

New York Tribune

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

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The Mexican Mess.

There are not a score of Americans in the whole country who want war with Mexico. There is not one material interest involved which would be worth the sacrifice of the lives of any of the soldiers who are marching away from us now.

The hopelessness of the present situation lies in the fact that there can be no escape from war if the Mexicans continue to kill American soldiers or pursue the policy that Mexicans, officials and citizens, have pursued for so many months.

But such a war as now seems inevitable is nothing more than a sanitary operation. Such a cesspool as Mexico cannot continue an unabated nuisance at our gates indefinitely. Not to conquer Mexico, not to add provinces, not to acquire glory, shall we make war—of a sort—if we have to.

Everything now lies in Mr. Wilson's hands. His has been the power and the responsibility for more than three years. There is a time to come—and it is at hand—when every act and every failure to act will be subjected to the closest scrutiny and the severest criticism.

Mr. Wilson will have to stand or fall by the Mexican policy. He will be judged as he has prepared or failed to prepare his country for the emergency that has been so long coming. He will be indicted or extolled as his present and past course is adjudged to have been wise or foolish, patriotic or partisan, farsighted or sheerly opportunistic.

There will be no election won by any recourse to war. No weakness in the past will be forgiven because of proper or excessive zeal now. The country is silent on the present crisis. It feels that it must let its government and its President deal with the crisis unhampered by crippling criticism.

But the silence is not a license. It is not a pardon. It is not a perpetual surrender of the freedom to criticize and to censure. Mr. Wilson and his advisers will make a mistake if they so interpret it or act upon such an interpretation.

If Mr. Wilson decides for war he will have to explain his decision, he will have to justify each step that lies between Vera Cruz and Carrizal. But while he faces the decision in this hour his countrymen will necessarily wait anxiously, but silently. The power and the responsibility are his, the blame or the praise will be apportioned hereafter.

There never was in our history anything more hateful than this Mexican mess. It may have been unavoidable, there may never have been any solution save through intervention. All this will have to be explained to us and satisfactorily explained a little later.

We are sending our young men to the border, and perhaps beyond the border. We are sending them to danger and perhaps to death. They go willingly, bravely. We have offered them not easily, but without question. But since they are dear to us, since they mean our lives, we shall ask hereafter to know the exact reckoning between Mr. Wilson and ourselves in the matter of our volunteers.

And when that reckoning is at last made up, it would be better for Mr. Wilson that he had never occupied public office or held a place of honor than that he should have failed in the smallest degree in his responsibility to us and to those we love.

There are no cheers for war, there is no heart in all this preparation. The country looks upon it bewildered and incredulous, consenting yet demanding with ever growing insistence the reasons. It may have been inevitable, it may have been inevitable; but only this can avail to save Mr. Wilson or avert that destruction of his administration which will come swiftly and surely with the slightest evidence that what has happened could have been avoided.

Merely "a Quibble."

One thing may be said for the anti-vaccinists—they are a loyal crew and always ready to stand by one another in a tight corner. The most vociferous spokesman of the Anti-Vaccination League of America has just published a lively pamphlet bubbling over with vehement abuse of his critics and censors—particularly of The Tribune—and he goes out of his way to defend a brother zealot who had the misfortune some time ago to be discovered in a misquotation.

The misquotation was supposed to show that Dr. Rosenau, the eminent sanitarian supported a common allegation of the vaccinists concerning the presence of tetanus bacilli in vaccine virus. What Dr. Rosenau had in fact demonstrated was that the bacilli planted in glycerinated tubes could live for a long time; but though he and his assistants had examined a great many tubes and dry points, and found none wholly free from bacterial contamination, yet they had, as expressly stated, "been unable to find the organism of this disease." The improved anti-vaccinist version made Dr. Rosenau responsible for the warning "that there is no

vaccine in the market free from bacterial taint, and that germs of tetanus may be in the vaccine."

