

New York Tribune

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

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At Last!

At last! After more than fifty years of never-ceasing effort, every adult woman in this broad land is accepted into full citizenship in the human race.

Next to the emancipation of the slaves, in some respects exceeding this in importance, the reform is the most basic this country has ever known.

What will be the precise effect on society and on women no one, of course, can foresee.

It is understood that Washington and the Allied governments at last are exchanging views in the hope of formulating a policy toward Poland which would be acceptable to all.

The average American still is wondering how it is that while the European situation grew more and more tense, month after month, apparently no confidential diplomatic exchanges were undertaken in order that each of the Allies could know progressively what the others were thinking and planning to do, if anything.

All hail to the superwoman! But still woman. No man-made laws can repeal the laws of nature.

The only regret in connection with celebration of this great day is that Susan B. Anthony and Anna Shaw are not present to enjoy the felicitations.

More Cox Hypocrisy: In the manufacture of buncombe Candidate Cox, in his remarks to the Ohio Democratic State Convention, exceeded his previous high mark.

At Warsaw's Gates: While our government snugly says that its heart palpitates with sympathy for Poland and that Russia is in the hands of a foul autocracy, the gates of Warsaw are stoutly held by those who sadly know an invader cannot be driven back by firing rhetorical ammunition at him.

One battery is worth more than all the words of the dictionary. If Poland saves her capital from rapine and plunder, if the experiences of Louvain and Lille are not to be repeated, it will not be by verbal cannonading and unsupported expressions of sympathy.

The Poles are fighting a desperate battle with barbarism. If we can not or will not extend material aid, let us have the grace to recognize that our words are of little immediate value.

Grim business goes on at the gates of Warsaw. The Polish men who are doing work of equal devotion like sympathy, but they prefer sympathy that translates itself into acts.

Translating Freight Rates: What we like about the argument of Ralph Peters, president of the Long Island Railroad, concerning the incidence of the new freight rates is that it is specific.

Cauliflower, potatoes and oysters are the historic products of Long Island.

Island. To bring in a head of cauliflower will cost four mills more, a peck of potatoes nine mills more and a bushel of oysters seven cents more. If you are "stuck" more than these amounts ask pointed questions; refuse to be satisfied with general statements or gauzy assertions.

To bring a pound of meat from Chicago to Mineola will cost three mills more than it did; 100 pounds of sugar from the refineries to Huntington will cost eight cents more, or less than a mill per pound. Shoes from Boston to Hempstead will bear a traffic charge eight mills a pair higher.

Yet we fear the worst. The public is still afflicted with boobyism. In letters to editors it is boldly denunciatory, but it is milder than a lamb while its pockets are being actually picked. It seldom even so much as bleats as it is stripped, it not being polite to the dealer to express discontent.

Mr. Hugo's Sacrifice

In announcing the withdrawal of his name as a gubernatorial candidate Francis M. Hugo, Secretary of State, says his action is due to his unwillingness, in a highly important Presidential year, to jeopardize Republican chances by precipitating what might be a divisive struggle in the primaries.

Mr. Hugo had strong support, both among the leaders and rank and file of the party. He was sure of a large vote. Thus he makes a distinct sacrifice for party harmony. He generously surrenders an ambition he has long cherished and which a host of loyal friends and supporters desired to further.

Mr. Hugo has served the state faithfully. The administration of his office has been admirable. So it was not strange that thought of his promotion came to many. But politics is a queer and hard business. Conscientious public service, although much praised, not always commands a right of way.

But, happily, Mr. Hugo is a philosopher, cheerfully willing to subordinate his aspirations to the interests of the party of which he is a member.

A United Policy

It is understood that Washington and the Allied governments at last are exchanging views in the hope of formulating a policy toward Poland which would be acceptable to all. Considering the present divergence between France and England in respect to Russia, the status of Italy and the unrevealed attitude of Japan, it seems time that such steps were taken.

