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approve the Constitution! A majority of the Constitutional Convention recommends to the voters the adoption of the proposals approved by that body.

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This proposed constitution will be submitted in three parts—the taxation article and the apportionment article separately.

Mr. Root has pointed out how overwhelming was the majority by which each of the amendments was adopted.

It is significant also that there was practically no partisan division at any time in the convention.

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spring and summer, running from the little wren up to the barn owl. The screech owl has uttered his fluttering song in the trees of City Hall Park.

The bells of Shandon across the Lee, or the chimes of Lynn from Nahant, are not sweeter than the song of the wood thrush in Central Park at evening; and where it is heard one may see the vivid flash of the tanager or the cardinal.

If you put a box of flowers out of your Manhattan window, ere long the butterflies will come flitting in from somewhere and settle down on the blooms.

On the island honey bees are easily called from their clover fields by the exposure of a box of sugar. It is as if the bees and butterflies said, "Over in this other field there is food for us!"

In spring and autumn the downtown workers who have good high windows may hear the wild geese honking over, just as they did on the old farm, and see the great "A" wheeling across the heavens.

God's country is very big, and the greatest of cities but a little spot. But New York is nearer to the edge of the old pasture than any other great city in the world.

"Movies" as Trance Inducers. The young lady from Mississippi who was hypnotized by the eyes of Svengali on a moving picture screen, and remained in a trance after the audience had departed and the theatre had been closed, was undoubtedly reduced to this condition by her own imagination.

There was no hypnotic operator near—nothing but a picture. It is true that the cinematographic copy of a man that we see on a screen is remarkably vivid, and also true that a living operator is not necessary, in all cases, to induce the artificial catalepsy of hypnosis.

The condition may be self-induced. But there is a condition of semi-lifelessness which needs no hypnosis at all. It is a kind of emotional paralysis of the will which is considerably more than half intentional.

Cases of the apparent paralysis of "trance" have been cured with great promptness by the gruff command of a heartless male relative, or of a doctor trained in the old-fashioned imperative school of medicine: "Get up, you idiot, and behave yourself!"

A condition of deathlike insensibility was on one occasion suddenly cured by the nonchalant entrance into the room of a small dog which was supposed to be lost. It is probable that when a nervous female traveller in the metropolis has made up her mind that she will go into a trance she simply will, and modern science will achieve a great triumph if it prevents her.

Just the same, the illusions and nervous reactions actually produced by the moving pictures are an extraordinary and startling thing. The general public is now as deeply affected by a shadow on a sheet as it once was by flesh and blood actors on the stage.

At a recent moving picture performance in this city, in which a villainous character was plotting and apparently effecting the ruin and death of a noble young man, a woman in the audience whispered quite loudly, "Stop him! Won't somebody stop him?"

Whereupon an elderly gentleman sitting near, said: "Certainly, madam; I will go and stick my umbrella through the sheet if you insist."

Characters on the screen are frequently hissed and otherwise insulted. In this city, the other night, at one of the uptown theatres, a lady of strong pro-Ally sympathies was with difficulty restrained from crying out "Shame on you!" to the image of a cruel German general.

All of which cases are not essentially different from that of a bulldog in a New Jersey town which viciously attacked a photographic collie, which was trotting about in the background of a street scene on the screen.

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The Hollanders state, with grim conviction, that they will fight all the world before they will cede an inch of territory. This would be enough to keep the Dutch from sleeping soundly, but there is more. In his speech to the Reichstag last month the German Chancellor made certain frank statements regarding the importance to the Empire of the mouth of the Rhine which sounded ominously for Holland's future.

No wonder that the Dutch take the statement that this is a war for the rights of small nations with considerable reservation.

Most serious of all, however, is the revelation made the other day by a prominent Dutch journalist. It has caused a sensation, but it is a sensation below the surface, ignored by the Dutch Government and the Dutch press alike.

The well-known newspaper, "De Telegraaf," alone has referred openly to the matter, with a reflection upon the policy which refrains from asking an official explanation in the right quarter.

The story, as told, is that the journalist in question was approached with a proposal that he prepare the Dutch people gradually for an occupation of their chief harbors.

If this report be true, the only deduction to be made is that, contrary to a growing belief, Germany does not yet consider the invasion of England as an impossibility. Quite the reverse.

New York is to be called on to pay only 68 per cent of the state tax instead of 72 per cent, as had been estimated. For this relief, much thanks.

"Noble Lord" was Dr. Dumba's written greeting to Count Burian, but that won't be a circumstance to Burian's greeting when they meet.

THE THEATRE IN WAR TIME. Effects of the War Spirit on the Last London Season.

Now that the theatrical season is coming to an end, a brisk discussion has arisen between managers and critics as to the moral to be drawn from the experience of the theatres in war time.

One finds no agreement on the starting point of the inquiry—whether the season has been commercially successful or not. On the one hand, there are bitter complaints about the sufferings of the theatre because people will not go to plays in war time.

