

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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EDITORIAL PAGE

CANNOT CAGE THE PRESIDENT

There are republican senators and congressmen down at Washington, quite a bunch of them, who think that they ought to rule the country by a divine right. So far as their opinion of themselves is concerned it is like that formerly entertained by kings in Europe.

They feel now that they would like to put President Wilson in a cage and keep him there until the end of his administration. They do not wish to have him talk to the people about the peace treaty. They insist that he ought to stay in Washington so as to be on tap every morning to sign bills passed by congress to reduce the high cost of living. This republican congress after fooling away months without paying any attention to the H. C. L. problem now works itself into a horrible whew and fuss, and claims that it is going to grind out price reduction statutes so fast that it will make the president dizzy to sign them up. There's consistency for you, but there are not many jewels in it.

There are two things more to be said in this connection. The fellows who are making the biggest holler are in the class that doesn't wish to have any price reduction legislation at all, because they are altogether too friendly with large business interests who wish to go right on profiteering. Second, Woodrow Wilson, whether he is on the road or not, will find a way to sign all of the reasonable and sensible price reduction bills that the aforesaid republican bunch will pass up for his signature.

It was a great game that—keep Mr. Wilson in Washington. They kicked when he went to Paris and then loafed all the while he was gone. Now they are afraid to let him talk to the people. Happily they cannot put the president in a cage and they can't put him in a hole, either.

THE PERSHING BOOM

For many months past politicians have been discussing General Pershing as a possible candidate for president of the United States. Now that he soon will be home again after more than two years as commander of the American Expeditionary Force in France the discussion is waxing lively. Representative Campbell, democrat, of Pennsylvania, declared upon the floor of the house coincident with the vote of that body to bestow upon Pershing the permanent rank of general that he "would like to see the people of this country and this house put aside our partisanship, our adherence to democracy and republicanism and make him (Pershing) the unanimous choice of the conventions that assemble next year and elect him president of the United States."

It is not to Mr. Campbell's discredit that when he made that statement he stamped himself as a politician who occasionally forgets his politics. After due consideration he himself would undoubtedly admit that he voiced hope of something which is impossible of achievement. If there is one soldier candidate, there will be several. It is rumored that republicans already have tried to stem the tide of sentiment in the party ranks looking towards General Leonard Wood as the next republican candidate for the presidency and it is stated upon excellent authority that the directing forces of the republican party would like to see some one nominated from the republican party who has no military record at all. That a similar feeling exists in the democratic party, especially against a man whose profession is arms, is indicated by the following from the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, which says:

General Pershing's approaching homecoming possesses all the elements that make a problem for the politicians. It is often asked if he is presidential timber. Our own strong hope is that neither party will resort to a professional soldier for a candidate. For that would be the crowning mockery of the ideals which clustered about "the war to end war" and "crush militarism." Yet the politicians will quietly size up General Pershing just the same. Nor will those politicians be confined to the republican party. Pershing has hitherto been classed as a republican, but he owes his place in military history to a democratic administration, just as General Grant, a democrat down to the civil war, owed his place to a republican administration. General Grant, in 1868, switched over to the republican party on receiving its presidential nomination, and that would be a possible precedent for General Pershing in case the democrats should finally make him the tempting offer in convention assembled.

Whereas the gentleman from Pennsylvania will probably rise to remark that "there is always somebody taking the joy out of life."

DEMobilizing THE ARMY

The rapid demobilization of the American army has set a record of which the country may well be proud. We have demobilized all but 500,000 of the four million men who were under arms when the armistice was signed. There are today less than 35,000 American soldiers in France and less than 100,000 in Europe. During the month of June alone 364,000 men were brought home from overseas, a record which was never equalled during the process of sending the army abroad. The French and British transported nearly 50 per cent of the American forces who were taken to France, but the bringing of them home was

accomplished almost entirely with American ships, the British and French vessels being withdrawn and placed in other service.

One cannot but agree with the declaration of Secretary of War Baker that this demobilization ranks favorably with the notable achievements of the war. In 1898 it took ten months to muster out 197,000 of the 216,000 officers and men who were in the service. Units which served in the Philippines were demobilized even later than that. At the close of the civil war the volunteer army numbered a little more than a million men, and it took from the first of May, 1865, until November of the following year to muster out that force.

