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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1920.

Not Who Said It, But Is It So?

THE issue of veracity which has arisen between the President and Senator Spencer, of Missouri, is embarrassing and in the outcome is likely to be mortifying to the gentleman who shall be shown in the wrong. Senator Spencer is backed by Senator Reed, who shows that the words now complained of by the President were quoted in Congress and published in the Record without Presidential denial. Their substance was also used by Herbert Adams Gibbons in a magazine article last May, and by Dr. E. J. Dillon in his authoritative book, "The Inside History of the Peace Conference." Not until they came to be employed for campaign purposes did the President manifest the slightest objection to their quotation, or to their imputation to him.

In the controversy as it stands now the advantage is clearly with the Missouri Senator. But his advantage may be but brief. The President has in his arsenal the one big gun which will destroy all the artfully constructed fabric of his adversaries. He has access to the official stenographic report of the Peace Conference. He can publish it at any moment—indeed according to the statement of Clemenceau it would have been published day by day except for Mr. Wilson's intervention in favor of secrecy. But now, with so grave a controversy involved, and the need—however supposititious—for secrecy having passed, the President can give to the world the exact record in the case. Thus, if the record upholds him, he can confound his adversaries without waiting for the doubtful, and at best inconclusive verdict of the Missouri electorate to which he has referred the issue.

However the question whether the President did in fact use the phrase quoted is of less importance than whether under the Versailles covenant, without reservations, the promise he is said to have made is indeed implied.

These are the words ascribed to the President in the Congressional Record of February 2, 1920: "IF THE WORLD SHOULD BE TROUBLED AGAIN, IF THE CONDITIONS WHICH WE ALL REGARD AS FUNDAMENTAL ARE CHALLENGED, THE GUARANTEES WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU—THAT IS TO SERBIA AND RUMANIA—WILL PLEDGE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL SEND ITS ARMY AND NAVY ACROSS THE OCEAN."

President Wilson declares that he used no such language. Controversy on this point is futile so long as he possesses the verbatim report of the discussion and can support his denial with convincing proof, if it is to be supported at all.

But while the question of veracity may for the moment be left in abeyance it would be well if the defenders of the Versailles covenant to the last letter would say whether the pledges the President is said—perhaps incorrectly—to hold as inherent in that document are in fact there.

In other words DOES the covenant pledge this country in advance to send its army and navy across seas once more in the entirely probable event that such notoriously turbulent countries as Serbia or Rumania take up the sword over some question of boundaries, or petty national prestige such as has often led them into war.

The President has succeeded in making the Versailles covenant a dominant issue in the campaign and has dragged his party, somewhat reluctantly, to its support "without crossing a 't' or dotting an 'i.'" The Republican party, on the contrary, stands for international association in defense of peace, and is not averse to using the Versailles covenant as the basis of that association. But it demands certain amendments and reservations to the covenant for the protection of the United States from being dragged into war for reasons of no importance to her people.

The possibility which the President says he did not put into words, but which HE HAS NOT SAID MAY NOT EXIST, is emphatically one against which this people must be guarded. A Republican President and a Republican Senate would guard against it by suitable reservations to the covenant.

Since the determination of Gov. Cox, dictated by President Wilson, is that the covenant must be accepted as it is written it is most desirable that one or the other of these leaders should say whether the contingency described in the quotation of disputed authorship can arise should the United States enter the league as constituted. That is of vastly more importance than any question as to whether or not the President actually said it.

The fact that the world's greatest steamship, the Bismarck, which was burned as she was approaching completion in a Hamburg shipyard, was to have been surrendered to England by the terms of the treaty, justifies belief that her destruction was about as accidental as that of the Rheims Cathedral or the German fleet at Scapa Flow.

After all the Germans who set the torch to the monster ship Bismarck were not much worse vandals than the shipping authorities of the United States who are allowing the Leviathan to rust in idleness at her dock.

