

The CHRISTIAN STATESMAN

Founded in 1867

Jesus Christ is Civil Governor Among the Nations

Make Disciples of All the Nations

*"War is the sin which Governments
compel their unwilling peoples to commit."*

*To oppose this sin of the Governments,
Christian leaders from all lands will con-
vene at Winona next year.*

*There they will start a missionary
movement among the Governments—to
"Make disciples of all the nations."*

This is what Our Lord directed.

Let us fulfill His command.

Make Disciples of All the Nations

THE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN

(FOUNDED IN 1867)

Published Monthly at \$2.00 the Year by

The National Reform Association

(ORGANIZED IN 1863)

209 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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NOVEMBER

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Send all contributed articles to the Editor, JAMES S. MARTIN,
Fourth Floor Publication Building, 209 Ninth St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Entered as Second Class matter, July 30, 1906, at Pittsburgh, Pa., under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

The Fourth Commandment and Business

BY R. M. DOWNIE

A recent issue of *The Dearborn Independent* contained a splendid editorial under the head "Commercializing the Sabbath".* Especially timely and to the point is its comment upon the value—or lack of value—of Sunday newspaper advertising; but, to our surprise, there is one phase of Sabbath commercialization upon which *The Independent* is silent, namely the open criminality of it. In many states, Pennsylvania for instance, every Sunday paper flagrantly breaks the law fifty-two times per year. Custom has nullified a law that has been on the statute book of the state since 1794, a law that has been upheld times without number by the courts. Not only do they break the laws of the state, but what is of more importance they break the law of God. This example of open violation is one of the great procuring causes of that spirit of lawlessness which prevails from coast to coast. And as surely as the breach of moral law inevitably brings its own penalty, just so surely conditions are being established with which we as a nation will have to reckon. Germany tried such a program. *The Independent* mentions one firm which believes it pays to recognize the binding force of God's moral code, as if such a firm is a curiosity.

I have been manager of a manufacturing corporation for over forty years. At its incorporation certain well defined rules written and understood were laid down that have been adhered to ever since. Among them were these which may sound old fashioned now.

All meetings of the Board, and the Annual Meetings of the Stockholders are opened with an invocation for Divine Guidance.

No Sunday work of any kind is permitted, save in the case of necessity, for saving life or property. Not a wheel is turned. The office is entirely closed. Boilers are never cleaned on the Sabbath. No repair work is done. No sales made and no shipments go out.

Another rule is that no advertisements are ever placed in Sunday papers. Salesmen are expected to rest over the Sabbath where they happen to be on Saturday, and are requested not to even travel on Sabbath, either to visit a purchaser or to come home. Possibly there are some violations of the rule but not many.

And here is the result of such a theory, over such a long period:

First. The corporation grew from a twenty thousand dollar concern to one having nearly a million dollars paid up capital, with assets above its capital of more than a million dollars.

*This fine article is reprinted on Page 28 of this issue.—Editor.

Second. It never missed cashing the bi-monthly payroll.

Third. It never defaulted either on a note or contract.

Fourth. It never issued a bond or mortgage.

Fifth. It always paid a fair annual dividend, (excepting one year in which some vandals burned the plant to the ground).

Sixth. It sends its wares to nearly every civilized country under the sun.

Seventh. Except during holidays and for a space of about six weeks during a panic, the plant has run steadily since February 2, 1882. That particular panic, by the way, came at the close of the World's Fair, at Chicago, a Fair which secured an immense sum of money from Congress upon the express condition that the gates would be closed on the Lord's Day, and then, through a Jew judge, secured an injunction which kept the gates open during the Fair. The Exposition was a stupendous farce and financial failure. The Chicago underwriters had to pay a part of the financial penalty and the exhibitors, the rest. That was the direct cause of the failure and panic.

Eighth. Though it ran about 90% on war-work, at the close of the World War it did not have to draw a nail or move a brick to resume normal operations.

Ninth. It never paid one cent in commission on selling its stock.

Tenth. It never allowed its stock to be listed on any stock-exchange, for the gamblers to manipulate.

Eleventh. It has always run open shop, on the theory that both employee and employer have an inalienable right to sell or buy labor freely at best advantage.

Twelfth. It never sold a Liberty Bond.

The Management considers itself successful simply because it endeavors to keep the laws of God and man. It has no charitable or ecclesiastical affiliations except to respond to the ordinary drives for money for charitable or patriotic purposes.

