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Guard, subjected them to the hardships of war, and no man to-day, not even the President himself, can offer an excuse for this warlike action unless it was taken from political motives so despoilingly selfish that they must of necessity be thrown out of court.

As Colonel Roosevelt says, war is not in itself either good or evil. It is the one or the other, according to circumstances. There is justifiable war and unjustifiable war.

Fortunately for the good name of our country the American statesmen and captains who have been, despite their pacific inclinations, forced to wage war, Washington, Lincoln, Grant, Sherman and others, have been not only vindicated but revered by posterity for the military exploits in which pure, unselfish patriotism obliged them to engage. It was reserved for a President whose Senator Stone describes as a passionate lover of peace to stain our national escutcheon by repeated wars, that have been undertaken for unworthy purposes and have not even accomplished these same purposes.

President Wilson has employed force when it brought dishonor to our flag and failed to employ it when the honor of our flag demanded it. He has shaken his fist in the face of the weak and his finger when he confronted the strong. If his is the record of a passionate pacifist, it is strange that the country should long for a leader whose greatest passion is for justice and who is equally incapable of maintaining a peace that is disposable or waging a war that is unjustifiable.

A Few Things Which Mr. Hughes Would Have Done.

CHARLES EVANS HUGHES would have appointed a capable Secretary of State instead of a BAYAN. Mr. HUGHES would have secured the lives and property of Americans in Mexico instead of waging war on HURTTA and sacrificing American lives at Vera Cruz. Mr. HUGHES would have said "strict accountability" and no BAYAN would have been ready to assume Ambassador DeMARA that we didn't mean it. When the Imperial German Embassy printed in the newspapers a warning to Americans not to exercise their right to travel on the high seas Mr. HUGHES would have sent for the German Ambassador and notified him that the threat to imperil American lives must be disavowed, or we would instantly sever relations with Germany.

Mr. HUGHES would then have been at the precise point which Mr. Wilson eventually reached. But it took the sinking of the Lusitania and the loss of over a hundred American lives, and fifteen months filled with subsequent sinkings and losses of other American lives, to get Mr. Wilson that far. When Mr. Wilson finally told Germany that submarine warfare must cease, it ceased. When Mr. HUGHES, at the mere threat to sink the Lusitania, had told Germany that murder must not occur it would never have occurred. That is "what Mr. HUGHES would have done."

Job for Ward Politicians. To-day is the last day for the registration of voters in this city. The election officers in each precinct will be in session from 7 o'clock in the morning until 10:30 o'clock in the evening; and if a full vote is to be cast on November 7 they will be kept busy all the time.

The total registration in New York in Presidential years since consolidation has been: 1904 640,641; 1908 688,322; 1912 682,691; 1916 707,935.

In four five hour sessions of the registrars this year 451,030 electors were registered. When this total had been reached there remained one evening and one full day for the registration of 250,000 voters, if the record of 1912 is to be equaled in 1916. We hope the registration this year will not be disappointing; but if it is to reach the total it should, the despised young men commonly known as ward politicians have got to do some mighty hard work between now and 10:30 o'clock to-night.

The World's Greatest General.

The many friends in America of that fine old veteran of the civil war Brigadier-General PETER J. OSTERHAUS, U. S. A., retired, will rejoice to hear his estimate of Von HINDENBURG, because the vigor of it indicates a vitality that old age has not greatly impaired. Whether they will agree with General OSTERHAUS is another matter. He says from Duisburg, Germany, where in the sunset of life he watches the course of the war with a trained mind: "Tell my friends in the United States that Von HINDENBURG is the world's greatest general. He would have beaten Napoleon the first day of the war."

So the German people believe no doubt, although there must be dissenters who see the star of MACKENSEN shining with a tulle luster. There has been nothing more brilliant in the war than the campaign in which he drove the Russians out of Galicia, and he is winning fresh laurels on the Danube, dividing with FALKENHAYN the honors of subduing the Rumanians. Both these Generals have of late shown the same kind of strategy that marked the victorious campaigns of NAPOLEON in Central Europe. One or both may yet dim the fame of Von HINDENBURG, whose greatest battle was that of the Marston Lakes and whose rout of the Russian armies in East Prussia and

Poland made him the hero of the German people.

Von HINDENBURG's reputation is still in the ascendant. Since becoming Chief of the General Staff he has checked that thunderbolt of war BRUSILOFF and saved Lemberg. Admirers of the great German soldier will give him the lion's share of the credit of recent Teutonic successes in the Balkans, viewing Von MACKENSEN and Von FALKENHAYN as subordinates who follow instructions. As to this, it may be observed that MACKENSEN proved himself a great strategist in Serbia as well as in Gallien, and may be left to his own devices. Von HINDENBURG is big enough to give his rival a free hand.

