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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1921

Jan Smuts

Jan Smuts's victory relieves a situation fraught with profound peril to the Empire. Ever since the last election, Smuts has been a Premier sitting upon a volcano, relying for the maintenance of his position upon the uncertain support of scattered groups of the Labor party. Only his consummate leadership, his intellectual supremacy, his sheer bigness, kept him in place. He is now happily entrenched, his party having won a clear majority. South Africa has set its face against disunion and reaction.

What has happened can be appreciated only in the light of a knowledge of developments since the defeat of the Boers early in the century. Botha and Smuts both devoted themselves to the task of reconstruction. Hertzog, another Boer leader, was at first acquiescent in their attitude, and in 1910 even contributed to the making of the constitution of the Union. Soon thereafter he experienced a change of heart. The Nationalists, standing for Boer independence and isolation, began to loom up as a force to be reckoned with, and it was not long before Hertzog undertook their guidance. In 1914, with the outbreak of the war, the occasion was chosen to attempt an abortive revolution. Botha, as Premier, was fighting the Germans near-by; Smuts, his subordinate, was abroad helping in the direction of the struggle from London. The revolt was crushed, but the fire of discontent did not die out. Botha's death meant Smut's succession; but the power of the Nationalists waxed greater, because it fed upon the irritations which made themselves felt in South Africa no less keenly than in the rest of the world. There were the burdens of taxation, the murmurings of labor, the stirrings of a new consciousness which had, come to the blacks. Smuts was confronted with an infinitely difficult task, which in 1920 appeared beyond his resources when the Nationalists triumphed at the polls. With patience, with a rare diplomacy, with an incomparable vision, Smuts held his own while establishing his line, and the result which has just been announced gives him the whip-hand.

It was a victory for the man who fashioned the frame-work of the League of Nations, for the man who having fought gallantly against the English found in his defeat the thrill and spur of a larger service than could possibly flow out of the confinements of nationalism. He saw the glory of a South Africa receiving in the bosom of the British Empire an independence, a charter of growth, unattainable in any other way; and he cast himself, with all his tremendous capacity, into the work of naking his country a great nation. He is sucseeding mightily. The world will keep its eyes on 3muts. He is one of the few truly colossal figures.

Tick Eradication

Hey, diddle-diddle, a Carolina riddle, The cow jumped over the vat, Anopheles laughed to see such sport, And the tick ran away with the fat.

The proposed statewide law, under the operation of which the Eastern Carolina cattle tick would quickly be gathered to his fathers, will have another hearing in the General Assembly this The House has voted to re-consider its recent rejection of the bill, and probably will await action in the Senate before taking another vote. The defeat in the House seemed at first to be fairly conclusive, and we are without substantial evidence of a change of heart, but the readiness to make a second record of the members' will has given new courage to the advocate of this highly important legislation. The moral weight of a victory in the Senate would be of great value to the proponents of the measure when they return with their proposal to the floor of the Lower House. We are convinced that both Senate and House would respond to earnest insistence from the people at home, and the citizens of Eastern Carolina, particularly, should weigh the issue well before they yield to the counsel of misunderstanding and prejudice.

We are indebted to Mr. McGirt for a brief catechism on tick eradication. It makes the issue so clear that we are at a loss to understand how there can be any issue at all; dealing only with established facts, Mr. McGirt's catechism should convince every person of open mind that the question has, in fact, only one side and that side should enlist the earnest support of all progressive people.

There are twenty-one counties of Eastern Carolina now infected with the cattle tick. The proposed law would require systematic dipping in these counties. The dipping vat "is the most economical, up-to-date and effective method of eradication." It is the method employed in

Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, California, four of these states having "completely banished the cattle tick under state laws." It is, moreover, the methodnow used in Eastern Carolina, though with a lack of co-ordination in the work of the several counties that is largely destroying the value of the crusade. There are 806 dipping vats in Eastern Carolina, and "it will require less than 300 additional vats to complete the work. The average cost per vat is \$100." We are informed that the vats are about four miles apart and that "no cattle owner has more than two miles to drive his

A question in the McGirt catechism is, "Is the Cattle Tick a State Issue?" The affirmative answer is supported by reasons which we quote here:

First. The state appropriates \$25,000 annually to maintain the quarantine line between tick infested counties and border counties. Second. The United States Government appropriates \$35,000 each year for the same

Third. The infested counties and the border counties are losing millions of dollars be-

cause of the prevalence of cattle tick. Fourth. These annual appropriations, plus the cost sustained in keeping the cattle tick in Eastern Carolina, instead of eradicating the tick, makes it a matter of grave concern to the entire state.

