggle German interests and sympathies may lie on the side of the Oriental power.

War between the United States and Japan has for a long time been an obsession with certain German authorities. There was a time when the

former kaiser was proud to be considered the advocate of a union of all the white people of Europe and America against the danger of the Yellow Peril. But that is of the past. The exile of Doon and his adherents now look at the Yellow Peril through different spectacles.

When the European war broke and first Japan and then Italy took the side of the Allies it is difficult to say which the kaiser and the junker hated most, and there were broad intimations in the days of German victories, that ultimately both would be made tools to serve German ends as a punishment for their course.

Later on, however, the German attitude toward Japan changed. It occurred to the Germans that great opportunities might open to them in the Far East, if they won the war, though an alliance with the Japanese, especially with the elimination of British influence in Oriental efforts. Very strong efforts were made to bring about peace between Germany and Japan. It will be recalled that the Zimmerman letter to Mexico had in mind an alliance of Germany, Mexico and Japan against the United States. But the Germans reckoned without their host. The Japs refused to be traitors. They declined to desert England. They did not actively participate in the European war. But they remained anti-German to the end.

Now that the great war is over, Germany is still casting her eyes toward the Far East. She doubtless knows that at this time Japan would not consider any alliance with her. The British treaty stands in the way. But by seeming to indicate her sympathy with the Orientals she hopes to win favor with Japan, in the trust that eventually Japan will throw the British over and join hands with her. That is the explanation of the present propaganda in the German school. Nothing would please Germany more at this time than a war between the United States and Japan. Whoever side was victorious she would consider herself the victor.

But it is doubtful if Germany will realize her hope. Jingoism in the United States and in Japan are constantly talking of war between the countries. But the chance are rather against it. The United States will not provoke such a war and Japan probably has too much good sense to bring it on.

In any event it will be a long time before she could look to Germany for any help in such a struggle and she knows all too well that if Germany went to her side it would only mean an alliance of other European nations against her.—N. O. States.

Passing of R. L. Walker
Robert Layson Walker, aged 73 years, 9 months and 14 days, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. M. F. Budd, in this city, last Saturday night at 8:30 o'clock. Funeral was held Sunday afternoon at the public cemetery, the Masonic lodge officiating.

The deceased moved to this parish from Rapides quite a number of years ago, settling in Bellevue, about four miles from Opelousas. Following the death of his wife he sold the large farm and bought another in the same neighborhood. This latter place he sold some three years ago and purchased another near Rosa station, in the fourth ward, where he has resided ever since. He was looked on as being one of the best farmers in this parish and never experienced a crop failure.

Mr. Walker was twice married. By his first wife there were two children, Dr. Ruffin Walker of Commerce, Texas, and Mrs. Jack Meredith of Caldwell parish, this state. His second wife was a Mrs. Compton, whose maiden name was Marshall. By this marriage there are six children: R. L. Jr., W. P. J. A., Mrs. M. F. Budd, Sam, Ralph and Cottam. All these children survive.

"THE RESTLESS AGE" NEW SERIAL IN ITEM

Announcement is made that beginning next Monday the New Orleans Item will start the publication of a new serial story, "The Restless Age," by McCutcheon. It is an illustrated story and promises to be absorbing. Jacobs News Depot is Opelousas agent for the Item.

Lent Begins Wednesday Week
Mardi Gras this year falls on Tuesday, February 8, and the lent season will be ushered in the following day. Carnival festivities in New Orleans, suspended during the war, have not been resumed with their old-time gorgeousness.

NOTICE

No hunting or trespassing on any of my places. J. B. HIDALGO, Opelousas, La. Jan 1 1921

COTTON MEN CAN NOT EXPECT HELP FROM NEW TARIFF

Manufactures Only to Secure Benefits of Proposed Duties

JOKERS PLENTIFUL IN THE NEW LAW

Goods Will Increase in Price But Growers Not To Profit

New York, Jan. 24.—A special to the Evening World from Washington says: "The Fordney 'emergency' tariff bill teems with 'jokers' designed to deceive not only the public, but the senators and representatives from agricultural states, who are expected to accept the 'sops' thrown in for their respective products by the real manipulators of the bill, without the careful scrutiny which would reveal the trick nature of the legislation."

