

BASIS OF PROSPERITY

By DR. CHARLES STELZLE
Executive Director, Good Neighbor League

Practically everything that is happening to us today happened to others thousands of years ago—according to the archeologists who found the records on clay tablets, baked 5,000 years ago, or to the historians who began to write some 2,500 years later. They tell us about sit-down strikes, hours of labor, salary bonuses, collective bargaining, cost of living, old-age pensions, silver standards, crooked politicians, women's rights, and in the Bible itself we have the story of Egypt's seven years of plenty, and seven years of depression with "bread lines" and a "food commissioner."

During all of these experiences panaceas were suggested to meet the problems of the times. Some of them worked out, but many failed. It's a strange thing that some deluded leaders are today offering the same old quack remedies that were tried and failed in the days when they had to be written upon clay tablets instead of typewriters.

But it is still more remarkable that plans and principles which were basically sound are being disregarded today.

We have learned that dictatorships and autocracies are not conducive to the freedom and happiness of the whole people.

We have learned that the character of a nation's greatness is determined by the character of its individual citizens.

We have learned that no question is ever settled permanently except upon the basis of justice.

We have learned that right human relationships are more important than the creation of great organizations and corporations and machine production.

We have learned that the source of happiness depends not so much upon what we have as it does upon what we are.

We have learned that character is more vital in building up a permanent basis of prosperity than reputation, for a man's reputation, dishonestly earned, may quickly be smashed, whereas his character is eternal, and cannot be taken away.

All of these things which history has taught us may be applied to every problem facing us today—as individuals, and as nations. They may be applied to personal relations, to the labor problem, to national questions, and to international affairs.

When politicians get lit up, they're like a match—lose their head. It's in "horse sense" where the luck is, and not in the "horse shoe."

American Legion Is Opposed To Aiding Jews

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 6.—Stephen F. Chadwick, of Seattle, national commander of the American Legion, said yesterday the Legion was "opposed to any move which would make America an asylum for refugees."

Chadwick spoke at the annual mid-winter conference of the Kentucky department.

"While the Legion sympathizes with these oppressed people," the commander said, "it is opposed to admitting immigrants at this time because of our economic situation and the fact that many aliens already here have not been assimilated."

Chadwick said the Legion is not a "selfish" organization, but one "interested in preserving for future generations the things we have enjoyed."

State Conference of Bricklayers To Be Held Here Sunday

There will be a meeting of the North Carolina State Conference of Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers Union held in Charlotte Sunday, Dec. 10th, at 2 P. M., in the Moose Hall, South Tryon Street, between Trade and Fourth.

This information is sent The Journal by Albert Beck, secretary-treasurer, Wilmington, N. C.

N. C. Building Trades Council Meet In Gastonia

H. L. Kiser reports a wonderful meeting of the State Building Trades Council in Gastonia Sunday. He stated that much progress is being made and that at the meeting (the last one of the year) stock was taken of good accomplished during the past year, and plans laid for a greater forward movement in 1939. Wage increases made possible by the organization during the past year was forcibly impressed upon the delegates.

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