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The "Youth Problem"

WE hear a great deal these days of America's "Youth Problem." Most of those who write and make speeches about it seem to have the impression that it is something new, or at least that no social system up to now has tried to do anything for the young. Of course, that assumption is incorrect. The problem of how to make young folk into good citizens and self-respecting members of society is as old as the human race. One has only to turn to the Bible and read what Solomon and many of the prophets had to say about the "perverse and crooked generation" of those ancient days.

The effort of society to bring up children in the way they should go, so that when they are old they shall not depart from it, has been constant in this country from the earliest days. The Massachusetts Colony in 1647 ordered every township to appoint someone to teach all children how to write and read, especially how to read the Scriptures. Nearly every legislative body in America since then has enacted laws for compulsory education of children, for protection of the young against exploitation for money, even for intervention between children and their parents when the child's interests, which are paramount, seem to be threatened.

Dr. Walter A. Jessup, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the advancement of Teaching, suggests in his annual report that perhaps there has been too much intervention by the State, for the best welfare of the child. He says "the child has been withdrawn from the home, the apprenticeship system, the church, in the belief that the school is the agency best adapted to assist youth and to serve youth's interest."

Then Dr. Jessup raises the question, which must have occurred to everyone who has given thought to the subject, whether the school system may not be in itself a form of exploitation of children. Has the welfare of children become subordinated to the interest of the smooth-running educational machine? Better no school "system" whatever than one which tends to make children merely so much grist for the educational mill.

It is not unfair to ask whether the alarm over the "youth problem" may not be evidence that our school system has not been too successful.

—Selected.

Revolutions Are Not Bloodless

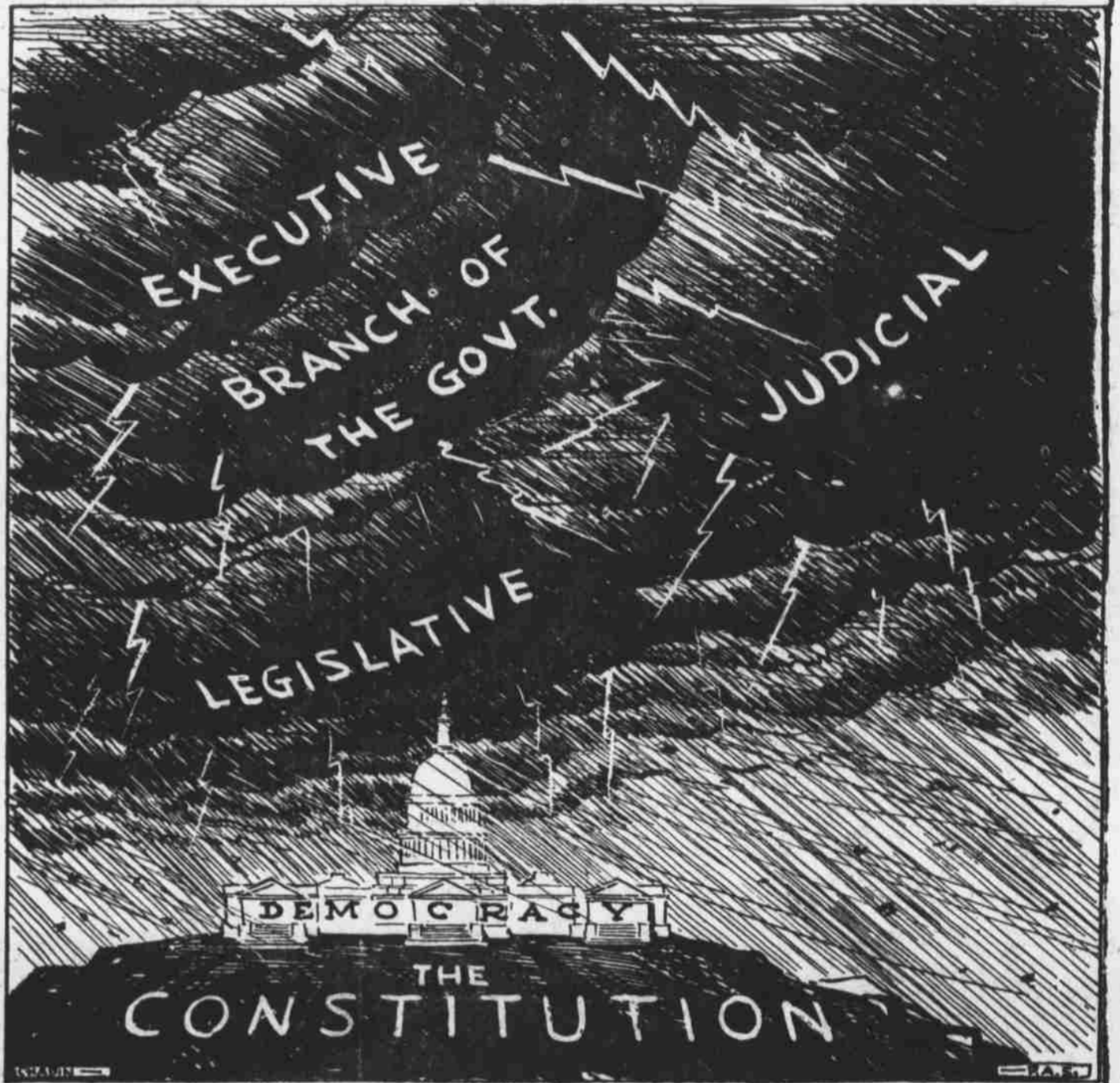
A PHASE which is often heard but which does not mean anything is "bloodless revolution." There is no instance in history of a revolutionary change in a nation's system of government without bloodshed. Nations have changed their systems by popular mandate, but such changes are not revolutions. The word "revolution" implies a revolt against the existing government. When the people change it by a majority vote, that can hardly be called a revolt.