The average American still is wondering how it is that while the European situation grew more and more tense, month after month, apparently no confidential diplomatic exchanges were undertaken in order that each of the Allies could know progressively what the others were thinking and planning to do, if anything.

Why was not this simple and familiar method of handling a dangerous situation put in operation? What secretive influence seemingly prevented ambassadors of the great powers from functioning? Why, for example, did Secretary Colby's note to the Italian Ambassador fall like a bombshell upon England, which was described next day as "stunned" by its revealing an American attitude toward Russia wholly unsuspected? Did the author of the Colby note, a hot potato in words but a cold potato in action, fail to consult our associates? These are interesting questions for Americans to consider.

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hand, the passenger pigeon, counted by the thousands of millions only a hundred years ago, was hunted at nesting time, when the female sat twenty hours a day. Females were killed in disproportionate numbers and the species disappeared in sixty years.

The Rodier plan of dealing with the rat evil sounds sensible enough. Every breeder of horses, dogs, sheep and poultry knows that excess of males means failure, and regulates his stock accordingly.

In the case of rats, where this failure of reproduction, resulting in time in extinction, is the desired end, the excess of males could be brought about deliberately. Combining the Rodier scheme with a thorough system of rat-proofing buildings might be a worthwhile experiment.

Will Mr. Baker Oblige?

The Secretary of War has delivered himself of a campaign speech in which he does his earnest best to resurrect Article X pure and unreserved.

In his unhappy effort to play Gabriel Mr. Baker, did all that he could. It is doubtful whether any one else, distending his cheeks, could have blown the trumpet louder. But the noise is that of a penny whistle. The hard, cold fact is that Article X, as the President drew it, is triply dead.

There is, however, one subject upon which the American people have been waiting to hear the Secretary speak—frankly, fearlessly, unreservedly. His address need not consume more than five minutes of time. He could utter it in any city or village or country crossroads in the land, before an audience of six or of six thousand, and it would be displayed on the front page of every American newspaper.

To command the instant and serious attention of 100,000,000 Americans, all that the Secretary of War need do is to answer a single question: Who is the official, civil or military, who issued the order which permitted the slacker Bergdoll to leave Governor's Island?

The conditions of which all complain are in no small part due to the fact that industrial disputes are considered the exclusive affair of those directly involved.

The Cost of One Strike

What was the cost of the longshoremen's strike, declared off after more than five months of struggle? What did it cost the longshoremen? What the shippers? What the public? Counting the men out as numberless 20,000, and earnings as low as \$5 a day, the men are a million and a half poorer because of the strike.

Every buyer of food has been compelled to pay more because of spoilsports and the lack of usual supplies. And the subtraction from the income of producers was probably as great as the burden laid on consumers. Is a tie-up of a key industry of consequence? It is.

But public education concerning the falsity of these assumptions proceeds rapidly. Liberty is precious, but one may not use his liberty to destroy the welfare of his neighbor. The production and distribution which are the concern of all must go on.

Science and Rat Killing: In view of the anti-rat campaign recently begun by our health authorities the criticism offered by an English scientist, George Jennison, of the usual methods of rat extermination deserves attention. He points out that these methods fail because they aim at killing off all rats individually, which in face of the extraordinary fecundity of the species is impossible.

The alternative suggested is simple in theory, though far less simple in practice. Mr. Jennison advocates catching rats alive, killing the females and releasing the males. The plan was originated and successfully applied to rabbits by an Australian, William Rodier, of Melbourne, who claims to have cleared 64,000 acres of infested area in twenty years by this means alone, whereas poisoning proved a failure.

Under the present methods, because of their greater boldness, more males are killed than females, but reduction of the number of males does not affect breeding; it merely turns the race polygamous. The case of the bird of paradise is in point. The male, never very numerous, has been hunted for his brighter plumage for two thousand years. As a result the race became polygamous and survives. On the other

hand, the passenger pigeon, counted by the thousands of millions only a hundred years ago, was hunted at nesting time, when the female sat twenty hours a day. Females were killed in disproportionate numbers and the species disappeared in sixty years.

