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Tuesday Morning, January 17, 1922.

Some of The Citizen's Ambitions For Asheville and Western North Carolina:

1. A hard-surfaced highway from Asheville to the county-seat of every county adjoining Buncombe.
2. Hard-surfaced highways connecting the capitals of all mountain counties.
3. More tourist hotels in this whole mountain region.
4. Establishment of additional Summer Camp Schools.
5. Increased use of the forests for recreation and sport.
6. A central park with a system of smaller parks.
7. A college in Asheville built upon foundations broad enough to support a great university.
8. A greater Summer School, with curriculum arranged to give vocational training in arts and industries.

"Looking With Anxiety"

When Mr. Warren G. Harding stepped to the edge of his front porch in Marion, stopped with a gesture the blaring of the triumphal bands and proceeded, in a lengthy and optimistic address, to accept the Republican nomination for the Presidency, he declared: "America would look with anxiety on the discouragement of farming activity, either through the Government's neglect or its paralysis by socialist practices; and a Republican Administration would be committed to renewed regard for agriculture, and seek the participation of farmers in curing the ills justly complained of, and aim to place the American farm where it ought to be—highly ranked in American activities and fully sharing the highest good fortunes of American life." A mighty pronouncement! A fine and resonant collection of high-sounding phrases calculated to catch the credulity and capture the votes.

And now what, after almost a year of power wielded by that gentleman who was so sure of America's looking "with anxiety on the discouragement of farming activity?" Where is the prophesied Republican Administration's "renewed regard for agriculture?" Whither flown that bombast "aim" to have the American farm "fully sharing the highest good fortunes of American life?" So far as the five senses may discover, the only gentlemen who now "look with anxiety on the discouragement of farming activity" are the farmers who, here and there, burn their grain for fuel and everywhere wince to the pinch of adverse circumstance. The Republican Administration is all concerned with "anxiety" about the votes it may not garner next fall.

And well may the farmer "look with anxiety!" They were fooled, and well fooled, by predictions of the prosperity to come from the Emergency Tariff. They are threatened with the same harsh treatment in the "permanent tariff" now in the making. They are threatened with hard times, and kept out of "the highest good fortunes of American life," as long as a Republican Administration, by its tariff machinations, keeps foreign countries from selling us their manufactures and thereby collecting money with which to buy our food products. It is to the Woodrow Wilson school of statesmanship that the farmer must look for relief.

Answering a recent questionnaire in 23 states, 5,577 doctors replied that whiskey is necessary as a medicine and only 4,541 said not. This being thrift week, however, we are doing without some "necessities."

Whenever France can't make the Germans give up, she takes it out of her premier.

We have to relieve Russia's needs in order to relieve her of everything she had.

A Definition Of Decency

New that Mr. Will Hays has taken the job of providing us with better things in the motion picture world, he will no doubt be deluged with advice. He will get none better than the facts set forth by Grant Showerman in the January Tale Review in an article protesting against objectionable "realism" in fiction. They apply to all art. Among other things, Mr. Showerman says:

There are things in the world which are inherently ugly and, by consequence, inherently offensive. They have always been so regarded, and, so long as men are in possession of the senses by which they are apprehended they will be so regarded. They are in themselves neither immoral or indecent; they are among the necessities which have been laid by nature upon man. They become indecent only, but surely, when they are outraged upon the perceptions of other men. We have agreed not only to keep these facts out of the reach of the senses, but not to speak of them, or otherwise to represent them to the imagination. This means that they are not proper material for conversation, and that they are not proper material for art. Against some of them we have the written law, against others the unwritten.

If we transgress the written law, we are guilty not only of indecency, but of sublimation, or of immorality in the strict and legal sense; if we transgress the unwritten law, we are still guilty of indecency, but of immorality only in the broad sense. If we resort to the plea that we have made no breach in the law of the land, we are none the less under condemnation for breach of the law of taste. We are not to tell all the truth. If this means the falsification of life, it is at worst a conventional falsification that carries no actual deceit.

If Mr. Hays and his "magnates" in the picture producing world how to the line of that pronouncement, they will give the American people what the best American people want in their pictures, in their literature and in their daily lives.