It is now explained by our pamphleteer that this is not a serious perversion of Dr. Rosenau's words, "but merely a slight inadvertent mistake as to the natural versus the artificial presence of lockjaw germs in the virus, which in any case is little more than a quibble." In other words, when an investigator, after careful search, has failed to find what he was looking for, it may safely be said that to all intents and purposes he has found it, because no one but a pedant could object to so slight a departure from the truth. Besides, what would become of the antivaccinists if they were forced to stick to mere facts?

Mr. Hughes and the Lusitania.

A great many Americans will regret that in his message to the Progressive Committee Mr. Hughes referred to the Lusitania slaughter as a "tragedy" and not as a crime. It was a tragedy in a very real sense, but it was far more, it was a crime against civilization unparalleled in modern times and unequalled in American history.

For some of us the Lusitania was the final expression in action of the meaning of the German idea. It was the ultimate demonstration of the German doctrine of necessity, the necessity that knows neither law, humanity nor aught else when a German purpose is concerned. For us it was what Belgium was to Europe, it was an "atrocity" in the broadest and deepest sense.

The tragedy which was the death, the cruel death of so many women and children, as well as men, owning American citizenship, was like to that other tragedy of the Titanic. It was a thing to stir the sympathy and the sorrow of the millions. But the crime was something more, it was an epitome of what Germany means in the world and what Germany means for America.

Mr. Wilson has told us we have no concern with the war in Europe. He has told us it is a piece of collective madness and we must wait until all Europe becomes sane again. No one believes that Mr. Hughes shares Mr. Wilson's view. No one believes that, had Mr. Hughes been President, he would have patiently endured a policy of murder and returned words for lives taken from innocent Americans. But when Mr. Hughes speaks of the Lusitania "tragedy" he will still evoke the applause of those Hyphens who in semi-secrecy celebrated the killing, while in public they deplored the "tragedy" with hypocritical tears.

Mr. Hughes will have to tell his fellow-countrymen what he thinks of the Lusitania. The Tribune does not suspect him of the least desire to evade the issue. It finds his statement of Monday the clearest and most satisfactory thing he has yet said. It believes that it indicates a state of mind which will presently be made clear to the whole country—but for that many of us are waiting.

It is not, as some of Mr. Hughes's friends have suggested, that his Americanism is doubted by those who know him. It is not that there is any personal element in the thing. But thousands of us are anxious, even resolved, that the German-Americans shall not be able to find any excuse in Republican politics or in a Republican candidate for asserting that they have influence in American public life or can punish American public men who fail to satisfy their alien sympathies.

The Tribune has never doubted Mr. Hughes's Americanism. It is not seeking to embarrass him. It is not "demanding" anything for itself or for its constituency. It wants to support Mr. Hughes with all its power and with all the enthusiasm it can muster, and it finds itself still hampered by association with that alien element, whose loyalty is German not American, whose purpose is to serve a Teutonic not an American purpose and whose platform is comprehended in the intent to punish Woodrow Wilson because he did not satisfy Potsdam.

Mr. Hughes has in his latest utterance given clear evidence of his own conviction. It is not too much to hope that in his own time he will give an expression of this conviction which will serve as a rallying cry to those who ask nothing better than to serve their country by helping to elect him to a position for which his qualifications are unmistakable.

Fat Policemen.

The fundamental architecture of the male—really has no other aspect, lacking as he does the eye-deceiving contraptions of the female—has clearly undergone a change. Dancing may have done some of the good work. Tennis a little less. And, in particular, taking up the case of the New York City policeman, we have to thank in succession three Police Commissioners, Roosevelt, Bingham and Woods.

Twenty-five years ago the typical policeman was round as a beer keg, an excellent cushion to land on when leaping from a fourth story window in case of fire. But of little practical value otherwise. Every melodrama of the period included one of these rotund servants of the city—as a comic relief, which was just about his use in real life. Now, where is he? Even the stage has abandoned him. Speaking at the Harvard commencement, where he received an honorary degree, Commissioner Woods remarked: "The fat policeman is now practically extinct, and if he isn't he is going to be by the time the New York policeman get through with their military training." A search of the city streets confirms these assertions. The New York cop is to-day about as straight and trim as any regiment of regulars.

