

The Washington Times

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GARBAGE DISPOSAL

Speaking before the Midcity Citizens' Association last evening Commissioner Brownlow again urged the advisability of building a municipal garbage plant in Washington.

Washington should collect its garbage for the same reason that it sweeps its streets. No one would now advocate going back to the contract system for street cleaning.

One drawback to the disposal plant which is contemplated in connection with municipal collection has been removed. Formerly it was feared that its location in the District would entail unpleasant odors.

Organizations which have an eye to municipal economy can undertake no better work than pushing a campaign to have this city collect and dispose of its own garbage and other refuse.

MARYLAND'S STATE COLLEGE

Action of the State board of agriculture of Maryland in electing one of the country's foremost experts in rural problems, Dr. Albert F. Woods, of the University of Minnesota, to the presidency of Maryland Agricultural College, and empowering him to carry out broad plans for expansion of the college work, especially in relation to farming, has more than a neighborly interest for Washington.

In the absence of any institution in the District corresponding to the State colleges, or of any institution affording preparation for a vocation now generally recognized as full of promise, many Washington boys turn yearly to Maryland Agricultural College. That institution has been doing its work thoroughly, but it has been hampered in the scope of it by lack of physical equipment or adequate funds for engaging enough men of high caliber for its faculty.

Dr. Woods not only becomes president of the college but executive officer of the State board of agriculture. This should mean a linking of the collegiate work more closely to the practical problems that face the farmers of Maryland. That State has not kept pace with other commonwealths in developing its land resources.

HIGH COST OF DELIVERY

A proposal by the railroads to effect a 5 per cent increase in freight rates always can be counted upon to raise a clamor from Maine to the Golden Gate. It becomes the subject of extensive hearings before the Interstate Commerce Commission, and thousands of editorial guns are turned loose upon it, with dire predictions about the effect upon the high cost of living.

The American public has had this one subject of the cost of railroad transportation pounded so thoroughly into its consciousness that it seems unable to glimpse any other reason for advancing prices. Yet any man, woman, or child, can throw aside the newspaper, look out of the window, and in half an hour's time see scores of reasons for the high cost of many of the things we eat and most of the things we use.

For example, a study of the cost

of city delivery of coal in Philadelphia is reported as showing that the buyer pays twice as much to get coal delivered from a dealer a mile away from his home as he did to have it brought from a point 100 miles distant by rail.

This is not the middleman's fault. He is not making excessive profits. But he is maintaining an expensive delivery system, duplicated by dozens of his competitors, mostly because the public has not yet turned its attention to this significant problem of getting products from retailers to homes.

Once any considerable number of folk are induced to think about the process by which finished products reach them, and are persuaded to trace the course of these products from producer to consumer, the first step toward effective combating of high prices has been taken.

GERMANY'S NEW ADVENTURE IN FRIGHTFULNESS

Germany's note to the United States shatters a forlorn and flimsy hope, a hope born of living too long in a fool's paradise, bolstered by the soporific effects of the "kept us out of war" opiate, a hope that the nation that violated Belgium, threw to the winds all other "scraps of paper," would stand by her reluctant half-promises to this nation.

On May 4, 1916, the German government notified the United States that "in accordance with the general principles of visit and search and destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, such vessels, both within and without the area declared as a naval war zone" would not be sunk without warning and without attempt to save human lives.

This "diplomatic victory" was won after a series of note writings in which he quibbled over established principles of international law, after winking at the very principles that we fought for in 1812, and after cringing at the violation of those very principles which Germany now so audaciously proclaims she is fighting for, "the freedom of the seas as a preliminary condition for free and peaceful intercourse of all nations."

In the face of this note Secretary Lansing's unfortunate "explanation" of President Wilson's peace plea, that the President sought to bring about a cessation of the struggle lest the United States be embroiled, takes on a new aspect. It may throw light, too, on the President's unusual and unexpected address to the Senate. Our effort to assume a paternal aspect toward the whole world, the vague and illusory dream of spreading out the Monroe doctrine to blanket Europe, the "neutrality of thought and word" of eighteen months ago, and the sudden accession of humanitarianism in a last desperate effort to "keep us out of war," all crash against the stone wall of German frightfulness, more heinous, more offensive, more repulsive, more arrogant, than any similar effort she has made in the past.