Wonder what the "night riders" who by threats of violence and the torch are trying to deter owners of cotton from selling it would say of a labor union that adopted the same methods to keep its members from selling their labor?

Senator Spencer escaped easily. At least the President did not instruct Mr. Tumulty to write him that he was impudently audacious or stupidly ignorant.

Adding to Railroad Efficiency.

The utilization of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to rush coal to the Capital in the face of the menaced shortage will be an event of more than temporary importance. The country had come to depend too completely upon its railroads for all classes of transportation. True this dependence was fostered by the railroad corporations themselves, that fought every effort to develop canals, or to utilize the existing waterways. Alongside of several of our trunk lines will be seen the weed grown hollow of an abandoned canal, with here and there a dismantled lock. These tell the story of the purchase and destruction of some canal which long served the needs of industry well, but which the railroad, in the moment of its power destroyed, lest it should come to be a competitor.

It was shown some years ago that Long Island Sound and its tributary waterways that should have been lanes of traffic for all New England, had become practically the sole property of the New Haven Railroad. The government still lighted the channels, and dredged them out when dredging was needed, but the railroad, by securing a monopoly of wharfage facilities, and discriminating in charges in behalf of its own vessels, had destroyed all free navigation on this great landlocked sea more effectually than Von Tirpitz was able to do in the war zone.

The time is at hand when all methods of transportation will have to be employed in harmonious co-operation to meet the needs of the nation. Canals, rivers, natural waterways and highways on which motor trucks may operate will all be needed—are in fact needed today. The railroads must abandon their stupid policy of obstruction. These other routes will be less competitors than feeders, and as such should be developed, and brought into correlation with the roads by the hearty co-operation of railroad managers. The more progressive of such managers recognize this fact.

Tammany and the Volstead Law.

The governor of New York, being a candidate for re-election, said in a speech the other day, "I am in favor of the enforcement of a liberalized Volstead law." Gov. Smith is a Tammany man—a man of unblemished character and notable ability, whose public services have been applauded by citizens of all parties, but nevertheless a loyal adherent of Tammany.

In conversation with a political writer of this newspaper recently another Tammany man said, "I am tired of hearing it said that Tammany is giving no support to Cox and the national ticket. The statement is partially true, but the implication that we are disloyal to the ticket is untrue. Tammany is not giving the sort of support to Gov. Smith that we usually give to our candidates, and you know that he is the most popular man in the organization. The reason is that we can't do any better. Tammany is nothing but a shell now. Prohibition in closing the saloons of Manhattan has closed 3,000 Tammany clubs. We can't keep up an organization without meeting places, and we can't keep up meeting places by taxing the boys. If the saloons are out of business for good Tammany is out of business."

As an explanation of a Tammany governor's opposition to the Volstead law this statement seems complete. As an explanation, too, of the present refusal of the authorities in New York to enforce that law it is illuminating. In Manhattan, more than anywhere else in the nation, the sale of liquor in open saloons is being conducted without attention from the police. During the remaining weeks of the campaign Tammany will conduct all the "clubs" possible. But even the most hopeful "braves" look upon it as their last chance.

What prohibition is doing to Tammany in New York it will do to corrupt political organizations throughout the land as it comes to be more effectively enforced.

Women and the Prohibition Law.

Hopeful wets who have been expressing doubt as to whether women voters would be as uniformly for prohibition as has been believed will find scant encouragement in the action of the New Jersey Democratic convention the other day. The redoubtable "Jim" Nugent offered a resolution calling for the revision of the Volstead law so as to permit the sale of wines and beer. It was voted down by the solid vote of all the women delegates present. Not one break appeared in their phalanx.

This is but a bit of concrete evidence in support of a belief that must have been held by every competent social observer. The joys of moderate drinking, such as they are, are shared by but few women. The sorrows of the abuse of liquor have always fallen most heavily on the home-keeping and nondrinking sex. The admitted advantages of prohibition in its present incomplete and rudimentary stage have been recognized and prized by wives and mothers. The pay envelope brought home, instead of being opened and depleted in the nearest saloon, is an argument against any return to the old conditions that every woman voter will understand.

