THE PUBLIC BE SERVED

EDITORIAL PAGE

OUR COUNTRY FIRST

The News Scimitar

PUBLISHED BY THE MEMPHIS NEWS SCIMITAR COMPANY

Entered as Second-Class Matter at the Postoffice at Memphis, Tenn., Under the Act of March 3, 1879

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier, 15c per week. By mail, postage paid, 1 month, 50c; 3 months, $1.40; 6 months, $2.50; 12 months, $5.00.

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BACK TO DEMOCRACY

Vice-President Marshall has announced himself a candidate for the state at large to the San Francisco convention and has placed his claims before the Democrats of Indiana.

It is understood that he is slated to be chairman of the committee on resolutions. He is one of the ablest Democrats in the nation, and a presiding officer that knows the "book o' rules" so well that his decisions are rarely overturned by the senate, in which there is a hostile majority.

What especially appeals to us in connection with Mr. Marshall's announcement as a candidate for delegate is his unqualified desire to see the country return to the "ancient and time-honored Democratic doctrines."

Vice-President Marshall is a Democrat of the old school. He believes that Democracy is a steadfast and unvarying principle, and he is one of the few disciples of Jefferson and Jackson remaining in public life. He does not go off after strange theories that read well on paper or sound well to the ear. He believes in a practical political party, and has no visionary schemes and no pet theories that will not stand the test of application or the light of the noonday sun.

He believes in the equality of all men under the law and individual responsibility to the law. As to what the Democratic party, according to his conception, should stand for, he says:

"The Democratic party should pledge itself to rebuild the American political structure by clearly dividing its citizens into the law-abiding and the law-breaking; making its laws rest equally upon all men, permitting the individual citizen who is honest to succeed by honest methods; giving to no citizen legislative advantage; speedily punishing anyone who unjustly obtains success by crooked and dishonest means; recognizing that this is still a federation of states; demanding that the states discharge the duties of local self-government, resisting the usurpations of the general government; removing corrupt and biased judges but standing always for obedience to the decrees of courts and to constituted authority; insisting that the legislative branch of the government shall be responsible for the discharge of its duty and serving notice upon it that it cannot skulk behind an alleged interference upon the part of the executive branch; electing a legislature pledged to discharge the countless officials and innumerable agents made necessary by the war, and to administer public affairs along economic lines, even to the point of the veto of every bill carrying not only unnecessary and ill-advised appropriations, but appropriations for the benefit of a few citizens rather than for the common good; regulating strictly every public utility, and punishing all those seeking to profiteer either personally or through aggregated combinations of men or money; in short, the presentation to the people for their suffrages of a man upon an old-time Democratic platform, under the principles of which the republic for so many years was contented, prosperous and invincible.

"If a faith of this kind appeals to the Democrats of Indiana, I desire to go as a delegate at large to the convention at San Francisco to advocate this kind of a platform, and to ascertain whether everything that made the republic great was right or wrong."

This is a doctrine good enough to elect a delegate to the convention on—in fact it is a good enough doctrine to elect a president on, and if Mr. Marshall should throw his hat into the ring with the slogan, "Back to Jefferson and Jackson," he would be a strong contender for the nomination. Certainly he would receive the support of many who believe Democracy is a tangible thing instead of an apparition.

THE NEW HOTEL

Monday morning a number of gentlemen representing the Chamber of Commerce and the best interests of Memphis will go before the citizens of the community with a proposition to sell $750,000 worth of stock in a new hotel proposed for North Main street. Some of the stock has been subscribed already as a result of the advertisement of the proposition in the newspapers. Many of the subscribers are not Memphis people, and were not actuated by civic pride or any other impulse except a desire to find a safe and profitable investment.

We are of the opinion that the sale of this stock will not be difficult. It is not a contribution, but a business proposition with a splendid prospect for a good return on the investment. But it is more than that; it is a movement on behalf of the city of Memphis, and when this new hotel is finished with its 430 rooms there will be just that many more people in Memphis every night and shopping day. The visitors now are limited only by the accommodations.

This project is one that should appeal especially to the business interests and the business men. The Chamber of Commerce is within the sphere of its obligation in getting behind this proposition, and as a public necessity it should see it through to a successful conclusion.

