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Morning—Evening—Sunday.

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MAY 9, 1916.

LETTING GERMANY TRY AGAIN.

Again the administration at Washington seems to have shown its bigness of personnel by the manner in which it has risen above the language of German arrogance. Insulting as was the German note, it appears to be the policy of Pres't Wilson and his advisors to allow the German government the benefit of every doubt and not break off diplomatic relations merely because Kaiser Wilhelm and his advisors have answered our demands in such an un-diplomatic way. There is room for possible construction of the German note to the effect that orders have been given to the submarine commanders that they shall sink no more neutral or merchant ships without first having complied with the requirements of international law, by affording the crew and passengers an avenue to safety, and the president may at least semi-consistently conclude to let that stand without breaking off diplomatic relations as long as the instructions are followed; this, too, regardless of the remainder of the note's quibbling.

Instruction to Germany that this will be our attitude has already gone forward. We cannot see how, however, there can be any excuse for further parley from the moment that the sinking of another vessel from the manner of the Lusitania, or the Sussex, is established. We can refuse to be ruffled because Gottlieb von Jagow, German minister of war, was nasty with his quill. It really ought to be beneath us, when we give it a second thought, for what we are really after is results, rather than sweet words. If Germany will back up her "orders gone forth to commanders," we need not care for her snarls nor her sneers, spilled, as the diplomats seem to have reason to believe, largely to placate the people of Germany, rather than being hurried for offensiveness at the people of the United States. Let her snarl and sneer, to placate the Germans, but let her deliver the goods, and without further parley, if she does not. Ambassador von Bernstorff should get his passports and safe passage, for Germany will then most surely have proven that her word is not worth the pepper.

Germany, too, should be given to understand this, that when she asks the United States, as the price of immunity from having our citizens murdered at sea, we must put a stop to the British blockade, she asks something that we decline to consider; that we are conducting our negotiations with Great Britain, and that without any outside dictation.

The same principle that Sec'y Lansing stated in his note of July 21, 1915, concerning the Lusitania case, still holds:

"The government of the United States cannot discuss the policy of Great Britain with regard to neutral trade, except with that government itself, and must regard the conduct of other belligerent governments as irrelevant to any discussion with the imperial German government of what this government regards as grave and unjustifiable violations of the rights of American citizens by German naval commanders."

We cannot bargain and barter as Germany wants us to, because it is beneath our dignity as a nation, and because it would be an unheard of diplomatic procedure. We cannot do it because the offenses of Germany and Great Britain are not comparable. We cannot do it because it would deservedly bring down on us the enmity of Britain, France and Russia.

It seems incomprehensible that Germany should regard German and British aggressions as in the same class. One is murder and the other is larceny. If a citizen were to find one neighbor shooting down his wife and another neighbor simultaneously robbing his apple tree, which would he attack first and which would he punish most severely?

We should long ago have held England to account more strictly for injuries to American property, if our attention and energies had not been drawn to the more important purpose of protecting American life. Now Germany's proposal taints even such efforts as we shall make hereafter. If we accepted it, then in every appeal to Great Britain to bring her own conduct within the law we should be regarded as the mouthpiece of Germany, instead of the free champion of our own rights and of international law. And every appeal would be resented, would fail, and would invite hostility and even war.

We want to bring the British blockade within legal bounds, but we want to do it without the embarrassment of German dictation. It is simply a question of asserting the right of a neutral nation to carry on legitimate trade with other neutrals in war time. And this is something that Germany particularly misunderstands.

We have no business interfering with the British blockade, insofar as it is really a blockade. Our chief criticism is that it has not been legal, because not complete. It cannot properly bar us even from trading direct with Germany unless it bars all nations. If the cordon is drawn tightly around Germany, we cannot object. But Germany argues that to blockade a nation is intrinsically unlawful.

