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No Entangling Foreign Alliances for America! President Wilson proposed in his address on Saturday evening before the League to Enforce Peace a change in the historic policy of the United States in its relations with other Powers of consequence so far reaching and possibilities so momentous that the adoption of his plan would constitute a complete reversal of the attitude we have hitherto studiously maintained.

These were the words uttered by GEORGE WASHINGTON on September 17, 1796. They embodied the results of his observation, experience and practical knowledge acquired in dealing with the domestic and foreign affairs of a nation born in an hour when Europe was torn by strife. They expressed not only the convictions of the man whose name they bear but the reasoned conclusions of that body of counselors in whose capacity and judgment he reposed his faith, and they have been accepted and re-enforced by the statesmen who succeeded the founders of the nation, not on the authority of their authorship, convincing though that is, but because they have stood the test of application to the needs of the United States through six score years in which the conduct recommended in them has been found to be advantageous, if not essential to the country's independent development and the preservation of its peace.

This principle President Wilson would now abandon and substitute for it that participation in external politics we have avoided with gratifying effects on our domestic and foreign relations. He speaks with confidence of the assurance he feels that "the people of the United States would wish their Government to move along these lines." We do not believe he correctly gauges the sentiment of the nation he would commit to this strange adventure. The American people does not want to embroil itself in the mazes of European rivalries. It wants to cling to the sound and proved policy it has followed in the past, a policy commended by its fruits and justified completely by the occurrences of the last two years.

The American people want no entangling foreign alliances. There are other forms of unpreparedness that characterize this nation besides that concerned with our defense. THE SUN has spoken of hygiene and preparedness and of medical preparedness. Are the men of this country physically prepared to meet the demands that may be imposed upon them by the strenuous activities involved in drilling, marching and other exertions incident to preparation for a soldier's life?

A valuable lesson derived from last year's Plattsburg camp is brought out in an address on the upbuilding of national vitality and the need for its scientific investigation, published in RITZENHOUSE'S ADVOCATE of February 18. Mr. E. E. RITZENHOUSE advocates the establishment of a National Vitality Commission to ascertain how long it would take to build a regiment of men from our large body of untrained citizens. He cites the experience of civilian members of last summer's camp. The Plattsburg regiment was largely recruited from men accustomed to outdoor and athletic life, polo and football players and hunters, who are supposed to be above the average in physical development and stamina.

The surprising and painful fact was that after a month's vigorous training this regiment was unable to do a day's marching one-third as long as that which is normally accomplished by the regular infantry. Is it not high time, in view of this fact, that our resources in men were scrutinized that we may know exactly the number of physically fit men upon whom the nation may call when it prepares for self-defense?

While it is probable that the brief instruction received in Plattsburg in military discipline and tactics may be sufficient to enable intelligent citizens to develop these important elements of training by study and practice at home, it is impossible to accomplish their physical preparation. The conclusion from Mr. RITZENHOUSE'S statement is inevitable that much longer physical training, as in the Swiss and Australian plans is absolutely demanded for the preparation of our prospective officers and soldiers. This is imperative to insure that the average citizen, who is far below the physical plane of last year's Plattsburg contingent, shall possess

victitudes of her politics or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities. "Our detached and distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people, under an efficient Government, the period is not far off when we may defy material injury from external annoyance; when we may take such an attitude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations, under the impossibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation; when we may choose peace or war, as our interest, guided by justice, shall counsel.

"Why forego the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalry, interest, humor or caprice?"

"It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world, so far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it; for let me not be understood as capable of patronizing infidelity to existing engagements. I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs that honesty is always the best policy. I repeat, therefore, let those engagements be observed in their genuine sense. But in my opinion it is unnecessary and would be unwise to extend them.

"Taking care always to keep ourselves by suitable establishments on a respectable defensive posture, we may safely trust to temporary alliances for extraordinary emergencies."