Revolutions do not succeed unless the revolutionists have control of the armed forces of the nation. The Bolshevik revolution in Russia succeeded because it began in the army, with the organization of the Soldiers and Workers Union. The Fascist movement in Italy would have been no more than an ineffective rebellion had not the army been behind Mussolini. So, too, Hitler could never have won and held power in Germany without the army behind him. The present Civil War in Spain began with a revolt of a large part of the Spanish army.

There is no way that a minority can impose its

Storm Over U. S.

by A. B. CHAPIN



will upon a majority without killing people. Armed force and terrorism are the means whereby usurpers and dictators seize and hold power. Once the killing begins, it has to be kept up whenever opposition shows its head. Only by making an example of those who try to go contrary to the will of the dictator can the people be kept in proper subjection. Stalin, the Russian dictator, is now engaged in a "purge", killing off active and suspected enemies of the Communist regime, as a warning to the rest of the Russian people that they had better walk the chalk-line and obey orders.

Any talk of revolution in this country is absurd. Alarmists and irresponsible persons who enjoy scaring folks have indulged in a lot of loose talk about revolution, based upon nothing but sharp differences of opinion on public questions. That sort of talk, if long continued, might possibly lead to bloodshed, but we are not in danger of a revolution until the revolutionists are able to back-up their threats with superior force, which seems a very remote possibility.—Selected.

of his wife's maiden sister. She, poor thing, was living peacefully in a lovely little town, with an income sufficient to provide comfortably for her simple wants. There was every selfish reason why she should stay just where she was.

Yet, at this summons, she did not hesitate. She cast aside every personal consideration, came down to the bleak parsonage in its ugly part of England and proceeded, for the rest of her life, to devote herself to those children.

How many millions of similar instances have there been in history! What a priceless wealth of affection is poured out on the other people's children by aunts and nurses and cooks and teachers to whom Fate gives no children of their own! How could humanity conduct its existence without them?

I thought of these things as I watched Aunt Julia wrap up her niece and hurry away. I lifted my hat reverently and waved them good-bye.

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Marines and Army Seek Recruits

Forty vacancies for service in the U. S. Marines will be filled from this district during March, it is announced by Captain A. C. Small, district recruiting officer, with headquarters at Savannah, Ga.

Young men in this vicinity desiring information concerning enlistment in the ranks of the "Sea Soldiers" may write to the Marine Corps recruiting station at Savannah. Application blanks will be sent on request, Captain Small stated.

The Army

The United States Army Recruiting Officer, located in the Post-office building at Asheville, N. C., has received a large enlistment quota for the month of March, 1937. Men enlisting now have their choice of any one of the following stations: Panama Canal Zone, 1st Corps Area headquarters, Boston, Mass., and 2nd Corps Area headquarters, New York. The branches of service to select from are Infantry, Field Artillery, Coast Artillery, and Ordnance. Men must be between the ages of 18 and 35 years. Single, in good health, and have a good character. Office hours are from 8 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. every day except Sundays.

The average height of men in America is five feet and eight inches, and of women, five feet and four inches.

The word "news" originates from the letters that stand for the four directions of the compass, North, East, West, and South.

BRUCE BARTON Says:



LET'S BUILD COURAGE AND FAITH

"In the front room was the master, waiting at the table to have his meal served; in the next room were the butler and the maid engaged in what we shall call a 'petting party.' In the kitchen one observed the cook feeding the butcher boy some crackers and milk, while on the back porch the cat slept peacefully. Here was, apparently, a happy domestic scene.

"But see what happened. The butler came in with the food which apparently did not please the master of the house. He spoke his mind freely and harshly to the butler, who, offended, returned to the pantry and, instead of kissing the maid, straight-armed her into a corner.

"The maid burst into tears: she went in to scold the cook, and during the subsequent argument, slapped the cook's face. The cook, in her anger, snatched the food away from the butcher boy, who, on his way out, kicked the cat down the back steps.

"A graphic example," said Dr. Myerson, noted psychiatrist, "of how emotion of fear or ill will or meanness spreads through an entire

organization. Cheerfulness and courage can spread just as far and fast."

What we are inside changes the inner life of our families, our business associates, and our fellow citizens. We cannot harbor fear or anger or selfishness without diluting the emotional blood-stream of the race.

And every courageous or unselfish emotion builds up the whole world's stock of courage and faith.

HATS OFF TO AUNT JULIA

Having just come from France, and feeling very continental, I bent over and kissed Aunt Julia's hand. She blushed like a girl. "You mustn't try to flatter an old lady," she said.

But it was no attempt at flattery; it was an act of reverence. She is a member of the noblest clans in the world.

I had been reading, on the boat, a book about the Bronte family. Mr. Bronte was a self-centered country parson, who wore out his wife by making her the mother of six children in six years. Left with the motherless brood on his hands, he cast around for help, and thought