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A Contrast in Generosity.

An interesting despatch from the Washington correspondent of THE SUN yesterday set forth the remarkable extent to which the Wilson Administration is now using Mr. BRYAN as the scapegoat for its blunders, its failures and its sins of omission and commission. "Ah, that was BRYAN'S fault!" is the campaign answer to many of the otherwise unanswerable charges brought by Mr. HUGHES and his supporters. This process of shifting responsibility is not calculated to fill with admiration the souls of amateurs of manliness in politics.

The other side of the picture is presented by Mr. BRYAN'S widely circulated Democratic newspaper the *Commoner* in its August number. It is a fact worth noting that the most enthusiastic and effective journalistic support that Candidate WILSON is getting for reelection (our neighbor the *World* is perhaps too much of an organ to be reckoned in the comparison) comes from the sanctum of the exiled and despised BRYAN. Let us see what he is doing for the rival politician whom he left with a "God bless you, Mr. President!" fourteen months ago.

In the many editorial articles, signed and unsigned, in the *Commoner* for this month Mr. BRYAN urges the readers of the paper of which he is Editor and Proprietor to vote for Mr. WILSON'S reelection. In many editorial and semi-editorial articles, both signed and unsigned, he comes to the support of President WILSON and defends the candidate's record against the spirited attacks of Mr. HUGHES and other assailants. In Mr. BRYAN'S efforts in Mr. WILSON'S political interests there is not a suspicion of insincerity, of lukewarmness, of jealousy, of lack of good faith or of intent to knife, or of any motive less respectable than entire personal loyalty to the cause and its representative:

"Candidate HUGHES is 'swinging around the circle'—once thought a very undignified thing for a Presidential candidate to do. President WILSON is at Washington, cooperating with Congress in completing the splendid legislative record of this Administration."

Or again:

"President WILSON made a special trip from Washington to Princeton to register and another trip to vote for Votes for Women.

"The records of the Board of Elections of New York county fail to disclose that Mr. HUGHES either registered or voted on this occasion."

Or again, with regard to the Democratic claim to glory for the enactment of the income tax:

"President WILSON, then Governor of New Jersey, was one of the State Executives who officially urged the ratification of the income tax amendment."

And again:

"Considerable emphasis is being laid upon the alleged fact that Mr. WILSON has a single track mind. At that it will have to be admitted that he has been transporting a great lot of new ideas over it without any wreck of consequential proportions."

These are but examples. Everywhere in the *Commoner* Mr. BRYAN'S brain and pen are busy formulating arguments in favor of Mr. WILSON and against Mr. HUGHES. If it was his own campaign he could not be more active, more persevering, more devoted.

More than this, Mr. WILSON'S former Secretary of State is loudly engaged in soliciting and securing, through the *Commoner*, subscriptions of Democrats all over the Union to pay Mr. WILSON'S campaign expenses. This work is done with great delicacy and with strict regard to Mr. WILSON'S expressed desire that corporations shall not be invited to contribute. Mr. BRYAN is calling for small sums only, and he is getting them from all quarters, together with such inspiriting expressions of sentiment from individual voters as these among many others:

"With the same leaders, WILSON and BRYAN, as in 1912 we cannot fail to win in 1916."

"If every Democratic voter will contribute $1 Mr. WILSON'S committee will have plenty of money, and the party will not be under obligations to any large contributor."

"May the Lord of peace, harmony and strength guide and shield our beloved President into continued well doing."

This is what Brother BRYAN is doing for WOODROW WILSON in WOODROW WILSON'S hour of need and while WOODROW WILSON is attempting to assure to himself a further period of continued well doing in the White House by making his benefactor play the miserable part of the animal mentioned in the tenth chapter of Leviticus and elsewhere.

We are not among the ardent admirers of the Hon. WILLIAM J. BRYAN, but we confess that in this competitive exhibition of political and personal generosity he looms alongside of the President like Brobdingnag beside Lilliput. He is manifesting a certain nobility of soul of which his eminent beneficiary in Washington has yet to prove himself capable. In at least one part of the moral makeup Mr. BRYAN seems solid where Mr. WILSON is hollow.

Saving Mr. Wilson.

Mr. WILSON, facing the possible consequences of his one handed handling of the railway situation, of his blunder in casting aside arbitration, of his unconsidered espousal of the trainmen's cause, is appealing to the leaders of Congress to help him out of the terrible scrape.

Congress is to prevent a strike somehow; but if a strike occurs it is to provide means for an immediate settlement. There are also the wildest rumors of Government operation of the railways, though ways and means to effect such emergency operation are not even suggested.

