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THE SILVER SITUATION

One of the most important features of the silver situation is the fact that India is now trading off its bulk of gold for more silver, the offering of the white metal in the markets being small, possibly on account of the United States absorbing all of its production, this country being the original source of supply for export to India and Asia. London, which has been the great mart for gold and silver has lost its position, rupees having gained strongly despite the fact that sterling rates are much lower than a few months ago. Much concern has been expressed among the brokers of London over the direct shipment of silver from San Francisco to India and China. This is really the first time in history that England has allowed silver purchases to be made direct by the Indian government, or even the Indian business men. This is probably due to the fact that India is now somewhat locally governed, having been accorded a better governmental position as a nation, and hereafter that country may have a strong say in the financial world. If this is true we may find a market for our excess silver, if there be such a thing, that will make silver mining a more lucrative business to follow. England has been a bear in the silver market and the silver producing countries should be brought together in an effort to combat this giant evil. It was the holding down of the silver level and the forcing of many nations to a gold standard that gave England the financial advantage that she has enjoyed for the past hundred or more years, and this advantage was at the enormous loss of the men who delved in the earth for gold and silver. Now is the time to change this condition. The United States, Mexico and Canada have the whip hand if they would but unite on a fixed price for the precious metal. England, a non-producer, has set the price on every produce of every country in the world and it is about time that the producing countries sold their product at a price that accorded them a reasonable return for their labor.

Should the United States and her associated countries in the production of gold and silver run the price upward above the present purchase level England would surely lose her grasp on the trade of the world and we would gain it. India and China need high priced silver on which to do business and England can only do business when silver is low.

COAL SHORTAGE PILING UP NOW

Warning is being sent out that we are not mining more than fifty per cent of the normal output of coal for this season of the year; that industries are using up their reserves and that we will find ourselves again facing a shortage when coal is most needed.

Surely there must be some way that such a condition can be avoided. In any other business, provision is made during the time of dullness for the period of rush. That is why a manufacturer must provide stock ahead, and common business sense would seem to demand that the same methods should prevail at the coal mines.

Coal is such an essential in our industrial and domestic life that it must be a matter of the gravest public concern when the supply is short. Mines and dealers should make provision for the storage of a surplus supply to care for the time of shortage, for when the shortage comes, there will be the usual shortage of railroad cars. Cars and labor are plentiful at this time, and a little business judgment on the part of the operators would insure a supply against the time it is needed.

But it will not insure an exorbitant price when the winter season arrives, and the high price is what the coal kings are after, totally disregarding the eminent suffering of the people next winter.

IMMIGRANTS FOR FARMS

The plan of the new commissioners of immigration to distribute the immigrants to farms seems to be meeting with popular favor. That there is real need of farm labor as well as new farm development is so evident as to need no comment. And if the newcomers are of the class that will make the wilderness blossom as the rose, let us hope that the movement will be a complete success.

Many offers of financial aid to enable the immigrants to get started, have come to the department. This is well, and we are pleased to see the spirit of welcome for thrifty citizens. But in our enthusiasm for the new farmer, let us not overlook the fellow who is already with us. It is more our duty to protect and care for him than to bring new blood on to our land. The past year has been very severe on our farmers, yet they have toiled with the same energy as in the past. They are working to supply the nation with food, and they need help. Farmers are not asking anything more than is accorded to other business men—a chance to tide over the period of re-adjustment. While preparing to establish new people of the land, the rights of the older ones there should be carefully considered.

Russia expects Americans to rebuild her railways, says London. Why not try Chinese, Italians and Slovaks? They built America's railroads.

Just because a person has a good grasp on things is no sign he is a learned person. He may be a pickpocket.

"Turn forward or backward, Oh, Time, in your strife; and show us the man that don't lie to his wife."

HOME INDUSTRY

The editor of The Graham Guardian, published at Safford, Graham county, in last week's issue speaks much truth on home industry. He says:

Last week we had a reprint, copied from another paper, about two mills in a small community, both of which closed their doors because the farmers and townspeople used the "shipped in flours."

