

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN

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SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE THE E. K. ZE SPECIAL ADVERTISING AGENCY, 15-19 East Twenty-sixth Street, New York City...

Saturday, December 27, 1919.

A Christmas Lesson.

America's social and political future cannot be hopeless as long as the Christmas spirit manifests itself as it has this season. The Christmas festival just passed was marked as it never was before...

Are such phenomena the signs of national characteristics, or can they be explained as merely the expressions of an ancient custom? They show that underneath the rush and struggle for possession of the good things of the world...

It was this spirit which, when aroused by the need for national self-assertion and the call of distress in Europe, carried the people, soldiers and civilians, into the war with a determination and enthusiasm which revived the flagging morale of the allies...

It's Up To Congress.

There was nothing for the President to do but extend the period of control over the railroads in order that congress may have full opportunity to provide the necessary legislation. Last May Mr. Wilson announced that the roads would go back to the owners with the end of the year...

For months the senate has been lost in the intricacies of the Cummins bill. This measure's chief provisions have given constitutional lawyers in and out of the senate a great field for debate, and the controversy was not stilled by the passage of the bill just before the Christmas recess...

Building Prospects.

From local conditions, from reports throughout the country, from the forecasts of economic students, comes the confirmation of prophecies that 1920 will be a year of great building activity. Allen E. Beale, writing in the Annalist, says: "He must be an incurable pessimist who cannot perceive in the shaping of conditions the foundations of an era of building prosperity that should at least equal the best previous years the country has ever known."

In normal times, says Beale, "the fundamental influence upon building depression has been lack of demand, brought about by overproduction of buildings." Today, however, there is an accumulated deficiency in building which has created a potential demand for construction worth \$4,500,000. Comparing this demand with the 1916 record of \$1,500,000, Mr. Beale expects at least that, 1916 will be equalled. It is not likely to be surpassed because of the shortage of building materials and common labor.

The New York writer does not look for lower prices on materials. He points out that production cannot, during next year, catch up with demand for building supplies. There is a cause for community satisfaction that the period of watchful waiting for lower price levels in Asheville has passed. Business men and home builders have awakened to a realization of conditions and have determined to go to work. The only way for a community to go forward is to start on the way.

Hope For Teachers.

If Mr. Rockefeller feels that he is a trustee for the great wealth he has amassed, he has never given worthier expression of that conviction than by his gift of \$100,000,000, one-half of which is to be used in raising the salaries of college professors. The 600 colleges themselves are conducting a campaign to raise \$150,000,000 for this purpose and with the Rockefeller assistance the teachers may yet be placed beyond the reach of want and general economic distress which is the worst possible environment for successful teaching.

The Raleigh News and Observer recently published the following advertisements, which speak for themselves of the esteem in which education is still held in too many communities:

Wanted—colored barber for white trade in camp town; permanent position. We guarantee \$25 per week. Right man can make \$35 per week. Let us hear from you at once. Fleming & Elliott, 6 Market square, Fayetteville, N. C.

Wanted—Teacher of Latin for Lumberton high school, Lumberton, N. C.; salary \$70 a month. W. H. Gale, superintendent.

The Rockefeller awards will not reach the public schools, but the campaign for better salaries in colleges will educate the public to the realization of the unjust and unprofitable policy of expecting efficient teachers to work for a pittance.

Commenting on the advertisements printed in the Observer, the Hartford Times has the following:

All of which causes reflection upon the business opportunities offered by the outside and the inside of the head. The colored gentleman, operating on the outside, would make from \$1,300 to \$320 per year. The classical gentleman, operating on the inside, would acquire \$630 in his working season of nine months. But of course the colored gentleman has the advantage of being able to exhibit to his employer immediate "results and the acute business eye of the present enlightened age can see "results" where it couldn't do anything else with a telescope.

William J. Barton.

Principal William J. Barton was a teacher who found a satisfying reward in leading youth to higher ideals. His enthusiasm for his profession would alone have made him a successful teacher. But he had a gift that not all good instructors are endowed with—he was a natural leader and friend of boys. He knew without reflection how to win the confidence of boys and how to be their guide without being a driver. As head of the Orange school and as supervisor of the city playgrounds he found and made splendid use of his gifts of leadership. Through his influence on the boys of Asheville he will live always in the life of this city.

