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The Ship Protects the Passengers.

The second German note to the United States on the Lusitania affair, after suggesting that Americans may travel at sea in safety by using American vessels carrying no contraband of war and, if they do not afford sufficient carrying capacity, four designated enemy passenger ships flying the flag of this country, says:

"The imperial government believes it can assume that in this manner adequate facilities for travel across the Atlantic ocean can be afforded American citizens. There would, therefore, appear to be no compelling necessity for American citizens to travel to Europe in time or war on ships carrying an enemy flag. In particular, the imperial government is unable to admit that American citizens can protect an enemy ship through the mere fact of their presence on board."

The United States has never asserted or claimed that American citizens afford protection to an enemy ship. It has, on the contrary, taken the position that the ship, whatever its flag, protects its passengers, of whatever nationality. It has claimed that no hostile power has the right to sink a non-combatant vessel without giving an ample opportunity for the rescue of its passengers, even if the ship contains contraband. It does not deny to Germany the right of search or the right to destroy a ship containing contraband provided it is impossible to convoy her as a prize to a German port. Inasmuch as it is thus impossible in submarine warfare to preserve a vessel intact when seized it follows that under the American contention a submarine commander must, upon overhauling a contraband carrier, give abundant opportunity for the ship's company to escape before sending her to the bottom.

On this point, which is the essential of the American demands, Germany is now silent save that it is suggested that the submarine that sank the Lusitania would have been herself destroyed if she had allowed the passengers and crew of the liner to take to the boats before firing a torpedo—a suggestion not justified by the known facts—and that if it had not been for certain "peculiar circumstances," especially the presence on board of explosives, the Lusitania would have remained afloat after being struck long enough to permit her company to take to small boats. In other words, Germany claims the right to torpedo on sight any vessel suspected—not positively known—to carry contraband and to leave the passengers and crew to their fate. This is precisely contrary to the American view, as stated in the notes heretofore sent to Germany—that the ship protects the passengers, until it is necessary for them to leave her, on discovery of the presence of contraband on board, and that they must then be given the protection of an opportunity to escape before the ship is sunk.

In this second note Germany in effect claims the right to sink on sight any enemy passenger ship or any American ship carrying contraband without warning—the right, in short, to destroy innocent lives by wholesale, a right which the United States has not conceded and which it cannot concede without a complete withdrawal from the position it so strongly took in the first stage of the negotiations.

Such is the mollifying influence of time that the Lusitania may now be included in a diplomatic reference to "impairment of American interests."

Some of the Turkish troops are inclined to adopt the sultan's personal policy of masterly inactivity.

Russia Upsets the German Plan.

Russia's return to an offensive policy in the field after successive defeats and retreats is a repetition of earlier performances in this war. The Muscovite army has demonstrated a remarkable resiliency, just as the German army has had the great advantage of mobility. Russia's forces in Galicia were whipped back from position after position won earlier in the war, and Berlin hailed the achievements of the Teuton armies as marking the early end of the serious Russian menace to the German or Austrian territory. London and Paris, though slow to show apprehension, at length began to exhibit extreme nervousness lest their eastern ally had in truth been dealt a permanently crippling blow, leaving Germany free to swing to the west with a vast force to break a way through to Calais and perhaps to crumple up the French line in the center.

Now the Russians have turned once again and are delivering smashing blows south of Warsaw. Is it because fresh troops have been brought up from the seemingly inexhaustible reserves in the interior, or has the supply of munitions, lately so scanty, been replenished? The indications are that both have happened.

Germany's problem in the east is a serious one. To relieve herself from the menace of invasion she must either destroy the present Russian armies and the Russian power to create new ones, or she must press the fighting line far back from the frontiers, not merely a score or so of miles, but even one to two hundred, and there intrench with a relatively small force to hold the czar's troops at bay while she concentrates on the western front. But the farther into Russia she presses this line of defense against Russian invasion the longer it becomes and the more troops are needed to man it. Such a line to be a safeguard cannot be near enough to the frontier to open the way to an entry upon German soil after a single break made in it by a concentrated Russian force. There must be room for retrograde fighting to give time to bring up reinforcements. To be secure from the Russian menace, in short, Germany must carry the war far from the boundary and hold the line with an army, it has been estimated, of at least two million men.

Russia's return of strength, sufficient to check the eastward drive of the Teutons, is therefore a grave disappointment to the German plan to rush the line beyond Warsaw in season to concentrate a great force in France before the advent of winter. Ammunition, it is reported, is now reaching the Russian front through Archangel, and already German submarines are seeking to cut off this supply. If, as further reported, Russia is now getting munitions from Japan by way of the Siberian railway the German submarines will not be effective in checking this source of supply. It is of the most vital consequence to Germany at this stage of the war to shut off Russian resources, else her campaign in the east fails of effect.

Texas.

Texas is discussing the question of a successor to Senator Culberson, whose term expires in March, 1917. He is himself mentioned, but as his health has not been robust for several years there is a feeling in the state that he may decide not to offer for another term.

