

New York Tribune

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

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You can purchase merchandise advertised in THE TRIBUNE with absolute safety.

The Attack on the Hesperian.

Allan Line steamer Hesperian, carrying passengers from Liverpool for England, was torpedoed without warning.

Only six lives were lost on the Hesperian, according to the latest available reports. None of the six victims was an American.

Writing on September 1 last to Secretary Lansing, Count von Bernstorff said that his instructions from his government concerning the answer to be made to the last American communication on the Lusitania case contained this passage:

This change of policy was decided upon by the German government, Count von Bernstorff assured our State Department, before the Arabic was torpedoed.

We must deplore the disastrous discrepancy between what the government in Berlin has promised to do and what its agents in charge of submarines actually do in its name on the high seas.

Germany has disavowed the action of the officer who destroyed the Arabic. She is bound to disavow the action of the officer who torpedoed the Hesperian.

Berlin has even more reason than Washington has for moving to end this sorry exhibition of perversity and inefficiency in the execution of a programme to which Germany has solemnly pledged her honor.

The Plattsburg Commencement.

In the words of the aged song, we may say "au revoir but not goodbye" to the Plattsburg camp.

"This is a fine ending for a fine piece of work," said General Wood in his baccalaureate, but he meant a "fine beginning."

camp of the kind, and still another, it is hoped, will have a site on the Pacific Coast.

General Wood deserves the profound gratitude of his country for providing the opportunity and encouragement the movement needed.

The Plattsburg rookies have handsomely served their purpose. They have advertised to the whole country the need for military preparedness and the obligation under which every able-bodied man labors to make himself, so far as possible, one to count on in an emergency.

Lafayette's Birthday.

Labor Day falls this year on Lafayette's birthday. It comes as a ready-made celebration of an anniversary which fate has rendered of poignant significance to this beloved land of ours.

But it seems the strangest coincidence in the world that this year especially his birthday should fall on an American holiday and one on which he need share the national attention with no other historic personality.

Americans who find the memory of Lafayette obtruding on their holiday consciousness may ask themselves rather shamefacedly what Lafayette would think of this rôle played by the nation which he did so much to put on its feet.

Our one consoling thought can be that everywhere, always, international sentiment has been purely selfish, immeasurably lower than that of the individual, even in France in Lafayette's time.

What, however, he probably never could understand or forgive are the mouthings of our peace-at-any-price patriots who as individuals make a cult of international selfishness.

And yet Mr. Bryan would probably term Lafayette a militarist.

"Stop Before You Cross"

Pitiless publicity by the Long Island Railroad, endeavoring to prevent grade crossing accidents, has been tolerably successful this summer.

If Germany is reversing her policy of defiance (which I very much doubt) I attribute it to two reasons. First, knowledge that the United States intends to take a fall out of her without further ado if another American life is lost through her act; second, she sees the loss of her trade, with poverty staring her in the face, unless she can secure peace on some terms in the near future.

Pro-Villard.

Sir: Just because Mr. Villard happens to be more of a patriot than a fortune seeker you and some other jingoes ("sentiments fairly commonly shared by Americans") rise to do a lot of talking about "iron crosses," etc.

Walsh's Report: It should at least stimulate thought on industrial ills.

The Septuagenarian Fighter: Those who consider their years have relieved them of the moral obligation to defend their country in time of war should not feel too content in their immaturity.

Our Fairness Commended: To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It is gratifying to know that we have at least one metropolitan newspaper big and broad enough to cast aside political affiliations and treat political questions purely from a fair and meritorious standpoint.

Germany Says Aim is to Live and Let Live: That must be why the Hesperian didn't sink.

Our Plattsburg graduates may now proceed to the Texas border.

Must Fight to Keep Bride.—Headline. Militaristic matrimony.

Walter Emanuel: From The Manchester Guardian.

Walter Emanuel wrote the "Charl-van" page in "Punch" for fifteen years—an appalling undertaking, which he carried through probably better than any other humorist of the time could have done.

"In Splendid Isolation." To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: If Germany should win this war, it is inconceivable—the world would go back to feudalism.

