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TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 1921.

America's Center of Science.

IN HIS latest book on "Modern Democracies," Lord Bryce sees in this country a weakening of the spoils system which he rightly says was "one of the weakest spots in the American government." He notes that the quality of our government employees is steadily rising, an assurance it will be very gratifying to our own people to have, and a fact they have inadequately realized because it has been a rather slow growth.

He also says: "As a home of science Washington is no whit behind London and Paris," a statement which may, indeed, greatly surprise most Americans. They have not, as a rule, thought of this city as a center of science. They have believed that somewhere, there was a great amount of scientific research accomplished in this country, but have usually associated it with certain institutions, universities, foundations and the like.

But the fact is, as Lord Bryce says, that Washington is the nation's center of science and the government is the center of that center. If this could be fully realized it would be most helpful in this work. If this country, and even Congress, could be adequately impressed with the importance, the extent, the commercial and economic value of the scientific research done in the departments, it would not be so hard to get fair recognition of it in practical ways.

It would be impressive if this country could have an X-ray of the hundreds upon hundreds of exceptionally able, devoted men who are giving their lives to its service; plodding day and night over problems whose solution will keep the United States at least abreast with other countries, and who get but a comparative pittance in salaries. They stay, why? We do not know, save for that indefinite reason which holds men almost as slaves in a work they have undertaken; in one which fills their lives with interest and that they feel is a service worthy of every sacrifice.

Scores have gone to private employment at double or treble salaries. Hundreds more could do this, but cannot bear to leave absorbing problems which seem near fruition. They are true loyalists and deserve a recognition denied them, not alone financially, but in actual, personal credit for what they achieve. Democracies are proverbially ungrateful, but so far as such servants are concerned, so are monarchies. Whoever knew the names of those men who really built up Germany and made it the wonderful commercial giant it was?

Who knows the names of the plodders anywhere who give their lives to such labors of research in the realms of the just-beyond and finally bring them within industrial reach? No others do more; no others deserve more; no others, by comparison, get less, save in that inner reward, the satisfaction of accomplishment.

Mountain of a Molehill.

FOR reasons best known to itself, the Chicago Tribune rivals Hearst as an anti-Japanese propagandist. It favors the greatest navy in the world with no concealment of Japan as the objective. It insists also that as a protective measure, the American fleet should be centered on the West coast.

It names as the issues between this government and Japan that we refuse to Japanese admission here as the nationals of other countries are admitted; we refuse Japan the control of the Pacific cable system centered at Yap; we object to the Japanese expansion in China and in Siberia, and have a military force in the Philippines.

To be consistent the Tribune should not stop with centering the fleet on the West coast. It must recognize that the Atlantic fleet could reach any Japanese hostile fleet at sea in the Pacific, before it could reach our coastline. If Japan is our sure enemy and war is inevitable, our fleet should be at Manila. If the navy is solely a defensive agency against Japan, throw off the cloak and put it where it would be immediately available. Japan will not sail past the Philippines, leaving them in her rear in order to attack our West coast.

As to Yap, all that is asked is joint, or international, control and not exclusive control, and in spite of the Tribune and Hearst, Japan seems very likely to grant this. It is of importance to Great Britain and France as well as the United States. Neither has Japan ever objected to our handful of troops in the Philippines. But if war is to come, that force and the island fortifications, should be so increased as to make their defense assured.

It is true that this is the only government that objects to Japanese expansion in China and Siberia. It happens to be the only one that has not some of the hams. But it is not economic expansion or settlement to which objection is made, but political expansion, merely camouflaged possession to be changed, as in Korea, to annexation.

It is the method to which this country objects. It is willing to recognize a Japanese Monroe doctrine interpreted and employed as is our own Monroe doctrine for usefulness and helpfulness, not for exploitation, and never for possession, or the closed door. No one denies Japan equal economic rights anywhere she may go. But Australia, New Zealand and Canada as well as the United States, refuse Japanese citizenship, or welcome as permanent residents.

