

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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EDITORIAL PAGE

CONGRESS ON THE JOB AGAIN

It with somewhat mixed feelings that the average citizen will read in his newspaper that Congress has been called to meet on May 19. The last congress adjourned leaving some of the most important legislation before it unacted upon. It is fair to state that this was the fault of the senate and not the lower house. Among the bills that failed were some of the important supply bills and the work of the government was much hampered by this failure. There was also most important general legislation left hanging in the air while a little bunch of sordid senators with anarchistic tendencies filibustered and refused to let any bill come to a vote. The rest of the senators sat like bumps on a log and let them wreck all constructive legislation. They said they were beyond their control and they could do nothing to prevent them from carrying out their program of sabotage. Naturally a good many people hate to see this helpless aggregation of statesmen in session again, because they are largely the same men, and the public have lost confidence in them. We think a good many United States senators would be somewhat surprised and pained if they knew how the senate has declined in popular esteem and respect in recent years. Some say that popular elections by the voters instead of the members of the legislature has resulted in a lower grade of men getting into the senate. We are not prepared to accept that assumption. It is too severe an indictment of democracy in its implications. Yet it is true that a score of years ago Massachusetts would have been scandalized if one of its senators had acted with so conspicuous a lack of dignity as Henry Cabot Lodge did the other day when without waiting for official confirmation or knowing the facts in the case, he sent telegrams to two societies of foreign-born citizens of Italian ancestry informing them that he, as the next chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, would be against the president of the United States and with the Italian government in its demand for the annexation of Fiume. Imagine, if you can, the late Senator Hoar of the old Bay state, resorting to such a palpable and demagogic trick to secure the approval and votes of foreign born citizens of the state. Some of the republican newspapers of Massachusetts who are supporting Senator Lodge are now jubilantly announcing that the senior senator from Massachusetts has the Italian vote of the state in his pocket as the result of his prompt repudiation of his president and alignment by the side of the king of Italy and its prime minister. Perhaps he has, but there are no old fashioned American voters left in the Old Bay state, we wonder, whose votes may be lost by the quick jump of their senior senator to the side of the Italians in their opposition to the president of the United States?

The new senate and house will have a republican majority and a presidential election is approaching. That fact takes first place in their minds according to all the indications which are in sight, and we very much fear that we will have a congress so busy playing politics that they will have time for nothing else. Yet it will not be the first time that the country has suffered such inflection, and the average citizen has come to expect it at such times, knowing as he does, that what congress says and does is colored by this fact, he makes the proper deductions in his mind. It decreases his respect for congress, but does not influence his vote very much. It makes him tired and irritated, however, and generally loses votes for the party in power, which is deduced into thinking it is making votes by treating all legislation with a view to its supposed effect on the next election.

The president has called an extra session on May 19, and he does not expect to be in the national capitol himself until June 15. He will send his annual message by cable. Evidently the president does not take congress as seriously as congress takes itself. The fact that he does not come home to meet them in their opening session will doubtless be a new cause of offense in the eyes of the self-important senators. It conveys to them the notice that the president deems his duty in Paris more important than being in his official station at the White House when they first assemble. So another old precedent goes smash, and the senators and congress and the public have got so used to Woodrow Wilson smashing old time precedents regarding what the president may do and not do, that they hardly notice it any more. Their protests and squeals in the past have had so little effect that they have practically abandoned them. A while ago they would have threatened impeachment or a declaration of forfeiture of office to such slight on their dignity. Now they say little or nothing and grind their teeth.

However, congress will soon be in session at Washington with a president performing his constitutional duties in relation to it, doing so at long distance by cable or wireless or registered letter, or something of that sort. But when Woodrow Wilson does return, there will be a whetting of knives and grinding of bolos for him all right. No doubt he knows that, but he

seems quite careless and serene about it if he does. His single track mind functions right along. He knows what he wants and mostly he seems to get it also. They have discovered that in Paris as well as Washington.

JAPAN AND EXPANSION.

