

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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EDITORIAL PAGE

THE ITALIAN CONTENTIONS.

There is really nothing sensational in the threat of the Italian delegation to withdraw from the peace conference provided satisfaction is not accorded them in the disposition of the land bordering on the Adriatic sea. The problem was apparent long before the roar of the cannon ceased. It bubbled to the surface before the ink on the armistice was dry. The causes are imbedded in centuries of history. Race antagonisms of years now come bumping up against the world peace principles for which Woodrow Wilson and his associates are now contending in the greatest world congress that has ever been assembled. Of course there would be trouble about these things. Nevertheless it is a sane prediction that the Italian thunder cloud will not dissolve the peace congress, although some alleged republican statesmen would like to have it that way.

The news reports have carried many stories concerning the Adriatic contentions. The historical background emphasizes the difficulties that Colonel House must reconcile if he is able during the next few days to present a solution of the Italian-Jugo-Slav frontier which can be urged to acceptance. Looking upon the map of Europe you will find two provinces which have been the basis of agitation. They are known as Kustenland and Dalmatia. Both possess seacoast that is economically important. The Jugo-Slavs greatly outnumber the Italians in both provinces. The Italians are reported to be willing to yield some of their contentions regarding the Dalmatian coast, but refuse to give up the harbor of Fiume. In the days when the Roman empire flourished, the contested provinces belonged to Italy, and, although they were separated from it centuries ago, Italy still bitterly resents their loss. In recent years, however, another intruder has gained tremendous numbers, if not in power, along the shores of the Adriatic—the Slav. The history of each province in this region is the history of the gradual rise of the Slav. Take Kustenland, for example. The emigration of Slavs to Kustenland began shortly after the downfall of the Roman empire. They established themselves in the mountain fastnesses of the interior, leaving the Latin population to the narrow coastal lands and to the port towns.

During the Middle Ages of the Istrian peninsula—as the lower part of Kustenland is called—was divided between Austria and the city of Venice, Austria receiving the most important half containing the city of Trieste. Thus Trieste has been Austrian since the fourteenth century. In 1814 the congress of Vienna awarded the entire peninsula to Austria. Under Austrian rule the Italian population has been gradually dwindling, while the Slavs have multiplied until today they represent 66 per cent of the entire population.

In Dalmatia the Slavs are even more dominant. Its coast is a huge mountain wall that rises abruptly from the sea, with a scattering of tiny islands. This wall has tended to cut off the Dalmatian interior from the Adriatic, so that it appears to have held little charm for the Italian. At any rate, the Slav population has increased by leaps and bounds ever since the ninth century, while the Italians have dwindled until now they constitute only three per cent of the population.

During the Middle Ages the Venetian republic obtained great influence over Dalmatia and succeeded in forcing its culture upon the Slavs, although it failed to make them adopt the Italian language. Then, in 1814, Dalmatia was awarded to Austria by the congress of Vienna, and the Slavs proceeded to divest themselves of Italian culture as of a cloak.

The nineteenth century is famous as the awakener of race consciousness among all the peoples of Europe, and the Slavs proved no exception. They began to organize, to take part in the political life of the nations which ruled them, and they began to dream of a united southern Slav state—a Jugo-Slav.

For Kustenland and Dalmatia were not the only territories to receive the flood of Slavic immigrants during the Middle Ages. Croatia, Slavonia, another province of the Adriatic, received its share, and the western Balkans, also. But while the Slavs of the Adriatic provinces accepted Christianity from Rome and adopted the civilization of western Europe, the Slavs who settled in Serbia fell under the influence of Byzantine Constantinople. The difference between the two civilizations served to split this people and make it lose consciousness of its identity as such.

The first to develop a political state were the Croats, in the early Middle Ages, but the Magyars of Hungary soon put an end to its existence. The Dalmatian Croats fell under the sway of the republic of Venice. The Serbs succeeded in building up a powerful state in the fourteenth century, guided by a particularly wise ruler, but upon his death they became the prey of the Turks. Threatened by a similar disaster, the Slavs of Dalmatia sought the protection of Austria.