The newspaper supporters of the President are already preparing to throw upon Congress the blame for Mr. WILSON'S failure and are even threatening the end of private ownership and operation of the transportation lines of the country.

The attempt to blame Congress is premature. Congress has not passed upon the merits of the controversy. Congress has not conferred on the eight hour day—as a basis of pay, not of work—the Sanction of Society. Congress has had nothing to do with the contemptuous discarding of the only means for securing a just and peaceful settlement. It will be time enough to blame Congress when Congress yields to Mr. WILSON'S entreaties to enact the first piece of panic born legislation that comes into Mr. WILSON'S head.

Mr. WILSON has shown his incapacity too clearly for the country to look to him to avert the national catastrophe of a railway strike. If it comes we shall have to depend upon Congress to spare us its worst horrors.

Go to the Josephus, Thou Baker!

The Hon. NEWTON D. BAKER, Secretary of War, displays a cold and indifferent disposition in his addresses in behalf of his chief. Mr. BAKER is too restrained, too cautious, too highly discriminative when he says of the Administration:

"It has procured the enactment of laws more wholesome and beneficial than perhaps can be credited in the aggregate to the Administrations which have intervened since the civil war."

Why that intrusive "perhaps"? Why the limitation to the period subsequent to the civil war? The President who has "infused the spirit of the Declaration of Independence and of the Golden Rule into this country's foreign relations," the Administration that "is inspired by a philosophy which is an expression of the longing of mankind in this day and generation" deserves fairer words than these. It should not be damned with faint praise.

Secretary BAKER ought to hear JOSEPHUS DANIELS talk about the Administration.

Rumania Enters the War.

Rumania's participation in the war promises results more important than any other accession to the forces of the original Entente Powers. She can throw into the field more than half a million of fresh troops. She raises a barrier between the Central Powers and their Eastern allies. Her position offers strategic advantages for an attack upon the Bulgarian and Austrian rears at a critical stage of the war. She may through her choice draw Greece also to entrance upon the side of the Allies.

Rumanian entrance into the war was expected at the time of Italy's declaration of hostilities against Austria-Hungary. It follows, however, the Italian declaration against Germany and may in a measure be connected with it. But it more probably results from the success of the Russian arms in Galicia and Bukowina and the chances that this presents for the Allies satisfying Rumania's demands as to the rewards for her intervention. Earlier Russian failures and the danger of being overwhelmed as was Serbia by a united Bulgarian and Austrian invasion were strong factors in her former decisions of maintaining neutrality.

Winning Rumania was a decisive diplomatic victory for the Allies. It retrieves the failure to gain Greece and the loss of Bulgaria. Rumania's interests have naturally been on the side of the Allies. The position of a "little silent member" of the Triple Alliance was abandoned at the time of the second Balkan war when she refused to be used as a tool of Austria against Russia. Before that the HOHENZOLLERNS, by having one of their house upon the throne, were able to keep Rumania loyal to the Central Powers.

Rumania saw that Austria in fomenting the fratricidal warfare among the members of the Balkan league was really endeavoring to build up a strong Bulgaria that would in time aid her in her advance to the Ægean Sea. To prevent this Rumania invaded Bulgaria and forced FERDINAND to recall the troops he had sent against Greece and Serbia. Rumania may have intended this as a mere temporary expedient, but it resulted in a practical alignment with Russia in opposition to Austria.

In the present war Russia stands for the restoration of Serbia and of former conditions in the Balkans. On the other hand Austria represents the establishment of a greater Bulgaria. The success of the Central Powers means the occupation by the Bulgarians of the greater part of Serbian Macedonia. Bulgaria would thus be the dominant Balkan Power and against her Rumania would have no aid unless she entered the war on the side of the Allies.

The difficulties of negotiations between the Central Powers and Rumania are thus apparent; the rewards demanded by the Bulgarians and Rumanians were practically impossible of reconciliation. What territorial concessions the Entente Powers offered Rumania is so far only matter for speculation. It was announced in previous negotiations that Transylvania and parts of Bukowina and Bessarabia had been offered to her. This would realize the ambitions of the "Greater Rumania" party, as it would gather within the boundaries of the kingdom most of the race under neighboring Governments.

