

adequately financed by Federal appropriation. It may be taken as fairly certain that the sites selected will become without undue delay National Parks.

The bill recently passed was originally known as the Shenandoah Bill, but the scope was broadened until that is no longer an accurate title. The Commission may recommend a site in the Shenandoah region of Virginia, another in the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee, and possibly one in the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky. Its investigations are legally limited to these three regions, the preliminary work having shown that in these are to be found the most desirable park sites in the eastern part of the country.

A National park must be made here on a system different from any yet tried. The National Parks of the West were carved from the public domain, and there was, of course, no necessity for purchasing land. The single National Park in the East was established out of land donated by the owners. It is Lafayette National Park, in Maine. In the three regions now to be investigated all of the land is privately owned. Some small part of what the Government must acquire may be donated, but, in the main, it must be bought. The need of such parks, however, is so great, the demand so insistent, that the expenditure can hardly be regarded as an extravagance even by an Administration as thoroughly devoted to economy as the present one is. As this is written, however, the President has not signed the bill.

### Oysters and Democracy

To strengthen the faith of the public in the goodness of a good oyster by assuring adequate and faithful supervision of the oyster industry and to develop ways and means for making the oyster safe for democracy was the purpose and the result of the conference in Washington, D. C., February 19. Here met the representatives of the United States Public Health Service, Bureau of Chemistry, Bureau of Fisheries, State and municipal health authorities, State Conservation Commissioners, and representatives of the shell-fish industries, crowding the public hearing rooms of the Federal Public Health Service.

The resolutions adopted covered the generalized features of the programme

for separating the "safe" oysters from the "unsafe" and for checking the marketing of shell-fish from sewage-polluted waters. Later specific regulations will be developed. Emphasis was laid upon the necessity of official State and Federal inspection control of the oyster beds, shipping plants, methods, personnel, in order to detect and eliminate possible sources of danger to the public health. The possibility of bootlegging uncertified or illegal oysters, of falsification of the name, brand, or source of origin, must be eliminated. Methods of storing, displaying, and dispensing must be determined, inspected, controlled, and approved by the proper official Federal and municipal agency. The product must conform to an established bacterial standard, and to Federal, State, local laws and regulations relative to salinity, water content, food proportion, and pure food standards. Existing bacteriological standards for oysters must be revised. Congress was asked to provide \$82,600 for these purposes.

All this is for making the oyster safe for democracy. But to insure permanent results democracy must be made safe for the oyster (and incidentally for all other shell-fish). Not by premature or hysterical action, but by wise laws based upon equities and facts, the public must be taught that the discharge of sewage, personal or municipal, into streams, lakes, or coastal waters is not only an uneconomic, but is a positively indefensible practice.

To correct permanently the existing situation individual knowledge of basic facts and of personal responsibility is essential. Construction engineers must devise and the voters must require sewage-disposal projects consonant with biological facts and laws. To dump sewage into the public watercourses must no longer be considered the be-all and the end-all of personal, municipal, and engineering responsibility.

### Education and Everything

WILL the eleventh member of the President's Cabinet be the Secretary of Education—or the Secretary of Education and Pretty-Well-Everything-Else?

The advocates of a new department which shall devote itself exclusively to education believe that they have won the

victory for which they have fought for a great many years, though they admit that the law establishing a Department of Education is not to come at this session. They believe it will come at the next.

Two plans have been before the present session of Congress. One, in line with the general reorganization plan worked out by the Brown Committee and supposedly approved by both President Harding and President Coolidge, would set up a Department of Education and Relief into which would be merged the Bureau of Education, the Veterans' Bureau, soldiers' homes, Government hospitals, Howard University, and other things. This was embodied in the reclassification bill, in the Smoot Bill in the Senate, and the Dallinger Bill in the House.

The other would set up a Department of Education, bring into it only the Bureau of Education and the vocational educational work of the Veterans' Bureau, and on this skeleton build through the years a comprehensive Federal educational system in co-operation with the States. It would set up a National Council of Education composed of superintendents of education of the forty-eight States with the Federal Secretary of Education as Secretary. This bill, in practically its present form, has been before Congress for a great many years, first as the Smith-Towner, then as the Towner-Sterling, and now as the Sterling-Reed Bill.

The National Education Association, because of the President's approval, was willing to accept the Smoot-Dallinger plan, but with the frank statement that the Association would work to lop off later everything except the purely educational features. The Field Secretary, Miss Charl Williams, in announcing willingness to accept the Smoot-Dallinger plan, said that she would nevertheless offer for readoption at the forthcoming meeting of the Association the resolution of previous meetings declaring for a department whose activities should embrace education alone.

