

New York Tribune
First to Last—the Truth—News—Editorials—Advertisements
Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1922
Owned by New York Tribune Inc., a New York Corporation. Published daily, except on Sundays and public holidays.

ment of Debs as the Socialist leader ought to convince them that the Socialists are not a freedom loving political party, but a band of government haters, who are not to be trusted with office and who are more closely attached to Bolshevism than they are to American institutions.

The Gas Decision
The Supreme Court has sustained Judge Hand's decision in the local Federal District Court that the statutory 80-cent gas rate was confiscatory in the years 1918 and 1919. A plain question of fact was raised in this case. The master who took testimony, the lower court and the highest court all are in agreement as to the fact. Considering general economic conditions in these two peak years of war inflation, there can be little difference of opinion as to the inadequacy of the 80-cent charge. The Legislature intended to give the gas companies 80 cents per thousand feet. The decrease in the value of the dollar gave them in fact hardly more than 45 cents.

This case illustrates the unfairness of fixing community service prices by statute. Economic conditions changed vastly between 1914 and 1918, but the legal rate didn't change. Legal rates are extremely insensitive to fluctuations in costs of production or operation. Relief by political action is a remedy without much promise. Appealing to the courts on the plea of confiscation is a tedious and harassing process. Money fairly due to the gas companies has been impounded for the last three or four years.

The 80-cent gas law ought to have been repealed long before this. We have a Public Service Commission here empowered to regulate gas charges. It can vary them to fit altered circumstances. It can do prompt justice if the drift of things is against either the company or the consumer. The Supreme Court has righted the wrong done the gas producer under an inflexible price standard. But it is left open to the lower court and to the Public Service Commission to protect the local gas user against an excessive rate.

Unardonable Negligence
Two deaths by accidental shooting, reported in the same day, merely accentuate the carelessness that is only too common among those who handle weapons. That a child should be guilty of such an act argues lack of proper instruction. That a full-grown man, and a policeman in the bargain, should point a gun in fun is unardonable. It shows an ignorance of one of the fundamentals of common sense in handling weapons, which is as blameworthy in a policeman as it is in a soldier.

The story is told of Colonel Roosevelt that the first lesson he taught his children when they were allowed that a child should be taught to shoot was that whoever pointed a gun, loaded or not, at any one else, or even in the general direction of any one present, was guilty of an unardonable offense and was forthwith forbidden to use his weapon. The rule applied to everything from air guns to high-powered rifles. There was no exception. And whoever was foolish enough to violate this fundamental rule received the full measure of the Colonel's just wrath in such a manner as never again to forget the prohibition.

What Colonel Roosevelt taught his children should be taught to every one who possesses a rifle, shotgun or pistol. There is never any excuse for pointing a weapon in fun. Nor should there be any tolerance for the feeble plaint, "I didn't know it was loaded." Such ignorance is neither a justification nor an explanation. It is merely a confession of inexcusable negligence.

The Sea-going Radio
The radio telephone tests which have been conducted from this city with the steamship America vividly focus the future when no section of the earth, sea or air will be free from telephonic communication. The tests were concluded on Sunday, when an uninvited audience, estimated at more than 200,000 persons, listened in on the new "party line." The audience was composed of enthusiasts who have installed the radio-phones to listen to the daily radio concerts.

This fact emphasizes what apparently is a great drawback to the use of radio-telephony for commercial communication—the lack of secrecy. But there is a remedy. As soon as radio-telephony with ships at sea is ready for commercial application, according to the radio engineers, a system of distortion will be applied to the spoken words. This distortion will be unintelligible to those who listen in idly on the "ether party line" for chance gossip. Only those stations equipped with the key modulator will be able to straighten out the distortion and reproduce intelligible words.

From the practical point of view

the tests have shown that it is possible for any one in a home or an office to pick up the ordinary telephone and converse with another person upon a ship in mid-ocean, without having to touch any cumbersome apparatus or tinker with any delicate controls.