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The production and distribution which are the concern of all must go on.

The Conning Tower

The rotten pales hung wryly from the fence; The sagging screen doors, gnawed upon by rust, Broke when you touched them; grubs had built their tents Across the fanlight, clouded with thick dust.

The storms of years had marked the dingy walls; Wasps buzzed displeasure, and from room to room Rats scrambled in alarm, with squealing calls. Our footfalls woke strange echoes in the gloom.

Old girandoles and sets of Empire chairs, And cupboards full of books in musty leather, And mantel ornaments in ugly pairs, And black-framed prints, bestained by time and weather;

Hearth furniture of choicest early brass, A classic highboy, a large pie-crust stand, A most uncommon triptych looking-glass, A curious cabinet, artfully japanned: Such we saw there, shut up to slow decay;

And not our prayers nor tears could aught avail! To coax one precious, envied piece away From the lean spinster who said, "Not for sale."

They are not beautiful to her, and she Lives in the kitchen, but she still clings fast To these few things; to part from them would be To own the world had beaten her at last.

Though old and feeble, she yet shows the pleasure Of proud refusal in her filmy eye; Poor though she be, rich is she in a treasure Solicitous strangers are too poor to buy. G. S. B.

Mr. Lawton Mackall tells of a circular issued by a phonograph concern, which suggests that dentists' offices be equipped with talking machines for the waiting patients. In this Mr. Bert Taylor sees a plot to ruin the Old Magazine commerce, though the notion that old magazines are to be found in dentists' offices is, to our belief, an article of the American Creed.

The 25 per cent increase which, while not fixed by the Legislature, is taken by the tenant as a rate of increase indicated as reasonable, would in four years, if continued, double the old rents and would reach that point if unwise laws are not passed.

The landlord ought to be satisfied to receive the average rate received for like apartments in the neighborhood. The tenant ought to be willing to approach the matter as one involving not only dollars but patriotism, and with a determination to meet the other more than half way. Let it be known by all that both are fully determined to avoid a court controversy. CHARLES E. MANIERE. New York, Aug. 16, 1920.

Ways of French Children

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Where, I wonder, does Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch get the facts on which she founds her assertions about French children, quoted by The Tribune in today's review of "A Woman's Point of View"?

I lived in Paris ten years, from four years of age to nearly fourteen, and my recollections are at variance with those of Mrs. Blatch. French children play dozens of round games; the French words of many I still remember. They skip rope rarely by themselves, generally in groups. We often, I may say almost always, played with children we had never met before; the only password necessary was: "May I play with you?" The Champs Elysees was full of dancing, singing children, and France is too old a country to have changed its customs. I was surprised on my return to America at the formality in the relations between children.

The only mythology I ever learned was in a French school. I was also thoroughly drilled in Bible history, ancient Greek and Roman history, ancient geography and modern geography of every continent and country in the world. On the other hand, in America I was never given anything but American history and United States geography. Of later education I have no personal knowledge, but Mrs. Blatch's statements are not in accord with the French "social instinct," which is so marked a national characteristic.

It is true that after studying other civilizations the French prefer their own, even as we prefer ours. I. B. Brooklyn, Aug. 15, 1920.

A Futile Illusion

From The Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger. The futility of class voting is shown by the fact that the blacklist of various organizations virtually includes every member of Congress in both houses. The wise voter votes as an American, not as a wet or a dry, a suffragist or an anti, a plumber or a Methodist, and the thing that determines his choice of a candidate is not a single item in a platform, but his seasoned judgment concerning all matters therein contained.

A Prophetic Soul

From The Boston Evening Transcript. Villa surrendered because he was afraid of the United States, thus indicating that he has been intelligent enough to get onto the fact that the United States government is going to change hands.