Other advocates of a purely educational Department of Education were not, however, willing to accept even for the time being a bill that provided for anything else. Senator Smoot was forced to leave out of the reorganization bill everything pertaining to education.

The Sterling-Reed Bill has not a legis-

# Have you not done talking yet?

(Troilus and Cressida, Act III, Scene 2)

Morris in the Brattleboro Daily Reformer

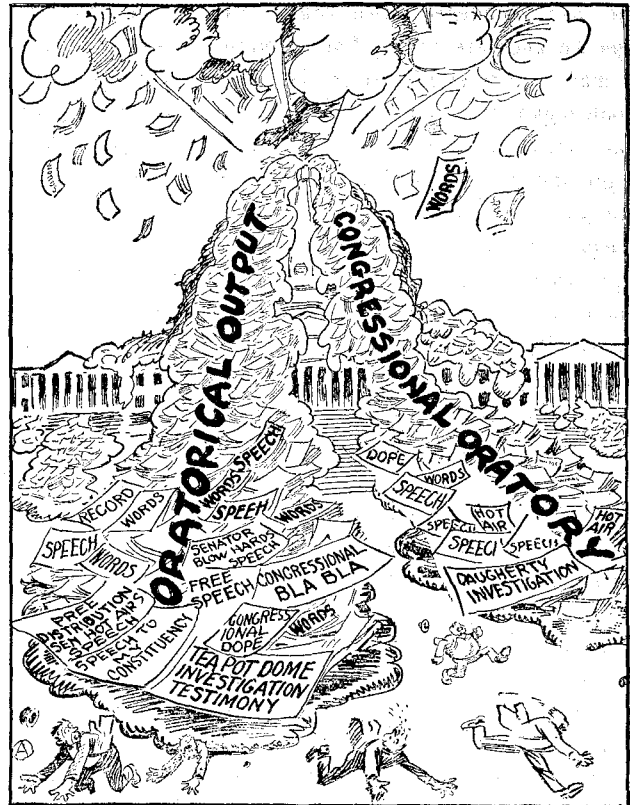


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Let us hope for this

From N. C. Kinney, Brattleboro, Vt.

Morris in the Brattleboro Daily Reformer

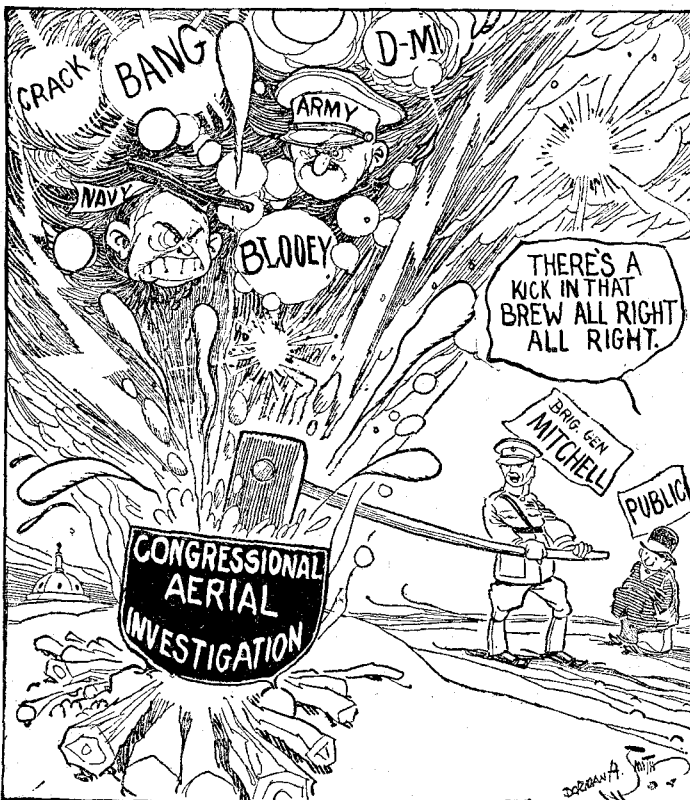


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The eruption

From N. C. Kinney, Brattleboro, Vt.

Dorman A. Smith in the Shreveport Times



Stirring things up a bit

From Carl K. White, West Monroe, La.

Darling in the New York Tribune



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The difference between working for the U. S. A.  
at \$12,000 a year—

From J. A. MacArt, East Orange, N. J.