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President Wilson's position on woman suffrage, as explained by Mr. TUMULTY, is that while he voted for woman suffrage in New Jersey, he believes that each State should settle the question for itself, and that no State should have woman suffrage forced upon it by the vote of three-fourths of all the States in ratification of an amendment of the Federal Constitution.

This is an intelligible position. If President Wilson's theory of the State's supreme right to determine the character of its electorate had prevailed in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and seventy, the right of colored citizens of the United States to vote would not then have been extended to New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, California and Oregon.

Those six States had failed to ratify the Fifteenth Amendment when HAMILTON FISH, as Secretary of State, certified that ratification by twenty-nine other States made the amendment valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of the Constitution of the United States.

The ratification by the twenty-nine States established negro suffrage in the other six States of the Union. What difference in moral or legal or constitutional principle does President Wilson discern between a Federal amendment providing that the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude and a Federal amendment providing that the right to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex?

What a Nationwide Strike of Railroad Men Means. We give a good deal of space this morning to an article describing certain activities of the Pennsylvania Railroad which are commonly unknown to or unconsidered by persons not directly concerned in the transportation industry of the country. From it our readers will gain an idea not only of what the Pennsylvania is doing, but of the intricate organization and far-reaching social service of the carrier corporations in all parts of the country. The Pennsylvania is not alone in contributing to the welfare of the nation otherwise than by hauling John Doe or Richard Roe and their goods about the country; every railroad is an agent of education, discipline, and man conservation.

If the public will give thought to the facts set forth in this article, it will have a fresh conception of the delicacy and extent of the great structure brains and energy have built up which is threatened with destruction by the menace of a general, nationwide strike of the railroad employees' brotherhoods. That destruction would in its immediate effects deserve the name of a calamity and in its ultimate results of a catastrophe. Yet it is the purpose of those in whose power the decision lies to invite this disaster, without permitting the intervention of any representative of 100,000,000 men, women and children who are dependent on these public utilities for their means of subsistence!

The Protection of Genius. In 1908 Congress appropriated \$75,000 for an allegorical group in marble entitled "Armed Peace Protecting Genius" for the pediment at the east entrance of the House side of the Capitol of Washington. This group, a brilliant achievement on the part of the sculptor, PAUL BARTLETT, was unveiled ceremoniously on Wednesday, and Speaker CLARK and Representative SHAYDEN of Texas furnished the oratory for the occasion.

The present House of Representatives has been deeply impressed by the timely appearance of this new ornament to the Capitol. Have not both the executive and the legislative branches of the Government displayed practical enthusiasm for armed peace during the past three years, to the end that American genius, artistic, literary, scientific, commercial and political, might be defended from the disasters that have befallen the creative men of the Old World?

It is true that many highly gifted Americans have lost their lives since the present Administration came into power, on the high seas and in Mexico. Several Americans whose genius was recognized by the world at large perished in the Lusitania went down. Mexican bandits in their murderous activities have made no distinction between Americans possessing creative minds and those of a more commonplace intellectual makeup. In fact, American genius has paid a high price in killed, wounded and missing since the time of the Presidential inauguration on March 4, 1913.

Possibly the enthusiasm displayed on Wednesday by our national legislators for Sculptor BARTLETT's fine work of art was due to the belief that the recent large appropriations for our country's defense made by Congress will be so handled by experts that American genius will be in some way less endangered of extinction in the immediate future than it has been during the past three years. Armed Peace Protecting Genius is a lofty and stimulating conception, worthy immortality in marble.