The superlative as General OSTERHAUS uses it takes no note of the genius and tenacity of FORRE, the superman of the Entente Allies. As a defensive commander his fame is already secure, and who knows but that the offensive on the Somme may yet result in a victory compared with which the battle of the Marne will seem like a minor operation.

The point is that such a judgment as General OSTERHAUS permits himself is at least premature. As the war draws to an end great reputations may be shattered. Who will emerge as "the world's greatest general" worthy to stand comparison with the Corsican, is a question that must be held open.

Judge Seabury is in Error.

The Democratic candidate for Governor, Judge SEABURY, has decided to attack the law passed at the last session of the Legislature to secure the physical and military training of the youth of the State. The Slater act providing for a Military Training Commission. The commission recommends to the Board of Regents a programme designed to teach school children the "habits, customs and methods best adapted to the development of correct physical posture and bearing, mental and physical alertness, self-control, discipline and initiative, sense of duty and the spirit of co-operation under leadership."

Of this Judge SEABURY says: "A more indefinite statement cannot be imagined." It might be thought that Service to Humanity and the Sanction of Society had never reached the Seabury auditory apparatus. Let Judge SEABURY procure from the Department of Education at Albany a copy of the syllabus for physical education prepared for the New York State schools by THOMAS ANDREW STORRY. Let him turn the pages slowly. He will see, in text and diagram, the extremely definite work mapped out for the boys and girls on every day of the year, indoors and outdoors, rain or shine. It consists of simple drills, without the manual of arms; marches, games and dances, with plenty of instruction in standing straight and breathing deeply. It also requires such observation of pupils as will detect bad physical conditions and see that they are remedied, or if they cannot be remedied, ameliorated.

Having found out from this syllabus how definite and precise are the workings of the Slater act in its relation to the children of New York, let the Democratic candidate come to New York and ask G. WARD CAMPBELL, director of physical training in the New York schools, to show him what physical training can do for boys and girls. We promise Mr. SEABURY that the sight of only a few hundred city youngsters in their evolutions will send such a queer, thrilling feeling through him that he will wish the Slater act had been passed while he was a boy.

That "Poem" Attributed to Mr. Delmas.

Concerning the lines on New York attributed by the Erie Dispatch to DELPHIN M. DELMAS, had reprinted in THE SUN of October 12, one of our friends writes: "To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The 'poem' attributed to DELMAS in THE SUN this morning is from the pen of an important member of the Wilson Administration. 'If you have THE SUN'S Washington correspondent inquire of the Hon. BRONX R. NEWTON, Mr. McCADDO'S Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, he will admit its authorship, eliminated lines and all.'—READER.

"PHILADELPHIA, October 12."

Without a blush THE SUN confesses that it is not sufficiently familiar with the literary output of the Napoleon of the California bar or of Mr. WILLIAM GIBBS McCADDO'S Assistant Secretary of the Treasury to award finally to either credit for the composition whose authorship is thus brought into question. It may be that Mr. DELMAS wrote it; perhaps he consciously or unconsciously appropriated it; perhaps he quoted it innocently, and some auditor, too quick to assume its originality, attributed it to him without inquiring as to its source. Certainly it is now in circulation over the name of Mr. DELMAS, and it served to recall to us an amusing incident of life in this interesting city.

Fortunately, there is a simple and easy way in which the merits of the claim made in behalf of Assistant Secretary NEWTON of Mr. McCADDO'S Treasury Department may be established. If the official aid to President Wilson in the administration of the nation's finances did compose this assault on the city which was once his home, he can of course supply the lines which THE SUN dropped therefrom in reprinting it; and when these are forthcoming from the claimer or his representatives we shall cheerfully award to him the honor his friends now claim for him.

UNCLE SAM'S EIGHT HOUR PAY.

About \$2,000,000 Due Forgotten in the Business of Serving Humanity. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Your editorial article entitled "The Eighty Per Cent. Speak Out," in which it is related how the Sanction of Society did not extend to over 1,500,000 railway employees, says: "The 80 per cent. are aggrieved." Let them not weep. It is worth millions to the cause of truth in this republic to have the 80 per cent. realize how unfair the United States as employer and an investigator can be. I hope it is a nail in the coffin of Government ownership.

That super-plous body the Federal Industrial Commission held 154 meetings in the last year, and yet it could not spare even fifteen minutes to men, wage earners under Uncle Sam, to whom the Government owes some \$2,000,000 in wages.