There was especially urgent reason for asking this change in contour of our policeman. But the reform has not stopped, and let us hope will not stop, with them. The American has a tradition of leanness behind him, and it is a good thing to return to it. It means preparedness for so

many things pleasant and important that it is more than worth the pains. May the new school of masculine architecture extend its sway and prosper!

A City's Pride.

The city is proud of its men who are leaving for the front, and it has every right to be proud of them. They are responding to a far call, upon a difficult and hazardous errand, to meet an emergency largely created by their country's heedlessness and sloth. Yet they march with full ranks, uncompaining, giving freely all they have.

In many ways the test of the militia's spirit has been the most severe to which it has ever been put. The task before this country in Mexico is not one to stir swift national enthusiasm. On the streets, as the regiments march, there has been little cheering for the cause; it is the stalwart spirit of the guardsmen that has thrilled and caught our throats. In the long run the overwhelming strength is with us, bitter as the earlier contest may be. Such a war lacks the glory of an equal fight, the exalted resolve that springs from a fight for home against an invader. It is rich only in danger and death.

That with such a call our militia have stepped forth unhesitatingly and gladly shows the solid stuff of which their patriotism is made. It is a spirit which we who stand and cheer can be proud to cherish in our memories and may, in our own humble way, share. We have before us the duty and opportunity to resolve to do our part at home as each of us can—to see that in so far as our efforts can avail nothing is left undone by our government to support and uphold our men in the fighting line.

"Within the Realm."

It was probably only as a matter of form that Sir Roger Casement's counsel asked for the quashing of the indictment against him, but the points on which he dwelt were certain to be raised at the trial. There have not been half a dozen trials of the kind in the last seventy years and even a fairly clear case offers abundant opportunity for the discussion of legal niceties which might possibly prove favorable to the prisoner.

The statute of 1351 defines the offence of high treason as levying war against the sovereign "in his realm," or being "adherent to the enemies of our lord the King in his realm, giving to them aid or comfort in his realm or elsewhere." An attempt was evidently made to show that, whatever Sir Roger was accused of, it was nothing that had been committed "within the realm," but how the passage relating to aid and comfort "elsewhere" was disposed of is not made clear. At any rate it is certain that in the last five hundred years the meaning of high treason has been extended sufficiently to include the encouragement of foreigners in projects of invasion.

Possibly something in the wording of the indictment may have offered a pretext for quibbling about exactly where and when the prisoner was "seduced by the devil," but considering the course of the trial up to the present time it does not seem likely that it will be seriously delayed by minor technicalities.

Some City Areas.

(From The Minneapolis Journal.)

Los Angeles is the largest city in the United States. Some one will doubtless arise to controvert this statement by a show of figures, but the fact remains that Los Angeles is the largest city—in the matter of area. Through recent annexations the City of the Angels now includes a territory of 337.92 square miles, against 314.75 for New York, 198 for Chicago, 129 for Philadelphia and 53.29 for Minneapolis.

The haste of the suburbs of Los Angeles to get in under the city limits, where the taxing is good, is due to the desire to get the city's water. Water in California is liquid happiness, and Los Angeles has recently completed a \$23,000,000 aqueduct that brings the best of water from the mountains. The city is not permitted by the laws to sell water outside of the limits, hence the desire of the outlying districts to get in.

This 337.92 miles of area in Los Angeles helps to explain the 550,000 population now claimed for the city. As long as the water and the climate hold out these figures will continue to grow till the saturation point comes.

Taking the 54.50 square miles that make up the area of St. Paul and adding the 53.29 miles of Minneapolis, we have a total area of 107.79 square miles, carrying a population of 167,141. If the estimates of January 1, 1916, are used.

Even with these two cities reckoned together we are 130.13 square miles short of the size of Los Angeles. This gives a fair conception of the vast size of the district within the Los Angeles city limits. We may yet have to take in Minnetonka to keep up with that procession!