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why the German War Office persistently underrated the fighting power of Russia. Sea sharks may come and sea sharks may go, but the loan sharks will have always with us. One of the chief worries of the Administration springs from the fact that November is so far away. The aviators who battled at a height of twelve thousand feet will be envied by golf players. They had no gallery to annoy them. Many a Congressman is now worrying over the question whether he has destroyed his political fences by his attitude toward national defenses. No wonder a mind is inconsistent that is under the undue influence of State Rights ideals at one moment and is carried away by the shadowy claims of Humanity at another. Mr. WILSON must regret already that he didn't put Colonel Hines in charge of his campaign. The Democrats should adopt an income tax of 101 per cent. per annum and let the Farm Loan Board advance money to the individual to meet his deficiency. The Deutschland is the pussyfoot of the sea. A better understanding of conditions in Germany than the outside world has would be necessary in estimating how near the speeches of these advocates of an honorable peace represent the feeling of the German people. But in all of them there appears a decidedly different tone from the expressions of two years ago, when the German army was entering Belgium triumphant and practically unopposed. There is less about spreading the blessings of German Kultur and less of the divine right to victory. There is less of conquest and more of defence, more of "holding what we have won."

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CAVE DWELLERS, BEWARE! Those Who Obstruct Fire Escapes Will Be Severely Punished. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: This letter may be taken as notice by all tenants that an energetic campaign for the clearance of both front and rear fire escapes will be begun at once. Inquiry is sometimes made of the Tenement House Department as to whether plants may not be kept upon the fire escapes. The law requires fire escapes to be cleared of all obstructions whatsoever. Special warning is given to those who block up fire escape openings and hatchways that these cases will be severely dealt with. This condition often arises from the desire of parents to safeguard children, whom they permit to play on the fire escapes. The law on the subject is mandatory. The added risk which such a practice entails is greater than any disadvantage that may accrue from keeping children off the fire escapes. JOHN J. MURPHY, Commissioner. TENEMENT HOUSE DEPARTMENT, AUG. 3.

MORE Qs FOR HUGHES. Practical Ones, This Time, and Much Fairer to the Group. "It doesn't seem to me," said one Author to another, as they temporarily separated themselves from the Group, "that those ten questions we put to Mr. Hughes constitute a fair deal." "He doesn't complain," said the other Author. "Every kind of a Group is going to ask him ten questions." "I didn't mean that it isn't fair to Mr. Hughes," said the first Author. "It isn't fair to us. It's such a waste of opportunity. What good does it do you or me or Meredith Nicholson to ask Mr. Hughes about the Federal Reserve law? If he told us what was wrong with it we couldn't put it in *Pete* any more." And as for information about the seaman's bill, Peter Kyne is the only one of us who turns out sea stuff." The other Author became curious. "What's your idea?" he demanded. "We should ask questions that mean something," the first Author replied. "I don't want to ask you about any questions. Just to show that I'm not selfish I've drawn up the questions which Augustus Thomas should ask. Listen: "Do you remember 'Arizona'?" "I would 'in Mizoura' stand a revival, do you think?" "Did 'Alabama' make a great impression on you?" "Didn't you laugh at 'The Earl of Pawtucket'?" "Will you advise all persons running for Congress to read 'The Capital'?" "Were you able to get seasick for 'A Man of the World'?" "Lemuel's 'Boats' are an attractive title." "Don't you think a lot of the interest in psychology came from 'The Witching Hour'?" "Has there been 'The Harvest Moon'?" "Did you meet, or weren't you there?" "Name any Mexican question that is not disposed of in 'The Grand'?" The second Author clapped his hands. "That's fine, perfectly fine," he said. "I shall ask him whether he thinks Renee, in my 'Slaves of Passion,' should have married Dagobert Higgins or let well enough alone." "And I," said the first Author, "intend to demand his views on the propriety of Gloria Hemstich's conduct in Chapter XIV. of 'Well, What of It'." "There's only one difficulty about all this," said the second Author. "Several of us have written only five or six books or plays. And there must be ten questions." "Plenty of time," said the first Author cheerfully. "Those who are short will have a couple of weeks to catch up."