The Japanese-haters in California and the coast who have a fit every time a Japanese settles on a farm in Mexico seem equally agitated when there is any question of Japanese extension or colonization in Asia. So we have Hiram Johnson filled with enthusiasm and protective love for China against Japanese aggression. Perhaps he would be willing to fight another war rather than see his beloved Chinamen crowded out of southern or northern Manchuria, or Mongolia by the detested Japanese. We think he would, but we doubt very much whether many Californians would volunteer for the overseas expeditionary force. Fact is that it is not so long ago that the coast people were ready to mob the Chinese. They did not love them much or want them about. Their sympathy with the Chinese is new born and rather tender and callow in spots as yet. If the coast statesmen were logical they would be glad to see Japanese colonization and expansion reach out into Asia which is its natural outlet. A nation of nearly fifty million souls confined in a territory about the size of California and with considerably less arable land and other natural resources is bound to expand and seek more territory somewhere or remain miserably poor. The thinly settled country in northern Manchuria, southern Manchuria, Mongolia, and possibly Siberia forms a natural outlet. The resources of these countries are undeveloped and the Japanese could and would develop them and add to the world's wealth. If we were afraid of Japanese colonization or industrial invasion in this country we would be mighty glad to see the energy of this progressive nation turned west toward Asia, instead of kicking about it. The Springfield Republican thus comments on Japanese affairs at the peace table:

It is necessary to insult Japan in order to claim for her a triumph at Paris in the settlement of the Kiaochau and Shantung question. For Japan promises to restore this territory with the fortress and seaport to full Chinese sovereignty. If the promise is to be regarded as worthless, and if Japan's occupation is to be permanent in accordance with a well understood program, in spite of the Paris agreement, then, of course, Japan has outwitted them all.

People will be reminded of England's original pledge to evacuate Egypt and say that such promises are scraps of paper. But, eventually, France did force out of England concessions which she regarded as an equivalent to her rights in Egypt. Japan now offers her pledge, not to China alone, but to the associated powers, and that is some guarantee, that the pledge will be honored.

The secret treaty under which England and France, in February, 1917, abandoned to Japan without reservation Kiaochau and Shantung province, as well as the German islands in the Pacific north of the equator, has not been recognized. As for the assumption by Japan of Germany's former economic privilege in Shantung province, with the consent of the Paris conference, Americans may well remember that they cannot oppose the acquisition of such concessions by Japan on the continent of Asia while furiously opposing any cession whatever of land or economic privileges to Japan in Mexico or Central America.

We have to pay something, also, for our policy regarding Japanese immigration and the successful opposition of the American delegates at Paris to the adoption of the Japanese racial equality amendment to the covenant of the league of nations. Japan is not the country to fail to exact a price for the rebuff she received in the matter of racial equality.

Even so, Japan appears to have agreed at Paris that the whole future relation between Japan and China, as well as the territorial integrity and political independence of China, is to come at once under the guarantee of the league of nations. This is a remarkable engagement by Japan, in view of her ambition to develop an Asiatic Monroe doctrine. The United States has gone far in the opposite direction in insisting that the American Monroe doctrine shall not be impaired in the least by the league of nations.

There is this much to say about Japan as a treaty nation. So far as we have observed in recent years the Japanese government has kept its word and honorably performed all its engagements to other nations. In this respect it has a better record than most of the Christian nations. If Japan engages to return the German territory it captured in the war to China from which it was taken by force by Christian Germany, it will do it. It cost the Japs much money and many lives to take this country from the Germans, and the Chinese were not able to do it. It only seems fair and just that China should pay the Japanese for the service rendered by giving them concessions elsewhere in northern China, and that is what the Japs want in exchange for Shantung and Kiaochau. We see nothing unreasonable about the proposition, especially as what the Japs want from China is of little value to them, and what the Japs propose to give China is of great value to them, and cost the Japs dear to obtain.

HASKIN LETTER

By FREDERIC I. HASKIN
THE NEEDED METER

Washington, D. C., May 10.—If you do not understand the metric system of measurement, look it up and learn it. For there are strong indications that the metric system will soon displace the yard and the quart in all our dealings.

A movement backed by scientific and business organizations in all parts of the country has been started to secure adoption of this change. And its propagandists have made a strong case. The chief reasons why we should abandon our system for the metric are that the latter is much simpler and easier to learn, that it is more accurate, and above all, that it is now the compulsory system in every civilized country in the world except the United States and Great Britain.