"Verboten!"

Amsterdam (via London).—Discussing the Presidential nominations at the Chicago and St. Louis conventions, the Chicago "Gazette" says:

"German-Americans, on whose votes perhaps the decision of the election rests, are for the most part publicly on the side of Hughes. They now have an opportunity of paying President Wilson back for his false, hypocritical neutrality and for his unheard-of attacks on their American nationality."—News Item.

When the hyphen's not engaged upon the ocean,

Or maturing treason's merry little plans, His capacity for patriot emotion

Is just as great as any honest man's. Should you wound his tender feeling by referring

To his exploits in condemnatory tone, You will find his latent sensitiveness stirring.

—And they'll likely take your head off—in Cologne!

Since the solid German press itself has spoken

Every too-eloquent miscreant must hide; Shrinking hyphenated heart-strings can't be broken;

Mockers mustn't wound the hyphen's lofty pride.

Those who don't believe the hyphen's touching story—

What a fix the rascals shortly will be in! For the love of Uncle Samuel for Old Glory

Will henceforward be adjusted from Berlin!

THE FIRST DUTY

To Take Up at Once, and Vigorously, Hospital Organization.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Now that our troops are actually leaving for service in Mexico for an unknown duration it seems to me to be the first duty of those of us interested who are remaining at home to take up at once, and vigorously, the work of organizing hospitals and relief work in all its branches for the benefit of the soldiers and their families.

Unfortunately these fine young men are leaving without adequate preparation, and those of us who had experience in other wars in the United States service see repeated many of the blunders of our former experience. As it is not good merely to criticize some one else, let us at least face the situation frankly and do what we can, and I assure you that there is much that is needed and will be needed.

Practically all of the military regiments are being recruited up to war strength, which means, in many cases, as much as one-third to one-fourth their number are raw recruits. None of the regiments are physically hardened at best they have had merely the routine drills of once a week at most in their armories. This means that these men who are being sent now in summer for service in the tropics, without adequate physical preparation, are bound to suffer not only from death and wounds at the hands of the enemy, but what is more important, sickness and diseases of various kinds, especially wasting tropical diseases, which come from change of climate and water, such as dysentery, enteric fever, sunstroke and other fevers. Fortunately, science has advanced in the last ten years to the point where men may be inoculated against typhoid, and we may be spared the horrors of that which carried away so many of our men in '98 and '01. Nevertheless, we must recognize frankly that the tropics is no place for a white man who is on active service in the summer at best, and that a high percentage of sickness is inevitable.

The troops who will be fortunate enough to be in permanent camps on the border, where their water can be boiled, sanitation provided, screens used against flies and mosquitoes, bathing facilities at hand and personal cleanliness enforced, as well as fresh and wholesome rations secured—these men of course will not have as high a percentage of loss as the men on active service in Mexico proper. But as the plan is, or seems likely to be, that large numbers will be sent into Mexico proper, we should prepare for them and have base hospitals, rear hospitals and convalescent homes ready in advance, and not wait until after the first battle takes place. It does seem to me that some of the organizations which have been doing such effective work for the relief of the sufferers abroad could readily turn their hands to the wants of our soldiers at home, and I have no doubt for a minute but that this will be done. My point is to urge the necessity of taking immediate action to have our soldiers profit by the experience of the war that is being fought across the seas, where the extreme importance of such things is recognized and provided for so intelligently.

Those of us who saw service in Cuba in '98 know that hospitals were such only in name, there often being merely a Red Cross flag raised on a tree. I myself returned in a ship carrying 300 sick and wounded men with only one doctor and four hospital orderlies on board to care for them, and we slept on beds consisting of bunks made of rough lumber and had no facilities whatever to change clothing or to eat our meals, having often to use old tomato cans and similarly improvised utensils to eat with. When we arrived at the hospitals at Tampa, which had had some months' notice and preparation, matters were not very different. The beds had no sheets, and no sheets, and again the eating arrangements were of the crudest. At that time there were in Cuba great supplies of all sorts of medical necessities and comforts for the wounded, but through mismanagement they lay in the ships at anchor off the Cuban coast, instead of being used for the men as intended. There were also many nurses being shipped over by the Red Cross, but for one reason or another their services were not used by the army until after a certain amount of red tape had been cut. But why go on and repeat stories that are familiar to every one?

