

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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EDITORIAL PAGE

LOW ESTATE OF CONGRESS.

The lowered reputation of congress is a thing that begins to attract public attention as it should do. The Springfield Republican, which is strictly independent and non-partisan in its attitude, feels compelled to comment on it and charitably attributes some of the doings of the republican majority to the irritation and bad temper that comes from overwork. It says:

"Congress would be better qualified to deal with the present difficult situation, both with regard to the railroads and the league of nations, if it had not been almost continuously in session for the last several years. Recesses and the interims between one congress and another have been few and short. Aside from other causes this alone would tend to promote friction and jealousy. Added evidence that tempers in Washington are bad and nerves on both sides not what they should be is found in the angry protests in the house against even the rulings of Speaker Gillett. Until within a few days ago Mr. Gillett had apparently been suavely proceeding with as much success as if the house had resolved itself into an afternoon tea and no one had risen to question to whom the hostess should give the first cup. But in recognizing a republican instead of a democrat the other day because the democrat was endeavoring to employ dilatory tactics, Speaker Gillett committed what former Speaker Clark heatedly described as an "outrage." A year from next March when the present congress comes to an end Mr. Clark will presumably have cooled down and be making either the usual motion or the usual speech commending Speaker Gillett on behalf of the minority for his fair rulings and courtesy in presiding. At the end of a session both parties are apt to remember that they have been playing politics and that a good deal of their fury, however sincere at the moment, has after all been dictated by the mere fact of opposition rather than by any real cause of grave accusations. It would be well if what they remember then could be better realized in times of crisis, and not merely when the crises are past."

But the deterioration of congress and its loss of respect in the public mind does not apply solely to this session. Neither is it a partisan matter. Congress had a democratic majority up till the present session and it was not a great deal better than the present session, so far as securing the good opinion of the public is concerned. It was also governed largely by partisan considerations and dodged responsibility. If it did not equal the present congress in that respect it may be said that we never had a more cowardly and trivial congress in both chambers than the existing one. They do nothing but talk and beef about what Woodrow Wilson does. They do nothing themselves but kick about what others have done. That is more true of the upper branch of congress, the senate, than it is of the lower branch. When there is any really important matters put before them, like the threatened tieup of all transportation in the United States, congress promptly passes the buck back to the president in a resolution telling him to settle the question himself according to his wisdom and inclination because congress to whom the matter was referred does not care to tackle the matter or express any opinions about it at all. Such cowardice and lack of initiative of course tends to lower congress in the minds of the public. The Massachusetts newspapers goes on to say:

"For the present congress must remain in session. But if for a few hours elections could be forgotten and jockeying for political position be abandoned in the face of a domestic crisis, there would be more hope of wise decisions and less danger of those both hasty and ill-judged. If instead of making a spectacle of itself for the past two months, congress had been proceeding to the orderly transaction of business, it is possible that the labor leaders would not have refused to await congressional action or dared to try to elbow congress to one side with the assertion that their appeal was to the people. The fact that certain republican senators have been chiefly engaged in making faces at the president while the great body of the people, including a probable majority of their own party, has taken a different view upon the league of nations, has diminished popular respect for and confidence in congress at a time when respect and confidence are peculiarly needed. If there had been an abler, more responsible and more constructive congressional leadership it may be doubted whether the ultimatum with regard to government ownership of the railroads would have been put forward as it was. The present situation is a challenge to the development of such a leadership; if it does not appear there will probably come a further dominance by the president, whatever the wisdom or the unwisdom of the course which he may urge and in spite of the republican majority. To be effective, congress, or the majority party in congress, needs to know what it wants and what it does not want, and to stand accordingly."

THE BIG INCOMES.

The income tax returns furnish for the first time accurate information about the wealth of individuals, which is almost invariably exaggerated in the public mind. We are told by the government reports that in 1917 there were 141 persons in the United States that had incomes of a million dollars or more. Assuming that they received an average return of five per cent on their property, this would indicate less than 150 persons in the whole country who had fortunes of more than a score of millions. There were, however, 315 persons whose incomes exceeded \$500,000 and yet did not reach a million. Presumably they were worth between ten and

twenty millions each. There were 559 persons who had incomes ranging between \$300,000 and \$500,000 and counted in the very rich class. There were also 2,347 people who had incomes of between \$150,000 and \$300,000 and were therefore millionaires, and also 3,302 whose incomes were \$100,000 to \$150,000. That would make 6,664 persons in the United States whose fortunes exceeded a million dollars. Too many millionaires, one would say. Perhaps so, but those who are jealous of such piled-up wealth and would have it distributed more evenly might be interested in a calculation made by the New York Sun, which finds that if all these big incomes of \$100,000 or more were divided up evenly among all our citizens it would give each of them four cents a day, and the government would be deprived of a very large amount of tax money which it would have to levy in some other way, and be paid by people less able to pay it.

