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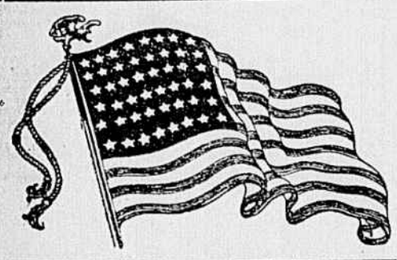
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 1917.



Preparing for Submarines

IN view of the ease with which the U-53 slipped into an American harbor, not to speak of the successful trips of the Deutschland, it is imperative that emergency measures to protect the coast be rushed through. So far as information that has leaked through the censorship shows, the British have met with more success in combating submarines with their light and speedy motor-boats than with any other agency they have employed. Therefore, the recommendation of the Naval Consulting Board that a large fleet of such boats be provided at once seems to meet the situation, for the present at least.

Evidence shows that the Hindu plot was also "made in Germany."

Appam's Wireless Apparatus

TO those untrained in the ways of Federal officers, it seems strange that the Appam's wireless apparatus has just been discovered by the authorities. For many months, the Appam has been the subject of litigation in the Federal courts, and hence properly liable to inspection by officers of the courts. Further, during the last few weeks the press has been filled with accounts of damage done to German ships by German crews. Still further, the government has been extraordinarily vigilant ever since the break with Germany to detect and prevent breaches of neutrality.

So far as reports show, the Appam has been equipped with wireless for an indefinite period. Why investigation was not made before, or, if made, why it did not disclose so important a fact, only officers of the court and of the port can explain.

If this weather continues, the park benches will begin to hear the same old story.

Encouraging Proposal of Brotherhoods

UNTIL the details of the railroad brotherhoods' compromise plan are disclosed, it will be impossible to determine whether or not the greater interests of the public are conserved, as well as those of the railroads and the workers. After the experiences of last summer, the country will not be content with a settlement which does not make full provision for the public, the third party to any controversy between the railroads and their employees. Nevertheless, the willingness of the brotherhoods to negotiate, after their arbitrary stand, is encouraging at least.

In any case, the virtual promise of the brotherhood chiefs to the President that in case of war, no strike or threatened strike would be permitted to embarrass the government is not only commendable as an evidence of real patriotism, but is a sharp rebuke to Debs and the anarchistic agitators who have been preparing to urge labor to tie up the nation's industry in case of war.

Lloyd George didn't know what trouble was until he attempted to settle the Irish question.

Special Privilege of Lynchburg Women

THERE is still ground to believe that the Reed amendment will not inhibit the personal transportation of lawful quarts into Virginia, even after July 1. For that reason, if for no other, it is important that the State prohibition laws shall be uniformly construed throughout Virginia, particularly as a serious question of women's rights is involved. This question grows out of section 42 of the Mapp act, which makes it unlawful for any female, unless she is the head of a family, to "order, receive or have in her possession" any liquor at all.

Now, Judge Christian, of the Corporation Court of Lynchburg, has held that section to be unconstitutional. Wherefore, Lynchburg women may order and receive and possess their quarts as freely as adult men. And after July 1, too, they may re-enter the State with the fruits of their journeying, provided men may. Unless the Prohibition Commissioner will arrange a test case, equal rights among Virginia women will be flouted by privileged Lynchburg.

The man who said he cared not who made a country's laws if he might write its songs had never heard ragtime.

Survey Is Assured

ASSUMING that the Civic Association's campaign to raise a survey fund by private subscription proves as successful as the effort already indicates it will be, a long step forward will have been taken toward the betterment of Richmond's government. With the necessary funds guaranteed, only one wild possibility could prevent an expert investigation into the scheme and conduct of the city's affairs. And that possibility is so wild that it may be discarded as out of the question. It is that any department of the city may refuse complete and cheerful co-operation to the survey agents. It is a matter of common knowledge that the City Hall in general is opposed to an expert survey, but the only objection that could be advanced has been the cost. If this objection is eliminated, it is unthinkable that any official or employee of the city would dare put any further obstacle in the way of competent investigation.