Rumanian troops have already been mobilized and the army, at least a part of its strength, is prepared for an advance northward against Austria or southward against Bulgaria. It is doubtful if Austria can spare from either her Russian or her Italian front troops to carry the war into Rumania or to offer a formidable opposition to invasion. FERDINAND will find himself forced to recall his forces in Greece, and it is not unlikely that the Allies' general offensive in the Balkans, which has been held up awaiting the result of the negotiations, will now begin. That Bulgaria, crushed between two foes, will seek a separate peace, that the Allies will restore Serbia and finally reach their goal at Constantinople, appears now more probable than ever before. Rumania's choice promises to be the great deciding factor in the outcome of the war.

Industrial Anti-Preparedness.

There is force in what President LEONOR FRESNEL LOREE of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad says concerning the folly of immensely increasing the costs of railway operation at the very time when President WILSON, in common with many others, is pleading for industrial preparedness to enable this country to cope with foreign competition at the close of the European war.

But while talking industrial preparedness the Democrats in office have consistently acted against the attainment of industrial efficiency. Low costs are a prerequisite to meeting international competition. The La Follette shipping bill and the bill to create an American merchant marine by putting foreign ships into our coastwise trade have raised and will raise the cost of owning and operating ships under the American flag to heights prohibitive in peace times.

A day's pay for eight hours or less work by trainmen will surely bring a day's pay for eight hours or less work on the part of all railway employees. The consequent increase in transportation charges will go far to put American farmers and manufacturers out of the coming race for world trade.

Such feats may be almost as fine sounding as talk of Service and Humanity and the Sanction of Society, but they spell the ruin of American commerce and are the quintessence of industrial unpreparedness.

The Great Stone Face.

The "Old Man of the Mountain," the rock at Franconia Notch, N. H., of which NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE wrote "it was an education only to look at it," is in peril from erosion. According to the statement of a New Hampshire clergyman, the Rev. GUY ROBERTS, supported by engineers' measurements and investigations, the rock forming the forehead is in danger of toppling over and carrying with it the masses that complete the resemblance to the human profile.

Of all the natural wonders supposed to resemble the profile of a human face this is the most distinct in outlines. HAWTHORNE gave it more personality. It was a happy lot for children to grow up with this Great Stone Face before their eyes.

"For all the features were noble and the expression was at once grand and sweet, as if it were the glow of a vast warm, that embraced all mankind in its affections, and had room for more."

Governor SPAULDING and his council, it is said, will endeavor to save the rock. They should, for it is a landmark that cannot well be spared.

Why Should the President Always Sign?

The second lieutenants in the army who would have gone up a step in promotion on July 1—and there are a thousand of them—if Mr. WILSON had found time to sign their commissions have a real grievance. The President is a busy man and Mr. WILSON has many crowded hours; but sometimes we think that the present tenant of the White House is a stranger to method and efficiency in the discharge of his minor duties. He would not have had writer's cramp if he had signed fifty second lieutenants' commissions a day and the whole lot would soon have been off his hands.

The point is that the army is sorely in need of first lieutenants and should have them with the least possible delay. As to the young men themselves, why deny them the attractions and advantages of the higher grade, not the least of which is better pay? Meanwhile examinations are being held for additional second lieutenants, and when the new organization is effected under the army appropriation act there will literally be thousands of regimental commissions to sign. Then, indeed, will the President be threatened with writer's cramp.

It occurs to us that a reform greatly needed is the relief of the President from writing his name on relatively unimportant commissions of all kinds, civil as well as military. Could not Congress turn the work over to heads of departments and save time as well as the feelings of candidates and officers on the waiting list? What they always want and what the public service requires is action.

The Kaiser might have learned from NAPOLEON that family ties are an element of weakness.

The visit of prospective strikers to the White House evidently gave them a touch of humanitarianism. They benevolently inform the public that under no circumstances will all of the American people be forced to starve to death.

It is announced that President WILSON'S acceptance speech will be short. Two words would fill the bill. He could simply plead "Not guilty" and let the case go on.

The most astonishing invention of an Administration addicted to novelties is arbitration without representation.

"Chairman MCCORMICK," said a Democrat yesterday, "is an office boy in this campaign.'—*News of the day.*

One point of resemblance is that the office boy always appears to outsiders to be the most important person in the whole outfit.

The only trouble with "the Swedish Mark Twain" who deplores the decay of American womanhood due to dancing is that he does not seem to have MARK TWAIN'S sense of humor.

Berlin belittles Italy's move.—*Newspaper headline.*

Belittling is one of the least expensive of national amusements.

The generous milkmen agree in one breath that the farmer must have more money and that the consumer should have the honor of paying it.

Even VANCE MCCORMICK has not been able to figure Dr. WILSON out as a successful arbitrator.

