

EDITORIAL PAGE THE TACOMA TIMES

Diplomacy and Swag; Swag Is the Winner

According to Sir Edward Grey's explanation of the diplomatic fiasco in the Balkans, Great Britain was pretty blind and pretty slow.

At the start, the allied diplomats labored for peace and uniform neutrality among the Balkans. This, in face of the fact that one of the Balkans not only was already in the war but also was the alleged cause of the war. Even after Turkey got into it, these western diplomats went right on petting the dove of peace, while Germany was laying down visible swag before the Balkans.

The warlike, rapacious character of the Balkans was well known to the world. Yet the allies

thought to tempt them with merit marks for good behavior. Germany realized that wolves are by nature fond of fresh meat, and she has thus far made a laughing stock of the opposition's diplomacy.

Roumania will offer another test. She has refused passage of Austro-German munitions to Turkey through her territory. If she will grant Russia passage across her territory, there will be tremendous changes in the prospects, of both Turkey and Serbia, to the allies' advantage.

There is little that Germany can promise that Roumania wants. But the allies can promise her all of Bulgaria's Black Sea frontage, which

would mean Bulgaria's future removal as perpetual danger to Balkan peace.

The neutrality of both Roumania and Greece are apparently but skin deep. Greece, in winking at the landing of allies on her territory, and Roumania, in refusing the kaiser passage to Turkey, show which way they are popularly inclined.

Maybe, the allies have learned that the goody-goody diplomacy doesn't work in the Balkans and will offer something C. O. D. At any rate, Sir Edward Grey's explanation doesn't disarm those 300,000 Bulgarians, and there's strong ground for the English people's demand for radical changes in diplomats.

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO ABOUT IT?

Why has our war department been purchasing from private firms and paying \$17.50 for what is known as a 3.8-inch common shrapnel, when it can and is manufacturing the identical shrapnel in its government arsenal at Philadelphia, Pa., for \$7.94?

Why does it pay private profit makers \$7 for a 31-second combination fuse, when it can and does make the same article in government arsenals for \$2.92?

Why do we pay \$3.06 for each 3-inch finished shrapnel case obtained from private contractors, and make the same article in a government arsenal for \$1.75?

These arsenal costs include 15 per cent to cover administration, depreciation, insurance and interest charges.

They include the cost of labor which works only eight hours a day, while private contractors have in the past worked their men nine and ten hours a day, and in some instances twelve hours a day and seven days a week.

From present indications, it is clear that President Wilson's program of preparedness will require at least \$100,000,-

THE UGLIEST OF TRADES HAVE THEIR MOMENTS OF PLEASURE. NOW, IF I WERE A GRAVE-DIGGER, OR EVEN A HANGMAN, THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE I COULD WORK FOR WITH A GREAT DEAL OF ENJOYMENT.

—DOUGLAS JERROLD

000 more than the last year's appropriations. Will congress appropriate this sum without providing in the appropriation bills that every dollar of it shall be expended in government plants?

ANOTHER OCTOPUS HATCHING

There's a trust being born, which does not come under the Sherman act, but nevertheless, needs looking into. Yucatan reports the organization of a \$100,000,000 concern to control the sisal hemp crop of the states of Yucatan and Campechi.

The purpose, it is said, "is to assure stability of price and stop speculation." Sound real Wall-streetish, doesn't it? Don't overlook the fact that this country depends almost absolutely upon those same Central American states mentioned, for its supply of that very essential commodity, binding twine.

It would be shocking to have a foreign octopus fasten its tentacles about Uncle Sam just as he is getting loose from the clutches of those at home.

QUESTIONS THEY WRITE TO CYNTHIA GREY--HER ANSWERS

Her Mail Runs the Gamut of Human Emotions; Love, Pathos, Happiness, Tragedy and Tears.

The volume of my correspondence has grown so rapidly in the last few months that a further systematizing of my work is necessary. For that reason I shall receive office callers hereafter only on Wednesdays, between 11 a. m. and 4 p. m. These hours I will keep open for visitors to the office, with the hope that many of my friends will come to me in person with their questions, but on other days I shall have to limit my services to replying by mail. CYNTHIA GREY.

