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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1920.

That Absolutely Compelling Moral Obligation Again.

In discussing THE NEW YORK HERALD'S remarks on the proposed reservation submitted by Senator HITCHCOCK to Mr. Wilson in January last...

On the eve of the vote in the Senate which killed the Wilson Covenant and recorded the continued existence of the United States Constitution...

That the advice mentioned in Article X of the Covenant of the League which the Council may give to the member nations...

MacSwiney. Three months ago nobody on this side of the Atlantic had heard of TERENCE MACSWINEY.

As most people now understand, the academic recognition of Congress's exclusive authority to declare or to refuse to declare war...

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means so destitute of spine as poor HITCHCOCK'S original resolution of last November, that the President said: "Any reservation or resolution stating that the United States assumes no obligation under such and such an article unless or except" would, I am sure, chill our relationship with the nations with which we expect to be associated in the great enterprise of maintaining the world's peace.

THE NEW YORK HERALD has made no mistake, as the Times hastily alleges, about either the chronology or the true lawfulness of Mr. WILSON'S insistence. But what distortion of judgment or what paralysis of the powers of measurement leads our neighbor to the conclusion that those purely interpretative "reservations" (so called) offered by Mr. HITCHCOCK last November, to the satisfaction of Mr. Wilson but to the derision of the right minded and patriotic, "met every objection sincerely urged by Republican critics"?

That statement is as astonishing as the Times's announcement, on the day after the celebrated White House conference of August 'ast, that the result of the interview between the President and the Committee on Foreign Relations should be to "send the treaty unchallenged to immediate ratification"; that "the Senate may hesitate," but the country will not have a single instant of doubt. It has given its answer already.

For "may hesitate" read "didn't hesitate"; for "has given" read "will give"; and for "already" read "next Tuesday."

Ogden L. Mills for Congress. New York has an opportunity in this election to bring to its service in Congress a young man of exceptional ability. This young man is Ogden L. Mills, who is the Republican candidate in the Seventeenth district for the House of Representatives.

Mr. MILLS is not going in for political life for personal advantage to himself. He does not need to do this as a means of climbing to a position of recognition and power. He already has as good a position in heritage, in the matter of wealth, in educational advantages and in social, professional and business contacts as any young man anywhere in the country.

By profession he is a lawyer, and a good one. He has exceptional force, a keen mind, is an effective speaker and an indefatigable worker.

Mr. MILLS has the serious idea that, situated as he is, he owes his life to the public service, and in this conviction he has the vision of sound citizenship. In these days there are far too few men of commanding ability who are willing to make the sacrifices entailed in a public career which means hard work and few rewards from the public.

Ogden Mills if elected to Congress is certain to make a distinct impression in the House of Representatives.

MacSwiney. Three months ago nobody on this side of the Atlantic had heard of TERENCE MACSWINEY. Yesterday, when he died on the seventy-fourth morning of his hunger strike, he was known to everybody who reads.

As an example of the power of the individual to compel attention the case of MACSWINEY has been surpassed in recent years only by that of Miss CAVELL. In the nurse's case the involuntary sacrifice focussed the gaze of the Allied nations upon the shocking fate of one easily visualized person. MacSwiney drew the eyes of the whole English speaking world toward his fight against an empire.

Perhaps he began the hunger strike in the belief that the Government would yield, as it had done in other cases. But undoubtedly the latter part of the strike was carried on in the full knowledge that the Government would not yield. The Government stuck to its guns, and so did the Mayor of Cork. Failing to compel the Government to liberate him, MacSwiney still could keep the centre of the stage for his cause. It was inevitable that he should arouse sympathy. What was more curious was that he aroused, in some quarters, rage. Persons who did not like his method wrote to the newspaper calling him scoundrel as well as suicide—as if he were personally injuring them by refusing to eat. And among the clergy of MacSwiney's own church there was debate as to whether it was suicide or a pardonable example of the double intent. As an instance of the importance which the case attained in the sphere of ethics it need only be noted that the Pope has deemed it necessary to submit the question of MACSWINEY'S martyrdom or suicide to the Congregation of the Holy Office.

Assuming that MACSWINEY was justly imprisoned, assuming that the British Government treated him in jail with the utmost gentleness, accepting as obvious that MacSwiney failed of his original attempt to break his jailer's determination—still it cannot be set down that MacSwiney lost his fight. For to be turned out of prison as a stubborn hunger striker would have been small political capital as compared with martyrdom; and to Sinn Fein the Lord Mayor is a martyr and a very conspicuous one.

Whatever MacSwiney's intention were at the beginning of his hunger strike, it is plain that toward the close—after the King and the Premier had refused to interfere—his aim was to die for the cause he had come to represent. His Irish enthusiast does not split ethical hairs, and to Sinn Fein—probably even to a great number of Nationalists—MacSwiney will appear

as much the martyr as any of the men who died as a result of the Easter rising four years ago.

Some kindly individuals will be inclined to say: "Well, thank heaven, it's over with." Unfortunately for the people of the British Isles nothing is over with except MacSwiney's pain. The agony of the Irish problem grows worse. Starving, MacSwiney fed his own cause.

Mr. Edison Leaves the Greatest Problem Untouched. If Mr. Edison's speculations on life and death are correctly reported by the Scientific American, we assume them to be, the theory of the master electrician and indefatigable empiric on these subjects of universal interest and supreme importance is fairly set forth in these paragraphs taken from his interview:

"I believe that life, like matter, is indestructible. There has always been a certain amount of life on this world, and there will always be the same amount. You cannot create life; you cannot destroy life; you cannot multiply life.

"I believe our bodies are composed of myriads and myriads of infinitesimal entities, each in itself a unit of life, which band together to build a man.

will be punished. The candidates have publicly appealed to their supporters to behave themselves. If moral suasion can control the turbulent minded there should be no difficulty for the police and soldiers to tackle.

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"The entities live forever. You cannot destroy them, just the same as you cannot destroy matter."

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As such the martyr as any of the men who died as a result of the Easter rising four years ago.

Mr. Edison Leaves the Greatest Problem Untouched. If Mr. Edison's speculations on life and death are correctly reported by the Scientific American, we assume them to be, the theory of the master electrician and indefatigable empiric on these subjects of universal interest and supreme importance is fairly set forth in these paragraphs taken from his interview:

"I believe that life, like matter, is indestructible. There has always been a certain amount of life on this world, and there will always be the same amount. You cannot create life; you cannot destroy life; you cannot multiply life.

"I believe our bodies are composed of myriads and myriads of infinitesimal entities, each in itself a unit of life, which band together to build a man.

"Perhaps the entities in our bodies are 95 per cent workers and 5 per cent directors. At any