That is the big fact. In all of our dealings with foreign peoples and governments we are handicapped because we do not use the same system of measurements. American scientists were convinced long ago to adopt the metric system, with the result that many of their publications are incomprehensible to the American business man. There is absolutely no good reason why the metric system should not be adopted in this country. The only thing that has prevented its adoption is the inertia which opposes all changes. Numerous movements have been started in Great Britain to bring about the change, and a few years ago the British government was in this country. Now the war has convinced thousands of persons of the necessity for using the universal language of measurement in this country, with the result that the meter has many new and important backers.

Any man who does not believe in the adoption of the metric system should take a trip to any other country, except England, wearing his usual shirt, sized in inches, and then try, when in a hurry, to buy a pair of pants with a collar size in the metric system. This experience is guaranteed to convert him.

"This country has lagged behind the rest of the world by neglecting to adopt a system of quantity expression so simple that the average child of ten can learn its essential features in ten minutes," is the way H. D. Hubbard, one of the experts on weights and measures at the bureau of standards, put it. "Our failure to cast aside a clumsy medieval system for one that has greatly handicapped us in business abroad and at home. Since all the world has adopted the same alphabet of letters for written expression, and the Arabic numerals for mathematical computations, a universal standard of weights and measures would facilitate business enormously."

The movement for the adoption of the metric system in this country already is widespread. The World Trade Club in San Francisco and the Metric Association in New York are the active leaders in the movement. They have the support of the National Wholesale Grocers' association, and of druggists, chemists, and men and women engaged in the country's foremost business men. The Bureau of Standards is behind the movement with all its force.

The need for a universal system of standards was strikingly brought out during the war. The metric system was the official system for all trench digging, gun firing, map making and in the manufacture of shells and guns. Our army officers in France soon began to complain of the necessity of adopting the metric system.

Our present system of weights and measures is known as the British or customary system. We got the system from England, and the English got it from the Germans. It is rather interesting to note that, after giving England and the United States this clumsy system, the Germans themselves, promptly abandoned it.

Although our system is supposed to be identical with the British, there are many points in which they differ. All the liquid and dry measures are different. In England the long ton of 2,240 pounds is used in preference to our round ton of 2,000 pounds, often bringing about misunderstanding in business transactions between the two countries.

The change to the metric system could be brot about with the least expense and the least confusion and the greatest benefit. Contrary to the prevailing idea, many weights could be re-adjusted, while scale beams could be re-marked. New measuring tools could be purchased at a cost that has already adopted the metric system made the change without serious interference to business, and in a number of countries the change was effected within two weeks.

A leading American importer and exporter, who made a business trip through South America a short time ago, came back thoroughly convinced that the metric system must come, and that he would adopt it as soon as possible. His foreign customers—two-thirds of his export customers—are in metric countries—demanded the kilo packages, equal to about 2.5 pounds. He said he could make the changes in his plant necessary to turn out this size package at very little expense.

Large manufacturing concerns which turn out tools and machinery find it necessary to carry two lines of products, one in metric and the other in customary sizes. The metric countries could not use mechanical tools made according to the English inch. During the war, the Baldwin Locomotive works turned out about 500 locomotives for the French government from designs in the metric system.

In the shipment of goods to metric countries, the American exporter is handicapped by the double standards. The goods must be invoiced and marked in the metric system. This is done at the factories. For example, if the Standard Oil company has a shipment of oil for South America, it must turn out a table of fundamental equivalents to find out how many barrels would equal the number of liters ordered. A universal system would avoid such trouble.

Advocates of the metric system say it is so simple that in the metric countries children know the system before they go to school. These supporters point out that the tables of the English system are seldom really learned, and even the parts that are memorized in school are soon forgotten. Could you, for example, recite the table of dry and liquid measures?

The metric system has three principal units—meter, liter, and gram. They can be multiplied or divided by 10, 100 or 1,000. The Greek terms deka, hecto and kilo, being used respectively to denote the decimials. The principle is the same as that of our decimal currency. The unit of length is the meter. A thousand meters constitute a kilometer, which is considered a good ten minute walk. A French army corps is supposed to cover six kilometers per hour. This is somewhat less than four English miles.