Fifth. The state would not appropriate \$25,000 year after year to quarantine a group of counties infested with smallpox. The state would provide ways and means to immediately eradicate this menace.

The people of this section should pause to realize that they are standing in their own light if, and when they demand the rejection of a statewide eradication law because of over-sensitiveness to the element of compulsion or because of a feeling that the State is seeking to interfere in a matter of purely local concern. The cattle, tick refuses to. be localized. He is perfectly at home on any cow's hide, as long as the cow continues wearing it, and where the cow goes he will go. Happily, he will just as readily follow a cow into a dipping vat as into a neighboring county or state, and after a trip through the vat he isn't the same

The people of Eastern Carolina ought to set their legislative representatives right in this matter, and the time to do it is NOW-before the issue re-appears on the calendars at Raleigh.

Recognition of the Small Boy

Boys are born to climb, as the sparks fly upward. Any mother knows this, and often uses moral suasion and physical force to keep her small son from the vicinity of buildings in process of construction and of other structures irresistible in their appeal to the climbing propensity of small boys. That same propensity, carried on to man, hood, has given us our explorers and mountain climbers, steeple jacks and aviators, and others of that clan to whom the lure of height is stronger than any other claim. Men have always been rather proud of their venturesome spirit, but strangely have forgotten that it is a source of danger to the small boys of the world.

At last, however, no less than authority than the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, acting upon a case in New York City, has recognized the fact that "anyone who puts up a structure which might lure a boy to climb upon it is guilty of negligence unless he also takes some measures to prevent the lad from climbing." A trial jury had previously awarded \$11,000 damages to the eight-year-old child who, tempted by a pigeon nest on the top girder of a bridge in the Bronx, had lost an arm when he touched a cable carrying high voltage electricity. No precautions had been taken to prevent such occurrences, hence the principle laid down by the District Court and thus enlarged upon by Judge Hough of the Court

"Many a lawful thing may be so negligently managed, handled, or maintained as to give rise to a cause of action in tort. The true doctrine is that any composition of matter which lures or attracts the confiding ignorance of childhood to its own harm must be safeguarded against as circumstances require. Considering the evidence in this case, we conclude that the defendant could have foreseen that some boy would do exactly what this boy did and just such troublesome boys are entitled to be protected against themselves."

The decision is interesting as an evidence of the great advance modern society and legal practice have made in their attitude toward the child. Instead of regarding the child as a man not yet grown to physical maturity, society knows that, possessed of an individuality no less distinct than that of an adult, he is unlike any man, even the man into whom he will develop. Because he has not the wisdom of experience and the ability to correlate what he observes, he must be, as Judge Hough says, "protected against himself."

Unjust to Service Men Secretary Baker has issued a timely warning

against the practice of "designating as 'ex-service men' burglars, holdup men and other criminals without proper investigation." Inquiry, he asserts, has often disclosed the fact that men so described were never identified with the Army or the Navy. "It is popular just now," according to the Secretary of War, "for criminals to plead that they were in the service, in the hope of gaining sympathy." It may not be amiss to suggest that the designation be eliminated even in those cases where the criminal does happen to be a former member of the Army or Navy. Ordinarily, the description is not essential or enlightening, and it is certainly not more appropriate than it would be in many other connections which, as a rule, do not seem to suggest its use. Ex-service men, as individuals, are doing many things that are good and honorable, creditable to themselves and to their former connections. If it does not appear necessary in speaking of these matters to mention the subject's war service, there can surely be no reason for linking the Army or Navy with the case of the man who gets in bad standing with the police. The effect of the frequent use of the phrase "ex-service man" in connection with criminals has been to give the impression of widespread lawlessness among the World War veterans. This effect has not been sought or intended, but it has necessarily followed. It is erroneous, and, as Mr. Baker has said, "a great injustice * * * to the great body of men who may properly pride themselves in being 'ex-service men'."

