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An Attempt to Tie the Senate to the Tail of the President's Kite.

The Hitchcock resolution, for the passage of which by the Senate the Administration has shown itself so anxious, "approves and strongly indorses the action taken by the President in sending the diplomatic notes of December 18 to the nations now engaged in war, suggesting and recommending that those nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed."

It will at once appear to the close observer that this is a sterile form of approval or indorsement. It seems to be intentionally so phrased as to give the impression that the Senate is formally ratifying the sentiments expressed by the Executive in his communication to the Governments at war.

Yet an analysis of the language of the resolution shows that all it does is to approve and indorse the "action" of the President in sending the notes; not to approve and indorse the specific contents of those notes. The distinction may seem metaphysical, but it is important.

There was only one sentiment or proposal or pledge in the President's note which concerned the Senate of the United States as a coordinate department of the Government. With the exception of that single proposal or pledge the Senate has no more to do with the President's recent overtures to the belligerents than it has to do with the reply of the Allies to the overtures of the Central Powers. The Senate may express approval or disapproval of the President's action in sending the notes, it may record its indorsement or repudiation of the sentiments expressed in these communications; but in so doing the Senate is merely exercising its broad right to register an opinion on any subject whatever; not performing a prescribed and clearly defined function devolving upon it as a part of our system of government. A Senate resolution approving and indorsing Mr. Wilson's action in sending such notes and making such suggestions means no more in the strict governmental sense than would a Senate resolution commending similar action and similar suggestions by Mr. Bryan or Mr. Jacob H. Schiff or ex-President Eliot of Harvard or any private citizen.

But the case is different when we come to this passage in Mr. Wilson's note dated December 18 and published on December 21:

"In the measures to be taken to secure the future peace of the world the people and Government of the United States are as vitally and as directly interested as the Governments now at war. They stand ready, and even eager, to cooperate in the accomplishment of these ends when the war is over with every influence and resource at their command."

If this means anything it is a definite pledge in the name of the people and Government of the United States to participate to the full extent of its moral and physical resources in a future league or international police system designed to enforce peace, safeguard the independence of certain European nations and guarantee the integrity of certain European frontiers.

In an editorial article which was made part of Tuesday's proceedings of the Senate, THE SUN tried to show that this means the abandonment of the Monroe Doctrine, formally declared by our delegates at The Hague as the expression of our traditional policy with respect to participation in the affairs of European politics and also of our traditional attitude toward purely American questions. If Mr. Wilson's note to the belligerents were of itself valid and effective it would annul the declaration at The Hague and release the conventions there negotiated from the Monroe Doctrine proviso or condition imposed upon those treaties by the constitutional vote of the Senate.

Of course President Wilson has no power to annul our treaties that are conditioned upon the Monroe Doctrine. He has no power to commit the people and the Government to so complete a reversal of the traditional policy of the United States. He is probably as conscious of this fact as are his friends in the Senate. It is possible that his anxiety, and theirs, for the adoption of some such vague expression of approval as the Hitchcock resolution affords is due to the feeling of uneasiness which comes from a sense of promising things which the promiser cannot

produce. A little backing from the Senate, even if granted solely from partisanship, would be welcome at the White House just now.

It seems proper to call the attention of the President, and of the promoters of the indorsing or approving resolution, to the circumstance that what is required to give validity to the President's plan to engage the United States in an international league to enforce peace and guarantee territorial limits on both sides of the ocean is not merely a majority vote in the Senate, but a two-thirds vote of the Senators present.

Nothing short of that can annul a treaty declaration or make a new treaty engagement. Nothing short of that has anything of more than academic interest with regard to the attitude toward the Monroe Doctrine which Mr. Wilson has precipitately and, as we believe, without proper consideration assumed.

We venture to say that under no circumstances now easily conceivable could President Wilson ever obtain in the Senate of the United States a two-thirds vote in favor of concluding a treaty engagement to send American troops to help enforce peace in the Balkans or to invite German or Japanese troops to help in enforcing peace in Mexico, Nicaragua or Venezuela.

