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when mingling with the general public, has also been adopted, with some slight modification, for the protection of the mute, blind and feeble-minded.

To protest against the conviction of the murderers of Dato, the Basle Communists arranged a demonstration in front of the Spanish Consulate. The Consul refused to receive a deputation, and as the demonstrators took up a threatening attitude, the police intervened and, with drawn swords, dispersed the assembled crowd.

At Wald (Zurich) three children were buried under a mass of snow which fell from one of the house tops, only one of them being extricated alive.

Dr. Hans Dieter, of Kleinlitzel (Solothurn), died in Lucerne in his 85th year; he spent most of his life in the service of the Gotthard Railway, of which he was president when the line was nationalised.

Some 2,000 French grenades, which the Swiss military authorities bought in 1917, have been sunk in the Lake of Thun, as, on account of deterioration, their further storage had become a source of danger. Another lot has been similarly disposed of in the Lake of Lucerne.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

By "KYBURG."

U.S.E.

Now, if I had written U.S.A. every one of my readers would have understood at once, but I wager that not many know the meaning of the three letters U.S.E.

From time to time I have tried to convince my readers that salvation for the European Continent could be achieved finally only if and when the different Nations and Nationalities combined and formed some sort of Commonwealth, in other words, the *United States of Europe*. Progress in human affairs is either very slow or very painful. Lately, Europe has tried the second alternative, and the pains and horrors through which the poor old Continent has been dragged during the last few years are beginning to bear fruit. As Mr. Lloyd George would perhaps say, "the light is visible at the end of the tunnel," and I would add, the tunnel is still a very long one, and it will be some time yet before we come to the Light. However, *si muove!* I give you below a few passages from the British Government paper, the *Daily Herald*, of Jan. 28, from an article dealing with "New Currents in Europe":—

The most notable sign in the field of foreign relations is a remarkable article in Saturday's "Temps"—remarkable because of the close liaison between the "Temps" and the French Foreign Office.

That this, of all organs, should talk suddenly the language of internationalism is surely a portent. Yet so it is.

"As international relations become necessarily more intense, and as the nations consequently depend more and more closely on each other, it is indispensable that Europe should progressively acquire institutions and habits which will enable it subsequently to procure advantages comparable to those of a federal régime."

The language—but not necessarily the genuine sentiment. The "Temps" talking internationalism is a phenomenon comparable with "The Times" eulogising Mr. MacDonald. "When I find myself praised in 'The Times,'" said Daniel O'Connell, "I examine my political conscience."

But clearly the Quai d'Orsay, alarmed at the coming to power of Labour, alarmed at the financial situation, alarmed at the Ruit failure, is preparing to be, for the nonce, Liberal. The tradition of Talleyrand survives. Diplomats are by nature adaptable, Vicar of Brayish creatures.

The Flight of Capital from Switzerland—

on account of the Capital Levy seems to have left a good bit of that desirable commodity in our country, if one is to attach any meaning to the following paragraph from the *Financial Times* of the 18th inst.:—

It is reported that Stinnes' concerns, which have for some time past been suffering severely from the restricted amount of liquid capital available, have just secured credit from a Swiss consortium of 60,000,000 gold marks, repayable in ten years, so that the position is now relieved.

The money will be used in the mining concerns Deutscher Lux, Gelsenkirchen, Bochumer and Riebeck Montan, but not electrical works.

This brings into prominence the long-standing rivalry inside the Stinnes group of the Siemens-Schuckert Electrical Combination. Unless Herr Stinnes allows the Siemens concern to benefit by his connections, a dissolution of the combination of the two concerns may be expected.

Very large orders, said to exceed 4,000,000 kilos, for aniline dyes have just been received from America, divided among the Badische Anilin- und Soda-Fabrik, Berliner Anilinwerke, Elberfelder Farbwerke and Hoechster Farbwerke. This will give a great revival to the chemical industry.