The figures refer to the year 1917 just before we entered the war. The year 1918 showed less large incomes than the year 1917, but we have not seen the details published as yet. The treasury department, however, announced a falling off of big incomes as compared with 1917. It is an interesting fact because it gives the lie to statements often made as to profiteering during the war. While these charges may be true as to individuals, yet wealthy men as a whole grew poorer during the war, as the income tax returns disclose the facts.

PROPAGANDA STUFF.

The average newspaper editor is made weary these days with dumping in the waste basket every day piles of propaganda stuff gotten out by every agency and organization under the sun, from organizations to free Ireland to similar ones to stir up war with Japan. In fact the latter is mighty active and has been for a long time for some reason we do not quite understand. Hand and glove with it is a propaganda to induce the American people to commence war against Mexico and annex the country. There is nothing mysterious about this last propaganda. It is financed by men who have property interests in Mexico and would naturally like to have the citizens of the country who do not have property interests in Mexico chip in and pay for the cost of rescuing American property from the hands of the bandits who govern that country at present. The desire is natural and easily understood. An eastern newspaper gives us this 'thumb nail sketch of the forces that are working to embroil this country in a Mexican war: "The charge made by the Presbyterian board of foreign missions that the oil interests are conducting a propaganda to embroil this country with Mexico is not exactly novel, but it needs the publicity that the Presbyterian church can give it. The board of missions asserts that the hearings at Washington have been staged so as to present only a certain class of witnesses; that it is impossible to get published in many American newspapers anything that is not unfriendly to Carranza. That intervention would mean the destruction of all Presbyterian and other mission work is a matter of secondary importance, viewed in the light of the whole situation. But if it enlists Presbyterian influence against the efforts to provoke war, it will help to keep the public mind alert with regard to Mexico. Congress might well investigate this propaganda along with other propagandas which are being conducted in the United States at present—not, indeed, with the object of stopping them, unless they are against the laws, but to let the public know with just what motive and bias certain statements are given to the public."

The Opinions of Others

HE AIN'T GONNA TAKE A CHANCE.

(Ohio State Journal.)
About everybody of supposed importance in Germany has now offered himself as a vicarious sacrifice for the kaiser except Count von Bernstorff, and we imagine he's afraid we might really take him up.

LUCKY CENSOR HAS BEEN DITCHED.

(Boston Transcript)
Now that the mail service has been resumed to Germany, everybody has a chance to write over to the powers that be and tell them what they think of them.

ANOTHER HOPE BLASTED.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer.)
"Swig Bill Passed by Senate," reads a headline in a Boston paper. It sounds very intriguing until an investigation of the story reveals that the "Swig bill" is not a prohibition relief measure, but a financial law introduced by one Senator Swig.

BILL HOHENZOLLERN KNOWS THAT.

(Philadelphia Record.)
The packers complain of "unprecedented propagandas" against them. We doubt it; and yet unprecedented evils demand unprecedented remedies.

WOULDN'T BE UNPRECEDENTED.

(New York World.)
The New York burglars who rifled three safes and got only \$350 have just grounds to go to the police and demand their rights.

WHY NOT DROP THE SUIT?

(Chicago News.)
If Henry Ford were an anarchist the \$32,000,000 million he is cutting would be somebody else's.

AN IMPROVEMENT AT THAT.

(Chicago Post.)
"French and Bulgars in three-hour fight. Three dead." It's bad to have such chronicles in time of peace, but it is at least an improvement upon the bloody days when such a happening would have been recorded as "Nothing to report; all quiet on the Franco-Bulgarian front."

HASKIN LETTER

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

THE BUFFALO COMES BACK

Washington, D. C., Aug. 12.—There are now no less than 7,000 buffaloes in North America, they are increasing rapidly, and America's most famous and characteristic large animal is considered to be fairly safe from extermination. This news was brought to Washington recently by Dr. George W. Field of the biological survey, who has charge of the government's several buffalo ranches, and of all its other bird and animal reservations.

The buffalo has long figured in the popular mind as a creature practically or nearly extinct. He has been classed with Dodo, the great auk and the highball, as a thing which was "Gone with the wind" and the passenger pigeon is a standard oratorical and literary bromide implying irrevocable oblivion. For the last twenty years, while he has been serving as a pathetic example of man's ruthless destructiveness, whole accounts of his extermination were being written, and while his likeness was stamped on the nickel that Americans might know what he looked like, the buffalo has been steadily multiplying. By attending strictly to the business of raising calves, and paying no attention to the alarming rumors that he was extinct, the buffalo, as a species, has literally crawled out of his grave. There was a time, within the memory of living men, when there were more buffaloes in the United States than there are now people. In 1880 there were quite a few left. In 1897 a taxidermist killed, in Lost Park, Colorado, the last members of the last wild herd of buffalo outside of a national park in the United States.