The lesson that it took a formal vote in convention to impress upon "Jim" Nugent, Gov. Cox learned by shrewd observation of public sentiment. His nomination for the Presidency was unquestionably effected by men who expected him to strive for the undoing of the Volstead law. His chief proponents were wets, and he himself, before this entrance upon the national arena, might fairly be thus classed. But his first campaign trip was not half completed before he found himself compelled by political prudence to declare unqualified dry sentiments, and his utterances ever since have been arid enough to win the plaudits of the Anti-Saloon League.

There is not a handful of politicians of national standing who now antagonize prohibition. The reason is plain. They do not dare, for the opinion of the people is almost unanimous in its support.

"How a Republican Congress legislates for a Democratic administration, when it legislates at all, is shown by the new merchant marine act, which provides for a Shipping Board of seven members, but makes no appropriation for their compensation."—New York World.

Still the President signed that faulty act instead of sending it back for amendment. Why throw all blame on Congress?

The Bolshevik forces have ended their war with Poland by complete submission. Fighting an armed nation proved to be a very different task for Lenine and Trotsky from imposing their will upon a people whom they had first deprived of all arms.

Senator Borah is getting perilously near the social position of Dunderberg's bird that went off in a corner and hocked all by itself.

TIPPED WAITER DINE AT DINNER

Magazine Writer Went on Spending Spree, Says McIntyre.

By O. O. MINTYRE. New York, Oct. 7.—Thoughts while strolling around New York: A beggar in a doorway counting his money. Smiling a bare-fanged smile. A poet twirling his horn-rimmed glasses. And gazing at the sky. Fat ankle women wearing spangled stockings. The poet is looking the wrong way for inspiration. Real estate firm advertises a Swiss chalet for sale. Ople Reed, the novelist, getting his shoes shined. Looks like a Kentucky colonel. The rat-a-tat-tat of a riveter on every block. And still no place to live. Eight years ago I was offered a nine-room apartment—first month free—for \$50 a month. Now rents for \$120. Some of these days I'm going to take a shot in the arm or something and walk into a hotel, look the clerk right in the eye and say: "A \$2 room, please."

A typical New Yorker rushing along like an express train. Probably going for a manicure or to an afternoon tea. But if you live here long enough you see the habit of Irving Berlin in English tweeds and a Homburg hat. Swank, no end! Everybody seems to be carrying a lunch box. A good idea. It costs as much to eat in the one armed places almost as it does in the big hotels. That old bird with parted white whiskers looks important. There goes Fred Stone and his brother-in-law, Rex Beach. Between them they ought to be able to fight off the H. C. of L. Still things are not so bad. A Fifth Avenue florist announces a 10 per cent reduction in orchids. That's enough to cheer the most pessimistic. Anyway we may expect a sharp reduction in the price of terrapin.

Way Down in the film it can never be so good as the spoken drama. I'll never forget how, perched up in the gallery, I sobbed when the stern, dignified, and at the fallen daughter, "Out of my house! I'll have no dinner of your gittin'!" I've met that hatched faced man three times. I wonder if he's much better. Anyway it is time to go home.

Tipped Waiter a Dime.

A magazine office received a curt note from one of its leading contributors recently reading: "Don't send me any more money until next year, don't know what to do with it." The writer is away off in the wilds where he has built his own house and is living primitive fashion. One might imagine how the writer would spend his money when he reaches New York. But primitive habits are heard to break. The last time he was in town he gave a dinner for four at the Waldorf and tipped the waiter a dime.