The psychology of the German nation, as explained in polysyllabic phrase and with an erudition that trimmed itself to each new exhibition of national temperament, now needs no exposition from college professors. It is plain, frightfully plain, to the man in the street. He pictures a nation that started out in defiance of human laws and all principles of justice because it believed in its virtuous might, now fighting with its back to the wall, willing to sacrifice even the vestiges of its professions as a last weapon in a struggle which it has tacitly admitted, by its peace proposals, it is slowly losing.

Each covert insult to the intelligence of the United States, conveyed in the pile of missives already communicated, brought to most thinking men a realization that the time was fast coming when this nation has to stand for its rights to maintain its self-respect. The note of yesterday brings the Administration face to face with an actuality which the supreme effort at phrase making, the most consummate juggling with theories, cannot evade. It brings to the tongues of thousands of red-blooded American citizens with intensified force the question they have been asking since the Lusitania went down, "What is my country going to do about it?"

We have no idea of embarrassing the President or Secretary Lansing, by assuming to outline the steps which in our judgment they ought to take to meet this offense to our national dignity and threat against our national interests. We have confidence enough in the American spirit and in the loyalty of any Administration to American ideals to trust that the situation will be met impressively with courage and firmness. We feel sure that Germany will be convinced speedily and emphatically that whatever she may do

against her enemies she will not be allowed to violate American honor nor outrage American citizenship.

In taking this position, regardless of the form in which it is asserted, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Lansing will have the full and ungrudging support of the American people. But with our Government showing a resolute and courageous front and our people united behind it, in our best judgment, we have little to fear. We have little doubt that to some degree at least Germany is experimenting with our temper. When she finds that it cannot be tried too far, we still entertain hope that she will back away within the safety limits.

HOW FAR CAN GERMANY GO?

Looked at from the point of view of the allies, the new German outburst is a most encouraging confession of disaster and defeat. The efficiency of the British blockade is bringing the German people to the verge of starvation and exhaustion, so that the future stamina of the race is imperiled, is admitted in explicit terms.

But this is not all. The entire note as well as the new war policy which it announces proclaim the inability of German arms to secure a victory by any means save and except by "frightfulness" at sea. All the talk of taking Paris or St. Petersburg, of invading Egypt, or marching on Britain's Indian empire, has vanished.

The one way out for Germany now is to starve England by wiping her commerce from the seas through methods in contravention of the laws of war and the principles of humanity. This is Germany's one surviving hope.

The question, then is plainly: Can she do it? It is said she has 500 submarines and can carry out her fell purpose by disregarding all the pledges that she has given to our Government. In a word, we do not believe it. We do not believe she has any much greater number of submarines than are already in operation. It is incredible that she should have them and have kept them idle. There has been great submarine activity for months and it is fair to suppose that especially when operating under restrictions the German naval authorities would utilize every unit of activity they possessed.

This leaves merely the question as to what degree of efficiency may be added to the existing force by reckless disregard of law. We cannot see that it will be very great. Matched against the new and extraordinary preventive measures of the British, it is likely to be negligible, except in the stimulation of hatred and abhorrence. Something the new frightfulness may add to England's embarrassment, but not enough, we are very certain, to affect materially the fortunes or the prospects of the war.

WHAT THE MENUS PROVE

Now that the experts of the Life Extension Institute have finished a three weeks' experiment with heroes of Commissioner Woods' New York police department who had the courage to live on their prescribed diet, what does the experiment prove? Many skeptical folk have asked that question, and no answer, so far as we have noted, has come from the engineers of the project. Therefore we venture to advance our own conclusions:

The use of the word "diet" indicates that the experts regarded their experiment as something rather artificial, and hardly to be considered as a routine bill of fare that most folk would undertake.

The make-up of the menus, formulated from the standpoint of calories, further bears out this assumption, and the fact that they stressed food value rather than the palatable quality, makes them academic in a day when most folk eat because they like it rather than for stoking purposes.

The cost of the 25-cent a day diet is based on careful buying, on a wholesale basis, engineered by experts, and the layman cannot distinguish clearly how he could get even this limited diet for the same money without the benefit of some co-operative buying plan, and expert knowledge of prices and values.