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sufficient bodily vigor to fit him for service in his country's defense. The addresses of JON E. HEMES and General Wood, reported in THE SUN of May 25, advocating universal military service, should be well taken to heart. Whether universal military service be on the whole advantageous to our people we should at least know where we stand in regard to the health and capacity for endurance of the men upon whom we may be forced to rely for service in time of need.

The Riggs National Bank Case. It took the jury before which President CHARLES C. GLOYER and two of his associates of the Riggs National Bank of Washington were tried for perjury nine minutes to go from jury box to jury room, elect a foreman, ballot on the guilt of the men arraigned before them and return a verdict establishing their innocence against the charge. Thus ended the criminal proceeding brought against the bankers in the course of the fight made on them and their institution by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller of the Currency.

Nine minutes to vindicate the three men against whom the influence and authority of the Treasury Department was exerted, and Washington, official and unofficial, joined in an unprecedented celebration of the defeat of the prosecution; Treasury clerks rejoicing with cheers over the discomfiture of their chiefs, bank clerks, depositors, Government employees, the public generally crowding the streets to applaud the exonerated men as they returned to their assailed institution! In the midst of Washington they had escaped a mallet and powerful persecution, and their victory meant the release of the national banks, not only in the capital but in every part of the country, from a danger that has overshadowed them ever since the pursuit and prosecution of this representative of the system was undertaken.

In that jubilation two men did not join; WILLIAM GIBBS McANEO, Secretary of the Treasury, and JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS, Comptroller of the Currency. They had other things to think of, and one of these was the consequences this defeat must have with respect to their further activities in the disciplining of those who fall under their official jurisdiction.

Psychology for Presidential Candidates. Efforts to establish psychology as an exact science have received assistance from the present Administration at Washington. The modus operandi of mighty minds has been exhibited in detail to the masses and a busy people pauses in its occupations, astonished and fascinated, to learn at first hand how great thoughts come to great thinkers.

The public demonstration that the President, Secretary DANIELS and other holders of high office have given of late of the psychological processes that result in lofty, altruistic endeavor suggests the possibility that science may be called to the assistance of a people striving against odds to govern themselves. Could not the experts in psychology be compelled by law to subject every Presidential candidate to mental tests that would establish or demolish the merit of candidates? Would it not be more advantageous for the nation to understand fully the mental machinery of a Presidential aspirant before he gets into the White House than after he has been elected?

The Drive North From Salonica. The military preparations in the camp of the Allies at Salonica, reported from Athens, indicate the renewal of the war in southeastern Europe. The season of Balkan activity, "when the snow melts," seems the opportune time for the Allies to redeem the failure of their Serbian expedition last year; the forces at Salonica have been increased and equipped, while the Russian successes in Asia have caused withdrawals of troops from Constantinople and the general weakening of the Ottoman defenses in Europe.

The Anglo-French army under General SARHAU is reported from London to number 400,000; if it has reached this size it has been greatly increased since the landing of the original expeditionary forces. To this has been added the Serbian army, now thoroughly re-equipped and in excellent condition since its long rest. The opposing army of Tents and Bulgars is estimated at 500,000, with an additional 100,000 Turks and Bulgars to draw upon if needed.

The attitude of Greece remains of the greatest importance. The King's influence has been against the assembling of the forces at Salonica and the construction of strong lines of defense around the Allies' position, but at the same time it has been instrumental in warding off a Teutonic-Bulgarian attack from the Serbian frontier. The last election indicated the weakening of CONSTANTINE'S party and the events of the past few days have been significant of the growth of anti-German sentiment in Greece. Considerable feeling has been aroused by the sinking of Greek ships by submarines of the Central Powers, and the Skouliou, or the so-called neutral, Cabinet has resigned. Followers of VENIZELAS see in this an opportunity for his quick return to the Premiership and the end of the anti-Allies' influence. With Greek aid, either through participation in the war or active sympathy, the position of the expeditionary forces at Salonica would be wonderfully strengthened.

