

lines that an industrial court should largely act. Nevertheless it has very large powers of legal action under the Kansas Industrial Law, and it is quite probable that in an extension of this method of dealing with industrial matters other States may find an open road leading toward industrial peace.

Mr. Gompers has lately been reported as calling the Kansas plan involuntary servitude and as announcing that organized labor would not obey the mandates of such courts as that in Kansas or the laws as laid down by those courts if other States follow Kansas's example. We hope that Mr. Gompers has been misquoted. He is not generally regarded as a Bolshevik, but a more expressly Bolshevistic utterance we rarely see. Whether such a statute and such a court as those established in Kansas are Constitutional will ultimately be established by the United States Supreme Court, not by the President of the American Federation of Labor.

THE ROOSEVELT PILGRIMAGE

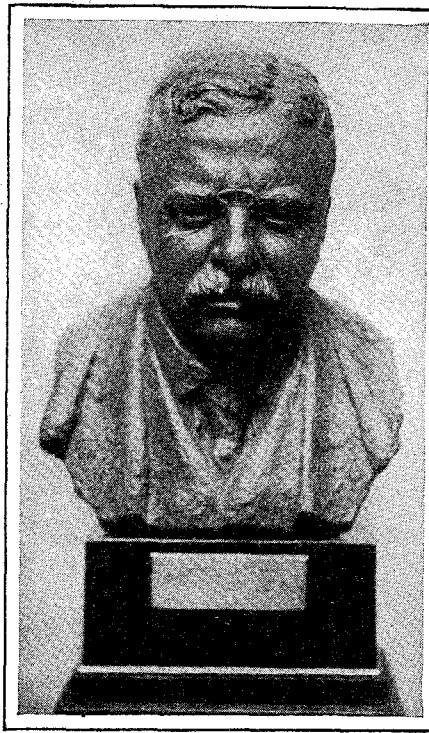
ON the initiative of E. H. Van Valkenburg, of the Philadelphia "North American," a group of Theodore Roosevelt's intimate friends and associates, especially those who worked with him in the organization and campaigns of the Progressive party, have formed an association called The Roosevelt Pilgrimage. The purpose of this association was expressed last year by a resolution proposed at a meeting of the group by Gifford Pinchot:

We, who were privileged to stand beside Theodore Roosevelt in the memorable April days of 1912, resolve to return in annual pilgrimage to his grave upon the anniversary of his death; and we resolve:

That we invite all who love the man and honor the leader to join with us in this recurring testimony of our devotion to his teaching and his example; and

That we take such further action as will provide for the annual pilgrimage and will serve to keep alive a vital interest in the principles and personality of Theodore Roosevelt.

The first gathering of the Roosevelt Pilgrimage was held on January 6, 1921. On that occasion nine men journeyed to Oyster Bay. This year on the anniversary of Roosevelt's death about sixty men and women made the pilgrimage to the grave, where a very simple ceremony was held, which consisted of a reading of Roosevelt's Nobel Prize speech of 1910 by James R. Garfield, who was in his Cabinet. A wreath was laid upon the grave by one of the pilgrims, Mrs. Thomas Robbins, of Philadelphia. The company then, on the invitation of Mrs. Roosevelt, went to the home at Sagamore Hill, where after a



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BUST OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT

This portrait bust, by James Earle Fraser, of New York, is to be placed in the Lafayette Museum, in Paris. A replica was unveiled recently at New Rochelle, New York, by Mrs. Corinne Roosevelt Robinson, a sister of the late President.

simple luncheon they gathered in the great North Room. Dr. Lyman Abbott, permanent Chairman of the group, presided. Mr. Roosevelt's daughter Ethel (Mrs. Richard Derby) read from her father's handwriting the call for the creation of the Progressive party; Mr. Hermann Hagedorn read a poem which was discovered after Roosevelt's death to have made a great impression upon him; and after an hour of fellowship the meeting adjourned.

It is not the purpose of this group to create a formal organization, but to afford a means for the friends of Roosevelt to renew their old friendships and fellowships annually on the day of his death.

IRELAND A FREE STATE

A PLEASING and peaceful cartoon in the New York "World" shows John Bull at the door of an Irish cottage politely saying to the peasant woman, Ireland, "Well, peace and good luck to you, ma'am." To make the picture absolutely complete it should have De Valera at one side sharpening his knife and Ulster in the distance muttering discontent.

Yet, if Ireland's troubles are not surely all passed, the seventh day of January will be a memorable anniversary in Irish history, for on that day the Par-

liament of the self-styled Irish Republic by a vote of 64 to 57 ratified the peace agreement with Great Britain. Later Arthur Griffith was elected President of the Dail Eireann and is expected to organize a provisional government under the treaty.

Just what will follow De Valera's resignation as President of the Irish Republic, his summoning of those who followed him in the bitter contest before the Dail Eireann to a new conference, and his open refusal to accept anything but absolute independence for Ireland—all this remains to be seen. Nor must it be forgotten that in the heat of debate Michael Collins, a leader of the Sinn Fein faction which urged ratification, declared in response to a question from De Valera that the present agreement would not end the Irish struggle for independence. As for Ulster's reluctance to enter the Irish Free State, it is admitted that the situation is a difficult one for the northern Protestant population. But Ulster should remember that the desperate struggle of the last three years drew much of its bitterness from the extreme action and threats of the Unionist party in the days just before the Great War. How far Carson and his followers went is told in the pages on Ireland in Mr. H. G. Wells's "Outline of History."

