

The Washington Times

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1916.

LEST WE FORGET

Listen for a minute. See if you recognize the words. Perhaps you may recall the voice: I earnestly advise that the Congress now provide four battalions of the most advanced type. I cannot too emphatically say that this is a measure of peace and not of war.

Spoken eight years ago in the message to the Congress of the United States by Theodore Roosevelt. Pretty good stuff, eh?

OLD RODNEY'S PENSION

One more pensioner is to be added to the list to which Uncle Sam contributes. But this time there will be no call for enlistment papers, no demand for affidavits of service, no requirement of documents of discharge. Old Rodney needs none of these, for his service is already well known to the Government and the appeal for authority to "stable, forage, and care for" Rodney until he dies is going to be granted with a cheerful heart.

TROUSERS FOR WOMEN

Is the war after all going to be able to change radically and for more than a passing moment the style of dress worn by women of the belligerent nations? London has just held a style show, and one of the striking features about it was the recommendation of a garment for working girls which seemed to receive wide indorsement. It consists of a blouse and a sort of harem skirt, really baggy trousers, but without a hint of masculine garments or any suggestion of immodesty. The women of England, in the work they are now following, in the making of munitions and the accomplishment of tasks heretofore performed by men, have found the ordinary form of dress a hindrance.

RUSSIA'S GREAT CHANCE

Can Russia rise to the full occasion? Her troops have been fighting effectively in the Sultan's dominions and they seem to be holding their own on the Russo-Germanic frontier. But the Turkish campaign will not decide the war and holding their own elsewhere is not enough. French military critics say the Germans have thrown no less than eight new divisions into the battle at Verdun within the past fifteen days. To do this the Russian and British fronts have been stripped, a proceeding so dangerous, the same authority asserts, "that the German general staff hesitated a long time before making the decision, and the present situation cannot be continued without serious risk."

COLD CASH RAILWAY DEMANDS

What the public wants to know first of all about the railway wage controversy now being negotiated, is what the 300,000 engineers, conductors, firemen, and brakemen actually demand in money—what, if their demands are conceded, they will get in cold, hard cash. The railway managers declare that if the demand of the railway workers is conceded it will cost the public—in inevitably the public must pay such a bill—\$100,000,000 a year. But the chief of the engineers and the chief of the conductors declare that if the men get all they are asking for it will amount to less than \$22,000,000 a year.

STARVATION FOR THE INNOCENT

K. El-Awad, heading a delegation representing the Syrians in America has called on President Wilson to appeal for help in the case of the starving people of their native country. The records show that more than eighty thousand women, children, and men have starved to death in the little Syrian state of Mt. Lebanon. What has happened and is still happening in Syria is true in Poland, Serbia, Montenegro, and Albania, where literally millions of non-combatants, aged men, children, and defenseless women are dying lingering deaths for lack of food. The Rockefeller Foundation has made \$1,000,000 available to furnish relief to these people, but a German demand for delay until Austria and Bulgaria shall agree to a plan of co-operation already indorsed by British authorities and tacitly agreed to by Germany herself, prevents any effective move toward the betterment of conditions. It is a recognized law of war, or it was such before all recognized laws of war were lost sight of, that the feeding of non-combatants was a duty devolving upon invaders. It is

not altogether unlikely, however, that Germany's failure to obey this law is in a large part due to her inability to feed her own people, to say nothing of feeding those whose countries she has devastated. Surely something should be done to make available to the suffering the succor that idly waits while millions starve. The work of relief in Belgium by the American commission and the willingness of the Rockefeller Foundation to furnish further supplies should urge the American Government to strive to the utmost to obtain the consent of the belligerents to some plan which shall end the grim harvest of starvation.