NO TROUBLE

Considerable notoriety has been given certain lumber dealers, charged with unlawful combination and with conspiracy to violate the antitrust law in directing the sale of lumber and its price, because of the petition for an injunction filed by the district attorney on behalf of the department of justice.

The lumber dealers maintain that the information furnished one another has no relation to price-fixing and no doubt the government will have a difficult task in establishing the charge. The lumber dealers may suffer some annoyance and perhaps some notoriety that they might wish to be spared but we have yet to learn of the achievement of anything worth while by Mr. Palmer since he launched into his presidential-profiteering campaign. If the guilty have been able to escape we see no reason for anxiety on the part of those who rely upon their innocence for vindication.

UNFAIR

We are sorry to see the auditorium project get another setback. There is no reason why the owners of property on the proposed site should not receive all that it is worth from the city, but it is hardly fair to make an offer to sell at a price which the committee feels is exorbitant, and, failing to get the desired price, attack the validity of the law creating the commission and authorizing the bond issue for the auditorium.

Mr. McAdoo is making such a fuss over the proposal to place his name on the ticket for presidential nomination that one must wonder if he is trying to shirk the nomination or trying to get it.

"Sees peace for Mexico in 1921," says headline. Is this another prediction of the end of the world?

The Saddest Scene—By Briggs

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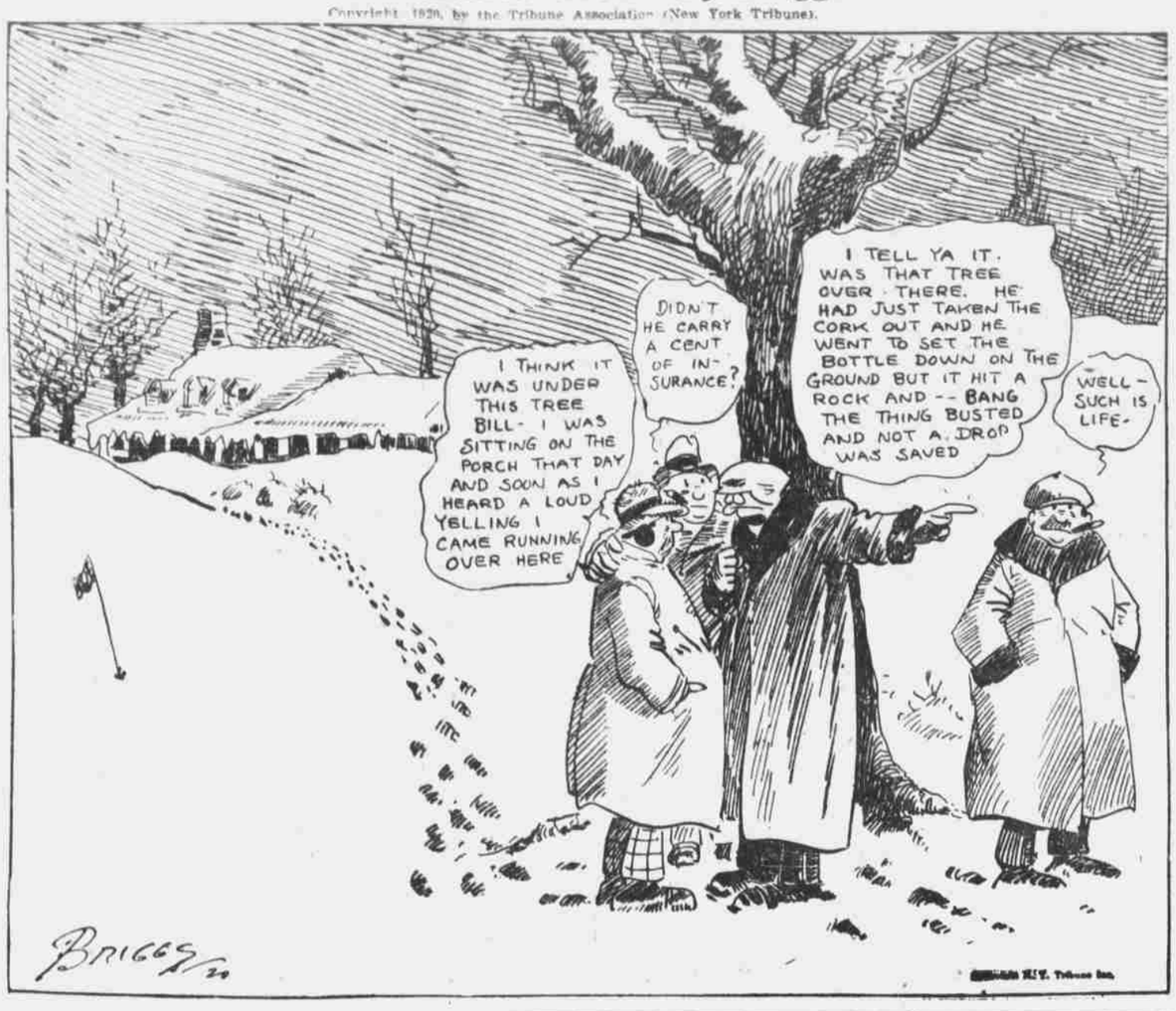

