

**SAYS CIVILIZATION NOT DEGENERATING**

MAGAZINE WRITER HOLDS

Makes Number of Comparisons to Prove His Point and Gives Statistics to Support View

Civilization is not degenerating as some people would have us believe, the National Republic declares editorially in its current number. In sustaining its position the editor makes a number of comparisons, among which are the following:

"Banditry is not more prevalent today than it was four hundred years ago; things that were tolerated then are, in many cases, now regarded as banditry. The laws were so arranged that the weak could be plundered by the strong without resort to violence. It may have been the age of poetry, but the greatest of all poets was clapped in jail for shooting game on one of the vast preserves held for the sport of aristocrats while millions suffered for sustenance. English and American vessels were in the African slave trade under the law's protection. The most minor offenses were punishable by death. It was a gilded and not a golden age, but those who believe that immortality, brutality and predatory wealth and power were less prevalent then than now should read history more carefully.

**Statistics Show**  
"Statistics show that prison population in the United States is not increasing, but declining, in proportion to our numbers, and that the humanity of present day prison management would have astounded our grandfathers.

"The dress of woman is not yet as scanty as that of the aborigines, and whether or not it is a sign of moral degeneracy is open to question. History shows that corruption has been most prevalent in courts of the longest trains and most elaborate ruffles. Outside of a few theaters in a few great cities the American stage is not demoralized; and outside of a few newspapers in these same cities the American press is not thriving on immortality more than heretofore. Most of the supply and demand of degenerate entertainment and reading is imported and not homegrown.

**More Attention**  
"If hospitals are overcrowded it is due to the fact that far more scientific attention is now being given to human ailments than was deemed necessary or possible a generation since. The significant fact is that this country probably has ten times more hospitalization per capita now than it had a third of a century ago. Statistics show that the average length of life is being constantly increased.

Yellow fever, which once periodically ravaged a great portion of our country, has been conquered, largely through governmental activity. The physician of a hundred years ago thought it was enough to heal the sick; today the medical world is almost universally active in preventing the spread of disease physicians are paid to cure.

**Going Forward**  
"Our fathers were wise according to their light. They had to deal with such complicated problems of a civilization of increasing wealth and more complex economic organization, as those this generation is called upon to handle. Civilization is going steadily forward, not backward. The only menace it faces is indifference to the duty of guarding and preserving our civilization of ordered liberty in the face of the attacks of those who from one motive and another are out to destroy it — and as a means of doing so cover it with the blackness of their own pessimism."

**CONGRESS ARGUMENTS DELICIOUSLY ABSURD**

Some of Those Offered During Recent Sessions Scarcely Worth Notice

Merle Thorpe in Nation's Business Magazine, writes:

"Now that the tumult and shouting dies as the captains of Congress depart, still stands the ancient dictum, 'the facts will set us free.'"

"Facts are the least developed of our natural resources. It is so much easier to follow golden sophistries.

"In the recent debates on farm relief, any suggestion from business was brushed aside by the steamy proponents of popular panaceas because 'business is the enemy of the farmer, its interest is inspired by selfishness.'"

President Sloan of General Motors, Business charged with plotting the ultimate ruin of agriculture.

"There are farm leaders who pretend to see banks and corporations scheming how best to reduce the price of farm crops. It was from an Iowa Senator how a New York banker issued the laconic order after luncheon one day: 'Deflate the farmer!'

President Sloan, of General Motors, plotting to keep a farmer from buying a Chevrolet! Owen D. Young scheming to prevent farmers from buying General Electric appliances! Clarence Woolley apoplectic when he learns that the farmers in spite of all Big Business can do, are buying more and more Arcolals!

"And the great glee of insurance magnates as they recklessly deflate farm values, indifferent to the fact that they have nearly two billion dollars invested in those farm lands!"

A man can hire a plastic surgeon to remake his face but if he wants to remodel his disposition he still has to do it himself.

**45,000 PHONE CALLS EVERY 60 SECONDS**

Figures Show This to Be the Average in United States Telephone Business

The number of telephone conversations varies considerable from hour to hour throughout the day. The greatest number occur in the mornings and afternoons, and they fall away to almost nothing during the small hours of the early morning. Yet if all the calls in the United States during 1926 had been evenly distributed throughout the day and night, there would have been more than 45,000 telephone conversations begun every sixty seconds.

On the same basis an average of \$1,400 would have been disbursed every minute for the operating expenses involved in caring for the 45,000 telephone calls, and of the above amount the telephone industry would have been busy paying \$150 a minute into the public treasury in the form of taxes.

Unfortunately the business world does not carry on, smoothly and evenly, all day and night. The telephone industry must maintain a huge system to care for the peak loads that come around ten in the morning and five in the afternoon, and maintain this huge plant ready for instant service all through the night when it is little used.

We used to hear wild stories about headless ghosts seen on the highways, and a good many headless drivers can be seen running cars up and down the roads now.

Education is said to be taking rapid strides now, and it needs to, to keep within speaking distance of the modern young person.

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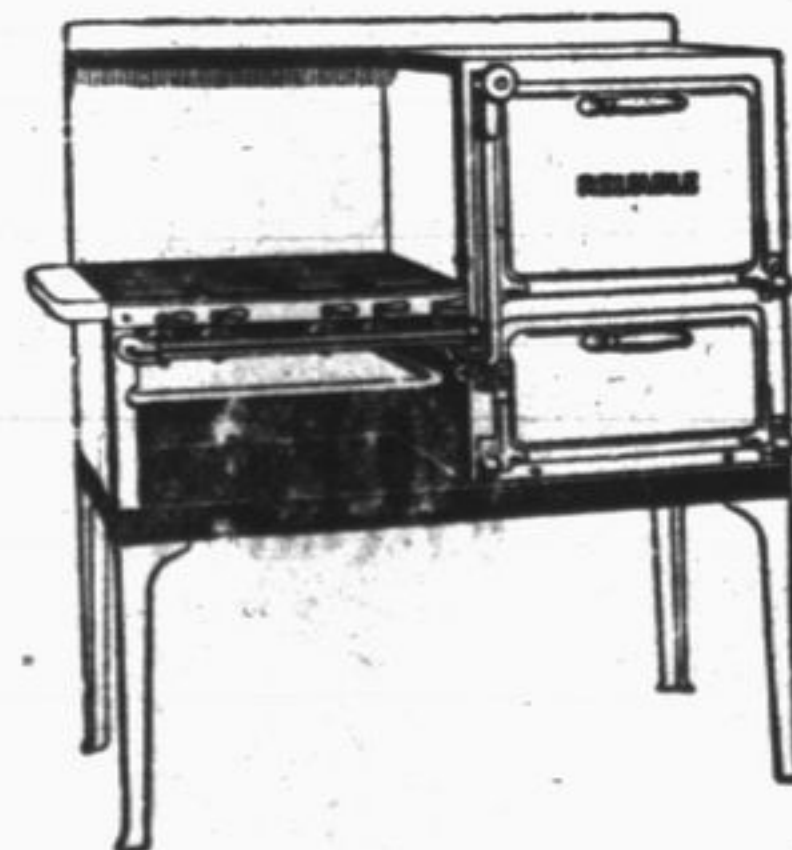
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