

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

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A LINE O' CHEER EACH DAY O' THE YEAR.

AS TO OPPORTUNITY. The day when opportunity came knocking at our door...

To B. V. D. or not to B. V. D. That is the question.

The season for hunting the "Thaw" millions is again open to the attorneys.

Maryland's Gretna Green broke all records last year. The H. C. L. can't faze young Dan Cupid.

Greece is receiving so many ultimatums from the entente that she can hardly keep track of them, let alone answer them.

If all these warring nations really believe that peace is impossible at this time, why devote all this paper and labor in writing notes?

Why not call in regular plumbers, as those embryo ones in the House of Representatives seem unable to find the cause of the "leak"?

Despite the forces that have been invoked, there seems to be considerable difficulty in making Thomas W. Lawson wear the goat's clothing.

Serene optimism is shown in the warning issued by a Florida newspaper which cautions us "To watch our salary envelopes—\$100 counterfeit bills are in circulation."

"Get a drink of whiskey and talk war to your heart's content," reads a sign in a certain well-known barroom. Well? Its only a natural sequence of events, isn't it?

Now comes a man in Wilmington, Del., who has invented solidified gasoline, put in pills. Armed with a box of these and a few of the new beer capsules, prohibition can have no terrors for those who like it.

A Texas newspaper nonchalantly announces that "a boy was hurt," when an iron safe dropping from a second-story window hit him on the head. Which is rather remarkable if the boy was a native of the State.

"Hot Bricks Provided for Suffragist Pickets," announces a headline. Although these bricks are provided to keep the feet of the pickets warm it would be well to remember that in the past suffragists have found other uses for bricks.

George L. Lorillard, first secretary of the American diplomatic mission to the Balkans, has resigned, because he considered President Wilson's note to the belligerents a "disgrace." Any man so lacking in diplomacy as to "pull" a stunt like that is better out of the State Department service anyhow, we opine.

The most logical effect of the Webb-Kenyon liquor law will be to establish home distillation in those dry States which are not opposed to the consumption of liquor, but to the conditions under which it is sold. A similar tendency will probably prevail in the wet States which already realize that anti-alcohol does not necessarily mean anti-liquor. The vital consideration, however, seems to lie not so much in these aspects as in the ultimate effect upon interstate commerce.

There Are Pickets by the Fence! By ANON Y. MOUS. Hist! The house is surrounded. Goodness gracious—how we're bounded! Great democracy's unfounded!

Some time ago a charming young woman returned from a visit to a girl friend in a distant town, and lost no time in imparting all the glad tidings to her dearest chum.

Pickets in the fence, that's decent; But the impudence malfeasance! Of this innovation recent; It's effrontery is immense.

These ladies anger to baiting? Chastity they'll turn to hitting? Or is't merely "watchful waiting?" By those pickets—by the fence!

Silent, sad, sweet suffrage sisters, Standing till thy feet are blistered, Trying to brow-beat us misters; Obstinacy most intense!

I'll protest in angry passion, Gaining this latest London fashion, Write a note without compassion, Chase thee far from my front fence!

The Cary Resolution.

Following the defeat of the Underwood amendment to the Sheppard District prohibition bill which passed the Senate on Tuesday, The Washington Herald suggested in an editorial printed on Wednesday, January 10, that a real referendum bill for the District be introduced.

This suggestion was made following the maiden speech of Senator Kirby, who opposed the referendum amendment of Senator Underwood, giving as his reason that the amendment was not a real referendum law for the District such as now is in vogue in several of the States, providing for the enacting of certain desired and undesired legislation, and referring it to the voters of the Commonwealth for approval or disapproval.

The Herald, in supporting Mr. Kirby, predicted that there was a feeling in Congress that the District, in being deprived of the right of a voice in its own affairs, is unjustly treated. Following the editorials of The Herald on the subject, Congressman Cary, of Wisconsin, a ranking member of the House District Committee, yesterday introduced a resolution for an advisory referendum for the District of Columbia.

The proposed bill gives the Commissioners charge of the referendum and provides election machinery. It is a significant fact that the bill which provides a referendum on a number of subjects, by its introduction at this time is understood to have a direct bearing on the coming prohibition fight. Another feature of the resolution is that in giving the citizens of the District the vote on the referendum, no distinction is made as to sex.

