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## THE LUNCHEON CLUB

The Luncheon Club which will start operating today under auspices of the chamber of commerce will be just as successful as it is quiet. The more the jaws are used to masticate food, the less they will give forth meaningless sounds.

Getting together and talking things over is a good and a necessary thing, but there is always an optimum of talk and act.

Prescott has so terribly many things it should do through the medium of its forward looking citizens that it will never do to let this luncheon club drift into illimitable conversations. The appointment of committees, with "your name in the paper" will not specially help the town. This paper looks for the new club to talk freely but do things, name committees, but not merely to win somebody's support by honoring him with an office.

Fly at it!

## AN INEVITABLE DELAY

There will be an inevitable delay in prosecuting the improvement of Mt. Vernon and Pleasant streets. This was revealed yesterday with the announcement that it would take ninety days to get delivery of cast iron water mains from the factories, and everybody knows that the new mains must be put in before the concrete is laid on the surface.

The city administration should permit no delay in the sale of the bonds, except such as is essential to economy. The paving can't be done until the water pipes are down and the citizens can't live in comfort on their muddy streets until the paving supplants the gumbo.

The folks who are inclined to lie back in their harness and be satisfied with things as they are ought to take heed, for not even the last journey to the cemeteries can be made in comfort. More than one funeral has been bogged down lately, and it is no agreeable sight.

## THE AMERICAN LEGION AND DEMPSEY

Jack Dempsey and his manager, Mr. Kearns, are beginning to feel that the American Legion must be brought to view the war record of the champion in a more favorable light. The members of the legion are appropriating money to bet on Carpentier and they are breaking Dempsey's heart by proclaiming him a slacker who fought in the shipyards.

Mr. Kearns wants a hearing before the legion for Dempsey, who was ready to go to the front as soon as the draft finally got him. If the war had lasted longer the draft probably would have got him. In the meanwhile Mr. Dempsey contained himself the best he could, made ships to carry the boys across, supported his dependents, and almost ruined his constitution boxing in the training camps and for soldiers' benefits, paying his own expenses and not taking a cent of remuneration.

Mr. Kearns thinks it is a fine record and if the veterans look it over they will not be so unkind as to knock Dempsey and bet their money foolishly on Carpentier. The soldiers stick to the main point. The world's greatest fighting man did not get into the world's greatest fight, and it was not a private fight. It was open to almost any able-bodied man of the proper age. Mr. Dempsey, whose profession is fighting and not shipbuilding, built ships and did not fight.

An athlete who was not in the fighting forces must expect to run into some unpleasantness from time to time. Baseball players have, men who went into essential industries and not into the army. Pugilists will get less mercy, we imagine, than any others, and the successful pugilist least of all.

Carpentier has a war record, and American soldiers hope, even if they cannot believe, that he will clean Dempsey. We suggest that Dempsey and Carpentier, when they meet, be allowed to carry bayonets and use them in the clinches. If Dempsey accepts the terms the legion can accept Mr. Kearns' defense that Mr. Dempsey was unavoidably detained during the war. If Dempsey returns to shipbuilding the legion can consider its case proved. (Chicago Tribune.)

Nine Americans have been cited for valor in the Vladivostok fighting. But three years from now, when the American army has left, the Siberians will begin to tell us that "the Siberian army performed prodigies of valor and that an American army was also present."

Sued for \$25,000 by the man whose former wife he married, the defendant, while declining to pay the amount demanded, makes rather a fair offer by way of compromise. He agrees to give the plaintiff \$10,000 cash if he will take back the woman.

Report that the present German Government has been overthrown may suggest to Alex. Berkman, now in European waters, the advisability of going to Berlin and showing them how a government really should be run.

Yes, the Lord knows what ails Mr. Wilson, but he won't tell.

## BRYAN VS. CUMMINGS VS. DANIELS

By George! It is amusing now you think of it, that the big democrats cannot keep their little differences more deftly hidden against the interested glances of the republicans and the nation. Here we see National Chairman Homer S. Cummings sitting down to dinner with the wretch of a "wet" governor Edwards of New Jersey, and over in Virginia, William Jennings Bryan takes him to task for it so publicly that any newspaper reader who has access to the Associated Press can know of it.