Several of the best and biggest farmers have called at our office and complimented us on printing this little truth, and asked us to keep up the good work, stating that there is no difference between a retail merchant handling Colorado flours, and sending our money to that state, than for the consumer to buy from the mail order houses.

We had a little personal experience here in our own little home valley and in the home mill right here this week. The local miller, or manager, telephoned for us to call at their office in regard to giving us a job of printing. Of course we went, for we sure need all the local printing. Colorado flour bills have never called us up, neither have they written to us about doing any of their printing. Anyway, while we were at the mill office, a farmer came in and complained that one of the stores of the valley could not supply him with Belle flour; said the store tried to sell him Colorado flour, and this loyal farmer stated that he would starve for flour before he would use Colorado flour, or buy anything from that store, as he stated he had in over 100 acres of wheat, and he is depending on the home mill to buy the wheat at harvest time. The mill called up the store, asking if they could send them an order of flour. The store replied they were stocked up with Colorado flour. Oh, we know we are going to be criticised for writing this, but it doesn't matter a whoop; we know we are right. That store would bellyache its head off about mail order houses and we would help them, because it is right that we should. "A man without a country; a person without a home, or a community without a mill." Let's all join hands and help Colorado; let's use their flour; let's close the mills in Arizona. The mines are nearly all closed now and we will all soon be in want, and the stores that sell the imported flours will soon wonder why they cannot collect the bills due them and why they cannot pay their bills.

The rest of the story is: We got that printing job from the home mill, and they did not send it out of town. It figured over \$70.00. With the money for this printing job from the home mill, we shall be able to pay our employees; they in turn will be able to pay their grocer and the grocer can pay his doctor and his barber, and if this grocer is loyal enough to his community to handle the local mill's flour, he in turn can pay the local mill, who in turn can employ labor, and this labor can again in turn buy groceries and get shaved. Oh, we simple people of small capacity! This little old \$70.00 will be turned over ten times in this valley in one day, thereby amounting to \$700.00 a day that we beat El Paso or some bigger town out of and it will be turned over again as many times next day, if we can just keep it out of the hands of that fat fellow who would send it to Colorado or Oklahoma for more imported flour, and if this Colorado flour handler does send it to Colorado, then the Colorado people begin turning it over and using it and become richer while we suffer for money and business.

We wonder how many people of this valley would attend a meeting to try and promise the usage of Colorado flour and the mail order houses? We honestly believe there are some here who would yell "hard times" and attend the meeting.

This editor knows he is right in his deductions and hope we may have the support of the good people of the Gila valley to use home products.

WOMAN AND DISARMAMENT

A committee of forty eight, one from each State, is to call on President Harding, representing various women's organizations, to urge upon him the need of taking the lead in world disarmament.

That some such action would be taken by the women is not a surprise, because women have been known as friends of peace in all times. They will send their sons forth to fight for the flag, though they do so with a heavy heart. They will give of their dearest and will go to the front to nurse the sick and wounded; to care for those who are serving; to make life more tolerable for those who must fight—but the woman never approves war and would go to almost any lengths to prevent it.

Now that they are such an important part of the electorate, their voice will be more potent than in the past. What they say will come with the weight of those who have the power to enforce their demands. It is believed that the president is in favor of the move for disarmament, and what he may say to the visiting delegation will be read with interest by everyone. The movement is gaining force every day. It is certain that some definite action must be taken by this country in the near future.

UNFAIR TO NEWSPAPERS

There is a growing tendency for the farm bureaus to establish weekly or monthly newspapers and weaken support of country newspapers.

First they fill the country paper, with propaganda for the bureau and then go into advertising competition with them.

The country newspaper fights the battles of the banks, the merchants and manufacturers against radicalism all the year around.

It is then left o starve for want of business support it is entitled to and placed in competition with a county farm bureau paper.

