

New York Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1915.

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The Greatest German Victory of the War.

Accepting the Russian official statement as a guide, and it certainly does not err on the anti-Russian side, it is now possible to measure upon the map the extent of the recent Russian disaster.

When the German drive began the Austro-German forces occupied a long front of more than 250 miles from the Vistula north of Tarnow to the Dniester, where it leaves Austrian territory.

The simple purpose of the enemies of Russia was to envelop the main Russian masses in the Carpathians by rolling up their flanks.

Of the two flank attacks, that to the west was done chiefly by Germans. It succeeded amazingly—was the most brilliant triumph of the war for the foes of Russia in Galicia.

The German drive was preceded by an enormous concentration. This the Russians themselves reported. Apparently they were prepared for it.

Already it is nearly three years since he was indicted for that murder of which the Court of Appeals now declares he was fairly convicted.

This retreat uncovered the rear of the troops fighting to break into Hungary by the Dukla and Lupkow passes.

Meantime the armies of the centre, moving north along the roads descending from the Uzsok and Beskid passes, entered the Galician Plain and approached the Dniester.

On the other hand, the Austrian drive toward Tarnopol and Lemberg from Buko-

vina seems to have failed utterly. Here it is the Austrians, not the Russians, who are retreating, and the Czar's forces are approaching the mountains, have driven the enemy from the Dniester to the Pruth and are once more threatening Czernowitz.

In less than a month, then, Germany has again saved Austria, turned back a vast host on the point of entering Hungary and retaken an area about as large as that of Belgium.

The explanation of the German triumph seems to be simple. The troops used were unquestionably the new formations which have been trained all winter and are just taking the field.

Evidently Russian high command attached too much importance to forcing the Carpathians and too little to protecting the flank facing Cracow.

What is most interesting now is the question as to whether Germany will now send her victorious troops against the Italians or continue her drive in the Carpathians and push the beaten Russians out of the whole province.

There was never any general doubt in this city that Becker was a grafter in police uniform and that he instigated the murder of Herman Rosenthal in a futile endeavor to cover up his official treachery.

Becker has had every chance which the law permits and decency demands. He never presented a clean defence—his trust to technicalities and the inability of the state to "get anything on" him.

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Secretary Bryan is right in saying that this country's interests are in no way threatened by the peace pact concluded by Argentina, Brazil and Chili.

coalition in order to do away with the Monroe Doctrine was launched here a few months ago by persons interested in getting the United States to ratify the pending treaty with Colombia.

If the leading South American powers are anxious to take a larger hand in shaping the political development of the two continents, they ought to be encouraged to do so.

On the Crooked Advertiser's Trail.

The Solicitor of the Postoffice Department, Mr. W. H. Lamar, has just recommended the issue of a fraud order against a particularly despicable swindling enterprise conducted at Bridgeport, Conn.

The concern, operating under the names of the Central Neckwear House and Central Neckwear, advertised "big pay" for "home sewing."

Frands of this sort could hardly be conducted except through the aid of newspaper advertising. The duty of newspapers to protect their readers from swindling schemes is therefore absolutely imperative.

The Tribune has put a ban on all fraudulent advertising. It will not expose its readers to the wiles of ingenious get-rich-quick promoters.

"The Wall Street Journal" reproves us for speaking of the gathering at Lake Mohonk as a "peace conference" instead of an "arbitration conference."

The German, Austrian and Italian governments have given a pledge not to violate Switzerland's neutrality.

Dedicated to Miss Kelly: Be it ever so jumbled, there is no place like home.

A Veil Wearing Army.

The patriotic activity of the women of South Africa (I hear from a correspondent) takes the form of making veils for the soldiers of Botha's army.

For those "Americans" whose naturalized citizenship has not taken root, they are respectfully referred to the speech made by Dr. Abraham Jacobi (of German birth) before the German Social-Scientific Society on Wednesday, the 20th inst.

Should Have Picked Up the Dead.

Sir: I have been a reader of your paper for nearly forty years and always believed you were ever ready to aid humanity.

