

THUNDER CLOUDS ON AMERICA'S HORIZON

By Arthur C. Parker

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Charity Snoopers' Job Relief

Mr. Hoover appoints another committee. It will be the Winter Relief Committee, headed by Walter S. Gifford, President of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. The plan is to cooperate with public authorities to reinforce national, state and local agencies that will have responsibility for the relief activities arising out of unemployment.

In other words, Mr. Hoover and his cabinet again refuses to accept the humane and feasible plan of Federal Unemployment Insurance, to ameliorate the terrible suffering of jobless working people.

A jobless man whose family has nothing to eat is compelled to apply for help to these private charity agencies, which are fairly infested with professional snoopers. Smug smelling agents invade the privacy of his home, he must answer humiliating questions, he must fill out a questionnaire giving intimate details of his family life. The record is carried back to other more smug men and women, who sit in judgment on his case, and then, perhaps, pay the rent or send a meagre supply of food stuffs. Charitable agencies are futile and totally inadequate properly to handle this tremendous problem. More than six million families, jobless, hungry and homeless! Mr. Hoover's plan is as sensible as trying to fill the ocean with pebbles.

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The Prohibition Smoke Screen

The New York Times says there are more than 100,000,000 persons living in states which make no effort to enforce the prohibition law. Mayor James L. Key of Atlanta says, "The prohibition law is an abysmal failure which by its presence upon the statute books along with laws which are enforceable, endangers national respect for all law and introduces a powerful corrupting force into society."

Democrats and Republicans have been arguing and sparring for five years about this impossible prohibition law when they know, as do all intelligent people, that a referendum would settle the whole foolish discussion. Why talk about liquor and beer anyway at a time when millions of able bodied citizens who can't buy bread are begging for the privilege to work and are being denied that right? It seems to me that the compelling issues are life's essentials, food, shelter and clothing, and questions like prohibition are only interjected by politicians to cloud the vision of the common people who might otherwise be working for a society which would guarantee abundant life to all men by wiping away exploiters' profits.

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"No Help Wanted"

"Police and welfare heads of New York City notify the country that there is no room for jobless here. Municipal lodging house says there is need for 800,000 beds and 3,000,000 meals. Samuel

Untermeyer, eminent New York attorney, ridiculed Mr. Hoover's relief plan for raising eight million dollars privately and called it a mere drop in the bucket. He endorsed the plan to call a special session of Congress and appropriate \$5,000,000,000 for unemployment relief."

"Not wanted" signs are becoming the sign posts of our day.

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The Humiliation is California's

Filipinos held a demonstration, 100,000 strong, in Manila last week protesting the brutal treatment Filipinos receive in California and demanding independence. They called the day "National Humiliation Day" and invited all labor organizations to join in a parade. Native Senators Briones and Varona joined the celebration, making stirring speeches.

California, the land of balmy breezes, glorious sunsets, luscious fruits and intolerance. Mooney and Billings are living martyrs of California court injustices and now Filipinos who have long suffered abuse and humiliation in the golden state add their protest to the rising wail against California injustice.

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Hope in "Green Pastures" Record

"Green Pastures" has left Broadway and has reopened in Chicago. It gave 640 performances in New York City.

This is indeed an enviable record. Mr. Harrison and the entire cast are beyond a doubt among America's finest dramatic artists. We do hope the future will give us some play with just as good a cast who will portray American colored people as so many are today, Scientists, Professors, technicians, scholars, musicians and artists. It would be gratifying to have the world see us once as intelligent, progressive human beings.

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Another Kind of "Charity"

From Jasper, Ga., comes the item that every able bodied unemployed man accepting aid from Pickens County, Ga., will be required to work on the county roads or some other public labor, and wages will be paid only in food and clothing for the man and his family.

There will be no cash wages whatever.

Georgia seems wedded to the mania for working men on the roads for no pay. In Georgia all minor offences bring legal sentences of months in the chain gang, which means unremitting toil on the county roads. Now to be out of a job for no fault of your own means unpaid road labor with convict associates.

Do you know that most of these unfortunate men are, and will be, colored men?

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