What is good in the city government will be commended; what is bad will be exposed. That there is plenty of both good and bad is one of the inevitable outgrowths of an antiquated, tinkered and patched charter. In any event, neither the citizens nor the officials themselves know where the city stands in many respects. And that very information the survey will supply. The survey is coming because the people demand it and because there are enough men in Richmond who realize its immediate importance to pay for it, without waiting for the problematical action of Council.

The Senate filibuster failed to accomplish its full purpose, but so did the crown prince's siege of Verdun. The Kaiser should not judge either too harshly.

The Budget and the Schools

THAN The Times-Dispatch the public school system of Richmond has no firmer friend. The fine work which is being done, the great and rapid progress which is being made, excite our admiration, and every project of school betterment, including the movement for higher pay for underpaid teachers, has received our indorsement. Our motives will not be misunderstood, therefore, when we criticize Superintendent Chandler's attitude toward the school budget.

After expressing his understanding of the city's financial condition and his appreciation of Council's disposition to do everything in its power for the cause of education, Dr. Chandler says: "All the school officials will gladly co-operate with them in trying to live within our means. . . . I feel sure that in the event we are not able to adjust matters without cutting out some important features of our work, the City Council will gladly make a supplementary appropriation."

We hope Dr. Chandler will approach the solution of his financial problem—a problem not peculiar to the schools, but common to all branches of the city government—in a somewhat different spirit. Not only must he try to keep within his appropriation; he must succeed. If the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Health Department, the Gas and Water and Street-Cleaning Departments content themselves with "trying" not to spend more than they have been allowed, we shall return in the course of the year to that condition from which the Finance Committee and the Council are endeavoring to lift us. The only way to live within an appropriation is to make up one's mind in advance that more than the appropriation will not be expended.

In the past, departments which have not been allowed all they thought they needed have gone calmly ahead and spent a disproportionate amount in the earlier months of the fiscal year. As the year drew to a close, therefore, Council was confronted with the choice of making further appropriations or consenting to the lapse of a necessary public service.

If the schools have the right to adopt this course, so has every other division of government. There is no such right anywhere. The budget ordinance provides that "for any debt created by any committee, or board, or head of department in excess of any appropriation herein, unless authorized by the City Council, the city of Richmond shall be held in no wise responsible." It is further provided "that no department of the city shall expend during the first half of the year a sum exceeding one-half of the amount appropriated for the year."

It is the clear duty of Dr. Chandler and the School Board to obey these provisions of the ordinance literally and exactly. If later in the year the financial condition of the city improves, it may be possible to consider further appropriations for educational purposes, but no expenditures should be made or obligations incurred in contemplation of this possibility. Our educational leaders should set the example of rigid adherence to law.

A vast deal more than a few consonants and vowels distinguishes the two names, La Follette and La Fayette.

More Reform for the Senate

NOW that the Senate has started in to reform itself, it may not be too much to hope that reform will not stop with the removal of the premium on long-distance oratory. While that hoary old abuse was permitted to throttle every consideration of public necessity, minor evils were forgotten; now, perhaps, at least one of them may be pointed out.

We allude to the practice of appointments to chairmanships of important committees, on the basis of seniority alone—to the rule, that is, which is reflected in the designation of the Honorable William Joel Stone, of Missouri, to head the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs.

There goes up over the country a vigorous demand for the removal of Mr. Stone from this chairmanship. It is a proper demand, completely justified by the conduct of the Senator from Missouri in connection with the armed-ship legislation asked by the President. We have indorsed that demand ourselves, as strongly as we knew how.

And yet, Senator Stone is only a little less fit to head that committee than he was on the day of his appointment. Recent occurrences have cast his original and congenital unfitness into strong relief, but it always existed. He had never displayed any particular talent in diplomacy, or any particular acquaintance with the kindred science of international law. He wasn't named on any such account, nor were such details given any consideration. Mr. Stone became chairman of the committee because he was its senior Democratic member.