Another remarkable fact emphasized by the tests is that it is possible to "send and receive" at the same time. In other words, the speaker at one end of the wireless "line" can break in and interrupt the speaker at the other end in case he is unable to understand what is being said.

The success attained by the experiments with the America shows that it will not be long before telephonic communication with Europe through a combination of land line telephone and wireless telephony is in regular use. It is merely a question of when the stations capable of performing this service can be put into operation. The equipment already exists.

Similarly communication with passengers upon an airplane in the air and with others on an express train will also be possible by the same apparatus, or combination of systems. The automatic central station which connects the ordinary with the radio telephone will do all the technical work, and the speakers will use nothing more than the ordinary desk telephone.

Hylan: Conservativist
Bitterly reproaching The Tribune for its disbelief in his scheme to flood the streets with municipal busses Mr. Hylan says: "The Tribune chooses to ignore the vital difference between my plan of bus operation, which conserves the financial interest of the public, and the proposal of the state commission, which serves the interests of the companies that exploit the public."

The Tribune concedes the vital difference between Mr. Hylan's plan and that of the Transit Commission, but its definition of "difference" is not that of Mr. Hylan. He would conserve the financial interests of the public by investing city money in busses which have not been and cannot be operated successfully on a five-cent fare. He does not purpose running busses only in outlying districts, but along congested streets. Every experiment he has made with a bus line has proved a financial failure. There was a time when Grover Whalen, his Commissioner of Plant and Structures, thought that he was running a bus line at a profit on Staten Island, but as soon as he counted all the costs he saw that he was mistaken.

As to the "commission which serves the interests of the companies that exploit the public," it is worth noting that the valuation placed on the Interborough's plant was not especially to the liking of the companies. Furthermore, these same companies are now seeking to cooperate with the commission to the end that the transit lines may be unified and extended, while Mr. Hylan is doing all he can to prevent anything of the kind being accomplished.

Mr. Hylan announces hopefully that a bill providing for his busses has been introduced into the Legislature. He is, however, a sufficiently astute politician to know that it has no chance of passing, and that by insisting upon it he is only justifying the charge that he is an obstructionist.

He concludes by asserting the old buncombe about advanced fares in the face of the assertion of the Transit Commission and the Interborough that a five-cent fare will be maintained.

For one so sensitive as he is Mr. Hylan is unusually productive of opportunities to prove that he is exactly what his critics declare him to be.

gers will smilingly congratulate themselves for having pulled a publicity "heat."

The Tomb of Columbus
A Note on the Exhumation in Santo Domingo Cathedral in 1877
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: A portion of Washington's Birthday passed in a foreign country is employed in submitting brief comment on an editorial, "The Tomb of Columbus," which appeared in The Tribune last Christmas Day. Perhaps what follows may merit publicity for the passing information of Tribune readers, in view of the movement now under way to carry out the idea of a "noble pan-American memorial," as it has been described, in proper commemoration of the transcendent work rendered by Columbus to the whole world.

Columbus died in the city of Valladolid, Spain, May 20, 1506. A royal cedula dated August 22, 1559, contained a license to transport the remains of Columbus from the monastery of Las Cuevas to Santo Domingo. The exhumation occurred in the cathedral in Santo Domingo on September 10, 1877. One of the prominent and perhaps most interested witnesses was the Spanish Consul, Don José Manuel de Echeverri. By his side stood Miguel Pou, the German Consul. After hastily consulting him, Echeverri addressed the Bishop and Apostolic Delegate as follows:

"Sir, the contents of the tomb just discovered, being the veritable remains of the First Admiral of the Ocean, of which fact no doubt whatever is admissible, you should agree with me that the presence of these remains in Santo Domingo is due either to the perpetration of a horrible crime or to an error occurring in the exhumation of 1795. Alive to the discharge of your duties, you ought to conclude that nobody more than yourself is compelled to return to Spain the most precious remains in question, which belong exclusively to her. In my position as the representative of the adopted country of the hero, I feel it my duty to claim and to maintain if necessary that I should be one of the guardians of the said coffin containing his remains, which, were they for a moment permitted miraculously to speak, would, I feel convinced, exclaim, 'Consul, let us away to our own Spain!'"