It is wholly possible that the United States has taken upon itself too much responsibility for other people. It might be wiser to be more diplomatic to avoid such "foreign entanglements" and let events take their course as to China and Siberia. Sometimes it is more effective, if people know they have to take care of themselves, and Americans have a

habit of being perhaps so overaltruistic in one direction and overmaterialistic in another.

The Tribune will have none of the league of nations through which this government might co-jointly get fair play for China. It would drop the Versailles treaty and make a separate one with Germany. But it does not condemn a course in the Far East which, it indicates, assures war with Japan largely because of our self-imposed guardianship over China and Siberia with whom we seem to seek entanglements.

Gossip: The art of repeating what you don't believe, and adding details to make it convincing.

One Inalienable Right.

THERE is one, just one, absolutely inalienable right—the right to work. It is inalienable because no man ever surrenders it, or deeds it away. Enforced idleness is worse than slavery, since slavery at least gives occupation and provides food, clothing and shelter.

Any government, no matter what else it grants, fails in its fundamental obligation, when it does not stand between its people and idleness. If work can come in no other form, if economic conditions are such that private enterprise cannot provide employment, then the state should fill the breach.

It is a travesty on real democracy and self-government that there should ever be 3,000,000 or 4,000,000 men idle in the United States who are willing to work and want to work. It is a serious commentary on our system when any man will consent to allow the germs of a most poisonous and dreaded disease to be infected into his body and so face death, because "I have been out of work for months and \$1,000 looks mighty good to me."

It is economic folly that public works are undertaken in volume only when employment is at high-tide and wages at the peak. It would be economic wisdom and justice to expand public works when there is most idleness and wages lowest. The taxpayers must meet the cost in either case, and if taxes are rightly levied, this employment would be paid by those who could best afford it.

It is not a complicated proposition. Any government of any unit from Federal to city, can so arrange its program of public improvements as to provide work in periods of stagnation. It can have a sinking fund for this purpose. It would then be a buyer in the market when prices are lowest. It would, as a buyer, stimulate production and in that, lessen the number of unemployed. It would also increase or restore purchasing power, and again stimulate private production.

The United States and the States could easily have given such employment in some form during the past six months. If they had done so to even a third of the number of the idle, this would have opened employment to the rest through added production. Sometime this will be the accepted rule. It is what organized labor should make the chief item of its program. It should claim this inalienable right of work for all, as including all the rest—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Views of Washington

OUR PACIFIC SHIPPING FACES CRISIS, SAYS WESTERNER.
 American shipping in the Pacific faces a crisis, in the opinion of John P. Henderson, San Francisco shipping man, seen yesterday at the Washington, who declares that the greater advantages gained by American shippers during the war are at stake and that the United States government must step in if this trade is not to be lost to European and Asiatic traders.

During the war Henderson pointed out, "Americans, through the Shipping Board, put their money into vast argosies that traversed the seven seas, replacing German, English, French, and other foreign fleets.

"Taking away trade from the Suez and Panama Canal routes during the war our West Coast ports built up an unprecedented traffic with China, France, India, China, Ceylon, Siam, the Straits Settlements, and Eastern India.

GREAT TONNAGE BUILT DURING THE WAR.
 "The nearness of Pacific Coast ports to all these rich markets gives the West Coast a natural advantage over European nations, and during the war our far-flung shipping men in San Francisco, Seattle, and other Pacific ports established lines to the Far East, putting on swift new liners built by the Shipping Board and financed by all American citizens. During the war these lines handled the Pacific commerce which the belligerent European nations were powerless to touch.

"Upon the termination of the war, began the struggle to hold this trade against British lines, which once more sent tramp steamers through the Suez Canal. This struggle is by no means over, for American shippers are reluctant to give up the advantages already gained. This trade is logically ours, if we consider the geographical phase alone.

SHORTEST ROUTE AS FAR AS CALCUTTA.
 "San Francisco and other Pacific ports can compete with European cities clear to Calcutta, for we have the short haul advantage. Japanese and Eastern Siberian trade belongs to Pacific coast ports by the right of shorter distance. It next belongs to Atlantic ports via the Panama Canal. Then comes the island, who has the next nearest ports.