By the way, I hope my readers duly noticed the rubbishy talk which preceded and accompanied the General Elections, i.e., the speeches made against the Capital Levy Proposal, and I hope they have also duly digested the speeches made since by the Chairman of Lloyds Bank, Ltd., and of the Midland Bank, Ltd. In my simple mind, I trust the latter two speeches rather than those made in the stress of electioneering, and if any of

my friends nowadays hold forth against the Capital Levy, etc., I can afford to smile. But, is it not a pity that questions which ought to be studied on their merits alone are made to serve political intrigues? The old saying of Carlisle, concerning the mentality of the human family, still, unfortunately, has a lot of truth in it.

It is not the aim of Youth to become like their Fathers.

You will find this striking sentence in the following article, taken from the *Edinburgh Evening News*, Jan. 22nd:—

A meeting of the Peace Council—one of a series being organised throughout the country with a view to promoting European understanding—was held in the Rainy Hall, Edinburgh, on Jan. 21st. Prof. Mackinnon presided, and addresses were delivered by Dr. Pierre Ceresole, late Professor of Mathematics at Geneva, and Dr. Armin T. Wegner, poet and novelist, and one of the founders of the International Youth movement in Germany before the war.

Describing the Youth movement in Germany, Dr. Wegner said they had been educated in the belief that patriotism was the highest feeling they could have. Their souls were drilled machines, and the obedience of a slave their highest virtue. Ten years before the war ideas of emancipation sprang up in the minds of the boys and girls in schools. They felt there was something rotten in the schools, the home and in public life. This was the beginning of the new education, in which the teachers were the friends of their pupils and were chosen by them. There was no punishment, and it was not the aim of youth to become like their fathers, to become good subjects of the State, but to live for themselves. As characteristic of the movement, which was now growing up in other countries, Dr. Wegner cited cases of young Germans who sold their family jewels to help repay the French for damage done by their own fathers during the war. If Germany was said to be the creator of militarism, young Germans were proud to be the creators of the first Youth Movement against this spirit of darkness.

Dr. Ceresole declared that they had proved in Switzerland that it was not true that French and Germans could not live together peacefully. They had to be loyal to something higher than their country in case of necessity. At a conference of conscientious objectors held in Holland in 1919, attended by about 50 persons from different nations, they had felt that no Government would be powerful enough to cut the human ties that connected them. There was something splendid in military service understood from the point of view of sacrifice. They must try to get an organisation in which the spirit of service and sacrifice could be turned to a useful purpose and work for the salvation of humanity. (Applause.)

And indeed, to continue the opening sentence, why should it? If we look upon our Civilisation to-day, we can hardly truthfully say that our Forefathers have given us an inspiring example. Ancestor-worship is all right up to a point. But when it takes the form of blindly following in Daddy's footsteps and shutting one's eyes to the shortcoming and glaring mistakes, not to say crimes, committed by earlier generations, it is time to stop it altogether. Emancipation of Youth will lead to mistakes, no doubt, but they can hardly be worse than the "glorious achievements" perpetrated by our Ancestors. Wars, wars, wars, and precious little besides. And that little generally ill-treated and hidden away. Why, how long is it since anybody who was not a soldier of sorts could not possibly be a gentleman, or the equivalent of one, in other countries?

Labour in Factories.

Daily Herald (21st Jan.):—

Proposals are being made in Switzerland for the extension of working hours in factories from 52 to 54 per week.

In a month's time (says Reuter) the Swiss people are to be called upon to express their opinions on the subject.

It is proposed to modify Article 41 of the law of June 1914, which lays down a 52-hour week in certain exceptional cases, by an increase of two hours, though the day's labour must not exceed 10 hours.

In the event of the new provisions not being replaced by a new law within three years, then Article 41 of the June law 1914-1919 will again come into operation.

The subject (adds Reuter) is giving rise to much discussion throughout the country. The various political parties are holding public meetings, and opinions are divided. The Socialists are opposed to any increase in the present hours.

To which I would add that, according to the *Daily Telegraph* (Jan. 17th):—

At a meeting of Radical Democrats, to be held at Berne, a proposal will be submitted requesting the Federal authorities to initiate pourparlers with a view to the international regulation of the duration of labour.

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