If your milk bottle contained a liter tomorrow, instead of a quart, you could not tell the difference. The liter takes the place of our dry and liquid measures. The gram is best realized by the fact that our five cent piece weighs exactly five grams. A kilogram, which is the commercial unit of weight, is a thousand grams.

Officials of the U. S. bureau of standards feel certain that this country will ultimately use the metric system which science the world over—even in the United States—has adopted as the best and simplest for all purposes.

TRAVELETTE

By NIKSAH

INDEPENDENCE.

Independence, Missouri, takes a modest place today in the shadow of Kansas City, from which it is only ten miles distant, but it has one of the most romantic stories belonging to any city in the west.

A part of this story is due to the Mormons who picked Independence as their Zion nearly a century ago. Some of the other settlers did not think it ought to be a Zion, and arguments in the good old western fashion, with six-shooters and rifles, were the natural result.

But the fame of Independence rests chiefly on the fact that it was the starting point for commerce that went on for nearly fifty years by wagon between the United States and Old Mexico over the Santa Fe trail.

In 1835, when the wagon commerce was at its height, there were no settlements between the Missouri river and the Rocky Mountains, except a few cabins about a hundred miles west of Independence. Comanche, Blackfoot, Apache and Gros Ventre, Indians roamed the region of prairie, desert and mountains. The vast dark herds of the buffalo were almost always in sight from the river to the Rocky Mountain foothills.

To cross this wilderness with a wagon train loaded with dry goods and hardware was a fascinating adventure, which drew so many participants that the government finally had a road surveyed and established a military patrol for it.

If the merchant got across the wilds with his goods and his scalp intact, he made an enormous profit in Santa Fe, which otherwise derived all its manufactured articles from Europe by way of Vera Cruz at tremendous prices.

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"Own Your Own Home" Campaign Is Started

Special to The Daily Tribune. Lewistown, May 11.—The Lewistown realty board gave an enjoyable dinner at the Ferguson Friday evening, primarily to boost the "Own-Your-Own-Home" campaign that has started here. A. B. Lehman presided and many very interesting addresses were made, the speakers including President E. O. Sisson of the University of Montana, Mayor Chas. J. Marshall, Judge E. K. Cheadle, Hon. O. W. Heiden and L. C. Clark.

NOTICE OF SALE OF HAY.

Notice is hereby given that the director general of railroads for the United States has authorized a public sale, at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, on Monday, the 9th day of June, A. D. 1919, at 10 o'clock P. M., at said day, at the warehouse of O. B. Nelson, located on the Royal Mill spur of the Great Northern railroad, near Old Walla Walla warehouse, one carload of hay, consisting of two hundred and twenty (220) bales, comprising 21,850 pounds, more or less, same being a car of hay shipped by Anchor Feed company, from Jerome, Idaho, to said Anchor Feed company at Great Falls, Montana, notify Robert L. Rowell company, Great Falls.

The proceeds from said sale will be applied in payment of freight charges, demurrage, storage and other lawful charges, including the expense of the sale, aggregating two hundred seventy-three and 27.100 dollars (\$273.27), more or less. The amount due upon said property to be sold being as follows: Freight, \$111.23, demurrage, \$100, storage to May 1st, \$45.70, war tax \$6.34, and other charges accruing.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids deemed insufficient. Dated the 9th day of May, A. D. 1919. UNITED STATES RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION FOR GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD. BY W. D. LOFTUS, Agent at Great Falls, Mont.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the First National Bank of Great Falls, Montana, is the owner of one hundred and two-thirds acres of land lying in section five (5), township twenty (20) north of range three (3) east of the Montana meridian, Cascade county, Mont., which, under the provisions of the national banking law, it is required to sell at this time to the highest bidder.

The sale will be made at the First National bank at 10 o'clock A. M. on Monday, May 19, 1919, and sealed bids in writing will be accepted on or before that date. More specific information concerning this land may be had by application to the officers of the First National bank.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK. By SAM STEPHENSON, President.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF TIME APPOINTED FOR PROVING WILL.

