

New York Tribune
First to Last—The Truth—News—Editorials—
Advertisements
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of an economic agreement with the United States, by which Spain will send into France iron and copper ores, woolen goods, various food supplies, oil and soap. In return the United States will give Spain cotton, petroleum and railroad equipment.

This is an instance in which the problem of commercial relations between a belligerent and a neutral, under special war conditions, has been solved simply and rationally. We have had great difficulty in coming to an agreement with Holland. The Scandinavian countries are still very loath to make any agreements with us which may cause resentment in Germany.

United We Stand, Divided We Fall
The "old guard" is evidently planning to elect Mr. Adams, of Iowa, chairman of the Republican National Committee. The reason is given that he will be a harmonizer and bring all elements into close and friendly cooperation.

As a War Measure
This extravagant nation has no more prodigious form of waste than its waste of transportation. Roughly speaking, in normal times about one dollar in ten of the nation's income is spent on hauling goods and people.

A "Movie"
At one of the leading "movie" theatres this week there has been given a singular "drama," if we may call it that, which has suggested thoughts. What influence has the "movie"? Do the impressions gained from a fairly persistent attendance upon film performances become motor forces in the minds of those who do not think?

Spain Falls in Line
Spain has taken in good part our government's recent hint that it expects a certain amount of neighborly accommodation on the part of neutrals. If the neutral countries of Europe desire to trade with us and to get coal in our harbors for their shipping, it is certainly up to them to return our courtesies and favors.

as actual poverty becomes less and the general condition of the great mass of the people is improved, does discontent become more acute? And is it profitable to ponder to this feeling? Apparently it is.

No Ersatz Doughnut!
There is perhaps yet time to fend off the Victory doughnut which Washington is graciously endowing with an official permit. At any rate, we hope so. We set our teeth and our pen firmly against the dastardly pretence. We shall do our utmost that truth and the historic faith shall prevail.

Three-Cent Interborough Postage
Three-cent interborough postage is a nuisance. But who is to blame for it and how it is to be got rid of? "The Times" thinks that the Postoffice Department is misinterpreting the postal rate paragraph of the war revenue act of October last by requiring three-cent stamps to be placed on letters mailed from Manhattan to Brooklyn, Staten Island or Queens.

Getting It Over to the Kaiser
The world war has stifled progress in some arts, killed others. But one it has energized and made new. Cryptography has never in any one period of its history achieved such popularity or been brought to such perfection as under the stress of this war.

The Guard Regiments
A Strong Protest Against the Disembodiment Which Has Taken Place
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: I want to make a vigorous protest against the disorganization of the old regiments of the New York National Guard.

Then and Now
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Following the sinking of the Tuscania, Secretary Baker is credited with the following: "An adversary who has refined but made more deadly the stealth of the savage in warfare has challenged America."

German Poison in the Schools
The German virus eats in everywhere. There can be little doubt that for some years before the war the German government, as an adjunct to its spy service here, was planting propagandists on the teaching staffs of our schools and colleges.

Hiding Behind Marriage
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Has it occurred to you that the ruling affecting marriages contracted since May of last year is rather unfair to the girls who give up the name of the husband, was an out-Sam, and did even more than that, they refused to be married, and sent their only happiness to serve the country? What I mean is: Does it not seem unfair that the young men that have married (lots just to escape service—I know some of them myself), physical coward, should be permitted to hide behind the marriage law of Secretary Baker's making, in order to get out of a GIRL WHO CONSIDERS THE RULING MOST UNFAIR.

February of this year, while the number taking Spanish increased in the same period from 231 to 1,206. But the number of those taking French is smaller now than it was four years ago.

French is the language of one of our closest allies. It is a language which has long been accepted as a medium of communication by the cultivated classes of all countries. It has a high literary and educational value. It is now being studied with avidity by hundreds of thousands of Americans who are to go to the front in France or have relatives who are going there.

Washington, February 10.
The policeman, as the traditional repository of troubles, must be having an easy time of it these days. Everybody now tells his troubles to William Gibbs McAdoo. The trouble tellers are local, national and international.

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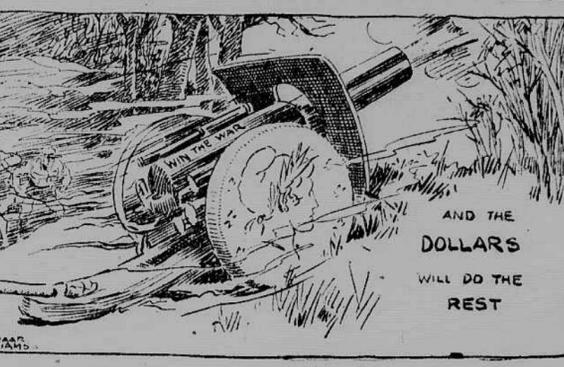
Belgium and the Congo
Charges of Atrocities Not Sustained by Facts
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The letter from Mr. Charles Hooper, of Seattle, appearing in The Tribune of February 7 calls for a few words. In the course of a rather crony speculation on the means of securing an early peace the writer says: "Belgium's sins in the Congo do not entitle her to a very great deal of sympathy, but, of course, her derelictions in the Congo cannot be considered in the council chamber."

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Lincoln and Wilson
(From The Villager)
ONE does not go far in these days without meeting the man who can dispose of all adverse comment upon our Administration by pointing out that in the early part of the Civil War a great many mistaken patriots bitterly criticized Lincoln and his Cabinet. The argument is, in the words of Barrie's policeman, infallibly: "Mr. Baker is sure of his seat so long as Mr. Stanton and Mr. Wilson can be sure in his right as Lincoln, the fundamental misconception of the analogy will, of course, be apparent to any one who reflects a little on the point of critical departure in each case. The President, judged by both proclamations, has followed the late confederation act of Congress, has no mind whatever," declares Wendell Phillips at Abingdon in 1862.

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