The best and the only true view is that the Irish people, apart from factions and theorists and past bitterness, realize that what is offered is substantial liberty and justice. The old acrimony and the old sorrow should fade before this genuine offer of self-government. We believe that Ireland is entering upon a new, peaceful, and prosperous existence. The agreement with Great Britain repeatedly declares that Ireland's status shall be that of Canada, and to assert that Canada is subject to tyranny or oppression would be preposterous.

In the words of the compact, Ireland enters "the community of nations known as the British Empire."

The outcome of what must have at times seemed a hopeless undertaking is a welcome proof that the arts of conciliation may prevail over the art of war. It is hard for the average Anglo-Saxon's logical brain to understand how men like De Valera could bring themselves to enter into a conference when they were determined to die rather than to accept anything less than that international independence which had been positively refused consideration before the conference began. Having agreed to negotiate outside that basis, it was wildly unreasonable to insist on that basis as the only one possible.

Ireland is now to be self-governed, to

be a free state, to be a nation—for that word is used in the agreement, and the limitations of national power named in the agreement do not indicate that Ireland is less than a nation in the same broad sense that the word may be used (and often is used) in the case of Canada.

The civilized world is to-day congratulating Ireland on entering the family of self-governed peoples. It may also well congratulate the English Prime Minister and his colleagues for their patience, good temper, and persistence in dealing with this difficult and delicate question. Ireland has been a backwater in the stream of democratic advance for centuries; hereafter she will form a part of that stream and will help in carrying the prosperity of the world at large as well as Ireland's flag and Ireland's national pride.

THE NEEDS OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

THE creation of what is known as the "Agricultural Bloc" in Congress has at least served to bring before the city dwellers of the country a renewed realization of the pressing importance of the problems of American agriculture. If it has done no more than this, it has performed at least one valuable service.

It is a very trite thing to say, but, like the Ten Commandments, a thing which will bear frequent repetition, that agriculture is the fundamental industry of the country. Save in sporadic instances, it has never had the recognition which it deserved in and from our Federal Government. Read, for instance, the roll of the House of Representatives and note the comparatively small number of men who have made a profession of farming on that list.

We do not believe that neglect of our farm problems, as some of our correspondents apparently think, has been due to any general conspiracy on the part of those who dwell in towns and cities. It may have been due largely to the ignorance of urbanites, but in greater part it has been due to the very nature of the neglected industry. Our farming has been carried on by the most individualistic citizens of our Nation. Their individualistic frame of mind is a natural product of that physical and industrial isolation in which farming has moved and had its being.

This individualistic attitude has been encouraged in large measure by those who stand between the farmer and the consuming public. It is to the material advantage of the middleman and to the material disadvantage of the farmer and

the consumer that the producer should not be able, through organization, to control his sales. "Divide and rule" has been the policy of the middleman. "Divided we fall" has been too often the fate of farm organizations which have attempted to better market conditions for our farmers. So far as scientific production is concerned, the farmer has kept abreast of the times. But, as Mr. Bernard M. Baruch pointed out in a recent article in the "Atlantic Monthly," so far as integration of his business is concerned, the farmer has been working under the handicap of a system which is at least half a century behind the times. It is in this same article that Mr. Baruch sums up as briefly and as clearly as we have seen them stated anywhere the demands of those farmers who are seeking a relief from present conditions. We quote Mr. Baruch's summary in full:

First: storage warehouses for cotton, wool, and tobacco, and elevators for grain, of sufficient capacity to meet the maximum demand on them at the peak of the marketing period. The farmer thinks that either private capital must furnish these facilities or the State must erect and own the elevators and warehouses.

Second: weighing and grading of agricultural products, and certifica-

tion thereof, to be done by impartial and disinterested public inspectors (this is already accomplished to some extent by the Federal licensing of weighers and graders), to eliminate underpaying, overcharging, and unfair grading, and to facilitate the utilization of the stored products as the basis of credit.

Third: a certainty of credit sufficient to enable the marketing of products in an orderly manner.

Fourth: the Department of Agriculture should collect, tabulate, summarize, and regularly and frequently publish and distribute to the farmers, full information from all the markets of the world, so that they shall be as well informed of their selling position as buyers now are of their buying position.

Fifth: freedom to integrate the business of agriculture by means of consolidated selling agencies, co-ordinating and co-operating in such way as to put the farmer on an equal footing with the large buyers of his products, and with commercial relations in other industries.

Certainly most of these aims seem reasonable both from the point of view of the producer and the consumer. That the financial authorities are coming to see the need for development along these lines is indicated by Mr. Baruch's sane and discriminating comment. Practical evidence to this fact is given by

Kirby in the New York World



"WELL, PEACE AND GOOD LUCK TO YOU, MA'AM"