"This advantage may be retained if the United States will only give shipping interests the same backing that England gives to her traders. Our shippers must be enabled to operate their lines at a figure sufficiently reasonable to admit of competition with European bottoms. To do this requires that Board regulations as they now stand must be changed. They are war-time measures and are not adapted to trading in time of peace. First of all we must be able to eliminate some of the surplus crews who are now compelled to carry until men are fairly walking over one another in the engine rooms of our liners. We must have an equitable adjustment of the wages situation, and we must sweep away the scores of hampering regulations which now discourage the American shipowner.

Saving Themselves.

GOOD news continues to come from France. She has not lost her habit of thrift, her capacity to work and her self-indpendence. Without reparations, she has quite completely restored her devastated regions. She quickly turned from the waste of war to the restoration of her forces of production.

And now comes word which will rejoice every American heart, that in the month of February her exports exceeded in value her imports for the first time since before the war. Her imports of raw materials were as two to one, but her exports of manufactured goods was over two and one-half to one. That tells the story of renewed industry of restored economic equilibrium and accustomed thrift.

The favorable trade balance for that month was over 34,500,000 francs. For January there was but a slight deficit. But the average excess of imports for 1920 was over 1,000,000 francs a month and in 1919 nearly double that. No other of the Western allied countries, not even Belgium, has had so much to overcome as France. No other expected so much in reparation and got so little.

In spite of this the same spirit shown in the war, has won. France has recognized the realities. She has accepted the inevitable and reparations, when they come, will be useful to lighten the burdens of taxation and to complete the rebuilding which still remains. Her record after 1871 was one of the marvels of that time. It was child's play compared to what she has now done and is doing. Moreover, it is the best proof of what Germany can do if she will but quit her whining, confess her sins, admit her debt and seriously undertake to pay it. Her problem is far easier than that of France.

Former Presidents.

SENATOR CALDER has a bill providing a pension of \$10,000 for all former Presidents. The Herald agrees with the New York World that the sum named should be \$25,000. It so has happened that we never have had more than two living former Presidents and a few of them have been men of independent incomes.

It is easy for a former President, in these days, to make a comfortable income. The platform seeks him, so do newspapers and periodicals. He also can find many positions largely remunerative because of his position, yet it is most creditable that no President after retiring from office, has ever offended public sentiment by capitalizing his prominence and influence.

But they should be free agents. They should not need to sell their advice, nor capitalize in any way the vast information at their disposal. Their guidance, advice, influence, information and leadership should be gifts to the American people. The remainder of their lives should be devoted to the people's service, with unbiased judgment, without political prejudice, and without financial necessity.

Their years of greatest usefulness should be those after they are out of office, not when more or less hampered by partisan bonds and obligations. This is a service which the people should assure to themselves. They should make their former Presidents wholly free agents to represent and speak for them, to inform and lead them, to clear the air of political entanglements and point the way to national righteousness.

Foreigners Organize Banks for Export Trade

Edge Law bank is being formed in the United States by former Poles, Czechs and Hungarians with the declared aim of "exporting" their native land, it was learned at the Department of Commerce yesterday.

While the scheme is comparatively new it was said the banks were being organized on a comprehensive scale and would be able to extend large credits from the United States government. The same type of banks also are being formed by purely American groups who have business interests in foreign countries and cannot make the necessary financial arrangements under the present banking systems.

Chinese Eggs in Plenty Exported for America

The United States imported 25,646,791 pounds of dried and frozen eggs from China for the calendar year 1920, it was announced at the Department of Commerce yesterday.

The eggs had a value of \$5,093,135. A large amount of American capital is invested in the refrigerating plants in China.

Realism: A school of literature that cuts out the rotten spots and throws away the rest of the apple.



