

New York Tribune

First to Last—The Truth News—Editorials—Advertisements

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Making It Unanimous.

Mr. Dumba tries to make the best of what for him is a hopeless situation by asking the Austro-Hungarian government to recall him on leave for the purpose of submitting a personal report.

It cannot make a great deal of difference what form Mr. Dumba's instructions of recall take, so long as he leaves the United States and it is understood that his mission here is at an end.

Mr. Herman Ridder would be very unlikely to judge Mr. Dumba harshly. Yet in the "Staats-Zeitung" the other day he wrote: "We have held Dr. Dumba in high respect."

Mr. Dumba has offered the excuse that in what he did he was only trying to protect the Austro-Hungarian subjects here of whose interests he was the natural guardian.

It is interesting to note the impression made on those compatriots by Mr. Dumba's sacrifices in their behalf. The newspapers have been filled recently with protests by Austro-Hungarian subjects against their ambassador's attempts at all-around guardianship.

Nearly all the Slovaks here as well as many Czechs, Polish and other subjects of Francis Joseph came to this country in order to escape political oppression and to find better living conditions and a better market for their labor.

It is clear, therefore, that the ambassador can claim no aureole of martyrdom in the interest of his compatriots in this country. He was doing something to their detriment as well as to the detriment of American manufacturers.

"Accelerators" and the Constitution.

The Tribune finds itself unable to agree with "The World's" estimate of the danger of "an organized campaign to accelerate public opinion" in behalf of the proposed new constitution as it is to agree with our neighbor's estimate of that document itself.

study there is of it, the more it is discussed, the better fitted the voters will be to act on it. If there are jokers in it, if it has flaws and weaknesses, nothing is so certain to disclose them as the kind of campaign Mr. Choate and his fellow committeemen will make.

The new constitution should not be accepted or rejected by a mere handful of votes. If that is not to be the case there must be a campaign on it.

Where Payroll Economy Lies.

It is unfortunate for the Mitchell administration that the Mayor has tied up with his call for economy his declaration of intent to put into effect the recommendations of the Board of Estimate's Bureau of Standards.

Salary standardization is necessary and must be put into effect, regardless of any increased or diminished budget appropriations and the state tax. It means decreases in some cases, increases in others.

There is no good faith in the demands that "economy begin at the top," with reductions of the Mayor's salary, the Controller's salary, the Corporation Counsel's salary, the City Chamberlain's salary and the like.

The Mayor and his department heads have never gone to Albany to lobby for salary increases, as have school teachers, court clerks and others of the "little fellows" paid out of the city treasury.

The Proposed Foreign Credit.

There is apparently no point of view from which the credit which Great Britain and France are seeking to establish here may be considered a detriment to this country.

To begin with, the establishment of the colossal credit proposed would largely solve the problem of finding safe employment for the vast surplus reserve of nearly \$800,000,000 possessed now by the national banks alone.

But perhaps of more immediate and tangible concern is the danger which the credit would remove of a serious curtailment of our foreign market. The rapid decline and daily fluctuation of sterling exchange have pointed a warning for months that the difficulty and expense of financing purchases in the United States might soon cause our best customers to turn elsewhere for their foodstuffs and supplies.

It has long been axiomatic of trade with South America that South America would buy where she could borrow. That is true now of the belligerents. Let them borrow here and they will continue to buy here.

that of paying for American grain today.

It must be borne in mind that the great bulk of American export trade with the Allies does not lie in munitions. The latter form a comparatively insignificant percentage of it and, as the foreign commissioners have indicated, can be paid for by shipment of gold direct to their agents here.

As to the form which the credit may take and avoid at the same time a violation of the nation's neutrality while appealing to investors, that is a nut which the commissioners and their conferees must be left to crack.

With Messrs. Viereck and Braun in their employ and the esteemed "Staats-Zeitung" and Mr. Hequet's "American" so nobly encouraging them, why should the Germans want to buy a daily newspaper here?