Old Apple Mary introduced her successor last week in the office building down town where for years she has appeared with the regularity of a clock and a basket of fruit and candy. Her successor, a daughter, Old Apple Mary is going back to Italy where she has a little farm, a cow and some pigs and a big chimney corner where she may rest her body. For thirty years she has been a figure in the newspaper office. I was once a patron and she trusted me at the end of many weeks when editorial pockets were tight. She was an advisor to the Chinese government at Peking, will speak. After the meeting there will be an automobile parade to George Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon. The chairman of the day is Frank Lee Quon, described as "veteran of the revolution of 1911."

BACK TO LAND CALL BECOMING WEAKER

The Bureau of the Census has issued a preliminary announcement giving the total number of farms in the United States in 1920 as 6,453,998, an increase of 98,396 since 1919. This increase amounts to only 1.5 per cent, whereas in the preceding decade, from 1909 to 1919, the percentage increase was 10.3. The chief increase occurred in the far Western States, with Montana showing an increase of 19 per cent. The increase in California was 23 per cent in Colorado 20 per cent, Idaho 37 per cent, Wyoming 42 per cent, Utah and Washington each 18 per cent. The largest decrease occurred in the New England States. New Hampshire showed a decrease of 24 per cent, Rhode Island 23 per cent, Maine 20 per cent, and Connecticut 12 per cent. The losses were also shown in the great agricultural region of the Middle West. For example, Illinois showed a decrease of 5.8 per cent, Indiana 4.8 per cent, Ohio 5.6 per cent, Iowa 1.7 per cent, and Kansas 7.1 per cent.

UPSET TRADE BALANCE BOOSTS EUROPE'S DEBT

Prof. B. M. Anderson, of the Chase National Bank, has estimated that the international trade balance between this country and Europe since January 1, 1915, has resulted in a debit of over \$2,500,000,000 owed to the United States. This debt is an addition to the \$10,000,000,000 which the United States loaned to European governments during the war. The total item in this unfunded debt is our large excess of exports over imports to Europe, which for the year and a half amounts to about \$6,600,000,000.