Such attempts, therefore, as this to attach by a mere plurality vote of the Senate the appearance of sanction to a volunteered pledge of the President's which actually requires a two-thirds vote to ratify need not excite serious apprehension in the mind of any Senator, however it may exasperate the sense of propriety.

All this is entirely apart from the question of the motives and merits of the President's tentative of December 18, or its manifest good effects in bringing to the minds of the people of Germany a fuller realization of the steadfast purpose animating their allied adversaries and the hopelessness in the long run of their own immense sacrifices, at the call of dynamic interests.

Finances First. None of the other matters brought to the attention of the Legislature in Governor WHITMAN'S annual message approaches in importance the financial system and practice of the State. This is vital. Without intelligent reform and the adoption of business methods we cannot undertake new projects, or even maintain the enterprises to which the State is already committed.

Unconsciously the Governor illustrates the shocking condition that now exists when he points out that last year the Legislature, by amending the workmen's compensation law, made it compulsory on the State to secure compensation to its employees injured in its service, and then neglected to provide funds for the purpose. Thus the lawmakers bowed to the humane impulse of the times, but failed to do the practical thing their action indicated. Here the people of New York have an admirable specimen of the manner in which transactions of great importance have been mishandled in the past, and will be in the future unless an enlightened form of budget and an approved plan of legislation are adopted.

A step in the right direction was taken last year. What was done then will serve as a basis on which to build. The extension of the scheme will provide for full publicity of proposed appropriations and of estimates of revenues; for the orderly discussion of all allowances, old and new, and for the education of the public as to the purposes for which their money is expended. Until those from whose pockets the income of the State is taken know for what it is spent there will be no substantial advance in administration.

Reflections of a Fork Lover. The total of the sums appropriated for the improvement of the Mississippi River is given as \$159,722,000. In the last forty years the river tonnage has declined to less than a tenth of what it used to be.

Do they have pork barrels in Brazil and are these precious casks floated down the Amazon? Is it true that whenever a Russian from the provinces wants an appropriation he rises in the Duma and sings the touching "Song of the Volga Boatmen"?

General Pershing's Return. General PERSHING'S forces penetrated Mexico under a reasonable and proper order of the War Department by the terms of which they were directed to pursue the Columbus raiders until the de facto Government was able to relieve them of the task, and in any event to regard their job as finished "as soon as Villa's hand or bands are known to be broken up." This order was supplemented by repeated outgivings of President Wilson, in which it was declared that the expedition was undertaken with the "single object of capturing Villa and putting an end to his forays."

Within a month after PERSHING crossed the border he might have been recalled in conformity with the War Department order. Villa's hand was broken up; PANCHO was in hiding, and the punitive soldiers might have returned to the United States, having accomplished their formal object. But Mr. Wilson's proclamations about

VILLA stood in the way of this sensible and honorable retirement. He had dedicated the army to the capture of a single individual, just as he had previously asked Congress to pass a resolution authorizing the use of the armed forces of the nation against another individual, and nothing would do but the soldiers must be kept in Mexico, at the cost of life and treasure, in the hope that some miracle of treachery or some dispensation of Providence would deliver that person to them. Probably their presence has injured CABRANZA; unquestionably it has helped VILLA, and beyond doubt its impotency to accomplish what the President said was its single object has contributed to the loss of our prestige among Mexicans.

Now it is reported in Washington that PERSHING is to be ordered home, at a time when VILLA is reestablished at the head of a considerable following, and actively engaged in raids against CABRANZA forces. The American troops are to come home without VILLA, in spite of President WILSON'S repeated definition of the sole purpose of their expedition. As we started at Vera Cruz for a salute for the flag, and did not get it, so we went into Mexico for a bandit, and did not get him; and if Mr. Wilson can tell the country what we gained in either case beyond suspicion, ill will and contempt he would confer a great favor by so doing.

Senator Stone Vindicated. The senior Senator from Missouri has had such a deuce of a time defending Mr. Wilson's adventures in statesmanship that he, the Senator, has lost his sense of humor somewhere between the White House and the Capitol. Otherwise how can Mr. Stone's ferocious attack upon the editor of the Ottumwa, Iowa, Daily Courier be accounted for?