With the passport regulations lifted, Nogales, Naco, and Agua Prieta, Sonora, will no longer have the fascination of forbidden fruit.

If the women are as strong for disarmament as they claim to be, let 'em cut out the war paint.

TOO BAD, EVEN FOR GERMANY

Mathias Erzberger is not likely to get very far in his proposal for a general conscription of labor in Germany. That country is certainly not done with its troubles yet, and really no one can be sure what will be the ultimate fate of the nation which so lightly set the world on fire in 1914.

But any lover of liberty will pause before he assents to such a proposal as compulsory labor even for the Germans. It is true that the idea has many alluring phases. As Erzberger says, "these workers could be utilized for farming state domains, cutting forests, reclaiming the swamp lands and mining coal."

It is a rosy picture, when contrasted with what the suffering must be at present in some parts of Germany. "The life of a conscript in the labor army," says Erzberger, "could be made more attractive than was the life of a conscript in the military barracks. There would be sports and amusements. There would be a continuation of the citizenship schools."

All very fine. But what would be the real motive behind such a national movement on the part of Germany? It would mean that every young man, for 18 months of the best period of his youth, would be put under hard discipline, an industrial goose-step. He would learn to work like a slave, and that is what he would be.

Germany was a slave to the dream of world conquest, and it has cost her her place in civilization. There is no room in the new order of things for a race of industrial slaves.

MAIN STREET

Sinclair Lewis, author of "Main Street," does certainly hit the little towns of this country pretty hard in his book. The folks in New York who are supposed to hand out the literary standards for the rest of the country think he's just awfully realistic. They ought to know, for the majority of them who amount to much of anything came from small towns.

It all depends on what you see on Main Street. Mr. Lewis saw a lot of dullness, tedious inhabitants, vacant minds, and smugness, the horrible slime of smugness covering everything.

Now, maybe, if you're old-fashioned and remember "Tom Sawyer" and old Ed. Howe's book, "The Story of a Country Town," you have got a slightly different impression. Perhaps you have thought some American small towns and small cities were pretty good, anyway. What you see depends on what you're looking for.

"A savorless people, gulping tasteless food and sitting afterward, coatless and thoughtless, in rocking-chairs, pricked with insane decorations, listening to mechanical music, saying mechanical things about the excellence of automobiles, and viewing themselves as the greatest race in the world." That's what Mr. Lewis says of the folk of Main Street.

He's partly right, too. If you want to hear the truth about yourself, go to a critic, not a friend. But Mr. Lewis' indictment, unhappily, isn't wide enough. It should be extended to the whole human race. We are dull. We are stupid. We are far too self-satisfied. Let's stir our sluggish minds a little, and thereby work a blessing from the curses put upon us.

"POLITICAL PRISONERS"

Loyal American citizens generally and the American Legion in particular will not take kindly to any attempt on the part of the advocates of general amnesty to give the impression that the persons now in prison for violation of the espionage law are "political prisoners." They violated a law enacted for the protection of all the people, and it is the height of impudence to call them "political prisoners."

If members of the organizations whose representatives will see President Harding on April 13 to plead for the release of the violators of the war-time law were as much interested in safeguarding true Americanism as they are in securing license for themselves, the issue of general amnesty would not present itself.

It may be that President Harding will grant the releases sought; but it should be well understood that the persons who are given freedom were convicted because they were adjudged enemies of the United States in a critical period. In or out of prison, they still bear the brand of disloyalty.

CARE WITH POISONS

Another child's life has been sacrificed to the carelessness in handling poisons that is all too common in the average household. Someone carelessly threw out a bottle containing tablets of bichloride of mercury. Children found them, started to play doctor, one little girl was forced to take two of the tablets—with the inevitable result.

Can we never learn the lesson that medicines of any kind should be kept out of the reach of children? Can we never understand that poisons should be kept where the possibility of error is reduced to the minimum? Poisons nowadays are largely dispensed in special bottles, special shape and in many states with spikes, so as to be distinguished in the dark. But all these precautions mean nothing to children—they do not understand them.