ENGLAND IN THE NORTH SEA IN 1666 The ringing shots which are still echoing across the waves of the North Sea as a result of the recent engagement of the English and German fleets are but reverberations of similar sounds born two centuries and a half ago when England met a stinging defeat at the hands of the Dutch in those same waters. In 1665 the English fleet on the third of June had met and mastered the Dutch commanders and it required a year for De Ruyter to make ready for another test of strength. But that year was well employed and when they put out again nearly a hundred Dutch sail answered command. As in last week's engagement not the whole of the English fleet was in the battle, for a part of it was detailed to intercept a French squadron supposed to be on its way to aid the Dutch. Admiral Monk, however, with sixty vessels, attempted engagement with a fleet of almost twice that number and for four days the contending forces spent their days in fighting and their nights in repairing the damage done each other. All was plain, hard fighting, and the English commander began to fear the entire destruction of his fleet should Admiral Rupert fail to arrive soon with re-enforcements. According to the statement made by Sir John Harman, one of Monk's officers, there were but sixteen English ships able to continue battle when assistance hove in sight. In this particular there seems to be a parallel in the recent engagement, for it was the coming up of the major portion of the English fleet which seems to have led to the withdrawal of the German ships. De Ruyter's temporary withdrawal was not, however, caused by weakness, for he shortly returned and despite the freshness of the newly arrived English sailors the Dutch were able to continue the infliction of damage to such an extent that the British admirals drew off and acknowledged defeat. The conclusions reached by the English authorities in those days are likely to be echoed by the present admiralty, the reports of that time having declared that "All that the Dutch had discovered was that Englishmen might be killed and English ships might be burned, but that English courage was invincible."

The next year the same commanders met again and England was overwhelmingly victorious. Will the sailors and officers of the great British armada of 1916 be able to retrieve their fortunes when Jellicoe and Scheer shall meet again?

Washington's private schools are much in evidence at this season, and they furnish a distinctive and fast growing element in the student and social life of the city.

AN OUTSTANDING FACT

The outstanding fact of the North Sea fight is that battle cruisers by themselves cannot whip battleships. The German dreadnaughts which made a wreck of Beatty's lighter squadron turned tail before Jellicoe's heavier dreadnaughts. Our Congress, always apt to muddle a naval program as scientifically prepared by naval experts, is now proposing to build new battle cruisers without superdreadnaughts to back them up. This policy before the North Sea test was error; now it would be crime.

SECRETARY BAKER WILL DEVELOP THE AVIATION SERVICE AMONG THE NATIONAL GUARD MEN.

Cavalry can march, Mr. B., without horses, but it's some job to aviate without a mount.

With millions marching in preparedness parades all over the country, the Monterey (Mex.) anti-American demonstration by 1,500 doesn't get them much.

managers try to make the public believe that the new scale would cost \$100,000,000 when the most that it could possibly cost would be \$22,000,000, then the managers should not have the confidence or the sympathy of the public in this dispute and the \$22,000,000, if conceded, should not be permitted to be passed along to the public. Let the facts of what the new scale would actually cost be made perfectly clear to the American people before this case goes further on its way to settlement. The public isn't going to back any side which is grossly misstating the truth; and the side which isn't backed by the public isn't going to have the ghost of a chance to win if the other side stands firm. Now give us the facts in a way so clear and so convincing that nobody can misunderstand them.

THE FUTURE OF WASHINGTON

Persons who grow alarmed for the future of the National Capital when an occasional lean year in Congressional appropriations for the District comes, should take note of the lecture of Col. W. W. Harts at the University Club. Development of Anacostia River, now under way, will open up a new beauty spot in Washington. The proposed memorial across the Potomac and the boulevard to Mt. Vernon will make the southern entrance to the city notable for its beauty. The connecting parkway between Potomac Park and Rock Creek Park will throw about the city a semi-circle of natural scenery and parking that will vie with the gardens and parks of Old World capitals.

Indeed the present plan for the development of the Capital is destined to make this city one of the most beautiful seats of government in the world, if the word of experts the world over is taken for it. Only about a century ago nineteen farmers sold their farms to the Government, and the work of making a city beautiful has been in progress less than fifty years. Such an achievement holds the promise of much greater development.

EDUCATION IN THE CAPITAL

All that one has to do at this season to realize that Washington is fast becoming an educational center is to read the papers, rife with items about graduations and commencement exercises. Each year Washington attracts more and more students because of the opportunities here for first hand library and scientific research, because of the presence here of authorities in every field who are obtained by schools and colleges as lecturers, and because, even when other things are equal, Washington is a good city to live in while going to school. The Washington's youth seize opportunities for higher education in proof of the facilities that exist here. More grammar school pupils go to high school, in proportion, than in any other city of the country; and a greater percentage of high school pupils find their way to college, than in any other city. This does not take into account the unusually large number who go directly to law schools, or some other vocational institutions.