I cannot make my appeal too strong, especially to the women who have shown of late such a genius for organizing, to take up this matter of making adequate provision at once, and sincerely trust that some of the many organizations will start to take up the work of getting these organizations together so as to work in harmony with the greatest efficiency.

ARTHUR F. COSBY.

Former Private First U. S. Val. Cavalry (Rough Riders), Later Captain and Asst. Adj. Gen. U. S. Vols.

New York, June 25, 1916.

For a Local Cavalry Regiment.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: It is a question of but a few days when a call for volunteers will be made. The great need will be for cavalry. "The United States Cavalry" can reach Northern Mexico, in efficient fighting trim, the better it takes considerable time to raise, equip and train a regiment of volunteer horsemen recruited from among wage earners of the average city—that is to say, assuming that the said volunteers have had no previous experience with horses and firearms. However, by taking advantage of the fact that there are now residing in New York or in the immediate vicinity a great many Southern and Western men, men from the famous upstate, New Yorkers who have seen previous service in the armed forces of the United States, sportsman-adventurers in the "comic opera wars" of Central America, such men who by reason of present or past calling as can quickly qualify for the work to be done, etc., we could place an efficient organization in the field more quickly than elsewhere.

Cannot the great City of New York promptly raise and equip, by popular subscription and municipal aid, such a regiment? I know that the great majority of the aforementioned men have wives depending on them, but if the city will guarantee a weekly check of, say, \$10, and a death or total disablement benefit or insurance of, say, \$1,000, you can take it from me that the men I mean, will be there with spurs on.

Where are some of us ready some one of ability and influence to push this? If any leader appears I will immediately introduce myself, by letter, to him and give him my address and name. He can make use of me as a private trooper. Will give one-half of my spare time to drill if he can find place. Will go to his office during spare time and attend to the correspondence relating to the recruiting and organization of such a force. I can use a typewriter as well as a Colt's gun, or will recruit for him, or do anything else that is needed in getting ready, and when we are ready I will throw a leg over a mustang and go anywhere from the Rio Grande southward.

I am a \$20-a-week clerk. I am therefore in no position to give money and must, and do, work steadily, but will give my labor freely. I feel too deeply in this matter to look for remuneration, and I feel, too, that there are at least a thousand more like me in this city. That they will come forward promptly, if they know that their wives will be cared for, I do not doubt.

SOUTHERNER.

New York, June 25, 1916.



MR. WILSON'S MANY BLUNDERS

Failures in His Policy on Preparedness, Mexico and the Philippines.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: To the autocratic attitude of the President of the United States in refusing to follow the course of the leading governments of the world in their recognition of President Huerta of Mexico and to his refusal to listen to our able and accredited representatives and countrymen who, by long residence in Mexico, could truthfully testify to conditions there is due the deplorable state now existing in that bleeding, unhappy land. The factional fights and savage war now waging, the wholesale destruction of private and public property, the murder of American citizens and the ruin of American women may justly be laid at his door.

Some day the murderous catatonia now raging in Europe will cease, and what will be the condition existing then? It will find most of the Continental nations hopelessly wrecked financially and saddled with debts, many of which will never be liquidated. It will find America prosperous and in possession of wealth beyond the dreams of avarice, but without a friend in the world. It will find Europe jealous of our prosperity and envious of our riches. Prosperity without protection is a peril. Envy and jealousy are the most fruitful causes of war. Unless we are prepared to resist unjust demands, war will undoubtedly follow. The President and Congress have already wasted most valuable time by failing to make adequate preparation for the preservation of peace. Unless this is done immediately, our country will certainly receive the treatment it will deserve—vindicating, with little sympathy for the patient under the scalpel. Remember Bismarck's significant reply when asked what he thought of America: "America," said he, "is a fine fat hog; and when we're ready, we will stick it."