When medicine is no longer of use, let it be destroyed, never thrown out or left where it can be taken by a child. If poison is not wanted, see that it is either burned or thrown down a sewer. The little trouble required is very small compared with the life which may be sacrificed to carelessness.

A man in New Jersey is suing for divorce, alleging that his wife's temper is a menace to his mental and physical well-being. If the man is granted a decree the crop of grass widows will be several eyes full.

When the young man of 1921 kisses a girl he turns away with her blush on his face.

AGAIN SET DATE FOR HANGING NACHIN MARTIN

PHOENIX, April 5.—Nachin Martin will be hanged at the state penitentiary on June 10. That was the judgment of the supreme court yesterday affixed to an affirmation of the judgment and conviction of Martin, with a death sentence, imposed by Judge Sweeney of the Yavapai county superior court a year ago. The time fixed by the superior court for the hanging of Martin having passed, it developed upon the supreme court to set another limit on his life.

In the opinion dismissing the appeal, written by Justice Baker, there is a graphic review of Martin's crime.

On October 4 of 1919 the half-incarcerated body of a man was found along the road between the towns of Kinman and Seligman. The body was identified, by means of a badge and other marks, as that of a Canadian soldier, a member of the 20th Battalion Canadian Infantry. He proved to be Arthur De Steunder who had served overseas and had been wounded. The body later was definitely identified by a brother, John Emil De Steunder, who came on from Canada.

Shot in the Back

De Steunder had been shot in the back with a 38-caliber bullet which passed through his body and was found in the half-burned clothing in front. The shooting had been committed in an automobile which from the tracks was found to be headed westward, and from this automobile the body had been rapped about 150 feet to the place where the murderer had tried to burn it.

TO ROAD CONVENTION.

County Engineer Sid Smyth left this afternoon for Douglas, from where he will take the eastbound train tonight for Alabama, where for a week he will visit relatives before continuing to Greenboro, S. C., to attend the Bankhead Highway convention. Mr. Smyth will go to the convention as the official representative of Cochise county, the supervisors having agreed today that one representative of the county will be sufficient considering the expense that will be attached to the trip. It had been previously considered that at least one member of the board, presumably the chairman, J. B. Hart, would also attend, but in reaching a final decision the board decided that one representative would be enough, which would mean a saving of several hundred dollars. Mr. Hart, expressing the sentiments of other members of the board, stated that he would have liked to go to the convention but believed the money saved would be better than sending more than one representative of the county.

CAPT. HOATSON IN BISBEE

BISBEE, April 5.—Capt. Thomas Hoatson, director of the Calumet and Arizona Mining company, arrived in the district yesterday from Calumet, Michigan, to attend the annual meeting of the stockholders and directors of the company to be held at Warren Monday, April 11.

Captain Hoatson is one of the pioneers of the company, having first examined the mines here that were purchased by the company. His brother, Capt. James Hoatson, now a resident of Hollywood, Calif., negotiated the purchase of the property for the Michigan people from Martie Costello, of Tombstone. He told yesterday of his first visit to Douglas when there was only one shack building on the present townsite. At that time the company was prospecting for water for the proposed smelter. The railroad had not reached Douglas, and the trip was made from Bisbee by team, requiring one day to travel each way.

WOOD ALCOHOL AND PINK SODA GET BEST OF LOCAL MEXICANS

BISBEE, Apr. 5.—Wood alcohol mixed with pink soda water was the beverage that so overpowered Gregorio Morales and Antonio Escobar that they were locked up in the city jail yesterday by Deputy Sheriff Gibson. When the wood alcohol was poured into the pink soda it was found to make a liquid of a pleasing opaque, pink color, and with a pronounced "kick."

The latter attribute proved too much for their accustomed stomachs. The alcohol and soda water was confiscated by the police.