The lines of northward advance open to the Allies' forces are the

dar valley, through which runs the Salonica-Eskub railway, over the mountains to the east into Bulgaria, and across the Thracian plains into Turkey. Over the first route the Anglo-French forces retreated after their defeat in Serbia. This they would now find strongly fortified. The route into Bulgaria over the passes of the Rhodope was the favored line of advance when the former drive was discussed. This has for its purpose the capture of Sofia and Nish, the breaking of railway communication between Austria and Constantinople and the retaking of southern Serbia. Over this route it is believed the Allies will carry the strife back into the Balkans.

The drive has for its purpose not only the reestablishment of Serbia, the defeat of Bulgaria and the consequent restoration of the balance of power in the Balkans, but the still greater design of completing the task already successfully begun by Russia and of securing such a hold in the Near East as to make the voice of the Entente Powers potent when the final readjustment comes.

In Tampico. The Americans resident in Tampico who have appealed to the Administration in Washington for protection from Mexican aggression have put their case soberly and calmly. They recite the acts by which their rights have been curtailed and their privileges withdrawn. They plead for support and defense they are entitled to from this Government if its purpose is to protect its citizens abroad in the pursuit of their legitimate, customary occupations.

This case is not complicated by questions of politics or religion. The Americans are in Tampico on business, seeking to carry on proper trades in conformity to the laws, and they do not seek special privileges from Mexico, nor do they ask unusual consideration from their own Government. They ask only that the Mexican authorities uphold the treaty that exists between Mexico and the United States and that the United States fulfill its duty in seeing that it keeps its faith.

All of this sounds reasonable and just in Tampico and in New York. How can it sound otherwise in the Department of State and the White House? James J. Hill. Apologists for an assumed deficiency of the two great nations of the North American continent in literary and artistic achievement have long attributed it to absorption of genius in practical works. Our greatest minds, they say, have been devoted to pioneering enterprises in nation building. Our great poems are of stone and steel; our engineers are wizards of creative imagination, our inventors compose our address to posterity, skyscrapers are our hymns.

In to individual career has the power of analysis and arrangement been more completely represented than in that of JAMES J. HILL. Born in 1838, he grew up into an American world, in Canada and the States, with unparalleled opportunities for national expansion and equal opportunities for sectional severance. Unmeasured, uncomprehended forces were waiting to be harnessed and guided. Where many who dreamed of a continental empire contributed at haphazard to its development, Hill saw clearly the way to its achievement. Trade was the key, and upon its problems he concentrated every power of a keen, restless, analytic and reconstructive mind.

Applied to JAMES J. HILL, the term "empire builder" is not a figure of speech but an objectively exact description. How great that the dawn of that day of frank dealing may be near at hand! —The latest Presidential peroration. And that it may be very frank.

Sixteen straight! If the Giants are going to add to their string of victories at the rate of two a day, as they did on Saturday, the fans will lose interest. It's good business to lose one in a while. Mankind is governed by laws and proverbs. An Ohio court has ruled that the thirteen stripes of the law is a freight car and turned over by the finder to the railroad company shall, since efforts to discover the original ownership have failed, become the property of the finder. Thus for once the wisdom of the bench agrees with the crystallized essence of homely experience in the laws of the people: "Finders, keepers." In this case the thirteen superstition did not work.

Forty thousand Bostonians march for defense—Newspaper headline. New York's example was not lost upon our suburbs. The trial of WATTS, the poisoner, was conducted with celerity and decorum from the moment the selection of a jury began until the court room was cleared after the verdict was brought in. The administration of justice is so important as the procedure derived by the cod. The Colonel quoted from LOWELL—Newspaper headline. "Quoted." He absorbed, assimilated, engulfed Lowell, he invented Lowell, he wrote LOWELL. The passage of a phrase between those undimmed teeth abolishes its author and vests proprietorship of his phrase in his possessor. Let there be no mean fling at one of heroic mold. Visitors to Sing Sing have used the tokens which pass as money within its walls to defraud the proprietors of slot machines. Should not the institution establish an out patient department? Trifles. Knicker—Beyond the Alps lies Italy. Knicker—But few have sense enough to know what lies beyond the mellech.