A Harding Bloc

Mr. Harding is apparently finding it harder to preserve harmony with the Senate than he had threamed of. The report that a Senate bloc friendly to the President-elect is actually in process of formation indicates that Messrs. Lodge and Penrose are becoming dictorial to a degree which even the easy-going Harding can not suffer. He is beginning to tire of the opposition which these gentlemen and others are exhibiting to every suggestion coming from him touching cabinet appoint-

The expected is being given reality. Mr. Harding was not elected by reason of the strength of his party, which is now giving token of the deepseated factionalism which infected it long before November 4. Dissensions, soft-pedaled for expediency's sake, are now unmistakably revealed. Mr. Harding deserves the country's sympathy.

Contemporary Views

A NOTABLE FORWARD STEP

Winston-Salemn Sentinel: At the beginning of the new school session there is going to be inaugurated at the City High School a course in Citizenship.

This will be started as a course for eighth grade students and will ultimately develop into one covering the entire high school period. The fundamentals of citizenship will be taught

in a comprehensive way and the students will begin a real insight into problems that will confront them when they emerge from school. This is certainly a step in the right direction.

The average high school boy and girl is greatly in need of just such a course as this. Many of these boys and girls will not go to

If they do not receive instruction in the fundamentals of citizenship before they leave the high school many of them will never get it at all.

And the fact that woman's suffrage is now an accomplished fact makes it as important for the This is another progressive step that is indicative of the policy of those in charge of the local

school system to make it second to none. The constant purpose is to make the school curriculum as practical as possible and adapted to the needs of the largest possible number of students.

The people of the community have every reason to be proud of what has already been done in the development of the school work and of the prospects for its continued expansion in the future.

6,000,000 BALES AS THE LIMIT

Charlotte Observer: The Observer is rather inclined to the view taken by W. B. Thompson & Co., the New Orleans cotton brokers, that the Government's estimate of the left-over crop is being used too much to the possible undoing of the holders of cotton. One bad effect of promulgation of the alarming report was an immediate break in the market. The American Cotton Association, of which Harvie Jordan is secretary, is using the report of excessive holdings as a lever in bringing about a reduced cotton acreage, while it is probable no such leverage is needed. The crop is going to be reduced if there was not a bale of left-over cotton in the country. We believe the situation is correctly presented by Thompson when he invites attention to the fact that even if the carry-over is as great as represented by the Government's report it does not follow that any such number of bales were and are available. On the contrary, it is well known to the trade that a large proportion of the carry-over from last season was low, unspinnable cotton. The United States estimated production for 1920-21 includes a considerable portion of bollies, snaps, and weatherdamaged cotton which farmers in certain sections have foolishly picked and are still picking, which stuff is estimated as cotton but which will not and cannot be used for spinning purposes. Note furthermore, that the Bureau's estimate includes the carry-over and production of the entire world and from all sources. The India crop, estimated at 4,676,000 is, as is well known, low in grade and to a large extent comes within the category of unmarketable cotton. The Egyptain crop, estimated at 1,315,000 bales, is a staple specialty; and "other" production, including every kind of cotton or near cotton, or junk that looks like cotton, is lumped by the Bureau into an imposing item of 800,000