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MAIL BAG

Communications to the Mail Bag must be written on one side of the paper and must be legible. They must be addressed to the Editor, and must be signed with name and address of sender. The Mail Bag does not mean the indorsement by The Times of the opinions of the writers. The Mail Bag is an open forum, where the citizens of Washington can argue most questions.

Says Ten Million Negroes Are Praying for the Nomination of Roosevelt.

To the Editor of THE TIMES: With all due respect for Hughes, Burton, Weeks, and other candidates, we ten million negroes of the United States call for the nomination of Colonel Roosevelt for our next President. With the exception of Abraham Lincoln, no other man has ever so completely won the confidence, respect, and admiration of our people as T. R. Colonel Roosevelt's Americanism, his cosmopolitan personality, and unquestioned sense of justice for all men, regardless of race, creed, or color, has won the hearts of the ablest Presidential possibility of today.

Judging the future by the past, we believe that our people will receive just and reasonable treatment under another Administration of Roosevelt. The Colonel believes with former Senator Foraker that we do not ask for any special favors, simply because we are negroes. We do ask for justice, and we are men.

The foremost leaders of our race have paid tribute to the Colonel. Dean Kelly, of the College of Arts and Sciences at Howard University, in his "Race Adjustment," said: "The foremost leader of our race is the negro by Roosevelt when he was President, saying: 'These acts on the part of the President, which are not only a recognition of the colored race, it was felt that his views were broad, based upon the highest of human principles, and that his citizenship which accord to all classes of citizens the same official consideration and respect.'"

In concluding his comment on the Colonel, he said: "The President is not only a man who is more popular and more loved by the ten millions of negroes in America than any other man, but he is a man who is more popular and more loved by the ten millions of negroes in America than any other man."

Samuel Untermyer Resents Insinuation That He Speculates in Stocks.

To the Editor of THE TIMES: My issue of May 21, in which you quote from the New York Sun an article attributed by the Sun to the Odd Fellows' Association, that I had sold my ownership of a block of 23,712 shares of stock in the Kennecott Copper Company and broadly insinuated that I was a speculator in stocks. The statement is as follows: "The following statement is reported in the New York Sun: 'The Odd Fellows' Review makes the following interesting comment regarding Samuel Untermyer and his political activities. He is a speculator. About a year ago in a public statement Samuel Untermyer said: 'I never speculate in stocks.' At the same time Untermyer was on the books of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation for a big block of the common stock. The publication of the Kennecott Copper stockholders this week shows that Mr. Untermyer is down on the books for 23,712 shares.'"

I have for some years past been an investor in the common stock of the Kennecott Copper Company. I was not a speculator in the sense in which the word is used in the article. I was a shareholder in the company. I was not a speculator in the sense in which the word is used in the article. I was a shareholder in the company. I was not a speculator in the sense in which the word is used in the article. I was a shareholder in the company.

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Pollock—"Quincy Adams Sawyer," 8:15 p. m.
Play by Ashbur Dramatic Club at Wilson Normal School, 8 p. m.
Banquet, seniors of George Washington University, Bowman Hotel, 8 p. m.
Primary exercises, Holy Cross Academy, 3 p. m.
Concert, Engineer Band, Dupont Circle, 7:30 p. m.
Fourth annual excursion, employees of E. K. Ryan & Co., steamer St. Johns, foot of Seventh street, leaving at 7 p. m.
Play by Ashbur Dramatic Club at Wilson Normal School, 8 p. m.
Masquerade, National, No. 12; Arminius, No. 28; Lafayette, No. 8; and Washington, No. 28, at 8 o'clock, Royal Arch.
Society, Rites—Lodge of Perfection, No. 1; Mizpah, No. 2; and Fidelity, No. 19, 8 p. m.
Knights of Pythias—Webster, No. 7; Excelsior, No. 4; Central, No. 21; Myrtle, No. 25; O. F. B. Lodge, No. 21; Washington, No. 29; Golden Rule, No. 21; Washington, No. 4; Rebekah—Fidelity, No. 2; Macomber—Mount Vernon Tent; Brightwood Tent.

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Many Mentioned, Few Willing, for Second Post on G. O. P. Ticket

Here is Story About the Vice Presidency, But Not the Quadrennial Urgencies About Restoring the Place to Its Erstwhile, Etc.