The homeward movement and the demobilization of the American troops began practically with the signing of the armistice and has been carried on ceaselessly ever since. The system worked out for the mobilization of the army, in reversal worked exactly as well. America's wonderful task of placing four million men under arms in a period of time which astounded the world has been duplicated in the demobilization of that army and today the millions of young Americans who a year ago were devoting every atom of their strength to the winning of the war once more are at home and engrossed in the pursuits of peace. The assimilation of the returned army promises to be no less remarkable than its assembling and its discharge.

PREVENTING DISEASE

Montana's department of public health is now engaged in an educational campaign calculated to inform the people of the state of simple and easy ways in which the public health may be protected and the spread of communicable diseases prevented. With this end in view the board has issued a series of pamphlets describing the cause, prevalence and means of prevention of the more common diseases. The booklet will be mailed free of charge to any who desire them. The board has taken pains to have them prepared so that they are readily understandable. They are written in plain English and are free from technical terms. While these are not intended as a substitute for medical attention, they may be perused with profit by every one, for he who pays attention to his own health removes in just that measure the menace to the public health. The pamphlet will be of particular value to the parents of children. In its endeavor to reduce the spread of communicable diseases to a minimum, the state board of health is entitled to the aid and support of every good citizen.

NEWSPAPERMEN COMING

The Tribune is mighty glad to note that city teamsters are again at work. The dangerous sanitary conditions can soon be removed. The boulevard men are also on the job. We certainly should hasten the work of repairing the damage that has been done to grass and trees. We wish to call the attention of the city and residents to the fact that the Montana State Press association meets in Great Falls on September 4, 5 and 6. There will be keen, alert newspapermen here, who will observe municipal conditions. These men write upon Montana affairs 365 days in the year. What they will see and what they will write afterward are matters of considerable importance.

Wouldn't it be a good idea to put on an extra city force for the first half of this week and present Great Falls to these gentlemen looking just as fine and dandy as may be possible under the conditions? All of the people can help in this work by giving their lawns a little special attention.

Keep the days of this convention in mind—Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week.

The succulent oyster again comes into its own according to the rule of months and "r's." If the hazard of harvesting the bivalves has been increased by reason of the submarine mines planted during the war, we may look to see the price of them hit the ceiling along with various other things.

A man from Sacred Heart, Minn., drove into Minneapolis the other day in one of Henry Ford's masterpieces and paid a hotel bell boy \$5 an hour to watch it while he did some shopping. Queer what attachment a man will form. And how distrustful he becomes of his fellow men.

The Minneapolis, St. Paul, Helena, Billings, Poplar, Gilman and various other newspapers are assuring their readers that ample accommodations have been arranged for fair visitors. And we believe it every year just because we want to go—and we do go.

And now it is reported that Lenine is seeking peace with Rumania. Lenine had much better devote his time to making peace in another direction, for when the bolsheviki movement crumples he is going to have a mighty hard row to hoe.

Lend us your ears, fishermen! An Indiana dealer in angle worms boosted the price of this bait from 15 cents to 35 cents a hundred at the beginning of the season and then tacked on another nickle which he said was war tax. Heaven-helps! Indiana sportsmen are now demanding an investigation of the bait industry along with the high cost of living.

HASKIN LETTER

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

GOVERNMENT AID IN GETTING A START

Washington, D. C., Aug. 29.—A woman whom big business concerns are willing to pay fifty dollars a day as an expert in solving labor problems to whom labor unions are willing to list her name as a confidante of newboys and telephone operators, should be of some use in straightening out that tangle of excited self-interest and mutual misunderstanding known as the labor problem. Such a person evidently has in some degree the respect and confidence of all parties to the controversy—of the employers, the union and individual workers who are without organized protection.

Such a person is Mrs. Anna Y. Reed, head of the junior section of the United States employment service who is now engaged in organizing in various American cities branches of the employment service which are to work in connection with the public school systems. Their purpose is to provide for the employment of young men and women just out of school. Their secondary and more constructive purpose is to help the schools find out how to make education more of a preparation for work than it generally is at present.

This is to be a service to employers as much as to workers. In Mrs. Reed's own words, she intends to "tie up the source of labor with the agencies that place and use it," and "to see how education functions outside of the school room."

She has been in employment and educational work for many years, and may be said to have made a life study of the relations between these two factors in our national life, which should be friends and partners, but as a matter of fact seldom see each other. Mrs. Reed, through her junior departments, intends to introduce them to each other and to see if they can't be induced to work in harmony.