The United States itself set England the example by blockading the Confederacy in our civil war. All

the world except Germany and Austria regards the shutting off of an enemy's imports as a legitimate war method. And if England chooses to adopt such a method, it is none of our business. We shall be sorry for Germany, but we can do nothing—any more than we could have stopped Germany in the winter of 1870-71 from starving the population of Paris, or stopped Germany's Turkish allies from starving Townsend's men at Kut-el-Amarra in 1916.

WHERE WE MIXED IN MEXICO?

The recurrence of slaughter of Americans in America by Mexican bandits is strongly suggestive that a stronger force of United States troops in that vicinity is desirable, if not an approaching necessity. Furthermore, it would seem to indicate that "Pres't Carranza's recent assurances that he would henceforth be able to protect the United States against further bandit raids, as a reason why our troops should be brought home, was something of a bluff. If the thing keeps on, the time must eventually come when, if we are going to mess in Mexican affairs at all, the people will begin to insist that we do it in a manner that leaves no doubt but that we mean real business.

The question is whether we should ever have messed in Mexico at all, and whether these border troubles would have gone as far as they have, resulting in the Columbus and Glenn Springs raids, had we kept our noses entirely out of it. The fault, up to the present, is not that we have not gone far enough, but that we have gone as far as we have. About eight months ago, Pres't Wilson received popular endorsement for his declaration that the people of Mexico should be "permitted to settle their own troubles themselves, if they could," but every American familiar with Mexican affairs pronounced that "if" the biggest "if" that ever confronted a people.

The trouble with the Mexican people is that they've never enjoyed real self-government and are not capable of it.

Diaz government was never nearer real self-government than is the government of Abyssinia. Diaz government was simply monarchical tyranny wearing a flimsy mask of republicanism, and that is the form that has been finally aimed at by every so-called revolutionary leader since the hey-day of Diaz, with the exception of the robber, ravisher and murderer, Villa. Mexico has no hope of self-government save through a awful sacrifice for and unwavering loyalty to Villa's policy of arbitrarily partitioning the lands and unceasingly combatting the foreign looter.

What would be the actual condition of Mexico, were peace to come to her tomorrow, with "De Facto" Carranza solidly established in the presidency?

Carranza and his family and their relations would soon be fat with spoils, and they would determine the election results. Wall st. would dictate the value of Mexican money and property. Foreigners would be owning the best ranches, and pretty much all the best stores and mines, factories and transportation facilities. The great bulk of the populace would be just what they were under Diaz's club and as far from self-government as they were under the Spanish conquerors. Their portion of self-government would be the self-restraint and self-debasement of slaves, and only by some such thing as intervention, by the United States, for instance, can they be aroused to unite and suffer and fight for real self-government.

In Mexico the matter of self-government is and has been an issue between the masses and the classes, the latter represented by a Diaz, a Madero, or a Carranza. Attempts at constitution-making are stirred up and constitutions cooked up a fence the classes that are fat and comfortable in their holdings or corrupted by foreign interests. The alternative for the masses is to stand in with a villain like Villa, who has given bloody earnest of his sincerity by hanging many representatives of his domestic classes and by perpetrating such slaughters of foreigners as the recent ones in Chihuahua, Columbus and Glenn Springs.

When Pres't Wilson recognized Carranza, he went back, in effect, at least, on his policy of letting the Mexican people settle their own troubles. He recognized the classes. He won the hatred of all Mexicans struggling for self-government. The latter were justified in looking upon recognition of the ornamental, non-belligerent Carranza as "playing politics," and the massacre of Americans on both American and Mexican soil is legitimate fruit of Washington's semi-changed policy.

Washington has thrown overboard its policy of letting the Mexicans settle their own troubles themselves, and took sides. It upheld a de facto government that does not govern and one in which the Mexican masses cannot see the smallest seed of self-government. Put the American masses in the place of the Mexican masses and they too would massacre hostile foreigners and follow a Villa, if no other leader appeared with the courage to fight and the inclination to divide the legitimate spoils. We are chasing the wrong coin, but we would say, since we're in it, let's get him before he gets us.