Almost every day's news dispatches tell the story of death served in the cup which holds decoctions masquerading under the name of whiskey. If the saloon potation was often an adulteration which menaced the health of the devotees, the drink now turned out by the blockaders, stirred to rapid production, by heavy demand, is almost certain suicide. In the old days the man who purchased goods from reputable firms at least knew that his system had to contend with nothing more deadly than alcohol, and his fear of that depended upon his taste. Now there is no guarantee of life, and the pursuit of happiness through strong drink has become a myth. If urban and rural blockaders cannot improve the quality of their goods they are going to be the most efficient allies of the federal enforcement officers. Their brew will kill the more thirsty and the survivors will learn to fear any man offering a drink.

THE HOLLAND LETTER.

Henry Morgenthau and Herbert Hoover apparently found a more ready listener in the secretary of the treasurer to communications they were to make than they discovered in the financial district. For some time Mr. Morgenthau and Mr. Hoover have made earnest approach to bankers and others who have gained reputation as men of finance, in the hope that if in that way it would be possible to perfect a national campaign whereby funds could be secured with which to alleviate distress in Central Europe and in Armenia. Both are well qualified to give information which pictures forth the real condition of suffering and of half starvation which prevails in those countries. Both can speak at first hand, not merely echoing reports attached to them, but from their own knowledge of the conditions. Both became in a little while discouraged, were unable to stimulate any other feeling than that of remote sympathy. They found the financial world is now intensely occupied with an attempt to learn how best foreign exchange can be stabilized, international obligations paid in addition to that how the present day problem of the States, can be maintained and how possible the lapse can be prevented.

Both Mr. Hoover and Mr. Morgenthau have good understanding of the perils which threaten Europe now faces and, in fact, of the danger of famine which may directly or indirectly cost millions of lives, then our people would scribe willingness to a fund amounting to one hundred millions, as willingly in fact as did subscribe to the Red Cross and to other similar factations. Something like indifference seems to have acterized not only the financial district in New York but also the situation in Central Europe. been spoken of to them. The time did in Dec. 25—Joseph favorable for perfecting any organizationally killed this would be able to make appeal to the plunged from a people for aid for these suffering people. The pavement be. At last Mr. Hoover and Mr. Morgenthau participating in a to Washington. If it was impossible party and the sympathies of the American people's dashed out of cause them to come forward with large per the railing.

of money it might be possible to persuade the government at Washington that both from the economic point of view and also from that of humanity it is imperative that speedy assistance be given by means of which these peoples can be carried over the winter season and through the time of cultivating and planting of the spring and harvesting of the summer, until with their own crops they may be able in great measure to meet the demand for food and in that way to set industry again in operation.

Secretary Glass's Quick Response. What was said to the secretary of the treasury, Mr. Glass, he alone knows. But congress and the nation now know what was the effect of the communication that was made to him. For the secretary has made appeal to congress for legislation which will enable him to set in motion the movement of food and the providing of funds whereby this distress can be relieved. It must have been a sense of imperative obligation which persuaded Secretary Glass to change his mind respecting further loans by the government to other nations if congress gives him the authority to do this and if additional authority is given to utilize our vast supplies of food then immediately after congress their acts food will move to Central Europe, funds will be provided by means which payment can be made and in addition the means will be secured whereby industry can be revived in those nations.

This is a consideration which is based upon the economic point of view. If people of Central Europe can be fed and so fed as to enable them to regain normal health and strength then they will be able to import raw material and needed manufactured commodities because due to the aid which the United States government can give they will be able to pay their American creditors for these commodities.

While Secretary Glass appears to have been moved chiefly by the appeal which these peoples make to the United States for relief from suffering he also aware that in the end this relief will be a benefit to this country from the economic point of view. Mr. Morgenthau while ambassador to Turkey had abundant opportunity to gain accurate information of the state of conditions in Armenia and Mr. Hoover who will be recognized hereafter as the world's greatest distributor of food, gained accurate, almost official, knowledge of conditions in Central Europe. Mr. Hoover has described those conditions in private conversation as something awful.