A young woman stenographer whose disclosures of white slave traffic in New York have furnished important evidence in the present Grand Jury inquiry into the evil has had to pay for her courage with the loss of her position. The firm which employed her has "dispensed with her services" on the ground that it "would be involved in publicity and could not afford to retain her." It is gratifying to learn that District Attorney SWANN has obtained a better place for her. In her amazing and pitiful confession of the double life she led as office girl and prostitute, under the spur of her betrayer's demands for money, the unfortunate young woman has bared her shame in circumstances that necessarily bring her into public disgrace. At the same time she has performed a public service of incalculable benefit, and it is encouraging to think that society's reward for that service is not to make an outcast of her. In finding her a position in which she can support herself honestly it does a deserved act of social justice and one worth any amount of talk and theorizing about uplift and reclamation.—*The World.*

The young woman's "courage" was the child of jealousy. Her "public service" was interesting and may turn out to have been of some use to the authorities; to say that it was of "incalculable benefit" is to make words ridiculous. As for society's responsibility to this wretched creature, society gave her a good education and a job in which she could support herself honestly. She made an outcast of herself, by her own choice forfeiting honor, decency and everything else that is worth while. No case has come to attention lately which presented less reason than hers for indiscriminating sympathy.

Will the Administration send out a punitive expedition against Senator UNDERWOOD?

The better the country understands the peculiarities of the President's mind, the more easily does it comprehend the necessity he is under of changing it so frequently.

VON KLUCK thinks that peace may come suddenly. He, of all men, should be convinced that the unexpected sometimes happens.

Professor IRVING FISHER, the New Haven political economist, gives ten reasons why he will vote for Mr. WILSON. The tenth cancels the nine others. It is that "whatever mistakes have been committed constitute a safeguard against further mistakes." In all his years of political economizing, apparently, Mr. FISHER has never met people who were unable to profit by past mistakes. But then, Mr. FISHER is a professor.

The white slaver's phrase of praise: "She kept me out of work."

The job of docketing these declarations of war should be given to the night watchman at the Hague tribunal.

What nations of Europe will be left to rush in and succor the victor? Or is this the evident hour for succor?

Toward the threatened strike of moving picture supernumeraries it is difficult to feel otherwise than apathetic, but there would be widespread joy if somebody would precipitate a strike of most of the "movie" comedians.

Everybody who has a proper respect for figures will accept without hesitation the information that for an indefinite time farmers have been selling for 3.5 cents a quart milk that cost them 4.6 cents to produce.

The Kaiser has begun to realize that his sister, the Queen of Greece, may lose presently her relative value.

QUARANTINE HYSTERIA.

A Man Who Tore Down a Placard Tells of His Exasperation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I noticed some days ago an editorial article in your paper entitled "Quarantine Hysteria," and I desire to give you my personal experience with a board of health. I reside in West Orange, N. J., and returned to that town on July 30 after an absence of approximately one month. I have two boys, respectively 11 and 13 years of age. A quarantine sign was placed on my home after my return. The Board of Health afterward informed me that it was there because I had been out of West Orange more than forty-eight hours. I offered, verbally and in writing, to give them the certificate of my own doctor or a certificate from the health authorities of the place where I had been, showing that my children and the place where we had been were free from infection; or to permit them to examine my children and fumigate my house, or to take any steps they deemed necessary, other than quarantine me. This they refused to do, stating that my children might have been exposed to the disease and might be carriers of infantile paralysis.

I offered to permit an examination two or three times a day to show continued health, and they told me that even if I went to the north pole in an aeroplane and stayed for twenty-four hours and returned without seeing any other person or making any landing they would quarantine me, but that I might take my children to visit a local hospital filled with infantile paralysis patients, permit them to play with them all day and return the same day, and they would not quarantine me.

After they refused to remove the quarantine sign from my home I became convinced that their action was illegal and a usurpation of power. I called an officer of the village and in his presence tore down the quarantine sign. I am now being compelled, at my own expense, in an action brought against me to recover a fine, to show that the quarantine regulations are improper, unlawful and unreasonable. But I feel that in defending this action I am fighting for other children as well as mine, it being my belief that a confinement of my healthy children would so weaken their constitutions that the germs of infantile paralysis, as well as of other diseases, might more easily infect them and bring down their power of resistance. FRANK L. TYSON.

NEW YORK, August 28.

WHEN THE SHOP CLOSED.

