

New York Tribune

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1916.

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation.

Subscription rates: Daily and Sunday, 1 mo. \$1.00; 3 mos. \$2.50; 6 mos. \$4.50; 1 year \$8.00.

Foreign rates: Daily and Sunday, 1 mo. \$1.50; 3 mos. \$3.50; 6 mos. \$6.00; 1 year \$10.00.

Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

You can purchase merchandise advertised in THE TRIBUNE with absolute safety—for if dissatisfaction results in any case THE TRIBUNE guarantees to pay your money back.

Reprisal.

The Tribune sincerely regrets the course of Congress in adopting measures of reprisal directed at the Entente Powers. It regrets the action because it believes that American interests, American principles and American ideals are being served by the nations who are fighting Germany, and it believes that German defeat is as essential to America as to Europe.

But, having said this, The Tribune cannot express any surprise at the action in Washington. It has been inevitable from the start, unless British and French statesmen were sufficiently wise to avoid unnecessary dispute and forego unessential activities.

Art After the War.

It was a great shock to some of his most ardent admirers when a late gifted sculptor—a modern among moderns, the idol of the literary gentlemen who explain the New Art to the vulgar—confessed very frankly in a letter from the trenches that the war had wrought a change in him, and that if ever he came back he would probably revert to his earlier manner and give up his subtle experiments in the discovery of a new formula for the representation of planes and what not.

The Gifted Child and the Public School.

At last the student who is most worth education has found a friend in the General Education Board. This organization plans to begin a series of investigations to determine how children of more than average mental endowment may be discovered during the years spent in public school and to devise some plan by which these more alert pupils may receive the additional instruction which they ought to receive.

There is a very general feeling in this country that Mr. Wilson has been unduly complaisant in the face of British sea power. This view extends to those who have no word save scorn for his German policy. There is a very considerable and carefully fostered sentiment that it is the duty of the President to curb an alleged British desire to steal our trade secrets, interfere with our industrial expansion in markets hitherto exclusively British and to deal arrogantly with the United States. It is needless to say that The Tribune does not share this view. It does not believe any such policy is being pursued in England, but it does recognize that the fashion in which British relations with the United States in the last difficult years have been conducted has contributed much to confirming the suspicion and to contributing to the aid of those who, serving German purposes, joyfully seized upon all possible material to support these ideas.

possible, but to do this would be infallibly to throw America into the arms of Germany and make it the commercial and financial ally of Germany when the war ends and reconstruction and the new commercial conflict begin. The plans for economic cooperation among the Allies, after the war, have roused much apprehension in America, and this apprehension has been very cleverly fostered by German agents and German intrigue. Threats now would do nothing to dissuade the President of the United States from acting on behalf of American rights, but they would enlist for him support which he does not now possess and they might shape the whole of American policy after the war.

The Tribune believes that a mistake will be made in England and France if it is assumed that Mr. Hughes, if he is elected, will advocate a more benevolent neutrality than Mr. Wilson has pursued. It does not pretend to speak for Mr. Hughes; it has not the faintest warrant for doing this, but it believes that whether Mr. Hughes or Mr. Wilson is President the foreign policy of the United States will be conditioned upon the unmistakable desire of the mass of the American people to see American rights maintained and maintained in the face of British as well as German interference.

There is no element in our population of real political influence which desires to see the United States adopt toward Great Britain the policy of a quasi-ally, of an ally in all but actual participation in the war. In saying this The Tribune speaks as a newspaper which would gladly believe such an element existed. But it is the fact that is important. The fact is that the mass of American people are quite as reconciled to seeing the Administration insist upon its rights in the face of England as the mass of the British people were reconciled to seeing their own government insist upon the letter of the law in the matter of the Trent in 1861.

The Young Turks.

The denouncement of the Young Turks (a body which Mr. Morgenthau, the former American Ambassador to Turkey, has never stopped lauding) by the Grand Sheriff of Mecca shows that the barbarities of the Young Turks have no checkers even in the Mahometans who are trying to wipe off the blot on their sacred religion by disowning the Young Turks.

An Official War Artist.

I understand that a very interesting step has just been taken by the government in appointing an artist to make drawings at the front for the historical record of the war. The artist appointed is Mr. Muirhead Bone, who is now a second lieutenant on the staff and is already at the front engaged in this work. Mr. Bone's position as a draftsman is sufficiently established to guarantee a general acceptance of the appointment. Although his work has only been before the public some ten years, he has taken his place among the masters of etching who are collected by the state galleries of Europe and America.

Acceptance.

