

# The Morning Star

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MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1921.

## Reforestation

One of the biggest jobs facing the country today is the inauguration of a program of replanting our deforested areas. No matter how rapidly prices of manufactured or agricultural commodities decline to pre-war levels, as pre-war production is restored and deflation proceeds, one great basic industry will not be greatly affected. This is the production of lumber and wood pulp. Lumber, it is true, has fallen rapidly in price recently, but the trend of lumber prices was upward even before the war, and will continue to be so after economic conditions have become stabilized. This is due to the fact that those who are cutting timber today realize the scarcity of standing timber.

For fifty years, says Dr. Hugh Baker, former Dean of the State College of Forestry at Syracuse, and now secretary of the American Paper and Pulp Association, lumbermen have been reckless in their cutting of timber. Instead of considering forestry as an industry, lumbermen thought of woods as a gift from Nature, so limitless that there was no need for careful cutting or for replanting. They have cut into their own capital, without thinking that their investment in wood lands should be made to yield a permanent income. By the very nature of things in the early days of the forest industry, part of the seeming carelessness was unavoidable. Much of the land cut over was needed for farm crops, and reforestation was not advisable because the production of timber was not then the economic need. But the day of the great need for cleared land passed, and trained foresters have been calling the attention of the lumbering interests to their wasteful methods.

Foresters, as being theorists, were generally regarded as cranks, however, and it was not until the period immediately preceding the war that men realized how near we were to the last bases of supply.

With the publishers, the farmers, the builders of homes demanding lumber, and with old field pine bringing as high as \$12 a thousand in some parts of the south, lumbermen as well as foresters are interested in replanting cut-over lands. A number of the great paper mills have embarked upon reforestation programs as a necessary part of their business. Since fifty years is necessary to grow a fairly good stand of lumber, this may seem like a long-time undertaking, yet reforestation may bring immediate profit. In the case of the reforesting areas of the College of Forestry at Syracuse, the first twenty-year period sees many smaller trees, the surplus ones, ready for cutting for Christmas trees. From the twentieth year of the new growth, fence posts, mine props, small telephone poles, are cut, until, in the fortieth year, the wood may be used for pulp.

Of interest to the south particularly is Col. Greeley's statement that lumbermen who are skinning southern pine lands clean can often, at a small investment, start the land at producing 500 feet of timber per acre every year. The leaving of small sizes of timber, though it may cost a few cents more in logging, will pay big returns in the rapid growth of the timber left, and the trees left standing will, by seeding, remove the need for artificial planting. To those greatly, and justly, concerned over the rapidly clearing off of our southern forest areas, this statement by Col. Greeley, a forester of experience, will be encouraging.

Reforestation seldom requires artificial planting. Simple and relatively inexpensive methods of securing and protecting natural seedling are usually sufficient. In the southern states it can often be combined with the growing of livestock. The French turpentine very young pine timber and secure a continuous yield of naval stores forty years before cutting. There is no fundamental reason why young pine forests in our southern states should not, by the same means, pay their taxes and carrying charges with a small profit besides, until the owner chooses to cut them.

Says Senator Penrose: "I don't think it matters much who is made Secretary of State. . . . I do not think we will be satisfied to sit back and take the program of any Secretary of State." Guess we'll soon find out who's boss in this country, by golly!

Knox, Borah, Johnson and the League aside, Mr. Harding will learn very quickly in the White House that the world is full of bitter-ness and irreconcilables.

Headlines of a contemporary: "15,000 in Crimea Shot Down by Reds"; "Five Villages Shot Up by Bolsheviks"; "That Soviet artillery seems to be 'em going and coming."

## Baseball This Year?

The open window admits a strangely stirring echo, the reminiscent crack of a collision between solidly stuffed horsehide and seasoned hickory; in rapid alternation also the faraway sounds of groans and cheers, of "bonehead" and "attabooy."

What about it? Are we going to continue struggling along in this town without baseball? We'll have to admit that it is a struggle. No American town can hope to bat higher than 157 or thereabouts without a ball team to help with the batting. Some towns climb to fairly lofty estate with nothing but a ball team. In any case, baseball is just about second to a lot of boys in the trenches when it comes to making the people of a town shoulder up to each other. We can't say that medicine of that sort would hurt our town. It would do us more good than most of us can imagine.

Now is the time to make a start. At least, it's the only time left; last September was the proper time. It is whispered about that some of our enterprising workers are busy now with plans for a season of baseball—an Americanization movement, so to speak. The rest of us would like to hear how their efforts are panning out. We should like also to have a chance to commend them openly and, perhaps, if they're not quite over the top, to give them a lift.

