

is a growing sentiment, therefore, that it will be extremely difficult to push the bill through to a vote, even if it should be taken up for debate by the House, before the fall elections. Members who voted for prohibition recognize that there is only one thing they can do—namely, vote for prohibition at sea as they voted for it ashore.

If the Merchant Marine or Subsidy Bill goes over to the short session which opens in December, it looks as if it would be necessary for President Harding to call a special session after March 4 next if he wishes to push through the merchant marine legislation to which he is so strongly committed.

PUBLIC OFFICE AND PRIVATE SACRIFICE

WHEN a governor is indicted or a scandal develops in a political organization, it is always regarded as front-page news. It attracts a hundred times the attention of such an act as that of Governor Miller, of New York State. He was recently attacked by the Secretary of the New York State Association, Mr. Robert Moses, because, he alleged, the executive department at Albany did not live up to the requirements of law in the matter of expenses. Governor Miller, who has made a very successful effort to cut down the expenses of the State Government, in reply to these criticisms, disclosed a situation which has proved a boomerang to the critics of the Government:

It is true that my former secretary did incur bills for certain purposes in excess of the appropriations for those purposes. Some of them he had paid himself, and when it was brought to my attention I refunded to him what he had paid and paid the balance myself. It is true that at that time the appropriations for these particular purposes were exhausted, and there was no appropriation for similar expenses for the balance of the fiscal year. The Legislature was then in session. I could have asked for a deficiency appropriation. . . . Now I didn't ask for a deficiency appropriation. I did pay the balance of the bills for the balance of the fiscal year myself rather than to do so. I did that because I had set my face against deficiency appropriations, and I had to observe the rule that I had established if I expected others to do so.

The Governor, rather than stretch the rule which he has laid down for other departments of the State Government, paid into the treasury of the State \$8,000. The Governor's salary is \$10,000. For Governor Miller, who has devoted a large part of his life to public service, such a financial sacrifice is indeed large.

We do not believe that many people realize how frequently public officials do sacrifice their own interests for the good of the Government. We suspect that the

list of Washington officials who make heavy financial sacrifices to further the Government's interests is longer than any one would suppose.

The Outlook is no Pollyanna, but it wishes that the day would come when newspapers would see the news value of work well done. If virtue were only as interesting to the average reporter as vice, we might not worry so much about the growth of crime waves and the prevalence of official corruption.

A LIGHT-BEARING MEMORIAL

MR. WILLIAM PULLIAM has already contributed much to building up friendly relations between the countries of Pan-America. His service as Receiver of Dominican Customs under both Presidents Roosevelt and Harding affords an example of effective international trusteeship of the most valuable character. International faith can only be built up by such faithful acts. Without them words of friendship are vapor.

Now Mr. Pulliam has put forward a plan for Pan-American co-operation in a project of more than sentimental interest to all the inhabitants of both South and North America. He has proposed that a lighthouse built from funds collected from our two continents shall be erected as a memorial to Columbus at Santo Domingo.

There has never been a Pan-American

memorial to Columbus in which the various peoples of the Pan-American Union have participated.

Santo Domingo is the oldest permanent Christian settlement in the New World; it is the only place in America where Columbus maintained a residence. It was the scene of his brief power and control, and also the place of his deepest humiliation—where he was stripped of that power, put in chains, and sent back to Spain. It is the place where he himself requested that his remains lie. The Spaniards appropriately and very affectionately referred to Santo Domingo as the "cradle of America;" hence it would seem to be the logical place for such a memorial, particularly if it takes a practical form.

Italy, the birthplace of Columbus, has practically recognized the authenticity of the remains unearthed in the Santo Domingo Cathedral on September 10, 1877, for in the Town Hall at Genoa, in a crystal urn, is exhibited a portion of the remains obtained in Santo Domingo at the time mentioned.

This project for a memorial lighthouse to the great Genoese navigator seems to combine sentiment and utility in a degree seldom found. It deserves a most general support.

CUTTING DOWN ARMY OFFICERS

THE task of reducing the commissioned personnel of the United States Army is now under way. A large cut, approximately one-sixth of the present list of officers affected, must be made before the end of the present calendar year, in accordance with an act of Congress—the Regular Army Appropriation Bill—approved June 30 last.

A board of army officers, headed by Major-General Joseph T. Dickman, retired, who rendered distinguished service in France during the war in command of the Third Division, has been appointed to perform the weeding-out process. The Board held its initial meeting on July 24, and is expected to complete its task by December 15, two weeks before the time within which the work of elimination must be completed.

