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MONDAY, MAY 10, 1915.

One Protest We Should Make

WHATEVER other and further course President Wilson and his advisers shall decide honor bids this nation take, there is one protest against the sinking of the Lusitania, with all its grisly horrors, that should be made as soon as the full facts have become definitely established: that is to break off diplomatic relations with the German empire and withdraw every American citizen from German soil.

That action we owe to ourselves. It is demanded by "a decent respect for the opinions of mankind." The blood of our slaughtered nationals cries aloud for this just rebuke to their assassins. Germany should be made to understand that, until she washes her hands of her latest infamy, she has no proper place in the family of civilized peoples.

To ask, or even to accept, money compensation would be to insult the memories of our dead. Few will be found credulous enough to believe that Germany will be willing to make the only reparation the wrong admits. Let us show at least we will not traffic with her—that we recognize in her an international outlaw, her hand raised against every man and every man's hand against her.

Some Troubles of the Clergy

EVERY now and then the question is raised why the supply of ministers is below the demand, while all other professions are crowded to the limit. The answer usually given is that men have a better chance of making money in other callings. Observation shows, however, that this explanation is inadequate. The number of men willing to enter the many un lucrative callings was never larger than at present, and, while the ministry is not the place to win silver and gold, it has certain distinct advantages as a vocation. In no other profession is a man so esteemed and respected on account of his profession, apart from his attainments. The preacher, at the very start of his career, has a position and influence that other men acquire by years of effort.

The great drawback to the ministry is the espionage to which the minister is so often subjected and the criticism which follows. In McClure's Magazine a clergyman recently wrote feelingly of the handicaps imposed on the profession by the tyranny of convention. A case was cited where a girl had come to a minister in a passion of grief over some loss and had put her head against his shoulder because of his generous sympathy. He was seen in this attitude, and had to leave the ministry.

A much more singular case occurred a few days ago. A preacher in New Jersey was seen several times walking with a girl. Walking with girls is not a high crime and misdemeanor for a layman, but it appears to be a great sin for a minister to commit in New Jersey. The church had a meeting because of the walkings, gossip was rife, and the minister resigned and was married. If he had been a layman nobody would have said anything at all.

Breaking Up a Partnership

WHEN partnerships are dissolved the division of the firm's assets is always a delicate question, one frequently settled by lawsuits. The breaking of long-continued business ties seems a sad thing, but what can be said when the partnership dissolved is marriage? It is, indeed, a tragedy when those assets of the firm, children, must be assigned to one partner or the other. But even more pathetic is a case which has just occurred in New Jersey.

Jeppe Nelson, of Perth Amboy, is suing his wife for a partition of the funds she saved while living with him. The woman had saved \$10,000 from his wages, and Nelson claimed that she had cut him off in her will. They were married in 1883 and separated in 1910.

Was there ever a more poignant tragedy? For a quarter of a century the husband brought his pay to his wife, and the thrifty housewife always managed to save something from it. No doubt, they understood that it was being laid up for a rainy day, and looked forward to an old age made safe and easy by the savings. They may have built castles in the air with the money slowly accruing in the wife's hands. They were partners, and what belonged to one belonged to both.

Then they separated, and the man is suing for his share of the firm's assets. What the wife saved she saved as a partner, and the partnership has been dissolved. The old man, almost on the brink of the grave, wants back his share of the wages he brought his wife Saturday night after Saturday night. Why could not their partnership have continued until death?

State Board of Control

ONE most excellent suggestion has been made in the Constitutional Convention now in session at Albany. John H. Delaney proposed a "board of control" of five men to supervise the minor activities of the State government. This board would hold the

various departments to their duty and would pass judgment on all appropriations asked for.

Mr. Delaney cited a case of a desired appropriation investigated by the Efficiency and Economy Department in New York. Matthew Asylum applied to the Legislature for \$18,000 to "furnish overcoats for inmates." Examination showed that \$14,000 of this money was intended for increases in salaries, \$3,000 for repairs and \$1,000 for clothing.

The idea of a central board to supervise all departments is an excellent one, and would save the public much money. New York is the leading offender in the way of a wasteful government, but all American States are ambitious imitators, so far as their means allow. There are at present 169 departments, boards, bureaus and commissions in New York, and they employ a great army of officials. It is no wonder that the State will be called on to raise \$65,000,000 in taxes this year to maintain this great system of waste and graft.

A central board of control would be a long step in the right direction. As it is at present in all States, the departments compete fiercely to secure increased appropriations. A large part of the time of Legislatures is taken up with these efforts to aggrandize individual departments at the expense of the public. Department officials are seen button-holing members, and using all the arts of persuasion to prevail on them to assist their particular departments. This system should come to an end. Departments and departmental appropriations should be subject to the close scrutiny of a single governing board.