NEGLECTED PRECAUTIONS. Indictment of Aldermanic Sins of Omission and Commission. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir, Alderman Bowling says that every receiving basin in the city is a pest hole of the worst type and that the system of flushing the refuse from the streets into the sewers is responsible for the present epidemic and that a force of men should be employed to rid the basins of their germ laden contents. The Board of Sanitation took no action upon this, and it was well that they did not. The accumulations in the basins would cause no disease in ten thousand years if they were kept moist; and the more the refuse can be washed into these places by constant and thorough flushing the less there will be to dry and be raised by the winds, the rapid passage of vehicles and dry street sweeping, to enter houses where it is again stirred up by the wretched dry sweeping inside and then inhaled by infants. To employ men to elevate this foul matter into the open air, a portion of which is always spilled and becomers a pavement nuisance where it would be wafted into the throats and lungs of every passer or carried into houses and then inhaled by children, would be a fatal error. No surer means of starting a plague could be devised. These basins should only be cleaned in winter and any drippings should be promptly flushed back into them. Last spring when the appropriation of \$150,000 was passed to ditch the remote Jamaica Bay marshes in an effort to eliminate the innocuous and non-disease purveying salt marsh mosquitoes I urged that the money should be appropriated for street cleaning and better apparatus for that purpose if it must be expended for sanitation. No attention was paid to my suggestion. Had there been it would seem reasonable to suppose that the present epidemic might have been avoided. ARCHIBALD C. WEEKS, Brooklyn, August 3.

"The Great American Novel." TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: The "Great American Novel" were written, do you really think it would be published? Our publishers tell us that they are constantly on the lookout for genius; but if they ever find it I am afraid they are rather apt to shy like a frightened horse. Artistically speaking, the dominating characteristic of this community is love of the conventional. NEW YORK, August 3.

Four Pointed Questions. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Who are the winners of the "Ten Pointed Question" in our Presidential campaign, Charles E. Hughes? How many have votes? Are they in the United States citizenry? Where was their last vote cast? CLAUDE BRONSON, Mount Vernon, August 3.

IS SEABURY ELIGIBLE? A Curious Situation Created by the Primary Law. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: In THE SUN to-day you say: "It was made known yesterday that Judge Seabury was willing to have his name presented in the primaries and in the event of his selection as the candidate for Governor to canvass the State." Judge Seabury's supporters and the Judge himself would seem to have forgotten Article VI, Section 10, of the Constitution of New York, which provides: "The Judges of the Court of Appeals * * * shall not hold any other office or public trust. All votes for any of them, for any other than a judicial office given by the Legislature or the people, shall be void." Judge Seabury must resign his present office before the primaries are held or vote cast for him in the primaries, cannot be counted. MONADOCK, New York, August 3.

President Wilson's Classic Utterances on the War. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: President Wilson has made three classic utterances about the world war, and they will probably be copied into the school histories. He first issued a proclamation telling us that we must be "neutral even in thought." But for that we had recovered from the disgust caused by it, he told us he was "too proud to fight." At the dinner of the League to Enforce Peace, speaking of the war, he told us that "with its causes and objects we are not concerned." It is true that we are a composite people, but are there any who are not in the United States besides President Wilson who are "neutral even in thought" who are "too proud to fight" who are not "concerned with the causes and objects of the war"? If there are, they will vote for President Wilson. Mr. Hughes ought to get all the other votes. LAWRENCE GOODIN, New York, August 3.

A Pest. If ever you happen to be pest, I've uttered the person who says "I'm too sympathetic to help!" NEW YORK, August 3.

THE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE WHICH A RAILROAD STRIKE MENACES.

A Concise Survey of One of Many Great Transportation, Educational and Social Fabric Threatened by the Purpose of the United Brotherhoods to Paralyze the Carrier Systems of the United States.

The railroads of the United States in a few days will be face to face with the greatest labor crisis in their history. The 400,000 trainmen have been canvassed by their brotherhoods, and the ballots are now being counted to determine whether the men are in favor of visiting disaster upon the railroads, and the entire country as well, by suddenly halting the transportation system. In the present higher wage movement the four brotherhoods have stated publicly and emphatically that they will not go into another arbitration. The railroads have demanded their willingness to argue the matter in a national court, preferably the Interstate Commerce Commission, the best informed body of men in the country on railroad matters. Or, the railroads will accept arbitration under the provisions of the Newlands act.