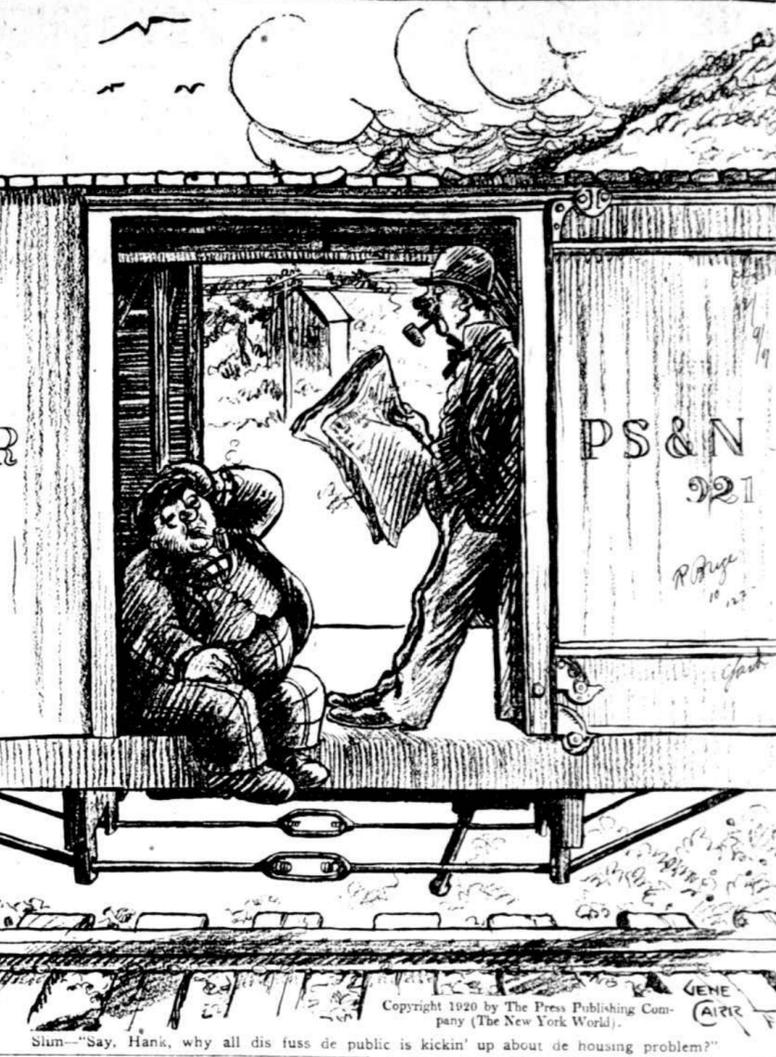
A DAILY LINE O' CHEER

By John Kendrick Bangs.

REGAL AUTUMN.

No wonder Autumn sports a regal gown And seems upon her brow to wear the crown. For she is Queen of all the seasons fair Unto whose lap the Spring and Summer leap The tribute of their fruits, as if to pay A meed of full respect unto her sway. While Winter chill doth follow in her train, Vice-Roy and guardian of her rich domain. And keeps a faithful vigil at her door Until each night-time of the year is o'er.

EVERYDAY MOVIES



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NEXT SUNDAY CHINESE JULY 4

Mongolians Here to Hold Church Services and Decorate Washington's Tomb.

China's Fourth of July—her "national day"—is officially called "the day of the Republic" and will be celebrated by the Chinese of Washington next Sunday. The celebration will take the form of a patriotic meeting at Mount Vernon Place Church, Dr. Wellington Row, the Chinese Minister, who is shortly leaving Washington to represent his republic at the Court of St. James in London, Dr. James, former legal advisor to the Chinese government at Peking, will speak. After the meeting there will be an automobile parade to George Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon. The chairman of the day is Frank Lee Quon, described as "veteran of the revolution of 1911."

MISSOURI HAS ADOPTED STATE

Senator Sheldon Palmer Spencer, of Missouri, who is engaged in an Annapolis campaign with President Wilson, is a Pennsylvanian by birth, having first seen the light of day at Erie in 1862. He is a lawyer, an honorary M. D. of the Missouri Medical College, a State man, a former circuit judge, and one-time member of the House of Representatives. Senator Spencer is completing the unexpired term of Senator "Sam" Shreve, and is the new Republican candidate for the full term beginning March 4, 1921. The President is taking more than passing interest in the Missouri Senator, who is a former Democratic candidate, Breckinridge of State, was in Prof. Wilson's classes at Princeton sixteen years ago.

HAS SENATORIAL PEDIGREE.

Senator Ferdinand Hale junior from Maine, probably can claim to come from the best "senatorial stock" of any member of the upper branch of Congress. Not only was his father before him a United States Senator, but his mother, the daughter of the late Zachary Chandler, one of the famous nine Michigan senators to the Senate years ago.

GERMAN LINEN TRADE HURT BY LACK OF FLAX

According to the London Times Trade Supplement, the German linen industry has been severely affected by the lack of flax. Enervating preparations are being made to increase production. In 1919 the area under flax cultivation in Germany amounted to 172,000 acres. It is estimated that the 1920 crop will be approximately 2,200 tons larger than last year. Before the war Germany imported about 11,500 tons of flax yearly, most of which came from Russia.

IMPROVE YOURSELF.

Improve yourself by seeking out the finest traits in those about you for good and bad in some degree are found in everyone we see. And since we're apt at once to see, to swipe the traits of those we know, unconsciously we often choose the very ones "twere best to lose. But this is well to bear in mind: the best is none too good to find! Have high ideals, and so attain the finest traits—and wisest gain. N. A. LUBBURG. (Copyright, 1920, by The McClure Syndicate)

Moundville Observes 150th Anniversary Date

Moundville, W. Va., Oct. 8.—Moundville today celebrated the 150th anniversary of its first settlement. In 1779 Joseph Thompson discovered the ruins of Grave Creek on which the city stands and built a cabin. He also discovered the famed Indian mound from which the place gets its name. The celebration was in the nature of a homecoming with the city in gala attire.