Saving the Jitney From Itself

REGULATION of the jitney bus business on sensible and nonprohibitive lines is as much in the interest of jitney bus operators as it is in that of the general public. Critics of this new transportation device declare it is not capable of returning a steady profit, and it ought to be obvious that it will not be consistently remunerative unless some regulations are adopted.

There should be some limitation, we believe, of the number of cars permitted to engage in this traffic. It is not to the public interest to encourage entrance into a business reasonably certain to prove disastrous, and, unless there is limitation, ill-advised competition will make disaster inevitable.

As matters stand, anybody can operate a jitney bus in Richmond. All one has to do is to acquire a car, whether permanently or temporarily, spread a sign across the windshield and start in. The son of the family takes out the family car and picks up a dollar or two in the afternoon. The man out of work borrows a car and keeps in the jitney game until some other avenue of employment is opened to him. Jitneys are operated at the rush hours and kept off the streets at other periods of the day. They are run for a week or a month and then abandoned. They crowd some thoroughfares and leave others deserted. Every driver wants the cream of the trade.

These are disadvantages that hamper the full development of a real contribution to the solution of the problem of urban and suburban transportation. There are others, of course, and the committee will have its hands full. Our interest in the matter is that it should approach its task in the spirit of construction and not in the spirit of destruction. We believe in the jitney and want it to succeed, but permanent success is not possible without wise regulation.

If we are to regard the jitney as a real and lasting addition to transportation systems, it must possess the virtues of regularity and dependability. At this experimental stage there are so many entrants into the field that there is nearly always a jitney in sight, ready to convey the citizen substantially in the direction he desires to go, but it is reasonable to believe that this extreme popularity will not last indefinitely. It will wane very greatly, perhaps, in our approaching period of prosperity, when unemployment may become a nearly negligible quantity. It will suffer also when repair bills and bills for tires begin to make holes in the profits.

The jitney can be conserved, but legislation, like the jitney itself, must be more or less experimental. The committee now at work may be relied on to take full advantage of the experience of other cities, and should be able to devise an ordinance that will meet the situation, at least for the time. If, after a period of trial, further legislation would seem to be indicated, that also may be supplied.

Imagine a Food Shortage

HOW would you like to see this country, like Italy, suddenly plunged into war preparations and its principal cities the center of food riots? Glance at the Province of Trent. From that active community 40,000 workmen have been called to the colors; commerce, industry and agriculture are paralyzed, and lack of sulphate of copper to kill parasites from the mulberry trees threatens the silkworms. Take a look at Rome. In one raid the police have arrested eighty-seven persons for demonstrations in food riots, and the people are living chiefly upon potatoes. A long way from the actual scene, these items read merely as items. Lie back in your chair, close your eyes and imagine yourself one of the eighty-seven. Then it becomes more real, more understandable.

Imagine a food shortage in this country. We are annually plagued by reports, principally of stock-boasting origin, of a famine in wheat, scarcity of meat, dearth of eggs. We get very nervous about it sometimes. Now and then the government starts an expedition to discover the truth. We even find ourselves experiencing the pangs of anticipated hunger, just from talking about it. How far a leap from that sort of thing to the reality!

The worst fact about war is not found in the trenches, but in the cities and thickly populated communities, where food and comfort are denied the noncombatant population, already robbed of its nominal bread winners for the purposes of war. But it is hard for us to realize this worst fact, because we do not experience it intimately. God forbid we ever should. It is bad enough to be spectator in such a period of world suffering.

Don't forget that this is "Clean-Up Week" nor that the Mayor has urged citizens to paint up as well as clean up. The ideal is a spick-and-span, sweeter-than-ever, lovelier-than-ever, brighter-than-ever Richmond. Let us all try to realize it!

"Paris Rent Question Is Becoming Acute," declares one of our own headlines. That's nothing. The same question has been acute in this country for a good, long while.

Japan may find her latest meal will prove just a little bit hard to digest.

SONGS AND SAWS

Panning It On. Little Johnny felt convinced That he was badly treated, For when he started out one day His dad had him begeted. And jumped right in to lecture him On tasks he'd not completed.

Little Johnny had to stay Within the rooms he hated, But he made up his mind right then That he'd be compensated. That week John's teacher led a life With anguish complicated.

The Pessimist Says: The suffragette is all right in her way. She is perfectly comfortable, in fact, in that particular turnpike, but most of the other sex find its noise and dust rather distressing.