City's Customs Toll What the Nation is Thinking

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Horoscope For Today

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 1921.
 Astrologers read this as a doubtful day, although friendly stars dominate. Mars and Mercury are in benefic aspect, while Saturn and Neptune are adverse.

Editors and writers should benefit greatly from this rule, which seems to indicate increase of influence and many honors.

Mercury promises not only political favors but international fame to men and women who belong to the profession of journalism.

Advertising and publicity should be especially effective while this configuration prevails.

Mars is in a place that is favorable to all deliberations concerning military affairs, which will come much to the front before the autumn. While disarmament is widely discussed there will be reasons for strengthening the army, if the stars are read aright.

The situation of Mercury, which governs the United States in opposition to the Moon, seems to give warning of difficulties with other nations.

Both political and labor dissensions will occur during the summer, when there is likely to be much agitation concerning industrial problems.

Strikes may be numerous later and it is prophesied that a famous old labor leader will be retired to be succeeded by a radical.

Personal danger threatens more than one head of government and there may be an assassination in Russia that affects the whole world.

Mexico comes under better conditions that should benefit the United States.

Persons whose birthdate it is should take care of their health in the coming months. The year may be unsettled, but can be made prosperous.

Children born on this day may be rather careless and slow to accept responsibility. These subjects of Aries are on the cusp and should have many good Taurus traits.

Opinions of Other Editors

Balkan Stability.
 (Philadelphia Ledger.)
 One of the pleasing results of the monarchist attempt in Austria-Hungary is the evidence of stability given by the new Balkan States. The peace treaty built up a new tier of Balkan states, consolidating some of the older ones, but all alike stood fast under the dramatic threat of former Emperor Charles. The old powerhouse of Europe, where nationalism, propaganda and old and new hatreds seethe within narrow boundaries, was expected to explode like a shell-hit ammunition dump. The Magyar hates the German, the Rumanian and the Slav; the Slav hates the Magyar and the Rumanian, and the Rumanian hates them all. The balance in the Balkans is hardly two years old. It is delicate beyond telling, but delicate as it is, it held. Even the Greek adventure in Asia Minor, coincident with the monarchist effort in Austria-Hungary, has failed to shake it thus far.

(Boston Transcript.)
 In its ultimatum to Hungary warning against the return of former Emperor Charles to the Budapest throne, the little entente reveals itself as by far the strongest combination on the political stage of Southeastern Europe. Rumania, Jugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia have thus taken the position once held in equal measure by Austria-Hungary and Russia as the predominant influence in Southeastern Europe. No other group of the so-called lesser powers can at present offset the strength of the "Little Entente." Nor is it likely that any combination would care to overthrow what has become the chief stabilizing agency in the most troubled quarter of Europe.

Hungary is a kingdom, but it is not yet ready for a king—certainly not for its former king. A few nobles seem to have encouraged Charles in his venture, but his passage through Austria alarmed the few loyal legitimists who were allowed to learn of it, and the Bishop upon whom he called first after crossing the Hungarian border telegraphed to the premier that "a great misfortune has occurred." The premier, Count Tisza, tried to persuade Charles to give it up, but the former king insisted on going to Budapest. There he seems to have sat on a bench in his own palace until Admiral Horthy, the regent, got ready to see him; and Horthy's advice was the same as Tisza's—to go back to Switzerland if the Swiss would let him in. The return of Charles with all his traditions would certainly convince Czechoslovaks and Jugoslavs and Rumanians—and, more important, Italians—that intrigue for the restoration of the old Dual Monarchy was beginning; that Budapest was a roadhouse on the way to Vienna. And that danger is well understood by the Hungarian government.

Graves Will Speak at City Club Luncheon

The City Club will go back to its plan of weekly noontime forum luncheons, beginning tomorrow. The forum meeting, scheduled for tomorrow night and to be addressed by John Temple Graves, noted journalist and orator, will be shifted to 12:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon at the clubhouse, Farragut Square. Mr. Graves' subject will be "Some Phases of Citizenship in the Capital City of the World."

