

New York Tribune

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

Member of the United States of America

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1922

Published by New York Tribune Inc., a New York Corporation. Published daily, except on Sundays and public holidays. Office: 100 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

Subscription Rates: In Advance. Single Copies: 10 Cents. Foreign: 15 Cents. Canada: 12 Cents. Mexico: 10 Cents.

Advertising Rates: First Edition: 10 Cents per line. Second Edition: 8 Cents per line. Third Edition: 6 Cents per line.

Printed at the Tribune Building, New York, N. Y.

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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ANNUALLY BELICIOUS

President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor in his pastoral to labor this year uses warlike words, as usual. Mr. Gompers is a venerable man and at heart, it may be assumed, is pacific.

Organized labor in its first stage was naturally of a militant spirit. It looked as if the employers were its enemies and that anything taken from labor was clear gain.

The differences between the French and British positions are as fundamental with respect to procedure as they are with respect to principles. France would mature the terms of the Allies before submitting them to Russia.

Family Strife in Ohio To Ohio, Mother of Presidents, has already been born a large and distinguished family—six of twenty-nine presidents, which equals the record of Virginia.

Japan's New Premier The accession of Admiral Baron Kato to the Premiership in Japan may be taken as assuring the ratification of the Washington conference treaties.

Tammany Is Busy The belated report of the Meyer Committee noted that the police force is rapidly being made over into a Tammany machine.

Dean West's Inscription To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Your recent editorial reference to Mr. Cortissova's inscription for the Lincoln Memorial leads me to call to your attention the inscription prepared by Dean West for the Princeton Battle Monument, which was dedicated on June 9 by President Harding:

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help to stabilize the situation in the Far East and will make easier the regeneration and liberation of China, which has been the keystone of our policy in that part of the world.

Unthrottling the Navy The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs has reported the naval appropriation bill with amendments involving little controversy, yet materially improving the measure as it passed the House.

Dead Before Birth The British answer to the recent French statement of the conditions in which France will participate in the Hague conference furnishes further reason for American satisfaction over this country's prompt declination of the invitation to send delegates.

The British document is one that Tchitcherin might have written. It frankly avows the Tchitcherin doctrine that a country is at liberty to do as it pleases with respect to restitution or to paying compensation for the property of foreigners that it confiscates.

This declaration is hardly respectful to the long line of British admirals whose guns have thundered protests against the stealing of the property of Britons.

Winston Churchill has postponed his statement on Ireland. But he might as well issue it. Any statement on Ireland is always a couple of days behind the news.

The Frenchmen who told the German Reichstag that there wouldn't be another war merely repeated what the French army was saying before the armistice.

A grade crossing is a place where people suddenly discover that the schoolbooks are right in their assertion that two bodies cannot occupy the same space at the same time.

Prohibitionists may point with pride to the fact that not a drop of liquor could be obtained in Alpine, N. J., for a snake-bitten youth, but we are rather inclined to weep over the deplorable things that the dry era is doing to the generosity of mankind.

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THERE ARE PLENTY OF CHANCES IN THE WORLD FOR THE GRADUATE WHO IS WILLING TO TAKE THEM

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HELP WANTED. WANTED—YOUNG MEN WHO ARE NOT AFRAID OF HARD WORK! RAPID ADVANCEMENT, PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT—ALL BRANCHES OF INDUSTRY. WANTED—1000 YOUNG MEN—TO TAKE EXECUTIVE POSITIONS AT HEAD LARGE BUSINESS INSTITUTIONS. PRESENT HEADS ANXIOUS TO RETIRE AS SOON AS PLACES CAN BE COMPETENTLY FILLED. WANTED—ABLE BODIED MEN FOR U.S. SENATE AND HOUSE OF CONGRESS—JOBS OPEN NOW. WANTED—PRESIDENTIAL TIMBER—EIGHT YEAR CONTRACT TOBACCO PARTY. WANTED—MEN TO LEAD THE WORLD (JAZZ DANCE STEPS NOT ESSENTIAL). FEMALE HELP WANTED—INTELLIGENT YOUNG WOMEN WITH FUNDAMENTARY KNOWLEDGE OF HOME MAKING FOR PERMANENT JOBS OF WIFE, OPPORTUNITY FOR SEVERAL MILLION. WANTED—YOUNG WOMEN TO PLACES OF MEN IN WORK NO SPECIAL ABILITY REGISTERED.