CAN NEW YORK RULE THE SILVER MARKET? India's Influence Must Be Nullified—Help From Congress needed. Can the control of the silver market be taken from London by New York? The United States has displaced Mexico as the largest single producer of the white metal among the countries of the world, the long prevailing political anarchy having gradually reduced the Mexican output. A transfer of market hegemony would be the result of high financial benefit. This country in 1914 produced 34.3 per cent of all the silver mined. Moreover, our imports from Mexico were equal to 13.4 per cent of the world's output. Practically, then, the United States sells to home and foreign markets about half of the world's entire annual yield, or, say, about 100,000,000 fine ounces. The advance in the price of the commodity within the past year, if sustained, will increase the value of the product from home mines alone by \$15,000,000 more; for instance, the Anacoda mine in 1915 obtained from its own mines 235,000,000 pounds of copper and 8,000,000 ounces of silver. At present prices in 1916 this silver output should have the Anacoda stockholders a net profit of \$12,000,000 more. For instance, the Anacoda mine in 1915 obtained from its own mines 235,000,000 pounds of copper and 8,000,000 ounces of silver. At present prices in 1916 this silver output should have the Anacoda stockholders a net profit of \$12,000,000 more.

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From March 15, 1900, to April 9, 1903, these purchases amounted to about 53,000,000 ounces—say, 18,000,000 ounces a year on the average. The purchases were intermittent, but in the two years 1906 and 1907 the India Council began buying silver as readily as they bought gold. India's silver exports to the United States have become little besides clearing houses for community scandal, with weak kneed pastors, who realize that they are enmeshed and are careful not to jeopardize their jobs. The enclosed letter, which was actually directed to the heads of such a rural church, might with profit be read by many of the many other rural (and urban) churches. ALLAN E. ENGLE. SPRINGFIELD, MASS., MAY 27.

To the Pastor, Directors, Elders and Members: I am in receipt of a notification from your congregation of a revival meeting to be held in your church, for a considerable number of years in the town of pastor that of any other church has ever called upon or extended to me or my brethren, for consideration or invitation to share in the privileges and responsibilities of a supposedly Christian community, nor manifested any feeling of interest in my spiritual or other, I beg to reply that the present communication impresses me as extraordinarily ill timed. As, on the 30th January, I have been made aware that some supposedly Christian community, without so far as I know any protest from their spiritual advisers, the object of unscrupulous and unscrupulous misrepresentation and gross imposition and discourtesy. I feel sure that disinterested observers cannot fail to conclude with me that the present spirit of the revival is something other than that of God who so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son for an example to all men. I have seen little evidence of that brotherly love, charity, honor and kindness in their dealings one with another, and with the general public, that I have seen in the gentle Christ not only preached but practiced. For the sake of the aforementioned nation and its honorable exceptions, I hope and trust that your coming revivalist may be empowered to infuse into the remainder of the community some of Christ's spirit, and that the present revivalist may be empowered to infuse into the remainder of the community some of Christ's spirit, and that the present revivalist may be empowered to infuse into the remainder of the community some of Christ's spirit.

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"WAYBACK" CHURCHES. Letter Sent to Remind the People of One of Their Christian Duty. To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: The little wayback rural church used to be a power for good in the community. They were the only places where people have become little besides clearing houses for community scandal, with weak kneed pastors, who realize that they are enmeshed and are careful not to jeopardize their jobs. The enclosed letter, which was actually directed to the heads of such a rural church, might with profit be read by many of the many other rural (and urban) churches. ALLAN E. ENGLE. SPRINGFIELD, MASS., MAY 27.

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