Then, along comes Josephus Daniels, who grape-juiced the navy, and is, next to Bryan the most lofty opponent of alcohol, and hops on the Commoner for hopping on Cummings. It is might 'nigh as funny as Homer's little gentle sledge hammer rap at the Irish.

But the most amusing thing was Josephus' calm appropriation of Herbert S. Hoover as a democrat. We all heard about the mystery of Hoover's party affiliations, and are led to believe that he was a progressive in the year of the Bull Moose. Yet the only indication that Herbert is a democrat is cited by Colonel George Harvey, who points to the food administrator's support of Wilson's clamor to the country to send none but democrats to the senate in 1918.

## COLONEL BLISS

We have known many commanding officers. They have been our neighbors and over us. They have been good scouts and wretches.

But Lieutenant Colonel Raymond W. Bliss, commandant for many months at Whipple Barracks and now about to depart this assignment, is our idea of the kind of a chap to commend a post near a large civilian community. Moreover, he is a fine golfer.

It may sound odd that that last is cited as a recommendation of the colonel as a neighbor. It isn't at all. Good golfers—GOOD ones, you know—are the finest fellows in the world. Before Prescott got a hump on and accumulated the links at the Hassayampa Country Club, we had no golf links. Had there been a compelling desire to golf in any Prescott breast, the proprietor of that breast must have gone somewhere else to golf. Colonel Bliss could not do this with any great degree of safety. The war department does not assign men to a job and then condone their occasional, let alone frequent vacations. So, this commanding officer built a course and invited everybody with an aching to gold to come and golf on it.

Of course, this courtesy is not the sum of a man's friendly relationship with the community near which he operates a large military hospital. But it is typical, very typical.

There have been a number of occasions on which the "town and gown" spirit has invaded the young rascals of Prescott and the post, and only a soothing layer of lubricant (see our non-carbon oil advertisement) could save unpleasant friction. Colonel Bliss' keen judgment and kindly nature supplied the oil and the wheels turned smoothly.

We are sure the city is sincere in its regret at his leaving and wishes him well, wherever he may go.

## LET US HAVE ALL THE FACTS

The testimony of Admiral Sims before a Senate sub-committee at Washington cannot be dismissed lightly. What he said was either true or false. If true, the disclosures are humiliating to every real American; if false the Admiral should answer before a court martial. There is no middle ground. We were at war, and if high officials at Washington played politics in such a crisis they should be exposed; the responsibility should be fixed, and once fixed, the Congress of the United States should know how to act.

Plainly it is Secretary Daniels' next move. He cannot remain quiescent, as he would be justified in doing if his enemies were dealing in vague generalities. There is no evidence that Admiral Sims is an enemy of the administration; besides he is a high officer of the navy, with too much at stake, it would appear, to indulge in idle vapors.

The full committee of the Senate should take the matter up, and probe to the bottom, letting the consequences take care of themselves. Our men-at-arms won a glorious victory, and if they won it despite the tremendous handicap hinted at by this distinguished witness we have a right to know it.

## WHY?

We have word from the Siberian front announcing the death in action of two more American soldiers. It is a fortune of war. Soldiers have died on the field almost daily from time immemorial, and generally speaking they have died battling for what they believed to be a just cause; they have given their bodies cheerfully in support of their ideals. But did these two young men know what they were fighting for? Do their stricken families know why they were called to make the supreme sacrifice?

Are we intervening in Russia; if so why haven't we a sufficient force there to accomplish results? If we are not why have any force there at all? Siberia is a part of Russia; and we have no interest in Siberia that anyone can definitely explain. Japan has. Every advance from the West is of advantage to the insular Empire of the Orient; but wherein does it contribute to our national welfare or to our national glory?