"What Is To Be Praised." To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Your editorial, "What Is To Be Praised," in this morning's issue deserves the thoughtful consideration and hearty approval of all.

Take the Vienna note. Any schoolboy could understand that document and "who runs may read" would apply to it, for it was not a diplomatic note, but a document in good plain English.

Peace Without Honor. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In a recent editorial, entitled "What Is To Be Praised," you make the following statement: "Such a solution will meet the approval of the enormous majority of my fellow countrymen, who have not the smallest desire to see this country enter the European conflict."

Much Goods in Little Warehouses. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: No doubt you have noticed various statements made concerning a number of American importers having paid millions of dollars for German goods said to be held in the port of Rotterdam.

We Emulate the Krupps. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: How can an editor of a respectable newspaper be guilty of such inconsistency as is found in the editorial of this morning's Tribune, when you say that the "Germans have curiously failed to recognize the American habit of mind which places human life above property interests?"

An Explanation. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Germany lives to fight, while other nations fight to live. In this statement we have an explanation for the German ingenuity at which we all marvel.

Our Likeness to England: This Country as Unprepared for War and Unsuspecting as She Was.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It seems to have become the almost universal practice in this country, since the Great War started, to rail at England's part in it. On every hand one hears scornful remarks about the trouble that the government is supposed to be having in getting men to join the army.

WALSH'S REPORT

It Should at Least Stimulate Thought on Industrial Ills.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: One result of Walsh's report, it is hoped, will be to make the blood circulate in sluggish cerebra.

Many good men and true have wondered why the Golden Rule is apparently impracticable. They have reflected once in a while upon this enigma and once in a while have given it up.

To the person of vision there is an obvious chain of cause and effect. To the materialist all is dark, and so long as his backward looking character possesses its present domination, so long must the world suffer.

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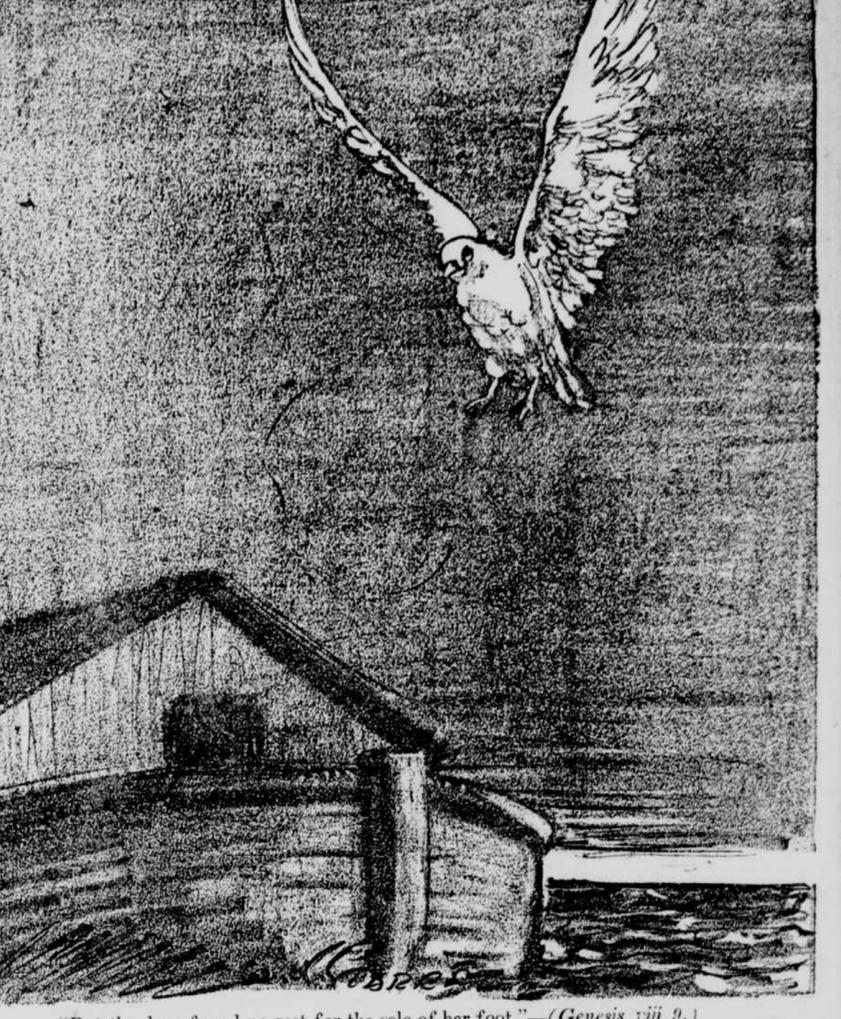
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BACK TO THE ARK.