Let's get together on this project right away. It is not too late, even if there is much to be done. There are men or organizations of men in this town who are fully capable of putting it over. Who will take the lead? If it's your move—move?

## Contemporary Views

### THE JAG AND THE LAW

*Chicago News:* Two New York judges have held that, even under the prohibition regime, it cannot be laid down by the courts as settled legal doctrine that intoxication is ground for summary discharge of an employe working under a contract.

The case has attracted much interest. It appears that a New York real estate agent, after putting through a profitable deal, celebrated his success by getting drunk. Despite a contract giving him a definite term of service his employer promptly dismissed him on the ground that the law today presumes sobriety on the part of employes.

The trial court agreed with the employer, but the appellate tribunal demurred and sent the case back for another trial before a jury of twelve good men and true.

In the opinion of the higher court, the question whether one old fashioned spree justifies the discharge of an employe working under a contract is one for a jury to pass upon, in view of all the facts of the given case. In some industries even one jag may justify dismissal. In others, perhaps, public opinion favors a charitable view of the offense. The law, says this New York court, cannot and should not impose standards of conduct that are not backed by public sentiment. Where a warning would be deemed sufficient by the average person, discharge is not to be sustained as a matter of law.

Thus it comes about that twelve New Yorkers are to decide whether the real estate agent's single alcoholic celebration warrants his dismissal or whether he must be given another chance by the employer.

**MR. HARDING'S FAVORITE AUTHOR**  
*Waterbury American:* Senator Harding's confession that Edgar Saltus is his favorite author and that he has read "Imperial Purple" as many as four times has led to the uncovering of this author's not very well known works and the discovery that the man who enjoys them lays himself open to the suspicion of being erotic, sentimental, emotional and credulous. We have no idea that those adjectives fit our next President. One critic says he read the book not to find out what was in it but what the inside of Harding's mind was like. There is an alternative—namely, that the Senator is not a book specialist and didn't quite know what he was saying or what it implied. Besides, he may not have said it. Saltus was a Yale man of forty years ago and even in those days a writer of "hot stuff."

**AND THE FARMER'S WIFE**  
*New York Tribune:* The California plan whereby men of small means may become independent farmers provides not only for loans to prospective buyers, but for community settlements and cooperative buying. Tracts of land of 6,000 to 9,000 acres, providing farms for about a hundred families, have already been populated. An engineer planned the buildings and the stock was bought in bulk by an expert from the State Agricultural School. The dairy herds today, it is said, are famed throughout the state. Cooperative selling, as well as buying, has proved profitable.

This method, besides its other advantages, eliminates the isolation of farm life, which, as much as anything else is responsible for the drift to the cities. There is a village instead of separated farmsteads. Along the same line Secretary Payne, in his annual report, urges community settlement on farms of not more than forty acres. A comfortable civilization, except for the telephone, has been long in reaching the farms. Electric light, gas, radiated heat and hot and cold water have not yet arrived at the farmhouse, and probably will not until farm life is organized on a new basis. Machinery has not done as much to make the life attractive as was expected. Work has been made easier, but more of it is crowded into a day. There is still little opportunity for the pleasure demanded by young people, and the farmer's wife has remained a drudge, for the house comes last in the list of improvements.

There is some ground for the grim humor in the plea of the Colorado farmer that a law be passed to permit farmers to have two wives. And the woman who disagreed with him was not so far wrong when she declared it should be the other way round: the wife should have two husbands—one to work in the fields, the other to help around the house.

**THE NEW ROAD MEASURE**  
*Raleigh News and Observer:* Copies of the new road measure to be submitted to the next Legislature will be printed shortly and circulated among the people of the State. As outlined the general scheme seems a good one. A synopsis of the bill is evidence that North Carolina has made decided progress in its road ideals, as well as in construction. In a general way we have come far enough to know that maintaining the roads we build is of as much importance as building them. Now comes another thing that we must understand. That we may maintain a road it must be built with an eye to that end. A road that is not properly built can't be maintained. That brings up still another phase of the subject. Roads built half a dozen years ago suitable for the traffic of half a dozen years ago could probably be kept up all right if we had only that traffic to deal with. But because of different conditions the road of half a dozen years ago is a failure now. In that time the truck has come. It is the road wrecker. The truck has given the road question a wholly new aspect. Instead of building a road now to carry a vehicle that with its load perhaps weighs two tons we must double that weight. That increase in burden is a fierce strain on roads and one that is to be worse instead of better. A good road now must be more than surfaced road. It must have a foundation that will defy practically anything. Foundations cannot be replaced like surfaces can. Apparently the job of road building now is building with a foundation that will meet the demands of the future. What that is to be is a pure guess. But how successful we guess it out depends the life of all our roads that we are about to build. If we make a mistake of forgetting that our roads must be built for truck service, and of a heavy kind, we will have roads that we cannot maintain, and if we do not maintain the roads we build we may just as well pour our road funds into a mud hole.