The Secretary of Labor, when a member of Congress, explored the depravity of labor leaders, cannot oversee them to pay these wages to the navy yard men. But three years in the Cabinet of the President of Humanity seem to have stilled his zeal for these wage earners. They worked under Uncle Sam's very own eight hour law.

A widow writes me: "I would like to hear from you, as my husband was working overtime when the overtime was not given and has since died." And I have two children under the age of sixteen who I have to go out every day and work for. Hoping that I won't be forgotten."

Oh, 80 per cent., weep not. You can send me one to jail if he cheats you out of your wages. GEORGE HERMAN MANN, NEW YORK, October 12.

THE GOMERS STOPWATCH.

Some Comment on the Uses to Which a Timepiece May Be Put. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: A study of the two acts relating to preparedness passed by the Sixty-fourth Congress seems to disclose something which did not appear in the newspaper accounts. In both the fortifications act, approved July 6, 1916, and the navy act, approved August 29, 1916, can be found the following: "No part of the appropriation made in this act shall be available for the salary or pay of any officer, manager, superintendent, foreman or other person having charge of the work of any employee of the United States Government while making or causing to be made with a stopwatch or other time measuring device any record as to the starting and completion thereof, or of the movements of any such employee while engaged upon any such work; nor shall any part of the appropriations made in this act be available to pay any premium of bonus or other reward to any employee in addition to his regular wages."

In this most direct and all sweeping way Gomers has cost the people millions; and he did it by his power over Congress and the White House. It seems that Gomers and his satraps can sit in the gallery and hold the stopwatch over the work of Congressmen, but no one can hold a watch of any kind over any man or process connected with work for the army or navy.

WATCHEFULLY WAITING, ROCHESTER, October 10.

DEATH BY SHELL SHOCK.

A Theory That An Airlight Uniform Would Prevent It. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I would like to suggest a method of protection against high explosives which would reduce the slaughter of modern warfare. Hundreds of men are killed by the shock of a single explosion, and for the most part their bodies are not retained in service. Comparatively little injury is caused by the impact of high explosive gases. The soldier carries in his own person the elements of his destruction. The air he breathes kills him. The human body has a tendency to rupture in an instant. A soldier in a uniform of steel, with a helmet of steel, with two immense atmospheric stresses, each amounting to about fifty thousand pounds over the whole surface of the body. One stress is internal and the other external. The slightest disturbance of the body is likely to cause rupture of the blood vessels.

At the center of an exploding shell there is terrific pressure. The air is expelled in all directions until the pressure of the explosive gases is reduced. The momentum imparted to the air causes it to expand in all directions. The center of explosion, and the pressure is succeeded by a vacuum. The area through which this vacuum extends is the zone of death.

The method of protection I suggest is to insulate the entire body from the outside atmosphere in an airtight uniform and helmet. A light, rubberized cotton fabric reinforced by thin steel wire should cover the entire body from the neck down. An adjustable helmet of the same material should be fastened over the head and neck to complete the airtight enclosure. A multipurpose which the slightest change in atmospheric pressure would close automatically should be furnished to allow the soldier to breathe freely. Airtight boots and gloves reinforced by the insulated suit.

A regiment of soldiers dressed in these uniforms would be safe from ninety per cent of the destruction wrought by the high explosives of modern warfare. It has often been observed that every article of clothing has been blown off a soldier's body without the slightest apparent injury to the corpse. The air inside the clothing causes this havoc when it rushes into the vacuum produced around the body by the explosion.

ROBERT J. MELATIGNIN, NEW YORK, October 12.

Germany Preparing If We Are Not.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: While we are pursuing our watchful waiting policy the German Government is getting ready to send her new submarines, 500 feet long, carrying 20 torpedoes and 125 mines, to this country. Before we know it the coast line of the United States will be controlled by German mines. What will Mr. Wilson do then? Will nothing arouse this country? HOR SPRING, Va., October 12. M.

Cosmopolitan Indiana.

Advertisement in the Indianapolis News. A. J. Finebaum has opened up a Japanese art store on O'Keefe street. It will be in charge of Thomas P. O'Rourke. Nobby Redemred. Mrs. Oulatte: But you promised not to touch one. Oulatte: Yes, m'dear; I'm simply holding to complete fulfillment.

TESTING THE OPEN SHOP.

Gratifying Result of One Contest in Washington's Strange Primaries. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Two incidents in our recent State primary may be of interest to the readers of THE SUN. In the State of Washington the man who received the second highest vote for Governor was Roland H. Hartley of Everett.

He ran upon a platform which advocated only the open shop, and it was the only issue he raised, and his next nearest competitor, a man of great ability, a leading lawyer and one who had occupied a prominent public position with great credit, received nearly 20,000 votes fewer than he, and it seems to be the general opinion in this State that if the campaign had lasted another week Mr. Hartley would have received the nomination.