The occasion is appropriate for the statement that until his health failed Mr. Culberson was one of the most active and useful members of the Senate. A sound lawyer and strong debater, he was conspicuous both on the floor of the chamber and in committee work. So prominent had he become, indeed, that in the speculation about a democratic candidate for President in 1908, before Mr. Bryan showed his ability again to control his party in that matter, Mr. Culberson was the subject of a good deal of eulogy by those who considered him of presidential size.

The Lone Star state has been a prominent factor in Congress for a long time. In the House Mr. Mills as his party's leader prepared and passed a tariff bill through that body. He narrowly missed the speakership. Mr. Sayers served as chairman of the appropriations committee, and Mr. Culberson, father of the senator, as chairman of the judiciary committee. And Mr. Henry and Mr. Burleson have, more recently, played influential parts in House affairs.

In the Senate, Mr. Reagan, Mr. Mills, Mr. Bailey and Mr. Culberson have appeared to much advantage in the past thirty years. All but Mr. Culberson had come over from the House, and therefore began with national reputations. Mr. Mills and Mr. Bailey were orators of power; and when the latter retired of his own accord from office his party lost its ablest speaker in the Senate.

With this record, Texas is expected to solve her present problem with credit to herself. Noblesse oblige. She is one of the greatest of the states, and destined to hold her own in future developments. And, what is more, she is likely to hold together. No longer anywhere is heard talk about a division of her wide empire into several states. With the growth of population and wealth, aided by the railroads and the improved water courses, has been a growth of state pride and a realization of state opportunities, until a suggestion of carving up the commonwealth would now be censured as an evidence of disloyalty.

Fortunately, the state has good senatorial material, and her choice, whether Mr. Culberson again or another, is likely to reflect credit on her.

It is unfortunate that the psychologists who enjoyed the acquaintance of Holt did not take his measure early enough to have him placed under surveillance.

It may require even more study to understand the rules of ocean travel than it takes to become familiar with all the traffic regulations of a great city.

The big crops which greet the American farmer enable the innocent bystander for once to come into his reward.

The War Burdens of Neutrals.

From the outset of the war Switzerland has suffered sorely from the hostilities of its neighbors, in whose quarrels it has had no part. It was compelled at the first shots to arm itself to safeguard its frontiers, and has almost from the first day of conflict maintained a large and thoroughly equipped army for this purpose. Meanwhile its business of entertaining tourists, virtually its sole money-making enterprise, has been ruined. Travelers have gone to the Swiss Alps only by the score, whereas in peaceful times they went by the thousand. A heavy burden has also been laid on the Swiss people in the care of large numbers of penniless refugees who have fled from the war zone into the haven of Alpine tranquillity. It is not surprising, therefore, that Switzerland, heretofore one of the most prosperous of countries, should now find it necessary to issue bonds to the extent of $20,000,000 to pay for the cost of mobilization. There is no provision in international law for the indemnification of countries like Switzerland that suffer from wars and their consequences, but it would assuredly be a measure of justice if in the final adjustments of peace the heavy burdens that have been laid upon the small non-combatant states by the great conflict were in some degree lightened by the assumption by the belligerent powers responsible for the cataclysm of at least a portion of the "war debts" necessarily incurred by the neutral states.

Nations at war, while rejecting any idea of intermediation for peace, have no hesitancy in seeking to burden the United States government with the embarrassments that attach to an umpire.

Public interests might be served if the government kept as close a watch on the distribution of dynamite as it keeps on the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages.

Committees who negotiate with Mr. Bryan for an oration go a little too far in the direction of professionalism when they insist on a preliminary try-out performance.

Even though she did not persuade the kaiser to stop the war, an admiring public will credit Miss Jane Addams with having done her best.

Nobody in Mexico has any idea of peace except the kind which is to be attained by putting an opponent out of business.

The temperate phraseology employed by von Jagow should serve as a model for some of the Berlin editors.

If submarines cannot conform to the old rules of warfare, the rules must conform to the submarines.

Exact information is scarce as to what Huerta would do if he succeeded in getting into Mexico.

Mexico is still waiting for some political leader who will adopt the full dinner pail slogan.

A radio plant is not credited showing diplomatic deliberation in transmitting reports.

Neutrality means peace that does not necessarily include peace of mind.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

A Disadvantage.

"Truth," said the ready-made philosopher, "is stranger than fiction."

"Yes," replied the cynic; "but it suffers under the disadvantage of seldom being so well expressed."

The Essential "Don't."

"Let me give you a few 'don'ts' for summer," said the solicitous friend.

"Much obliged; but I can't consider 'em. I've joined a Don't Worry Club."

Ocean Talk.

"What are the wild waves saying?"
Nobody cares today.
But for news we are delaying
Of what Sayville has to say.

Unsympathetic.

"Ever since I bought dat mule f'um you all's pa," said Mr. Erastus Pinkley, "he's been tryin' to kick me."

"Well," replied Miss Miami Brown, "pa allus did say dat mule were a powerful good jedge o' human nature."

The Art of Oratory.

"Did your speech change anybody's mind?"

"I wasn't hoping to change anybody's mind," answered Senator Sorghum. "I tried to find out what the majority of the voters thought and then convince them that I was with them."

