

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

W. M. Bole, Editor O. S. Warden, Manager Leonard G. Diehl, Business Manager

EDITORIAL PAGE

FOR THE SALVATION ARMY.

JUST as the Rotary club took the lead in the community and arranged for the funds that have successfully inaugurated the boy scout work in Great Falls, the Kiwanis club has now taken on the leadership of providing the money for the budget that will carry forward the routine work of the Salvation Army in this city.

It was hard work to find anybody to take the lead in raising this Salvation Army money. So the Kiwanis club in undertaking a service that should be doubly appreciated. We hope the people will provide this fund quickly.

Perhaps some consolation will come out of the fact that Great Falls will enter 1921 with three civit budgets out of the way for the present.

DANGERS IN BUYERS' MARKET.

COMMENTING on the "buying strike," which is blamed to a large extent for present business depression and price recession, D. F. Kelly of Mandel Bros. makes a point which retailers and consumers alike will do well to consider, says The Chicago Tribune.

There is no doubt that restricted retail demand has reduced production greatly within the last few months. Textile mills, clothing factories and house furnishing producers are particularly hard hit. On the average they are producing probably not more than 60 per cent of their normal output.

In such circumstances it seems wise for consumers to buy the commodities they really need. That does not mean that return to the extravagance of a year ago is necessary. But if consumers buy this season, and merchants make it worth their while to do so, there will be a stable demand which will reopen mills and restore production at lower price levels.

SELECTING A CABINET.

PRESIDENT-ELECT Warren G. Harding is not going to have it all smooth sailing in the selection of his cabinet. Already he has encountered criticism because of the fact that, whether authoritatively or not, it has been stated that he was considering Senators Knox of Pennsylvania, Fall of New Mexico and New of Indiana for positions in the cabinet.

For instance, this from the Post Standard of Syracuse, N. Y.:

"The forecasts of Harding's cabinet appointments, which while they are only guesses, are based upon conversations with men who have been consulted about appointments, contain the names of three members of the United States senate, Knox of Pennsylvania, Fall of New Mexico and New of Indiana.

"Senator Knox is a member of the battalion of death, whose original objection to the League of Nations was that Germany was not a member, and whose parliamentary ability and influence as an international lawyer have been given to the wrecking of the treaty and the repudiation of the League of Nations in all its parts.

"Senator Fall, according to his autobiography largely engaged in mining in Mexico, has been the chief mischief maker in Mexican affairs,

who sought to conduct an independent negotiation with Villa, the bandit, when the state department was trying to get on good terms with Carranza.

"Senator New may be in danger of defeat for re-election in Indiana. That does not constitute a recommendation for his appointment to the cabinet. His name is an offense to the moral sentiment of the nation.

"The former senators who are under consideration for appointment, John W. Weeks of Massachusetts and George Sutherland of Utah, are able men of sound principle. The senators who are reported, we trust erroneously, to be under consideration, are another sort."

Senator Harding no doubt will be pained, if not surprised, at having his colleagues and close personal friends excoriated in the manner in which the Syracuse paper goes after them. When the Republicans talk about their own men in this way, we can but believe what is said. In this particular case we agree heartily in the opinion expressed.

BLUE LAW MOVEMENT.

THE reform movement for national Sunday "blue laws" which is to be pressed upon congress, news of which has been emanating from Washington for several weeks past, has raised a howl from every section of the country. The preponderance of opinion to which expression is given seems to be violently opposed to enacting any kind of legislation which will deprive the people of the recreations and pleasures now enjoyed on Sundays, such as baseball, theaters, motoring, etc.

As a matter of fact there seems little danger that any such program will ever come to pass because of the fact that the preliminary demands are being made for the District of Columbia. This would greatly inconvenience the senators and representatives. They may now enjoy themselves in Washington on Sundays, but if these blue laws were enacted they would be forced to run over to New York or Philadelphia or some other of the many lively eastern towns.

If the proposal had been to apply the regulations to all other United States territory and exempt the District of Columbia, we are of the opinion that the statutes sought would have had much greater chances of being passed. However, the alarm seems to be general. Regarding the matter, the Kansas City Star says:

"Among its other troubles congress when it meets next week will meet the drive of a determined band of 'reformers' who want a batch of blue laws ground out for immediate application in the District of Columbia, and eventually for the whole country. They want to stop all Sunday amusements, including baseball, and if they succeed in that it takes no prophet to figure out what will be coming to the rest of the week.

