

New York Tribune.

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The Tribune uses its best endeavors to insure the trustworthiness of every advertisement it prints and to avoid the publication of all advertisements containing misleading statements or claims.

No Time for More "Watchful Waiting."

After what has happened at Vera Cruz "watchful waiting" sounds quixotic. Yet it is said that the intent of the administration upon seizing the Gulf ports and cutting Huerta off from European supplies of arms and ammunition is to resume again the patient policy which, even while this country restrained its hand, was not equal to preventing bloodshed.

The desire of the administration is even now to avoid war. But is it possible to avoid what already exists? The United States has taken forcible possession of a Mexican port. American sailors and Mexican soldiers have been slain. The American representative at the Mexican capital has been sent home. The Secretary of the Navy has called the firing upon the American forces an act of war.

In the minds of the American people war already exists. And is it conceivable that in the minds of the Mexican people, who are on the scene and feel what has taken place more intensely than we do, war does not exist? And is it conceivable that when two peoples think they are at war with each other war may be avoided by "watchful waiting"?

The plain truth is that "watchful waiting" has failed. It did not do what it was intended to do. Huerta did not crumble because we frowned upon him from a distance. We have the utmost respect for the President's purpose in keeping his hands off and letting things in Mexico drift. We feel just as keenly as he does that hostilities were to be avoided even at great cost to ourselves.

But we never believed that they would be avoided during a long period of necessary irritation, of threats and contemptuous admonitions from Washington and of hatred and resentment in Mexico. Humanity is not so fashioned.

Nether do we believe that this country can face Mexico in arms on Mexican soil, both believing that they are at war with each other, and yet peace prevail. Facts are bigger things than words. You may label shell and death "pacifism" if you will, but there is no peace.

We say these things not with any jingoistic inclination. We regret as much as any one can the necessity which has brought about the exchange of shots in Vera Cruz. But we see an even more imperative necessity now. It lies deep in the nature of men and nations. Nothing short of a miracle would permit drawing back now.

Why should we expect Huerta to crumble now that we have closed in upon his coasts? It is a commonplace that nothing is so likely to unite the factions of a distracted country as the presence of an enemy on its strand. Huerta is probably stronger to-day than he has been any time within months—that is, so far as public sentiment in Mexico is concerned. Each day of "watchful waiting" is likely to add to his strength.

Each day will enable him to mass more of his forces in front of the Americans and to collect the arms and artillery which he has in the north against the rebels to use them upon the American invaders. Quick blows will lessen the cost of the war, which "watchful waiting" can now hardly avoid.

The War Appetite.

Though we, who know so little about it, may all agree with General Sherman that "war is hell," yet we must admit that the first to volunteer whenever a new fight starts are those who have previously sampled its terrors.

For example, we learn that one hundred Greek soldiers who had a taste of cholera and bullets in the last Balkan war stood in line yesterday at the army recruiting station in Herald Square, ready to enlist for service in Mexico. Spanish and Boer war veterans and "fighting men" from every quarter of the globe are flocking to the colors because they perceive another chance to plunge into that "hell" which offers them so much of sporting interest.

War may be hell, but with a not insignificant number of our fellow beings this seems to be only another argument in its favor.

The Graft Jury's Verdict on Benseel.

The scathing arraignment of State Engineer Benseel as a man "unfit to hold public office" made by the special grand jury in the graft cases expresses adequately the only possible comment on his recent conduct. Twice he has refused to give testimony in official investigations intended to disclose law-breaking and prevent similar conditions in future—once before this grand jury, and once before an Assembly committee in Albany. It was his legal privilege thus to shelter himself behind a demand for immunity before testifying, but to do so damned him irrevocably.

His silence could not save from exposure the system of holding up contractors for campaign contributions and of exerting political influence to swing contracts to favored bidders, who paid one way or another for that influence, even if individuals responsible for the operations of that system

could not be caught. Benseel the politician is probably at his end, because of revelations of what he and some of his fellows in office have not prevented. This inquiry and the ones conducted by legislative committees will be of little real value, despite the laws which they may produce, if they do not teach the public that laws are only as strong as the men who enforce them. If other Benseels, boss-nominated machine henchmen, are put into office consistently by the voters graft is bound to be the state's disease.

War in Colorado.

It is grave news that comes from the Trinidad mining district of Colorado—so grave that not even the big events below the Rio Grande can blot it out. Meagre reports are as yet available. But clearly the charge of grave crimes lies at the door of the State of Colorado which explanations can but little palliate.