Ex-Pres't Taft came mighty near forcing Mexico to make a first attempt toward self-government when he lined the border with U. S. troops and made a bluff toward a raid. Pres't Wilson might have done it had he, instead of merely complimenting "de Facto" Carranza on holding something that he hadn't got, thrown the states wide open to the purchase of war tools by all Mexican parties. The latter course would have been letting Mexicans settle their own troubles themselves, in the shortest time and with the least damage to their neighbors. We have taken sides—and bleed, naturally. Now we must protect ourselves against the fact that we turned down, and eventually, like as not, also against the one that we turned up. An increase of soldiery along the Mexican border in preparation of that unhappy day seems becoming more and more of a necessity.

THE MAN FOR THE JOB.

Billy Sunday has started in to clean up Kansas City. If successful, Uncle Sam should send him after Villa. Any man who can talk those Kansas City sinners up to the bar of repentance would find it easy to cajole Pancho right into Pershing's camp.

A CLOSED HOUSE.

Collier's weekly of recent issue pays a lengthy editorial tribute to Col. E. M. House. It is worth reading if only, to show you how little is known of the methods and motives of Pres't Wilson's sphinx-like friend. Col. House is a shining example of the truth of the old adage that "silence is golden."

We have heard much about the "starving of German babies" by the allies' blockade shutting off the milk supply. But S. S. McClure, the magazine editor, after several weeks in Germany, reports that the German babies are thriving as well as ever.

The Melting Pot

Filled by the Editorial Staff.

SUCH IS FAME.

Dolly Dimples was fat and fair, and half of 40; She had an appetite one would call quite hearty. Few people who saw her had ever heard of her name, For Dolly, the fair lady, was not known to fame. But Dolly blossomed forth as the talk of the nation, And her picture when printed caused some sensation; For Dolly had found the secret all women seek— She had lost 20 pounds in less than a week.

Some drunks we know are one darn poem after the other.

We don't claim to have Columbed this fact, but after looking over some of the pictures of our noted society leaders, we're bound to conclude that the higher the society the higher the skirt.

Speaking of women and her clothes, forces us to unburden ourselves of this:

A man who signs himself a subscriber Don't like the modern maid nor the way we describe 'er. He wrote us a letter, And said that we'd better Write our rhymes about other things beside 'er.

AN OFFICE ESSAY.

"Niagara," said the office philosopher, "is the place where all the newbies go. I know, I been there. You see 'em running around hand in hand. The boobs stick their marriage certificate up in their breast pocket and wonder why people can't tell they have just been married."

THE WAR A YEAR AGO.

It was on.

MODERN MYSTERIES.

The label on the bread. How do they do it? Some auto owners. Where's Quilhot? The German note. War reports. What will the g. o. p. do? The weather. "Robbed, he tells police."—Headline. Wonderful deduction, eh, Watson?

Editor Meltin pot—Take it from me, I'm gona start using my ole rifle agin and be ready if the ole U. S. goes to war. With Cleavin and Washon up on top in the base-ball league there aint no telling whats liable to happen.

NEW.

A HERO'S REWARD.

James Karas of Chicago sent his automobile into a fence the other day to avoid running down some chickens. In the excitement a crowd gathered and stole 32 bricks of ice cream from his tonneau.

NOT THE SAME.

"Now is the time to strike," The orator raved, And we thought he was speaking Of dangers braved. But we lingered a bit and learned Why he was a hit— He was telling the men at work Why they should quit.

ONE DON'T MAKE A SUMMER.

Even if it don't, A Swallows resides on the Nile's road.

OPT IN THE STILLY NIGHT.

Bye, baby bunting, Papa's still a-bunting For the little safety pin Pinching baby from within.

MATRIMONY.

In Three Acts—By Heza Byrd. ACT I. "Will you?" "I will." They clinch.

ACT II.

"Do you?" "We do." They're tied.

ACT III.

"D— you?" "You, too." They quit.

POOR BERT!