Rising to a question of personal privilege, the Senator on Tuesday characterized as a loathsome example of newspaper mendacity an item in the Ottumwa Journal which stated that up to 1 o'clock on a busy day in Wall Street 2,000,000 shares had been bought and sold, and that "of this amount United States Steel alone contributed 574,900 shares."

Mr. Stone rose in passion to tatters in defending himself from the base implication that he had used his position as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee to take a flier in Wall Street. Mr. CUMMINS of Iowa was flabbergasted. He could but helplessly give his Ottumwa friend credit for honorable intentions—there must have been a mistake. There was, of course. Any tyro could have put his finger upon it.

Senator BOHAR came to the rescue. Examining the item, he saw at once what the trouble was: Senator Stone had been confounded with the great Steel Corporation, and the sentence should have read: "Of this amount United States Steel alone contributed 574,900 shares."

Thus the reputations of two high minded and honorable men, WILLIAM JOEL STONE and the Ottumwa editor, were cleared of suspicion: the Senator was dissociated from the scandal of a record breaking plunge in the stock market, and the editor was shown to be no assassin of character. But which should apologize to the other it is hard to say.

Mr. SWANN INDIAS Kentucky without the aid of a grand jury. The community drama centres to be established in this city do as well as they have in the villages of the Dakotas and Minnesota they will do more than entertain people otherwise lacking healthful recreation; they will develop folk plays of merit, interest and significance.

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Brooklyn Dried Manhattan! Governor WHITMAN'S conversion to the dries, which was announced from Washington in December, turns out to be limited to advocacy of the local option principle for cities, modified by a warning that the State derives an important proportion of its revenues from liquor tax licenses issued in large communities.

We cannot call this prohibition. The smaller settlements in this State have had local option for years. Many of their refuse to allow liquor to be sold within their limits. The difficulty in applying the system in larger towns is obvious. In New York, for example, what should be the territorial unit for consideration of the problem? Should it be the whole city? Or should each borough be allowed to decide the question? Or would smaller divisions exercise the privilege of welcoming or expelling the Demon Rum?

What would be the outcome of a situation in which the Borough of Churches sought to impose a drought on the Great White Way? The Influence of Fear. The idea that the horrors and shocks of fighting must give rise to considerable unbalancing of mind among those who are so constantly exposed has now been pronounced incorrect in a discussion by German military surgeons, who have had opportunity for making large observations on this subject. While fear may produce various mental disturbances, the normal brain is said to be quite resistant to the severe emotional impacts inflicted upon it during the savage conflicts to which soldiers are daily subjected.

Professor WILMANS of Heidelberg and Professor E. MEYER of Konigsberg regard the occurrence of mental diseases on the firing line as chiefly due to preexisting conditions which have escaped attention. The former expresses the astounding belief that sufferers from nervous troubles due to warfare are more fit for service at the front than they would be at home, and he advises that they be sent to a base hospital, from which they can easily be sent back to the ranks or be transferred to the handling of munitions. Sending the men home he regards as placating the disease and retarding recovery.

Professor MEYER ascertained that of his 2,561 cases of mental and vari-

ous disturbances occurring on the firing line the majority had existed prior to their service at the front, and in only rare instances did wounds, injuries or illness of any kind appear to be the cause. When manifestations were similar to those found in civil life Professor MEYER did not discharge the men from military service. So firmly convinced is he of the correctness of this view that he concludes that there is no such disease entity as a military or war psychosis (disease of the mind), and that persons affected with these symptoms, caused by fear, are more apt to recover at the front than at home.

These findings are so much at variance with the popular idea, and probably also with the ideas of physicians who have not had similar experience, that they command attention. The County Clerk of Manhattan announces that in 1916 there were 41,573 actions brought in the Supreme Court, or over 14 per cent. more than in 1915. Whereupon many non-litigious persons remark that the lawyers, at any rate, are not enduring hard times.