The fundamental quarrel between the mine owners and the strikers has been much expounded. In that quarrel sides can be taken as one's convictions run. But we can conceive of no convictions and no facts which will justify the wholesale shooting of women and children with machine guns. Unless disproof comes quickly, the belief will grow stronger and stronger that here, as in the State of West Virginia, the authorities have far exceeded their constitutional duty to maintain order and are entering upon a campaign of war and destruction in behalf of the mine owners of the state.

Protection for River Bathers.

In adopting its regulations demanding pure water instead of the sewage-polluted river and harbor water in floating baths and bath pools the Board of Health has done an obviously sensible thing. It will not cost the private proprietors or the city a great deal to pump water from the city's mains into the baths or to filter the river water and treat it chemically in a way to offset the sewage adequately. Such precautions may prevent much disease.

It is somewhat surprising that the Health Board did not take the same attitude toward the Hudson River bathing beaches. The water there is no less dangerous than the same river water in an inclosed bathing pool. If it is dangerous enough so they may not operate next year, as the board has decided, it seems patent that they must be too dangerous to operate this year.

The Esoteric Game of Golf.

Golf is a hard game, as the noble army of duffers can attest. But it takes on even new arduousness and unimagined perplexities when Mr. P. A. Valle tries to make it simple and understandable. "The Soul of Golf" is the title under which this learned Englishman writes in the current "Century." And from a reading thereof one would conclude that the mastery of golf involved spiritual labors comparable to the exercises of a Buddhist priest.

Mr. Valle's main articles of faith have been often stated. He scoffs at the "right leg fallacy" and the "left arm fallacy." In the teeth of the writings of such experts as Messrs. Vardon and Braid he contends that the weight of the body does not shift to the right foot at the top of the swing, and that it is really the right hand and arm that give the bulk of the power to the shot.

Luckily for Mr. Valle, an ingenious machine has been invented in England which entirely supports his contention as to the stance. This machine, by the use of two separate weighing scales, shows exactly where the bulk of the weight is. And the experiments thus far have gone to show that the professionals have all guessed wrong and that in a normal swing the left leg actually bears more weight than the right at the top of the stroke. The arm question has not been scientifically attacked. But Mr. Valle is confident of his ground and has nothing but sarcasm for the traditional view exalting the function of the left arm.

These are both vital points, in his view, and their muddling by the expert teachers is responsible for the failure of many to miss the "spirit of golf." Like a conspicuous example among our local experts, however, Mr. Valle has come to see that these affairs of the spirit are not the whole of the game. A correct notion of them is essential, but hitting the ball is even more important.

Most golfers have far too much on their minds at this critical time. They are obsessed by vain theories, instead of being free to direct their arms merely to smite the ball.

This may sound something like a reversal of form, coming from me. It really is not. I have always maintained that the golf drive is such a complex stroke and is executed so rapidly that it is utterly impossible for any one to perform the sequence of prescribed actions by virtue of consecutive thoughts applied each to its particular portion of the drive.

This is fairly in line with the Montessori notions which Mr. Marshall Whitlatch, once an elaborate theorist of the game, has lately enunciated. The religious aspects of golf occupy a great deal of space in the books. But the real business of the game is not to be overlooked on the field of action. Worship the true faith, but—hit the ball, seems to be the latest doctrine of these philosophers of the nineteenth hole.

The Domestic Servant of 1789.

It is not our desire to discourage those modern housewives who are offering three times as much wages in a vain attempt to entice into their kitchens the green but honest domestic, but we can't forbear to contrast their hopes and expectations with those of the author of this advertisement, printed in "The Lady's Magazine," an English publication, in 1789: Wanted, for a sober family, a man of light weight who fears the Lord and can drive a pair of horses. He must occasionally wait at table, join in household prayer, look after the horses and read a chapter in the Bible. He must, God willing, rise at seven in the morning, obey his master and mistress in all lawful commands; if he can dress hair, sing psalms and play at cribbage, the more agreeable. Wages, fifteen guineas a year.

And yet, when analyzed, the requirements set down in detail here, which seem so formidable at first glance, dwindle perceptibly. It will be noted, for example, that even in that age of domestic autocracy the mistress found it necessary to compromise in the matter of early rising. Seven is surely a comfortably late hour, and even then the divine will was permitted to interpose itself between duty and its victim. And it does not necessarily presuppose a careful preliminary training for one to qualify as "a man of light weight who fears the Lord."