The above excerpt is taken from the exhaustive research work, "Christopher Columbus, His Life, His Work, His Remains," by John Boyd Thacher, Vol. III, Page 574.

W. E. PULLIAM, Receiver General of Dominican Customs, Santo Domingo, Feb. 22, 1922.

The Death Penalty
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In one column of the newspaper this morning there is an item which says that Governor Davis of Ohio has announced that he will devote every effort to bring about the abolition of capital punishment in his state, and in an adjoining column there is the story of the execution by the State of Illinois of Harvey W. Campbell.

Will the time ever come, I wonder, when people will understand that capital punishment is not a deterrent to crime. So far as I know, there never has been a murderer who considered the punishment which might ensue by reason of his crime. Instead of spending thousands of dollars on trials and executions and on prisons, if more money were spent on psychological tests for children in the schools and for the proper segregation of those with immoral or feeble-minded tendencies, then we would be doing some constructive work.

It is one thing to talk about hanging a man or electrocuting him, but, as Governor Davis has said, "Very few persons would be advocates of capital punishment were they themselves put to the necessity of turning on the current or performing some other act that snuffs out the existence of a fellow being." MARGARET A. SALOMON, Brooklyn, March 4, 1922.

Victorian Preference
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Having read with interest Dr. Davin's clever reply to my letter on "The Family Doctor," may I add that the communal system of medical treatment would scarcely meet individual needs, since a very ill person could not go to a clinic or other public place? Like other socialistic ideas, it is better in theory than in practice. Witness Russia.

It is said that the wheel of human life in revolving brings back old fashions with modern improvements. So let us hope that the word "home" will again be more than a name; that courtesy between employer and employee will be restored; that doctors will again show personal interest and sympathetic manners; that children will respect their parents, and that the short-skirted, cigarette-smoking, jazz-dancing "flapper" will be ousted as "out of date," and be replaced by the gentle, modest, home-loving girl of the much-ridiculed "Victorian period." COLUMBIA, New York, March 4, 1922.

On Behalf of Women Lawyers
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Assemblyman Aronson has introduced a bill at Albany to the effect that women who are American citizens should not lose the right to practice law by reason of marriage to an alien.

The Tower
SONNET
When Charon beckons me and marks my place
Within his barge where whimpering souls are pressed
So close together that the damned and blessed
Seem one vague lump of blasphemy and grace;

When fearlessly my eyes explore that space
Called Heaven or Hell by some; by others, Rest,
I'll mock the gasps of every awe-struck guest
And turn toward that shore a tranquil face.
For when that hour comes, as come it will,
My lips shall rim the cup of life to quaff
The bitter-sweetish dregs. I shall not spill
One solitary drop—and then I'll laugh
And spit a sonnet with my dying breath
And cram a quatrain 'twixt the teeth of Death. B.

Dempsey has been offered \$350,000 for a fight and Ruth is to get \$300 net home run. The primer class writing lesson for the day is "Knowledge is Power."

REVISED VERSION
Delightful task, to train in giving bloom
And teach the youth to bust it on the nose.
It's a question whether New Yorkers will envy more the Babe's salary or the fact that there's a home for him to run to.

The Green-Eyed Monstress
I wish I were a flapper
Whose gossamer spread their wings,
And a funny hat, smashed up in front,
And dangling pearl earrings.

I wish I were a flapper
With a mop of curly hair
That's bobbed and sticks out all around
And makes the people stare.

I wish I were a flapper
With a little too much paint,
With cheeks too pink and lips too red
And brows too slantly quaint.

I wish I were a flapper—
Instead I'm nothing much
But a rather well-dressed woman
And there are so many such!

I wish I were a flapper,
Though I've heard they're hard and bold,
And they are so funny looking—
For they're Youth, I'm growing old. MUREL IVES.

Lincoln Krueger professes to be in doubt as to the nationality of the shoe storekeeper at 163d Street and Broadway, who blazes his window with the sign:
GLOULASHES.