Altogether Different.

They bid us laugh at trouble and to
chase dull care away,
For trouble will grow greater if you
nurse it day by day.
But I couldn't laugh at trouble and
I couldn't banish care
When fate turned out a grievance as
my own especial share.
I've smiled at the material for customary glee;
The cook who burned the biscuit
seemed a mirthful sprite to me.
The small boy with a stomach ache
—how he has made me grin;
How I've chuckled at the teacher
who sat down upon a pin.
But when the biscuit that was burned at breakfast met my gaze,
My feelings sought expression in a
dozen different ways.
The small boy with the pain, when
once I met him face to face,
Evoked my sympathy and left of
laughter not a trace.
Of joy the situation showed a most
convincing lack
When I sustained a puncture by a
pin or by a tack.
That smiles will banish sorrow all
philosophy has shown;
But it's hard to laugh at trouble if
the trouble is your own.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Roads in the National Parks. One of the newest chapters in the winning of the west is the opening up of the national parks. Though these national beauty spots have been visited for years by thousands of sightseers, officials of the Interior Department who are in charge of the parks have long realized that in some of them it has been possible to gain only the most superficial idea of the wealth of beauty and grandeur that they hold.

The solution of the problem of making the scenery more accessible has all along been recognized to be roads—properly planned and constructed roads that will develop the latent scenic values of the west in something like the efficient way in which little Switzerland has developed her scenery. It has so far been seemingly impossible, however, to secure appropriations from Congress for building needed roads in some of the parks.

In spite of lack of federal funds, however, correction of what is perhaps the greatest of all the park road deficiencies is being brought about this month in the placing in commission of the Tioga road, sixty-one miles long, through Yosemite National Park.

The highway is being supplied, incidentally, at the very time when it will be of most use. In addition to opening up a great stretch of the park that the average American has hardly known the existence of, it will cut off several hundred miles from the motor route between the eastern part of the country and San Francisco, and will be ready for use in midsummer when the Panama-Pacific exposition is bringing about what will probably be the most extensive transcontinental automobile travel that America has ever witnessed.

The opening of the road is the result of a rather complicated co-operation. It was privately built before Yosemite became a park, to exploit a mine which proved worthless. When the park was dedicated to public use the owners of the road refused to sell it at a figure the government thought reasonable. It was neglected and gradually deteriorated.

Seeing the great need for the opening of the road, Stephen T. Mather, Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior, set to work on both ends of the problem and succeeded in finding public-spirited citizens willing to present the road to the nation and in obtaining Congress' specially enacted acceptance of the gift. The Interior Department's share in the co-operation is in the work of resurfacing the road that is now going on with funds available for the purpose.

Something of the importance of the new road to the park can be realized when it is recalled that while the far-famed Yosemite valley has an area of less than ten square miles the Yosemite National Park, in which it lies, covers more than 1,124 square miles. All roads have heretofore led to the wonderful valley and out again. The grandeur of the great towering cliffs that wall in the valley has hidden the existence of the vast scenic expanse that lies beyond, and only the seasoned mountain climber and the explorer have known that there exists some of the most beautiful scenery on the continent.

The Tioga road lies to the north of the valley and from 4,000 to 5,000 feet above its floor. It will open up in itself a considerable part of the hitherto hidden beauties of the Yosemite, and will serve in addition as a base road from which others may in the future be pushed farther and farther into the wonderland to the north.

* * *

Booming the Reclaimed Lands. The pilgrimages of sightseers to the Panama-Pacific exposition are being turned to good account by the reclamation service, according to reports from C. J. Blanchard, statistician, who is in charge of the reclamation service exhibits in San Francisco. Already a number of exhibition visitors, after seeing the exhibits and hearing lectures on life on the reclaimed lands, have arranged their homeward trips so as to provide stopovers at one or more of the service projects; and some of these prospectors, after examining conditions on the ground, have determined to become project settlers and have filed claims. The attempt is being made, as in all the publicity work of the service, especially to interest actual farmers.

Mr. Blanchard, after recent observations in the field, reports that with more conservative methods of publicity than in use formerly, the "boom" element in the development of the irrigation projects has largely ceased to give trouble, and that there is a gratifying increase in the number of transfers. Of the changed conditions Mr. Blanchard says:

"The old hip-hip-hurrah method of exploiting a district is no longer popular and has passed out with the glib-tongued shark who sold alkali land to widows or Johnson grass farms to Hoosier suckers. The truth about the farm properties on the irrigation projects, coupled with right prices, will sell the land to real farmers. We have never needed the speculator, and his advent and continued stay on any project are detrimental."

There is little wonder that the exposition exhibits of the service have aroused interest, according to government employes who have seen them. In one exhibit, for instance, through the windows of a typical western bungalow erected in one of the exposition buildings, the visitor looks out on a faithful model of one of the most scenically striking of the projects, with what amounts to a bird's-eye view of fifty square miles of mountain-rimmed desert valley, with the reclaimed area and its canals in the foreground, and the huge dam and its reservoir in the distance. Electric lighting effects have been so cleverly arranged that in the space of a few moments the observer can be shown how the valley appears under the varying lights and shadows of sunrise, noontide and twilight.