There are stories of theatres that have been run entirely at a loss in order to keep the companies and staff employed; and those who think that the war has ruined the theatre have quite a large number of failures during the season.

Others who are in a good position to know maintain that the season has been quite up to the average in prosperity, and from one's own experience as a playgoer one can remember hardly any first night or any other night at which the theatre was not crowded.

If the failures have been more numerous than usual, it is probably not the fault of the war so much as the extreme badness of most of the new productions. Most of them have been so worthless that even the charity of war time audiences, whose characteristic is an intense desire to be pleased, could not cover them.

Some of the shortest runs were those of comedies which were staged before the managers had discovered that people go to the theatre for nothing less than to hear about the war from the stage.

There is an instinctive feeling that the war is too tremendous a business for our commercial stage, and I think the only artistic success of a war play during the war is "The Dynasts," in which war is treated in a remote historical spirit.

The only topical war play which has lived is "The Man Who Stayed at Home," which is an engaging mixture of melodrama and farce. From the point of view of theatrical art there can be no doubt that the war has had a very bad effect on the stage.

The staple of plays this season has been revivals of well worn farces and musical comedies, which were at any rate more amusing than most of the cute American importations which have been so popular. Probably the soundest all-round success has been Mr. Henry Ainley's brilliant acting in "Quinneys." The trouble with the war theatre has been that business has been too much as usual.

How Greenland Heard of the War. When the news of the outbreak of the war reached Greenland, some time last autumn, natives in their kayaks were immediately sent around among the various settlements to inform them of the startling report.

A letter in a Danish newspaper tells of the impressions made on the minds of the Eskimos. At all stopping places the boatmen shouted: "Kradvundidigokra nordildio sorserlikrant"—that is as much as to say: "War has broken out among the Europeans and the Germans!"

As the first word may also mean "Danes," the Eskimos were greatly alarmed at the idea of their mother nation being engaged in a hopeless struggle with its mighty neighbor. The fear has not yet subsided, and the lively imagination of the Eskimos seems to expect a landing of the Germans in these remote regions.

Some of them have made preparations accordingly, and the natives of one settlement have stored food in a cave, which is to be used as a fortress, in case of need.

In the local newspaper—a volume of nearly fifty pages, published once a year at Godthaab for the purpose of providing them with news during the winter—the Eskimos got the first actual news of the war, with pictures of airships, Zeppelins, etc.

Two natives must have had much to tell their friends on their return home last autumn from Hamburg, which they were to leave as members of a German expedition to the South Pole. They had been mistaken by the populace for Japanese spies, and had suffered some rough treatment in consequence.

Curiously enough, there are many of Greenlanders, and in the case of the Moravian Brethren settling in some places toward the end of last century. Some of the older Greenlanders even speak about "their great Fatherland" and, of course, about "their Kaiser!"

Czech Regiment Branded. In an order of the day the Emperor Francis Joseph has struck off for all time the roll of the Austrian Army the 28th Regiment and branded it with the stigma of cowardice.

There is no denying that in an engagement the Dukla Pass with the Russians two battalions of the regiment surrendered to the enemy without a blow. The accusation of "cowardice" is nevertheless totally undeserved. The now disbanded 28th Regiment consisted of Bohemians that is to say, Czechs. It is well known that the Czechs disapproved of the war, and openly declared that if forced to go into battle they would refuse to fight. They do not regard themselves as Austrians, and for years they have conspired and struggled to become an independent state. They might, at a stretch of words, be called mutinous, but the dishonorable charge of cowardice is completely unwarranted.

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U. S. NEUTRALITY DEFENDED. This Country's Concern in Europe Does Not Warrant Belligerency.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The letter of your correspondent, "The Common Good," appearing in to-day's Tribune, is a revelation of reckless thinking.

This writer boldly asserts: "England saw her duty and unhesitatingly faced it; America saw her duty and shirked it."

What duty, may I ask, has America seen and avoided? The war is unquestionably confined to those nations engaged in it, and does not primarily involve America.

England saw her duty and faced it because her future as a great empire was in imminent danger. She is not fighting simply for great moral issues.

Even if the neutrality of Belgium had not been violated by the German army, England and Russia the moment Germany attacked either in a war of aggression. Her duty and interest lay only in that direction.

She could not stand idly by while the Teutonic hordes were laying France and Russia prostrate in the dust, as she knew full well that if she did so British prestige and British power and influence would soon be no more.

Hats off to England for recognizing her duty and starting in to do that duty!

But America's position is different: her attitude is therefore different—is one of ethics. Upon what valid grounds could America become a participant in the war?

She has no direct concern in foreign politics—in fact, is forbidden by the Constitution to have any; and has no quarrel with any European power. Who, then, in his senses can expect or want her to enter the conflict without provocation?