The President has told a delegation of Virginians that he could not "predict any part of the course of affairs." Another argument, no doubt, for watchful waiting.

Dr. Dumba is about to hit the trail blazed by Dr. Dernburg. Are there any more deep doctors in our midst?

Germans Striving to Soothe Wilson.—Headline.

By stroking him with the mailed fist.

Count Zeppelin—Recruiting Agent.

All along bad news has proved the sharpest spur to recruiting, and the speakers at street meetings get the biggest haul when they are remorselessly pessimistic. At the Gladstone statue in the Strand this afternoon the big colonial cavalryman, the English officer back from the trenches, and the civilian chairman were competing in calculated gloom.

Aberdeen University's Record.

There are 1,317 members of Aberdeen University with the colors. This number includes graduates, undergraduates, alumni and men of the university staffs. The principal, the Rev. George Adam Smith, in the June "Aberdeen University Review," which prints as a supplement the university's roll of honor, points out some very interesting facts in connection with this "contribution to a year of war."

"Five-Minute" Voters.

Sir: Does M. E. W. really think that the "five minutes" necessary for actual voting is all that is to be required of women when they have political responsibility dumped upon them? Such catch phrases may do when addressing the average man or woman who thinks no further than his or her nose.

Even though there are 8,000,000 women in the United States in gainful occupations, is it not a fact that the great majority of these are in the business world only temporarily—a few years at the most? Most of them marry and have homes and children. Would the men like to see all women of the type of the present-day suffragette? I doubt it.

Sir: Will you kindly permit me space in your columns in which to correct a statement made by M. E. W. in a letter appearing in your issue of to-day? She states that 3,000,000 women in the United States need the ballot to regulate conditions under which they labor.

SLOVAKS NOT WITH DUMBA

Repudiate Him and Assert Their Friendliness to American Interests.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In connection with Mr. Dumba's improper conduct, we, the undersigned, representing the Slovaks in the Eastern states of America, refute and protest against his statement that the Slovaks in America are subjects of Austria-Hungary, and that he or his agents or those of Germany can in any way influence our people working in the munitions factories.

We emphatically proclaim that the Slovaks always have opposed and always will oppose the anti-American and anti-Allies propaganda in this country. We will in the future, as we have been in the past, be loyal to the United States, where we found our new home after leaving our old country, from which we were driven because of the oppression of the Hungarian government, which would not allow us to speak our own language and educate our children in Slovak schools.

The very fact that out of the 3,000,000 population in the Slovak country fully 1,000,000 were driven away to the United States, owing to political and economic persecution, is sufficient proof that there is no reason why we should be used as tools for Mr. Dumba and the German agents' unfair and anti-American aspirations.

There are no Slovaks in America who desire to go back to their country unless our nation is freed from Hungarian oppression.

We assure the American public that our brother Slovaks have no intention to attempt and will not in any way attempt to help to cripple any legitimate industry in this country.

We are ready to work for the interests of the United States, where we have found political freedom and better economic conditions than in Hungary.

We assure the American public that our brother Slovaks have no intention to attempt and will not in any way attempt to help to cripple any legitimate industry in this country.

SLOVAKS' POLITICAL FEDERATION OF THE EASTERN STATES OF AMERICA. Louis Matusek, Vice-President. Josef Honza, Secretary.

New York, Sept. 11, 1915.

Faithful Workers.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Everybody seems always to "report" everybody else, so I'll follow suit, but just a little differently.

To-night my husband and I boarded a Sixth Avenue car at Eighth Street. At Forty-ninth or Fiftieth Street, the car running along at a good speed and the bell clanging incessantly, a fool of a young chauffeur stopped aimlessly in the very midst of the rails, right in front of us.

A few corners higher up a man tried to alight while the car was still in motion, and had not the conductor grabbed him and pushed him back his skull would surely have been smashed to atoms by the pillar.