Among the other features of the reclamation service exhibits, which cover altogether about 1,000 square feet of space, are electrically lighted colored transparencies of views on all the irrigation projects, hundreds of mounted photographs, an automatic lantern slide display that is constantly in progress, a working model of a forty-acre irrigated farm on which the methods of applying water may be demonstrated, and models of various pieces of irrigation equipment. In addition daily lectures are given on the activities of the service, illustrated with motion pictures and lantern slides.

* * *

Fighting Infant Mortality. What cities can do to save the lives of hundreds of infants and what they can leave undone to perpetuate and increase the abnormally high death rates of babies is beginning to emerge from the intensive infant mortality studies in typical towns that are being made by the federal children's bureau.

The information gathered in the second study, which has just been made public, offers the first opportunity for comparison of conditions and death rates in radically different communities—a residential town and an industrial city. The recent study was in Montclair, N. J., one of the most desirable of New York city's residential suburbs; and the first study was in Johnstown, Pa., a city in which steel mills and mines furnish employment to thousands of low-wage employes.

The respective death rates for babies were found to be pretty much what the layman would expect. In Johnstown 134 babies of each 1,000 died during their first year, while in Montclair the infant death toll was 84.6 per thousand.

The effect of environment on infant mortality is found to be still more marked when both reports are analyzed. Thus in the most congested and insanitary portion of Johnstown the infant death rate reached 271, it was found, while in the section of the best and cleanest homes the rate was only 50. The same sensitiveness to local conditions was shown in Montclair, though on a higher plane, due to better general conditions. There the infant mortality rate was 130 in the only congested section, and only 39.5 in the best residential district.

Of great interest to the officials of the children's bureau is the fact that following the establishment of a baby clinic in the congested fourth ward of Montclair the year after the study the infant mortality rate there was lower than for two other wards, and in the next year was lower than the average for the entire town. This shows, it is felt, the truth of what workers of the child welfare agencies have constantly asserted—that the expenditure of a few dollars on educational and sanitary work among mothers will bring returns out of all proportion in the saving of human lives.

The close study of the effect of various factors on infant mortality even in a few communities has given the officials of the children's bureau a knowledge of some of the important things a city may do to help save the lives of its babies. Among such activities are listed the extension of city water to all houses, the improvement of methods of sewage disposal, garbage collection and general scavenging, the paving of streets and inhabited alleys, the relief of house and lot congestion, the abolition of wells and yard privies, the widening and improved grading of alleys and streets, the provision of sewer connections for all houses, and, in industrial centers, the abatement of the smoke nuisance.

The responsibility of the public does not end with the accomplishment of these improvements, however, it is pointed out by Miss Julia Lathrop, chief of the children's bureau.

"There is a growing tendency on the part of municipalities," she says, "to accept responsibility for furnishing information and instruction to their citizens. Some cities have reduced their infant mortality rate by having expectant mothers instructed in prenatal care; others by sending instructive visiting nurses, immediately after the birth of a child, into homes that need them. Other means that have been found effective in reducing excessive infant mortality rates are baby welfare stations, consultation stations for expectant and nursing mothers, and the distribution of sound literature on prenatal care, the care and feeding of infants, the care of milk and other hygienic matters."

The growing recognition of the importance of work of this sort is reflected, it is felt, not only in gains such as those found in the fourth ward in Montclair, but in the showing for such countries as New Zealand, where social legislation and child welfare activities have been most marked, and where the infant death rate per thousand has been reduced to the lowest record for a country in the world—51. In 1910 the rate for the registration area of the United States was practically two-and-a-half times this figure, 124, and for the whole country probably was considerably higher.

* * *

Devices to Reduce Mining Perils. Electricity, which has proved such a boon to most branches of modern industry, has had its undoubted usefulness in mining operations tempered by the fact that it has caused many deaths among the miners, both through shock and through the ignition of explosive gases by sparks and flashes. The bureau of mines, in the work to promote mine safety, in which it has been steadily engaged since its creation in 1910, has recently been making a special study of electrical problems. It has succeeded in formulating specifications for electric motors and accessories and electric lamps that when followed will insure the production of equipment practically free from danger.

The bureau has no authority to enforce the use of apparatus of a particular type, but it has found a weapon in modern business organization and advertising that is highly effective. The method adopted is to make tests of equipment, and to list that which is safe as "permissible," the government's sanction being indicated by a plate bearing the official seal of the bureau attached to the larger pieces of apparatus. Manufacturers who receive the government's approval of their wares advertise the fact widely, and mine operators and miners working in dangerous mines are beginning to demand the use of "permissible" equipment only.

The greatest danger in the use of electricity in mines is from explosions. Practically all electrical motors and accessories in ordinary use above ground give off sparks at some point at times. In gaseous mines such a condition might result in the loss of hundreds of lives. The bureau therefore demands that permissible motors shall have all dangerous parts inclosed in chambers that keep sparks in and are strong enough to withstand interior explosions in case gas finds its way into the machinery. The motors are placed in metal boxes or rooms filled with highly explosive gas, and are rigidly tested as to their behavior under the most dangerous conditions before being listed as permissible.