At that time there were not many more than a thousand buffalo alive in the world. These were scattered in small herds in public and private parks. The only wild ones were a small herd in Canada, and those in our Yellowstone national park. When any species of animal is reduced to a thousand individuals, scientists generally give up hope for it. It is regarded as practically extinct. And especially is this true when many of the individuals are old and most of them are in captivity. But a great deal of interest was felt in the fate of the buffalo. He was one animal that the people knew about. He had been extensively depicted and described. Buffalo Bill had chased his buffaloes and shot blank cartridges at them in every town over 10,000 in the United States. The buffalo had been sculptured and painted and stamped on coins. In a word, he had gotten that thing which in America is the maker of destinies—advertising.

The scientists of the biological survey, who watched and nursed the buffalo during the days when he was almost gone, firmly believe that advertising saved his life. It led rich men to buy buffalo reservations. It saved the buffalo from neglect, of which he would surely have died. As showing how important publicity has been to the buffalo, the scientists compare him with the pronghorn antelope. There are now only about 9,000 of these animals in the United States, and they are in far greater danger of extermination than the buffalo. Altho

ARCHDUKE JOSEPH HUNGARY'S MASTER



Archduke Joseph of the house of Hapsburg has been recognized by the allies as the master of Hungary. He has assumed power with the title of governor of the state and announces his intention to organize a coalition cabinet.

Archduke Joseph was a commander of Austro-Hungarian forces on the southern section of the eastern battle front during the first two years of the great war. In 1918 he headed a movement looking to the securing of independence for Hungary from Austria, and when the collapse of the dual monarchy came in November, 1918, he was called to take charge of the situation and find a solution for the political crisis before the country.

With his son, Archduke Joseph Francis, he took the oath to submit unconditionally to the orders of the Hungarian national council, and later took the oath of fealty to the new government. Last April it was announced he had been executed by the communists at Budapest, but this report was promptly denied. Archduke Joseph was born at Alosouth on August 9, 1872. The archduke frequently has been referred to as the most popular member of the Hapsburg family. He did much work among the poor and unfortunate, particularly in Budapest.

slightly more numerous, they are not nearly so well protected and do not live and breed well in captivity. Unless reservations are set aside for them, and other radical measures taken for their protection, they will be gone in another 10 years. The antelope is just as distinctive and interesting an American animal as the buffalo. Like the buffalo it once lived all over half the continent in uncounted millions. It was the familiar daily sight of the western pioneers. And it is a far more beautiful and graceful animal than the buffalo. Yet for some reason it failed to impress itself on the popular imagination as the buffalo did, and so it seems doomed.

The buffalo, in addition to his hold upon popular affection, has another strong claim to the right of survival, in the fact that he has great possibilities as a domestic animal. It has been usual to say that the buffalo ought to go to give way to the cattle herds on the western plains, and it is probably true that it would have been impossible to conserve the enormous wild herds of buffalo—to use them for the national meat supply instead of domestic cattle. But now that the buffalo has been reduced in numbers and handled like a domestic animal in many parks, it has been discovered that he is really not much harder to manage than any other variety of cattle. It is true that he retains a faral contempt for fences, and the great weight of his shoulders, protected by a mantle of heavy hair, enables him to express this contempt for barbed wire by going right through it. An ordinary three or four strand barbed fence does not hold him at all. The buffalo keepers who use barbed wire fences do so with the full knowledge that they will have to round the buffalo up and drive them back into the enclosure every once in a while.

The government buffalo pastures are enclosed in woven wire fencing with strong posts planted about 16 feet apart. This spacing gives the fence a certain resilience, so that when the buffalo hits it, he has a tendency to bounce back. There have been many cases, however, when the bouncing idea didn't work. Once, for example, on the Montana bison range a buffalo bull in a bad humor saw a big black and white Hosten bull pawing up the dirt and bellowing in an insulting manner outside the enclosure. The buffalo bull very deliberately backed off about a hundred yards and took a run at the Holstein, completely disregarding the detail that a fence was between them. His disregard was justified by the fact that he went through the fence just as easily as the lady at the circus goes through the paper hoop. After properly drubbing the impudent domestic, the buffalo bull walked back to the gate of his home pasture and waited for the Holstein to come in.

The potential value of the buffalo as a domestic animal lies in the fact that he can stand very cold weather. He can survive a winter that would kill cattle, and can get to the grass through snow and ice. Another reason why the buffalo herds were established on a commercial basis, beef could be produced on mountain ranges, which are now producing nothing. And the buffalo makes a fine grade of beef and more of it under the same conditions of feed and age than other cattle.

The extreme scarcity of the buffalo, and the fact that breeding animals cost \$250 a piece, are the reasons why the domestication of the animal has not proceeded farther. Another ten years is very apt to see good progress in the establishment of the buffalo as a ranch animal.