The vagaries of feminine dress are, after all, trivial things to the problem of the man who shortly will have to decide whether to sweater in his winter overcoat or shiver without it.
Do They Still Make Them?
Lenten non-smokers please note: When you reach a point where it's either a cigarette or go crazy, eat a pretzel. Only thirty-six days left. ALBANY.

Why do all the states that render valid political minorities always insist on sending similar representatives to Washington?
THE CONTROVERSIAL POPPY
Mabel Wiles Simpson sings enchantingly of poppies in today's Tower, but may I inquire if she has ever taken a good sniff of their "perfume sweet?" Always, to all of us, poppies are a never-to-be-forgotten symbol, but their rather unpleasant narcotic odor is nothing to rave about. N. B. L.

The poet tells of poppies bright
That come as harbingers of Spring;
And sees their glowing burgeoning,
A shy and vivid woodland sprite.
I know Popover sheds dyes
The glowing fields 'neath SUMMER skies.

But stay—perhaps the poet sees
The sordid streets and tarnished snow,
And in his heart the poppy's glow
Blots out the drab and smoke-grimed trees;
Are only flowers of life a part
Are those that blossom in the heart. E. T. ROYLE.

The gentleman who was held up on West Ninety-sixth Street early yesterday morning was evidently a stranger in the city. He blew so long and loud on a police whistle that he walked us up.

The Three Graces
"Joe has a mustache now."
"Has he? I don't like a feller with a mustache."
"Me, too. Specially him. He looks like Joe forriner."
"O, I think it's becomin'."
"Can't see it. I don't like a feller with a mustache."
"Becomin'? Just him a forriner."
"You ortof seen him las' night. He had on a tuck."
"With the mustache?"
"Bet he looked like some forrin' guy."
"O, he looked swell."
"The tuck mighta looked swell, but I don't like a feller with a mustache."
"Spehly Joe. Looks like forriner." BILL NETCH.

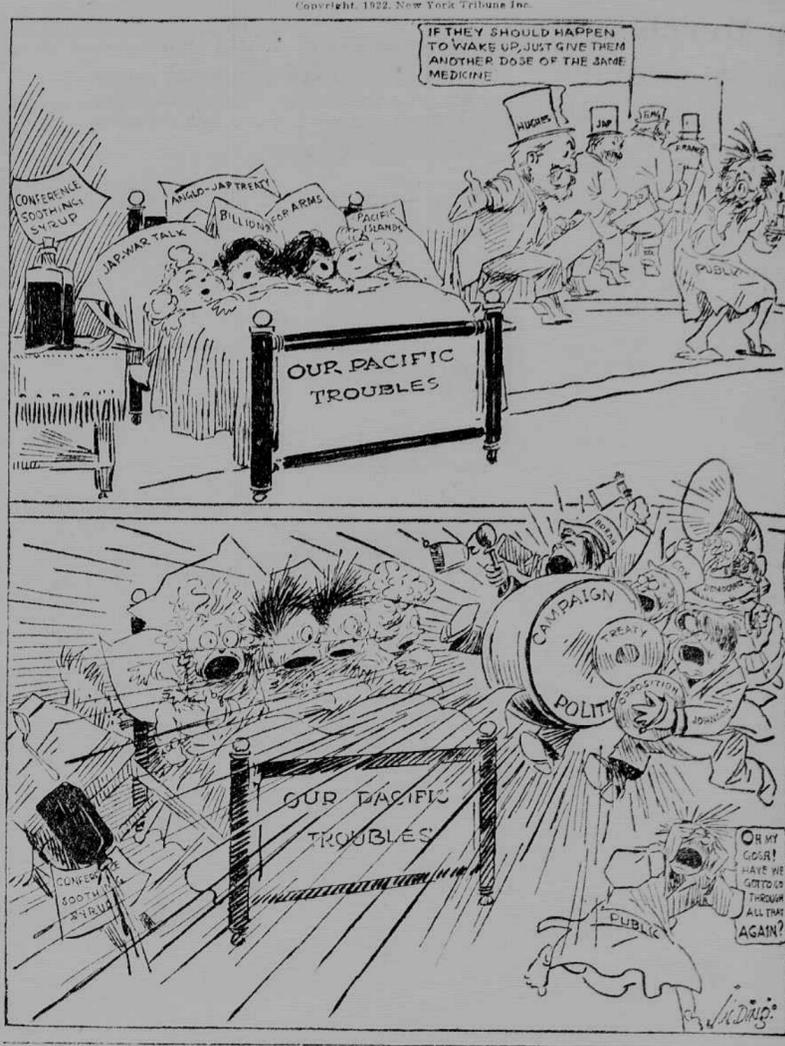
After all, the world is becoming a gentler and more placid place in which to live. Vesuvius has burst forth in eruption again and singed one Italian professor.