Virginia, which has a way of keeping in Congress Senators and Representatives who have proved their capacity, has profited, with other Southern States, from the operation of the seniority rule, but it should be abolished, none the less. There is no real danger that experience will not be recognized, for that acquaintance with the methods of legislation which it confers is so immensely important that the novice yields without question to the views of his better-trained colleague. The prestige and influence of long service are, and always will be, great.

Oklahoma's Legislature has offered $100 to the first American gunner who strafes an attacking submarine, but the rest of the country can't be held responsible for what goes on in Oklahoma.

Ushers in a New York church have struck, without even proposing arbitration. Nevertheless, the pastor will not institute a lockout against them.

SEEN ON THE SIDE

Idle Musings.

I'd like to see our Theodore
And Deutschland's warlike Will
In combat fierce, each other's gore
Endeavoring to spill.

I'd like to see the Kaiser's sons
Exposed to shot and shell,
As are the humblest of his Huns
Who love their country well.

I'd like to know if England, placed
In Germany's sad plight,
By lingering starvation faced,
Would, unrestricted, fight.

I'd like to know if, when the call
For volunteers alarms,
A million men, heroic all,
Will straightway leap to arms.

I'd like to know if jingoes loud,
When war breaks, will enlist;
Or if, instead, they'll be too proud,
And each turn pacifist.

I'd like to hear T. R., the shrewd,
And Bryan, I confess,
Both with forensic warmth imbued,
Debate pre-par-ed-ness.

W. R. SHIELDS.

The Pessimist Says:

If some men gave the devil his due, they would have nothing left for themselves.

Essential.

Grubbs—Why do you refuse to believe that First Chief Carranza has not reformed?

Stubbs—Because his obituary has not yet been published.

To-Day's Best Hand-Picked Joke.

Two girl friends met in the street and stopped to shake hands.

"So glad to see you, Grace," said the tailor-made Alice. "Was just on my way to ask you, as my oldest friend, to be one of my bridesmaids."

"Bridesmaids! How lovely! I did not know you were engaged," replied Grace.

"It's sudden, very sudden; but he's awfully in love, and is just too lovely to live. Will you act?"

"Act? Of course. I'll be charmed. But [moving forward and speaking in an undertone] do come around the corner and tell me all about it. Here comes that idiotic, irresponsible donkey, Jim Berton. He's grinning as though he meant to stop, and I don't care to be seen talking to him."

"Jim Berton! He's the man I'm going to marry!"—The Rehoboth Herald.

Wails From Wilhelmstrasse.

"Oh! what a tangled web we weave,
When first we practice to deceive!"
I sent a note across the water,
And there some chump, who hadn't oughter,
Spilled all the beans, one wintry day.
And gave my precious note away.
It seems a shame such things can be,
And twice a shame they hap to me.

Health Talks, by Dr. Wm. Brady

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God's Outdoors—Is He Not?

By far the most deadly of all diseases, the most costly in the economical sense, and the most frequently disabling in numbers, are the respiratory infections—tuberculosis, pneumonia, influenza, diphtheria, and the various infections of bronchi, tonsils and nasal lining—all of which have been at one time or another called "colds" and attributed to weather and exposure. Ignorance is a sin. Not necessary the victim's sin, but a sin; sort of original sin, in this matter of the catarrhal infections. Ignorance is a sin for which we pay in suffering right here in this world.

Parents who care nothing and know nothing of sanitation and hygiene are always most careful to deny the boon of outdoor life to the unfortunate children under their control. So steeped are they in the delusion, that neither common sense, everyday observation nor science can eradicate it from their minds.

It grows so monotonous, the "taking cold" delusion. Patients who are fairly intelligent draw upon it to explain all sorts of ills, from fevers to blood poisoning, and in this they are supported by the hard-working newspaper correspondents who accept seriously a bulletin issued by some humorist attending the famous invalid, which declares that he has merely "contracted a cold"—in other words, it is none of the public's business what ails the man, but we've got to get rid of these reporters somehow.

Early in the war some of the superannuated medical authorities expressed grave fears about pneumonia and rheumatism among the soldiers in the wet, cold trenches. In every belligerent country the actual observation was that the soldiers remained exceptionally free from such diseases, less susceptible to them than people living at home. God's outdoors, after all, is He not?