Congress must realize that the status of the District of Columbia under the present regime, wherein its position is but that of a pawn on the legislative board, is well nigh intolerable. To sit idly by, year after year, and watch a Congress made up of men who pass bill after bill vitally affecting our citizens and our business without giving us so much as a chance for a protest, cannot help being galling to our citizenry.

While the resolution offered by Congressman Cary is not so broad in its scope as it might be, there can be no question as to its being a force for justice and its introduction proves that we have just cause for complaint when denied referendums on measures of vital importance to our city.

Fight Not Yet Lost.

The vote of the subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Appropriations striking out the 5 and 10 per cent graded increases for government employees is a distinct disappointment to thousands of Federal workers who have been following closely the progress of this legislation.

When the employees secured the support of Representative Fitzgerald, of New York, chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, they were inclined to feel that the greatest obstacle in the path of a general increase had been surmounted. Since that time the condition of the United States Treasury has been put forward constantly as furnishing adequate reason for rejecting the increases agreed upon in the House.

Facing a deficit of \$300,000,000 at the close of the present fiscal year, the members of the majority party in Congress feel that the time is ripe for practicing economy and begin, as is customary, with the pay rolls.

The employees have no reason to feel that the cause is lost. Enough members of the Senate already have pledged themselves to vote for a general increase to make it seem certain this legislation will pass when it reaches the floor of the Senate. In the tabulation by the Federal Employees' Union, fifty-five Senators have been noted as certain to vote in favor of the increases.

The action by the Democratic caucus of the Senate in voting to sustain the Senate Committee on Appropriations in any economies it might practice was not directed at the salary increases and a number of Senators have stated that they do not consider it binds them to vote against increases.

While the action of the subcommittee is disheartening it does not mean that the movement for higher salaries for government employees has failed.

ROOM FOR CONJECTURE.

John Mason, the actor, told this story in a club the other night as an illustration of the enthusiastic way in which some young girls describe scenes and personages.

EFFORTS FOR PEACE ASSAILED BY WRITER

President's Note Arouses Suspicion, Declared in Letter to Herald.

Editor The Washington Herald: Your readers will doubtless recall the homely story of the amiable and gallant gentleman who was riding along a country road and came across a burly man beating his wife. The traveler dismounted, hauled the brute off the beaten and trampled woman and proceeded to administer chastisement. But to his surprise he was suddenly attacked from the rear by the wife who joined forces with the husband and gave the would-be rescuer a sound drubbing.

In the recent efforts for peace we have seen in Spain that of what the resolute well-meaning friend who interferred in a quarrel, President Wilson's efforts were dictated by the finest humanitarian feelings. He hates carnage and slaughter, and he has in his mind a picture of just as he does in Europe. He will receive praise in history for being well-intentioned and yet his best friends will wish that he had made his offer under different circumstances. As the record stands today, it is not for nothing that the President against the charge of deliberate partisanship in making his appeal.

President's Position.

Instantly on reading this friends of the administration will rush to the typewriter and call me damned. But what is the position of our excellent President? He has in his mind a picture of just as he does in Europe. He will receive praise in history for being well-intentioned and yet his best friends will wish that he had made his offer under different circumstances. As the record stands today, it is not for nothing that the President against the charge of deliberate partisanship in making his appeal.

"What is a source of aggravation to Americans and a source of humor to Europeans? It is the patent law; they no more protect than they do not exist," yesterday said E. M. Greegs, a scientific writer whose articles have appeared in both English and the English publications. He is stopping at the English Club. "The best example of the inadequacy of our laws," he continued, "is the treatment accorded Ward-Leonard, inventor of the device for controlling heavy electric motors and dynamo machines. He finally found the little country of Switzerland willing and able to give him the protection needed, after being humiliated here. "In other ways the government is slow to realize the need of encouraging and protecting inventions of which the country may have to rely in time of war. Consider, for instance, the Hammond wireless torpedo. The government has ridiculed and fooled about buying this long date. Owing to the fact that the invention could be used only by a government, it has not been discarded. No other country on earth would have imported so long to acquire such an important invention. Hammond had been an Englishman, his government would have made a deal with him in thirty days, and no other country would have been any wiser, but it has been nearly thirty years since the invention, and the United States government does not yet own the device.