Maybe not, but as there are at least 10,000 lawyers in good standing in Manhattan the counsellors averaged only about four cases apiece for the whole year. As a matter of fact no business or profession in this city is more overcrowded than the law. The young man who studies law in these days is wise if he decides to utilize the knowledge so acquired in earning a livelihood outside of court.

If Germany cannot impose peace on the Allies she will impose something else on Rumania. Chairman STONE of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs issued an explanation yesterday of the attack he made Tuesday on the State Department's leakiness. Mr. STONE appears to be an apt pupil in the Presidential school of diplomacy.

"ADAMSON OF GEORGIA," says a Washington news item, "is best known because of his eight hour bill." Most widely, perhaps, but not best. The Hon. WILLIAM CHARLES ADAMSON is best known because of the coffee he brews in his private office adjoining the Senate chamber behind the screen of books, on the sill of the window overlooking the Congressional Library. No newfangled percolator or drip contraption for him. Coffee boiled in a tin pot, poured into a drinking glass over a lump of sugar, tempered and mellowed with rich cream, served by his smiling "boy," a white haired negro; it is that which makes BILL ADAMSON best known.

How many Tammany aspirants for the Mayoralty are self-eliminating? If the community drama centres to be established in this city do as well as they have in the villages of the Dakotas and Minnesota they will do more than entertain people otherwise lacking healthful recreation; they will develop folk plays of merit, interest and significance.

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FROM PROFESSOR WARD.

The Climatologist Did Not Advocate Reading Tests for Immigrants. To the Editor of THE SUN:—Sir: My attention has been called to an editorial article in THE SUN in which you refer to a paper which I read before the American Genetic Association on December 27. Your comments are both inaccurate and wholly misleading. I will do my best to point out the error in your column, in order that I may correct your misstatements.

I did not point out the probability of an influx after the war of large numbers of physically and mentally inferior immigrants, and I did emphasize the need of amending our immigration laws so that such persons may be more effectively excluded than is now possible. But I did not mention the reading test. I did not advocate the reading test. The following sentences from your editorial article you took from the Evening Post of December 27 and not from my paper:

Professor Ward was emphatic in his belief in the necessity of passing the immigration bill now pending in Congress, and said that if President Wilson vetoed the bill he would put the future of the country in the hands of the prospective immigrants.

If you had desired a copy of my manuscript, I would gladly have given you one. It is obviously a very unfair presentation of my argument, when you represent an inaccurate and misleading statement from another newspaper. I am surprised that THE SUN should do anything of this sort, that is, quoting what the reporter of another newspaper said of my remarks.

ROBERT DE C. WARD, CAMBRIDGE, MASS., JANUARY 2.

Professor Ward does not deny that he advocated the passage of the Burnett bill, which contains literacy tests. However, we regret that the Evening Post's report was "inaccurate and misleading" and that we depended upon it.

MAIL NOT PRIVILEGED.

A Contention That Belligerents May Open Bags in Their Own Interests.

To the Editor of THE SUN:—Sir: Mr. Raymond Spears in a letter in THE SUN of December 26 about Mr. Wilson's note uses the expression, "putting the opening of mail on a parity with sinking American citizens." I wish to raise the question of the propriety of opening mail in war. Does it follow because Secretary Lansing has protested against opening or delaying the mails that it is unlawful? A protest is simply the first step to a discussion, then to an understanding, which later by agreement becomes law. Patriotic newspaper criticism does not always properly present the lawful aspect of issues. Belligerent and neutral rights are always in conflict, but does it look well for us to find fault with the application against ourselves of some of the rules that we as a nation at war put into force to our advantage?

To-day, we, a neutral, put a censorship over wireless stations, and wish to deny a belligerent the right to see that mails shall not injure him. Our post office says that certain things "immoral, dangerous or injurious to the officials and people" shall be thrown out, and they are. Shall a nation at war have a lesser right to protect itself than a nation to protect its citizens? Does any one doubt that every Teuton, wherever he may be, denationalized or not, with few exceptions, is part of the Teutonic machine, doing his part under orders?