"No more free lunch counters," says a headline—which probably is true because their patrons are drinking little enough to have a good meal at home.

What To Do With Muscle Shoals

The Administration has before it three possible programs with reference to the Muscle Shoals development. The Government may itself complete this gigantic enterprise and go into the industrial field. It may be leased to private management, or it may be abandoned and the money tied up in it written off as a permanent loss.

The majority opinion of the country is against government ownership of any sort of enterprise, even were the present Administration inclined towards it, as it is not. The admitted possibilities of tremendously satisfactory returns to the people from the operation of the plant and the waste involved in its scrapping are making such an impression on the Administration and the country that there would be general protest over allowing Muscle Shoals to go to ruin.

Henry Ford has made the most definite and comprehensive offer for the employment of the property in a way to produce dividends, and Ford knows something about the manufacturing industry, whatever be his ignorance of history. Mr. Ford believes he can revolutionize the manufacture of fertilizer for farmers and the development of water power for the benefit of everybody in the Mississippi Valley. He should be given an opportunity to make good.

Mr. Newberry was not unseated, but, as usual, his Ford gave him a good shaking up.

It may be too early to forecast what policy the Poincare ministry will adopt toward European affairs, but M. Poincare's record is ground for grave apprehension that his coming to power in France bodes ill for the liberal influences generated in the world these last few months. The new Premier enters upon his task with the announcement that the Supreme Council has been in existence long enough and that hereafter negotiation through ambassadors will be the accepted method. But Prime Minister's entreaty will shake their heads as they recall that it was Poincare who in 1918 negotiated the treaty with Russia which betrayed the Poles; that it is Poincare who opposes any modification of the reparations demands, either in total amount or in the schedule of payments. The Supreme Council is needed until it can be displaced by an association of nations to which all the great nations give their adherence. But Poincare appears to be headed back toward the middle ages; he gives strength to the accusation that France has turned militaristic.

Note the "ill" in illicit whiskey.

In the bygone days of slow-moving vehicular traffic, pedestrians took no great chances with their lives in walking about suburban thoroughfares. The automobile has, of course, changed this situation, and on narrow roads, at points where they enter the city, the need for sidewalks has become imperative. One such place is Billmore Hill, leading up to the Billmore High School. On the left side of this road leading Billmore, is a drain ditch over which could be laid a culvert that would serve as the foundation for a walkway. This improvement would involve no large expenditure; and it goes without saying that it would virtually remove the danger of traffic accidents on a stretch of road.

Industrial Depression Disappearing

The recent drop in interest rates in the financial centers means more to the American people as a whole than may be thought on first impression. Government officials who are studying the labor and industrial situation estimate that one billion dollars now lying idle in banks and trust companies will be drawn into productive enterprise by the new interest rates, which are the lowest in two years. And as that reservoir of capital flows back into channels of activity, 1,000,000 jobs will be provided for American workers, says a dispatch from Washington to The New York Herald. This means, says The Herald correspondent, a job next summer for everybody who wants to work. The Herald writer's comment on the present situation is worthy of careful reading:

Manufacturers, promoters and builders are beginning to draw on the cash reserve as interest rates descend. Cheap money is encouraging expansion of business plants. All money in New York recently went to 3 1/2 per cent. During the war and in the period of inflation following the armistice, call money took 20 per cent. These quotations show that call money is becoming cheaper.

Interest rates have a direct effect on the pocketbook of every family. Government officials point out to those inclined to think of Wall Street as something far away from the daily life of the average worker.

Cheap money, it is emphasized, is coming to mean employment for millions now idle because manufacturers and corporations are beginning to borrow to build additions and lay in stocks of raw materials at present low prices. Workers receive approximately 90 per cent. in the long run of every dollar spent in such ways. The building to house the expanded factory is by workers who get approximately 50 per cent. of what the structure costs. The same proportions hold true for the money expended for machinery and raw materials. Labor constitutes more than 75 per cent. of the cost of producing steel, castings and raw materials like copper ore, coal and the like.

The United States Steel Corporation is now spending \$10,000,000 on additions and betterments. The railroads are buying rolling stock, rails and other supplies. Farmers are giving orders to mills manufacturing fertilizer. Textile mills are buying stocks of raw cotton and wool against the time when business conditions improve.