Q.—I know a lady who started to raffle a hand-embroidered bedroom outfit, and she sold a great many numbers, and took in quite a sum of money; now she has decided to keep the outfit, and also has the money.

Is there any way she could be compelled to raffle it as she has agreed to? Or could she be compelled to return the money?

If prosecution is advised, how would one go out to start it? MRS. J. A. D.

A.—Take the matter up with the prosecuting attorney.

Dear Miss Grey: I write of the subject nearest my heart, hoping you can and will aid me through the paper. My origin is a mystery. I have tried hard to solve the question, but until this time the mystery is as deep as ever. Who am I? Where was I born? Who are my parents, etc.? I know not, but will never be satisfied until I have exhausted every known resource to find out.

I feel certain some of my people are living somewhere, and oh, I want to know them so much! If you will but grant me space it might be the means of solving the mystery.

On the 5th day of June, 1881, a baby girl was placed in the yard, near farm house of Mr. Atkisson, at that time rented by Mrs. Heaviland, 2 1/2 miles southwest of Roseville, Ill. Baby was supposed to be about two weeks old at that time. A short time later was adopted by a couple by the name of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Waters of Roseville, Ill.; was kept and raised by them as their child. These people have never given any clue to the parents of the child, and as now I am 34 years old and a mother I crave for knowledge of my own mother.

I have a copy of my adoption paper to prove what I say is true. This paper was obtained from the county courthouse in Monmouth, Ill. If you can find the space to publish this it

might be the means of satisfying the desire of my life. Thank you. MRS. A. R. W.

A.—If you would send the above information, together with a picture of yourself to other newspapers throughout the country you would most likely reach some of your relatives if they be living. You can secure names and addresses of newspapers from a newspaper manual which can be found in any newspaper office.

The writer of the above letter has entrusted me with her name and address in case anyone who chances to read this could offer some information or suggestion.

Q.—My hair is coming out by the handfuls every time I comb it, and it is split at the ends. I have dandruff, too. What will promote the growth of my hair and prevent it coming out? What will take the dandruff away? TIMES READER.

A.—Following is the formula for a good hair tonic which you may make at home:

Quinine sulphate, 20 gr.; tincture of cantharides, 2 fl. dr.; fluid extract of jaborandi, 2 fl. dr.; alcohol, 2 fl. oz.; glycerine, 2 fl. oz.; bay rum, 3 fl. oz.; rosewater enough to make 16 fl. oz.; the quinine should be dissolved in the alcoholic liquids by warming slightly, then the other ingredients added, and the whole filtered.

Q.—Every time I come home no matter what fellow I am out with, mother wants to know all the details, and every bit of our conversation. Am I duty-bound to tell her? A DAUGHTER.

A.—Your mother has your welfare at heart when she pines, as it may seem, into your business. If it makes her happy to know what her little girl has been doing and all about her good times, why not tell her? Surely there is nothing you are ashamed of?

Q.—I've often noticed in the personals in the ad columns of newspapers the word "means" used as follows: "Well-to-do middle-aged man wishes to form the acquaintance of young girl or widow with some means." I have puzzled not a little over this. Can you tell me what the word "means" means when used in this way? MRS. H. H. B.

A.—The word "means" used in this connection signifies that parties in question must possess either money or property or something of some value financially.

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Q.—Please print in your columns the names of some authors of books and also writers of good plays who are living today. MAY BELLE W.

A.—The following are popular authors of today: Gouverneur Morris, Rex Beach, Owen Wister, John Hopkinson Smith, Harold Bell Wright, Winston Churchill, Gene Stratton Porter, Richard Harding Davis, Jack London, Rudyard Kipling.

Augustus Thomas, Eugene Walker, George Broadhurst, Moody, Wm. C. De Mille, David Belasco, Van Rostand, Brieux, Maeterlinck are modern playwrights.

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