I believe Captain Passow should be sharply criticized for his inhuman act, because "he had no orders to stop."

DERNBURG AN INCIDENT

To "Silence" Him Is to Impair Right of Free Speech.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: There have been several appeals from readers to "silence" Dr. DERNBURG. Yet free speech, we have heard told many times, is the keynote of all our liberties.

Rather than lose our precious privilege we have in times past endured all sorts of direct attacks (orally) on our government and on all government, from all sorts and conditions of socialists, anarchists, syndicalists, etc.

Dr. DERNBURG is an incident, free speech is an institution—may we do nothing to destroy or even impair it, for it is priceless value to the future of America.

Cost of Playgrounds.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Relative to an editorial which appeared in The Tribune of May 17 entitled "Play Streets," arising from an interview with Miss Ruth Robinson, former secretary of the Department of Play Streets of the People's Institute, we have received the following letter from Dr. Edward W. Stitt, in charge of all recreation centres and vacation schools of the Board of Education:

"My dear Miss Robinson: In this morning's Tribune appears an editorial in which the statement is made that our playgrounds cost \$14 per day per 100 children, whereas the street play of the children conducted under your supervision costs only \$3 per day.

"In view of the above error, I trust you will see to it that the same is promptly corrected, as I think it does much injustice to the work of the Board of Education."

"Thanking you in advance for an early reply, I am, yours very truly,

EDWARD W. STITT, "District Superintendent of Schools."

On learning previous to publication that comparative figures representing the cost of administration by the Board of Education and the Play Street Department of the People's Institute were to be used, Miss Robinson sent out an official statement covering the work of the Play Street Department, with no reference to the comparative cost of administration.

LESTER F. SCOTT, Assistant Director of the People's Institute, New York, May 21, 1915.

Ostracism for the Inhuman.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: As I have not at any time advocated a boycott against those bearing German names, I fail to see the relevancy of the letters The Tribune has published attacking what I said in that newspaper of the 12th inst.

The Tribune correspondents, as well as the defenders of murder who have written me direct, entirely beg the question. A careful reading of my statement in The Tribune of the 12th inst. is sufficient to satisfy any intelligent person as to my purpose, and that is complete ostracism in every manner, shape or form for the alleged Americans, hyphenated or otherwise, who approve of the wanton sinking of the Lusitania.

There are two sides to every story, so we would need two-sided judges to insure justice for both.

A. R. R. New York, May 22, 1915.

Change the Alimony Law.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The present alimony law was made to serve a far different social order than that which we now have, and if the men composing the Constitutional Convention had not the judgment to know this and the intellectual bravery to act upon the knowledge they deserve to be immediately deprived of the franchise as a parcel of sentimental mollycoddles.

I think that suffragists generally believe that the alimony law should be radically modified, so that the comparative financial condition of the husband and wife should be taken into account, leading in some cases to the giving of alimony by the wife, as you suggest in to-day's editorial.

For the enlightenment of the foolish creatures who persist in calling me an Englishman, I was born in New Orleans, La., of Irish-Scottish-Southern ancestry, and if there is any English blood in my veins it is of negligible quantity.

As for those "Americans" whose naturalized citizenship has not taken root, they are respectfully referred to the speech made by Dr. Abraham Jacobi (of German birth) before the German Social-Scientific Society on Wednesday, the 20th inst.

DANIEL ROBERTSON BROWNE, New York, May 22, 1915.

"American First."

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Such puerile boasts as that of "A German First and American Afterward" merely reflect the Berlin undervaluation of American courage.

American ingenuity, if forced to it, will find a short cut to frustrate the long-winded scheming of Germany.

We are glad that among our population of German extraction there are few such traitors as your correspondent. Under unhappy conditions, if they come, they will receive the treatment usually accorded spies and traitors.

H. S. LOHMANN, A German, but American First, New York, May 21, 1915.

Self-Control vs. Birth Control.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Touching the matter of birth control now being thrashed out in the columns of The Tribune, I would suggest that we have fewer brothels and more homes, as suggested by Anthony Comstock.

"I WISH I COULD PAY IN EXCUSES, TOO!"