In brief, the menus and their cost furnish an experimental basis for planning other diets and menus for the use of the average household. Until these practical conclusions of the test are completed, it is hard to see how the average person is to profit in eating either more calorically or economically.

Mrs. Margaret Sanger asserts that her sister, Mrs. Ethel Byrne, hunger striker, is "being surrounded by persons trying to break down her health through mental suggestion," and is being told "that nobody is taking any notice of her and the newspapers haven't a line about her." Such a statement to a martyr comes pretty near being cruel and unusual punishment, proscribed by the Constitution.

Many folk who were calm under the severance of Scott Nearing from Pennsylvania's faculty, will get much more excited with the dismissal of Coach "Bob" Folwell.

Don Marquis' Here and There In the News

Ode to An Erewhile Early Bird. It seems absurd, it does, upon my word, that we have heard Nothing of late from the Bill-Bryan-Bird!

What's that? You are bereft! And there is nothing left Wherof to raise a chant save prohibition!

It Sounds Like a Legacy. W. C. who frequents an insurance office, avers that one Mr. Stocking recently requested that his life insurance policy be assigned to a Mr. Shinn.

L. C. V. makes a suggestion for the Sun Dial's Own Course in Etiquette: "Soup should be eaten from the side of the spoon; preferably the side nearest one."

We picked up the book entitled "The Usages of the Best Society: A Complete Manual of Social Etiquette," from which we quoted the other day for a quarter. It is worth its weight in gold. We do not intend to be selfish with it, but will put it before our readers a bit at a time. There is a beautiful chapter intended for the guidance of bachelors who wish to give theater parties that our little group must have in its entirety.

Saving Daylight. This Saving Daylight idea may be all right, for some people. Some people may like to rise, twittering, from the downy when the opalescent, pale asbinte of dawn fills that inverted cocktail glass we call the sky. Personally, we have always regarded this haste to be up and doing with a heart for any fate as ungentlemanly.

There is too much daylight already in the world for our taste. It hurts our eyes in the mornings when we are trying to sleep. And it lasts too long in the afternoons when we are hoping that it will soon be time to quit work.

We couldn't object to the daylight in itself if there did not persist in the world a disposition to make working hours more or less approximate daylight hours. Even the man who has the sort of job that he can toss off in a couple of hours of daylight runs counter to public opinion if he doesn't somehow manage to act busy during the rest of the day.

The mania for work and the desire to get more done in the daylight hours can be readily traced back to a misconception of the relative values of time and eternity. There is a theory that time is so precious that it should all be consumed in activity.

Nothing could be more mischievous nor more essentially irreligious. The only value of time is to prepare the human spirit for eternity. And the only preparation the human spirit needs for eternity is to grasp three or four great truths. A person who works at learning these truths an hour or so every day has done all that should be reasonably expected of him. The time that is really valuable is not time at all, but eternity. Eternity, according to all accounts, is going to last a long while; one thing that we should learn from time is the capacity for leisure, so that we will be able to behave becomingly when we reach eternity.

What could be more ridiculous or offensive to the sight of gods or angels than a breathless human soul rushing headlong from time into eternity all grossly bedewed with the sweat of overwork? The calm immortals would set it aside to cool before deigning to converse with it.

The essence of optimism is in belief in tomorrow. If you believe in tomorrow, you will not hurry to get things done, but will accommodate your ardor to the pace of the deliberate universe. And if you do not believe in tomorrow, why hasten to get things done? For if there be no tomorrow, what you do amounts to nothing.

There is a vast field of activity in the world that does not contribute to any real progress; there is about it only a temporary illusion of progress. Nine-tenths of our endeavor is of this sort. Our study should be to do only the tenth that is of real value and do it very slowly and in harmony with the great slow movements of the cosmos. The nine-tenths of our time that is now wasted in fruitless and hampering activity should be devoted to rest and to observing the cosmos so that we can be sure that the other tenth is used discriminatingly.

The idea of an hour more of daylight in the world is horrible to us. For no matter what they say, the people who advocate it really want it for the purpose of being more peppy, ginger, vim, efficiency, kick, slip into the world—into a world that is already so full of these qualities that we find it increasingly difficult to live in it and retain our serenity.