The cotton trade, Thompson avers, knows as a matter of fact, although unable to back up its knowledge with an array of specific figures, that a very considerable part of the 25,624,000 estimated supply for 1920-21, is bales which do not come within the purview of consumption at all, and under present conditions have no status as "cotton available for consumption" and are usable only as materials for padding statistics and as the means for trying to stampede the cotton holder and his supporting bankers into the slough of

despair. The point the Observer is driving at is that it is better to accept the facts of the situation and to base action in the light of these accepted facts, than to be exciting the people over improbable eventualities. The size of the left-over cron should cut no figure in the growing determination of the farmers to reduce the crop. This reduction should be based on common sense and not be precipitated through a scare. Whether the left-over crop is small or large, the sensible thing for the Southern farmers to do this spring is to plant less cotton than they have been accustomed to planting-the less the better. It is the common sense remedy, and Thompson seems to suggest its practical application when he argues that a crop of 6,000,000 bales this year on top of the carryover, whatever that might be, will reduce the supply for the coming twelve months to figures which will galvanize demand into activity which will not only take up the present surplus but the next crop as well at prices which will save the present situation and put cotton production on a safely remunerative basis hereafter. The only way to assure a crop of the limited size stated, is to put into the ground an amount of seed which will under any normal weather conditions make it impossible to produce more than the said limited

WHY IS IT, INDEED?

Charlotte News: The inquiry goes from the conference of business men and laborers held in Charlotte, "Why is it that building operations here remain at a standstill?" It's a pertinent question. We are told that other sections are beginning to build, but nothing is being done here, although labor costs are down and materials are much lower than they have been for years. The contractors persuade us also that when the building boom finally does come on, both labor-costs and materialcosts will ascend under the competitive rush for both, yet those who expect to build seem to be uninfluenced by the plain logic of this situation.

The same status prevails in almost every other line. The truth of the matter is that the people quit spending their money some time ago for anything except such as they were obliged to have, and they have not been led to believe since then that the bottom is reached. They are watchfully waiting, hoping and, perhaps, believing that lower prices will yet prevail and they refuse to go out into the markets until they can get what they want at the lowest possible prices. It is going to be difficult to bring a genuine revival to any line of business so long as this mental reaction persists in hanging around.

Daily Editorial Digest

troversy between Senator Johnson and nounce the result of "official conversa- tions." reached the stage of formal agreement.

Emphasizing the point that "the treaty is not complete; it has not been submitted: it is still under consideration," the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette (Dem.) ridicules the suggestion that it is at this time the concern of the Sen-

"Shades of John Hay!" it exclaims. "since when did it become customary for an ambassador to consult with members of the foreign relations committee of the Senate in the negotiation of a treaty? His chief is the Secretary of State; with him he consults and from him secures his instructions."

Opposition to this view, however, comes from at least one paper on the Atlantic Coast, as well as from the Pa-The Express and Advertiser (Rep.) of Portland, Maine, sees in Senator Johnson's request "a splendid opdent Wilson's celebrated point of 'open between the two governments"

as the Wichita Eagle (Ind.) rather triumph." satirically suggests, the Detroit Free the open." Therefore:

"It would seem that Mr. Colby is clumsily sought." going about his undertaking in the wrong manner. An attitude of frank- criminated against in the matter of ness and non-concealment would seem land ownership, the San Francisco peace.' more effective. Certainly it would be Chronicle (Ind.) maintains that in any more consonant with the spirit of event "our domestic laws are no legi-American government.

forcing the people of California to yield to be, "the Japanese immigration quesas a whole" than would have been the case had they refrained "from throwing monkey wrenches into the machinery of conciliation."

have something to say about the mat- sons.

England and America.

premier chosen by the president of the

of an alliance. Each country is aware

that it would gravely compromise its

essential conditions of existence if the

two do not follow the same line. The

Events have shown the solidarity of

not be astonished nor angry if Italy

proposes to develop commercial rela-

tions with Germany. We desire also

to develop ours so that the activity of

the exchanges will facilitate Germany

paying her debts to us. We only hope

that the diplomacy of the cabinet will

lose its had habits contracted with the

triple alliance, and will not seek in

Berlin or Asia a possible quarrel

against us. In order to succeed in the

huge task of reconstruction, which in-

terests Italy just as much as our-

selves, it is necessary to agree not

only in words, and for the powers re-

solved to work for the re-establish-

ment of the economic balance not to

use part of their energy in sparing

means of pressure against their com-

rades. We must act as loyal associ-

concludes the writer, "it appears that

there is still much to be done before

Italian opinion is convinced of this.