"The cotton section, which is contained in two innocent-looking paragraphs of six lines, is a shrewd effort to fool the cotton growers, while the senators from the south lift the line for the tariff bill, and at the same time make the consuming public pay additional tribute to manufacturers of cotton goods running into the millions. "The senate cotton section is slightly altered from that of the house. The house bill provided for a duty of 7 cents a pound on cotton having a staple of one and three-eighths of an inch. The senate amended this to read 'a staple of one and one-eighth of an inch' in length."

"The 'joker' is inserted in the second paragraph which lays a duty of 7 cents per pound upon 'manufactures of which cotton of the kind provided for in paragraph 16 is the component material of chief value.'"

"The meat of the 'joker' is contained in the words 'component material of chief value.' The long staple cotton will sell for a dollar a pound and up. If this bill becomes a law, a very small quantity of it can be woven into a fabric along with a larger quantity of the shorter staple, and the price of the manufactured product fixed on the basis of the duty laid upon the long staple, and no one who understands the tricks of the trade believes for a moment that the increased price, when it is passed on to the consumer, will be restricted to the 7 cents per pound basis."

Cotton Will Jump

"If the trick 'emergency' bill is approved by congress, the price of every manufactured article containing cotton will immediately take a decided jump, and the cotton growers, who are expected to bring pressure to bear on the democratic senators from the cotton states, never will receive any benefit from the increase."

"The absence of any 'emergency' in the cotton trade, which will be met by the Fordney bill, is apparent. The competition brought about by imported cotton is extremely small. The imports of cotton cloths, according to government statistics, amounted to less than 1 per cent of the domestic production during 1920. There is no competition except in the longest staple."

"But, by fixing 7 cents per pound on the manufactured product, the manufacturer of cotton goods will be able again to inflate his prices, and benefit at the expense of the general public, which only now is beginning to receive some slight reductions in prices. The cotton grower, for whose special benefit the emergency bill was supposed to be drawn, will receive none of the benefits of this duty on raw cotton."

"In 1919 there were produced in this country only 854,000 bales of cotton having a staple of one and one-eighth to one and a quarter inches, out of a total crop of approximately 14,000,000 bales. The cotton farmer is not asking for 'protection,' although he has clamored for governmental relief from falling prices, due to readjustment of economic conditions, just as other farmers have done."

"If tariff is put on 1 3/8 inch, it penalizes the production of cloth made of what is known in the trade as 'eighty' yarns and above, which includes fine and plain fabrics, such as cambrics, organdies and fine lawns."

"If the proposed duty is put on cloths made of 1 1/8 cotton it would penalize all goods made of 'forty' yarn and above, which would include the bulk of cloth imported into this country. There are practically no imports of cloth into this country today made of yarns under 'forties' and therefore no imports of cloth in which there is used cotton of a shorter staple than 1 1/8 inches."

"About the only possible advantage to growers in the cotton provision, is that it might stimulate the production of the little American Egyptian cotton now grown in Arizona and California but at the present time the domestic demand for long staple cotton greatly exceeds any possible domestic production, and these growers are not asking for 'protection.' The American production of this grade of cotton is only about 60,000 bales, and, therefore, totally inadequate to supply the demand, so that the necessity for 'protection' is the merest sham."

The purpose of the cotton provision is to make it possible for the manufacturers of cotton goods to recover some of their losses from the slump

in prices, and every man, woman and child who wears apparel containing cotton will be penalized if the 'trick' bill gets over.

PRESIDENT AND COX AT ONE ON LEAGUE

BELIEVE U. S. WILL ENTER FINALLY; EUROPEAN TOUR EXPAINED

Washington, Jan. 27.—"Still at one" was the way friends of President Wilson and James M. Cox today described the position of the two democratic leaders on the league of nations. The phrase "at one" was, more famous by the president by a statement given out following Mr. Cox's visit to the White House as the democratic president candidate six months ago. It was taken to mean Mr. Cox agreed with President Wilson.