Spring is the time fixed in the minds of officials as the beginning of an era of business activity. During the remaining winter months business men and manufacturers will be content if they hold the gains already made in climbing out of economic depression. To the workers these gains represent jobs for at least 2,000,000 more men and women than were regularly at work a year ago. At that time unemployment involved 7,000,000 persons. Not more than 3,000,000 are idle now. It is estimated, and the total may be but 2,000,000. If this estimate is correct the nation is short just 1,000,000 jobs. It is pointed out. This is because in normal times at least 1,000,000 workers are continually out of work because of the wholesale shifting from one position to another.

Another petrified man has been discovered. He is no doubt the man-of-all-work.

Battleships And Plowshares

Battleships scrapped by the Arms Conference may not literally be transformed into farm implements, but with the cost of these big fighters around \$50,000,000 it is not difficult to foresee how the Washington Parley may increase the number of plowshares by decreasing the number of warships.

The cover design of the December Dixie Highway Magazine suggested by President Allison, of the Dixie Highway Association, illustrates how the cost of one battleship would complete the unfinished links of the Dixie Highway from the Great Lakes to Miami, providing an all-year round good road to the automobile tourists of the country.

There is just so much public revenue for all purposes. If Uncle Sam can save a few billions every year through limitation of armament, Federal Aid for good roads will enlarge its figures in the National Budget. Permanent highways will develop rural American life, increasing the profits and comforts of farm life by bringing the farmer closer to market and decreasing the cost of transportation. As new roads and schoolhouses multiply, farming will become more intensive through the greater use of machinery. Battleships can be beaten into plowshares.

After inhibiting home brewed, many a man comes home stewed.

LYRICS OF LIFE

PA ON SAVING.

By Douglas Malloch

It doesn't matter what you make,
 What great amount of money,
 If you're not saving for the sake
 Of days that aren't sunny.
 Some people brag about the dough
 They're making every minute,
 Unless you save a little, though,
 My boy, there's nothing in it.

A dollar man who saves a dime,
 A little of the dollar,
 Is only richer all the time.
 However they may holler,
 Than those who make a five or ten,
 When times are rather humbling,
 And then just pass it on again,
 No better for its coming.

Not what you make but what remains,
 How much of it you're saving,
 Will show how much you have of brains,
 How well you are behaving.
 So, when a dollar bill has gone
 Tomorrow through your fingers,
 Just see that when it passes on
 A little of it lingers.

Voice Of The People

WHO IS THE HARD HEARTED LANDLORD?

Editor of The Citizen:
 Please allow me space enough in your valuable paper to ask the ones who know the facts in the case, were the widow and her furniture were thrown out into the street when the ground was covered with snow, because she was owing only \$10 for rent. Will they be kind enough to please tell me and the public through this paper, who this hard hearted landlord is?

Thanking you for the kindness shown this unfortunate lady and for the article in the paper this morning and trusting you will go a little further and name the man.

SUBSCRIBER.
 Asheville, January 16, 1922.

IS THERE A PUBLIC COMFORT STATION?

Editor of The Citizen:
 This question arises from the original announcement of our worthy commissioner that they would construct within the very heart of our wonderful city a public comfort station, which decision was at the time and is yet heartily approved, and the expenditure of the city treasury of the amount, approximately \$25,000 for the construction of this delayed need was, no doubt, approved by the honest and conscientious public of Asheville. This has still approved, but they do not approve the action of the commissioners in changing the public comfort station, practically into a pay-as-you-go station. It would seem to the writer that a comfort station should be either public or the city should let it out to some private individual and permit the lessee to make all necessary charges for its use.

CITIZEN.
 Asheville, January 14, 1922.

IS THIS ECONOMY?

Editor of The Citizen:
 Please allow me space in your mission how much money will be left from the Catholic Hill school building if they employ many more delegations to tour the country for the purpose of inspecting the different heating plants and employing special expert building inspectors at \$300 a month. Where are our city inspector and architect? I thought it was their business to see that the work is done according to specifications. Tax payers are getting mighty tired voting bonds to raise money for public improvements and having it unnecessarily gobbled up in useless delegations over the country on inspecting tours. Have we not got competent mechanics here that can install a heating plant in a colored school building? They have been many of them installed in more important buildings without this expense. All tummy rot.