If America proposes to play the part in history its founders intended and destiny intends—unless we follow the example of China and submit to the war lords of Europe—we must make immediate preparation for the preservation of peace by the creation of an adequate navy and some well-tried system for an army, like that of Switzerland, which has stood the test of three hundred years, and preserved peace even through the subterfuge danger of the present day.

The policy of the Philippine Islands is nothing less than criminal. To abandon them now, in the elementary stage of their political and social development, would be worse than the handing of Huerta, and would entail upon the islands a condition of anarchy more terrible than now exists in Mexico.

"By the same path must ye walk" is as true to-day as it was 2,000 years ago. The continuity of history cannot be broken; a people cannot break with its past; immemorial hereditary must be remembered. To suppose that from the low-bred Filipino there could be evolved in a single generation one worthy or competent to exercise self-government is to ignore every law of social progress and natural selection and to indulge in the wildest optimism.

The Anglo-Saxon of temperate climate has required many centuries of natural selection to evolve from his savagery. Is the Malay savage so infinitely the intellectual and moral superior of the Caucasian that he can emerge from his late savagery into this sphere of civilization and attain this rich inheritance in a single decade? Is this self-governing ability which is not yet overdeveloped among ourselves, as the resident of any great American city must confess) to be hypodermically injected in concentrated essence into the ignorant, treacherous, low-bred Filipino by bullets, or prayer-books, or schoolhouses, in a generation, so as to qualify him for beneficent assimilation and self-government? The suggestion is preposterous.

I believe the most practical solution of the Philippine problem is to allow them to follow the course of natural selection through the operation of the Chinaman. His exclusion from these islands was a diplomatic blunder, comparable only with our treatment of the Japanese and Chinese on our Pacific Coast at the instigation of the sand-lot orators, the charlatan politicians and the yellow journalism of California. When I was last in the Philippines there were about 100,000 Chinese there, who formed by far the most industrious class of the inhabitants.

The Chinese mestizo (half Chinese and half Filipino) is acknowledged to be superior

BONNE CHANCE!

to the Eurasian, or mestizo of Occidental cross, as well as the Hindu or Bornean. Many of them were wealthy bankers or merchants. Others were engaged as compare, dore or clerks, on account of their quick wits, sterling honesty, industry and individual merit. As in the Hawaiian Islands, they formed the most valuable element of the population. The Chinese-Hawaiian half-breed is the keenest business man and the most industrious citizen to be found in those islands.

The exclusion of the Chinese laborer from the Philippines has been of inestimable damage, by retarding industrial and commercial development. Despite his fanaticism when directed by ignorant rulers, he has shown his superiority over other Orientals in his untiring industry, his domesticity and his honesty. When put in competition with the Bornean, the Filipino, the Singalese, the Hawaiian or the Hindu he invariably wins, as may be seen by his rise from poverty to wealth and influence in the cities of Singapore, Calcutta, Sandakan, Manila and Honolulu. The presence of the Chinaman in the Philippines—with the substitution of his characteristics of honesty, domesticity and industry for the dishonesty, laziness and treachery of the Filipino—will do more to promote the industrial development and civilization of these islands than any other factor, and the sooner America appreciates this fact and acts upon it the more prompt will be her relief from her present embarrassing position. To desert them now under the travesty of liberty would be a monumental and historical crime.

LOUIS LIVINGSTON SEAMAN.

New York, June 13, 1916.

A Mother's Protest.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Your constituency is your subscribers, I believe. I am a subscriber, and wish to ask some questions.

Why are soldiers from New York State to be sent to the border before they have had any chance to acclimate? We all agree this is an outrage. Have none of the states of our Union lying in the same climate, practically, as Texas any reliable state militia? These could be used for a time and acclimate the Northern fellows.

