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Friday, March 31, 1916.

**How To Be Done?**

Professor Meyer Jacobstein, of the University of Rochester is at least a near-Socialist. He is prolific in his advice to his fellow-men. We wonder if he would be willing to practice what he preaches.

Last week in an address he harped on that popular fad, regulation of the size of families. Advocates of this fad utterly ignore a God; utterly forget and ignore any obligation we humans owe to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe - in fact they withhold any respect for law of authority save that promulgated by themselves - and absolutely ignore anything but the human viewpoint.

But Professor Jacobstein goes further than the average advocate of the fad referred to; at least he gives public expression to his opinions. He would limit the number of children in a poor man's family to three but he would permit the rich man to have as many as he likes. That's equal opportunity with a vengeance! Because a father and mother are poor, they must not have a family around them, no matter how expanding their parental love may be. It matters not how healthy of body and clear of mind they may be; it matters not how sturdy their ancestry; they are poor and their family must be kept down. But the rich father and mother, no matter how diseased their bodies, how perverted their minds, how punny their ancestors; because they have wealth, they would be permitted, if Professor Jacobstein had his way to populate this country with an endless chain of possible degenerates, weaklings, useless parasites.

To be sure, it might be an ideal condition were only the perfect fathers and mothers, physically, mentally and morally, to have children in their homes but this is out of the question, considering the matter only from the purely human stand point.

Again: How would Professor Jacobstein enforce the size of families? Would he jail the fathers and mothers who violated the law? Inasmuch as the State would have to support the rest of the family while the parents were in jail, where would be the economic benefit? Or, how would he compel a plentitude of children in the rich families? What income would the father have to have to be permitted to support a child?

Of course, Professor Jacobstein will retort that our observations are absurd. Not more so than his arguments and deductions. But, then, perhaps he is not in earnest. The Professor is an artist in the craft of acquired publicity.

"Preparedness" has brought forth a new crop of organizations to supplement, if not supplant, the National Guard.

**Brutes.**

What fools these mortals be! Several thousand persons last Saturday night contributed from \$2 to \$25 - each - \$120,000 in all - to sit in Madison Square Garden and watch a hulking cowboy - who won fame by beating an overfed and lowbred negro - batter up a chap not nearly his size. Press despatches do not indicate that the audience ever saw an exhibition of fine boxing. Such an exhibition in a bona fide athletic club is proper.

But the bout we refer to was not even a boxing exhibition. It was brutal in the extreme. We should say that the attraction staged was not worth the price of admission, except as one could boast that he had seen an alleged heavyweight championship battle.

It is a sad commentary on the appeals sent out from New York for relief of the poor and unemployed that \$120,000 could be raked into the coffers of the prize fight syndicate for one fight. Evidently there are many persons who can scrape up prize fight money.

**Sound Sense.**

In these days when it is the fashion to clothe the convicted criminal in purple and fine linen at the expense of the taxpayer, who continues honest but too poor to purchase fine linen, it is refreshing to read these words of common sense on the subject from the Union and Advertiser:

"Probably not all of us will agree to the abolition of the cell. Our correspondent's contention that imprisonment is degrading will not receive the consent of all of us, for many of us contend that it is not the punishment, but the crime that degrades. It will always, we believe, be necessary to retain some cells in our penal institutions, for the punishment of refractory prisoners, for the purpose of adding, in the case of more heinous crimes, something to the severity of the punishment, as is right and proper, or even, in the case of the laborer that commits a 'costly' crime, so that, in lieu of the proper compensation for the crime, he may suffer something for his misdeed."

"The community cannot afford to give up entirely the right to punish for offenses against the law. It should not make mere compensation for crime so prominent in the treatment of offenders as entirely or even almost to obscure the idea of punishment. Punishment for crime there should be, and the idea of compensation for it is sane. And neither the predominance of one or the correct balancing of both should serve to obscure the notion of reform of the offender. The proper adjustment of these elements in the treatment of criminals is a deep problem, but we have hopes that with the widespread consideration now being given penology, there will in time be a fair and just solution of it."

**Perhaps Best.**

Following up the advice given by Sweden that our citizens refrain from travel on armed merchantmen, a Rochester Exchange says: -

It is difficult to see how we could secure the safety of our citizens that chose to travel on armed merchantmen - of the Allies if Germany persists in carrying out her promise to fire upon such ships without warning. If we prefer to wait until some of them shall have been killed and then if

satisfaction is denied us, go to war with Germany over it, well and good. But those who wish us to take this course display more desire for war with Germany than regard for the lives of their fellow citizens, more animosity for the Teutons than care for the welfare of their country. We should consider long before we abandon all means of avoiding entrance into a conflict that is being waged on a larger scale than we shall be able to equal.

For us to warn our citizens not to travel on armed merchantmen would not weaken the force of our protest against the German proposal. We would not by it recognize the justice of the proposed German method, only the existence of a method of warfare that endangers the lives of our citizens.

Recent happenings seem to accentuate the above arguments.

In the death of his Eminence, Cardinal Gotti, Holy Mother Church loses a wise and pious leader. May God grant eternal rest to his soul.

Let us hope that King Winter has let go his grip at last.

Really, is there a crying need of a state constabulary in New York?

Local option will not down, it seems, even if the Legislature of 1916 does not appear friendly.

Inasmuch as the people last fall rejected woman suffrage by a large majority, why stick it in front of their faces again this fall?

Congratulations to John Mitchell and James M. Lynch upon their confirmation to be full-plledged Industrial Commissioners. They will fill the positions creditably.

The late Rev. Mother Padow was an honored member of the Order of the Sacred Heart. May her soul rest in peace.

In Rochester every facility is provided for those who wish to attend mass - every day - even to the "Noon Mass."

Rochester Catholics should feel ashamed that they have no central meeting place akin to the Y. M. C. A., whose magnificent new home is opened this week.

If one church is as good as another, why is it that the non-Catholic sects cannot be blended into one demonination? Because private judgment is proud and will not submit to authority.

That jury which declared the Menace does not contain obscene matter, from the commonly accepted legal viewpoint, must have averaged [mighty low in moral concept.

The cry to abolish all censorship of the movies may typify a general desire to break down all bars and permit "nasty" pictures to be shown at will but we hope not. We rather think it comes from a perverted notion that "liberty" should be liberalized into "license."

The Lenten season is flying by have you made your Easter duty?

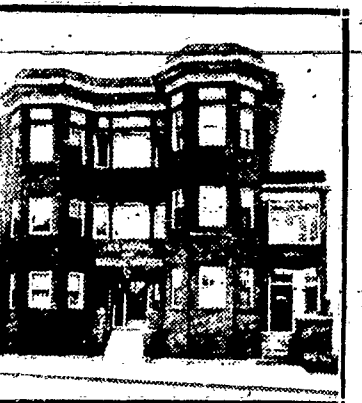
Governor Whitman must have been fooled when he appointed that New York city chap to probe into the State Board of Charities.

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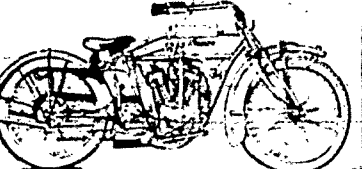
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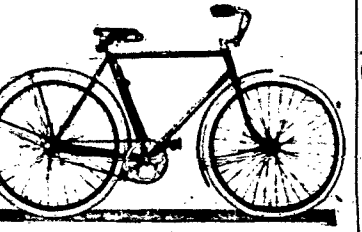
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