Concession. The Sad One—Binks always swore he would be master within his own house. The Jolly One—Well, he's modified that a little. Now he's content to be his own master without the house.

Making It Perfectly Right. "Say, Subbubs," said the man from next door, "do you believe that one good turn deserves another?" "Certainly." "You don't think observance of that rule should excite any resentment?" "Of course not." "That's fine. I've just done the community a good turn by killing one of those rest-destroying dogs of yours, and now that I have your approval, I'll go back and get the other."

Keeping His Word. She—Didn't you swear off drinking only last week? He—Not 'tall, m' dear. I said I'd never let "her" drop pass my lips. You didn't understand—that's all. You thought I meant "pass in," and what I really meant was "pass by."

Gravely Misjudged. The politician's puzzled that The world as a whole should have And brand him widely selfish when He only wants it all.

THE TATTLER.

Chats With Virginia Editors

The Louisa Virginian has become entirely reconciled to the automobile, and evidently wants to see more of them in its region. It says: "The automobile has come to stay, and it would be a pity should the modern conveyances enlarge the environment of man more rapidly than our own ideas of taking advantage of the fact. Great highways are being built all over the country. The little dots on a map along the routes of the railroads indicating villages and centers of population do not convince us that the railroads were built because the dots were already there."

The hustling qualities of the business men of the hustling town of Lawrenceville are indicated by the following from the Brunswick Times-Gazette: "The people in the county look with favor on these 'better acquaintance' visits from the people of Lawrenceville, and the people here are always ready to combine their efforts with the citizens of the surrounding communities to do anything which will be for the good of the county and town. They know that in order to accomplish this, they must get together and exchange ideas, and they realize that in order to do things right they cannot become too well acquainted."

The Salem Times-Register says: "The esteemed Times-Dispatch heads an editorial 'Escape From Unemployment.' That seems to us about the easiest escape it would be possible to make just now, with the call for more workmen going up from every section of the country." Whence comes the call you hear? Please post us.

Says the Chase City Progress: "Agitation in this city for the abatement of the dust nuisance has not only awakened our own people, but we have set an example for other towns to follow. South Hill seems to be similarly affected." Now go ahead and set some more good examples in your good town.

Life in Danville seems to be just one dog-gone trouble after another. The latest is outlined by the Register in the following language: "It seems a reasonable requirement that those who desire to maintain dogs within the city limits shall keep them confined, to insure the protection of the inoffensive citizen. A canine which may be tractable and inoffensive toward its owner may develop a vicious attitude toward a stranger or to any other person at the owner's. Certainly we must not permit dogs to endanger the safety of the citizens upon the liberty and the safety of the citizens. We suggest to those who have complaints to make of dangerous dogs that they make them to the police department. If that does not suffice, then an appeal to the Council for further legislation designed to restrict the license of dogs and minimize the perils incident to their lack of restriction."

Current Editorial Comment

Where Tips Land at Last. Seldom, if ever, before has any employer admitted as frankly as did Mr. Lincoln, of the Pullman Car Company, that where employees depend upon tips, as thousands of that corporation's employees do, it is really the public that pays their wages. Mr. Walsh, chairman of the Industrial Relations Commission, insisted upon putting it in that light, and Mr. Lincoln agreed that "as a mathematical proposition, it amounts to that." The wonder is, not that he manifested his realization of the somewhat humiliating element in the situation he reluctantly described, but that the many other indirect beneficiaries of the "pping system do not have and confess to the same feelings. Between the man who takes tips and the man who will not take them there always has yawned, and always must yawn, an unbridged and unbridgeable social abyss. On the one hand is asserted superiority, and on the other confessed inferiority, and the difference cannot be ignored or forgotten, even where the doctrine of equality is most vehemently preached and most sincerely practiced. Work—any work—honestly done for an agreed wage is honorable, but the tip is almost invariably the product of extortion or servility, and whoever receives it, soever directly or indirectly, is receiving the very least of him, put on the defensive and confronted by an extremely hard job. The steamship steward, the hotel and restaurant waiter, the barbers—all the great and seemingly increasing army of tip hunters—are only collectors for folk who retain their self-respect and the respect of others by means of a laboriously maintained forgetfulness of the situation as it is. Yet the abolition of tipping seems to be not quite sure. Some men will give tips just as some men will take them, and there is apparently no help for it. While those two classes exist, practically everybody else is compelled either to tip or to be tipped, and to suffer the inevitable demoralization that follows in both cases.—New York Times.