Two instances like these are worth "reporting," I think!

I am sorry I could not get the number of the car, but it was a Sixth Avenue and Amsterdam car, it was about 8:25 or 8:30, and the number on the conductor's cap was 1880.

These two men ought to be receiving medals, for they have certainly prevented dire catastrophes and I am glad to report both of them for their bravery, their alertness, their interest in the human cargo they carried and their very evident efficiency.

JOSEPHINE FRABACILIS. Countess of Castelvecchio. New York, Sept. 10, 1915.

"Half Pedant, Half Poltroon."

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Allow me to thank you heartily for the vigorous editorial in to-day's Tribune. How long are our people going to put up with this bullying and flouting, this kicking and cuffing, by Germany, and now by Austria?

When a new outrage is perpetrated our government asks Germany for its version of the affair, although the facts are already established, and Germany replies by an offhand lie—the Lusitania was an auxiliary cruiser, the Arabic attacked the submarine, or the submarine thought she might do so, and the Hesperian was sunk by a mine, and there the matter ends.

When the news of the Arabic reached London the betting was 7 to 4 against our taking any action, and there were no takers. Are we to infer from this subservience that Mr. Wilson's sympathies are with the Germans, or is there another explanation in his likeness, in one respect, to Robespierre?

A recent life of Danton gives us the great tribune's estimate of his contemptible enemy: "Il se cassa cuistre double du capot" he said of him for his pedant, half pedant, half poltroon. This is evidently the Kaiser's view of our President, and probably that of all Europe.

F. A. HENRY. Bay Head, N. J., Sept. 9, 1915.

Union Musicians Protest.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Will you kindly publish the following protest in your paper at the earliest possible date?

The New York and Brooklyn Federation of Musicians, Inc., Local 41, protests against the home bands (composed of children) performing in the Coney Island Mardi Gras celebration, September 13 to 18, as the home bands give their services gratis and perform at the Mardi Gras celebration, considering the same as an outing for themselves, but thereby deprive the union musicians of making a livelihood. We also do not think it fair for homes to allow their children to perform in events of this kind, as the taxpayers help to keep up the homes. This matter should be investigated by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, as the same is a direct violation of the Penal Law, Chapter 49, Section 485, Labor Law of New York, adopted in 1913.



A NATION WHICH LIES DOWN

The Fault Is That of the Leaders Who Do Not Lead, and Will Be Visited on Them.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The great mass of the citizens of this country, like the great mass of the people in all countries, look for leadership.

And if the leader, be he technically leader or be he technically ruler, does not lead, but brings up the rear—follows the will of the people—they will have naught of him. "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. I would that thou wert either cold or hot."

"Because thou art lukewarm and art neither cold nor hot I will spew thee out of my mouth." That which was true when the fourteenth and fifteenth verses of the third chapter of Revelation were addressed to the "angel of Laodicea" has never been false from that day to this. On something like a dozen occasions it has been announced from Washington that the administration would await an expression of the opinion of the public before deciding what action to take.

The public is well aware that at least nine-tenths of the administration's woes are difficulties have arisen purely and solely from the administration's incapacity to act—and that such fact has encouraged further assault. If the past were all it were enough. But the effect of the past is to be reckoned with in the future. The country has been bred full of traitors. The steady encouragement given by failure to resist has made traitors out of thousands of decent German-Americans who would have been loyal citizens under a leader of the people, but who, encouraged to believe that this was not a nation, but a disorganized aggregation of individuals without national life, national character, national honor, national purpose, national force, national ideals, have felt that they owe no allegiance and have reverted to "a leader"—the Emperor of Germany. When, as we ultimately must, we come to grips with the enemy of the progress of the human race, the nation which would substitute force for justice, militarism for civilization, we shall find that we are betrayed by countless of our own at home—all of whom would have cheerfully done their duty in the cause of right had they not been taught from above that there was no such thing as loyalty, as national honor, as right and wrong, beyond nations.