An Australian general informs us that the American Expeditionary Force was a "partial failure." That sounds quite different from the frenzied shrieks the well-known British Empire was sending up in the early part of 1918 "to send troops and more troops or all is lost!" And of course we wouldn't be cruel enough to mention the marines at Chateau-Thierry, either.

The American invasion of England has become a reality. London cables that for the first time in history forty blue-jays—not corn plasters but birds—have taken up residence in Hertfordshire. If the British question the jays, they will doubtless discover that they come from Kansas.

A paragrapher tells us that most women would rather be loved than trusted. Ours, however, insists on both.

Wood alcohol has been getting a lot of free advertising of late. But we're not a bit dry, thank you.

## THAT BEATS US

Governor Campbell honestly desires to see Arizona ratify the suffrage amendment. Just as honestly, he hopes to save the taxpayers the expense of a long special session. Even more honestly, he wants no orgy of bill-hatching and lobbying and tinkering and trading with the toil-won monies of the poor old public.

He has indicated that he wants suffrage and possibly anti-boxing to be the sole subjects of the special legislative session.

But the moment it became known he was going to call a session, there blossomed forth the long dire list of wants of this community and that commercial club and the other voting class. Why even the owners of fancy fidoes have leaped in with a "pet" measure, and we don't intend any pun, nuther.

The way they have, in long advance of the session, gummed up even the good roads issue, which is a very proper issue, too—that beats us.

## GET BUSY PRESCOTT

Prescott should get extremely busy right now in behalf of Phoenix, if she wants to bring within the borders of this state the 1921 convention of the American National Livestock Association.

This is a cattle county, and one of the best in the state. Nothing could be more fitting than that it should render every assistance to the people of Phoenix and the chamber of commerce there to secure the next convention. We, unfortunately, cannot ask the gentlemen to come to Prescott; we are too crowded now by persons wishing to avail themselves of the admirable winter climate. However, there is no reason why, with the capital city a few hours a-train away, Yavapai County's chamber of commerce should not send the strongest representations in its power to bring the cattlemen to the state.

## HOLLAND'S REFUSAL

There is this justification in the refusal of Holland to deliver William of Hohenzollern to the powers for trial: the demand was made not in the name of an inter-national court, established by a society of nations, but in the name of the Allied and associated powers, which conducted the peace negotiations and all the business connected therewith and finally established an organization known as the League of Nations.

No doubt when the time comes for the convention of a super-court to operate under charter from the League of Nations, and the demand is repeated by the proper voice of that court, the Netherlands government will, in face of its declaration of Friday, readily consent to the trial of the former kaiser.

## NICE PROPAGANDA

President E. S. Clark, of the chamber of commerce could not have devised nicer propaganda for paving than his proposal to largess some boy or girl with ten dollars for the best essay on the city's need for paving.

Look into the average home in Prescott and you will find some youngster there, who attends school, wants ten dollars and will ask his or her dad and mother for a few prize winning ideas on paving. Mother and dad will reflect, and in reflection, you know, there is the seed of action.

Our friends need not think this paper is starting to plant an orchard in the front yard. The arboreous growths are merely to keep passers by from falling into one of the customary breaks in the city water system.

Germany is said to be grieved because American students are flocking to Paris for post-educational courses. That ought to surprise no one. The students were well educated in Kultur during the war.

A Brooklyn woman admits she has been married to four different men without the formality of divorce at any time, but she has a vague recollection of the first three. That's not amnesia, it's ambition.

That offer of a \$6,000 prize for the best Republican platform sounds alluring; but there should be given some specifications. It wasn't even stated how many planks should be used in the structure.

President Wilson now wishes more than ever, perhaps, that somebody had followed his advice ten or twelve years ago and "knocked Bryan into a cocked hat."

Among those things which do not cause the intelligent citizen any alarm is the "silent strike" which the Reds at Ellis Island imposed upon themselves.

Will the powers that have ratified peace with Germany now issue proclamations of neutrality in the war between the United States and that power?

This year is noticable for more Presidential impossibilities than any other year in our history.

The infernal triangle: "Red Armies Gain on Three Fronts."—Headline.

## ...PROFESSIONAL...

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