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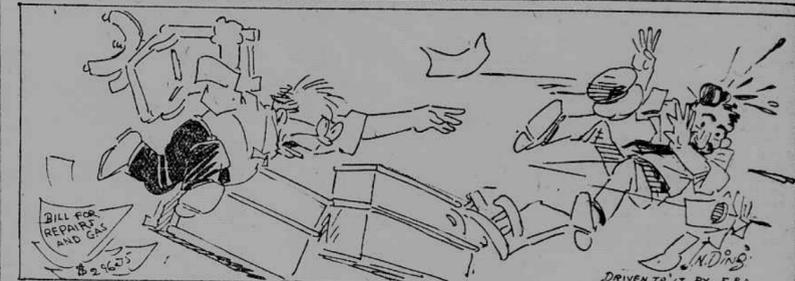
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DOES ANY ONE KNOW OF A GOOD BUG EXTERMINATOR?



DRIVEN 'T BY F. P. A.

Dissolution

By Frank H. Simonds

The threefold developments of a single day—speech by Lloyd George, formal statement of American policy by the American Secretary of State, formal recognition of the Wrangel revolution by the French—these constitute, in themselves, the unmistakable demonstration of the complete divergence of Allied views at a moment of unmistakable gravity.

What records a dentist should put on came up for discussion. First, of course, "The Brides." Mr. Mackall offers "Crown Him With Many Crowns," and B. L. T. suggests "Hark! From the Gooms a Doleful Sound!"

The Rouse's Point of View: Sir: Is it not surprising how desperately large and ominous a qt. flask of Scotch appears as one approaches Rouse's Point from Montreal, and how exasperatingly small and piffling the same flask looks after passing the Point—and the inspectors? W. W. E.

Mr. Franklin Roosevelt attacks, he says, not the Republican party, but those leaders who, he asserts, decided the nomination in the back room of a hotel. Our information is that it was decided in a front room, facing Michigan Boulevard. It might have been decided more quickly in a back room, where the noise of the Illinois Central trains is less audible.

Bless Him! A lad I like! Is Eddie Wellim; He never giggles. Out: "You tell 'im." Mr. Arthur T. Walker, who inherited the Scaries Jack, may be a highly estimable gentleman, but we wish he wouldn't stick the ends of his bow tie under his collar.

Historic Lines [Robert Louis Stevenson once said, longingly, as he was passing a picturesque cave in between black rocks, "That would be a wonderful place for a murderer!"—Harper's Magazine, The Bookshelf.] When Homer on a classic day Was strolling minutely through Troy, He saw a sight that made him say, In phrase so picturesque, "Oh, Boy!"

When Shakespeare ventured on The Strand, The jostling crowds about him burst, A single sentence came to hand, Or rather mouth, "I'll tell the world." "I've gotcha, Steve," was coined by Swift. "I'll say she does," belongs to Poe. Fred Nietzsche belted, "Get the dirt!" And Goethe cried, "You said it, bo." F. P. A.

Q. for Class in Journalism: What is the renewal of the Anglo-Japanese alliance? A.—Jap Pact. Singer Once a Sewing Girl.—Tribune headline. Adv.? The second most effective conversation stopper we know of is to say "No" to the operator's "Excuse please say."

The best emergency brake, however, is "No" to "Is it h. e. for you?" F. P. A.

policy is not less unmistakable. America will not recognize the Bolsheviks; there is no popular sympathy in the United States; no organized political body of labor to demand it. No difficulty, then, for the United States government to take a high tone in denouncing the Bolsheviks. Americans, too, are sympathetic with the Poles, unmistakably so, hence it is equally easy to assert this fact.

Poland's Greatest Need: But the Bolsheviks are at the gates of Warsaw and Poland is appealing for moral but material assistance, for men and money, for guns and munitions, not for sympathy or moral support. It was not the moral support of France in the Revolution which assured our independence; it was not even the volunteer assistance of Lafayette. It was the declaration of war by France and the arrival of the army of Rochambeau.