Questions and Answers.

How a Specialist Raises Cain.—I am forty-seven, a mother of three grown children. My blood pressure is 190. I have some kind of kidney trouble, they tell me. Slight traces of albumin appear once in a while in the urinalysis. I am very anxious about my high blood pressure. There is a heating and a noise in my head as if I had taken a lot of quinine. My family physician does not believe in blood pressure, but every specialist I have consulted tells me it is dangerously high, and it frightens me almost to death. Is it not possible to reduce this enormously high pressure somehow?

MRS. C. R.

Answer.—Follow your family doctor's directions. One hundred and ninety isn't high at all. I know many a middle-aged person with a pressure of 210 or 220 who manages to keep going and get considerable joy out of life. I don't believe in blood pressure either. A doctor can take any healthy individual who is impressionable, like a woman, and, by talking for a few minutes about the seriousness of blood pressure, etc., raise the pressure from twenty to thirty millimeters above normal. Take a nice long walk every day, but give the specialist's vicinity a wide berth.

The Formula for Cold Cream.—In a reply to a correspondent you recommend the U. S. P. cold cream. Can you give the formula?

E. L. D.

Answer.—The formula is given in the United States Pharmacopoeia (which is the legal standard for all United States pharmacists) as follows: Spermaceti, 125 grams (not grs.); white wax, 120 grams; expressed oil of almond, 600 c. c.; stronger rose water, 190 c. c.; sodium borate in fine powder, 5 grams. Reduce the first two ingredients to fine shavings and melt at moderate heat. Add the almond oil and pour the mixture into a warmed, shallow Wedgewood mortar; carefully add, without stirring, the rose water, in which the sodium borate has been previously dissolved, then stir rapidly and continuously until the mixture becomes uniformly soft and creamy.

The Voice of the People

As an evidence of good faith, letters must give the name and address of the writer. Names will not be published if writer so requests. Make all communications short.

Should a Man Support a Voting Wife?

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Many of the customs and laws of this country are founded upon the popular conception that a married woman is supported by her wage-earning husband. The latest example of this current opinion comes from Mr. Whisler, of Louisa County. The question asked is timely and most acceptable to those who would give the answer. That married women should be classed as "dependents," along with minor children, is one of the grossest economic fallacies of the age. It is on this fallacy that many have founded their belief in their political nonentity along with children, idiots and other dependents. The married woman holds a great and many-sided responsibility, and her vocation as a mother is the most fundamentally serious and sacred to which a human being has to be called. Upon the fulfillment of that vocation, entailing physical risk, suffering and great sacrifice, the welfare of the nation depends. The wage-earning man works a limited number of hours, and receives a cash return from his employer for his labor. The wife of this same man works an unlimited number of hours, and receives no cash returns from anybody. Her "keeps," sometimes in luxury, sometimes in poverty, is her return.

The husband, like the employer, is compelled by law to keep his bargain. The employer must pay the wage agreed upon, and the husband is compelled to keep his wife "in sickness and in health." The wife, like the wage-earning man, may not be compelled by law to render value received because their services are intangible and cannot be handled by law. Upon the marriage of a woman she relinquishes the cash or tangible symbol of her labor in the home. She is, none the less, a self-supporting woman, and is not a "dependent" in the sense of a child, but is a dependent in the degree of comfort upon the generosity or prosperity of her husband. For this status, should she be penalized with disfranchisement, notwithstanding her service to her home and State? The married woman who performs her customary duties—and most of them do—is not only a self-supporting woman, but supports equally with her labor the members of her family, husband and children. As they could not live without his cash contribution, they also could not live without her contribution of labor and attention. The fact that her care-taking is unpaid in specified cash does not destroy its economic value. The theory that capital maintained labor was once in popular acceptance. This error has been exploded—so also will be the error that a wife is maintained by her husband. They are mutually dependent and support each other. Both have economic value to the State, and the State has an equal responsibility to both in way of equal recognition before the law and in equal political opportunity through the ballot.

BALLOTS FOR BOTH.