"There have been numerous other inventions that have been purchased by foreign governments because for some reason the government did not get it. The Lewis machine gun, for instance, is a sample of the assiduity on the part of the War Department. Aside from weapons, there have been countless other devices that the factories of this country could have sold to the government at an affordable proper protection."

"One of the reasons why President Wilson won in the West was the bonehead mistakes on the part of campaign managers of the Republican candidate," declared John A. Metzger, of Salt Lake City, Utah, who is stopping at the New Willard. "I believe the Republicans were too sure of themselves. They did not think that the voters of Utah, Idaho and Nevada were going to vote for any one but their man. I know for a certainty that the Republicans could have carried these three States if they had not been so certain that they had the vote into consideration the temper of the voters."

"I am not a Democrat," said Mr. Metzger. "I am a Republican, and I am sport enough to give credit where it is due. Vance McCormick is the man who elected Wilson, and he had an address in Salt Lake City, Utah. I really think that Hughes made a great many votes for Wilson, and Roosevelt many more."

"The farming communities of the West are tickled at the fact that they are being taken over by the head of Wall Street. But it is a shabby excuse in a billion of another Democracy in the White House for many years to come. The problems to be faced during the next four years are going to be properly solved only by the present group of Democrats."

Today's Events.

Missionary rally, Church of the Epiphany, 414 street near Fourteenth street northwest, 4 p. m. Lecture, "Human Merchandise," Quilford Gribble, 7 p. m. Lecture, "What the Bible Says About the European War," R. O. Alexander, Poir's Theater, 3 p. m. "The Trial of Jesus from a Lawyer's Standpoint," Congressman Walter M. Chandler, Petworth M. E. Church, Grant Circle, 8 p. m. Temple Society, E. P. Hollis, before Junior Public meeting, Afro-American wage-earning women, under auspices of the American Federation of Labor, Columbia Academy, 704 T street northwest, 8 p. m.

Was He Really Stupid?

A young foreigner was being tried in court and the questioning by the lawyers on the opposite side began. "Now, Lazsky, what do you do?" "Ven," asked Lazsky. "When you work, of course," said the lawyer. "Vy, know?" "Vy, work," said the lawyer, "but what do you do?" "At a bench." "Oh!" groaned the lawyer. "Where do you work at a bench?" "In a factory." "What kind of a factory?" "Brick." "You make bricks?" "No, de factory is made of bricks." "Now, Lazsky, what do you make in that factory?" "Eight dollars a week." "No, no! What does the factory make?" "I dunno; a lot of money, I think." "Now, listen! What kind of goods does the factory produce?" "Oh, all kinds of good goods." "I know, but what kind of good goods?" "The best." "The best of what?" "The best of is." "Of those goods?" "Your honor," said the lawyer, "I give up—New York Sun.

Sound Financial Judgment Dictates Credit to Allies

Thomas W. Lamont in Collier's Weekly

I have been asked to present some of the reasons why those who have been active in issuing foreign loans have believed such a policy to be wise in the permanent interests of American trade and industry. In encouraging American investors to make loans to Canada, France, Great Britain, Russia, and Italy, and to other European as well as South American countries, we have had chiefly in mind a continuation of this country's present prosperity.

First: The upbuilding of our exports. Our exports of merchandise have increased from \$2,255,000,000 in the year ending June 30, 1914, to \$4,324,000,000 for the similar twelve months of 1915, and to a figure estimated at over \$5,000,000,000 for the calendar year 1916. Sixty per cent of our merchandise exports is being shipped to Great Britain, France, and Russia. The officials of these governments have always made it clear that they would continue to purchase American farm products and manufactured goods upon the present scale, unless America granted them reasonable time in which to pay for a part of their purchases. Such credit operations are always a definite part of the commercial intercourse of civilized nations, and have been perhaps the most important single factor in building up international trade.