Incident in the Life of a Liberal Seller of Socks and Shirts.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "Is this the amount of business you do every Saturday afternoon?" asked the proprietor of a Broadway clothing store as he unexpectedly reentered his establishment about 3 o'clock and looked down the empty aisle.

"Yes," replied the head salesman eagerly, "we do scarcely anything after you leave at noon. It seems to be a waste of time to keep the employees here. All the stores near here close at 1 o'clock. You can see the signs in all of their windows."

The proprietor put his hands in his pockets, puffed rapidly at his cigar, and for a few moments paced back and forth in front of the counter. The clerks who had overheard the conversation hopefully awaited the decision which they knew was now in the making. Finally the proprietor turned to the head salesman and said:

"Send the boy out to see if he can buy one of those signs that say, 'We close at 1 o'clock on Saturdays.'"

A joyful buzz passed up and down behind the counters.

In a surprisingly short time the junior employee returned with the printed announcement. Taking it, the proprietor entered his office at the rear of the store. Two minutes later he came out and handed the announcement to the head salesman, saying, "I don't want the employees of any store of mine hanging around doing nothing all Saturday afternoon, so you will please hang this in the window. Good-by."

Wishing to see with their own eyes the document that was to emancipate them, the employees crowded around the window as the head salesman entered it and placed the placard on view. It read:

"We close at six o'clock on Saturdays."

NEW YORK, August 26. SALESMAN.

THE POKER CHAMPION.

Old Man Greenlaw Meets the Acid Test for Fame in Novelists' Characters.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Mr. Stanley Kidder Wilson suggests in a letter to you that the ultimate acid test is applied to the fame of a novelist when the name of one of his characters is mentioned without reference to its origin or setting. He challenges all living authors to this test, adding that he cannot recall one whose hero will be readily recognized by the public without an "introduction."

It seems a fair test. If a writer has made one of his characters so familiar to the public that the mere mention of the character's name suffices to bring that character to the mind of the hearer, surely that writer is famous.

Does he forget Old Man Greenlaw? David A. Curtis is not well known as a novelist, but he is the author of a notable serial that has been running in THE SUN for many years. C. F. S.

NEW YORK, August 26.

Japhet in Search of a Partner.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I wish to protest against the callous manner in which several writers of letters to THE SUN have discussed the decree of the modern girl that if a man dance not neither shall he marry. It has a serious side; for instance, I am eligible, 28, and an admirer of the sex, yet when I meet one, and it is not often, everything will look promising until the inevitable question is asked: "Do you dance?" Then a frost sets in.

I am debarred from matrimony because I do not prance, kick up my heels, gyrate and perform all the weird stunts collectively termed dancing. H. J. S.

NEW YORK, August 28.

Montreal Melons.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I used to be acquainted with the Montreal melon. One man near Montreal raised 6,000 of them every year and sold them to two New York restaurants. They paid $1 apiece, f. o. b. Montreal, and sold quarter sections for 75 cents a portion.

It is possible to raise melons from the Montreal seed in New York or New Jersey, but the flavor does not sprout. That comes from the peculiar lavalike soil near Montreal. O. S.

NEW YORK, August 28.

A Missouri Record for Persistence.

From the St. Louis Republic.

A man in Saline county has won a nomination for Sheriff after trying for thirty-six years.

WHAT PEOPLE DIE OF.

One of the large life insurance companies of New York, which does a worldwide business, has just completed a list of its death claims for the second quarter of 1916.

Of the 2,510 policyholders who died during this period the causes of death were as follows:

Heart disease	515
Consumption	252
Bright's disease	248
Cancers and tumors	206
Pneumonia	186
Apoplexy	130
Diseases of the arteries	120
Accidents	110
Diseases of digestive organs	98
War	72
Diabetes	64
Appendicitis	59
Liver diseases	53
Paralysis	43
Bronchitis, pleurisy, &c	42
Blood poisoning, anemia, &c	41
Typhoid fever	27
Old age	10
Nervous prostration, congestion of brain, &c	10
Rheumatism	9
Spinal diseases	5
All other causes	413

Of those who died 183 were under 30 years of age, 403 were between 30 and 40, 653 were between 40 and 50, 664 were between 50 and 60 and 607 were over 60 years old.

That all of the money paid out by life insurance companies does not go to beneficiaries of the dead is shown by the fact that this same company during the second quarter of 1916 paid out $8,000,071.88 in death claims and $12,290,950.70 to living policyholders in the form of dividends, cash surrender values and annuities.

CALDER, BUILDER.