John Walsh, chairman of the civics and forum committee, will preside at the luncheon tomorrow.

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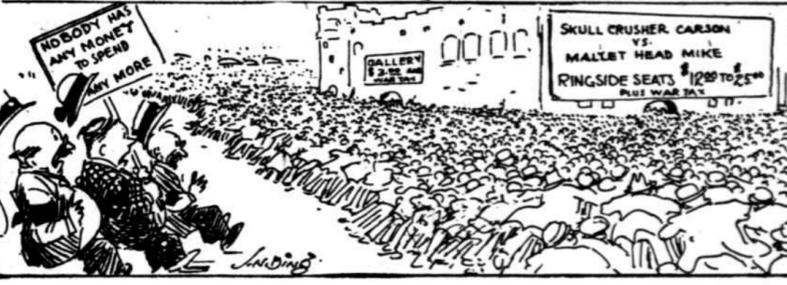
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Moral: It isn't the Public That Has Quit Spending So Much as It Is Business That Has Quit Selling.—By Darling.



Horoscope For Today
 What the Stars Indicate

Opinions of Other Editors
 Brief Comment From Leading Newspapers Throughout Nation

Open Court Letters to The Herald
 Other Folks' Views on Topics of Current Interest

LAUDS SALVATION ARMY.
 To the Editor, The Washington Herald:
 It seems too bad that many who want to hear Miss Booth speak could not get in and went away disappointed. It was beautiful, the history of the Salvation Army, told as a romance and as a story. One man, degraded, beaten and broken in the battle of life was converted in the London slums. God revealed Himself to the lost soul and he told the story of his salvation.

The first of the army who came to this country was one woman and her little girl. They looked everywhere but found no place for headquarters until one day they discovered an old barn which was not being used. The little daughter said, "if we could only rent this mother, how nice it would be for Jesus was born in a manger in a barn.

"They found the owner who said, "Freeposters and who are you?" and the little one said, "We are the Salvation Army." The next question was "How many are you?" and she said, "Me and my mother," and again she exclaimed in derision, "How could you ever pay the rent?"

And she said, "We can't, God will look after that." The man was silenced and the Salvation Army work in this country was born in a stable.

Out of that old barn has come the thousands of troops all over this country who are looking after God's needy ones. The drum still calls and the lamp posts are the center of the whole business and the literature of the Army is read in every land and in every tongue. From just a few pennies on the drum, the Army has come to have schools where there are none, hospitals for mothers and babies, maternity homes for girls who have been bruised in the struggle of life, milk and ice stations for babies and little children, homes for the aged and hotels for those who have no means to pay the price for shelter anywhere else.

JEAN PALMER, N.Y.
 Hotel Powhatan, Washington, D.C.

OBJECTS TO CLIMBING.
 To the Editor, The Washington Herald:
 Incredible as it may seem, the Harding administration is inflicting new agonies upon the Democrats by refusing them the use of the elevator in the Washington Monument, thus compelling them to strain their comparatively unused muscles and ligaments by ascending and descending under their own power. I can vouch for the truth of the statement, as I was myself a victim of this Finnish policy only this week. The situation ought to be widely advertised. It cannot be possible that public opinion would support this cruelty.

Yours truly,
 M. ALDRICH.

N. B.—The attendant made the lame excuse that the elevator was "being overhauled."
 Washington, April 14.

Fraternity Is to Reward Earnest Student Workers
 Gamma Eta chapter of Delta Tau Delta, nationally at George Washington University will award a gold medal each June to that student who performs the most meritorious service during the preceding two years for student activities.

The fraternity's offer has been accepted by William Miller Collier, president of the university.

The Herald Scientific Store and Comment
 Calendar of Meetings, Association of Scientists in Washington

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 1921.
 Anthropological Society of Washington, National Museum, today, 4:45 p. m. "The Indians of the Yosemite Region, California," by Dr. C. Hart Merriam. Annual election of officers.

