



COMMUNISTS

A group of Communist agitators tried to hold a public meeting on the steps of New York's City hall the other day. They had neglected to obtain a permit for a public meeting and the police and some of them got broken heads. Many half-baked thinkers see in that episode an example of tyranny.

It was rather an example of the Communists' lofty disregard for all the laws of civilized nations. Their record in Russia proves that their whole scheme of government is more tyrannical than the worst of the Czars. Every American citizen has the right to agitate for a change in the laws or the Constitution itself. There is no place in America for those who teach disobedience to law.

OVERPRODUCTION

The best short phrase descriptive of farming conditions was coined by the Secretary of Agriculture in a radio talk the other day. "Blind production for an unknown demand," were Mr. Hyde's words. Every farmer has experienced the evils of overproduction. The pendulum swings too far each way. One year a short crop brings high prices; the next year every farmer produces more of that commodity and the markets are gulfed at low prices.

For the first time in history, intelligent steps are being taken by our Government to keep farmers from competing with each other and to compel them to work together to control production and so make farming a profitable business for all engaged in it.

Mr. Hyde is right in saying that the farmers of America face in the coming years as stern a test as ever faced our forefathers.

CIVILIZATION

Human progress consists in the multiplication of human wants and of the means to supply the new needs. The man who wants nothing we call a savage. He is at liberty to live in the wilds and enjoy life in his own way. The process which we call civilization consists in tempting the savage with commodities which appeal to him so that he will exchange his labor for them.

The next step is to teach him to want things so badly that he is willing to live under the rules of the community where they are to be had.

The trouble with many folks in America today is that they want things without being willing to pay the price, either in labor or in obedience to the community law. The old law of the Pilgrim Fathers, "He who does not work shall not eat" is not sufficiently enforced. Too many parents are letting their boys and girls "have a good time" instead of going to work when they have finished school. It is from this irresponsible leisure class that most of the crim-

inals develop, according to the police commissioner of New York.

NOBILITY

In 1913, when the unrest in the Balkans was already threatening Central Europe with vague mutterings of the Great War which began the next year, Frederic C. Penfield, American Ambassador to Austria-Hungary, attended a tea-party in Buda-Pest, Theresa and attended by many of the highest of the Hungarian nobility.

"If you were all to be deprived of your titles, estates and fortunes, what would you do?" Mr. Penfield asked. There was silence for a minute or two. Then the archduchess answered.

"I do not know what we would do, but I can tell you one thing we would not do," she replied. "We would not complain."

The man who told me of the incident was one of the noblemen who was at that party. He has a good job in New York and only a few intimate friends know that he had a high title and a great estate in his native Hungary. Like the rest, he lost all, but he does not complain. The Archduchess was right. They are taking their medicine and smiling at the dose. That is true nobility.

THRIFT

Savings deposits throughout the nation are showing an upward trend again. They were considerably depleted for a while, money being withdrawn for stock speculation. Life insurance investments are steadily climbing.

Henry Ford was right when he said that most men should not deprive themselves under 40 in order to save.

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The old idea that thrift means living a stunted life in youth in order to eke out narrow and bare existence in old age has gone the way of the 12-hour day and the ox-team. Every worker today has a surplus above normal liv-

ing costs out of which a small percentage of savings will insure comfort in later years. In the meantime, Americans are fortunate in being able to enjoy a wide range of luxuries while still laying something by.

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