**HUGHES**  
*Philadelphia Record:* If secrecy is an essential feature of diplomacy, Charles Evans Hughes would make an excellent secretary of state. In 1916 he managed to go through a whole presidential campaign, from his nomination to his defeat, without giving the people the least idea what he would do if he were President, though he was belaboring President Wilson for what he did, or did not, in every speech he made. Mr. Hughes has not been more frank or intelligible, but no war is going on now, and perhaps we can afford to take chances we could not afford to take four years ago.

**ADHESION TO PRINCIPLE**  
*New York Post:* Senator Johnson is in favor of disarmament by agreement among the five principal powers. We welcome the senator's adhesion to a great principle which pressing world conditions are now making us realize. It is the question of what would Hiram Johnson have said if Woodrow Wilson had proposed a world policy based only on the five allied and associated powers. It is with Johnson as with other champions of the little nations: according to the exigencies of the argument now you see the little nations and now you don't.

# The Past Year One of Tedious Delays

(From the Springfield Republican)

The year 1920 gives the effect, as it closes, of being an interlude in the mighty historical drama which this generation is privileged to witness. It should have been pre-eminently the year of reconstruction, as 1918 was the year of victory and 1919 the year of making peace. But the year which inspired did not give the ideal atmosphere for the negotiation of a just and durable peace. And thus it comes about that whereas 1919 was largely about destroying the ideals which had won the victory of 1918, so the year just past has in great part been taken up with the necessary but ungrateful task of undoing what was wrongly done in 1919.

**Home Affairs**  
Not only has the year been an interlude, but so far as the world drama is concerned the United States has been a detached spectator. The refusal of the senate to ratify the treaty of Versailles left President Wilson's administration without prestige or authority in international affairs, and the return of the American peace delegation from Paris at the close of 1919 began that policy of emphasized aloofness which has continued ever since. The issue was carried into the presidential campaign and whatever may have been the decisive factor in the election of November, the defeat of the President's party left the administration nothing to do but to wait in patient inaction for the advent of March 4. Thus the year has passed with nothing to show for it, so far as America's contribution to the new world order is concerned.

The year is not so blank, yet nobody expects a quadrennial election year to be fruitful in constructive labors, and the situation during the past 12 months has been every way unfortunate. In this respect because of the antagonism between executive and the Republican majority in congress. In spite of this, however, several important measures have been passed, including the railroad reorganization act, the army reorganization act, the merchant marine act and the Americanization act. A bill proposing a budget system and one dealing with Germany at an end were vetoed by the President and one repealing the President's war powers expired without being either signed or vetoed.

The prohibition was achieved in 1919, but came into force last January, and the thought and emotions of the American people have perhaps been more concentrated on this than on any other single topic. The prohibition movement, in August the woman suffrage amendment became effective, and the general participation of women throughout the United States in the November election was a notable historical event which was pushed a little into the background by other matters.

**Labor, Radicals and Reds**  
In the earlier months something remarkable in the feverish prosperity which war brings. Labor was scarce, and disposed to be exigent, while prices continued to mount. It was to meet these conditions that President Wilson called the second industrial conference at Washington, which prepared a report suggesting methods for the peaceful adjustment of industrial disputes. There has been a great deal of uneasiness due to the knowledge that drastic legislation would be essential before a sound business foundation could be reached, and to the aggressive war upon radical activities conducted by the administration in answer to the challenge of soviet Russia. So many "reds" rounded up and either deported or released, as to create a general impression of a formidable repressive movement. In all this activity seems to have been in the nature of a national housecleaning rather than the suppression of a social or political movement. Only strengthened the conviction that the United States is sound and patriotic and a sterile soil for bolshevism.