"These stern men and women are under the firm conviction that the victory of prohibition was a vindication of all their views as to what public and private conduct ought to be. They want everything which they do not themselves approve prohibited to everybody else. Government's chief function they hold is to supply government the list of things to which this prohibition shall apply. Probably they do not agree among themselves on all of them, which is fortunate at any rate, for while they squabble over their program the rest of the country is spared. Some want to prohibit tobacco, and some want to prohibit dancing, and some want to prohibit theaters.

"Congress, it is hoped, will have the courage and the firmness to resist these busybodies. It is too much to expect it to tell them the truth about themselves, or to explain that the driving out of whisky was not the act of a fanatical country that can be imposed upon by their claim that all the other things they object to are similar evils.

"But if congress does not give them this needed lesson public opinion will if they press their efforts too far. There are plenty of evils for wholesome minded Americans to attack, if they really want to help. But they ought to remain clear headed and not confuse necessary and improving public diversions with the things that are really doing the harm. There is something the matter with the head of the man who tries to stop baseball and with the head of the woman who tries to stop bridge, while neither pay any attention to child welfare or the condition of working mothers in the land.

"The question is, how can these truths be got into heads like those?" There is much truth in what the Star says, still it is hardly probable that on the program as outlined the reformers will get very far. Stopping Sunday amusements is an entirely different thing from advocating prohibition or anti-cigarette legislation. We are of the opinion that congress will puncture the reform balloon in this instance before it gets off the ground.

BEST EDITORIALS OF THE DAY

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS FREED.

The release of the last of the conscientious objectors—thirty-three in all—sent to prison during the war was an act of clemency dictated by common sense. No good purpose in the circumstances was to be served by holding them longer in custody. They had suffered their punishment, and in remitting their sentences Secretary Baker followed the recommendations of the adjutant general's office, which to such offenders has not been disposed to show undue leniency.

These men had wilfully refused to do military duty when millions of others were eager to go to the defense of their country. Presumably they were honest in their professions of faith, for their sincerity as pacifists was put to a hard test. At any rate, they accepted with open eyes the consequences of their defiance of the law and remained true to the principles that they avowed in justification of their conduct. No doubt to hundreds of thousands of others war was as hateful as it appeared to them, but persons of the type and character of these conscientious objectors were plainly unfit to be soldiers. If any of them imagined that by force of example they would start a wave of resistance to the selective service law they were deceived by their sense of self-importance and their egotism.

For the conscientious objector who went to prison for the defense of the country that cannot hold good for the slacker who evaded service by running away in the hope of beating the law. The true conscientious objector was capable of a kind of moral courage of obstinacy that rendered him the fitting object of a certain respect. The slacker's first instincts were those of cowardice or disloyalty, which made him seek in flight escape from military duty.

It is a distinction that should be kept in mind by all who have joined in condemning in advance Secretary Baker's course in freeing the conscientious objectors. In their cases certainly the law has been vindicated, and by their long imprisonment they have paid the required penalty for denying an obligation of American citizenship that the average young man was proud to meet.—New York World (Dem.).

THE WOMAN IN THE CABINET.

Senator Kenyon's proposal for the creation of a federal department of social welfare through the gathering up of the numerous bureaus attached to existing departments which have to do with the educational, social and moral welfare of the people, is evidently the forerunner of the recognition of the national enfranchisement of the feminine by the introduction of a woman into the presidential cabinet.

Apart from that, the plan does not appear to contemplate any far-reaching change or extension of the functions of the government. It is likely to be challenged by those who have been insistently urging the creation of an executive department of education, because, while including the present bureau of education and its auxiliaries in its provisions, it would deny the right of primary which has been hoped for it, and associate it with a number of other benevolent and altruistic enterprises of government, which in the aggregate might subordinate the immediate supervision and control of the public school system.

