

New York Tribune
First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements
FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1921

the latter that "the contracts had been entered into as a result of a conspiracy on the part of certain former temporary officers of the army to secure these contracts and control of large stocks of harness on hand for their own benefit."

Lavish expenditure for stocks never used, and perhaps far in excess of any probable needs, may be pardonable as an incident of administrative inexperience and over-hasty bidding.

The Senate and the Budget

In order to conform with the theory of centralized responsibility under the budget system it will be necessary for the Senate to consolidate its committees in charge of appropriations. The House of Representatives has already done this.

Better Times

The Federal Reserve Bank of this district posts, in concrete fashion, its guess as to the financial future by lowering its discount rate to 6 per cent. It reestablishes the rate that existed during the early months of 1920.

The lowering of the discount rate carries a message of cheer to harassed employers and employees. It is a declaration by high financial authority that the danger of a panic, apprehension of which did so much to produce a drastic reduction in business, is now regarded as passed.

There is another pleasing augury. It will be recalled that the first sign that the peak of prices had been reached developed in the woolen industry. The wholesale price of wool broke while wool products were still at the top.

Merchandise liquidation, which for a year or more has come first to one commodity and then to another, is now almost complete. Doubtless there will be hesitation for some time, but if for twelve months it has paid to be timorous we confront a period when it will pay best to be courageous.

A Referendum on War

A referendum on war, with the provision that "all those voting in favor of the declaration of war be compelled to take up the active prosecution of the same before those who voted against the declaration of war," has been proposed at the convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Imagine a foreign country, moved by the forces of evil, declaring war against the United States. While they attack our coasts the government will print and distribute ballots. As the enemy lands, polling places will be opened.

The War Harness Scandal

By annulling the harness disposal contract made by the War Department with the United States Harness Company President Harding has opened the way to a ventilation through legal channels of a serious war administration scandal.

establish a super-state calls for even a greater change, for the sentiments and prejudices that now cluster about nationhood must be conquered.

Major Miles neglects discussing another way to achieve peace—namely, a frank acknowledgment of the alliance principle. In the world to-day is a power (or at least it existed when the armistice was signed) capable of preventing war.

The representatives of this country, in the period following the signing of the armistice, opposed an alliance—attacked the mutual confidence essential to an alliance. So their work came to naught.

300,000 Tenants

The Citizens' Protective Housing League, Nathan Hirsch chairman, purposes, beginning July 2, to have a competent lawyer in each municipal court who will represent tenants in rent cases without charge.

To maintain this machinery it is proposed to secure a membership of 300,000 for the tenants' league; dues, \$1. On payment of this small fee, therefore, a renter can secure full protection of his interests and the services of men who will quickly become expert.

The league's activities, it will be observed, have nothing to do with curing the housing evil. The league's labors are merely to prevent advantage being taken of ignorance and weakness. Its efforts will be devoted to securing observance of rent laws which have been upheld as valid by the higher courts.

Poor old America! All the pessimists have been in full cry after her for some time, and now appear to have got her. Predictions vary as to just how many weeks or months more democracy will last, but all agree that it is only a question of time.

Even the genial Charles Schwab has yielded to gloom, and the other day declared that "unless we American manufacturers take our position on the lines I have outlined Germany will reap the benefits of the late war."

Who started all this? Was it Macaulay, who many years ago wrote to a friend in America predicting that democracy would fail, or was it Henry Adams, whose Degradation of Democratic Dogma is now being lectured about by various professors?

It will take generations to educate mankind to bend to mere moral authority it will surely take as many generations, or even more, to educate it to the idea of a coercive super-state. To suppress the spirits of pugnacity and suspicion and to substitute a willing acceptance of a court's decree require a great change in human psychology.

The Conning Tower

Let us build a lattice, Lotus, Build a trellis or a lattice, Let the sun's bombardment coat us With a carmine cover gratis.

Where the morning-glory's chalice Lets no sunbeams pass its Ellis Island to our summer palace.

Readers ask, "why do newspapers print so much about that miserable Stillman case?" Answer—"Because such cases are valuable in the present, frightening fools, enlightening the public, warning women."