Can we use a neutral mail bag as an enemy mail power to prevent? Shall the pouch be assumed to give immunity for contraband or despatches or intelligence or ought to injure that is not granted to a person or to the hold in the carrying ship? France in 1870 ordered her officers not to search neutral mail bags if an agent of the State aboard asserted that there were no enemy despatches therein. Does this not look as if a belligerent had the right to search for a thing harmful, and must he stop if there be no despatches but something more hurtful? The Institute of International Law decided that the withdrawal of a neutral postal clerk should preclude visit and search for contraband enemy troops and despatches. His inability so to declare would surely justify examination. No postal clerk living could declare that mail did not contain contraband unless censored, and neutrals do not control that withdrawal.

In the civil war England asked the United States to forward mail without opening bags and she did. If there had been any doubt as to the right of the United States to hold them would England have spoken? Copenhagen has this right to search neutral mail bags if there is a tendency on the part of belligerents to pay a certain consideration to mail bags, in spite of the rule of strict law that these bags are not privileged? In 1904 the Russian ship Smolenek stopped the German ship Prinz Heinrich in the Red Sea and seized and searched her mail bags.

If there is a law protecting mails from search, I do not know of it. I do know, however, that there is law of our own making, found in the Constitution of the United States, against violation of the territory of a neutral State. There is also law of our own making to protect American flag from being used on the high seas. That law is the Constitution of the United States. Shall we try to enforce non-existent law and not enforce existing law?

G. H. CLAPP, FORTKENTRIPPEL, December 21.

The Site of Treasured Comedy. To the Editor of THE SUN:—Sir: I beg to contradict Mr. Robertson Marchant's article in THE SUN of December 29 pertaining to regular army officers' criticisms of the National Guard reference is made to a regiment at Eagle Pass which was complimented by Colonel Morgan. As to the conjecture that the regiment referred to was a New York regiment, please permit me to state that it is not. It is the efficiency of the New York regiments, but the credit in this instance goes to the First Infantry of Vermont, which was the only regiment of the National Guard at Eagle Pass commanded by a regular army officer. There were no New York regiments at that station or near it.

In passing it might be noted that of all the regiments mobilized the First Vermont was the first to arrive on the border as a regiment. A train section of the Fifth Massachusetts arrived just ahead of the First Vermont, but the remainder of the regiment did not arrive for some time. The Vermonters arrived, one train section immediately following and were in camp, eating, tents all up and in bed before any other regiment had arrived. The Vermonters had the furthest to go, except the Maine troops, which did not arrive for quite a while afterward. J. A. L. REEVES, NORTHFIELD, VT., JANUARY 1.

A Sybarite's Report of an Investigation South of Here. To the Editor of THE SUN:—Sir: If "Heartbroken," "Fishball" and "Topsy" can stand the agony, please let them know that one Sybarite in his wanderings over the New Year's holidays, which brought him into Philadelphia, Reading, Baltimore and Washington, found Tom and Jerry and Eugene more in evidence than at any time in the past. As a result of this investigation I have revealed in that delightful old fashioned Robert "Al Home" J. S. A. NEW YORK, JANUARY 3.

A Reprise. Now Johnny lifting up his voice Without a good reason; He doesn't have time to wait Until the picnic season. This too. He wanted past the danger sign On his beautiful station; As a chance he had a chance To write an explanation.

CITY LABORERS.

Another Aspect of Municipal Employment in the Lower Grades. To the Editor of THE SUN:—Sir: On this last glorious Christmas Day while reading THE SUN I read the letter from a laborer working for \$2.50 a day for the city of New York. He makes a sad complaint, stating that he works fifty-six hours a week, including every holiday and Sunday.

Well, I am a city employee in the Borough of Queens, and there are others that work in the bureau of sewers and the bureau of public day and we are working for \$3.50 a day and we work five and a half days a week, which amounts to \$11.75 a week. We lose all holidays, and weeks having holidays our pay amounts to \$11.25—a fine job for a man that is married, I must say.