To be sure, the successful applicant must look after the horses and wait on table, two occupations which, when performed by the same individual, would almost spell versatility, and he must obey his master and mistress. The latter, of course, is the most impressive item, but a loophole is provided by the clause "in all lawful commands," the size of which is a matter of interpretation.

As for the remaining accomplishments mentioned, they may be dismissed as hopes, not requirements, and even a modern housewife may hope.

The Conning Tower

W. S.—1564-1914.

WORDS BY SHAKESPEARE. ARRANGEMENT BY U.S.

O how I faint when I of you would write! My tongue-tied Muse in manners holds her still, Brief as the lightning in the collied night, New lighted on a heaven-kissing hill.

My verse alone had all thy gentle grace For every vulgar paper to rehearse. My black is fairest in thy judgment's face And found such fair assistance in my verse.

Imperial Caesar, dead and turned to clay, By any other name would smell as sweet. Why didst thou promise such a beautiful day? I know not where is that Promethean heat.

What hast thou then more than thou hadst before? They placed a fruitless crown upon my head. Like as the waves make toward the pebbled shore, Weary with toil, I haste me to my bed.

"What does a schoolmaster know about war?" ask the conversationalists. "What does a college professor know about martial affairs?" We h. n. b. for the Wilson war policy—nor for any war policy, for that matter—but what did George Washington, a surveyor, know about war? What did Abraham Lincoln, an uneducated rail-splitter, know about war? What does Christy Mathewson, a checker-player, know about pitching?

This schoolmaster-professor talk gives us a dull ache. The straightest, clearest, and most practical thinker we ever knew was a schoolmaster. Victor Clifton Alderson is his name, and he is now proxy of the Colorado School of Mines. He used to teach mathematics, and he made the study of it fascinating. So we hold that he could manage a war, a peace, or Organized Baseball.

WHY THE QUOTES?

"Dode" Criss . . . aspirations to "come back."—The Tribune. . . . as Caesar did, that his wife must be "above suspicion."—The American. "Tom" Daly . . . "Al" Demaroe . . . "Larry" Doyle.—The Herald. "Monte" Waterbury . . . "Big Ed" Sweeney.—The Times.

"SURE" YOU'RE "RIGHT"

"F. P. A." Editor "Colum": Sir: My "Tribune" gives these figures this morning: Pittsburgh (N. L.) . . . W. 6 L. 1 P. C. 855 Chicago (A. L.) . . . W. 6 L. 1 P. C. 857 Now doesn't that "make good" my claim that "Ban" Johnson's "circuit" is "a shade" stronger? You see I am a bit of a "fan" and student of the "dope." Indeed, while in "the States" I hope to see "Matty" and "Frank" Baker and all the "stars" of your most extraordinary national "pastime." F. P. S.

The Nautical Gazette, grand-op-and-musically, speaks of "all yachtsmen and thousands of honest Americans."

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPYS.

April 21.—To the tennis-court, and played two sets with N. Thwaites the pamphletier and each of us won one, but both played sorry tennis, what with the high wind and the cold. To dinner at home where I found Mistress Edith Whiffen, and she told me of her husband that is in the City of Mexico, and how he hath told her not to come there, albeit she hath not seen him for near a twelvemonth. I find her as fair and sweet as ten years ago, when I did pump the organ in the church the day she was married. Eheu fugaces! Thence to my office where all the evening. Great excitement these days over the prospect of war, and I pray there may be none. Yet folk do grow hectic over military or naval carnage, and remain calm over the gross wrongs that are being enacted in Colorado, and over the adulteration of food.

22.—To the office all the day, owing to a piece I would not cease working at till I had finished it. Haply I am senescent and my wits do not work swiftly as erst they did. Home in the underground railway, which was filled to a revolting degree, and back again where until near eleven. To an apothecary's for a beaker of milk, and so home and to bed.

TO WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

Inspired exclusively for this Purge of Hellmouth.

A master-mind thou surely wert, And so we honor thee For wondrous visions thou bequeath'dst To all humanity.

A dreamer thou, yet e'er awake To either good or ill That came to pass within thy sphere, Thy art quickens us still.

Tradition credits thee with love, Yet hatred, too, thou bore, And ever terror's vilest form Shapes all thy tragedy.

Yet, Bard of Avon, long deceased, See how sweet memory Forgives thy faults, praises thy skill— No grander scribe than thee.

MARY C. BURSE.

JUST HOW YOUNG?

[From the Boston American.] Congratulations are being extended to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ebra, of South Boston, upon the birth of a young baby girl.

CULINARY IMPERFECTIONS.