Richmond, March 10.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch Information Bureau

Inquiries regarding almost any topic excepting on legal and medical subjects are answered free by The Times-Dispatch Information Bureau. Through our Washington branch we are fortunate in having access to the unparalleled resources of the various Federal government departments and the great Library of Congress, which furnish information of priceless value to the public. As all inquiries are answered directly by personal letter, irrespective of whether printed, a 2-cent stamp is required for return postage. Writer's name must be furnished (initials will not answer) and post-office address must be plainly given. Address The Times-Dispatch Information Bureau, Richmond, Va.

Masons in Virginia.

J. Y. M., Chatham, Va.—According to the latest available statistics, there are 1,829,255 members of the Masonic Order in the United States and Canada.

Civil Service Examination.

T. C. J., Roanoke, Va.—The civil service examination for bookkeepers will be held in Roanoke on April 11. For an application blank and civil service manual, you should write to the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

Removing Wall Paper.

F. B. C., Richmond, Va.—Make a hot 10 per cent solution of sal soda and apply it to the wall paper with a whitewash brush. Two applications may be necessary. When the paper is softened, remove it with a putty knife. After the paper has been removed, a solution of glue and water (mixed in proportions to make a thin paste) should be applied. After this is dry, apply the wall paper in the usual way.

To Dye Kid Gloves Gray.

Miss A. N., Ocean View, Va.—This may be done in the following way: Boil one-half ounce extract dogwood and one-half ounce alum together. Whittle a stick about twelve inches long, about the size of the finger, and tie a bit of sponge on the end. Put the stick in the little finger of the glove, sponge on the dye, rubbing it well and evenly in, then the next finger, and so on to the thumb. Then lay the glove upon a table and sponge the body of the hand part. When done all over, sponge a little glycerin all over the glove to prevent it from cracking, and allow to dry, which will take several hours.

A Hotbed.

Mrs. A. T. M., Richmond.—First dig a hole as large as you want your bed and about one foot deep, placing a board at each side and end, driving little stakes to hold the boards up on end. Now go to the horse stable and get dry, dusty mature that has not been packed, fill the hole with it, wet it and tramp it, then cover it with about five inches of dirt. Throw an old quilt or blanket over the bed, and in about twelve hours it will begin to heat. Examine it every day, and if it becomes too hot, take the quilt off and let it cool. Place boards over the bed to keep rain off, and if the bed gets too dry, sprinkle it with water. After the plants are well started, the quilt and boards should be left off, so as to harden the plants off before setting them in the open ground; but on cool nights the bed should be covered. The frame should be high enough so the boards, when it is covered, will be eight or ten inches above the dirt, and the dirt inside the frame should be a little higher than on the outside. Rich, clean soil should be used. The bed may become too hot at first. Wait until it cools down to about 75 degrees before planting. Bury the lower end of a common thermometer in the soil, and you can always know the degree of heat. It is advisable to make the bed in a warm, sunny place south of a building, but not where the drip from the eaves will fall on or close to it. Use the earth which is thrown out for banking up around outside of frame. One side of frame should be higher than the other, so water will run off when bed is covered. Make bed about five feet wide and as long as necessary.

News of Fifty Years Ago

(From Richmond Dispatch, March 12, 1867.)

A negro man named George Wells was garroted at the foot of Maddox Hill on Saturday night by two men, who despoiled him of $2.30 in money and a violin, but the bow was saved. What a pity we haven't the "bow-string" in Richmond. These rascals ought to be punished with just that instrument of torture for stealing a negro's fiddle—the dearest thing on earth to its owner. As usual, "no arrests."

The buggy and horse of Dr. D. S. Watson were stolen on Oregon Hill last night while standing on the street as the doctor was making a professional call.

A charter to incorporate the Merchants' and Mechanics' Bank was granted Saturday by Judge Meredith to John H. Montague, Walter K. Martin, W. A. Jenkins, John D. Harvey, D. T. Williams, John J. Wilson, R. H. Dibrell, George W. Gilliam, John Booker, George Gibson, John O. Miller and J. C. Shafer. The capital stock is to be not less than $50,000, and may be increased to $1,000,000. John H. Montague has been elected president, and W. A. Jenkins cashier, of this new banking house.