Your correspondent also says he has been employed by the city for the past twelve years and has received no advance in pay. There are hundreds of us fellows over here that have fifteen years to our credit and the amount we started in for is still paid. He pays 80 cents a week car fare. We pay 60 cents a week.

Now if there is any complaint to be made we are entitled to make it. If we lose one hour during the day we are docked. If we are sick we get docked. If we put in any overtime we get nothing for it and are informed we shall get a day off, but don't get it. I was more than pleased to read this letter, but let the bureau of standards look into this matter up. They have been around, made inspections and left.

No raises for the laborer, but raises for the chair warmers. The politician tells the worker to go out to get a paper filled with names, and refusal means transfer "for the good of the service." Let the bureau of standards get busy and help the laborer.

BOROUGH OF QUEENS, JANUARY 3.

THE CURE OF THE LAND.

Let the Howler Go to It, Says a Pro-ducer, and Learn Things.

To the Editor of THE SUN:—Sir: One time a fruit vender came to me to buy apples and thought the market price too high. He said: "It costs nothing to grow apples; you only have to go and pick them up." In reading of the present agitation against food prices it almost seems that many people think the producer has only to go out and gather up the eggs, poultry, fruits and vegetables, ship them to market and pocket the money.

A sure cure for that frame of mind is for its victim to take an average farm and without other income than he can make from the farm pay taxes, interest, make good all deterioration of farm and equipment, and live. It is well known that the cost of all products is made up largely of the labor that directly and indirectly goes into their production. Daily we read of wage advances in this or that industry. Food producers, as well as other people, have to help pay these advances. The only way of "getting back" is the very uncertain and often insufficient advance in price of their products.

I am a producer of white eggs and get the highest market quotation for them. After considering the following figures you can judge whether the advance in price of these eggs has been sufficient.

I use about the same proportions of the various feeds that compose my poultry rations the year through. A comparison of my feed bill of November 21, 1916, with my bill of November 24, 1915, shows that in the order of about four cents on each dollar of feed the November bill advanced at point of shipment more than 45 per cent. Two years ago the freight rate was advanced 10 per cent. I paid my hired help this year 33 1/3 per cent. higher rate than last year; the same man too. My eggs sold during November, 1916, for 32 1/2 per cent. more a dozen than during November, 1915. I venture the assertion that the food producers are not receiving a greater advance in wages or income than are other classes of labor, and that the present agitation is no far as it is directed at them is unjust. The food producer has to make use of a considerable investment, and in an average of a term of years but few of them are able to have secured interest on the investment. He does not limit his play to eight hours or ten hours either. The consumer is receiving the use and benefit of the producer's investment without having to pay for it. E. T.

MANCHESTER, December 21.

THE FIRST VERMONT.

Regiment Complimented by Colonel Morgan is Identified.

To the Editor of THE SUN:—Sir: In an editorial article in THE SUN of December 29 pertaining to regular army officers' criticisms of the National Guard reference is made to a regiment at Eagle Pass which was complimented by Colonel Morgan. As to the conjecture that the regiment referred to was a New York regiment, please permit me to state that it is not. It is the efficiency of the New York regiments, but the credit in this instance goes to the First Infantry of Vermont, which was the only regiment of the National Guard at Eagle Pass commanded by a regular army officer. There were no New York regiments at that station or near it.

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MAJOR PUTNAM'S ANSWER TO TWO GERMAN ASSERTIONS.

In a Letter to the Consul at Cincinnati He Explained the Meaning of the Protest by Some American Citizens.

The German consul in Cincinnati took pains to send to each of the vice-presidents of the meeting lately held in Carnegie Hall to protest against the latest German barbarity in Belgium a long and rather fierce letter of denunciation for their action. He takes the ground that "in common with Americans generally, these citizens had been misled in their judgment of the war methods of Germany by lies coming from England." The consul asserts that he is well understood, the journal in the United States had been hired by English money to distribute in this country false statements in regard to the issues of the war and the conduct of the war.