The cattalo, which is a cross between the buffalo and domestic cattle, is an eye more profitable animal than the buffalo. This hybrid is generally larger than either of its parents. It inherits the hardihood of the buffalo and also his heavy valuable coat. A cattalo robe has been sold for \$1,500. But the difficulties of putting the cattalo on a sound productive basis are even greater than those of domesticating the buffalo. In the first place only about one in ten of these hybrids is fertile. In the second place a breeder must maintain several different strains of them in order to produce a stock free from interbreeding. Thus a very large number of buffaloes and a long time would be necessary to produce a sound strain of cattalos. That the animal would be of great value, and that it could be greatly improved by scientific selective breeding, cannot be doubted, but the preliminary work would cost millions and would require, therefore, that any private individual will ever undertake it, but it seems probable that when the government buffalo herds have increased to eight or ten times their present size, the cattalo will be bred and developed by the scientists of the biological survey.

Of the 7,000 buffalo now alive, about half are in the United States and half in Canada. The government owns slightly less than a thousand buffalo. These are on eight reservations and national parks. The largest herd, that of the Yellowstone, with 440 members, and the second largest that on the Bison range in Montana, where there are 290 buffalo in a fenced pasture of 18,000 acres. The government has in its parks and reservations range enough for ten times as many buffalo as it now owns. The rest of the buffalo in this country are in five or six large herds which are privately owned.

Aliens at Libby Fail to Observe State Law

Special to The Daily Tribune.
Helena, Aug. 14.—Twelve aliens in the employ of the J. Neils lumber company of Libby have refused to comply with the state law in giving reports to the state accident board of their naturalization and ability to read, write and speak English. Chairman Spriggs said he will start an action thru the courts to compel compliance with the law.

Roll Call on Higgins Bill Not Stolen

Special to The Daily Tribune.
Helena, Aug. 14.—The missing roll call on Higgins' appeal from the chair on the last day of the special session was found in the drawer in the desk in the journal clerk's office in which it was placed the night before, according to W. O. Craig, chief clerk of the house, who has completed the clerical work in cleaning up the special session business.

UNIVERSITY HAS RAISED \$103,000.
Spokane, Aug. 14.—Spokane university thru direct gifts and bequests has received \$103,000 in its campaign to raise \$500,000 within five years.

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TRAVELETTE
By NIKSAH
CAPE MAY COUNTRY.
If you travel by boat from Philadelphia to New York, Cape May lengthens your trip by thirty miles. It is the southern most tip of New Jersey. It projects like a horn into the coastal waters which, next to those of Sandy Hook, carry most traffic.
Cape May, in addition to being a point of land projecting into the water, is a county. As such, here in the effete East, it throws down the gauntlet to any other county in the union for that quality supposed to be peculiar to the west, Cape May county is wild. It is unbroken, uninhabited, unsubsided. Bears prowl about its wastes, deer bound through its thickets. All the creatures of the wood and marsh live unmolested in its solitude while hunters from nearby cities cross the continent for a shot at other creatures of their kind.
The game wardens of Cape May county are Jersey mosquitoes in the summer and tangle impenetrable jungle at all times. So all that stretch of land between Delaware bay and the Atlantic ocean, is in hailing distance of New York and at the front door of Philadelphia, is still left to the creatures that inhabited it when Henry Hudson first sailed this way.
The only exceptions to Cape May wilderness are a few pleasure settlements, along the sandy ocean front, that escape the mosquito plague. They are Ocean City, Sea Isle City and Cape May—dabs of prosperous and fashionable American life on the very edge of a primitive American wilderness.

DOMINION TIE-UP BY REDS, OCTOBER 1, COURT SUSPICION
Prosecutor Makes Statement as Eight Winnipeg Strike Leaders Are Held.
Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 14.—Eight Winnipeg strike leaders were formally committed for trial at the November session of court, on a charge of seditious conspiracy.
Prosecutors Andrews said that spreading of propaganda had been noticeable during the past month and that he had information which led him to believe that a general tie-up of the dominion was planned for October 1.
A youth of 20 likes to have some one refer to him as an old friend. But it is different with a girl of 20.

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Patents Issued to 306 Valier Entrymen
Special to The Daily Tribune.
Helena, Aug. 14.—The Carey land act board has granted during the last few weeks, patents to 306 entrymen on the Valier project giving them title to 23,450 acres which have been reclaimed, according to Fred Lange, secretary of the board.
TACOMA WILL NOT TAKE U. S. BACON IF NOT PERFECT
Tacoma, Aug. 14.—Acting Mayor F. H. Pettit has announced that the government bacon which is en route here for sale by the city, will be rigidly inspected and sent back to the government if it is not fit for sale.

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