Fares and Mayor Hylan

Brooklynite Notes a 200 Per Cent Increase—"The Best Mayor" To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: A 5-cent fare has not been saved "is a remark entirely true in your editorial 'Marketing a Fraud'."

Now, in the days of "the savior of the 5-cent fare," I pay 5 cents on the Seneca Avenue stretch, 5 cents on the Myrtle Avenue, 5 cents on the Jamaica Avenue line, Ridgewood and Jamaica are only a short distance apart.

While waiting your reply—for Mayor, John F. Hylan. JAMES C. RELCIE. New York, June 12, 1921.

A Voice for Disarmament

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: More and more the people are learning that 93 per cent of appropriations are for past and future wars, 3 per cent for civil departments, 3 per cent for public works and 1 per cent for education and science—i. e., 1 per cent for our most needful purposes and 93 per cent for the most harmful purpose.

There is a growing demand that our nation, the strongest in all respects of all nations, take decided action toward disarmament at once, to the end that suspicion, unrest, tendency to revolution, etc., here and elsewhere, be given no more aid by reason of heavy taxation for competitive armament.

It will be well if those who feel like doing so will write United States Senators William M. Calder and James W. Wadsworth Jr., and also their Congressman, about this most important matter. CLARENCE L. PARKER. Norwich, N. Y., June 15, 1921.

Trying a Boy for Murder

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Has Indiana lost her sense of perspective? This query is suggested by reason of her having placed an eleven-year-old lad on trial for murder. It is reported that in the Cecil Burkett case the jury stood eleven to one for first degree murder. Thank God for the one!

Oklahoma Society in Prospect

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The responses to my letter about organizing an Oklahoma Society were more numerous and enthusiastic than I expected. I have received letters from all over the country and many from New York.

Meritorious Pro-Germans

Prussia has voted for a new medal to honor the meritorious services of pro-German foreigners. Among the candidates for this medal whose claims might be pressed are: George Sylvester Viereck, Daniel Cohan, William Randolph Hearst, Edmund von Mach, Eamon de Valera (American by birth).

Trotzky (here for a few months). The names of additional candidates will doubtless suggest themselves to others.

On January 17, 1920, Mayor Hylan, in the name of New York, presented the freedom of the city to "President" Eamon de Valera, in recognition of his services to the Irish cause.

Dearer than the Belle of New York

Dear Sir: The Times critic on Tuesday sent a kiss back through the ages in appreciation of how funny Dan Daly was when he played the lunatic in the original cast of "The Belle of New York."

Dear Sir: I have just read your editorial "Marketing a Fraud," and it amused me highly. What ridiculous things you will say in order to attack the best Mayor New York has had in many years!

And D. H. wonders why Dan Daly's song "It's Forty Miles From Schenectady to Troy" was omitted from the revival. For one thing, according to the song, the Blue Book, and the speedometer, it's fourteen miles; and for another, it wasn't Dan Daly's song. It never was sung in "The Belle of New York."

At a late hour last night it looked as though our plans for 1921, to devote the year to belles-lettres, would be uninterfered with by our duties as Mayor. Bowing to the will of the people, we retire forever from politics.

Speech by the Athletic Young Man before the League for Civic Betterment (Reported by Jo): "Irregardless of the invaluable efforts of the Ladies' Auxiliary to ensure the movies in the managers still persist in showing films that are utterly irrelevant and unadopted to the needs of a public that is making such strides in aesthetic culture."

They want matters in the D. A. R. to be serene, for "the members of the Stamford Chapter"—this is taken from The Advocate—"are requested to meet, if not stormy, at 108 Bedford Street."

"In a way," observed Mrs. Stillman, "it is like a game of tennis." With neither side playing a back-court game. And, of course, excessively mixed doubles. F. P. A.

IT IS SURPRISING HOW MUCH DEPENDS ON THE NEIGHBORS



Admiral Sims's Plain Speech

More Letters Applauding His Remarks on Sinn Fein—Also Some Dissenting Notes

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Oh, that I were a great man with a name that would carry far, that I might stand by Admiral Sims and say, "Them's my sentiments, too!"