We ask you for your suffrages. "Prosperity and Peace." The Democratic battle cry! Long may the tribe increase! Come, vote us back in power to whom your hoarded wealth you owe.

Industrial Reconstruction by the Germans.

We are told by the Germans, with much virtuous boasting and canting self-laudation, that they are "reconstructing" the Belgian industries. Poor, unhappy Belgium! This is the final robbery of the stunned and bleeding victim. Now the Belgians will be stripped to the skin. Now every mine and railway, every industry and business center in Belgium will be controlled and owned by Germans, and all the enormous profits of that magnificent trade will pour into the greedy and war-depleted pockets of the bankrupt German Empire.

The Tariff Issue.

Why doesn't Mr. Hughes insist on the conditions that the Democratic tariff brought about at the beginning of the war? Men were rapidly being laid off, factories closed, surplus left by Republicans used up and the bond issue threatened. Why not stop his hyphen talk and take up real issues? President Wilson can afford to rant about hyphens because he hasn't anything to lose. He lost them before this. The tariff is the issue.

Belgium and Switzerland.

Peaceful, industrious little Belgium, not seeking a quarrel with any neighbor, sure in a neutrality guaranteed by the great nations surrounding her, working and striving ever in the pursuits of peace, where are you today? Some of your people are in slavery, others in exile, and all that you can still call your own is a tiny strip of land defended through the heroisms of that little band of soldiers that is still left you. Did unpreparedness save Belgium? Did her peaceful prosperity keep the invader who coveted her from desecrating her people? Belgium of to-day is the answer.

The Immorality of Wilsonism.

Why a Vote to Re-elect the President is a Condonation of Dishonor, Blindness and Cowardly Statesmanship—The Real Issue in the Present Campaign.

defective children in our schools. The whole system appears to have been arranged in the interest of the plodding average, while the brighter students are held back to the pace of the slower ones and forced to waste a large portion of their time in needless repetition or idleness until they often lose interest and fail to acquire proper habits of study.

When one thinks of the minimum which the American child learns during the first eight years of our public school system it is no exaggeration to say that a bright child twelve years of age could with proper teaching learn an equal amount easily in two years. When one compares the general lack of thoroughness of the average high school student with the knowledge possessed by the English or German schoolboy of the same age it is hard to resist the conclusion that something is radically wrong with the schools of this country. Is not the trouble in part due to our procrustean system, which is designed to conform to pupils of mediocre ability?

The New Transit Strike.

When the Interborough management conceded—that it could not with a shadow of sense deny—the right of its employees to organize, and then undertook to outwit the union organizers, it laid the foundation for the present trouble. The subterfuge of forming the corporation's own privately conducted union and contracting with individual employees for an unbroken two years' service was a clever one, from the management's point of view. It was entirely within the law, and backed by pay increases and improved working conditions, showed every prospect of success. The only trouble with it was that it was too clever. It spelled failure for future attempts of the Amalgamated union's organizers to unionize any big traction property if it worked.

What is at stake in the present quarrel is not now a question of hours or of wages. The Interborough has within a short time granted three increases in wages and has improved the conditions of work materially. It is greatly to be doubted if the Amalgamated could have forced better terms from the management for the workers if every one of them had been enrolled in its membership. The issue over which the corporation and the men are fighting is whether Mr. Hedley's private union or Mr. Fitzgerald's country-wide union shall prevail. The element of "collective bargaining" in it is pretty well obscured by the element of labor union politics.

Neither side has showed any regard for the public. Both declared they would fight rather than arbitrate, and they are selfishly pursuing what they deem to be their own interests at the expense of the people who travel on the city's transportation lines. The fact remains that, however flagrantly the workers choose to violate their duty to the public, the company has a duty which it cannot abandon, and will not be permitted to abandon. It must operate its trains. The necessity for uninterrupted transportation facilities aligns the public on the side of the corporation, now that the strike has actually come into being. That is unfortunate, in view of the equivocal position of the management in the brief preliminaries. But it cannot be helped. The public must have trains, and the company must be protected when it tries to run them, by the police, and by state troops, if the police prove inadequate.

If the strikers are wise, they will refrain from any of the disgraceful acts of violence which accompanied the recent strike of the surface car men. It is bad enough for the people of this city to be subjected to the inconveniences and hardships which will be unavoidable while the strike lasts. There will be scant patience for the unionists if they adopt actual physical violence as a weapon in their warfare in addition to the "moral suasion" of the strike. No surer way could be devised to lose whatever measure of public sympathy they may now have.

Art After the War.

