

**CRITICS PLAYED BY PROPAGANDIST**  
**WRITING IN NAT. REPUBLIC**

**Defends Policy of Government in Mexico and Nicaragua; Cites Decay of Critic and His Cause**

by George Lockwood  
(In the National Republic)  
A few weeks ago every knocker of the American government was agitating the atmosphere with outcry against the American policy in Nicaragua and Mexico. We were told that we were on the brink of bloody war as the result of the impudence of the American government in insisting upon the protection of American life and property in these countries. These critics did not change the policy of the government, but the developments of the intervening period constitute a sorry reflection on the common sense of the knockers, if, indeed, something more sinister than lack of judgment is not responsible for their futile belaboring.

**Stops War**  
Uncle Sam has stopped the war in Nicaragua, with its loss of life and property and paralysis of industry, agriculture and employment. Nothing more terrible is going to happen there than that the Nicaraguan factions have agreed to settle their troubles with ballots instead of Mausers and machetes, with the U. S. Marines standing by to see that everybody gets fair play. Mexico shows some signs of returning sanitary and order, and relations between the Mexican and American governments have undergone a distinct improvement. Instead of starting war in the republics to the south of us, we have prevented war and have demonstrated that the United States will not be frightened out of asserting its rights under international law and the Monroe Doctrine.

**Losing Crusade**  
Senator Lynn Frazer, of North Dakota, the socialist statesman who affects Republicanism only on election day, is engaged in a transcontinental trip crusading against the American government's policy in Mexico and Nicaragua. If he does not cut his journey short, both problems will be satisfactorily solved before he gets back to the home plate. Accompanying Senator Frazer are two pink publicists, one of them a radical farm editor and the other a gentleman who acquired unenviable notoriety through his association with the group surrounding Ludwig Martens, one time unofficial soviet ambassador to the United States, who left the country upon the urgent invitation of the American government.

Senator Frazer is author of a resolution for a constitutional amendment which would prohibit the United States government from spending any money whatever in national defense in case of armed insurrection of invasion. A hearing was held upon this resolution by the Senator Judiciary committee, and it was attended by a group of women, mostly of the pink and red persuasion, one of them an advocate of the slackers' oath and another a "pacifist" female who declared last year: "We must have peace through communism, by revolution, peaceful if possible, bloody if necessary." It is not difficult to fathom the support of such a resolution by those who seek the violent overthrow of the government of the United States, or its annexation as a province of soviet Russia, but just how any patriotic American could favor a proposal involving national suicide is not exactly clear.

Lincoln Steffens, once notorious as a magazine muck-racker, calmly tells a New York audience that he now believes that all his earlier theories were "bunk." It is to be hoped that some of the rest of the radical yell-leaders will sooner or later reach that stage of mental maturity where they will be able to see what is already obvious to those Americans whose seat of thought is the brain rather than the bile.

**Allegory**  
A farmer, tired of being "helped" by politicians, walked into a cafeteria and helped himself.—Farm and Fireside.

**Bulky Books**  
Too many people are impressed by sheer bulk in books. As often as not, the thicker the volume the thicker the author.—Farm and Fireside.

**Baby Talk**  
These are uncertain times for little children. Science is snuffing and baying on their trail. The Woman's Home Companion, studying social service work, has found some "practice-houses equipped with live babies for laboratory work," and thinks they are great things. The babies can't talk and tell what they think about it.

**Isn't it a Fact?**  
The man who talks big looks small.—Farm and Fireside.

The young men are urged to climb the ladder, but it is not safe to leave the ladder around in these times, as the crooks will use it to climb into our second story windows.

If some of our sports could swing a hoe as effectively as they can a cane, it would be safer for the girls to marry them.

**REDUCTION OF STATE TAXES FARMERS' NEED**  
**Too Much Talking About It and not Enough Action; Danger of Present Plan**

A drastic and effective reduction in the local taxation of farm lands is a fundamental of real farm relief. It is admitted the federal government has gone as far as possible in the reduction of national taxes, a reduction which has worked to the advantage of the farmers with others. But the increasing burden of local and state taxation is heavy on the farmers. It may be said that the remedy rests in the hands of the farmers, but unfortunately a man with plowed fields has but little spare time with which to originate or conduct propaganda for local taxation relief.

Everybody is agreed local taxes should be reduced. Governors, mayors, selectmen, county commissioners, tax collectors and supervisors all argue that the tax burden on farm lands is oppressive, if not destructive. But

even as they condole with the victims, they continue to present new schemes for the expenditure of public money which works for increased taxes. Governor Christianson of Minnesota should be exempted from this indictment. He has had the courage to deliberately veto an appropriation bill because his signature would inevitably have resulted in an increase in the taxes of that state.

The one way out is to make this a state-wide issue. There must be a demonstration of the dangers and injustices of the present system impressive enough to arouse the attention of the public, so that the local taxing officials will feel compelled by public sentiment to make a readjustment. This is purely a topic for a real agricultural 'states' conference which will investigate and report on the feasibility of modified taxation for timber lands, lands growing food-stuffs and in the taxation of animals and even implements necessarily employed in dairying activities.

**STEW BAD, STEW BAD**  
"They say this man who is singing now had a narrow escape from death yesterday!"  
"What a pity!"

"Good Lord, Diana, what brings you to this terrible dive?"  
"Why, Percival, the trolley car, of course!"

**BANG! BANG! BANG!**  
Rest here the remains of poor Jimmy Black.  
He went to Chicago and never came back!

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**NO MYSTERY**  
A ukelele and fifty victrola records were stolen from a room in Hartley Hall, a Columbia college dormitory. All those in neighboring rooms have perfect alibis.

**NOT SO GOOD**  
Prisoner: "I'm sorry your honor, I took the money; but you know the more a man gets the more he wants."  
Judge: "You're getting seven years. How much more do you want?"

**Beware of the Moth**

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