Columbia Historical Society, Commemorative Session
 "Rambles about Washington," illustrated by Clarence A. Phillips. Spring Bird Study Class of the Audubon Society, Thomson School Community Center, 4:45 p. m.

American Geophysical Union, annual meeting, Section meetings
 to be held at the National Research Council, 2 p. m., meteorology. At National Research Council, 5 p. m., geodesy.

COMET PONS WINNECKE SIGHTED ON WAY TO EARTH.
 Pons Winnecke, the comet that will probably give the earth a shower of meteors on June 26 when its path will come very near that of the earth, has been "captured" by the most massive planet, Jupiter, and is one of its family of nineteen periodic comets. Every 5.5 years Pons Winnecke has been coming near the earth, but the approach that is just beginning is one of the closest yet.

This comet is named after its two discoverers, Pons and Winnecke. On January 12, 1819, Pons located it and assigned it a short period, but during the next six returns it was not located. Winnecke then rediscovered it in 1858, on March 5. Three of its ten returns since then have been missed.

Astronomers have not yet been able to tell whether or not the comet will be visible to the naked eye during this return.

WORLD CONFERENCE TO STUDY ATOM STRUCTURE.
 The question of what goes on inside of an atom is to be discussed at a special conference of physicists which the Solvay International Institute at Brussels this month. Prof. R. A. Millikan, of the University of Chicago and vice chairman of the National Research Council, has been invited to go to Brussels to preside. It is the first time that a representative of American science, Prof. Millikan devised a new method for catching and counting the individual electrons, which weigh less than a thousandth part of the hydrogen atom, and are expelled from radium with almost the speed of light.

WRECK AN ILLUSION? WERE THE ANCIENTS RIGHT?
 "Is progress an illusion?" was the question raised in his paper at the last meeting of the Society for Philosophical Inquiry.

The idea that progress is a theory which as Prof. Burgis, of Cambridge, says "invokes a synthesis of the past and prophecy of the future," is modern," he declared. "The ancient thinkers of Greece and Rome, such as Plato and Seneca, did not regard man as slowly advancing in a definite and desirable direction or infer that this progress would continue indefinitely and that a condition of general happiness will ultimately be enjoyed.

"They looked back to a Golden Age in the past, since when men had been slowly degenerating. The Christian Church of the Middle Ages with its doctrine of total depravity and its view of the future, had no place for the modern ideal.

"The great war has disillusioned us with regard to some things, and makes pertinent a re-examination of this question. Can we, on the prior grounds or on a careful study of history, believe in this indefinite progress towards universal peace and happiness? May not such a thing as a period of nature makes him unfit for such progress. He is a creature of opposing elements and forces. In his individual life there is a period of growth followed by a period of decline. Is it not reasonable to presume, at least, that which will always be the case in his larger social and corporate history? The most curious review of the past shows great advances in the human march of civilization, followed by periods of decline.

"Material gains do not show real progress. Men are more comfortable in their ways of living; their work is easier; their brains are sharper; they are probably becoming braver. They will be better animals in the future, but will they know more of literature, of art, will they be happier, will they attain unimagined heights? To all these questions experience suggests a negative. There is more knowledge in the world today than ever before, but it is in the minds of the few. It benefits the practical applications; but it does not increase their brain power. The intellectual level is getting lower, and the art of thinking is almost a lost science. The world is becoming more mechanical, which will render life gradually less interesting.

"In morals we are deteriorating, as is evident to every one. While our amusements are being multiplied, our primary center is being shifted instead of increasing it. Our material and mechanical civilization is unfavorable to individual 'fluffy' happiness is of the affections and all ways are not changed human nature. Its horrors will soon be forgotten. There will always be occasions and causes for war. Perhaps the last war of all will be only a prelude to a more general world, or at least our civilization. There may come a day when at the hour when Macaulay's New Zealanders is sketching the ruins of St. Paul's a mild-mannered Mongolian is sketching the ruins of the United States Capitol."

Sweet clover cured in the sun contains more protein than that cured in the shade.

Waste molasses forms an effective fertilizer for young sugar cane.