It was a great shock to some of his most ardent admirers when a late gifted sculptor—a modern among moderns, the idol of the literary gentlemen who explain the New Art to the vulgar—confessed very frankly in a letter from the trenches that the war had wrought a change in him, and that if ever he came back he would probably revert to his earlier manner and give up his subtle experiments in the discovery of a new formula for the representation of planes and what not.

The Young Turks.

The denouncement of the Young Turks (a body which Mr. Morgenthau, the former American Ambassador to Turkey, has never stopped lauding) by the Grand Sheriff of Mecca shows that the barbarities of the Young Turks have no checkers even in the Mahometans who are trying to wipe off the blot on their sacred religion by disowning the Young Turks.

An Official War Artist.

I understand that a very interesting step has just been taken by the government in appointing an artist to make drawings at the front for the historical record of the war. The artist appointed is Mr. Muirhead Bone, who is now a second lieutenant on the staff and is already at the front engaged in this work. Mr. Bone's position as a draftsman is sufficiently established to guarantee a general acceptance of the appointment. Although his work has only been before the public some ten years, he has taken his place among the masters of etching who are collected by the state galleries of Europe and America.

Acceptance.

We ask you for your suffrages. "Prosperity and Peace." The Democratic battle cry! Long may the tribe increase! Come, vote us back in power to whom your hoarded wealth you owe.

Industrial Reconstruction by the Germans.

We are told by the Germans, with much virtuous boasting and canting self-laudation, that they are "reconstructing" the Belgian industries. Poor, unhappy Belgium! This is the final robbery of the stunned and bleeding victim. Now the Belgians will be stripped to the skin. Now every mine and railway, every industry and business center in Belgium will be controlled and owned by Germans, and all the enormous profits of that magnificent trade will pour into the greedy and war-depleted pockets of the bankrupt German Empire.

Belgium and Switzerland.

Peaceful, industrious little Belgium, not seeking a quarrel with any neighbor, sure in a neutrality guaranteed by the great nations surrounding her, working and striving ever in the pursuits of peace, where are you today? Some of your people are in slavery, others in exile, and all that you can still call your own is a tiny strip of land defended through the heroisms of that little band of soldiers that is still left you. Did unpreparedness save Belgium? Did her peaceful prosperity keep the invader who coveted her from desecrating her people? Belgium of to-day is the answer.

On the other hand, hidden away among the rugged Alps lies our tiny sister republic every bit as industrious, ever bit as peaceful, strategically occupying a better position for the invasion of France than Belgium did, but Switzerland was ready, ready at any time to repel any invasion, any desecration, and Germany knew it; and so Switzerland to-day is still free. Alone of all the countries in war-torn Europe she is free from entanglement, free to pursue her varied industrial occupations, with every man and boy on guard.

It is true that armament never prevented war, but it was mostly because armament in the past was used only as a means to conquer the weak. With the lessons taught us by the present day armament would be an insurance, and while insurance of any kind does not always prevent that for which it is intended, it protects. History has taught us that when great nations ceased longer to strive for freedom and abandoned themselves solely to the pursuits of commerce without adequate protection, and to peaceful occupations without thought of the duties these occupations entailed, they deteriorated and in the end became extinct. Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire are only two instances.

That Americans of to-day can give utterance to sentiments such as have been uttered during the past two years, and no doubt were in many hearts for more than two, is to cover with opprobrium the memory of those who gave their lives, who fought against all odds, that we might live. These men gave no thought as to whether they were heroes, they did not shrink their duty when it came, but simply and honorably followed the path that has made possible our nation's existence. What if George Washington and the men of his day had said: "I am not my brother's keeper," and continued in their farming or other pursuits? Had Lincoln said he was "too proud to fight," would he be the united nation of to-day? And Lincoln was ever a man of peace.

But to the present generation all things have come so easily that our sense has become atrophied, we are drugged with prosperity, which we are reaping over the closed graves of others who gave up their lives for the ideals which we profess to stand for. Our prosperity is easy for us, but it is paid in tears and sorrows elsewhere; and many of these tears, much of this bitterness, we could have prevented had the spirit of old been alive in our souls.

"Development of commerce and industry, breaking down of economic barriers, education," a perfect ideal which can never be reached if first of all we are not awake to the fact that each of us bears a duty. The parable of the three servants could be well applied to us, for indeed we are hiding the talent which has been given us for fear it would be stolen and lost, and in the end even that talent was taken from the servant. Human nature is the same; it is only the degree of civilization that covers us. Scratch deep enough and the cave man will be found. So it will be with the one who has. Another will come who, finding him asleep and secure in its imagined right-being, will take away that which he had.