I read of your spinach so sandy, And—what was that other you sprang? And I thought that your come-back was dandy; It seemed to be there with a bang. But there's one you've forgotten to mention In all of your la cuisine stuff; Shall I tell you and break this, now, tension? Why, WHY, don't they boil rice enough?

W. B. L.

Suggestion—It is C. W. D's.—to baseball writers: Why not inject into your stories a few snappy remarks in imitation of the war dispatches?

Why the Engagement Was Cancelled.

[From Dow, Jones & Co.'s News Times.] IT WAS ONLY A SHORT TIME AGO THAT THE EMPEROR HAD TO CANCEL AN ENGAGEMENT TO VISIT HIS DAUGHTER, ARCH-DUCHESS MARIE VALERIE, BECAUSE OF A COLLYRIKXKHKJHJH 6 RSOFESJLHYKXJHJH TO THE KAISER WHEN THE LATTER STOPPED AT HBXJRRE.

This, as hinted in the opening lines this morning, is the anniversary of the Bard's birth. Celebrating which, we grab a lastline from Othello.

"O most lame and impotent conclusion!" E. P. A.

AND HOW ABOUT THIS WAR?



THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

A NEAR-SIDE STOP

Engineer Goodrich Defends the Project at Length.

To the Editor of The Tribune: Sir: In your editorial to-day, in criticism of the near-side stop for surface cars, you raise the question whether the travelling public in other cities approve of boarding and leaving the cars on the near side of the street.

The Advisory Street Traffic Commission wrote to the police commissioners of the important cities of the United States and received answers from most of them. The weight of opinion among the commissioners who have studied this subject is heavily in favor of the near-side stop; in fact, there seems to be no opposition to it, except in outlying sections where the streets are unpaved, and it has not been seriously proposed in New York to enforce a near-side stop on such streets.

These days there is probably nothing to which police authorities give more study than street traffic regulation, and their opinion is certainly worth something. It is for reasons of safety first and next for convenience that they favor the near-side stop. For example, the Superintendent of Police in Buffalo writes: "The near-side rule gives general satisfaction to the public and there is no demand for a change. It is safer for the public, reduces the danger of collisions and accidents at congested crossings, since by stopping at the near side the motorman has better control of his car in crossing the street, and pedestrians and drivers of vehicles can gauge their actions better."

The chief of police of San Francisco writes: "The near-side stops have been the rule since 1902, and the accident rates show a decrease of 50 per cent."

The Mayor of Nashville, Tenn., writes: "The wisdom of the near-side rule is easily discerned when the fact is recognized that congestion practically always compels cars to stop on approaching crossings in the business section of the city, and if the cars are not permitted to take on and let off passengers while stopped on the near side of the street it is found necessary then to stop the cars after the street has been crossed, which would cause a double amount of congestion and delay."

The Police Commissioner of Detroit writes that the inauguration of the near-side rule has decreased the number of accidents at street crossings, has facilitated traffic generally and has been a great time saver; and he incloses a copy of a letter from the superintendent of Grace Hospital, in which the superintendent says: "Previous to this new regulation scarcely a day passed but one or more injured pedestrians or automobilists were brought into the hospital from a street crossing accident. At the present time we scarcely receive one or two injured individuals a week from accidents at street crossings."

Of course, as you say, the construction of cars is an important consideration, but it should be borne in mind that the cars which passengers both board and leave solely at the rear platform are a very small proportion of the total number of cars in service. There are thousands of the old style of cars on which both platforms are used for both boarding and leaving. On the pay-as-you-enter cars the front platform is used by a considerable portion of the passengers leaving, and now the middle-side-entrance cars are being introduced rapidly, and in the case of these the door is the same distance from the crossing, no matter whether the car stops on the near side or the far side. It is true that in exceptionally bad win-

ter weather the near-side rule would cause inconvenience for passengers or cars where only the rear platform is used; but there seems no reason why the streetcar companies cannot be required to clear the space where passengers would have to stand. They now clear considerable areas of all streets traversed by their tracks. I believe this would be thoroughly practical. Of course, the change of stopping point might cause some confusion at first, but this could be reduced by a display of signs in the streets for two or three months before the rule went into effect. This temporary inconvenience, attendant upon a change, should not keep New York from adopting a method if it can be conclusively shown to be the best.

Many of the city officials who communicated with the commission reported that the near-side rule prevailed in the congested and the far-side rule in the outlying sections. There would be no ordinance drafted here which would compel arbitrarily the near-side stop in outlying sections where street conditions and traffic conditions would not demand it.