Love That Is Changed To Hate. In tendering his resignation as honorary member of a British publishing society, Ernst Haackel is at great pains to put in a kind word for Shakespeare, Byron and some other English worthies. However unfortunate they were in their places, he will continue to hold them in "great admiration"; nor can he

prevail with himself to forget his obligations to many personal friends in England, Scotland and the British colonies. But these things amount to nothing as against his political sentiments. Politically, Great Britain is a sinner, and, politically, it is the duty of good Germans to have their eyes on the British Empire. Haackel's hatred is so deep-rooted that he has no hope at all of getting rid of it. "I may live only a short time," he explains, "and any prospect of a reconciliation with England is for me excluded, even after peace is made. Regrettably, therefore, he withdraws from the society that has published so many of his works, for, "in a political sense," he insists, "I must despise England deeply." This patriotic obligation is prominent in Haackel's mind. Moreover, Professor Haackel recently, some thirty years ago, after a tour through a few of the British colonies, he was full of admiration for a system which he has not ceased to quarrel with and condemn since the war began. "The British Empire," he was then an object of profound respect. He could not conceal his disagreement with those who looked with disfavor on the policies of the British in Egypt. "The contrary," he wrote, "it appears to me that they should be hailed with satisfaction, alike on the grounds of common humanity and on those of national political conviction." Indeed, at that time the whole British Empire was in the eyes of the German professor "an object worthy of the admiration of the English." "Undoubtedly gifted beyond any other nation with the genius for founding and governing colonies," they understood to perfection the art of ruling "with as much tact as judgment," and it was the greatest work of the world that his fellow-countrymen should look upon their neighbors with envy when they might well study the political skill which brings progress and benefit to the whole human race. It will take an ocean of hatred to wash out the memory of these kind words, and Professor Haackel seems resolved in his old age to conjure up the last drop.—New York Tribune.

War News Fifty Years Ago

A Toronto dispatch says W. C. Cleary, clerk to Clement C. Clay, has given himself up in Toronto, Canada, where he was indicted by the grand jury for breach of neutrality. He gave bail in the sum of \$5,000 to stand trial in October next. Captain Thomas W. Doswell, late Confederate assistant provost marshal, and Detective Willingham of Richmond, who were paroled some days ago, have been arrested by military authorities and sent to Libby Prison. The charge against these gentlemen has not been made public.

Some idea of the immense business of a commissary department of a large army may be gained from the fact that the commissary general of Sherman's army has received orders to issue 1,600,000 rations for the sustenance of the army on its forthcoming march from Manchester to Washington.

General Halleck has issued an order to the effect that all the railroads in the Department of Virginia, when no longer required for military purposes, will, with rolling stock, material and machinery, be turned over to the officers of the respective companies, provided always that suitable arrangements for control of such roads have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States.

A large number of paroled Marylanders who went to their homes in Baltimore from Richmond after the surrender of General Lee's army have returned to this city. They were arrested in Baltimore and confined in jail, and obtained their release only upon condition that they would return to the South.

The rewards for Mr. Davis will reach \$1,000,000 if they keep on being offered. Citizens of Chicago, Cleveland, \$50,000, and those of New York, \$50,000. Other cities are offering smaller sums.

Governor Alken, of South Carolina, has had long interviews with President Johnson and Secretary Stanton. He has the freedom of the city, and his family has gone on to Washington to be with him.

The New York Herald says numbers of unemployed generals of the Union armies will be mustered out in a week or two if they do not take the hint to resign. It is intended to retain only fifteen major-generals, sixty brigadiers and 150 colonels.

The Richmond and Danville Railroad has been repaired all the way through, and yesterday trains commenced running regularly to Danville.

It has been learned at last that the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad bridge at Weldon was burned by order of General Baker, who was in command of the last Confederate soldiers to occupy the town of Weldon.

Queries and Answers

English Lawyers. Will you tell me who is considered the greatest of the famous old lawyers of England? Will you give a slight sketch of his career?

HIGH SCHOOL. This is a question of luna inter ignes, but it is likely that Campbell Thomas, Lord Erskine, the "brightest ornament of which the English bar has boasted." Erskine was born January 21, 1743, in the village of Rosneath, in the county of Buchan, and brother of the eleventh Earl of Buchan, who sought notoriety as a familiar correspondent of Washington, and who gained some by his desulcatorily child-like association with the general opinion when he declares Voltaire, Lord Erskine, the "brightest ornament of which the English bar has boasted." Erskine was born January 21, 1743, in the village of Rosneath, in the county of Buchan, and brother of the eleventh Earl of Buchan, who sought notoriety as a familiar correspondent of Washington, and who gained some by his desulcatorily child-like association with the general opinion when he declares Voltaire, Lord Erskine, the "brightest ornament of which the English bar has boasted." 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