The reason for not advertising in Sunday newspapers are these in addition to the ones given above:—

First. It does not care to deal with the class of people who would read the Sunday papers—with exceptions of course. That class is not as trustworthy as the class which respects the Fourth Commandment. And by thus guarding against bad accounts it can reduce selling prices to the lowest point consistent with a fair profit.

Second. A possible customer who learns of our goods in a Sunday paper naturally expects us to do business with him on that day, and we don't want him.

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Third. Employees who would work on Sunday or who would work for a Sabbath-breaking firm are never trustworthy. Any man or firm who will break the Fourth Commandment for gain will break the Eighth for the same reason.

In the interests of protecting the public, Congress should enact a stringent law against the use of the mails for any Sunday paper which carries commercial advertisements. Congress has the same right to do this as to prohibit the use of mails to lotteries. The business world is in a welter of frenzied cut-throat competition upon which a halt should be called one day in seven. This would be a beneficent "blue-sky law" with both a radiance and a punch.

There is nothing boastful in all this. It is simply stating, in other words, with the proof, that "godliness is profitable for all things"—even business.

I am not giving you the name of the firm but you can get it by asking any bank within fifty miles of Pittsburgh, Pa., what firm they accommodate at their lowest possible rate of discount, or inquire of Dunn and Bradstreet for the firm in Beaver Falls, Pa., Joplin, Mo., or Arlington, N. J., to which they give the best rating.

THE INCENDIARY PRESS

BY LAWRENCE Y. LÆDBROOKE

The vanity of certain cheap publicists is in part responsible for the wrong standard of public opinion.

From the safe security of their own newspapers or professorships or soap boxes, these people rail at every thing which looks like an attempt by government or organized society to protect itself against the sentence of death which anarchy has passed.

The wildest Bolshevik that ever threatened to blow society into fragments must be permitted to rail and threaten, and plot and injure, without any suppression—otherwise these outlaws will howl other people's heads off, prudently taking care that they themselves are not anywhere near the point of conflict.

Quite recently, one Foster, who is known for his cunning incitement of turbulence, was summarily treated by officers of the law. His papers were seized and he was forbidden to make a seditious address under threat of arrest if he attempted it. And all the sensational publicists of the country, including some big newspaper proprietors, shouted against anarchy in high places, assuming that the Constitution had been wrecked and that all human liberty was lost because the wretched Foster had not been permitted to urge men to ravage and murder.

I am not for the social upheaval; but if it comes I hope that the first attack upon life and property will be upon the life and property of the ungrateful sensation makers who make profit of their newspaper circulation and popularity of their speeches (incidentally getting rich through the process) by yelping encouragement to a thoughtless mob.

RADICAL OPINIONS MODIFIED BY STUDY

BY GEORGE S. DOBSON

A bright young friend of mine has been making a study of social conditions and, in doing so, has tried to be as open minded as possible.

He tells me that for a little time he felt a strong inclination to Socialism, due to his callow experiences and his contact with radical fellow-workers. But he kept at his studies as well as his investigations; and, to quote his own words, he finally "dropped through" the fictitious theories and found solid rock.

There is a great temptation to the young and impressionable mind to accept the theory of Socialism or Communism. There is much injustice in the world. There is much selfishness. There are many wrongful things done in society as now organized. There is much unnecessary want among the many and there is much inutile accumulation by the few. These things rouse humanitarian resentment in the best youthful minds. And for the moment it may seem as if we can accomplish the remedy by the substitution of State Socialism for individual effort and individual ownership.

But the more deeply a man studies, the more certain he becomes that with Socialism established, we are still leaving the social fabric to the dangers of a social tyranny, and that we are hampering the invaluable thing which God planted in the human heart—individual initiative and individual self-reliance.

The great trouble with our young people who are studying along these lines is that they will not study deeply enough. They become satisfied with their investigation into symptoms of social disorder and social injustice; and they theoretically apply as an adequate remedy the idea of a socialistic state, in which the channels of production, transportation and distribution are controlled by communistic authority. They fancy that this will achieve Utopia at once; and they will not study into the one factor which this theory leaves out, namely, the individualism ordained of Almighty God. The progress of the world has not been made by communism. The progress has been made by individual effort which, when successful, is translated into community wisdom, with its results utilized by the community in general.

My young friend announces that he is cured, and cured by a deeper study. In other words, he "dropped through" the fictitious crust and got to the bed-rock. He is still ardently engaged in ameliorating the condition of individuals and in correcting the consequences of some of the social disorders and injustices. But no longer does he assume that we can make peace and plenty and happiness for all individuals by any attempt to reduce the whole of humanity to one dead level of mediocrity.

Too much minding of other people's business soon leaves your own for other people to mind.