If Mrs. Asquith is correct in her diagnosis of American psychology in regard to prohibition, probably the only way to save the nation will be through the ratification of an amendment prohibiting church attendances.

Of course, she must realize that it's only natural that the young of the nation should get tanked up.

Youth will be served. F. F. V.

LOOKS AS THOUGH WE MIGHT HAVE TO WALK THE FLOOR AGAIN



Bonus Viewpoints

Further Comments and Suggestions by Readers on the Vexed Problem of Adjusted Compensation

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I am an ex-service man and heartily agree with H. R. K. when he says that the majority of ex-service men are not in favor of the bonus. By this I do not mean that all the ex-service men are opposed to the bonus.

I recently had reason to sound out a number of men on this very point. They all expressed themselves as not in favor of the bonus, but when it came to asking them what they were going to do about it they invariably said they would take it. They could not allow a motive which they knew to be selfish to push them into active advocacy of the measure, but likewise they did not see fit to oppose anything which might mean a considerable sum of cash in hand. They admitted that they had no pressing needs for the money, but "could use it."

One man I talked to had the right idea. In answer to my question he said: "Take this measly bonus for what I did in the war? I'll take \$100,000 or I'll take the gratitude of the country, but the United States underestimates her value when she thinks she can get away with this obligation for a few dollars."

Is it not possible to grant an appropriation for the relief of the needy ex-soldiers and call in the old draft boards to administer it in each locality rather than throw all this money into petty luxuries? E. P. B. New York, March 4, 1922.

Better Than Indemnity
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The men in the army and navy severed all home ties and risked their lives for the good of all the citizens of the country because they were the most fit to do so. While they were away many of those at home found that the war presented an unparalleled opportunity to make money, which opportunity was avidly seized upon. The men who fought offered all they had—they gave until it hurt. If the war had been lost the country would have had to pay in indemnities many times the amount of any proposed bonus. Why shouldn't the people of this country now feel a moral obligation to give until it hurts, too, but without risking their lives, as a small compensation to the relatively small number of men who fought for the good of all?

Five years ago would the business men of the country have chosen to be saddled with an indemnity rather than with a bonus? If a man should risk his life in thwarting a highway robber attempting to steal \$100 from you would you hand him a dollar, pocket the rest and tell him the glory of upholding justice should suffice him?

If one feels that the results of paying a bonus would be so economically disastrous to the country that the ex-service men as a class would be absolute losers let that be the ground for opposition. But one should not oppose the bonus because of solicitude for the recipients who might squander what money they would get. In some cases the money would be quickly dissipated, but in many other cases it would enable men to pay debts incurred as a result of their low earning power after the war, and in still others it would enable the men to start in business for themselves, which certainly would not hinder prosperity.

I feel certain that the men who would receive the bonus have not brought up the question to create a political issue

which otherwise would not exist. There are enough valid reasons for upholding or opposing the bonus without intensifying the issue of political expediency. PHILIP G. NORDELL. New York, March 5, 1922.

Anti-Bonus Rubber Stamping
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I wonder how many people realize when they read a letter signed by some well known company or corporation that the letter does not necessarily reflect the true feeling of the majority of employees of that company?