"But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot."—(Genesis, viii, 9.)

OUR DIPLOMATIC "VICTORY"

Germany Respects Not Us, but the Pressure in Europe.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Your editorial page ever since the sinking of the Lusitania has been a leading light to many of us, and I now appeal to you to give space to a timely protest.

It is quite obvious that whatever concessions Germany may decide to make in her submarine policy, they will reflect but small credit upon the United States as a world power.

How hateful to forward looking Americans the last week has been to see their fellow countrymen tremulously waiting upon the Kaiser's pleasure!

Germany has imposed her will to the last. And a Yankee hardly dares to cross the Great Pond. Because of political pressure in Eastern Europe the murderers of our citizens may modify their policy of frightfulness.

The only victory, as The Tribune this morning finely expresses it, is our belated decision to substitute action for ineffectual words.

For one, I am unconvinced that even now Germany intends to grant our demands—if no hair trigger ultimatum is penned at the White House.

For one, I must feel that any favor got from Potsdam is unworthy of the rejoicing of the sons of Concord and Gettysburg. Our place, even a year ago, was in the trenches with the defenders of human freedom.

There is a percentage of fools and cowards in all nations, persons who cling to peace even at the expense of honor. That percentage is liable to be high in lands removed from visible aggression, such as America.

How long shall our great people be so persistently naive? F. E. Seabright, N. J., Aug. 31, 1915.

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It is not our interest in money that makes us supply the Allies with war materials? Are we not in the same position to the Germans and Austro-Hungarians as Charles Becker was to Herman Rosenthal? Becker did not do the killing, but he furnished the materials that killed.

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OUR LIKENESS TO ENGLAND

This Country as Unprepared for War and Unsuspecting as She Was.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It seems to have become the almost universal practice in this country, since the Great War started, to rail at England's part in it. On every hand one hears scornful remarks about the trouble that the government is supposed to be having in getting men to join the army.

It seems little short of miraculous to me that people have not happened upon the best answer to these questions. It is that the English are like us, or at least like the Anglo-Saxon part of our population.

I do not think that England is having nearly so hard a time getting recruits as it is generally supposed. But even if the worst were true, we ought to condone it, partially at least, in the light of our own history in the War of 1812, which is supposed to have aroused a fair amount of war fever in our country.

Unbelievable Pusillanimity. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: With what remorseful feelings must we now be filled who, hideous in these signs of an abandonment of righteous murder by the barbarous Teutons that the great primary human rules have been true all the time and that had we not on each occasion by some affirmative act or speech discounted beforehand the effect of our remonstrances no single life would have been lost on the Lusitania, the Gulfight, the Arabic or other vessels.

Should we not bow our heads in bitter shame at our lack of faith in the right and at our unwillingness of spirit to back our words with actual intent of deeds, when now we see that when we were once really resolved the maniacal barbarians become ordinary human beings, subservient to human rules?

Distinction Between Loyalties. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In regard to your editorial of to-day, there never was any crisis with Germany or any other country which the newspapers did not "stir up."

Compliment. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The soaring of The Tribune above the mean level of partisan politics in these months of our country's peril is the most commendable journalism that America has known in all the years I have been reading newspapers.

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Grounding. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In Sunday's Tribune appeared a news item purporting to describe the experience of the Cimbric, the committee boat for the Jamaica Bay celebration on Saturday last.

I am writing to ask that The Tribune contradict this story. No untoward event, of this or any other kind, marred the celebration.

The Cimbric proceeded to her allotted position in the completed channel and anchored. A highly interesting programme of exercises was carried out without a hitch of any sort.

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