America's Russian Policy By Henry W. Taft

The following is the third article of a series by Mr. Taft on the Russian situation. Fortunately for the world both the Wilson and the Harding administrations have stood like adamant against relations with the Soviet government; and, more fortunate still, they have based the American policy upon objections to social, political and economic principles of Bolshevism. If it be said that we have been able to maintain consistently this policy only because we are so far removed from the necessity which presses upon the European nations to come to some working agreement with Russia, it may with truth be said that it is a fortunate thing for the world that one powerful nation is so situated that it can resolutely maintain a position founded upon moral, social, economic and political principles, the soundness of which have been tested by centuries of experience. When the Harding administration was installed in office the notorious Litvinoff, in behalf of the Russian government, stated that the All-Russian Central Executive Committee would like to send a special delegation to America to negotiate a trade agreement. Mr. Hughes left only five days go by after the receipt of the communication from Litvinoff before replying that: "No lasting good can result from an agreement so long as the present causes of progressive impoverishment continue to operate. It is only in the productivity of Russia that there is any hope for the Russian people, and it is idle to expect resumption of trade until the economic bases of production are securely established. Production is conditioned upon the safety of life, the recognition by firm guarantees of private property, the sanctity of contract and the rights of free labor."

Minor Loss of Trade

So far as the United States is concerned it can get along without trade with Russia. Direct trade with that country never did amount to a great deal, and the indirect trade through other countries, notably Germany, is not interfered with by the refusal of the United States to enter into relations with Russia. In a letter written to Mr. Gompers in April, 1921, Mr. Hughes dealt with the statement that if the Soviet government was recognized it would immediately export lumber, flax, hemp, fur and other commodities, and he called attention to the facts, first, that the Russian government did not have on hand enough of such commodities to enable it to export any large quantity, and, furthermore, that the transportation system was so utterly inadequate that commodities could not be moved from the interior of Russia so as to maintain an export trade of any considerable proportion, and that the attempt to engage in such trade "would result merely in further increasing the misery of the Russian people." He quoted statistics to show that the production of lumber had fallen to one-fifth of its pre-war level, although the lumber industry was in a better condition than the other important Russian industries. He quoted from "Economic Life," an official organ of the Soviet government published in Moscow, facts indicating the utter collapse of production. Evidence need not be multiplied. The entire trade with Russia, including both exports and imports, never did amount to more than 1.3 per cent of the total trade of the United States, and it is incredible that for many years the trade with Russia would rise to even that amount. With all of the obstacles to international trade incident to the destruction of credits and the difficulty of transportation, that trade would be so infinitesimal that it would be years before the industries of this country would feel its beneficial effect. Senator Borah said the other day in the Senate that fourteen nations other than the United States were doing business with Russia and not losing money. Presumably he has no information as to the profit of those who are doing business with Russia, except the presumption that if they were

Argument for Recognition

The argument in favor of some kind of recognition of the Soviet Russian government is generally based upon the considerations, first, that there is a moral obligation upon us to make that contribution toward lifting the Russian people out of the slough into which they have been plunged by the effects of the war and the rain brought about by communism, and, secondly, that American business men should be afforded an opportunity to cultivate profitable trade with Russia and to participate in the development of her enormously rich resources. No obligation based on friendly sentiment for the Russian people or on sympathy for their distressing plight requires the United States to take any step which will tend to pro-

The Main Things at Colleges To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Scholarship is but one, and not the most important of the things to be taken into account in deciding whether a young man should be admitted to one of our colleges. Scholarship accomplishment is not the prime object of a college training. Much more important is the making of character. That and the forming of lifelong associations are the principal things. At college a boy should learn how to study, to investigate and to discriminate and classify. If he learns that much he is doing well. The store of worth-while knowledge that may be acquired during the course is but a minute to measure. The accumulation of working knowledge may be carried on anywhere, and one need not go to college for that purpose. Our colleges in the last analysis are laboratories of character. ABNER MADISON. New York, June 10, 1922.