To illustrate my point: Telegrams concerning the soldiers' bonus bill were recently sent out to various concerns, and the one sent to us reached first the desk of the vice-president. This telegram asked for an expression of opinion from our company as a whole concerning the good or evil of the proposed soldiers' bonus bill, and our vice-president without consultation with any one immediately wired Washington condemning the bill in its entirety, signing the name of our company and not his own name, thereby placing on record that this big corporation stands solidly behind the defeat of this bill.

As secretary to this same vice-president I know how he felt on this subject, but I also felt sure that the consensus of opinion in the corporation was in favor of the bill, and that therefore the telegram misrepresented the corporation. Then I realized that probably thousands of such telegrams were flooding Washington, where one man was allowed to speak for an entire organization, representing his personal opinion as that of the company as a whole. SECRETARY. New York, March 3, 1922.

A Substitute
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Rather than let the bonus matter drop without offering any material recognition whatever for war service, there is one suggestion that might be advanced, which, while not shackling the country with greater financial obligations at this critical period, would, nevertheless afford the ex-soldier an opportunity to retain the fruits of his industry and to repair his shattered fortunes.

This would be for Congress to raise the income tax exemption for war veterans for life—say, to \$3,000 for unmarried men and \$5,000 for married men. Such a plan would give the soldier a chance to keep his earnings for the maintenance of himself and his family within very reasonable limits under present living conditions, while those who were not in actual service would be bearing tax burdens which he otherwise would have to share.

Even if the above suggestion be a useless one because of some objectionable feature which has been overlooked, or if it be an impossible one because of class discrimination in the matter of taxation, nevertheless a great many, perhaps a majority, of those who served in the World War would be far better pleased, out of considerations of self-respect and of honor to the service, to have the whole matter dropped rather than to see a wholesome patriotism commercialized, through political fears on the one hand and through a thoughtless selfishness on the other.

ROBERT S. FOLLARD. (Formerly of the 125th F. A.) Newark, N. J., March 2, 1922.

More Truth Than Poetry

By James J. Montague

An Outline of History
When Bullneck, the son of the cave man, Made a coat out of jaguar hide, And strolled up and down through the boulder-strewn town With a haughty and arrogant pride,

His father cried out in a fury: "Go take off those terrible togs! I never wore clothes so outrageous as those; You children have gone to the dogs!" But the kid merely grinned as he hurried on past, Observing, "Poor father, he's aging so fast!"

When Longhair, the cave lady's daughter, Invented a dance step to try At the Bear-Baiter's ball down in Old Cavern Hall, Her mother observed with a sigh: "I'm sure that I never danced that way; What can have come over the child?" What will people say of these girls of to-day? They are getting so dreadfully wild!

And the daughter observed, as she tried a new whirl: "Dear mother is way out of date, poor old girl!"

And so, as each new generation Has taken its light-hearted way, Have parents cried out as their kids larked about: "We never did that in our day! Those dances! That paint and that powder! This striving to keep up the pace!" The limbs that they show and the things that they know! What's going to become of the race?"

And the youngsters observe: "Oh, just let 'em rave— That's all that is left them—this side of the grave!"

Too Grasping
With thousands of people only too anxious to give them money, we can't understand why any buckshot proprietor would take the trouble to steal it.

Playing With Fire
Mexico is talking of going dry. Inasmuch as she is about on our only remaining source of supply this may be regarded by the United States as an unfriendly act.

Finishing the Job
Lord Northcliffe, after a study of the yellow races, has gone to Monte Carlo, probably to take a look at the red and black. (Copyright by James J. Montague)

Another Foe of "Orientalism"
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It was a pleasure for me to read the letter of John B. Young, of Cheshire, Conn., "An Occidental Young Man." For several years past there have been shown on the screens of prominent motion picture houses pictures of an Oriental flavor, which to me are disgusting. These plays are usually characterized by a stupendous display in the way of thrills, sensations, etc., which are merely the outer trappings of an inner corruption.

However, if the public wants orientalism in its amusements I suppose it will continue to have it. FLORENCE M. KYLE. Brooklyn, March 5, 1922.