The James River has subsided somewhat, and all of the river steamers will probably resume business to-day.

Five companies of United States colored troops spent yesterday in this city, en route to Charleston, S. C. They were stopped over here to feed and to change cars.

It is now hoped the Water Works, which have been stopped on account of the high water in the river, will be in operation by to-morrow. The river had fallen eight feet last night.

Edward W. Traylor, a prominent citizen of Petersburg, was drowned yesterday while attempting to cross the swollen Appomattox River. Five other persons who were in the same boat made narrow escapes.

In the House of Delegates Saturday, a substitute for the Senate bill providing for the calling of a State constitutional convention, in accordance with the Sherman reconstruction act, was introduced, and, after much discussion, was referred.

The bill offered in the United States Senate yesterday as a supplement to the Sherman reconstruction act provides that the general commanding each district shall cause a registration of the voters before September, and then cause an election to be held for delegates to a constitutional convention, appointing officers to conduct such election. The general may delegate a part or all of these powers to the Governor.

There is a report in Washington that the Republicans will approach the President with a proposition that if he will appoint only Radicals to office in the future, impeachment proceedings will be abandoned.

The "Star-Spangled Banner" was hissed in Portland, Me., the other day, probably because of the bad music, and nothing was said about it, but if this had happened in a Southern city, Congress would have appointed a committee of investigation. So says the New York Herald.

CHINA AS A MILITARY POWER

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The diplomats of the entente allies are working to induce China to enter the war against the central empires. They seem to be in a fair way to succeed. China is said to look favorably on the proposal. She may go no farther than a breach of diplomatic relations; she may possibly proceed to actual war.

A diplomatic agreement of this kind is a matter of give and take. China is indignant toward the central powers for their submarine campaign in the Mediterranean, which has resulted in the death of Chinese citizens. Popular sentiment is favorable toward the entente. But over and above these considerations, the allies hold out other inducements to the largest of peoples. They speak of remitting the Boxer indemnities, which China has been paying, since the Boxer rebellion, to several European nations.

These indemnities total $30,000,000 a year, and run for forty years, so that the net amount is over $1,000,000,000, a tremendous sum to a nation in China's position of perennial financial embarrassment. Moreover, the Chinese naturally dislike paying these indemnities, as they stand for an annually recurring humiliation. The United States was among the nations granted indemnity by the treaty of settlement, but this country voluntarily waived the claim a little later. That single act has gone far toward building up the present friendly feeling toward America which prevails in China to-day.

The entente diplomats are said to have agreed to the postponement of further payments as soon as China breaks with Germany and Austria, with the prospect of complete waiving of their claims later, in the event of such a break, China would, of course, promptly repudiate her indebtedness to the central powers. She is probably holding out for an unconditional waiving of the allies' claims.

This is China's side of the possible alliance—satisfaction for encroachments on her rights, the financial benefits and sentimental satisfaction to be derived from a removal of the burden of the annual indemnity payments and a voice in the final peace conference. What could China bring to an alliance to balance these gains?

Two Benefits for Allies.

It is generally conceded that the allies see in an alliance with China two main benefits for themselves—first, a commercial advantage after the war in the immense Chinese market, and, second, a chance to draw on China's inexhaustible reserves of men for the fighting line.

The great value of any advantage to be gotten in Chinese commerce after the war is too widely recognized and realized to need comment. The world has awakened to the importance of the Chinese market, which is probably the greatest field for commercial expansion left in the world to-day. Concerning the value of China as a military ally, there is less definite knowledge and considerable misapprehension abroad. It is customary to speak of China as the helpless giant among nations, the perfect example of complete unpreparedness, the 400,000,000 who are at the mercy of the first comer because they are unready and untrained. To a considerable extent, this picture is true, but overemphasis of it has led to an overlooking of the possibilities of China as a fighting power.