Today the significance of "at one" is said to be that both president and Mr. Cox believe that this country will finally enter the league and that until it does so foreign relations will continue one of the pressing governmental problems.

This belief is said partly to explain Mr. Cox's contemplated trip to Europe which he is now arranging here. He is going there to study conditions at first hand and not "for sight seeing," he has told friends.

The former democratic candidate doesn't say so directly, but he has left the distinct impression that he has ambitions for future political honors and that he wants to be in a position to speak with authority on foreign relations.

Another point on which President Wilson and Mr. Cox are said to be "at one" is their future public attitude toward the incoming republican administration. Mr. Cox has let it be known that he will say nothing unless it concerns the democratic party solely and could in no way be twisted into a criticism of President-elect Harding.

He even refused to express for publication here his opinion on disarmament.

President Wilson, according to those about him, will probably follow the same course of silence at least for many months after Senator Harding is inaugurated.

Catholic Order Elects Officers

The Opelousas court of the Daughters of Isabella, at a regular meeting held Friday afternoon of last week, elected the following officers to serve for the next term:

Mrs. A. L. Andrus, grand regent; Miss Daisy Edwards, vice regent; Miss A. Close, treasurer; Miss G. Sandoz, financial secretary; Miss Doris Barry, lecturer; Mrs. Des Mizzi, monitor; Mrs. Frank J. Dietlein, historian; Miss A. Lassalle, prophetess; Mrs. May Todd, sentinel; Mrs. Octave Durio, banner bearer; Misses Katie Gil and Pearl Fields, guides; Rev. Father A. B. Collard, chaplain; Mrs. Mrs. C. M. Thompson and Miss Mary Ringrose, trustees, Miss Ethel Barry, organist.

The local court is in a flourishing condition and the officers and members propose to keep it up to the present high standard.

Supper and Card Party at Hebrard's

A very delightful affair was given at the home of Mrs. Sidney Hebrard on Thursday night by the boy members of the "Eight O'Clock Follies," in honor of the girls.

After the party the young people enjoyed several games of Five Hundred and spent the rest of the evening in dancing.

Mrs. Frank Reiger proved to be the lucky winner of the ladies' prize, which was a beautiful cut-glass perfume bottle. Mr. Leonce Roos was awarded the boys' prize, which was a nice leather wallet, and Johnnie Harmanson the booty.

A delicious chicken supper was served to the guests which was carefully prepared by Mrs. Sidney Hebrard and her charming daughter, Miss Rosa.

The following members were present: Loeb, Rosalie and Irma Roos, Corinnoent; Misses Nathalie Haas, Lena LaCombe, Edith Thiary, Mrs. Frank Reiger and Miss Rosa Hebrard; Messrs. Alex Swords, Billy Jordan, Eugene and Robert Fields, Frank Reiger, Sidney and Leonce Roos, Johnnie Harmanson.

A lovely piece of cut glass was presented to Mrs. Sidney Hebrard by the boys, which was very much appreciated. All present enjoyed a most pleasant evening.

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UNEMPLOYMENT SLIGHT IN SOUTH OFFICIALS SHOW

U. S. Industries Cut Employment Nearly 37 Per Cent In 1920

MICHIGAN WORKERS HIT HARDEST BLOW

Auto Plants Lay Off Many, New Orleans Almost Unaffected

Washington, Jan. 25.—The number of persons employed in industry in this country the first of this month numbered 3,473,486 less than the number employed a year ago, the department of labor's employment service announced on the basis of a first nationwide survey just completed by a special staff of investigators.

Director John B. Densmore said this figure did not necessarily represent the number of persons actually unemployed, as it was "quite possible" that some of the workers had found employment in agricultural or other pursuits not covered by the survey.