Many tests of electric hand-lamps and cap-lamps for use by miners have also been made recently in the laboratories of the bureau. The officials and experts of the bureau are desirous of bringing about general use of such lights to replace the open flame, and in large part the safety-flame lamps which give much less light and at the same time may cause explosions.

All permissible electric mine lamps are equipped with safety devices which automatically break the electrical connections the instant the bulb is broken, thus preventing the ignition of gas by the glowing filaments. In testing the lamps, numerous attempts are made to break and jam the safety devices in gas-filled chambers before the lamps are listed as permissible.

Before taking up the electrical studies the bureau's experts attacked the problem of producing safer explosives and worked out formulas for permissible explosives for coal mines. More recently formulas for such explosives for metal mines and quarries have been promulgated. These are coming into general use, and will effect a considerable saving of life, it is believed.

The need for the safety work of the bureau is shown by the fact that in coal mines alone more than 2,000 men are killed each year. In 1913 the number was 2,785, and in 1914 2,451. It is believed that the educational work of the bureau of mines, its introduction of safer methods and its rescue work by means of its eight mine rescue cars were important factors in bringing about this reduction, and that such work will make itself felt more and more in the future.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN THE STAR

The findings of the military court in the conspiracy cases were reported July 5, 1865, and were immediately approved by President Johnson.

Conspirators Sentenced. Of the eight defendants four—Lewis Payne, George A. Atzerodt, David E. Herold and Mrs. Mary E. Surratt—were found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. Michael O'Laughlin, Edward Spangler, Samuel Arnold and Samuel A. Mudd were found guilty, in part, in aiding the escape of the actual assassins, and sentenced to imprisonment—Mudd, Arnold and O'Laughlin for life and Spangler for six years. The President ordered the execution of the four who were condemned Friday, July 7, 1865, within forty-eight hours of the findings of the court. In The Star of July 6 these findings are printed, together with a news item telling of the announcement of the sentences to the prisoners that day in the penitentiary. In the issue of the next day is a description of the execution, comprising nearly two pages of The Star, perhaps the longest article on a single subject that had up to that time ever appeared in this paper. Details of the reading of the sentences to the prisoners were given more fully than on the day before, as follows:

* * *

"The sentences of those to be executed were made known to them about 12 o'clock yesterday, Maj.

Prisoners Notified. Gen. Hartranft performing the duty imposed upon him in as delicate and humane a manner as possible. Maj. Gen. Hancock accompanied Gen. Hartranft, and they first of all visited the cell of Lewis Powell Payne. Payne showed no perturbation and took the announcement as if he fully expected it. He spoke to Gens. Hancock and Hartranft, stating that he had been much better treated than he had expected—better, he thought, than he would if he had been in the custody of the civil authorities. He also stated that he had thought much over the conspiracy plot, and that, although he at first believed that he was doing nothing but his duty, he was now satisfied that he had done wrong and expressed his sorrow. He was actuated in the part he took by motives of revenge for the wrongs he thought had been committed upon Confederates falling into our hands.

"The cell of George A. Atzerodt was next visited, and on the sentence being announced he showed great nervousness, his face turning an ashy hue and his lips and hands quivering. He immediately expressed a desire to see some of his friends. Only one visitor besides Marshal McPhail had seen him since he was in prison, and that one his brother. He asked for a minister.

"David E. Herold was next informed of his doom, when he trembled like a leaf. He acknowledged that he was in the plot to abduct the President, having got into it through John Surratt. He attended a meeting of the party, at which Booth said he was going to assassinate the President, with which he (Herold) said he would have nothing to do, but would help him to get away, and Booth hired a horse for him to accompany him. He begged that all the members of his family be sent for. He also stated that his sympathies had been with the south, head and heart.

"Mrs. Surratt was next visited, and on the terrible news being broken to her she burst into a violent paroxysm of grief. As soon as she recovered she asked that Rev. Father Walter of St. Patrick's, Rev. Father Wiget, president of Gonzaga College, and Mr. John P. Brophy of the St. Aloysius schools, with her daughter, Miss Anna Surratt, be sent for."

* * *

Naturally, as soon as the sentences were announced desperate efforts were made to save the lives of the condemned ones, especially Mrs. Surratt.

Efforts to Save Condemned. Appeals were made to the President, and Mrs. Surratt's counsel applied to the District Supreme Court for a writ of habeas corpus to stay the execution. The writ was issued and Gen. Hancock refused to obey it, appearing in court at noon in person, accompanied by Attorney General Speed, and stating that the writ was ignored because of its suspension by the government. The court acknowledged this and announced its inability to take further action. The scenes at the White House, where friends and relatives of the condemned people hoped even to the last to secure an audience with the President, were distressing. The Star says:

"About 8:30 o'clock this morning Miss Surratt, accompanied by a female friend, again visited the White House, having been there last evening for the purpose of obtaining an interview with the President. President Johnson having given orders that he would receive no one today, the doorkeeper stopped Miss Surratt at the foot of the steps leading up to the President's office and would not permit her to proceed farther. She then asked permission to see Gen. Mussey, the President's military secretary, who promptly answered the summons and came downstairs where Miss Surratt was standing. As soon as the general made his appearance Miss Surratt threw herself upon her knees before him, and catching him by the coat with loud sobs and streaming eyes implored him to assist her in obtaining a hearing with the President. Gen. Mussey in as tender a manner as possible informed Miss Surratt that he could not possibly comply with her request, as President Johnson's orders were imperative and he would receive no one.