**British and French Friction**  
This failure of the allies to dispose of the outstanding questions left by the war was in part due to their conflicting interests, notably in the near East and in Russia. In the division of the Turkish empire, England, as the sea power, had enjoyed a great advantage, and even before the close of 1919 a sharp dispute had arisen with France in regard to the oil fields of Mosul. British policy also conflicted with that of France in regard to the treatment of the Turkish nationalists headed by Mustafa Kemal Pasha. England has favored the strict enforcement of the treaty of Sevres, when no other forces were available made use of the Greek army which off-ended Italy and later in the year contributed to the downfall of the ambitious Greek premier, Venizelos. France, on the other hand, finding its position in Syria difficult, was for coming to terms with Mustafa Kemal and modifying the treaty of Sevres in order to make it more acceptable to the Turks.

This issue was closely related to the question of making peace with Russia, which Great Britain favored both on economic grounds and because of the dangers to its Asiatic empire involved in the continuance of hostile relations with the soviets. France, on the other hand, both under Premier Millerand and his successor, Premier Leger, who took office in September when M. Millerand was elected president, has shown implacable hostility to the revolutionary government in Russia, making this the treaty of Versailles, the execution of some of its policy. The diplomatic history of the year has revolved about these two focal points, making little progress. Twice the entente was put under a dangerous strain. In March, when France, without the sanction of the allies, invaded Germany and occupied Frankfurt and other cities, and in August, when France as abruptly repudiated the Wrangel government. Much feeling was shown in England on the other hand, at the renunciation of England of its right under the treaty of Versailles to seize in the future German property in Germany should fall to pay a indemnity in full, an action ascribed to a desire to get German trade for England at the expense of France.

Such episodes make a somewhat sordid chapter of history, but they help to explain why, during 1920, the world has made so little progress. The delay in the ratification of the treaty of Versailles, the United States to participate in a settlement which contemplated a participation seems obvious; on many questions, notably the question of disarmament, the world is waiting anxiously to see what this country will do under a Republican administration.

The most notable forward step taken during 1920 was the first meeting of the assembly of the League of Nations, it lasted a month and many important questions were raised, including disarmament, notably the question of compulsory jurisdiction, the "open door" in territory held under mandate, the admission of Germany, and the revision of the covenant, but action was for the most part postponed. The view prevailing that it was necessary to wait and see what the United States would do. The session was therefore chiefly devoted apart from the animated discussion on the break-up of the organization of the league, to the important progress was made. The year ends with a League of Nations in actual existence as a going concern, and this in itself would make 1920 notable.

## BURLEY TOBACCO MART TO OPEN IN LEXINGTON

Season, a Month Late, Opens With Seven Million Pounds

LEXINGTON, Ky., Jan. 2.—The Lexington loose leaf tobacco market, the largest burley tobacco market in the world, will open here tomorrow with approximately 7,000,000 pounds of tobacco on the break. The opening is offered by buyers depends whether or not producers will take charge of the situation and through a company of their own undertake to market the crop on the break. The Burley Tobacco Growers' association.

For the first time in the history of the market there are three sets of buyers present for the opening. Sellers will be held in each of the 18 warehouse buildings. Officials of the association will watch the market closely tomorrow and it was announced tonight, if prices come average up to the estimated cost of production, 36 cents a pound, the market will be incorporated to take charge. A meeting of county officials will be held here tomorrow night finally to decide what action will be taken. The market opens on the break a month later than usual due to the fact that the United States department of agriculture and state officials were asked to make a separate estimate of the burley crop.

## NEW YORK ADMINISTRATION IS "MOST CORRUPT IN HISTORY"

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Declaring the "decent element" of New York and the state demand an investigation of the greater city administration, Senator Theodore Douglas Robinson, Herkimer, and Assemblyman Joseph Steinburg, of New York, both Republicans, announced tonight they propose to ask the legislature when convened next Wednesday to make such an inquiry.

In the statement prepared by the two members of the legislature the charge was made that the city was "suffering from probably the worst and the most corrupt administration in its history."

## BISHOP TELLS REFORMERS TO BE HUMBLE AND PRACTICAL

BOSTON, Jan. 2.—A warning to reformers to cope with present problems in a practical and businesslike fashion were contained in the New Year's message delivered by Bishop William Lawrence, Episcopal, at St. Paul's cathedral today.

"That idea that supreme Christianity must be puritanical and supremely serious, antagonizing and stirring things, is wrong," said Bishop Lawrence. "Christ won his way out of truth and grace. Let us not out of Christian problems in humble, impersonal acts."

January 1st—3rd

Deposits made on or before January 3 bear interest from January 1. Number "Systematic Saving" among your New Year's Resolutions.

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