As of June 30, the excess in the number of officers in various grades from first lieutenant to colonel totaled 2,149, while in the medical department and chaplains there were 367. While it is not possible now to state the exact number of officers who will actually be eliminated as a result of final selection by the Board, because of the fact that during the interim a number of officers will retire or be discharged voluntarily, nevertheless the Elimination Board will be compelled to recommend the dropping



(C) Paul Thompson

GOVERNOR MILLER OF NEW YORK

Who has been forced to reveal the use of his private funds for public purposes



(C) Harris & Ewing

THE PLUCKING BOARD

This is the name given to the board of general officers appointed to carry out the law for reducing the number of officers in the Regular Army. Members of the Board around the table are, from left to right: Brigadier-General A. W. Brewster; Major-General M. W. Ireland, surgeon-general; Major-General Joseph T. Dickman, retired, chairman; Major-General Henry P. McCain, former adjutant; Brigadier-General Ernest Hinds; and Major R. A. Jones, secretary.

of considerably more than one thousand officers. Their task is lightened to some extent by the fact that the law allows eight hundred promotion-list officers in grades from colonel to first lieutenant, inclusive, to be held for absorption or recommissioned in the next lower grade. No such allowance, however, is made for the medical department and chaplains, and all of the excess there must be removed by separation from the active list, including that due to normal losses.

In connection with this drastic cut which has been ordered by Congress there is much discussion in army circles as to the effect it will have on the morale of the force and on its general efficiency and preparedness in case it is called on again to render active war service. Promotions, it is pointed out, will be much slower, officers being retained in the lower grades many more years than at present, so that if suddenly called on to assume greater duties they will be lacking in the required experience. This situation in the Army, it is claimed, cost many extra millions of money and months of time in preparedness of the American Army for the World War.

The selections for retirement and discharge will be based on the official records of officers, supplemented by such additional recommendations and reports as may be received. In the process of making the large reduction required, "officers must necessarily be retired or discharged whose active service would otherwise be continued," says a War Department circular giving the regulations; and so, under the circumstances, these separations from the service will be "regarded as honorable in every way and will not be regarded as stigmatizing an officer or his record."

As there are more than 12,000 officers in the Army and the time within which

the Elimination Board must perform its labors is limited, it is assumed that it will have to depend to a considerable extent upon the recommendations from chiefs of the several army branches. The War Department recommends that officers who leave the active list of the Regular Army continue available for military service in emergency, and urges such officers to affiliate with the National Guard or to apply for appointment in the Officers' Reserve Corps.

A SUCCESSFUL MASSACRE

HERRIN, until lately obscure, has achieved infamy. That southern Illinois mining town has become known as the place where murder pays. Turks or Kurds who torture to death defenseless Armenians in order to rule the surviving population with a rod of terror can now enjoy the flattery of successful imitation in America. Perhaps Illinois will have added a word to the language. Nobody hereafter need mistake the meaning of the verb "to herrin."

It was on June 22 that a mob of strikers at Herrin murdered in cold blood a score or so of non-union miners. For fiendish cruelty that mob has had, according to unrefuted reports, few equals. The strikers in that mob were determined that nobody in that region should exercise the liberty of working while they exercised the liberty of refusing to work. So they proceeded to prove that any one who tried to work would be in peril of suffering, not merely death, but also agony. A strike is a form of war; but this was worse than war. The men whom the strikers killed with torture had surrendered. They were not the vanquished in an open

though unjustifiable fight; they were the victims of a worse than brutish crime.

And that crime, after more than six weeks, appears now to have been a complete success.

The issue raised at Herrin has nothing whatever to do with the merits of the strike. No matter what any American may think of the strikers' cause, he cannot, if he is an intelligent and decent citizen, be (to use William Allen White's phrase) "fifty per cent" for these strikers of Herrin; he must be a hundred per cent against them. There are means so evil that they can render any cause on behalf of which they are used wholly negligible, for they constitute in themselves an utterly evil cause.

Such a cause is that of deliberate, terrorizing, murderous torture of the defenseless. And it is that evil cause that has apparently triumphed at Herrin.

If free government is to endure, it must provide means, not merely of punishing those who commit such a massacre, but of preventing, by constituted authority, such a massacre from taking place.

Do the people of Illinois propose to do anything about it? If not, do the people of the United States?

This case is a test of the American system of government.

Ordinarily a crime of violence, according to the American theory, is the concern of the community in which it occurs. But when the whole community is so tainted with the crime that the individuals in the community by shielding the criminals—whether through sympathy or through fear—become accomplices shall justice go by default? If so, government itself to that degree abdicates and in its place arises anarchy.

The failure of the county authorities at Herrin, the failure of the State authorities in Illinois, to establish the reign of law is not merely the failure of a county or a State; it is the failure of the Nation. Where men can rule by massacre there is the end, not only of liberty, but of all that is worthy to be called government.

AN URBAN VIEW OF RURAL IDEALS

IT was a maxim of Joseph Pulitzer that no editorial writer was worth his salt who did not find something every morning in the newspapers that made him angry. If the editorial writers for any agricultural paper happened to let their eyes fall upon a recent editorial in the New York "Mail," we suspect that each and every one of them promptly qualified for their daily ration of sodium chloride.

As an example of urban misunder-