A Brooklyn Sword Leaps From the Scabbard in His Defence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* THE SUN of August 26 contained a masterful and presumably an unpaid political advertisement compiled by Mr. Joseph H. Choate in behalf of Mr. Bacon, a candidate in the primaries for the office of United States Senator. It is always well to let your friends know where you are at, and no doubt Mr. Choate, who has been an exalted Ambassador to the royal Court of St. James's has many friends, especially among the American nobility. But the American nobility has not as yet increased in numbers so as to embrace all the people of the United States or to make these people an auxiliary of the Ambassadors' Past Masters Union. (Perhaps Mr. Choate read recently how Ambassadorships are secured.) It is not likely that the people will fall over each other to fraternize with such a union when its present membership can hold up the welfare of the entire nation, as is evidenced by the present meeting in the White House. If Mr. Root and Mr. Choate, backed up by Mr. Barnes, could have their say the United States Senate would be constituted of men who only represent the predatory interests, which gradually are bringing this country into a condition bordering on discontent, the harbinger of misfortune and chaos.

I do not question the ability of Mr. Bacon, but do hesitate to admire the insinuating remarks of his champion that his adversary, Mr. Calder, is unfit because he put up a thousand homes in Brooklyn. That is Mr. Calder's chief characteristic, building up, not only homes, but character. In his five terms in Congress he has made a record second to none in the House. The trouble with him is that the latchstring is always on the outside of his door, not the inside. His greetings are manly and sincere and he has the happy faculty of reading your mind and knowing the psychological moment to inquire in what manner he can help you. Thousands of his neighbors are obligated to him for favors bestowed and work well performed, and strange as it may appear to the nobility it was undertaken in each instance without a retainer and with a spirit of wholesomeness that showed his heart beat true for those who were in need. He builds while others are tearing down. He works while others rest. He enthuses while others inspire fear. He is up at daylight and in bed at midnight, and accomplishes more for good each working day than any two business men. His path has been destined to lead through fields where his passing means abundance and where hard work means the uplifting of his fellow men.

If Mr. Calder is a politician it is because Mr. Choate and the class he represents force him to it. He is also a pathfinder, a builder and a credit to the American race. He is prosperous through honest toil and not by grabbing percentages from others' labors.

Don't let Mr. Choate get excited over the candidacy of his friend. He will find all the consolation he wants when he compares the primary election figures with those cast for another friend of his, the constitutional amendments. They both were born in the same mind and will remain but a memory. I am for Bacon, but it must be served with eggs. ALBERT KUCK.

BROOKLYN, August 28.

A Declaration of Independence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I am through following a political party right or wrong. For the last thirty years I have voted the Democratic ticket as a rule. As a member of the Town Committee I helped carry the town for Cleveland. He carried it three times.

When Bryan, the talking machine, was nominated he ruined the Democratic party in Wellesley, and the Democrats were fools enough to try him three times.

I voted for Palmer and Buckner.

When Mr. Wilson stepped upon the stage I passed around the papers. An Irish friend whom I asked to sign replied: "What do we want a professor for President for?"

I have wondered since. The silliest thing, according to my judgment, he has attempted is trying to make the railroads grant a certain thing, and then to arbitrate with the workingmen if it does not work.

This year I have signed Lodge's nomination papers because the Democrats are advocating the election of a much weaker man, so acknowledged by all. A worthy gentleman, ex-Governor Walsh, will support the weaker of the two because of party. No more for me. The strongest and best hereafter!

RICHARD CUNNINGHAM.

WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS., August 26.

Dramatic Criticism in Southern Illinois.

From the Cisne Examiner.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" has come and gone. Eliza again crossed the ice successfully with the ferocious dogs in close pursuit. Uncle Tom was taken down the river again. Little Eva was here and died and was seen in the realms of heaven. Uncle Tom was sold at auction and bought by Simon Legree again. He was whipped as usual and died even harder than ever. Topsy was just as wicked as ever! A good crowd of people attended the show, perhaps 800 or 900, and there was heard not one word of protest to the show's leaving town.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S PLAN TO GET RAILWAY PEACE AT ANY PRICE.

An Examination of Some of the Consequences That Flow From the Initial Mistake of Thoughtlessly Rejecting Arbitration.

From the Engineering News

If the railway engine drivers and firemen and conductors and brakemen, merely by the threat to bring about a nationwide railroad strike, can add $50,000,000 to their wages, while they refuse to debate the question whether they are fairly entitled to such an increase or not, it is safe to say that similar action will be taken by other bodies of railway employees. Such action would be justified, moreover, since these other employees are receiving lower rates of wages in proportion to the work done and the responsibility carried than are the railway trainmen.