The most striking fact about China, from a broad military viewpoint, is the tremendous size of her population. Her people are so numerous that the best estimates of their numbers differ by 100,000,000—a figure equal to the total population of the United States. However, the generally accepted estimate of the population of China proper—the eighteen provinces—puts the total at 400,000,000. On the basis of the usual percentage, this means 63,000,000 men of fighting age, of whom 40,000,000 would be physically fit for service. China has more men fit for the battle line than all the warring nations put together.

Actual Army Much Smaller.

These figures are interesting, but they mean little or nothing, so far as the present crisis is concerned. These millions do not know how to fight, and they have nothing to fight with. China has, however, for the last ten or twelve years been making strenuous efforts to raise a real modern army. She has made some progress, in spite of lack of interest under the empire, and the disturbances attendant on the revolution. The latest estimates put the peace strength of her army at 400,000 men, with 300,000 additional in the reserves. This total war strength of 700,000 has to be reduced considerably to arrive at the actual number of men who are armed, trained and equipped in a way to make them of any use in modern warfare.

In 1914, when Japan attacked the German naval base of Kiauchau, in China, the Chinese government protested against certain movements, which it considered a violation of Chinese neutrality. At that time, China had about 160,000 troops armed with fairly modern rifles—Mausers, Mannlichers and Japanese Muratas. Foreign military experts believed at the time that these troops were good enough to offer a respectable resistance to the Japanese, although with no possibility of ultimate success. Their number and arms give an idea of the actual fighting strength of China.

The conflict in the various figures relating to China's army is due to the peculiar military system of the republic, whose present form is molded by various systems which obtained in the past. The modern plan provides for a national army, directly under the central government, to consist of two divisions from each province, but China had somewhat the same problem in nationalizing her provincial troops that the United States met in using the National Guard. It was necessary to transfer the control from the state to the nation. The modern army of China is to be a national army, but the old provincial troops, the men of the Green Standard, are still in existence, though they, too, are theoretically under central control in emergency. The national army is planned to comprise eventually a peace strength of 400,000 men.

Two Plans Combined.

China's population is so large that she can combine the principle of conscription with the practice of voluntary enlistment. Theoretically, every man of twenty is liable for three years' service in the active army, three years in the first reserve and four years in the second reserve. Practically, if only one youth of twenty out of every ten is willing to enlist, the need for conscription does not exist, because at least 1,500,000 men reach that age every year. Enlistment is becoming more popular, now that the army is beginning to be looked on as a desirable and honorable profession. Until recently in China—and she is the only nation of the world in which this was true—the military calling was rather looked down on for men of the highest family.

Along with the plan for a national army goes a plan for training officers in military academies, and in a war college for the higher ranks. The crying need of the Chinese army is for equipment and officers. The raw material is there.

Concerning this raw material, the millions on millions of men available for the ranks, observers are agreed that it is of high quality. The Chinaman makes in many ways an ideal soldier. Physically he is strong and vastly enduring. He is little subject to disease. He is capable of getting along on simple food and little of it.

He Is Not Afraid.

He is obedient and amenable to discipline, and, finally, he is not in the least wanting in courage. The Chinese "braves" went out against vastly superior troops in the Chino-Japanese War, and they went out ill-armed and worse officered. Those that had rifles had so many antiquated models that no ammunition train could carry a sufficiently varied stock to supply them all. Some were armed with the old jingals, muzzle-loading guns that took two men to load and fire. Naturally they were defeated, but they fought bravely. Their conduct on the field and in the hospital showed them to have plenty of the necessary courage.

The things that made the Chinese army futile in the past were the corruption of civil officials who administered it, the lack of skilled officers, the prejudice against the army as a career, the lack of money for adequate equipment, and finally perhaps a certain lack of patriotism in the Occidental sense. That patriotism has been growing fast in the last few years. The other needs might be supplied by European allies.

At the moment, China is weak in a military way out of all proportion to her size and resources. To those who believe that to teach a nation to fight is to lead it to war, there must be a fearful fascination in the steps toward military development. China is an unarmed giant with a bandage over his eyes. The allies perhaps are preparing to loosen the bandage and to put a sword in the giant hand. Any one who makes China effective in a military way is certainly dealing with vast forces. But the Chinese stand out through thousands of years as the most peaceable of peoples. There seems little ground to believe that they would abuse their strength.