Bert Cameron, whose troubles have been numerous in late months, was jailed Tuesday night and will be arraigned in court this morning. The officers say they have an assortment of charges, including drunkenness and profanity, that they might file against Cameron, and when the time comes they will take their choice.—Shelbyville News.

FIVE-FOOT BLACKSNAKE TICKLED FISHERMAN'S LEGS

While Charles Snyder was fishing in a stream near Columbus, Ind., he felt something tickling his legs and upon investigation found it to be a five-foot blacksnake that had curled up under his legs for a nap. At last reports Snyder was still running.

When she prays for peace and then starts out to kill the other fellow he has no reason for believing his prayer will be answered.—Knoxville, Tenn. Journal and Tribune.

"Is eating candy a cause of crime?" asks a scientist. Well, all of us remember what Doc Cook did after filling himself full of gumdrops.—Brookfield, Mass. Gazette.

If the energy wasted by stenographers in chewing gum could be harnessed it would drive all the railway trains in this country and nineteen in Canada.—El Paso, Tex. Times.

STATESMEN GREAT AND NEAR-GREAT

By Fred Kelly.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Senator Lawrence Y. Sherman of Illinois, mentioned as a possible republican nominee for president, has never received a degree or diploma from any college. The nearest he ever came was when he finished the law course at McKendree college, out in Illinois. It was noticed on May 8 or two in advance of the graduation ceremonies that, inasmuch as he had no academic degree, he would not be permitted to appear on the platform with the other members of the class. His diploma would be just the same as the others, they assured him, but he could not take part in the exercises.

That struck Sherman as a silly line of distinction, and he told them to keep their old diploma. On the day that the others in his class were taking part in the closing ceremonies, Sherman was at the state capital in the midst of passing the bar examinations. Later the college offered to send him his diploma but he repeated that he really did not care for it and bade the faculty go soak their heads. He has never received his degree even to this day.

Mr. Uncle Joe Cannon nearly always loses at poker, regardless of possessing a first-class poker face—but he does not mind losing, because he derives a great deal of fun out of the game. And not the least of his fun is directly traceable to the habit he has of combining poker with politics. For instance, he never loses down his hand without comment on the politics of the cards. If he has three kings or even three nines, he remarks that he has three republicans. But if his three of a kind are only trays he calls them democrats. And what if he only has a pair of deuces? Then he calls them progressives.

Nearly every new congressman, by the way, nurtures a secret ambition to sit at least once in a poker game with Joe Cannon. They wish to go back home and boast about it to the boys.

Rep. Edward J. King of Illinois used to sell books from house to house when he was working his way through college. "Frequently," says King, "somebody would point out the home of some poor family as a place where it would be useless to go. But those were the very places I usually sold my books. I figured that they probably were in the habit of spending their money freely and would buy almost anything that was offered. That was the reason they were poor."

Rep. Patrick H. Kelley of Michigan is the foremost exponent of Irish blarney in congress. There lives not a man anywhere so mean or so humble that Patrick H. Kelley cannot find in him rare and charming traits of character to talk about, smilingly, right to the man's face.

Years ago when Woodrow Wilson was a student at the University of Virginia, he aspired to win two honorary medals, one in literature, the other in debate. He was defeated by a small margin in each instance by a chap named William Cabell Bruce, who later became a prominent lawyer of Baltimore. And now Bruce is an aspirant to the United States senate.

Congressman Ben Johnson of Kentucky will never be happy until he owns a buffalo. Congressman William E. Humphrey of Washington has a somewhat different ambition. He yearns to shoot an elephant.

Chairman James Hay of the house committee on military affairs which recently went to the mat with the national defense problem, has been a member of that committee ever since he entered congress 18 years ago. In that time, he is said to have missed only two committee meetings.

WITH OTHER EDITORS THAN OURS

PROGRESS IN PRINTING.