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Let me thank you for your courageous and wise editorials on the Sinn Fein episode, especially that of this morning. People have been keeping quiet, but they have done a lot of thinking.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: First impression on reading Admiral Sims's speech: "True, but very inadvisable. Language especially impolitic. No, he ought not to have said it."

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: As an American I have to resent your editorial on "The Sims Furor." The press should first give us Americans the meaning of "Sinn Fein." Do these two words mean a sea serpent or a ferocious animal in the jungles of Africa?

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: After reading your editorial, "The Sims Furor," I am constrained to say that it is not yet time to declare "out loud that Sinn Fein hyphenation is un-American," but it is indeed time to say out loud that pro-British papers are un-American.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I am constrained to say that it is not yet time to declare "out loud that Sinn Fein hyphenation is un-American," but it is indeed time to say out loud that pro-British papers are un-American.

with the powers that be; whereas, if you are of the Sinn Fein element of hyphenates you appear to have the privilege of saying in public what you please, doing what you please, tearing down flags of friendly countries, intimidating the elected representatives of the people, arriving and departing from this country without the usual modes of procedure, and to cap the climax, receiving the freedom of the city—usually New York.

ERIC PETERSEN. West Hoboken, N. J., June 14, 1921.

Writing to Washington To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I sent to-day the following telegram to the Secretary of the Navy and have written Senators Wadsworth and Calder to the same effect:

"As a war veteran I respectfully urge that you sustain Admiral Sims in his courageous Americanism. Punishment should not be meted out to those creating friendly relations with Britain, while those who would embroil us in war with a friendly power are allowed to carry on alien, disloyal propaganda openly."

Every loyal American who believes that Sims spoke the truth and who believes the disloyal, lawless Sinn Fein element in our midst must be crushed, should write or telegraph now to Washington and register his or her opinions in no uncertain terms. Merely agreeing with Sims is of no value whatsoever.

Write Washington and write to-day, and let us demonstrate that the spirit of Theodore Roosevelt (God bless him!) still lives. A. New York, June 14, 1921.

Americans. His statement—that "the most striking point in Ireland's relation to the great war was not the efforts of a few wild extremists to help the Germans, but the great number and excellent quality of Irish soldiers who abounded not only in Irish, Australian and Canadian, but also in English and even Scottish regiments"—is worth nothing because even the editor of an American paper emphasizes as "the most striking point" the Irish rebellion! Is that not hypocrisy!

The despicable half truths, the sneaking play on words and misrepresentation of Sinn Fein, published in press dispatches and editorials, proclaimed by bigots from their pulpits and by the "100 per cent American" abroad, are the keenest insults to any one who fought for the same ends for which the Irish regiments at "V" beach, for example, were almost annihilated.

WELCOME THE ADMIRAL To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The students of the old school of typewriting are familiar with the slogan, "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party." Let me suggest a new slogan, namely, "Now is the time for all good Americans to come to the aid of a 100 per cent American."

I sincerely hope that Admiral Sims will receive a rousing welcome upon his arrival, to let him know that real Americans stand solidly behind him. Some of us will be there anyhow. ELIZABETH WYBURN. New York, June 15, 1921.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In a city that gave De Valera its freedom, would it not be well for real Americans to give Admiral Sims a hearty welcome when he returns of the Olympic? A VERMONT YANKEE. New York, June 15, 1921.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Will you allow me to offer you a few words of thanks for your splendid editorial on the case of Admiral Sims? The Admiral expressed his entirely proper and patriotic sentiments truthfully and fearlessly—exactly as Roosevelt would have done. I suggest a big welcoming reception for the Admiral when he arrives in port. Let him have proof that the American people are with him. STANLEY. New York, June 15, 1921.

"Un-American" To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: After reading your editorial, "The Sims Furor," I am constrained to say that it is not yet time to declare "out loud that Sinn Fein hyphenation is un-American," but it is indeed time to say out loud that pro-British papers are un-American.