For one thing the railway officers cannot be too highly commended, and that is for their strong support of the principle of arbitration of industrial disputes. The brotherhood officers, on the other hand, deserve the severest condemnation for their absolute refusal to submit their case to arbitration.

The responsibility of defending the interests of the public in this great controversy has fallen upon President Wilson; and apparently because of his belief that a strike must be prevented at any cost he has failed to realize that peace may be purchased at too high a price. When the railway presidents urged him to accept and apply the principle that all industrial disputes should be submitted to arbitration, he could not of course deny the soundness of the principle, but he declared that arbitration was impossible because the brotherhoods would not accept it!

It is time for men to stop and inquire seriously where we stand, when an organization demands that the public hand over to its members a round fifty million dollars a year, refuses to arbitrate the question whether it has any just claim on such a sum and announces its intention of stopping railway transportation lines throughout the country unless its demands are granted forthwith. Where shall the interests of the public find a defender when the President of the United States insists that this demand must be granted, not because it is just, but because of the dire results that will follow if the threat is carried out? Can any right thinking man justify such a threat? It differs from the threat of the highway robber only that it is made on a vastly larger scale, for it is a hundred million persons who are held up instead of one.

The public is sadly astray on another aspect of the controversy, and for this also President Wilson is chiefly responsible. It is he who has beclouded the public mind with the idea that what the men are fighting for is the eight hour day. He said in his statement to the public on August 19:

I have recommended the concession of the eight hour day because I believe the concession right. The eight hour day has undoubtedly has the sanction of the judgment of society in its favor, and should be adapted as a basis for wages.

In this statement, destined to be widely quoted everywhere for years to come, whenever a controversy over the hours of labor arises, the President says in words that he supports the eight hour day in order to settle the dispute; but the proposition which he has asked the railroads to accept has nothing whatever in it to establish the eight hour day. What he asks the railways to do is to increase the hourly rate of wages so that they would pay as much wages for eight hours work as they now pay for ten hours. He omitted the brotherhoods original demand for a time and a half rate for overtime work. Hence under the arrangement which he proposes the railways would have no incentive whatever to reduce the present working hours of the trainmen.

An elementary arithmetical computation shows that increasing the hourly rate so that a man earns as much in eight hours work as he formerly earned in ten hours work is equivalent to an increased wage rate of 25 per cent.

If President Wilson believes that the eight hour day is the real question at issue, then he must believe that a large proportion of the trainmen who are making these demands are working much longer than eight hours and would therefore be entitled to this large increase in their wage rate. Yet he demands that the railways should put his proposition in force and give it a trial because, forsooth, no one is wise enough in advance of such a trial to determine whether the cost to the railways would be material!

President Wilson declares that society favors the eight hour day. If he means by that statement that the majority of voters favor the general principle of the eight hour day as a movement toward bettering the conditions of the working man generally, he is very likely right. It is true also that the best experts in efficiency in production are generally agreed that where employees are working day in and day out the year round in industries requiring intense use of nerves and muscles, such as factory work under modern high pressure industrial conditions requires, eight hours is as long a working day as the average employee can stand and continue efficient work. But the railway brakeman, while he is on duty, has little or nothing to do so long as the train is in motion. He has not as strong a claim for the eight hour day as the workman in the car shop or the laborer in the section gang.

If President Wilson means that society favors the universal eight hour day as a practical working proposition, he is on unsafe ground. Every one concedes the desirability of a shorter working day if the greater leisure it affords is rightly used; but most people prefer to work longer hours in order to earn more money and be able to buy more of the things they want. The railway trainmen themselves do not want shorter hours, but larger wages for their present working hours.

There is some reason to believe that a large proportion of the members of the trainmen's brotherhoods have regarded the whole matter as a big game of bluff on the part of their officials to get a thing for them, which of course they would be very glad to have; but when it actually comes to the pinch, they may be slow to forfeit actually the lucrative position they have so long held.

If the strike comes, there will be all probability for a few days and perhaps for weeks much disorganization of train service and resulting loss and suffering of innocent persons. Is not the sacrifice justified? Should organization be permitted to exist if its contributions from the public in proportion to its ability to cause disaster if its demands are refused? This way lies anarchy.

WATCHFUL WAITING.

Senator Lippitt's Speech on Mexico Should Be Spread Broadcast.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I hope Senator Lippitt's speech on Mexican affairs, reported in THE SUN of August 27, will be spread broadcast throughout the country. It is an arraignment of the President's Mexican policy that should make every true American hang his head in shame that his country's honor has been thus dragged in the dust.