According to Mrs. Reed's explanation, the trouble is not so much that the schools teach the wrong subjects—ones which are of no use to the pupil in after life—although that is a matter of the fundamental trouble, is that the school usually has the wrong view point, and is not able to recognize and develop good industrial material when it gets it. To illustrate this, Mrs. Reed told of a study she once made of several thousand newboys, who were making their own livings and going to school at the same time. She asked each boy's teacher for an opinion of his character and ability, and then she asked the same of the wholesalers of newspapers and others with whom the boy came in contact in a business way. In a surprising number of cases the opinion were in conflict. The prize teacher and teacher's pet, the wholesaler of newspapers and others with whom the boy came in contact in a business way. In a surprising number of cases the opinion were in conflict.

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PARIS RESTAURANT MEN PROFITEERING IN GREEDY MANNER

Many Tricks Imposed, Such as Charging for Pulling Corks of Bottles, Etc.

Paris, Aug. 31.—(Chicago Tribune Cable Copyright).—French people are beginning to take up the cry which Americans have been raising ever since they came to France against extortionist prices. The newest wrinkle is in the popular barber shop near the Opera, adjoining a certain American bar, which advertises a hair cut for 1 franc. But when the customer pays he's charged 1 1/2 francs. "What's the other half franc for?" he demands. "Because I could not make a scalp massage," the barber replies. A scalp massage costs 3 francs, and if one takes a massage and haircut together it costs four francs. A haircut without a massage costs 1 1/2 francs. One restaurant charges 2 francs additional if customers don't eat meat. This developed when some vegetarian doughboys, peace conference orderlies at Hotel de Crillon, ordered meat soup, vegetables and dessert, and found 10 francs extra upon the bill. One doughboy refused to pay, and the proprietor announced those who eat no meat must pay two francs extra. The Americans particularly are incensed against restaurant keepers who stuck on an extra charge for non-drinkers and then charged for a glass of water besides. Americans don't like French beer, and it is too thin, and they cannot get stronger stuff, like highballs, as the whiskey is too weak. They have been paying a supplement of one franc for not ordering wine, but recently a certain Latin quarter restaurant began charging half a franc for a glass of water. A Chicago sergeant refused to pay, and when the proprietor called a policeman he upheld the American.

The Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross girls are up in arms against Paris tea rooms, which charge three francs for a tiny pot of tea, and the waitresses expect a franc tip for a single morsel of sugar. Little cakes cost two francs apiece and a microscope sandwich costs three francs. Has Written 1825 Illegible Letters to William H. Taft

Long Beach, Cal., Aug. 31.—Having received 1825 letters in five years from some local resident whose writing was so poor the letters could not be read, former president William H. Taft, through his secretary, has asked Walter J. Desmond, postmaster here, to find the anonymous correspondent and ascertain what it is all about. W. W. Wischler, Mr. Taft's secretary, writes that the missives seldom bear sufficient postage. Each letter generally covers six closely written sheets. The opening lines always are:

"Full many a gem of purest ray serene, The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear."

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Two Sisters Are Most Proposed to Women in World, It Is Claimed

(Chicago Tribune Cable) New York, Aug. 31.—The Hamel sisters, Simone and Clarette, K. of C. workers just back from Europe, hold the records for proposals. In traveling through Europe for a year or so Simone received 114 proposals of marriage and Clarette received 120. "The Irish are the best proposers and the English next," said Simone. "We had them also from Rumanians, Frenchmen, American and one Dutchman. Most of our proposals came from army officers, but there were a few civilians mixed in." Simone and Clarette are to be in New York only a short time. Then they are going home to Hamilton, Ont. They came in today on the French liner Lorraine.

Belgians Seek Loans to Restore Business

Brussels, Aug. 31.—Several American and English houses have arranged to give credits for three years to Belgian buyers, who had that industry was beginning to work again, are in need of a great variety of raw materials and many manufactured articles. The minister of economics has prepared a report in which are listed the materials wanted. They include materials for lining coal mine shafts, cables and machines used in coal mining, steel and galvanized wire, sulphuric acid, heavy tar oil and special coal for coke to be used in coke ovens; iron ore and tools for blast furnaces and rolling mills, flux for textile industries, sulphate of soda for glass works, hides of a quality not found in Belgium for tanneries; pulp, spruce and Norway pine for paper mills.

HELENA '19 GRADUATE WINS PRIZE ON WAR ESSAY. Walla Walla, Wash., Aug. 31.—Fred Harper, Helena, Mont., won the first prize, \$150 cash and a \$100 tuition scholarship, in the \$1,200 contest of Whitman college, for the best original essay on the European war written by a member of a high school graduating class of 1919.

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