Saving daylight! Saving it for what? Why, to work in! We have gone up against a lot of these schemes in the past; people are forever telling us that we should do so and so; and every last one of these systems has turned out to be some new device to get more work out of us. We have got to the place where we can't be fooled any longer; when we see an idea of this sort bobbing up we feel instinctively that it is an attempt to get us to make a long breath and strafe it on its bony occiput.

THE COMMENTATOR. Gypsy Smith and his meetings at the Tabernacle are the talk of the town. Everybody is pleased with him, his eloquence, his earnestness, his manliness, his courtesy, and he is pleased especially with the co-operation he is receiving from the press of Washington, and went so far on his opening night to express his appreciation of the help he is getting from the newspapers. Why shouldn't he? Both the press and the pulpit are in the preaching business, and there is no reason why they should not pull together in every cause which leads to righteousness. The evangelist and the committee working with him have noted, doubtless, that The Times was the first of the Washington papers to give anything like an adequate treatment of the mission that has called him to Washington.

Revival Methods Not New. Many of the old-liners have not taken very kindly to the evangelistic methods of "these latter times," as the passing phrase is called; but they are not widely different from the methods that have been followed in other parts of the country—they are simply better known and more widely advertised. Before beginning his sermon Sunday night, Gypsy Smith sang a beautiful song with fine effect; but forty years ago one of the greatest theologians in the South sang in the pulpit of a country church a little song, "The Water of Life Is Flowing," with remarkable effect upon his congregation. He was not born in a tent or a wandering tribe; but he was of the purple, a great teacher, a marvelously gifted preacher, and in the kingdom of God there are no distinctions of blood or condition.

The Objections to Attractions. One of the objections to religious revivals is the machinery employed; but machinery is employed in all other forms of entertainment and instruction—bands of music, flags, and banners, working committees, stage settings and all that, and if these things are good for leagues and conventions and societies working for noble ends why should they be wrong when they are employed in the most serious enterprises of life?

A Bishop's Preference. A very good story was told yesterday about the experience of a bishop in a State not very distant from Washington who ventured into a revival meeting, which had stirred the community deeply, and in which he was much interested. The work was done in the usual way, the singing, the preaching and the invitations to the people present to testify by rising to their feet their interest in the message that had been delivered. When the first question was asked the bishop did not stand up, and the evangelist could not understand what that meant, and with the idea of making the bishop declare himself he asked all those who wished to go to heaven to rise. The bishop kept his seat, and that was too much for the preacher who singing him out asked: "Bishop, don't you want to go to heaven?" And the bishop, still retaining his seat, replied: "Not this evening, my brother; not this evening."

"Take the Step." Another story is told of still another revival held in a town not a thousand miles from the National Capital. A man of mark in the place for many years and for ever so long a vestryman in one of the oldest of the churches; was interested in the work of the evangelist and attended the services. He was impressed by the earnestness of the preacher and his good faith. One night when the mourners were called this godly man, for years the pattern of high sentiment and correct conduct in his church, was shocked into almost violent speech, when he was approached by a converted bartender and urged: "Colonel—take the step!" The very idea was revolting to his sense of propriety, as for a quarter of a century he had been living in the beauty of holiness, and he could hardly have been embarrassed by the plea of the converted barkeeper.

N. Y. Laws and Gaming. A bill has been introduced in the New York State legislature prohibiting the law and order leagues from interfering with the awarding of prizes at card and social functions for the purpose of raising funds for charity. The bill further provides for the protection of pinocchio players in card games for prizes not consisting of money. The bill seems to be a liberal one, under its terms it would be no harm in staking a house and lot on the game, or the Interurban, the Brooklyn bridge, or Riverside Drive. But, if the bars are to be let down why not make the noble game of craps "come seven or eleven."