Public Discussion

AMERICA FOR AMERICANS.

To The News Scimitar:

It is high time for the people of the United States to cut loose from foreign manufactured merchandise and buy "Made in the United States products. The styles for the ladies, as a rule, originate in Paris; the styles for the men come from England. The United States is filled with factories and foundries. Every conceivable article can be manufactured in this country. Formerly this country was flooded with goods "Made in Germany." Every pound of the "fleecy staple" should be manufactured into the various kinds of cloth in the South. The idea of letting the English spinners dominate the cotton market is one they have put over Dixie. We have got to get down to the spirit of Americanizing Americans. We have been aping the customs and manners of the foreigners too long. If we want the pendulum to swing to normality we should typify the true American spirit and get in the old "Jeffersonian boat" that will stand all adverse waves and rocking. We should pull for the land of the Stars and Stripes, for legitimate business and prosperity for the masses and war on the profiteers who would play in the title role of Shylock.

Too the "In God We Trust" must be placed on a 100 per cent basis in purchasing value, so the laborer's family can have the necessities of life. When the H. C. L. comes to earth again, "America for Americans" will have greater significance and the workingmen and working women will rejoice with sublime paeans of "Peace on earth, good will to men."

S. L. BRANNON.

Leland, Miss.

HOROSCOPE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1920.

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Star aspects that are sinister rule this day, according to astrology. Saturn, Uranus and Jupiter are all in malefic aspect, while Venus alone is friendly.

It is a sway most auspicious for theatrical interests. Large returns and success for new plays are foretold. Young players of great promise will be discovered.

According to ancient lore this should be a lucky rule under which to wear new garments. Modistes and milliners should benefit by this positing of the stars.

Changes in fashions will be extreme in the next few months. It is prophesied for ideals in dress will be improved.

Farmers should safeguard their best interests at this time, but they are warned against false or ill-advised political moves.

In the working of the law of extremes a widespread fad for home-making will be apparent this year, at the time when women have the right to vote.

Persons whose birthplace it is have the country of a year of much activity. They should beware of false friends and office shadows.

Children born on this day are likely to be artistic and affectionate. These natives of Pisces may encounter difficulties in their careers but they will overcome all obstacles.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. How long did the reign of terror in France last?—O. E. L.

A. The reign of terror was that period of the French revolution beginning with the fall of the Girondists in June, 1793, and lasting until the overthrow of Robespierre, July 27, 1794. During this time the country was under the domination of a faction which carried on wholesale executions regardless of age, sex or position.

Q. When were envelopes first used?—G. I. T.

A. Envelopes began to be used in England and in the United States in the decade from 1840 to 1850.

Q. Are farm lands more likely to increase in value during the next five years than they are to decline?—M. E. K.

A. The department of agriculture says that at the present time it is impossible to predict whether the value of farms will go up or down in the next half decade. The department says that it is interesting to recall that after the Civil war farm property advanced considerably for at least two years. This was followed by a decline in farm values. Of course, the conditions that prevail today are vastly different from the postwar conditions at the close of the war between the states.

Q. How many investigations have been ordered during the present congress?—A. M. B.

A. Senator Hitchcock recently said in the senate that so far in the 66th congress, both houses have authorized 61 investigations. This number is compared with 31 investigations in the preceding congress.

Q. How many presidents of the United States married more than once?—F. X. W.

A. Presidents Tyler, Fillmore, Benjamin Harrison, Roosevelt and Wilson each married twice. President Tyler had the largest family of any president, having had three sons and four daughters by his first wife, and five sons and two daughters by his second wife.