Followed for the Serbs a terrible period of persecution by the Turks, which greatly reduced the population, but failed to make it relinquish its orthodox faith. It failed, that is, in all of Serbia except the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Here the population embraced the Mo-

hammadan faith with such enthusiasm and fanaticism that it broke all connections with the rest of the race.

With Dalmatia and Kustenland in its possessions, a century later, Austria conceived the idea of uniting the entire Jugo-Slav race under the rule of the Hapsburgs. The orthodox Slavs of Serbia had no intention, however, of putting themselves under the Roman Catholic rule of the Hapsburg dynasty, which they regarded as little better than the rule of Turkey. It was to the orthodox Slavs of Russia that they turned for sympathy. And eventually Russia sent them aid, which permitted them to establish an independent Serbian state in 1830. This state grew steadily until it became an important factor in the turbulent affairs of the Balkans. Moreover, as its power grew it developed ambition. It dreamed of uniting the Serbs in one state.

Serbian effort in this direction not only angered but alarmed Austria, who could not afford to have her position on the Adriatic weakened by an independent Jugo-Slavia. Therefore she watched Serbia with a jealous eye, determined that it should grow no stronger. A deadly enmity developed between the two nations, which nearly reached a crisis when Austria formally annexed the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The political temperament of the Slav was now awake, and Austria knew it. Moreover, she feared it. And it was this fear which motivated her conduct in revenging the assassination of the Archduke Ferdinand, and thereby precipitating the European war.

So much for the history of this intricate problem that is on the peace table and may develop rapidly during the present week. The bitter contention of the centuries is face to face with the diplomacy of peace.

NEW LIFE IN THE CATTLE TRADE.

Spring is fast coming to the west. Slow she seems, perhaps, to those who let desire dictate to their judgment, but already her avant-coureurs are with us. From the tips of the yet budless elms and cottonwoods comes the soft chatter of gregarious waxwings and down along the river one hears the first long drawn out song of the early meadow lark. Comes the wind, the low wind of the south, carrying in its soft bosom the promise of buds and grass and growing things; one even fancies that its breath is sweet with the scent of far-off wild flowers. It is a soft wind, a kind wind, a coaxing, seducing, persuading wind that creeps gently down the coulees and over the south slopes of the rolling lands, warming the grass roots and bidding all nature prepare for the awakening that is soon to come. It is the forerunner of the time when April greens the ranges and paints all the world with the magic of new life.

It is new life that comes to the west this year. The war is over. Our ranchers are now building for a permanent future rather than working under the spur of direct necessity. That this is so evidenced by the recent successful purebred cattle sales held in the state. The raising of purebred cattle is not a temporary occupation for any man. He who goes into it starts with the same care and forethought which govern the business man starting a new store. He must consider many things and among them location, good will of the trade and reputation all tend to make the business a permanent one.

In the sales of registered Herefords held a week or so ago some remarkable averages were attained. The Montana Hereford Breeders association held a sale wherein 39 head brought an average of \$435. The following day 219 head of registered Herefords from a single herd averaged \$308. There have been bigger sales of similar cattle held in other states; likewise higher averages have been attained, but the remarkable things about these Montana sales was that these were practically all home-grown cattle, that there were no phenomenal tops to the sales. Furthermore with three or four exceptions, these Herefords were all sold within the state. But what is perhaps the most remarkable feature of the affair is that nearly all of the 200 head of females were sold to men just starting purebred herds. Many of the buyers never before owned a purebred animal.

The fact that many newcomers are going into the business is the potent factor. It shows farmers recognize that raising wheat is only a temporary arrangement, an expedient to tide over the war emergency. No one tries to belittle the importance of wheat or to take from it its place as Montana's premier grain crop, but wheat is the means to an end rather than the end itself. No one will gainsay the statement that we cannot build a satisfactory system of farming out of exclusive grain growing. We must diversify, rotate our crops and grow more livestock on the farms. To grow livestock on high priced land it must be good livestock. The long-horn must give way to the two-track steer. We must seek the animal that will most efficiently convert grass and other feed into beef or pork or mutton. The purebred will do this better than the scrub. For hundreds of years men have been breeding to create an efficient animal machine, the animal that will make the most pounds of gain from a given amount of feed. It takes no more feed to raise a good steer to weigh 1,200 pounds than it does to build a scrub up to weighing 800 pounds. Where the profit lies is obvious.

