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The Birmingham Centric

PART TWO

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR—NO. 30

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1931

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ALPHA WITH SENATOR COUZENS, DONOR OF MILLIONS TO THE PEOPLE, ON WHAT CAN BE DONE NOW

J.—UNEMPLOYMENT A NATIONAL PROBLEM

(This is the first of a series of new articles on Senator James Couzens of Michigan, donor of millions, and his views on unemployment.)

By **LESLIE EICHEL**
 Central Press Writer

"Give-a-Million Couzens" he could be called. Perhaps he is, among the boys who he has given ten million to a "pop," has Senator James Couzens of Michigan. But his latest is a million.

It is for the unemployed of Detroit. At first the million was a donation to the unemployed relief fund, and his views on unemployment.

Senator Couzens, however, gives this million against his better judgment. He favors state and federal relief—relief that taps the pocketbooks of the wealthy. But since President Hoover favors aid through private sources, Senator Couzens, a severe critic, decides to lead this way and attack the presidential plan harder than ever.

Opposes "Unequal Distribution" — "It is a paradox. With his own power of wealth and position he fights wealth. That is, he fights the unequal distribution of wealth. He is among the "insurgents" in the senate. But he never can aspire to be president. He was born in Canada. Nor does he have to do anything for political purposes. He was re-elected senator for six years only last year.

Formerly second only to Henry Ford in the huge Ford Motor company, today Senator Couzens, wealthy as he is, is termed "radical" by big business.



—SENATOR JAMES COUZENS—

...start—and yearn for home besides. But, then, what is to be done, what can be done? And the answer, taken in its entirety, is an amazing one, coming as it does from a multi-millionaire, who once was associated with one of the largest industries of the times (Next Week: Senator Couzens' Suggestions for Relief.)

Couzens' Gifts Amount to Millions

When Senator James Couzens offered \$1,000,000 for the relief of Detroit's unemployed, he had a record of approximately \$12,000,000 of gifts to charitable and public institutions in the last 15 years, in addition to large private gifts to charity, unannounced, and annual contributions of \$100,000 to \$200,000 to the Detroit community.

The largest single gift was \$10,000,000, in 1929, to establish the Children's Fund of Michigan, to be entirely spent in 25 years, for the maintenance of a hospital, public institutions for the blind, deaf and dumb, and for the care of children in Michigan.

Other gifts in recent years include (in 1919) a \$1,100,000 endowment for the Michigan School for Crippled Children; \$450,000 annex for the school, \$125,000 to the Children's Free Hospital, \$100,000 (in 1923) to the Children's Hospital of Michigan, \$650,000 (1923), nurses' home; \$100,000 Michigan hospital, and sums to many other hospitals and orphanages.

In 1927, when 14 children were killed and many others injured in the destruction of a school at Bath, Mich., Senator Couzens provided for a new building and funds for the injured.

"The Mirrors of 1932"

(Editor's note: This is the last of a series of 10 articles based on the chapters in "The Mirrors of 1932," an anonymous book dealing with presidential candidates for the next election. It is to be understood that the number of the articles and the attitudes assigned toward the various men discussed are those of the author of the book, and are not necessarily supported by the views of the editors of this paper.)

Mirror No. 11 — JOHN BARLEYCORN

Even though John Barleycorn may not be given formal recognition by either political party in 1932, he will nevertheless dominate the politics of conventions, campaigns and election.

His presence in the presidential hippodrome may not be indorsed, and his name may not find its way to any platform, but he will nevertheless be a welcome guest in hotel rooms, lodge halls and ante-rooms where candidates are made.

Every nominating convention since the Volstead act was passed "has been a bacchanalian orgy" and his name has been the boon companion of Republican and Democrat, wet and dry alike, as political representatives of the masses.

Perhaps no political assemblage was ever so wet as the Kansas City convention which selected Herbert Hoover in 1928. There the liquor was good and comparatively inexpensive, and the police were cooperative. The London convention, which chose Al Smith, was a prohibitionist rally by comparison.

In and in office Hoover has not been altogether treacherous to the tastes of the thick-tongued and headachy delegates who voted for him. Neither, on the other hand, has he openly offended his dry constituents.

As a hard-working politician,

COUNTY ENGINEERS TO FORM SOCIETY

Would Shape Organization For All Branches (At Meeting Here Nov. 18)

Final plans for the organization of Oakland County engineers into a society comparable to the medical and legal groups already established are expected to be made at a meeting to be held in the "committee" room of the Municipal Building here Wednesday night, Nov. 18.

Preliminary steps were taken at a meeting two weeks ago, attended by approximately 20 engineers and called by M. D. Van Wagoner, county drain commissioner. At that time it was decided to open the organization to registered candidates in any branch of the engineering profession, including civil, mechanical, electrical, and possibly aeronautical.

Those who attended the first meeting were asked to draw up a list of their engineering acquaintances to determine how many persons would be interested in joining the organization.

Harold H. Corson, village engineer, believes there are at least 100 registered engineers in the county who would be eligible. Constitution and by-laws will probably be drafted at the Nov. 18 meeting, he said.

Hughes' Examination Is Set For Friday

George A. Hughes, 36 years old, of 1341 Waddington road, will be examined at 2 P. M. Friday in the court of Justice E. Bronidge in loyal Oak on a charge of negligent homicide.

The examination was to have been held on Oct. 23, but was postponed because one of the attorneys in the case was forced to be in Circuit Court, Judge Bronidge said.

Hughes, an insurance agent with offices in Detroit, is accused of negligence in an automobile collision at the corner of Woodward avenue and Thirteen Mile road on the night of Oct. 2 in which two women were killed and two others seriously injured.

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