Some interesting and accurate statistics, with particular reference to the work of engineers, conductors, firemen and brakemen of the Pennsylvania Railroad system, which are nearly 25,000 trainmen in its employ, are here presented. Let the public decide whether the men who operate the trains have a real grievance, whether they have sufficient cause to take part in a national strike. The following table shows the average annual wages in 1915 of approximately 25,000 trainmen on the Pennsylvania system:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Annual Wage. Includes categories like Engineers, Conductors, Firemen, and Yard Service.

In normal times the Pennsylvania Railroad system has 250,000 employees of not only themselves, but in many instances of those dependent upon them for support. Since 1910 gratuities to the amount of about \$50,000 have been disbursed by the Pennsylvania. At the present time forty-six such gratuities, totaling \$6,128 a year, over \$500 a year, are being paid. It is also the policy of the Pennsylvania to provide employment for widows and children of employees killed in the railroad service wherever it is possible so to do.

Twenty years ago very few Italians were employed on the Pennsylvania system. To-day, however, on the lines east of Pittsburgh alone there are close to 15,000 of them, and they are owing to the lack of education among the majority of these Italian employees, and owing to their ignorance of the English language and American customs, they have been often misled by deceiving labor organizers and thus have, through strikes, been caused to leave their positions, causing a great deal of trouble for themselves as well as for the railroad. To overcome these troubles, if possible, and at the same time educate the Italian workers, the railroad company during the last four years has conducted by correspondence and lectures an educational course in English and Italian. The course is given free of charge to all who apply, and is designed to prove of advantage to the individual and the railroad, since through such education the Italian employee fits himself for a better position, while the road secures a better and more efficient employee. Between 2,000 and 3,000 Italian employees have been enrolled in this course.

For several years the Pennsylvania Railroad has conducted a correspondence course in electrical engineering. This course of instruction, together with all pamphlets and instruction matter, is given free to all employees in the service making application therefor. More than 3,000 students have been enrolled in the electrical engineering course. Perhaps nowhere is railroad service more training, skill and character more necessary than at the Morse telegraph office. Realizing this, the Pennsylvania Railroad started the work of training for its service the kind of operators that a school of telegraphy at Bedford, Pa., was organized in 1907, with twenty-eight students enrolled. Since that time between 200 and 300 young men have been graduated from the school as skilled railroad telegraph operators and given places in the railroad's organization.

Mechanics of the highest skill and intelligence are being trained every year at shops on the lines east of Pittsburgh where apprentice schools exist. In 1910 the first of these free schools of instruction was established at Altoona, Pa., for the benefit of apprentices who did not have the advantage of college training. Thirty pupils were enrolled there. Similar schools have been opened since at Philadelphia, Pa., Harrisburg, Pa., and Wilmington, Del., and plans are under way for the further extension of these schools to all shops on the eastern lines where apprentices are employed. It is estimated that the Pennsylvania Railroad at the present time is sending between 400 and 500 apprentices to school, and paying them for the time they spend in school. But for these apprentices have completed the course.

Another Comparison of Compensation Under Existing Schedules. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: I think H. P. Butts has not clearly understood the letter of a member of the B. of R. T. In the first place, the writer said the same as Brother Butts, 36 cents an hour; but what you quote is 48 cents a day and quotes figures of 240 hours a year for 85.5 cents. But Butts works eleven hours for a straight day and makes overtime, which the writer does not get a chance to do. H. P.'s day only amounts to \$2.96 against \$3.96. Now, the four brotherhoods are asking for an eight-hour day with overtime, which is \$3.00, while the writer is asking for eleven hours pay for an eight-hour day. I have been a member of the B. of R. T. since 1900 and I am just as proud of that organization as any member in it, but I live in New York city, where I pay more for a straight hour \$9.00 a month, a straight day \$3.00, and I have no 20 to 30 cent lot on which to raise