Farmers all over Montana are beginning to recognize the worth of the purebred, as was shown at these recent cattle sales. That they were willing to pay good money for these products of the breeders' art is evidenced by the averaged of the sales; that the tendency towards better cattle is general rather than local is shown by the wide distribution of these cattle to all parts of the state. That there is good strength in the purebred cattle is manifested by these \$300 and \$400 averages, especially when one considers that these figures represent the result of carefully considered purchases rather than the outcome of a temporary burst of enthusiasm. A wider distribution of registered cattle over Montana is a sign of new life, of the beginnings of a new order, a better order; for we all must realize that the only permanently profitable system of farming is based largely on livestock husbandry.

HASKIN LETTER

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

THE CRIME WAVE

Washington, D. C., March 17.—Crime is on the increase in nearly every large city in the United States. Everywhere police forces are being strengthened. Our highways have not been so unsafe to travel since the years following the Civil war when, "Civil War Bums" were a menace to the country. Crimes by men in uniform are common and alternate reports and denials come from Paris of the misdeeds of our soldiers there.

Psychologists have long been predicting a crime wave and police chiefs now say it is here. They say we need more and better policemen. Other authorities say that more police protection will be attacking a symptom rather than the disease. They say that more and better jobs are what we need. Unemployment is the force behind the "crime wave". Industry is getting itself right side up as fast as it can. Many private employers are doing generous things for returned soldiers. But warehouses are crowded with unsold goods. Business cannot for the time being pay higher wages or take on more men. But if those long-promised farms for soldiers should become a reality; if a hundred thousand men could be put to work reclaiming waste lands, and twenty-five thousand of them settled on the resulting farms, the crime wave would bust. There are not lacking critics who say every man suffering from such a condition might stop debating the league of nations long enough to handle a domestic situation which grows daily more acute.

While fighting a soldier is held at a tension. When he is discharged and told to return to a peaceful occupation the tension is relieved and a reaction follows. If the man is strong of nerve, brain and will power, he soon throws off the evil effects of war experience. If he is inherently weak, or if his nervous system is completely broken down, his efforts to adjust himself to civil life are likely to be futile. He is easily discouraged or led astray. Unless he is protected, he becomes a criminal.

The most easily recognized case of nervous affection is shell shock. Not every man suffering from such a condition might stop debating the league of nations long enough to handle a domestic situation which grows daily more acute. The discharged soldier leaves a life that is sometimes monotonous, but that has nevertheless, the power to thrill him. If he has been at the front he has seen excitement and adventure. The soldier who for some months has been in the line, by the time he is discharged, whistling and singing songs may look forward to the peaceful comforts of home, but unless he has other compensations besides peace he may soon crave a substitute for the danger and thrills of the trenches. Breaking the law affords the thrill with the element of danger conspicuously present.

A similar type is the man who feels that he has done his duty in the war, he should have a chance to enjoy himself. This is a commendable ambition if it is not carried too far. The man who leads him to overstep the boundaries of his legal rights and that his good time may end with a jail sentence.

Every war is followed by a wave of crime. In some cases it is severe. In others the nation adjusts itself to peace conditions without many shocks. At the close of the Civil war vagrancy and crime were so common that the popular term "Civil War Bums" was coined to describe the mass of soldiers unabsorbed into civil occupation.

Regarding the prospects of greater criminal activity, Thomas Mott Osborne, former warden of Sing Sing, says: "There will be a crime wave as the result of the sudden freedom of the men in the army. One proof of this is the low percentage of crime during the war. There has been a very noticeable drop. This effect of war, the law of crime have been temporarily beneficial. While war lasted prisons in this country and England have been almost depopulated. Complete figures on United States prisons during the year and one half of war are not yet available. England has issued a report on her prison situation to 1918. The report shows that 269 persons in every 100,000 were convicted of crime during the year before the war.