The Young Turks.

The denouncement of the Young Turks (a body which Mr. Morgenthau, the former American Ambassador to Turkey, has never stopped lauding) by the Grand Sheriff of Mecca shows that the barbarities of the Young Turks have no checkers even in the Mahometans who are trying to wipe off the blot on their sacred religion by disowning the Young Turks.

An Official War Artist.

I understand that a very interesting step has just been taken by the government in appointing an artist to make drawings at the front for the historical record of the war. The artist appointed is Mr. Muirhead Bone, who is now a second lieutenant on the staff and is already at the front engaged in this work. Mr. Bone's position as a draftsman is sufficiently established to guarantee a general acceptance of the appointment. Although his work has only been before the public some ten years, he has taken his place among the masters of etching who are collected by the state galleries of Europe and America.

Acceptance.

We ask you for your suffrages. "Prosperity and Peace." The Democratic battle cry! Long may the tribe increase! Come, vote us back in power to whom your hoarded wealth you owe.

Industrial Reconstruction by the Germans.

We are told by the Germans, with much virtuous boasting and canting self-laudation, that they are "reconstructing" the Belgian industries. Poor, unhappy Belgium! This is the final robbery of the stunned and bleeding victim. Now the Belgians will be stripped to the skin. Now every mine and railway, every industry and business center in Belgium will be controlled and owned by Germans, and all the enormous profits of that magnificent trade will pour into the greedy and war-depleted pockets of the bankrupt German Empire.



THE IMMORALITY OF WILSONISM

Why a Vote to Re-elect the President is a Condonation of Dishonor, Blindness and Cowardly Statesmanship—The Real Issue in the Present Campaign.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The issue in the approaching election is moral, not economic, and in this it differs from every other campaign since the Civil War. The people of the United States must be made to appreciate this; then there will be no danger of the election of Wilson. To vote for him is an immoral act, the only excuse for which is that the voter fails to recognize its immorality. We may pity blindness and forgive it; we may hold that he who is blind need not keep to the right like the man who can see, but we must not let the blind lead us or choose one of them to guide our traffic.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The issue in the approaching election is moral, not economic, and in this it differs from every other campaign since the Civil War. The people of the United States must be made to appreciate this; then there will be no danger of the election of Wilson. To vote for him is an immoral act, the only excuse for which is that the voter fails to recognize its immorality. We may pity blindness and forgive it; we may hold that he who is blind need not keep to the right like the man who can see, but we must not let the blind lead us or choose one of them to guide our traffic.

Horace Greeley's Hieroglyphic.

The Newest Version of an Old, Old Story Hereabouts.

Sir: Reading the letter in your last Friday's issue by W. F. H., referring to my founder of The Tribune and his apparent excitement when he had been told by a passing acquaintance that he had "stopped The Tribune," brings to my mind one of the numerous stories and anecdotes credited to this wonderful man.

Mr. Wilson's Career.

The career of Woodrow Wilson for the past forty months stands out as a glaring kaleidoscopic contradiction, mingled with scientific legislation, dedicated to an obsession of economic destruction born of innate jealousy of commercial success. His lunar logic as well as the laws for which he stood sponsor was changed by his vacillating commands as rapidly as the phases of the moon. It might be well for the brotherhoods, if they are confiding their cause to him, to read his Presidential record, beginning with the platform on which he was nominated, which provided: "We favor a single Presidential term, and to that end we urge the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution making the President of the United States ineligible for reelection, and we pledge the candidate of this convention to this principle."

The Kilt in Ireland.

Sir: May I call your attention to a statement reprinted from "The Morning Post" of London in The New York Tribune yesterday, under the title "An Appeal to English Sentimentality?" This article, which is an attempt to make people believe that the kilt is only two or three centuries old and was introduced into Ireland from England, is not only an amusing instance of the way in which folklore has grown since the April rebellions, but an excellent example of the attitude of mind of many English people toward all that is Irish. In justice to the many loyal Irishmen, I feel that I cannot let such a statement pass unchallenged. I quote from P. W. Joyce, the recognized authority on early Irish history (page 389 of the second edition of the "Smaller Social History," published by Longmans, Green & Co. in 1908). The paragraph is as follows:

Acceptance.

We ask you for your suffrages. "Prosperity and Peace." The Democratic battle cry! Long may the tribe increase! Come, vote us back in power to whom your hoarded wealth you owe.

W. WOODWORTH. Norfolk, Va., Sept. 1, 1916.