This would indicate that in this State at least there are many sensible people who feel that the labor unions, or so-called labor leaders, cannot oversee them either commercially or politically. The other incident refers to the workings of our primary law.

The two aspirants for the United States Senatorship are George Turner and Miles Ponder. The former is announcing himself as a simple, honest Democrat, who will support the policies of President Wilson. The other declares himself to be a good and wholesome Republican, who will uphold the policies of Judge Hughes. Both of these aspirants have embraced various political faiths heretofore, and are now running as the candidate of the Democrats in their primary.

It is conceded that many Democrats voted in the Republican primaries for Ponder, believing that he would make him in order to insure the election of Turner, regarding Ponder as the weakest candidate of the Republicans. There are Republicans who voted in the Democratic primaries because they believed Turner to be the ablest man, although they were not in favor of Wilson's policies, especially of his attitude upon the Adamson bill. There are Progressives who voted in both primaries, and yet who are secretly hoping that Hughes will be defeated in order that Roosevelt may be their candidate four years hence.

To cap the climax, too, we have in this State a second choice vote which beautifully nullifies your first choice vote and which permits a man to be nominated by the expression of a second choice rather than a first choice vote. Consistently with the primary law it never will be found in the Washington State primary system.

SAMUEL R. STEIN, SPOKANE, WASH., October 8.

GARDEN OF THE HEART.

Its Destruction Would Save Little Money and Spoil a Beauty Spot.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: If every one in New York city knew of the Garden of the Heart, to the west of the Hudson, I am sure the number of visitors would be greatly increased. Particularly it appeals to the older folk who so dearly love the old fashioned flowers. And what an education for the children who are taken to visit this wonderful garden of the rocks.

Let all who are not fastidious gardeners join in protest against the proposed economy, small in money value which would destroy this beauty spot. Perhaps the Park Commission does not realize what the Shakespeare Garden means to the children and the old folk in New York city. If he did there would be no question of cutting the funds to continue this excellent work.

Dr. Spurgeon has created a marvelous garden and is worthy of the high compliment. THREMA M. SCULLY, NEW YORK, October 12.

TRADE BRIEFS.

Alcohol can now be made in this country at a very low cost. Besides its use as a fuel it has made possible the production of synthetic rubber at 25 cents a pound. A consular report states that the spending of an American bank in Amoy, China, would be of great benefit to export trade. Coprae material is being sold in the Canary Islands at 100 cents a ton. The water system of the city of Panama, Canal Zone, is being improved. Estimated cost, \$1,000,000. This is part of a plan to provide the principal Argentine cities with adequate water and sewerage systems. Electric street water pumps are needed in Holland. The price of lumber in New Zealand has increased 40 per cent. since the beginning of hostilities. In England, the demand for a market for American electrical machinery and appliances in Australia. New Zealand. Fiberglass is a really most important mineral. Up to July 20, 1916, 28,110 tons of this product were exported. Prices have increased from \$150 a ton before the war to \$285 at the present time. The United States army is buying 80 million pounds of frozen beef and 150,000 pounds of tinned beef. It has been ordered that nine and one-half cents a pound there is a possible market for American fountain pens in the Barcelona district, Spain. New Brunswick's potato crop was a poor one in 1915. Potatoes are now selling at \$2 to \$2.25 a barrel. Through the efforts of Consul F. S. S. Johnson at Kingston American table salt has been introduced into Canada. Tinned goods, such as fish and milk, are needed in the Argentine. A law has been passed by the Argentine Government providing adequate heating of passenger cars on the railroads of that country. At present, they are unheated. South Africa has been making big sales in the London market. For a long time this industry was dormant. An American firm is in the possession of a factory for the production of calcium carbide at Raude, Norway. Good has been discovered near Wataah, Tasmania. It is believed that there will be a demand for mining machinery, drugs and medical supplies are needed in Peru. Porto Rico's sugar crop for 1916 totaled 483,280 tons, valued at \$20,000,000. There is a market for filing cabinets in Senegal, West Africa. At present there are no filing cabinets in selling any filing devices in this district.

Putting Punch Into Illinois Society News. From the Carleton Patriot. Last Thursday, September 14, at 3 P. M., Miss Anna Miller and Harry Cook hampered the traffic of the Illinois Society. They headed for the Baptist parsonage, Carleton, where the Rev. Muntell made a few remarks that made the young couple both one and the same thing, and only one ticket will be required to admit them to the Greene County Fair on the first day. The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Miller of Lander, and the groom is an industrious and bustling young farmer from Greenfield, and has the reputation of bringing home the "bacon." In the evening a large number of invited guests