By JUDSON C. WELLIVER.

CHICAGO, Ill., June 5.—P. S.: The subject story is about the Vice Presidential nomination; but it is not the regular foredoomed, predestined, and painfully inevitable quadrennial wall about the national necessity for restoring the great office of Vice Presidency from the disrepute into which it has fallen. I have reversed the established order and put the postscript at the front, out of consideration for the gentle reader. He mightn't be, if he thought I was going to write that lovely old bromide. If recollection is not awry, it is about twenty years since the above signed first took up his pen from the press table of a national convention and appealed with intense earnestness to a patriotic fellow-citizenry to grab a root and rescue the Vice Presidency.

It seemed a theme worthy the best thought of the great American nation, but the event seemed mildly to suggest that nobody else was much excited about it. I have since been told that the first reporter who appeared at the first national convention back in 1828 or thereabouts, was the first time at a national convention ever since has written that same piece over again. So I'll not write it this time.

Booming Charles Nagel.

However, the time is at hand, anyhow, when the people who don't want to begin a beginning to dodge and those who do want it are pretending to dodge in order that they may keep their existence in mind. The Missouri legislature guard burst in town with a wild report that the beginning to date, should be shown how they would like to be shown how to get the nomination for Charles Nagel, who, under the present Administration, was secretary of Commerce. They pointed out how nice and cozy it would be to nominate a man who served with Taft and who would be a further testimony that reconciliation was complete; and may be it would strengthen the party, too. It would be a further testimony that a powerful argument. Just how Mr. Nagel felt about it, or whether he had been warned of things that his supposed friends were setting up on him was not disclosed.

Among Those Receptive.

There are others in just as bad a scrape. Common report—a very animated old lady in a place like Chicago, with no money in business of any kind, and no other prospects. Charles W. Fairbanks, former Vice President, and now candidate for the Vice Presidency. Elmer Jacob Burkett, former Senator from Nebraska. Former Senator Burton of Ohio. Senator Weeks of Massachusetts. Senator Borah of Idaho. Senator of California. Henry D. Estabrooke, of New York. Mr. Estabrooke is the mysterious gentleman who a long time ago made quite a campaign. He enjoys the distinction of being a full-fledged candidate for some office anywhere. He has one Vice Presidential qualification, that of first importance, that is, he is not so big a roll, it is reported as before he started his voteless campaign for President, but still plenty. Myron H. Erickson, of Delaware. Mr. Coleman du Pont, of Delaware. Mr. Du Pont also is prodigiously solvent and has been a good deal of a politician in his time.

Add Others Ad Lib.

There is room enough to expand this list ad lib.; write in the name of any friend you want to compliment, or prod, or stir, or encourage, or cheer, and feel that you have done the nice thing. As the cook books say, "Add seasoning to suit the taste, and stir." The list is not to be set down as a measurably sure thing—right in the class with death, taxes, and the certainty that Ormsby McHarg will be at any national convention with somebody's boom under his wings—is that no Senator will willingly consent to be the Vice Presidential ticket hit hatched to him. Nobody entertains so expansive a contempt for the Vice Presidential ticket as I do. I don't know why, but I generally agreed that somebody must. Somebody always has been; which on the basis of actual experience amply justifies the presumption that somebody always will be. Personally I entertain so kindly a feeling for the gentlemen who have been mentioned in this piece that I must decline to venture which one or whether any one of the candidates has the best chance of being chosen by anybody. It might start a boom for him.

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JOHN CLIFFIN NOW CLOSE TO POVERTY

Merchant Who Once Controlled \$50,000,000 Stores Hasn't Even Life Insurance.

NEW YORK, June 5.—John Claffin, who until the crash of the H. B. Claffin Company in June, 1914, was the country's biggest figure in the field of merchandise, who controlled twenty-seven stores that were estimated as worth \$50,000,000, and who was reported to have a private fortune of \$8,000,000, has been reduced to the verge of poverty.

It was revealed yesterday that his possessions comprise his home in Manhattan—formerly his summer abode—personal property worth less than \$2,000 and a bank account of \$200. He has not even life insurance policy. Claffin's real estate, his equity in the many stores he recently governed, his stocks and bonds, his automobiles and the thousand luxuries he once enjoyed have been thrown into the pool from which his creditors are gathering their share of that owed them. Claffin's transfer of his properties has brought him a discharge from the estate entailed in the operation of his stores.