DUTY CALLING, LADD ASSERTS

Candidate for Senate, But Believes Place Is at Home.

By LA BERT ST. CLAIR. Professor E. P. Ladd, of North Dakota, an independent senatorial nominee, somewhat radical in his tendencies but who is expected to string along with the Republicans if he is elected, has told friends that he seriously does not know whether he should come to the Senate. He thinks maybe it is his duty to stay in North Dakota and make it a better State to live in. Not that it is a bad one, but Ladd thinks maybe that is where his job is.

The candidacy of the Rev. Brewster Adams, of Reno, Nev., who entered the race for the Republican senatorial nomination against former Gov. Goddard, has attracted wide attention. The reverend is strongly opposed to the Volstead act and says so right out loud.

That song of Al Johnson, sung to Senator Harding, which contained the lines, "We want another Lincoln, who can do our thinking," has encouraged a lot of Western Indian poets to break out again, although this is the oldest of the Representative Poets of Indiana, forwards the following local poet, but fails to name the author, who is James H. Moore, the sweet singer of Alamo Ind., is strongly suspected. Here his goes:

Sing of Politics, Sing songs of Harding and sing songs of Cox, And songs of Gen. Debs, who is no fool, And of Parley Christensen, who won't get my vote, And of Robert La Follette, who sure gets my goat. Sing of Bill Bryan, whose heart is in the grave, And sing of Bill Hays, who says nobody gave A doggone cent more than one thousand smucks, And yip for Fred Upham, who has dough in stacks. And while you are singing don't forget Tennessee, That turned loose the women, let 'em set their free; I hope they're for that record, for I hope they're for laws to make free painting a sin.

Yes, it will be a great election now that women are freed. But it will add to our bill for free garden seed. Yes, at buying the seed Uncle Sam will go bust. But when women vote, they'll seed the mart.

Of course most of the above expressions do not mean that the author expects neither do most political speeches.

Ray Baker, director of the Mint who is worth only about as many million as he has fingers and toes, is expected to be elected. He is building the other day and devoted a speech against Indians.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BIBLE?

THE BOOK OF JOSHUA. CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY. CHAPTER 15.

- 1 The lot of Simeon, in of Zebulun, of Issachar, 24 of Aser, 22 of Naphtali, 26 of Dan, 49 The children of Dan, give an inheritance to Joshua. And the second lot came forth to Simeon, even for the tribe of the children of Simeon, according to the lot which the Lord had said: "The inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon, according to the lot, was within the inheritance of the children of Judah. 2 And they had in their inheritance: Beer-sheba, or Sheba, and Melairan, 3 And Hazar-shual, and Balah, And Azem, 4 And Etah, and Bethul, and Hormah, 5 And Ziklag, and Beth-marekoth, and Hazar-susah, 6 And Beth-lebaoth, and Sharuhen, thirteen cities and their villages. 7 And Be'er-terah, and Ether, and Ashan, four cities and their villages. 8 And all the villages that were round about these cities to Beersheba. 9 And turned from Beersheba eastward to the inheritance of the children of Simeon according to their families. 10 And the portion of the children of Simeon, for the inheritance of the children of Simeon, for the part of the children of Judah was too much for them; therefore the children of Simeon had their inheritance within the inheritance of the tribe of Judah. 11 And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families; and the border of their inheritance was unto Sarnath, and their border went up toward the sea, and Maralah, and reached to Iduhsheth, and reached to the river that is before Joknean. 12 And turned from Sarnath eastward toward the sunrising upon the border of Chisloth-tabor, and then goeth out to Daberath, and goeth up to Japhia. TO BE CONTINUED.

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