For example, the Giornale d'Italia, the

Sonnino organ, says that France ought

to be content with the friendship of

forty million Italians and give up the

idea of 'problematic aid from America and an alliance with England, for American aid is disappearing and an

alliance with England is too expen-

sive. We thus return to the system

advocated in 1919, of France and Italy

being closely united to govern the world. What an absurdity! France

and Italy would be absolutely incapa-

ble, however united they were, to gov-

ern the world, they would soon come

to grief. But as far as she is con-

cerned. France has no ambition to

According to the papers in Rome,"

ates or we shall fail.

The Japanese Agreement

Secret diplomacy" is again under ter" and the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot fire in the press as a result of the con- (Ind. Dem.) feels that-"Senator Johnson should realize that Secretary Colby over making public the he himself does not enjoy a monopoly Morris-Shidehara agreement. As is on Americanism and that California is usually the case in discussing the Jap- not the only state in the Union. The anese problem, division of editorial treaty between Japan and the United opinion is chiefly geographic Insitence States is not to be considered on the upon "open covenants openly arrived basis of Johnson or California statesat" is found in Western papers, while anship, but on that of American statesmost of the Eastern editors support manship. The questions involved are Secretary Colby in his refusal to an- of national and international propor-

tions" which he maintains have not yet . The question as the Buffalo Express (Ind. Rep.) sees it "is whether the ideas of a group of California politicians should direct the policy of a nation or whether it should be representative of the entire country." That question can be answered only in a refusal to allow California "to impose ier special obsession on the United

However, this theory that the Japanese problem is the "special obsession" of California and the coast is emhatically refuted by Western writers 'It is purely a matter of geography that this state happens to be on the firing line in the present controversy," says the Sacramento Union (Ind.). Far from being a local issue, the Union continues, "It is fundamentally a matter for the national concern, and only the crass ignorance of the eastern section of the nation prevents the general realization of this fact." Precisely beportunity for demonstration" of "Presi- cause "the people of California, in fighting their battle for Japanese excovenants openly arrived at,' particu- clusion, are but fighting the battle of larly since 'there is no need for secrecy' future American civilization' the Los made for the conclusion of and "Senator Johnson is right in his Angeles Express (Ind.) deplores the position that the West should be in- Morris-Shidehara agreement, which it formed at once as to what has passed believes "is far from a statesmanlike tion of western Hungar settlement of the issues involved." and While the California Senator may be lit insists upon negotiations 7that in-"a troublesome person by reason of his volve no surrender of vital American insistence on light here and there," rights to secure a Japanese diplomatic

What the pending agreement pro-Press (Ind.) finds "good excuse" for poses, according to the Cleveland Plain his demand that the people chiefly con- Dealer (Ind. Dem.) is "general alien cerned in these negotiations shall not land ownership laws applicable to all be "obliged to wait until the details, aliens." With this settlement "the peo- fully takes into consideration already being discussed at length in ple of the United States should be point of view and the claims of Japan, filter through via Japanese news more than satisfied," the paper believes. Eventually, the Spokane since "the United States is really yield- dealing with the susceptibilities of Spokesman Review (Ind Rep.) points ing nothing" and the Pacific Coast seout, the State Department, "if it is to cures the protection it demands. get anywhere with its reputed agree- Further, "California most of all should | the interests of Austria demand es ment with Japan," must "bring it into welcome an arrangement which gives her the substance of what she has

Denying that Japan has been distimate concern of Japan" and that "the In the opinion of the Columbus (O) California law should not even be dis Dispatch (Ind.), however, Johnson is cussed with Japan," and the Fresno merely "stirring up unnecessary fric- Republican (Ind.) insists that whatmore "to the judgment of the country tion must be determined by American statute and not by treat

fornia representatives and press in th It is this appearance of an attempt an equable settlement leads the Syraon the part of California "to dictate cuse Post Standard (Rep.) to comment national policies" which is most strong- that "the Japanese menace has its ly opposed by papers not in the im- capital in Sacramento, not in Tokyo mediate battleground. To the Roches- The brewers of trouble are not the ter Times Union (Ind.) "it would seem shrewd and silent Japanese, but the that the rest of the country ought to noisily provocative Hearsts and John-

"Let us then join together in good

JUST WHAT IS AUSTRIA!