Paternalism has long been an established function of the national government, and of recent years has been outstanding in its development at a rapid rate. From paternalism the creation of a department of social welfare is a natural step. In its nomenclature it would be but the simple transfer of two letters. In practice it need be nothing more than the recognition of the joint interest of the two parents, joining the mother and father in their place of distinction, and endowing the state with the dual honors of parenthood. But the substitution of the initial letter in the definitive term, and the transformation of the name into a department, might be an altogether different matter.—Philadelphia Bulletin (Ind. Dem.).

LOST GOVERNMENT JOBS.

Washington, where the government clerk is seen at his best and his worst, is the tomb of thousands of possible young men. It has been one of the traditions, surviving from a lost past, that a government clerkship was a coveted position. It has been a steady pay, little work and short hours. Once in Washington the doors of the future closed on the appointee. He became a machine, usually an utterly unintelligent one. The easiness of the job softened him; his leisure hours he lost contact with his old home. Even the member who had him appointed forgot him. And every additional month he stayed in Washington made it so much more impossible for him to return to his old business, whatever that was.

Nearly 100,000 federal employees are now in Washington treading the mill that grinds ambition to shreds. About one-fourth of these are in charge of the war program of economy. They will go back from Pennsylvania to Main street. The federal bureau will bear no more the lazy scratch of their pens. The Washington boarding houses will hear no more their little stories of how they came to be appointed. They will not spend their summer afternoons watching Walter Johnson pitch; some will be pitching hay themselves.

But every one of the fired clerks, if he amounts to anything in his leisure hours, will be busy the day when Uncle Sam voted him, as George Ade puts it, the hardware.—New York Herald (Ind.).

GERMAN UNIVERSITIES.

One curious effect of the war in Germany has been the stimulus it has apparently given to high education. The war between the German universities had an attendance of 55,000; those same universities are operating today with full facilities and with 85,000 students in attendance. Eleven technical institutions have an enrollment that is double that of 1913. The only course that shows a marked increase in attendance is that of Protestant theology. Roman Catholic theology is not taught in the German universities, but we are told that the theological schools of that denomination are poorly attended, and several of them in Catholic Bavaria have been temporarily closed.

One conclusion from this may be that religion in Germany is at rather a low point. The government is in charge of Socialists, and most of the German Socialists are free-thinkers. And the German church did not make a creditable record during the war. Its pastors, with very few exceptions, accepted the absurd divine right of the Hohenzollerns, and even went to the extent of exalting the Hohenzollerns above the Deity.—Louisville Post (Dem.).

The continent around the Antarctic ocean is believed to be larger than Europe. Russian soviet currency totals about 200,000,000 rubles.

The Haskin Letter

By FREDERIC HASKIN

CHINATOWN ON SHOW

San Francisco, Calif., Nov. 26.—San Francisco has the largest and most essentially Chinese Chinatown in America. People who knew it before the fire declare that its charm disappeared with that catastrophe. By this, of course, they mean that most of its colossal filth and wickedness is gone. But the visitor wandering about its queer, irregular streets, finds it still exotic and picturesque.

One moment you are in Portsmouth Square, before the monument of Robert Louis Stevenson, and a moment later you are in a narrow Canton byway, containing numerous Chinese markets, drug stores, restaurants and clothing shops. Chinamen in dull, native garb or second-hand American clothes throng the sidewalk, and occasionally a Chinese housewife, a brilliant Chinese basket on her arm, trips silently into a market.

The markets are worth investigating in themselves. Always they are crowded with tiers and tiers of wooden coops reaching all the way to the low ceiling and containing nervous rabbits, frantic hens, and despondent ducks and geese. Nearby the same species are exhibited in their popular dried form, looking very much as if they had received a coat of yellow varnish. Some of them have been chopped into small withered pieces and strung on bits of cord like necklaces, which is also the state to which beef, pork and mutton are reduced.

But the principal trade of the markets, as you can easily detect by the smell, is in fish. There are big fish and little fish; fresh fish and dried fish; and fish of every hue and shape. Chinamen, it seems, are devoted to fish, and fish are sent from all parts of the Pacific to gratify their fishy appetites. Here you find huge, black-bellied sturgeons, spotted sharks, piles of flounders, carp and curiously yellow cod.

Chinese Chow.