Books and Authors

"The Way of the Winepress," which the Putnams will publish in March, is the title of the new novel by W. Riley, author of "Windyridge" and "Netherleigh." It tells of Yorkshire mill life, and of the disaster that befell a well-to-do spinner whose conservatism blinded him to the signs of change everywhere about him. The scenes among the villagers give scope to homely, graphic portraiture.

"The Gun-Brand," by James B. Hendryx, author of "The Promise," is a strong tale of the North, of the Slave River country, and beyond; the fur post, the mounted, the smuggler; of love and revenge. It is the story of a girl who, animated by a lofty purpose, becomes the unwitting dupe of a shrewd scoundrel, who, by cleverly concealing his motives, turns that purpose to his own ends in his efforts to defeat a man who, misrepresented to the heroine as her antagonist in the cause she has at heart, is laboring, and with fuller knowledge, for objects akin to her own. And thus it happens that she begins by hating and fighting the man who subconsciously has already made an impression on her heart. "The Gun-Brand" will be published by the Putnams in April.

A new book by Vance Thompson is promised for March publication by E. P. Dutton & Co. Mr. Thompson's "Eat and Grow Thin" has already won the gratitude of an army of men and women, for in the two years since its publication its sales have far exceeded the 100,000 mark. His new book, under its short and simple title, "Woman," is said to carry enough dynamite to do much spectacular havoc in the war between the feminists and antifeminists. "Man," says Mr. Thompson, "has treated woman as he has the Strasburg goose. He has made the one all liver and the other all sex." His argument is that ever since the beginning of the race, man has forced sex specialization upon woman, and that woman, also from the beginning, has made heroic effort to escape from that domination and become not a sex being, but a human being. For proof, he scans history and tradition and present-day conditions. Several chapters are devoted to suggestions as to the best means by which the struggle can be carried on.

Although illiterate in Western learning and weak in Western arms, the Chinese, according to Gardner L. Harding, have a moral training in democracy and individual independence, which gives them a fighting chance under the most advanced and enlightened forms of Western government. Mr. Harding's "Present-Day China," which sums up the achievement and the problems of the Chinese republic, is of especial interest, because he was undoubtedly the one white man in the confidence of Dr. Sun Yat Sen and his party. "The Chinese got their republic in 1911," he writes, "because young China believed it could work a republic. It was a daring stroke, and it made the world gasp. But, after all, why shouldn't the Chinese work a republic? Alone among the people of Asia—not to come nearer to our own European ancestors—the Chinese have no hereditary artistocracy of blood, privilege or title. The idea of the equality of man goes to the roots of Chinese culture. There is only one class the people revere—the scholars—and it is the ideal of Chinese life that every boy of every class and degree shall have an equal chance to become a scholar. Next to the scholar, the old rule of popular estimation places the farmer, the producer of food; next to him the artisan, the man who shapes the necessities of life with his hands. The man who sells these products, the merchant, is below all three. The soldier, taker of life, is at the bottom of the list.

Illusions.

No silver lining you will find beneath
the clouds that sail
Across the stormy sunset sky, like
ships before a gale.
No pot of gold you'll ever dig beyond
the rainbow's end;
No money will buy happiness, however
much you spend.
You'll never turn to living fires the
glowworm's tiny flame;
Illusions lead you far astray—but hold
them, just the same.

Go search the clouds that drift beneath
the Summer moon,
Or watch the vapory mists dissolve
beneath the sun at noon,
And watch the phantom forms and
shapes, like boats or marching
men,
That make new pictures as they pass,
and change and change again.
No silver lining may be there, but in
the clouded dome
You'll find far greater miracles than
he who stays at home.

Go searching for the rainbow's end,
you'll find along the way
The haunt, deep hid among the woods,
where thrushes sing all day;
The sparkling jewels of the rain in all
the waving trees
And carpets made of violets that ripple
in the brooze,
And though you find no gold at all and
walk full many a mile,
You will not have a heavy heart; the
seeking was worth while.

—James J. Montague.