A. L. BRIGHT.
 West Asheville, January 13, 1922.

The Haskin Letter

THE PROLIFIC FOREMAN.

(By Frederic J. Haskin)
 Washington, D. C.—The most prolific people in the United States when they are classified according to occupation, are foremen, overseers and inspectors of mines. The wives of these men bear on an average 4.6 children per wife and each of them has on an average of 3.9 children now living.

These interesting figures on the proliferation of the mine foreman have just been issued by the bureau of census as the result of a long tabulation of the American birth rate according to occupation. It is a most interesting tabulation and a somewhat bewildering one in a nation as to what kinds of people have the most children and why. It also sheds some light on that much discussed question as to whether the native population of the United States is maintaining itself or slowly dying out and leaving the country to the immigrants.

But before we proceed to generalizations, let us note some of the astonishing figures which the census has brought out. Next to mine foremen, the most prolific occupational class in the United States is that of foremen and overseers on steam and electric railroads. The wife of a traction engineer bears on an average 4.2 children of which 3.8 are living. This average mortality of less than one-half a child per family is especially creditable to the transportation business.

Foremen and overseers of all kinds seem to have a lot of children and they seem to have good luck in raising them. Perhaps this is not surprising. A foreman or overseer is apt to be a workman of more than average intelligence and has worked his way up, and who receives a good income. Naturally having lived on day wages for a long time, his standard of living is not high as that of a lawyer or doctor. He will not spend as much on luxuries, and so will be more inclined to raise children.

THE JANITOR'S FAMILY

So much for the foreman. The next most prolific occupational class we find to be that of janitors and sextons. The janitors' wives average 4.1 children per wife, and on an average survive a very high percentage of these children, and in some of them, the average number of children living is as high as four. The mine foreman, with his 3.9 smiling babies, has the largest average family in the country. For the registration area of the United States the average number of children born per mother was 3.3, and the average number of children living per mother was 2.9.

What we have always heard about the birth rate is that the population is "dying at the top," by which it is meant that people of wealth and people in the professions have small families, while the laborers and very poor people generally have large families. We are usually told that the average woman must raise three children in order to keep up the population and increase it a little. If this is true, the population of the country as a whole is just barely being maintained by the people in it, and the increase is due wholly to immigration. This study shows once

ALL THE GOLD RESERVE OF U. S. COULDN'T BUY WHAT THIS MEANS IN MEASURE OF HAPPINESS



SAVOYARD

HARDING AND THE CONFERENCE

(Special to The Citizen)
 In some book I have read, possibly in Campbell's Lives and possibly in some other narrative, is related an official interview between King George III and Lord Eldon, who at the time was Lord Chancellor and keeper of the king's conscience. There never was a politician who believes more implicitly in "Divine Right" than Lord Eldon, and he insisted on observing all his forms and ceremonies that hedged about a king long after the English Commons cut the head off an English king for monkeying with the taxing power that was called "ship money." Charles James Fox said of Eldon that all the wisdom of British statesmanship had not injected as much as was good in the English system of government as Eldon had thwarted, or words of the import.

Though no English King has exercised the veto power since the advent of the Hanoverian dynasty and thought it would have cost the king his crown and quite likely his head to attempt to exercise that prerogative, Eldon insisted on all the formalities that had maintained before the crown exercised the veto without challenge. Kneeling before the throne he read acts of parliament, some of them critically, to His Majesty and propounded the useless inquiry if the king was "content," when in fact he knew and the king knew that the king had to be "content," even had it been a bill designed to dethrone the king.

One day the occasion I allude to in the opening sentence of this piece, the king, after Eldon had been reading statutes for an hour or so, remarked:

"That is not the way Thurlow proceeded when he was Lord Chancellor. He would rush in, open a voluminous paper, begin to read and when he had about finished pronouncing the enacting clauses, he'd exclaim, 'O, hell! you can't understand it,' and dipping pen in ink he put it in my hand and roared 'dun' sign here.' I signed and the thing—was finished in a moment.