Are the munitions of war that Mexico will use against our soldiers munitions that are all made in this country by Americans and now to be used in killing my boy, for instance? I have a son, who may be on the border soon now, though I hope not!

Is this "retribution" because our nation, while calling itself neutral, has been getting rich making munitions of war for warring nations, and is this retribution to fall on children (my son is a high school boy), who have had no share in deciding these vexed questions of true neutrality? Truly, this hoard of money that America has been pooling this last year of Europe's war has become "blood" money. There is just cause for every one of us mothers to revolt against this call to sacrifice our beloved sons who have grown up by our firesides.

How can we expect the countries of South America to respect us when we plan conferences with Latin-American countries and preach arbitration and then refuse to arbitrate ourselves, and refuse this the first time any cause for war arises?

Truly, Wilson and his associates have made and are making a "mess" of all matters they undertake and the man who first said, "Oh, Wilson is a nice man, but not big enough to be President," said a wise thing.

E. H. SMITH.

New York, June 23, 1916.

The "Second Lincoln" Epidemic.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I take my pen in hand to make a modest plea, namely, that they won't call any more of our public men second Lincolns. When quietly reading my daily paper on the downtown car of a morning I endure with patience all the disappointments and horrors on which we now daily feed, until I read that some one has been calling President Wilson "a second Lincoln"—then a feeling of nausea comes over me ill befitting the time and place.

I am an honest admirer of Roosevelt, but why call even Roosevelt "a second Lincoln"? Doesn't Roosevelt mean enough just as it stands? Isn't it sufficiently replete and significant? As to Mr. Hughes, I take up my paper each day with nervous dread lest they will begin calling him "a second Lincoln."

The public has had a good deal to bear recently. Mayn't we at least be spared the "second Lincoln" epidemic?

C. B. ELY.

New York, June 26, 1916.

UNORGANIZED AMERICA

Our Money-Making Efficiency Not Applied in Government and Politics.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: When it comes to making money the American people are efficient and thorough. When it comes to thinking of their country they take it out in cheering for the "Grand Old Rag." We live in the past. Looking backward, we go forward in the general direction of the future.

We are national only in hypocrisy and egotism. Our egotism is due to ignorance; our hypocrisy to individualism. The Melting Pot is a boast. We think through our pockets, native and foreign born. We are not assimilated. We are a conglomerate—unorganized.

Trade, labor, capital have recognized the necessity of national organization in their respective fields in order to produce results. Their members do not dissipate their strength. As workers in the same line their interests are best conserved by delegating their individual power to organization. Yet it remains for us, as a people, to attain corporate national government productive of results.

As a people we are doing business very much as we did it a hundred years ago. Our governmental organization of the stage coach period is governmental disorganization today. The old wooden model of the eighteenth century is groaning and creaking under its load of twentieth century steel.

Tradition blinds us. Tradition is a beautiful thing in its place. Tradition, however, has no place in business. Our government is our business. We are the government. Yet we are careless of waste and indifferent to our ignorant of the antiquated system that lays a burden upon each one of us in the end.

We are still the Confederation of Revolutionary times. In the true sense of the word we are not a union, though the states, physically, are bound together with hands of steel. Time, distance, space are annihilated. Communication is instantaneous. Social and commercial intercourse is country-wide. But progress is halted. Artificial state barriers, local interests, ancient forms of Federal government bar the way.

Laws, laws, laws, laws within laws, laws against laws, law counteracting law, a wilderness of law. Forty-eight sovereign states burden the country with forty-eight different sets of clashing sovereign law, trade, trust, suffrage and what-not laws. We are a free people, by our sovereign state rights, free to sack the national treasury. We have laid the cupboard so bare that we cannot afford a navy—our national life insurance. We are spending so much money for local purposes on an ever-increasing pension bill that we have not the means of supporting an adequate standing army. Continental army, universal service? No, not when we can fatten the home town's militia payroll at Federal expense.

As a free people we are wont to feel superior to natives of foreign lands. That superiority is often misplaced. There are foreign nations that, out of chaos