Cheap Feeding and Low Wages. Much ado is being made of the feeding experiments now in progress in several parts of the country, and the economists have much to say about the wonderful results that have been reached. They know a little really of a practical sort that it is not strange they should be surprised that a person can live on 25 cents a day. Richard Philip Quinn says in a letter to a New York newspaper that the average person does not spend as much as 25 cents a day on his food. Take a man with a wife and three children, who, for instance, gets \$13 a week; that is more than the average man gets. With five in the family you will have, at 25 cents a day each for seven days, \$8.75; gas for week, 25 cents; coal or ice, 60 cents; car fare, 60 cents, and rent, \$3, a total of \$13.20. It is not the cost, but the waste in living. Good, substantial, palatable food, even at the present high prices, is the cheapest thing in life. It is the trimmings and service that cost. Take the oyster stew for example, and at the so-called best places it costs 50 cents per stew. Precisely the same thing made by the same recipe can be made at home for one-third the cost. A plate of soup at one of the high-class restaurants costs 35 cents; the same soup can be made for four persons for the same money. It's the trimmings and service that cost.

DEAD LINE IS ESTABLISHED AROUND WATERS OF ALLIES

Supplement to Note Indicates Confines of Zone Where Campaign, Inaugurated Today, Will Be Waged on Shipping.

The supplement to the German note, presented to the State Department by Ambassador von Bernstorff, outlines precisely the boundaries of the zone where "sea traffic will be stopped with every available weapon." It also announces the immediate beginning of the campaign.

The text of the official communication reads as follows: From February 1, 1917, sea traffic will be stopped with every available weapon and without further notice in the following blockade zones around Great Britain, France, Italy, and in the eastern Mediterranean:

Draw Dead Line. In the north: The zone is confined by a line at a distance of 20 sea miles along the Dutch coast to Terschelling the ship, the degree of longitude from Terschelling the ship to Udaire, a line from there across the point 62 degrees north, 0 degrees longitude to 62 degrees north 5 degrees west, further to a point 3 sea miles south of the southern point of the Farve (7) islands, from there across point 62 degrees north 10 degrees west to 61 degrees north 15 degrees west, then 57 degrees north 30 degrees west, 47 degrees north 20 degrees west, further to 43 degrees north 15 degrees west, then along the degree of latitude 43 degrees north to 30 sea miles from Cape Finisterre at a distance of 20 sea miles along the north coast of Spain to the French boundary.

In Mediterranean Waters. In the south: The Mediterranean. For neutral ships remains open: The sea west of the line Pt. des Epi-Quette to 38 degrees 20 minutes north and 6 degrees east, also north and west of a zone sixty-one sea miles wide along the north African coast beginning at 2 degrees longitude west. For the connection of this sea zone with Greece, there is provided a zone of a width of twenty sea miles north and east of the following line: Thirty-eight degrees north and 6 degrees east to 36 degrees north and 11 degrees west to 37 degrees north and 11 degrees 30 minutes east to 34 degrees north and 11 degrees 30 minutes east to 34 degrees north and 22 degrees 30 minutes east.

Risk Assumed. From these leads a zone twenty sea miles wide west of 22 degrees 30 minutes eastern longitude into Greek territorial waters. Neutral ships navigating these blockade zones do so at their own risk. Although care has been taken that neutral ships which are on their way toward parts of the blockade zones on February 1, 1917, and have come in the vicinity of the latter will be spared during a sufficiently long period, it is strongly advised to warn them with all available means in order to cause their return. Neutral ships which on February 1 are in ports of the blockade zones can with the same safety leave them.

Provision For Americans. The instructions given to the commanders of German submarines in force during which the safety of passenger on unarmed enemy passenger ships is guaranteed. Americans on route to the blockade zone on enemy freight steamers are not endangered, as the enemy shipping firms can prevent such ships in time from entering the zone.

U. S. Shipping Identified. (c) The steamers are marked in the following way, which must not be allowed to other vessels in American ports: On ship's hull and superstructure three vertical stripes one meter wide each to be painted alternately white and red. Each mast should show a large flag checkered white and red and the stern the American national flag.

(d) One steamer a week sails in each direction with arrival at Falmouth on Sunday and departure from Falmouth on Wednesday. (e) United States Government guarantees that no contraband (according to German contraband list) is carried by those steamers.

The wireless text of the annexed memorandum says regarding neutral ships in entente ports: "Neutral ships lying in ports of the barred zones can with the same safety abandon the barred zones if they sail before February 5 and take the shortest route into the open district."