It is greatly to be apprehended that the American commission to the world disarmament conference now in session at the national capital, Charles E. Hughes, Henry C. Cabot Lodge, Elihu Root and Oscar Underwood, has a little regard for the official dignity and personal prestige of Warren G. Harding, Lord Chancellor of the United States, as President of the United States and in the throne of state and personal pride of George III king of England.

Was it because they supposed the President could not understand the four-party treaty they negotiated that they left him in ignorance of its terms, and suffered him to exploit his ignorance of the pact in a public humbling? Certainly it was a most humiliating experience for an American President to undergo. If there be such a state as transmigration of the soul, Henry Cabot Lodge is Lord Eldon incarnate. He is a Tory of the Tories. He has thumbed a copy of that designed and calculated to work for the weal of the human family in and on all other individuals now living. He is a firm believer in the Divine Right of the Republican party to rule, and it is inexplicable that the American Eldon should visit the mortification on the American President in the way he has.

The President told the public that the treaty did not pledge the United States to protect the "mainland," as Senator Poindexter calls it, of Japan, from foreign assault. Immediately after the treaty was signed the President was thus convicted of ignorance of the workings of the conference that owes its existence to him, and on the outcome of which depends the fate of the administration. In reality it matters not a whit whether the pact is an agreement to protect the "mainland" of Japan. We do agree to guarantee her insular possessions, and that means all that our com-

missioners write in the treaty guaranteeing the mainland. The treaty consists of this—whether we are willing to fight to preserve its terms, or shall we merely plot it when it is violated?

That is something for the Senate to thresh out and the opposition to ratification promises to be as furious though not nearly as strong as was the opposition to the Versailles treaty. Let us hope the Democratic side will not play the miserable part the Republicans played in their warfare on the League of Nations simply because it was negotiated by a Democratic President.

Had the United States Senate promptly and cordially ratified the treaty of Versailles by this time world disarmament to a greater extent than this conference suggests would have been an accomplished fact. Europe would be at work, her industries re-established, her credit restored. Our trade would be promoted and our unemployed would have work.

Above all—America would be the moral, political, commercial, industrial and financial leader of the world.

Washington, January 11, 1922.

Answers To Questions

Any reader on the cover in any issue by writing to the Editor, Citizen, c/o Ferguson Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, 415 North Main Street, Asheville, N. C. This offer applies to all questions. We will attempt to give advice on legal, medical and financial matters, but we are unable to solve domestic troubles, nor to investigate your research on any subject. Your questions bearing on legal, medical and financial matters will be answered if you send name and address and enclose stamps for return postage. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.

Q. What is meant by capital ships?—N. D.
 A. The navy department says that this term is more or less elastic and refers to the larger and more modern naval vessels.

Q. Is there any place in the universe that light does not penetrate?—E. M. S.
 A. The naval observatory says that no region of space is known to astronomy so remote that light does not penetrate it.

Q. What is the original root word from which the word intoxicating is derived?—E. T. T.
 A. The word "intoxicating" derives from the Latin "intoxicare" which is a combination of "in" and "toxicum." The latter being a poison in which arrows were dipped.

Q. Why are Sedlitz powders so named?—M. H. C. B.
 A. Sedlitz powders are so called because their composition resembles that of the natural water Sedlitz, a village in Bohemia.

Q. Please give a recipe for sponge cake?—M. H. C. B.
 A. Separate the whites and yolks of six eggs. Beat the yolks to a cream, to which add two teaspoonfuls of powdered sugar, beating again from five to ten minutes, then add two cups of flour in which you have sifted two teaspoonfuls of baking powder; mix gradually into the above ingredients, stirring slowly and lightly, only enough to mix them well; lastly add the remainder of the whites of the eggs. Fill the tins with buttered paper and bake two-thirds full.

Q. What state leads in manufacturing establishments?—M. M. C.
 A. New York leads in number of manufacturing establishments, having 49,838, according to the preliminary summary of the census bureau. Pennsylvania is second with 27,974. Pennsylvania, however, leads in amount of capital invested in such concerns, with a total of \$4,234,480,000. New York ranking second with an investment of \$3,998,762,000.

Q. What is the origin of the word mother?—K. R. C.
 A. Sedlitz contained the word mat; Latin, mater; German changed it to mutter; Anglo-Saxon, modor; Middle English, moder; modern English, mother.