This condition in the affairs of the man who a few years ago was president of the Chamber of Commerce of Commerce, who was in the forefront of all charitable, philanthropic and civic movements, raises a question in the report filed with the supreme court by Charles O. Maas, referee. Maas was appointed referee to determine the claims of the creditors which could be levied on to satisfy a judgment of \$38,574 obtained against him by the United States Realty and Investment Company, a corporation owned under Claffin's guarantee of the rent of the O'Neill-Adams Company store, in Sixth avenue.

Claffin was examined by Maas and by R. G. Baggage, representing the creditor, said that at the present time he was not engaged in business of any kind, and has no other prospects. Since June 1, 1914, he has transferred to receivers of the Claffin Company the corporate securities of the stores, and a reorganization might be effected. His creditors accepted, in lieu of payment, notes against the Mercantile Stores Corporation, the company formed to effect reorganization.

Claffin turned over also 1,400 shares of the Columbia Trust and Savings Association, 100 shares of the National Bank of Commerce stock, 20 shares of the Home Insurance Company, and certain mortgages. All these were to be converted for the aid of women who had deposit accounts with his stores. In reply to a question as to whether he had given nothing to his wife within a year prior to the failure with the exception of a few inexpensive presents. He answered that he had no personal life insurance policy. That Claffin was sincere in turning over all his stores and possessions was testified by James S. Alexander, president of the National Bank of Commerce. All Claffin received in return was a mortgage on all his indebtedness and a certificate of beneficial interest in the capital stock of the Mercantile Stores Corporation, after the payment of all indebtedness. At the present time deposit creditors have received 15 cents on the dollar, but further payment will probably be made to them from the sale of the notes of the Mercantile Stores Corporation.

Claffin questioned the guarantee on which the United States Realty and Investment Company obtained its judgment. Claffin said it is doubtful if he guaranteed the rent of the O'Neill-Adams Company's rent. "They claimed that I did," he said, "and that the assets were not sufficient to meet the obligations of the children's day. Sunday school. My opinion is that that were. If the store had been carried on I believe it would be going today and would be making a little money."

CLERKS TO BE BUSY AT ALL CONVENTIONS

Federal Employes Will Seek Aid in Platforms of Three Parties.

Efforts will be made to have the Republican, Bull Moose, and Democratic platforms contain planks favorable to the retirement of civil service employes, a minimum wage for Government employes, and the creation of a tribunal to which employes with grievances may appeal. A committee representing the Civil Service employes has established headquarters in the Auditorium Hotel, Chicago, and at the Planters Hotel, St. Louis, where the Democratic convention begins. The committee, which will be composed of the following: J. J. St. John, St. Louis; and Melvin C. Sharp, will conduct an energetic campaign to have the proposed plank incorporated in the three platforms.

Churches of Christ to Aid War Sufferers

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America has received word from many of the churches that they desire to devote the offerings on Children's Day, Sunday, June 11, to war relief funds to help save the children of Europe from disease, starvation, and death. The council has suggested that, so far as it does not interfere with other arrangements, the churches should create school offerings on Children's Sunday be devoted in whole, or in part to this cause.

Washingtonians Go to See Priest Ordained

A number of Washingtonians went to Belmont, N. C., yesterday to attend the ordination of the Rev. Dennis O'Brien, formerly of the National Guard.

The ordination services were held in the Belmont Abbey Cathedral. The Right Rev. Leo Haid, O. S. B., D. D., officiated, with the Rev. Gilbert Gannon, former pastor of the Washington and one of the Rev. Father O'Brien's classmates, assisting. The new priest is well known in Washington, having been a member of St. Stephen's and St. Teresa's choir while here. He will celebrate his first mass in St. Joseph's Church, Martinsburg, W. Va., next Sunday. On June 18 he will celebrate solemn high mass at St. Stephen's Church, where he was a parishioner while a resident of Washington.

Hit by Motor, Gets \$2.

NEWARK, June 5.—Henry Sykes, sixty-five, of 203 Springfield avenue, was struck by an automobile near his home this afternoon. The driver of the machine handed him \$2 and drove on without giving his name. Sykes was taken to the City Hospital.