Probate Department in the District Court of the Eighth Judicial District of the State of Montana, in and for the County of Cascade. In the Matter of the Estate of Elsie F. Koob, Deceased. Pursuant to an order of said court, made on the 9th day of May, 1919, notice is hereby given that the 21st day of May, 1919, at 10 o'clock, A. M., of said day, at the court room of said court in the city of Great Falls, county of Cascade, has been appointed as the time and place for proving the will of said Elsie F. Koob, deceased, and for hearing the application of Charles Wegner, for the issuance to him of letters of administration with the will annexed, when and where any person interested may appear and contest the same. Dated the 9th day of May, 1919. (Seal) GEORGE HARPER, Clerk. By THOMAS T. DAVIES, Deputy Clerk. GREENE & COCKRILL, Attorneys for Petitioner.

SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES

We have just installed another complete section of Safety Boxes in our vault and invite your inspection and selection.

Great Falls National Bank
Strength and Service
Established 1891

Questions and Answers

Q. Can the hair be permanently curled?
A. Yes. Scientists say that a straight hair is round and a curly one flat. There is a process of flattening the hair which leaves it permanently curly. There is no injury. As new hair comes in it is straight and requires treatment.

Q. What became of Indian Territory?
A. It was incorporated into the state of Oklahoma and admitted into the union as such in the statchood bill approved by the president, June 19, 1906.

Q. Did conscientious objectors refund any money to the war department?
A. The war department has received from conscientious objectors as refunds of pay the sum of \$4,319.82. Conscientious objectors have also refunded their pay thru the channel of the Y. M. C. A. to the amount of \$270. The Friends' society had received up to February 15, \$4,006 designated for Friends' reconstruction work from conscientious objectors unwilling to accept pay from the army. This makes a total of \$8,589.82 refunded.

Q. Was whiskey ever used as legal tender?
A. Yes. In 1785, in the state of Franklin, which afterward became Tennessee, among the articles enumerated as being legal tender for taxes, was rye whiskey rated at 60c a gallon.

Q. Please tell me the present location of the 117th ammunition train (particular Co. C.) of the 42nd division.
A. The entire 117th ammunition train has returned to the United States and is now located at Camp Funston, Kas.

Q. Is there a law limiting the amount of money that can be spent for campaign purposes when running for a seat in the United States congress?
A. Yes. There is a federal law which provides that no candidate for senator shall give, contribute, expend, use, or promise any sum in the aggregate exceeding \$10,000 in any campaign for his nomination and election. Representatives are allowed to expend not to exceed \$5,000. In some cases there are state laws which make more drastic limitations, and candidates, of course, must abide by them.

Miss Stella Sheridan has opened a school in San Francisco to teach men how to propose to girls. What a waste of time! Just sit and hold a girl's hand and she'll do the rest. When you wake up you will discover that you are engaged to her and that her'n is your'n, and your'n is her'n.

American Bank & Trust Co. of Great Falls

DIRECTORS: H. G. Lescher, William Griffin, Charles R. Taylor, Albert J. Foucek, Alfred Malmgren, Charles Hornsby, Charles E. Heisey.

OFFICERS: President R. P. Rockard, Vice-President W. K. Flowerree, Cashier H. G. Lescher, Assistant Cashier P. O. Nelson. Interest Paid on Time Deposits.

Stanton Trust & Savings Bank

Capital \$200,000, Surplus \$50,000.

DIRECTORS: J. O. Patterson, Jacob C. Fay, A. Beardslee, M. S. Klapp, S. J. Doyle.

OFFICERS: President George H. Stanton, Vice-President P. H. Jones, Cashier H. M. Emerson, Assistant Cashier Stanton Bank Building, Great Falls.

NEW PERFUMES and TOILET ARTICLES

Lapeyre Bros. PRESCRIPTION DRUG STORE

LOTS

Industrial Sites, Business Lots
Trackage

Residence Lots in all parts of the city—With Water, Sewer, Cement Walks, Boulevards

TERMS
1/3 Cash, 1/3 in 1 year, 1/3 in 2 years
7 Per Cent Interest on Deferred Payments

THE GREAT FALLS TOWNSITE CO.
9 1/2 Third Street South, First National Bank Building