

The Children's Tribune

First to Last—For Children: Fun,
Facts and Fancies

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Intolerance Toward Foreigners

Why in this great country of ours, which has truly been called "The Melting Pot of the Nations," should we be so intolerant of foreigners? Although we proclaim this the land of equal opportunity for every one, we contemptuously refer to them as "dagos, wops, chinks, huns, etc.," and make them the butt of our ridicule because of their inability to properly speak our language. Yet there are innumerable examples where these same foreigners, handicapped as they were by ignorance of our language and customs, have risen to positions of prominence in our professional and commercial life, and have proved of inestimable benefit to the land of their adoption.

These immigrants who arrive at Ellis Island with all their worldly belongings in a few bags and boxes will be fathers and mothers of future generations of Americans, and they have been taught to look to America as the land of promise. How much better it would be if instead of jeering at them we should give them whatever aid we could in their endeavor to become Americanized! Many of the great corporations now realize this, and maintain schools for teaching the English language.

The recent death of Andrew Carnegie recalls the fact that he arrived in this country a poor boy, and subsequently rose to a position of wealth and prominence probably unique in the history of the country.

Therefore, it would be well for us to remember that the foreigner is a human being like ourselves and in our treatment of him follow the injunction of our great martyr President, "with charity for all, with malice toward none," and thus enable him to realize that this is in truth the land of promise.

Audubon, N. J. Helen Pemberton (15 years).

(Editor's Note: This is the anniversary of the day 427 years ago when a "foreigner" discovered us.)

Prohibition

Intoxicating liquor has been, ever since the world first became acquainted with its vile taste, the root of evil. Some persons consider money so. That is true; but we can live without liquor, while money is essential. Even to this very day we find the jails crowded, the lunatic asylums overflowing, penitentiaries loaded with derelicts of crime who frankly admit they have been brought there through drink. Others have been led into a criminal life by the use of drugs. There are laws prohibiting the sale of habit forming drugs. If that has been openly recog-

nized as illegal why is public sentiment opposed to prohibition of intoxicating liquor?

There are many nations in this world but we all consider our own the best, for that is national pride. America has always led the world in making reforms. We will have, if prohibition goes into effect January, 1920, the cleanest country in the world.

There has been much said about "personal liberty." What liberty is the public being deprived of? The liberty of an individual to ruin his life, to make himself a burden to society, to reel in the streets and furnish a horrible example for every sensible person to loathe. That is what "personal liberty" really means here, although the energetic anti-prohibitionists use it as a high sounding title to convince the public that its precious rights, its individual sovereignty, its right to live in peace and freedom are being intolerably intruded upon and that for this reason it is time for every one to violate the Constitution by refusing to observe a law which has become one of our sacred obligations.

New York City. Dennis Russo (15 years).



Mexican Muddles

Again the water is boiling in our neighboring country. Again the government there becomes unstable. Again outrages are committed against Americans. Can't we do anything to settle that country once for all?

A few days ago I talked with an American who knew Carranza and Villa personally. He had lived in Mexico for many years, had been robbed by Mexicans and had twice been up against the wall in the face of Mexican rifles. That man knows what he is talking about. He said: "The only way to quiet Mexico is to send American troops there to garrison it. An American form of government must be established and its laws enforced by the American troops until Mexico can govern herself."

I asked him who was the better man, Villa or Carranza. He said neither was good, but Villa had more brains than Carranza. This is the Mexican situation in a nutshell.

Mount Kisco, N. Y. R. Kenneth Straus (13 years).



Editor's Note: All readers of The Children's Tribune fifteen years old or younger are asked to send editorials (i. e., opinions about what is going on in the world), from 250 to 300 words long, to the Editor of this page. The ones printed will be paid for at one cent a word.

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