Even the Chinese restaurants of San Francisco, are more Chinese than those encountered elsewhere. Many of them have a wide and permanent patronage among San Francisco's Anglo-Saxon population, who are disappointed if they miss their weekly treat of a Chinese table d'ote. Pathetic is the plight of the visitor who happens to have several such acquaintances, for each and all of them are eager and insistent to share this treat with him. The fact that an appetite for Chinese food must be created by a strong and persistent effort of the will seems never to have occurred to them.

Usually, the meal begins with Chop Suey, which is a sort of complicated concoction, among many other things, old shoe leather and wooden shavings, flavoured with rusty pipe juice. The second course, if you are lucky, may be nothing more alarming than fried rice, which, if served as possible. Then comes the prize of the collection—Chow Gung—a sort of soup supposed to contain meat, eggs, mushrooms and bean-cakes. If the diner is not carried away unconsciously by this mixture, he may be brought in. And such eggs only the Chinese know how to procure. They are the eggs of yesterday, and yet the year before, or maybe they are eggs passed down like old wine from the early Ming dynasty. No butter is served with this Chinese dinner, the Chinese holding butter in fierce contempt. "You smellie all same butter" is one of the dearest insults a Chinaman can level at a Westerner, but we may all be thankful that they do not say we smell like eggs.

There are only two articles on the menu of a Chinese table d'ote which are acceptable to the uninitiated palate, and those are the dessert—usually a delicious, rich fruit served in honey—and the tea. More than any other race the Chinese know how to make tea. You can buy Chinese tea and make it yourself, but unless you are remarkably expert you never quite achieve the name flavor secured by a Chinese chef.

Not until you have dined in a Chinatown restaurant, do you realize the significance of the nearby drug stores always a few feet from a food mart or safe. We feel sure that the Chinese drug stores must do an overwhelming business, although the remedies they offer do not inspire great confidence in the Occidental. Chief among these are roots and herbs, as well as such potent medical staples as dried heads and loads displayed occasionally in weird juxtaposition to American soaps and chewing gum.

A Rubberneck Tour

A trip through Chinatown would not

be complete, of course, without an interior view of a Chinese house, or temple. To obtain this, unless you are well acquainted in Chinatown, you must join a sightseeing party. Every night several huge rubberneck wagons park along the curbs of Chinatown and hundreds of tourists are entertained through a mezzanine while being shown as little bona-fide scenery as possible. In fact, one gets the impression that the Chinatown one sees on such an occasion is entirely a creation of the local association of sightseeing companies, with the help of a few Chinese stockholders. Nevertheless, it is amusing.

The Joss House to which the sightseeing party, of which the reporter was a member, was led the other night was located in a narrow alley. In the darkness and fog it was possible to glimpse a dimly lighted balcony, beneath a pagod roof, and to see that the temple faced, as is the custom with all Chinese joss houses, towards the east. Then suddenly a dark figure appeared on the balcony, and a voice began shouting in angry Chinese. There was a moment of breathless suspense in the crowd, which had been waiting patiently for a thrill. Then "Oh, bring the gang on up," said the same voice in smooth and contemptuous English.

The temple, which was filed to overflowing with Chinese embroidered tapestries, wood carving, gods and incense, was housed in a small room on the top floor. A chinaman, who was in charge of a souvenir counter in the hallway, led the party in, after which he ran and beat on a brass gong in order to drive away the evil spirits brought in with the visitors.

Upon a central altar at the back of the temple a dozen or more Chinese gods were seated in a row, in company with one or two black-haired goddesses. Most of the gods had long, flowing black mustaches, one suspended from either side of the chin, while one of them said to be the Doctor God, had three eyes, one in the center of his forehead. Along the ledge, in front of each God—the god of war, the god of health, the god of business, the god of luck, and others—was a small Chinese cup of tea, in the process of evaporation. The tea is placed there in case the gods should become thirsty, and when it is entirely evaporated, the priests of the temple know that the godly thirst has been appeased. Before the altar, a huge lamp, burning peanut oil, shed a dull radiance on the gaily dressed, small wax figures. This lamp, it was explained, is kept perpetually burning. If it should suddenly go out, it would mean that the gods were enraged, and not a Chinaman could be persuaded to go into the temple.