"Upon Gen. Mussey returning to his office Miss Surratt threw herself upon the stair steps, where she remained a considerable length of time sobbing aloud in the greatest anguish, protesting her mother's innocence and imploring every one who came near her to intercede in her mother's behalf. While thus weeping she declared her mother was too good and kind to be guilty of the enormous crime of which she was convicted, and asserted that if her mother was put to death she wished to die also.

"The scene was heartrending, and many of those who witnessed it, including a number of hardy soldiers, were moved to tears. Miss Surratt, having become quieted, gave vent to her feelings in silent tears, and was finally persuaded to take a seat in the east room, where she remained for several hours, jumping up from her seat each time the front door of the mansion opened, evidently in hopes of seeing some one enter who could be of service to her in obtaining the desired interview or that they were bearers of good news to her."

* * *

The wildest rumors prevailed throughout the city during the morning relative to pardons, reprieves

Drop Fell at 1:26. and even attempted rescues, although every approach to the penitentiary was strongly guarded, and every possibility of a rescue had been rendered futile. The court proceedings delayed the execution somewhat, and it was not until 1:15 that the prisoners were taken to the scaffold, and at 1:26 the drop fell and the four unfortunates died.

HUMANITY OF ANCIENT ROME

"Among the many conflicts of ideas," says M. Rene Pichon, "which torment

Agonizing Conflict. the conscience of men of today there are none more grave, more delicate and at certain hours more painfully agonizing than the idea which places in conflict the notions of country and humanity." And M. Pichon adds: "Civic devotion and human fraternity remain two primordial obligations which at times are difficult to conciliate, but which it is still more impossible to sacrifice, the one or the other. This case of conscience so actual is not new."

For a fact, the two questions touched the conscience of the conscientious of ancient Rome, and that these failed to solve the problem is cause that it remains to plague the conscience of the humane and patriotic of today. A glance backward is instructive and may serve in a measure the inspiration of the modern humanitarian, the pacifist, the anti-militarist, the anarchist, all of whom affect to think they have discovered something new, but who are, in fact, the unconscious imitators, perhaps, of their predecessors of ancient Rome.

The Greeks, as well as the Romans, were humanitarians or patriots, according to the individual and the epochs. Agesilaus, King of Sparta (399-361 B. C.), when consulted on the violation of rights of nations in an attack on the citadel of a neutral country and in a time of peace, declared unscrupulously that "it was necessary only to examine if the attack was useful; the moment that an action was useful to the country it was good to attack." And the Athenians, even the intellectuals with a more open spirit and less hardness of heart, were of the same mind. If one consults Thucydides concerning the fate of the Mytilenians who mutinied we may read the argument of the two orators in the debate: Cleon demanded vengeance and Diodote advised amnesty; they were in accord only on one point, namely: Athens had the right to massacre the conquered and that Athens should only ask herself if it was to her advantage to do it. "Do not forget," said Cleon to his fellows, "that you are tyrants. The worst scourges of a domination are pity and clemency." And his adversary, as if he feared to appear too sensitive, made a statement even more brutal: "Even though I acknowledge the mutineers were wrong, I would not punish unless we had interest in doing so; and even if they had pretexts I would not counsel to absolve them unless it were for the good of Athens."

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The Greeks have not ignored the notions which confront us today. In turn Athenians and Spar-

Ancient Greek Philosophy. tans have discussed the questions of humanity and patriotism, more or less accepting the arguments of Cleon and Diodote. The Romans, with their less rational spirit than the Greeks, being more positive and more practical, attempt to conciliate humanity and patriotism. When they find the conciliation difficult they pare a little.

The primitive Romans had no idea that they could have the least obligation toward men of another race, and this was true, in fact, of all Europe. Local egotism was the rule, and there was little or no sentiment of right anywhere, only of force that suppressed right.

The first century of Roman history presents a people of conflict, prey; proud, rapacious, defiant in peace, furious in war, ferocious in expression, tyrannical in government. War was cruel, and all its perfidies were practiced; after the war the right of conquest was exercised.

Cato of old (234-145 B.C.) may be cited in illustration when the Achean hostages asked to be permitted to return to their country in Thessaly. Cato said: "Why deliberate an entire day to learn if a few old men will be buried by Greek gravediggers or by ours?" Frequently the Romans had serious motives to give to the subjugated a relative independence, but it was always from motives of interest. Sentiments of hatred, defiance and disdain for the stranger existed in Rome from the earliest days, and Roman democracy was no more accessible to ideas of humanity than the most primitive oligarchy; it was the party of the people which for the most part favored the military expeditions for conquest.