Aside from the question of safety to life and limb, which is the most important, it must be borne in mind that the speed with which cars move is of vital concern to the travelling public. It is certain that every citizen wants to get from home to work and back again in just as short a time as possible, with the minimum of annoyances incident to frequent and unnecessary stops. That there are frequent and unnecessary stops is a matter of common observation, since there are such a large number of streets before crossing which the streetcars are already compelled to come to a full stop.

You say that "the plan may please the transit companies." As a matter of fact, in the inquiry which the commission has made the only objections it has met have been advanced by the officers of two or three of the largest street railway systems in New York City. The inauguration of the near-side stop would not increase the number of passengers or the receipts of the streetcar companies, though it might in the end result in operating advantages. There is some division of opinion among railway men on this point. Many persons believe that the railway point of view should come behind, and a long distance behind, the point of view of passengers and pedestrians; and the near-side stop would be of vast advantage to passengers and pedestrians in the near-side stop in other cities may be taken as a guide. E. P. GOODRICH, Consulting Engineer, Borough of Manhattan, and Chairman Advisory Street Traffic Commission. New York, April 21, 1914.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN SHOT

Where Is Justice for the Miners of Colorado?

To the Editor of The Tribune: Sir: On the front page of this morning's Tribune is an elaborate description of the killing of four marines and the wounding of twenty-one or more. On the last page is a rather brief account of a pitched battle between Mr. Rockefeller's "state" militia and a lot of poor, ignorant miners, the result of which battle was a death roll of at least twenty-five strikers—mostly defenceless women and children. Does it not seem cruel that this last should happen in a supposedly free country? Where is justice, I would inquire, when the lives of these mine workers and their families are sacrificed to the greed of a great corporation? I am so disgusted that, if I had the wherewithal, I would leave this country to-morrow and stay away for good. EQUALITY. Jamaica, N. Y., April 22, 1914.

THE COST OF VOTING

It is a Very Puny Argument Against Suffrage, Declares a Reader.

To the Editor of The Tribune: Sir: I am impressed with the interesting point in the letter of your correspondent of April 18, who wishes to know if an increased electoral rate would be very expensive. It would, but judging from the attitude of the Chicago women voting for the first time the other day, and the results of limiting the proposed bond issue of the city for the frankly expressed reason that the present administration was too corrupt to have the handling of so much of the people's money, there is a chance that the third housekeeper's prudent thought which prompts her to consider what she has in the house before she goes out to let more will have a beneficial effect upon the financial situation, and possible save money for the government even at the expense of a double electorate.

Our recent constitutional convention election cost the state \$200,000. No one has seemed to deplore that expense. A few men cared enough about it to vote that the cities which did vote cost the state about \$1 each.

It sounds a very puny argument against the question of the dollars it will cost to state when half of the people vote. If this is all the objection there is left, I am sure the objection must be reduced to the analysis. I am taxed for my salary; money is collected, but I have nothing to say about what becomes of it. I pay my money to the government, will my correspondent not agree that I am entitled to have something to say about what shall be done with it? The least we owe back to that classic line: "Taxation without representation is tyranny." HARRYOT HOLT, DET. Chairman Press Bureau, Empire State Campaign Committee. 326 Fifth Ave., New York, April 22, 1914.

A Fine Piece of Descriptive Writing.

To the Editor of The Tribune: Sir: While I always select The Tribune when in this country, and read it with great interest, I must say that the story on Niles's flight at Hopedale was one of the finest pieces of descriptive writing I have ever seen in an American newspaper. It was a vivid picture, which I read and reread with the greatest pleasure. I must compliment you upon having a man on your staff who appears not to have been swallowed in the vortex of sensationalism one reads in the New York press but who can still write a thrilling story and not depart from the lines laid down by good taste. I feel I would like to add my small tribute of appreciation. HENRY EVELLTH-MOORE. New York, April 20, 1914 (The Savoy Club, London).

By Champions.

To the Editor of The Tribune: Sir: It is a pity that the days of settling disputes by champions are past. If they were not the pending conflict between the President of the United States and the would-be President of Mexico might be so adjusted without sacrificing the lives and possessions of "Mexican people" or of American people. The man who wouldn't let Huerta take office, and Huerta, who, as was to be expected, came resentful, then engaged, might fight it out in the eyes of the world. To Americans Wilson would be the David, Huerta the Philistine; to Huerta's countrymen who stand by him admiring his patriotism, vice versa. No other way is conceivable in which stones, bombs or bullets can fly without hurting "people." ONE OF THE PEOPLE. New York, April 21, 1914.