TEXT OF GERMAN NOTE Germany Must Use All Weapons Now, Is Plea. Following is the official text of the German note, addressed to Secretary Lansing and signed by Count von Bernstorff:

Mr. Secretary of State: Your excellency was good enough to transmit to the imperial government a copy of the message which the President of the United States of America addressed to the Senate on the 22d instant. The imperial government has given it the earnest consideration which the President's statements deserve, inspired as they are by a deep sentiment of responsibility. It is highly gratifying to the imperial government to ascertain that the main tendencies of this important statement correspond largely to the desires and principles professed by Germany.

These principles especially include self-government and equality of rights for all nations. Germany would be sincerely glad if in recognition of this principle countries like Ireland and India, which do not enjoy the benefits of political independence, should now obtain their freedom. The German people also repudiate all alliances which serve to force the countries into a competition for might and to involve them in a net of selfish intrigues. On the other hand, Germany will gladly co-operate in all efforts to prevent future wars.

The freedom of the seas, being a preliminary condition of the free intercourse of nations and the peaceful intercourse between them, as well as the open door for the commerce of all nations, has already formed part of the leading principles of Germany's political program. All the more the imperial government regrets that the attitude of her enemies who are so entirely opposed to peace makes it impossible for the world at present to bring about the realization of these lofty ideals. Germany and her allies were ready to enter now into a discussion of peace and had set down as basis the guaranty of existence, honor and free development of their peoples.

Would Not Annex Belgium. Their aims, as has been expressly stated in the note of December 11, 1914, were not directed toward the destruction or annihilation of their enemies and were, according to their conviction, perfectly compatible with the rights of the other nations. As to Belgium, for which such warm and cordial sympathy is felt in the United States, the chancellor had declared only a few weeks previously that its annexation had never formed part of Germany's intention. The peace to be signed with Belgium was to provide for such conditions in that country, with which Germany desires to maintain friendly neighborly relations, that Belgium should not be used again by Germany's enemies for the purpose of instigating continuous hostile intrigues.

Enemy Just For Conquest. Such precautionary measures are all the more necessary as Germany's enemies have repeatedly stated not only in speeches delivered by their leading men, but also in the statutes of the international conference in Paris, that it is their intention not to treat Germany as an equal, even after peace has been restored, but to continue their hostile attitude, and especially to wage a systematic economic war against her. The attempt of the four allied powers to bring about peace has failed owing to the lust of conquest of their enemies, who desired to dictate the conditions of peace. Forces New Decisions. A new situation has thus been created which forces Germany to new decisions. Since two years and a half England is using her naval power for a criminal attempt to force Germany into submission by starvation. In brutal contempt of international law the group of powers led by England does not only curtail the legitimate trade of its opponents, but they also by ruthless pressure compel neutral countries either altogether to forego trade not agreeable to the entente powers or to limit it according to their arbitrary decrees. The American Government knows the steps which have been taken to cause England and her allies to return to the rules of international law and to respect the freedom of the seas. The English government, however, insists upon continuing its war of starvation, which does not at all affect the military power of its opponents, but compels women and children, the sick and the aged to suffer, for their country, pains and privations which endanger the vitality of the nation. The imperial government could not justify before its own conscience, before the German people and before history the neglect of any means destined to bring about the end of the war. Like the President of the United States the imperial government had hoped to reach this goal by negotiations. After the attempts to come to an understanding with the entente powers have been answered by the latter with the announcement of an intensified continuation of the war, the imperial government—in order to serve the welfare of mankind in a higher sense and not to wrong its own people—is now compelled to continue the fight for existence, again forced upon it, with the full employment of all the weapons which are at its disposal. Asks U. S. Understanding. Sincerely trusting that the people and Government of the United States will understand the motives for this decision and its necessity, the imperial government hopes that the United States may view the new situation from the lofty heights of impartiality and assist, on their part, to prevent further misery and avoidable sacrifice of human life. Including two memoranda regarding the details of the contemplated military measures at present remain, etc. J. BERNSTORFF. Omission from Text. The text of the German note, as transmitted by wireless from Berlin via Sayville, contains the following words as its concluding paragraph. This is omitted in the official text as given out here: "Referring as to the details of the proposed war measure at sea to the appendix to this note, the imperial government at the same time wishes to express its confidence that the American Government will warn American ships against entering the barred zones described in the appendix, and that it will also warn its citizens against confiding passengers or goods to ships lying between ports in the barred zones."