Ennius, the creator of Latin philosophic literature (239 B.C.), a century and a half before Cicero and Lucrece, manifested remarkable freedom from Roman traditions. Ennius is independent to the point of writing irreverently of religious beliefs and consecrated rites, and openly charged that the gods were simple mortals and the princely hypocrites. His theater was a foyer of free thought. But when it is question of praising Rome and her conflicts the hardy thinker, who was not a Roman born, but a Greek, eulogizes with joy the ancient and primitive days.

Scipio Emilien (146 B.C.), the destroyer of Carthage, was the intimate of Polybius and the disciple of Panetius, the stoic. It was in the society of Terence, the comic poet, that he heard for the first time the celebrated verse and adopted it as a principle, "Homo sum et humani nihil a me alienum puto" (I am a man and nothing that concerns a man is strange to me). But Scipio's idea of humanity does not change his national spirit. He accepts the mission to conquer and destroy Carthage and Numance. If before the burning city he sheds some tears, as tradition pretends, the tears do not put out the fire.

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In a general way, republican Rome up to the period of the civil wars ap-

Rome's One Object. pears as a city perpetually and strongly armed for war; all energies are directed to the unique object—safety of the state. There is no question of humanity, only that of country. The epoch of the civil wars is the saddest of Roman history. These wars were inspired by private interests or by powerful groups. The names of Cicero and Verres constitute the measure and picture of the times. Cicero was the incorruptible, Verres the peculator and the corrupt.

Cicero was statesman and man of letters. On the one hand he is attached to the traditional policy of ancient Rome and on the other the traditional philosophy of Greece. He is neither a pronounced humanitarian nor an exalted patriot. For a fact, Cicero differs from the public man of today but little, except in his extraordinary powers, to which few, if any, attained. Cicero is a time server, and it scarcely matters to ask his opinion about the force of arms which had acquired grandeur for Rome. In his work there are phrases that may serve as texts for the humanitarian, the militarist and the anti-militarist.

It will be borne in mind that Cicero commanded a guard of volunteer solidly armed that aided him to arrest the conspirators of Cataline. Cicero's "Catalinaires," or harangues against Cataline's conspiracy, classed the latter among those who would establish their fortunes on the ruins of their country, and won for Cicero the title of "father of his country."

In truth, from the harangues there may be drawn as many arguments for as against war. But it is justice to Cicero to cite what he has written: "There can be no patriotism without morality; no morality without humanity."

In the time of Augustus Caesar (63 B. C. to 14 A. D.) analogous opinions to those of Cicero prevailed at Rome. The reign of Augustus was, if not the most glorious, at least the most brilliant of Roman history and left traces in the literature of all nations by whom it was known as the "century of Augustus." It was illustrated by Horace, Virgil, Titus-Livy, Sallust, Ovid and many other men of genius, the greater part of whom were patronized by Mecena, the protector of arts and sciences, and by Augustus.

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Virgil expressed himself as having great pride in patriotism and as having a large spirit of hu-

Virgil on Patriotism. manity. The Aenead was given by the Romans the subtitle of "The Exploits of Rome." Virgil declared that if his people were created to command and govern all nations he would recommend them to teach the science of peace. Aeneas, who valiantly fights the Greeks at the siege of Troy, is not a frenzied warrior. He commiserates on occasion the death of his adversaries. That which he achieves by arms he would prefer much to effect by peace; he demands a small place for his gods and when refused he is obliged to have recourse to arms, but victor, he hastens to appeal to his enemies for a reconciliation which will leave them their liberty and their name. Virgil, however, is of his time, which is for war or for peace as the occasion may require.

Titus-Livy is national historian as Virgil is national poet. Titus-Livy has the same hesitations and tacking we have remarked in Cicero, for whom he has great admiration. He says he wishes to see eternized the glory of the people's king, and that the conquered nations could not but incline before the decisions of Rome in history as well as in politics. Titus-Livy, who is very severe on the punic faith, has not a word of blame for the perfidies quite as bad when committed by the Romans: Romulus running off with the Sabine woman, Camilia violating his word given to the Gauls, Scipio burning the enemy's camp by treachery, the rigorous measures taken against Capona are proclaimed praiseworthy from every point.

Taine recognizes that that ardent defender of Rome is accessible to good faith and to pity. For Titus-Livy, as for Cicero and for Virgil, "the real heroes are certainly not those who forget the country for humanity, but it is not those who sacrifice humanity to country; it is those who work for both at the same time."

Tacitus in his rude and concise way would give to all allies the right of city. "The Roman domination is exercised for the advantage of subjects as well as masters. Rome exacts what is just to maintain peace—no tranquillity without an army, no army without money, no money without taxes." These words Tacitus puts in the mouth of Gen. Cerialis before the revolted Trevires. They define the idea which prevailed then of the relations of Rome with the other peoples; an association of duties and interests between the country victorious and the universe conquered.