A TRAFFIC COURT

Have Judges Automobilsists to Understand Both Sides of Cases.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I am a pedestrian in the City of New York, an automobile owner and driver, a licensed chauffeur of the State of New York and a reader of The New York Tribune.

I do not find in my experience that the chauffeur is always and invariably blame, as the article "A Traffic Court" by my fellow Tribune reader implies.

There is much careless and inconsiderate driving, but it is there not also much careless and inconsiderate walking?

I have seen pedestrians perusing their newspapers while crossing thoroughfares, utterly unconscious of any responsibility. At busy crossings, where policemen regulate traffic, allowing north and south or east and west traffic only to move at one time, should not this affect in some degree the pedestrian?

But no! He darts off the curb, in and out the traffic, as he chooses, a menace to the most careful operation of any automobile.

I sometimes return from a run up or down Fifth Avenue or Broadway congratulating myself upon the number of lives I have spared, placed in such jeopardy by their thoughtless owners.

"A traffic court" is a fine idea, but let the judges be automobilists as well as pedestrians.

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HECKLING THE PRESIDENT

A Defence of the Recent Tactics of Suffragists.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: There seems to be a systematic attempt on the part of the press to misrepresent the character of the visit of some members of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage to President Wilson.

They are spoken of as "harrying" and "heckling" and badgering him or "yelling" and acting like "harridans"—"obtruding" and "militant" and other ridiculous accusations have been heaped upon them.

These things are absolutely untrue. The young women were not in the slightest degree discourteous to the President or his secretary, nor were they received discourteously. Quite the contrary, it seems to have been a pleasant little occasion.

To me they are very peaceful and polite attentions. To those who say that the President has already told suffragists what he thinks of woman suffrage, we reply that as he is the leader of the Democratic party it is well worth our while to continue to put before him the justice and progress of our cause, for our experience in like cases has taught us that men can be made to change their minds.

Men of all kinds, from brewers to newsmen, may ask to see the President at all times, to talk on all sorts of matters, and the press does not burst into hysterics and call them names, and no one hints that they are "obtruding" or "militant." But let the women who are working to secure that "woman liberty" that President Wilson claims to feel so keenly interested in politely ask five minutes of his time, and lo and behold it is "heckling" and "militant!"

The President can give up a whole day to go to Philadelphia to welcome alien men to citizenship, but he cannot give five minutes to Philadelphia and New York women who have worked for over sixty years to obtain true citizenship.

The tone of criticism has been that suffragists should not trouble the President when he is absorbed in serious, anxious problems. There can be no question as pressing and important as that of enfranchising half the human race.

For America to join in the blatant hue and cry against militarism, as exemplified by Germany, and undertake to crush it by force of American arms would be precisely to accept and embrace militarism.

The neutral powers well might intervene, at this juncture, to terminate a conflict, which, in the name of war, has become a lawless riot. It is time to constitute and call into the field, some form of international police.

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With hot-headed fools trying to plunge us into war, women would indeed be false to their duty and to their country if they did not seize every opportunity to bring home to their President the urgency of votes for American women.

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ELIZABETH S. ROGERS, Member of Advisory Council of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, New York, May 21, 1915.

Pro-German Piety.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I wonder if the person from Arverne whose letter appears in to-day's issue of your paper did not make a mistake as to his forefather's nationality.

He is of Russian descent, but his letter, with the "pious hope" in it, sounds altogether pro-German. I wonder if he would still have such a "pious hope" if he happened to be a passenger on one of the vessels that is so anxious to hear has been sunk.

It is rather dangerous to express such sentiments in the United States while the country is in an excited state of mind. Why does he not go to Germany and help the Germans with his "pious" advice?

A. C. B., Plainfield, N. J., May 20, 1915.

Down with Horseracing!

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In your issue of the 21st inst. you seem to be glad because horseracing is again legalized. I, however, am not glad, but sorry and hope the day will come ere long when all forms of gambling will be prohibited in every state in the Union, also in all lands under the sun.

WILLIAM ROBINSON, New York, May 21, 1915.

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