In three years of war, the proportion dropped steadily, so that in 1917 only 118 in 100,000 were convicted. Part of the decrease in crime is attributed to the work or fight laws enacted by England and a number of states in this country. Most of these laws went out of effect when the armistice was signed. Regarding the inmates of prisons, it is reported both here and there that few able-bodied men or men of fighting age were among those convicted of crime during the war. Men who were inclined to commit petty offenses were either in the army or had found employment. When such men as these are discharged from the army or dismissed from civilian war work, they will go back to planning petty crimes or, hardened by war, they will aim for bigger results.

The percentage of crime in any life has not been greater than might be expected. Soldiers in this country have been remarkably protected. Overseas there was some difficulty for a time before arrangements were made with the French government for precautions similar to those enforced in the United States. Prohibition against use of liquor by soldiers is accounted a strong point in the army's campaign against crime. State and national prohibition is expected to have a marked effect upon crime in this country. The national committee on prohibition is in force the reduction in crime is already noteworthy.

The change from military life to civil may be harder for a man than his experiences in entering the army. When he became a soldier he entered a highly organized body and was automatically absorbed into it. When he leaves the army, he often has no one to help him find employment. Unless he is capable of working out his own problem he drifts along until he is absorbed into another highly organized body—a gang or bunch.

After effects of war are not confined to ex-soldiers. High wages have been paid for most kinds of war work. But now war factories are closing and wages slip back to a peace basis without reference to the fact that prices of commodities are going up to a post-war basis. The result is dissatisfaction and attempts to make money unlawfully.

Unemployment is the great danger of the next decade for the ex-soldier and civilian alike. Unemployment and mental defects are responsible for practically all the crime committed. If every ex-soldier and ex-war worker is connected with a job—not just any kind of work, but work for which he is fitted—crime conviction will be reduced to a minimum.

New Commercial Club Secretary at Helena

Special to The Daily Tribune.
Helena, March 22.—M. Max Goodwill, until recently managing editor of the Evening Mail, Galesburg, Ill., has arrived here to assume the duties of secretary of the Helena Commercial Club. Goodwill was a leader in civic affairs in Galesburg. While he has studied commercial club work for a number of years, this is his first experience as manager of a club. He suggests the work be distributed among three committees on public affairs, on business affairs, and on club affairs, members to be assigned to sub-committees under the general committees as they express a preference.

Veteran of the Somme Returns to Homestead

Special to The Daily Tribune.
Chinook, March 21.—C. Starke, of the Fifth Canadian regiment, arrived in Chinook the first of the week to visit friends and to go out to his homestead north of Sol Thibedeau's place, near the Canadian line. Starke wears three service stripes, which are blue for the Canadian troops instead of the gold used by United States troops. Thirty-seven months in service is his record. He was wounded at the Somme, and bears a scar across his forehead caused by a bayonet. He said the other fellow's bayonet was shorter than his, so he had the chance to go back to the hospital.

HOLDUP MAN GETS \$1 FROM SCREAMING CASHIER

Spokane, March 22.—A robber who held up the cashier of a restaurant in the business section here Friday morning, got only \$1 before he was frightened away by the young woman's screams. He escaped before the police arrived.

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NEW MINISTER PRESENTS PAPERS MORE ALIENS WILL BE DEPORTED
Buenos Aires, March 22.—Amado Portland, Ore., March 22.—Five aliens from Oregon, under sentence of deportation to Argentina, presented his credentials today. cre sent here from New York.

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POWERFUL LIGHT IS CALLED FLU CURE



Dr. Bjoernson, treating flu patient. Dr. Bjoernson of Stockholm, claims to have obtained excellent results in influenza cases by treating the patient with powerful electric light and heat. Perspiration is subsequently produced by compresses. The picture shows the doctor using the light on a patient, whose eyes are protected by pads.