"The treaty of Saint Germain has di

European News and Views

Forecasts Briand's Policy

an Italian suggestion that France her ideas and her intelligence. Italy

ropean continental alliance, abandon-bition. But, for goodness sake, do not

ing any possible co-operation with let her demand an exclusive friend-

There is no doubt about it that M | terms with our mutual friends. She.

Briand seeks the solution of present as well as ourselves, have a similar

p: of lems," says the writer, "in a close interest in a close understanding with

republic would do the same. On both will, dry up the sources of misunder-

sides of the channel, opinion becomes standing, and without dissimulation

more and more decided, in spite of combine the means to save our coun-

experience of the last two years is dition from the point of view of for-

conclusive. The diplomatic system of eign relations was made in a state-

profiting by a common victory for ment to the parliament by the chan-

vantages, has not been successful in Neues Wiener Tageblatt):

each to exploit its own particular ad- cellor, Dr. Mayr, as follows (reported

England's and France's interests in vided up an economic territory which

Asia and the necessity for each to ap- had existed for centuries and allowed

ply the same previously arranged economic frontiers to be created in a

methods. Only those persons rooted to district where they ought logically to

old, badly understood, conditions would form barriers, thus preventing the re-

protest. It is very important today construction of wealth destroyed by

that Mr. Lloyd George and M. Briand the war. On entering the foreign of-

man with whom it is easy to speak state promised to preserve from hun-

frankly. Now that the Adriatic ques- ger a people of six millions, with a

tion is settled the cabinet at Rome-will rich civilization and a great historic

which leads away from selfishness to great nations of the west who recog-

the community of interests with the nize this engagement can alone offer

"It is equally desirable," says the important ideas of former times-that

agreement with England. Every otlar the United States and England,

of a closer entente cordiale, and even which it is threatened."

ready been decided by the treaty HURLEY SAYS SHIPPIN

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Austria has been admitted in

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Austria is on an equal footing a

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"But still another proof of the

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"The duty of the government was

Declares to Committee It Pr duced Ships, Which Was Wha Board Was For

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.-Both 1 oard constructed ships after the U ted States entered the war, the hou perations was told Saturday by E. Hurley, of Chicago, who was the

and France and Italy told him dur The Paris Journal des Debats prints play this part which seems to haunt faster than those countries somewhat remarkable forecast of some Roman minds. She is contented thought possible. He learned, also Briand's policy, in which it deals with to live and to shine in the world by said, that Germans, too, had be amazed at the board's construct

should join with Italy in a purely Eu- can legitimately nourish the same am- program. The former chairman discussed ship from us which would put us on bad touching in a general way on criticis directed at the board in this count Admitting that mistakes had been ma Mr. Hurley said that was inevita for the purpose of turning out shi

"We delivered the ships." he clared, "that's what we were suppos temporary misunderstandings, in favor try and the world from the chaos with to do. Shipping board officials profited

their mistakes, and took pains not repeat them, the witness said, add that the country could view with pr the accomplishments of the board. T ships it put into use, he declar helped turn the tide at the most on cal period of the war. Mr. Hurley paid tribute to the m

been drafted to take charge of struction when satisfactor, progra was not being made. At the peace of ference, Mr. Hurley continued Cle of Mr. Schwab had frightened the G should understand each other clearly fice I was convinced of this fact-and mans, heartened the French and I could recall with reference to this thused the British.

"I know that his appointment." writer, "that these two statesmen our country at the present time can added, "inspired the American peo should be in complete harmony with only be helped by those who today are to get behind the shipbuilding Italy. Count Sforza seems to be a in power, and who, when creating our gram.

He expressed optimism over the ture of the American merchant marlogically have to follow the evolution past, in the centre of Europe. The prove a liability in case sufficient Junking of the government's flo other western powers. Although some that infusion of blood to our economi- wooden ships was favored by Mr. H recent diplomatic nominations were of cal situation which is struggling with ley, who said the vessels were no le the kind to make us uneasy, we shall death, which besides our own active er of any use or practical value

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