I have read carefully the papers recently published in THE SUN by Henry Lane Wilson, another awful arraignment of the President supported by official documents. These papers of Ambassador Wilson should be read by every thinking citizen. THE SUN is doing great work by giving so much space on its editorial page to letters dealing with the President's Mexican policy. Like George Harrison McAdam, I do not think the President's mind can be right on any subject, certainly not long.

NEW YORK, August 28. H. E. K.

WHO "KEEPS US OUT"?

Let the Credit Go to Those to Whom It Is Due.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As long as Germany does not renew submarine attacks on passenger ships Germany, and not Wilson, is keeping us out of war.

As long as Mexico does not renew her raids across our border Mexico, and not Wilson, is keeping us out of war.

WILLIAM C. GIBBS.

HACKENSACK, N. J., August 26.

Both Rice and Raisins Are Wholesome, Nutritious and Well Cooked.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* When I was a boy and we had rice pudding for dinner I always ate the rice first and left the raisins until the last.

In very much the same spirit I read THE SUN, the very delicious raisins of the editorial page come last of all.

HENRY LAUGHLIN WEST.

NEW YORK, August 26.

The Spoils for Jinks.

Jinks never takes quite kindly to things that puzzle him;
"I wish," he says of Mr. Hughes, "they'd shortly muzzle him.
He's sayin' things that hurt me and kind o' make me sob
Hughes won't give him that helps him win full payment by a job.

"He'll stick by them thar service rules without a bit o' winkin',
Wat's he salvarsive of what's just, to my old ways o' thinkin';
He will not choose ambassadors by what they paid the pot—
He isn't fair to Woodrow when he talks such awful rot.

"He prattles about efficiency and all thar kind o' dreamin',
Forgetful, as it seems to me, of them thar's up and screamin'
To land him in the White House, whar Woodrow frets and toils
To see that them that's backin' him's rewarded with the spoils.

"Yes, 'Charlie is too good for me, and Woodrow is my hero;
To try examinations is perhaps to get a zero.
This civil service nonsense may appeal to Mr. Hughes,
But thar ain't no rainbow chaser goin' to stand in Woodrow's shoes!"

P. JOWS.

SHALL THE POLICE SING?

Thus Might the Community Chorus Be Strengthened.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In reading the notice in THE SUN of Aug. 21 in regard to park music, I feel impelled to state that the Community Chorus meetings on Sunday afternoon so much to some that they go a distance to attend them are [illegible].

It has been my observation that people get more real, lasting joy from something than merely hearing something done for them. I have heard that "observant policemen" would do too, as I have heard some of them, if he would be an encouragement to those whose singing spirit is cramped by former lack of opportunity of expression.

Of course there are many [illegible] but much of the music is not [illegible] even though the words are [illegible]. I often hear the native words to the tune.

I am one of the many who [illegible] believe in the civic value of community singing as well as the [illegible] pleasure it gives.

MARGARET [illegible]

RUTHERFORD, N. J., August 28.

MAMMON BATHES FREE.

Whereas It Is Suggested That Those Should Pay Who Can.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I read how a thirty cent watch, an $85 diamond [illegible] in money took a free bath [illegible] Turkish baths, Coney Island.

The performance is in proportion of a [illegible] tures drawn of those who kind attention of the [illegible] the matter of those who [illegible] included workers of the [illegible] the gains should be [illegible] to be outsiders to [illegible] is no reason why [illegible] to ask a free bath [illegible] pocket should not have free bath deducted from his [illegible].

Things free to the [illegible] paid for by some one [illegible] scrutiny; it has [illegible] city. The dispensaries [illegible] way a charge of [illegible] ment that the [illegible] pay for treatment. [illegible] the baths for decency [illegible].

NEW YORK, August [illegible].

TRADE BRIEFS

The pineapple exports [illegible] decreased from 1,074,[illegible] to 862,505 crates this [illegible] value of the fruit [illegible].

Approximately [illegible] seed oil are [illegible] the United States [illegible] this year [illegible] for trade [illegible].

During the year [illegible] ports of Oregon [illegible] over the corresponding [illegible] Bay was the largest [illegible].

Approval has been [illegible] making electric light [illegible] to be installed in Spain [illegible].

Georgia's peach crop [illegible] season has [illegible] at $2,500,000.

Cotton [illegible] is being [illegible] country for use in making [illegible] week. Before the war [illegible] ton for this purpose from [illegible] cost of $565,000 yearly.