Precisely this assistance, however, we decline to give. Poland must suffer whatever punishment is in store and await, with the same confidence as America, the triumph of justice. But the last time Poland had to wait the delay extended from 1815 to wait 1919—more than a century—and it may be suspected that the Poles will feel a cold chill down their backs as they read the words of Bainbridge Colby, asserting the warmest of sympathy and the coldest of purposes. No help from Britain; no help from the United States—this is what the two pronouncements of Lloyd George and Colby mean to the Poles, the only difference being that Lloyd George condemns them for doing what his government did for two years, while Mr. Colby praises them for doing something which cannot possibly be successful if they are not assisted.

France Supports Wrangel: There remains France, but what does France do? She, in effect, declares war upon the Bolsheviks by proclaiming her intention to support Wrangel. But this amounts to presenting the Bolsheviks with a pretext for pursuing the advance upon Warsaw. It demolishes all British hopes, for the Reds can flatly assert that they will not make peace with Poland while the French ally makes war upon them, and will not listen to British appeals while the British fail to restrain their French ally. But this does not help Poland; lacking men and munitions now. Granted that if Poland succeeds in saving herself now, the Wrangel operation will ultimately draw off weight from the Vistula front. But this is a remote contingency.

So there the situation stands. The British want peace. Lloyd George is concerned only that what is to be done by the Bolsheviks to Poland shall be done so decently that there will be no terrible offense against civilization requiring British intervention. France is determined that there shall be no recognition of Red Russia, and proceeds to provoke a crisis which make recognition wellnigh impossible, because it offers Russia a pretext for disregarding even the minimum prescribed by British policy.

Meantime, from our isolation, the United States follows the French policy, in insisting upon no recognition of the Reds, thus making Lloyd George's already difficult position tenfold more difficult, but at the same time leaves France in the air by declining to support any active campaign against Russia.

The Crisis Grave: All of which would be comic if it were not tragic. It means that the nations which established Poland, which have been pointing to the liberation of Poland as one of the circumstances in the Versailles Treaty which weighed against many a serious mistake, have abandoned Poland or have decided to limit their assistance to words. Britain indicts America, blesses France further imperils Poland. And the Reds are in sight of Warsaw.

Six years ago, at this very hour, the ferets of Liege were falling and Belgian, French and British armies, under divided command, were approaching inevitable defeat. In less than three weeks Paris would be in peril. And still after six years there is no peace, no clear perception of the need of a common policy. The European concert has broken up, as did the Holy Alliance before it, but to-day the consequences promise to be graver and more immediate. Copyright, 1920, McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

A Look Askance at Wadsworth: To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It is natural for Senator Wadsworth (needing their votes) to pose as the people's friend. But the people may be pardoned a little skepticism. Some of them remember his opposition while in the New York Assembly to the 5-cent fare bill, to the income tax, to the direct primary bill and his fight against a proposed investigation of Wall Street at a time when methods of cheating and despoiling unsophisticated speculators were rife. That he fought valiantly for corporations such as the Genesee River Company, the Economic Power and Construction Company, working against bills that would force them to give up extraordinary and unjust privileges they had gained, and that he was friendly toward the Ryan-Belmont merger will not make any particular hit with the people. With a little effort the people will remember, too, his fight against the re-apportionment bill drawn up by the Tully committee when, at a cost to the state of \$2,000 a day, he delayed action, not because the bill was not all that could be desired, but because it did not permit the Senator's father to shut out of reelection by adroit manipulation of districts an excellent Senator, Mr. Stevens.

These actions brand Wadsworth as a certain type, and as a United States Senator he has run true to form. He voted for the Shields water power grab bill, he was considered enough of a friend of the meat packers to be asked by the president of Swift & Co. to give advice and assistance to his counsel, Henry R. C. McManus, when the Borland resolution for the investigation of the meat packers was pending, and he opposed the taxation of war profits. Upon all of these things the people look askance. Mr. Wadsworth's wooing of the average run of voters will be successful only with those who know nothing, read nothing and hope for nothing in the way of betterment of general conditions. BROOKLYN REPUBLICAN. Brooklyn, Aug. 14, 1920.