An Oriental Switchboard.

One of the most interesting features of the San Francisco Chinatown is its telephone exchange, located in a building with a brightly decorated pagoda roof and balconies and an interior elaborately frescoed with Chinese designs. The switchboard, which is carved and set in a shrine, is operated by Chinese girls in richly colored silk coats and trousers, who speak equally well in both English and Chinese.

Chinatown had its beginnings in San Francisco in 1869, according to Californian authorities, when Chinese coolies were encouraged to come to this country to work on the construction of the Central Pacific railroad. It was the same coolie class that laid the foundation of all other Chinatowns in America. Later came the merchant and leisure classes, but never in such great numbers.

"The old Chinatown," explained a San Franciscan, "contained over 25,000 inhabitants, whereas the present one contains about 20,000. Many of those who fled the fire located elsewhere and never came back. The section used to be composed of dilapidated tenements and rockeries from two to five stories high, divided by narrow alleys that were swarming day and night with the occupants of the first class stores and basements. Nearly every house had its cellar and sub-cellar, usually given over to the use of opium, gambling and other iniquities. The job houses were more numerous then, and Chinese music, which is so exasperating to Occidental ears, constantly issued from them.

"The theaters, too, were more numerous. All the actors were men, women being forbidden in the Chinese theatrical profession; the scenery was primitive—often nothing at all; the play was without plot, so far as an Occidental could see, and it often took days and even

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JAPAN HAS NO HOPE OF INCREASING OIL OUTPUT FOR ITS NAVY. Orders Seven Tankers to Bring Imports of Liquid Fuel Needed for Vessels.

Tokio, Sept. 30.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—There is no hope, it is said, for Japan at present to become self-supporting in the matter of oil supplies and the naval authorities have ordered seven tankers which are to carry oil imported for the Japanese navy. While the demand for oil steadily increases the output in the country tends to decrease. The present output of raw oil is only about 320,000 tons a year. The heavy oil consumed by the navy amounts to about 100,000 tons a year and assuming that 40 per cent of heavy oil can be made out of a ton of raw oil the naval demand can be more than sufficiently met by the home product. But besides the requirements of the navy there is a vast general demand to be met. When the eight battleship and eight battle cruiser squadron program is completed in 1927, it is estimated that the demand of the navy will amount to at least 700,000 tons, whereas there seems no hope of an increase in the output of oil in this country. The authorities have for some time been engaged in the investigation of oil fields in Saghalien and in other places but no satisfactory results have yet been obtained. The oil fields at Kosenho and Nairo in Formosa have been worked somewhat but the field at Nairo is entirely disappointing; the result of the working of the Kosenho field will not be known for two or three months, but satisfactory results are not expected. The oil tankers ordered will have a displacement of 11,000 tons each and will carry 9,000 tons of oil. Important actions of the St. Louis convention of the National Federation of the Federal Employees, just closed included the passage of resolutions: (1) With State and city central trade union bodies. (2) That the organization redouble its efforts to secure reclassification of Government employees and a workers representation. (3) That not less than \$1000 a year, or 37 1/2 cents an hour, be adopted as a minimum wage, without regard to sex.

OH, MAN. EDDIE DO YOU REMEMBER HOW WE USED TO BASH INTO JERRY'S PLACE AND SING A FEW SONGS FOR THE BOYS? YES HARRY YES. THOSE WERE THE DAYS OF REAL THANKSGIVING—EU'BODY HAPPY EDDIE. YES. EDDIE—THERE WASN'T A TIME AROUND THANKS—GIVING EVE THAT I DIDN'T GO HOME WITH A NICE BIG TURKEY AND A BASKET OF SUPPLIES—YOU KNOW? OH HARRY DO I? -AND GOOD OLD JERRY WOULD MAKE UP A BOWL OF TODDY—DO YOU REMEMBER? DO I REMEMBER? WASN'T I THERE? -AND THEN PAUL CAMPSON WOULD BLOW IN—EDDIE BARRON—DONALD HARGIS—AND WELL YOU REMEMBER EDDIE? YOU'RE BREAKING MY HEART HARRY. AND NOW LOOK AT THE DARN THING!!