On the other hand, some officials believed the army of unemployed possibly was larger than the figures given, as an effort was made to ascertain the reduction in the number of persons employed in pursuits other than those classed under the head of "mechanical industry."

The employment service's figures represented a reduction of 36.9 per cent in the number of workers employed in industry as compared with January a year ago and it was announced that they were based "on the consensus of figures from neutral bodies, state labor departments, state commissioners of manufacturers, state and municipal employment service, workmen's compensation bureaus, employers and employes' organizations, and all other sources competent to furnish authoritative information."

Michigan Led All States
Michigan led the states in proportional reduction with 82 per cent and Ohio and Indiana followed with a reduction in employment of 50 per cent each. Next came Illinois with 44 per cent, Connecticut with 43 per cent, Massachusetts with 38 per cent, Wisconsin with 32 per cent, New York 23 per cent and New Jersey 22 per cent. Percentages for the other states were not given.

The largest percentage of reduction in specific industries, 80 per cent, occurred in the automobile and accessory industry and this was taken to account largely for the great reduction in employment in Michigan. This industry, the employment service announcement said, employed about 8 per cent of the total workers in all industries in the country a year ago.

Second in rank in the reduction of employes was the building trades with approximately 62 per cent. Last January about 11 per cent of the total industrial workers was employed in this industry.

A reduction of 35.5 per cent was noted in the textile and related industries, 35 per cent in leather and its products and 32 per cent in lumber and house furniture.

The reduction in metals and products, machinery, electric goods and foundry products was 20.5 per cent; in packing and food products 19 per cent and in clay, glass, cement and stone products 19 per cent.

Survey made in 182 cities, the employment service said, showed that numerically the greatest reduction was in New York city, where 224 were reported discharged. Chicago had a reduction of 86,000, Philadelphia 70,000, Detroit 169,000, Cleveland 81,000, Boston 25,000, Newark 41,000, Cincinnati 24,000, Milwaukee 24,330, St. Louis 49,350, Baltimore 39,565, Kansas City 20,640, Pittsburg 12,500, San Francisco 13,000 and Portland Oregon 10,000.

The total reduction in the southern states, including Kentucky, was only about 109,000 Chattanooga was first among all the southern cities with 7500. Atlanta had 7400, Birmingham 6000, Jacksonville 6529, Memphis 5100, Dallas 4500, New Orleans 400, Louisville 4500, Knoxville 5000 and Mobile 4100.

Fort Worth had 500 idle, Houston 400 and Oklahoma City 2500. Richmond reported 4500 idle; Columbia, S. C., 3475; Nashville 3150; Montgomery, Ala., 1000; Laurel 500; Greenville, Miss., 250; Lake Charles 700; Monroe 500; Houston 4000; San Antonio 1800; Galveston 1500.

The reduction in the New England industrial centers including Boston totaled 250,156.

Reduction of the number employed in the cities in the middle Atlantic district (New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey) totaled 577,743, this figure including New York city.

The total reduction the cities in the north central district (Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin) was placed at 594,393, the cities including Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Cincinnati.

In the west north central district (Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas) next to St. Louis and Kansas City came Minneapolis with 18,662.

Denver led the Rocky Mountain district cities with 10,500.

The total for the district embracing the eight mountain states of Montana

Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Nevada, was only 23,714.

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FOR RENT OR LEASE—Entire Lower Floor LaCombe Building opposite Court House now occupied Opelousas Motor Co. Will remodel to suit occupant. Jan 22 11

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NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING
The stockholders of the Lawtell State Bank are hereby notified that there will be a meeting of such stockholders at the banking house at Lawtell, La., on Friday, March 4, 1921, beginning at the hour of 11 o'clock a. m. for the following objects and purposes:

- 1. To vote on the proposition of decreasing the number of Board of Directors from eleven stockholders to five stockholders.
- 2. For the purpose of electing and selecting a new board of directors and all officers and employees of the bank.
- 3. For such other objects and purposes that may properly come before said meeting.

A. E. LAFLEUR, President.

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