All this has been done, if it has had any underlying reason, from a total misconception of world facts, which misconception, starting at the head, has extended down through all the ranks of officialdom. It has been said that the country should stand by the administration. How can one stand by an administration whose sole occupation is to lie down? What has become of the ideals for which America was supposed to stand and for which she is ready to stand against the more selfish nations of the earth? On what basis can justification of our course be placed? Desire for peace—but it is our course which has encouraged aggression and will continue to encourage aggression until we are forced into actual war. So far from the course which has been pursued assuring us of peace, it is the very course which, pursued, must necessarily destroy peace. Unless the traits of which we have had so many examples are inherent and constitutional limitations of the individuals composing the administration it is not too late to save the dignity and to assure the peace of the nation, but persistence in the present course will bring three things—the contempt of the world, war, and a change of administration.

CHARLES STEWART DAVISON. New York, Sept. 10, 1915.

A BARON MUNCHAUSEN

Submarine Commander Who Sank Hesperian May Qualify.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Has a submarine any greater or better rights than any other warship?

Many have assumed that the submarine, being a peculiar craft, has peculiar privileges. A ship of war overtaking an enemy merchant ship may put a prize crew on board and send it to port. If the submarine cannot put a prize crew aboard it is its misfortune. If the warship be entitled to sink the merchant ship it must first take off the crew of the merchant ship and convey it to a place of safety. Again, if the submarine cannot do this it is the fault of the submarine.

If a warship overtakes a merchant ship of a neutral nation it may stop the ship, and if it finds contraband aboard it can jettison it. It cannot sink the ship unless necessary for its own protection or safety, and before doing this it must take off the crew and convey it to a place of safety.

A submarine has no better right, and is not ordered a crew to take to the boats in its compliance with the law which requires that such crews must be taken to a place of safety. Such an order is in violation of the rules of civilized warfare and opposed to the dictates of humanity. Fancy a submarine in the middle of winter ordering the crew of the merchant ship to take to the boats as a place of safety!

The doctrine that a submarine can sink or destroy a merchant ship without first providing for the safety of the non-combatant crew, to say nothing of passengers, Germany seeks to establish. Certainly every self-respecting person hopes and believes that any such act by submarines will be considered by the United States and all other neutral nations as an "unfriendly act" and that the United States and all other neutral nations will act accordingly.

If the actions of the submarines operating under the direction of the Kuffner Kaiser be closely followed, it will be difficult to distinguish most of them from those of a "Jolly Roger" or an assassin.

Now we have the Hesperian incident, with the claim that this ship was sunk in self-defense. Does any one doubt that ships will be sunk as before and the excuse will be given "self-defense"?

Perhaps, too, the commander of the German submarine that sank the Hesperian was a "Baron Munchausen." XPER. New York, Sept. 10, 1915.

International Enforcement.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It strikes me that the present conflict in Europe presents a perfect instance of the enforcement of a decree of an informal international court against a guilty power.

A vast majority of civilized men support the cause of Serbia, France, England and Russia. Why should not "pacifists" especially and all of us who believe in security of international disputes by a formal international court seize this opportunity to encourage the government of the United States to enter into this first formal movement of its kind? Why not assist in enforcing the decree which is rendered? A SINCERE ADMIRER OF YOUR EDITORIAL PAGE. Brooklyn, Sept. 8, 1915.

The Western Idea.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Sanity, common sense and a keen understanding of our country's Constitution pervade the Middle and Far West as thoroughly counterbalance the vicious influences at work here in the East that would embroil us in the European war. This is sadly commented on in your news from Washington.

If our whole nation were as Washington the average pro-Ally commentator would have it seem, nothing would save us from the ca's-paw action proposed. They certainly raise bumper crops out West, and one of us is good citizens who know which way to bump for the good of the United States.

CARL A. KEHRWIEDER. New York, Sept. 12, 1915.