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It is thus the Roman leaders succeeded in conciliating and confounding the cause of Rome with

Confounding the Causes. that of the world. Already Pliny, the naturalist, with almost religious emotion attributed to Rome a providential and philanthropic mission: "The will of the gods has chosen Italy to join scattered kingdoms, to soften the customs, to bring together by unity of language so many different and savage idioms, to give to men humanity."

Plutarch in many places, and notably in his treatise on "The Fortune of the Romans," develops Pliny's idea: "Rome is the anchor which keeps in port the world beaten by the tempest. Rome is the eternal cement; due to which are agglomerated, discordant elements. Rome is the creative force which has forced order from chaos."

Aelius Aristides, addressing the Emperors Marcus Aurelius and Verus, felicitated them for "having administered the universe as a single and same family so well that the Roman name ceases to be that of a single city to become that of a collectivity."

Rome, indeed, was considered the human race of the universe; frontiers were merely nominal. Behind the Rhine, the Danube and the Euphrates there were races hostile and threatening, the right to conquer which Rome never questioned. The crowd looked upon all these peoples as strangers or enemies—as monsters—and had a constant fear of invasion. When they were beaten and captured and brought to Rome to grace the triumph of some Roman, they were insulted. The cultivated shared the popular prejudices. In this connection Tacitus recites the story of the bloody fray between two Germanic tribes: "Was it the passion to conquer that animated them, or the covetousness of booty? It was rather the goodness of the gods for us, for the gods have not refused us the pleasure of seeing the Germans fight themselves. More than 60,000 barbarians fell, not under our strokes, but that which is better for the joy of our eyes. Ah! May these people continue, if not to love us, at least to hate themselves. Menaced as we are by the destinies of the empire, fortune cannot give us anything better than discord among our enemies."

Nevertheless, Tacitus at times sees the question in its two phases, and for him the enemies of Rome are men as other men, having their qualities and rights, and not execrable adversaries against whom everything is permissible.

Along the march of centuries from Cicero to the present day there is something identical in the principles of the Stoic and the Christian. Cicero, Lucain, Seneca, and that most virtuous of philosophic emperors, Marcus Aurelius, are no less humane and patriotic than Tertullian, Saints Basil, Ambrose, Chrysostom and Augustine, whose Christianity is a reflex of the morals of Cicero. There is the same conflict, the same effort to conciliate the duties of humanity with those of patriotism. Jaures, the modern socialist, was no less puzzled than Cicero to find the medium between humanity and patriotism.

CH. CHAILLE-LONG.

INDEPENDENCE DAY THOUGHTS.

From the Omaha Bee.
Safe and sane is by comparison, which means there always will be room for safer and saner.

From the Philadelphia North American.
Nineteen persons were killed in the United States by July 4 mishaps. They'll soon have the day so safe and sane that the death list will be just about equal to regular Sunday toll of drown-

From the Council Bluffs Nonpareil.
Our Fourth of July celebrations are not as sane yet as we would like to have them, but they are improving.

From the Birmingham News.
Celebrating the Fourth on the fifth doesn't make a fellow feel any better on the sixth.

ings and auto accidents.

From the Charleston News and Courier.
The casualty lists of this year's Fourth indicate a discouraging relapse from sanity.

From the Topeka State Journal.
In addition to being noiseless and safe and sane, the Kansas Fourth of July was also gloriously cool.

From the Buffalo Express.
How can there be a safe and sane Fourth when the President of the United States sets off fireworks to amuse his grandson?

SHELLING PEAS.

When summer mornings scorch
She hunts a vagrant breeze
And sits upon the porch
Demurely shelling peas.

A quick result it brings,
The method always tells,
Some other green young things
Pop also from their shells.

Some Early June may be,
And some are marrowfat,
Some wrinkled she will see,
But troubles not thereat.

She gathers in a peck
With practised grace and ease,
Ah, little do they reck
She shells both men and peas.
—McLandburgh Wilson, in New York Sun.

THE BOMB AND PISTOL MAN.

From the Cleveland Leader.
At least there is no definite apprehension that the late Mr. Holt had arranged to pull the plug out of the bottom of the Atlantic.

From the Knoxville Journal and Tribune.
Holt proclaimed himself a "Christian gentleman," but he was not one of the golden rule variety.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.
Holt's trunkful of dynamite suggests an inquiry into the possibilities of buying the deadly article without suspicion or restraint.

From the Concord Evening Monitor.
So far, Holt, the Morgan assailant, has not been identified as a Boston and Maine railroad stockholder.

From the Chattanooga Times.
Frank Holt described himself to the police as being a "Christian gentleman," which, for the credit of his profession, ought to have been revised before being sent out with the prefix "crazy." Any "Christian gentleman" ought to be crazy to do what Holt did.

From the Utica Observer.
Holt, being responsible for two crimes of the same general character, committed closely together, saves the necessity of one detection. A very considerate lunatic, indeed.

From the Chicago Herald.
It seems to be fairly easy to keep everybody from getting hold of explosives except men like Holt who want to use them for criminal purposes.

From the Philadelphia Record.
This man Muenter-Holt was a complete explosive trust in himself.