He is persuaded that if not relieved then another story of national famine even more appalling than the story of the famine in Ireland will be written. It may compare with the history of the famine in India. Congress, of course, cannot act until after the recess is ended, but information has reached Secretary Glass that the year congress will convene early in the year congress will be recognized hereafter as the world's greatest distributor of food, gained accurate, almost official, knowledge of conditions in Central Europe. Mr. Hoover has described those conditions in private conversation as something awful.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

W. J. BARTON. Editor of The Citizen:— In the lead of Mr. W. J. Barton Asheville has sustained a great loss in every sense a true Christian gentleman. The city schools have lost a conscientious instructor, the boys of the city a true friend, his church and Sunday school an untiring worker, his family a devoted husband and loving father. Mr. Barton was unassuming, rather retiring, but a true Christian gentleman. To know him was to love him, and those who knew him best loved him most. Truly one of God's noblemen has fallen.

CAN SUCH THINGS BE?

Reading in this morning's papers, a description of the scenes attending the deportation of 249 anarchists from the port of New York to their own lands in Europe. I thought, "can such things be in our own beloved America?" And then I thought of course, while Americans have slept, the enemy of religion, law, order and stable government have been sowing tares in the wheat. The crop is now being harvested. For thirty years, the articles says, some of these friends have been sneaking and speaking against every political and moral principle we hold dear. They have attacked the church, the government, our social order and everything else that our fathers built to insure to this country peace, liberty, self government, law and order. And yet the blatant defiant recipients of our country's form of government, not even becoming citizens, have been spreading these doctrines of liberteinism, bolshevism, anarchy, revolution, murder, arson and treason, through the press and by public speaking, all over this country, especially in the big cities where large groups of foreigners are congregated. And at last after 30 years of forbearance our Government has forced them to leave.

With pockets bulging with over half a million dollars made through our industries, they repay us with such doctines as "Long live the revolution in America," "To hell with America," "Long live the revolution in the United States," concluding the outrageous proceedings by organizing on board ship the minute it passed the Nation limit; first: "The Russian Friends of America Freeman to carry on propaganda in the United States;" then the "Soviet Anarchistic Commune of America" and elected that arch traitor Alex Berkman, Grand Commissary.

The same article informs us that thousands of the same kind of aliens and citizens are now being locked up, many of them now on the way to New York for deportation. The immediate purpose of this letter is to say to you, that in all this terrible doings of these seditious mind aliens, a lesson should be learned by all of us people in this section and in this, "if we continue to permit open defiance of any law by any class, as is going on right here in North Carolina every day and every night, winked at and encouraged by some of our so-called best men, then we will reap what they are sowing— anarchy, riot, revolution. Since I have studied over these doings by foreigners, and admitted anarchists it appears to me that organization for home law enforcement and world prohibition is absolutely essential for the awakening of our home people from their lethargy and get them to line up with their voices, their votes and their money in support of this movement. It is sickening to read the papers here at home in this Christian country. Every day half the items are telling of destroying stills, catching blind tigers, bootleggers, and crimes resulting from this brigandage and even of the loss of white men from Christian communities of our own state, being deported to the Federal penitentiary in Atlanta. This lawlessness positively must cease and it will never stop until law and order-loving business men get solidly behind educational printed gunpowder. I offer my services in or out of the cause of the cause of H. on. The Japanese press if it is necessary, & reapproachment with prohibition in al elements in Siberia. I help wh... of reactionaries."

GENERAL STANTON DIES.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—General L. Stanton, aged 80 years, a famous commander of union forces in the Civil War, died today. He came from a long line of military stock. His grandfather, Elijah Stanton, was a colonel in the Revolutionary army. General Stanton was brevetted for gallantry in the battle of Five Fork, Va.

BIG FLOUR PURCHASE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The wheat Export company, purchasing agent for the allies, has bought \$1,000,000 worth of flour from the United States Grain corporation for the relief of Vienna. It was announced today. It will be shipped from New York immediately.

REFINING CO. DIVIDEND.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The Corn Products Refining company today declared an initial quarterly dividend of 1 cent and an extra dividend of 1 cent of one percent on its common stock. The regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 cents was declared on the preferred stock.

Savoyard Views THE G. O. P. POWWOW. The general staff of the G. O. P. was with us the other day, headed by young Mr. May, its chief. They remained about half a week, voted the national convention to Chicago, June 8, and indulged a great deal of boastful talk as they prepared to put on the harness. Never have I seen a more confident set, never such a mounting of chickens ere the eggs are even laid. And yet, there was now and then the evident presence of the apprehension couched in the French version of a wise old adage—"between the cup and the lip there is room for a viper."

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