Interesting Chats From Hotel Lobbies

"What is a source of aggravation to Americans and a source of humor to Europeans? It is the patent law; they no more protect than they do not exist," yesterday said E. M. Greegs, a scientific writer whose articles have appeared in both English and the English publications. He is stopping at the English Club. "The best example of the inadequacy of our laws," he continued, "is the treatment accorded Ward-Leonard, inventor of the device for controlling heavy electric motors and dynamo machines. He finally found the little country of Switzerland willing and able to give him the protection needed, after being humiliated here. "In other ways the government is slow to realize the need of encouraging and protecting inventions of which the country may have to rely in time of war. Consider, for instance, the Hammond wireless torpedo. The government has ridiculed and fooled about buying this long date. Owing to the fact that the invention could be used only by a government, it has not been discarded. No other country on earth would have imported so long to acquire such an important invention. Hammond had been an Englishman, his government would have made a deal with him in thirty days, and no other country would have been any wiser, but it has been nearly thirty years since the invention, and the United States government does not yet own the device.

Credits Mean Strength.

The great credits which countries like Great Britain and France hold over the world largely represent debts owing to their goods which they have sold and shipped. The strength, in both a commercial and financial way, which this great volume of credits has yielded to these countries is almost incalculable. With our exports of \$4,324,000,000 to \$50 for every man, woman and child in the country (as against \$25 in 1913), it must be clear that our foreign transactions not only concern business men and bankers, but touch the livelihood of all the people of this country. A few figures will emphasize the truth of this statement, showing the values of the chief articles exported in 1915 as compared with 1914:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Value. Wheat: 1915 \$9,700,000 vs 1914 \$7,500,000. Flour: 1915 \$3,300,000 vs 1914 \$7,000,000. Cotton: 1915 \$1,900,000 vs 1914 \$4,000,000. Meat and dairy products: 1915 \$13,000,000 vs 1914 \$9,000,000. Horses: 1915 \$4,000,000 vs 1914 \$3,000,000. Cattle: 1915 \$7,000,000 vs 1914 \$5,000,000. Boots and shoes: 1915 \$5,000,000 vs 1914 \$7,000,000. Woolen goods: 1915 \$4,000,000 vs 1914 \$4,000,000. Cotton goods: 1915 \$2,000,000 vs 1914 \$1,000,000. Chemicals: 1915 \$2,000,000 vs 1914 \$2,000,000. Iron and steel manufactures: 1915 \$4,000,000 vs 1914 \$2,000,000. Machine tools and metal-work: 1915 \$4,000,000 vs 1914 \$2,000,000. Automobiles: 1915 \$1,000,000 vs 1914 \$2,000,000.

Exports Benefit All.

Thus it must be plain that every part of the country is vitally interested in our export trade: the farmer in the West, the cotton grower in the South, the miner in Pennsylvania and Arizona, as well as the manufacturer in every State. It is not in our mind that we must consider seriously the fact that, if we fail to extend credit to Great Britain, France and Russia, these countries will be forced to turn to the United States for their purchases in America. Realizing this and believing their notes, payable in dollars, to be sound security, we have urged upon America's growing investment community the necessity of granting credit to these and other nations.

Gold Is Not Wealth.

The popular notion that money or gold is wealth is a commonly used sprong. It represents wealth naturally arising from its double function as an instrument of commerce and as the measure of value. But economists and publicists long ago recognized that accumulation of excessive quantities of gold is not only detrimental to its foreign trade; indeed, it is likely to prove a menace to real prosperity. For the last half century or more gold has been used in the settlement of international accounts. It is a fact that balances that have existed after the trading and taking of credit instruments. In other words, Great Britain and France have been in the habit for decades past of drawing upon America for comparatively small quantities of gold. The bulk of our floating indebtedness to them they have canceled through the purchase of our securities; in other words, by lending America money. It was, for instance, estimated that at the outbreak of the war the amount of the foreign holdings of American securities was in the neighborhood of \$6,000,000,000; this figure having been greatly reduced by our repurchases of our own securities in the last two and a half years.

But should America now insist that her valued foreign customers continue to reduce their stocks of gold at the present unprecedented rate, the result would undoubtedly be disastrous for America as for her customers abroad. If our present stock of gold, now at a height unprecedented for any country in the world's history, be augmented by another \$1,000,000,000 of the metal, expansion of credits to other countries in the present era of inflation and of inflated prices to invite calamity upon our business community, with consequent severe reaction and financial depression. No man can say that this must of necessity be so; for it is, of course, hard times and inability, on the part of the foreign holders of American securities, to keep in step with the face of rapidly expanding credits, may practice a self-restraint which will cure or mitigate the evils which have usually flowed from such a condition. 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