Rare specimens of printing from the most ancient days of the art are included in what is technically an exhibition of American printing now on in New York. The most ancient specimen is a document with archaic writing cut in stone which is supposed to date back to 5,000 B. C. It is the intention of the exhibitors, the American Institute of Graphic Arts, that the visitors should leave the display with the impression that civilization is based on printing and not that printing is based on civilization. An exhibit showing the earliest method of printing by impression is said to have been made 2,000 years B. C. It is the name and title of King Ur-Ningirsu impressed in clay with an engraved wood stamp. The earliest forms of alphabetic writing are shown in Babylonian clay tablets in cuneiform characters. One of these is a receipt for grain in an addressed clay envelope, date 550 B. C., a document which, as the New York Sun remarks, would not find favor with the modern postman. In further description of the exhibition the Sun says:

At the exhibition one learns that the civilization of the Sumerians and their successors, the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Persians, were built upon experience and knowledge transmitted on clay tablets. The civilizations of India were nurtured by books inscribed on plain leaves. The civilizations of the Semites

race were developed by books written on skins and the discovery of papyrus as a writing medium by the Egyptians was an event of the first importance, because not only their own civilization, but also those of the Grecians and the Romans, were created by the use of books written on papyrus, relatively as low priced as modern books and extensively circulated.

"One gleams such bits of information as these: Paper was invented in China and made modern printing possible. When Cortez discovered the Aztecs in Mexico, paper was one of their manufacturers. Civilization has progressed only in countries where mediums on which to write were easily procured. Books were first stamped in clay and were next incised by stylus on plain leaves, or written with brush or pen. Next arrived the typographers, swift writers with stamps, the successors of the original rock scratchers.

"Paper was introduced in Europe in the 12th century and in the 15th century typography was invented. It was the reprints of classic authors by the printers that began the renaissance. All this and more is to be learned at the exhibition of American printing, which is, according to the catalogue, the veritable seed of civilization, of which the fine arts are their flower.

"One is able to learn that the first printing on this continent was in the City of Mexico in 1539 and in Lima in 1584. Printing was established in Cambridge, Mass., in 1638. But in general American printing was poorly done until the end of the 18th century. One of the earliest specimens of American printing is "A Reasonable Discourse," by the president of Harvard college in 1682. The printing was done by Samuel Green, who was the first American to be taught to print."

What has become of the old-fashioned bride and groom who went to Niagara Falls on their honeymoon?—Macon, Ga. News.

He's a wise man who sends a girl 22 roses for her birthday when he should have sent 35.—Topeka, Kas. State Journal.

"A North Carolina farmer's cow ate \$200 in greenback bills he had hidden in the barn. It is fortunate for the farmer that he did not sleep in the barn."—Huntsville, Ala. Mercury.

Uncle Sam will not accept bald-headed men on the first call for recruits, but over in Europe they are no toppling hairs over such a deficiency.—Tacoma, Wash. Ledger.

INDIA TEA

Men Like It and Compare It to Coffee; Only It's Much Cheaper

300 CUPS TO THE POUND.

ONE TEASPOONFUL MAKES TWO CUPS.

Published by the Growers of India Tea

ELs

A man called up the other day and said:

"Come down and put in ELs."

We did—we're putting electric lights in a good many homes right now.

The 25 per cent reduction in rates makes electric lights so low you can't afford to be without them.

I. & M.

Advertisement for Gas Ranges. Includes text: 'Here's How They're Going!', 'The Latest Bulletin', 'General High Cost of Living is on the run.', 'With a Rush! Gas Ranges are being bought by eager purchasers who get valuable presents free.', 'This Is Gas Range Week', 'We are celebrating it with special displays, demonstrations and a free premium offer.', 'A Toaster, a Sad Iron Heater and your choice of a Cake Griddle or a Waffle Iron with every Gas Range sold during this week.', 'They do not burn gas but add greatly to the value of a gas range. Visit our office, or have us send a representative.', 'The Gas Company', 'South Bend and Mishawaka'. Includes illustration of a man with a briefcase and a gas range.