It is perhaps not unnatural that in Germany, where the people probably receive little information, or little accurate information, from outside, the delusion should prevail that American journals, "under the influence of English gold," were misguiding the opinion of this country intelligent enough to hold in better a brief absence, not to confuse himself with such belief or to undertake to impress it upon his fellow German Americans. I thought it worth while to send a reply to the consul, and as the issue is one of continuing importance I thought THE SUN might be interested in placing my letter before its readers.

GEORGE HAVEN PUTNAM, NEW YORK, JANUARY 3.

The Hon. C. C. Meppel, Consul for Germany, Cincinnati, Ohio. My Dear Sir: On returning to my desk after a brief absence, I find a mass of other correspondence awaiting my attention, the letter of December 23, which you have taken pains to address to me, as one of the vice-presidents of the meeting held in New York to protest against the latest German barbarity in Belgium. I need not trouble you with a consideration in detail of all the points raised in your letter. Of the series of criticisms you present in regard to the motives and the action of the citizens who were responsible for this meeting and who have accepted responsibility for many similar meetings, I will undertake a reply to two.

First, you point out, as if in extenuation of the actions of German officials in Belgium, that wrongs and barbarities more or less similar to those suffered under the Prussian rule in Belgium were inflicted upon the residents of Prussia on a curious date, the residents of eastern Galicia during the occupation of these territories by the Russian army. You take the ground, further, that the citizens who have in meetings like the one now in question and in documents such as those furnished to the American Rights League, found grounds for criticizing the methods with which Germany has conducted this war as opposed to international law and to the accepted precedents of civilization, have been misled by "lies" and misstatements coming to this country from many similar meetings. I am correctly informed as to the character of the events in question and that we are, therefore, doing grave injustice to German standards of action and to German character.

The reference to Russian misdeeds on the eastern frontier can but impress a sane man as a curious reference for a German to make in regard to the treatment of the inhabitants of the territory in Belgium and in France that has been occupied by the German army. A sane man would be willing to consider that anything done by the Russian troops, classed by Germans as more or less uncivilized, would be accepted as a standard or example for imitation by German troops acting on the eastern frontier. If we have evidence on record, the Americans do not understand, however, that, as has been the case on the eastern frontier, it presents incidents parallel to the things that have been done in Belgium. We know from direct reports of the Polish people that Poland, Russian Poland not less than Prussian Poland, has suffered very severely during the advances and the retreats of the two great armies. The country has been desolated and people have died of starvation. It is doubtless true that similar suffering has come to Poland, but the Polish people are not supposed that a German would be willing to consider that anything done by the Russian troops, classed by Germans as more or less uncivilized, would be accepted as a standard or example for imitation by German troops acting on the eastern frontier. If we have evidence on record, the Americans do not understand, however, that, as has been the case on the eastern frontier, it presents incidents parallel to the things that have been done in Belgium. We know from direct reports of the Polish people that Poland, Russian Poland not less than Prussian Poland, has suffered very severely during the advances and the retreats of the two great armies. The country has been desolated and people have died of starvation. It is doubtless true that similar suffering has come to Poland, but the Polish people are not supposed that a German would be willing to consider that anything done by the Russian troops, classed by Germans as more or less uncivilized, would be accepted as a standard or example for imitation by German troops acting on the eastern frontier. If we have evidence on record, the Americans do not understand, however, that, as has been the case on the eastern frontier, it presents incidents parallel to the things that have been done in Belgium. We know from direct reports of the Polish people that Poland, Russian Poland not less than Prussian Poland, has suffered very severely during the advances and the retreats of the two great armies. The country has been desolated and people have died of starvation. It is doubtless true that similar suffering has come to Poland, but the Polish people are not supposed that a German would be willing to consider that anything done by the Russian troops, classed by Germans as more or less uncivilized, would be accepted as a standard or example for imitation by German troops acting on the eastern frontier. If we have evidence on record, the Americans do not understand, however, that, as has been the case on the eastern frontier, it presents incidents parallel to the things that have been done in Belgium. We know from direct reports of the Polish people that Poland, Russian Poland not less than Prussian Poland, has suffered very severely during the advances and the retreats of the two great armies. The country has been desolated and people have died