It may be that a casual bell will arise from the lawless and inhuman submarine policy of the Germans. When it does, it will be time to act. When it does, President Wilson will duly inform the people of the fact. In the meantime this country is well within its moral and constitutional rights in remaining neutral.

It cannot be doubted that the sympathies and sentiments of the best people in the United States are on the side of the Allies and the grand principles which they represent; but to fight—c'est une autre chose.

T. E. W. New York, Sept. 6, 1915.

Deport Dumba and His Fellows! To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I am sure that there must be many of your readers that would like the editor of The Tribune to know what great comfort they get from his messages.

We find on the editorial pages of The Tribune our own thoughts and feelings expressed in a way and with a force that we have neither the opportunity nor the ability to use. But then, with a "dull, sickening thud," we recoil from the fine, strong, ringing utterances of The Tribune, back upon the "weary, stale, flat and unprofitable" attitude of an administration and a government that are either more than divinely patient and long-suffering, or else abominably weak.

Outrageously supine, or perniciously neutral—or something that cannot be adequately described; though I have no doubt that the editor of The Tribune might find approximately fitting terms, if he thought it expedient to open up his verbal sluice gates!

You well say, speaking of Dumba, "He can no longer be regarded as the friendly representative of a friendly government. Give him his passports and let him go!"

But will our procrastinatingly circumspect government let him go without any hesitation? To dismiss him would hurt the neutral, patriotic feelings of some of our foreign propagandists, who have clearly shown that they will stop at nothing to aid in carrying on the murderous work begun by Germany in July a year ago, and who would cheerfully help along any scheme in the interest of their precious fatherland, even though this country were destroyed in the process.

If Mr. Dumba's fellow-countrymen are as ignorant, stupid and altogether so undesirable as the official representative of their government says that they are, then the best thing for this country and the worst for Austria would be to send them all back to the conditions that were so dear to them as to send them into voluntary exile. If Mr. Dumba desires to keep Austrian mechanics from earning good American money, then let him have them all loaded on cattle cars (the Austrian ambassador himself has suggested the appropriate mode of transportation), placed on board the numerous German vessels that are interned in American harbors, and have them supported by the government that would officially summon them from honest labor, to become strikers and rioters and a burden and a menace to the land that has given them the only real freedom that they have ever known.

A DEMOCRAT THAT WAS, BUT NEVER AGAIN. Haledon, N. J., Sept. 7, 1915.

To Smash the Turk? To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Possibly the withdrawal of the Grand Duke Nicholas from the western battle front stretches roughly below the latitude of the Caucasian front is the greatest strategic move of the year.

From now on until next May an impenetrable barrier of mud and swollen rivers, of snow and icy darkness, should strengthen the resistance of the Russian hosts facing the Austro-German armies.

On the other hand, the Turko-Russian battlefront stretches roughly below the latitude of Naples and Madrid, and offers every advantage to a "winter" campaign. The distance from the Caucasian frontier to Constantinople is about the same as from Warsaw to Petrograd or from Paris to Vienna.

The fate of empires, the long destinies of races, the very outcome of the whole great war, hang in the balance where Europe and Asia clash at the Hellespont. The Ottoman is both the weakest member of the new Triple Alliance and the most vulnerable part of their wall of fire.

It is therefore a picturesque and suggestive idea to Russia at the close of the second campaign on her western front is dispatching her greatest martial genius to aid her allies at a vital point on Turkish territory, and at a time of year most favorable for sending vast hordes of Slavic warriors to close in upon the beleaguered Dardanelles? Seabright, N. J., Sept. 9, 1915. F. E.

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Example of Gettysburg. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In this morning's editorial you referred to Gettysburg. As one of Slocum's old 12th Corps it interested me very much.

All Inclusive. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Where in the City of New York can I join an intensely American society, whose basic principle is the prevention of German or German-American, Austrian or Austrian-American, Irish or Irish-American, Italian or Italian-American, French or Franco-American, Scandinavian or Scandinavian-American, Dutch or Dutch-American, Spanish or Spanish-American, Ha, nearly forgot Scotch-Irish or Scotch-Irish-American (double hyphen)—leave out English and Anglo-Saxon-Americans (double hyphen again)—God's own people, from ever being elected to any office in any state of the Union or under the United States government, no matter what party proposes such election?

Italy's Heroic Response is the Call of the Blood. "Rejoicing!" he exclaimed. "You don't understand the Italian temperament if you take this following of singing, cheering friends for rejoicing. Why, in their hearts all are weeping; that is their reason for singing, to hide the tears, to give courage to their husbands or friends who are going away. They are not rejoicing, oh, no! but one must be cheerful in the face of danger. Our women know what we need, so they sing and laugh, and wave the flag, and cry 'Viva l'Italia, viva il Re,' and we go on to glory or to die, as the case may be, with the sound of their voices ringing in our ears. Is it not better than weeping as we pass?"

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