Q. At the time of the signing of the armistice what percentage of the line on the western front was held by the Americans?—D. Y. P.

A. At that time the Americans held 21 per cent of the front line; French, 55 per cent, the British, 18 per cent; the Belgians, six per cent. At that time, also the battle strength of the American army was 1,950,000 as compared with 1,718,000 for the British.

Q. When was Columbia college established?—T. T. H.

A. Columbia college, which was first known as King's college, was established in the middle of the eighteenth century, and save for a few years during the Revolutionary war, it has carried on its work in the city of New York. It was the college of Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Robert R. Livingston, De Witt Clinton, Hamilton Fish and many other outstanding figures in the history of this nation.

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing The News Scimitar information bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C. This offer applies strictly to information. The bureau cannot give advice on legal, medical, and financial matters. It does not attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake extensive research on any subject. Give full name and address and inclose two-cent stamp for return postage. Write your question plainly and briefly. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

News of Memphis 10 Years Ago — Twice Told Tales — News of Memphis 20 Years Ago

FEBRUARY 20, 1910.

Despite the presence of troops at Brownsville the feeling against negroes as a race is growing. The funeral of Alexander Polidor, killed several days ago when deputy sheriffs fired into a crowd trying to reach the jail was held yesterday. More than 500 persons were in attendance. They claim that negroes crowded the sidewalks as the funeral cortege was passing through made demonstrations. Another company of the state militia was called out today.

Dr. Thomas S. Potts, formerly pastor of the Central Baptist church, was re-elected to that office upon recommendation of the committee appointed to select a pastor. Dr. Potts resigned to take charge of the financing the Baptist Memorial hospital. His reelection to the pastorship of the Central church would be effective June 1, if he will accept the place.

Mrs. A. M. Lee, owner of the warehouse building occupied by the Memphis Bag company, destroyed by fire yesterday, announced that the place would be rebuilt as soon as possible.

Hilary Howse, mayor of Nashville, and Charlie Cohn, president of the board of aldermen of that city spent the day in Memphis as the guests of Mayor E. H. Crump. During the morning and afternoon they were taken for automobile rides over the city and were guests at the Peabody hotel for dinner. Mayor Howse came to deliver in person an invitation to Mayor Crump to attend a conference of mayors to be held soon at Nashville.

Phil Anderson, formerly a resident of Memphis, reached the city today to visit his cousin, Sergt. Joe Burney, of the Memphis police department. Mr. Anderson is now living in Texas.

FEBRUARY 20, 1895.

The citizens of Harris county, Georgia, killed moonshiner Atkinson for protection against the negroes of that section. The negroes are thoroughly organized into secret societies and have committed many depredations. The house of Capt. Clack, commander of the Gordon troops, was fired recently and the greater portion of the company's equipment was destroyed.

Frederick Douglass, noted negro, formerly a slave, who escaped from bondage and later became a lecturer on subjects looking to the advancement of the negro race, died at his home in Washington. Douglass had held several executive offices including the post of United States marshal and recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia. His second wife who survives him was a white woman.

The fifth annual convention of the Southern Lumber Manufacturers' association begun its sessions at the Hotel Galveston today. There is a very large attendance. C. W. Goodlander, of Fort Scott, Kans., is president of the association and presided at the opening meeting.

James F. Aglar, general agent of the Union Pacific railroad with headquarters at St. Louis, is a guest of Prof. Wharton S. Jones. Mr. Aglar is loud in his praise of Memphis and states that there had been a great deal of improvement in the city since his last visit.

One of the largest concatenations of the Hoo Hoos was held tonight at the Young Men's Hebrew association hall. Visiting lumbermen who are members of the order assisted in the initiation of a large class.

THE HASKIN LETTER

THE LURE OF THE ANTARCTIC

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Now that the war is over, men of daring are again turning their eyes toward the last great unexplored wilderness of the world, and the most terrible of them all—the Antarctic continent. Dr. John L. Cope, commander of the British imperial Antarctic expedition, has announced that one feature of the five-year expedition which is to start next June will be a dash at the south pole by airplane.

Of course the south pole has already been reached. This most inaccessible of all places on earth was reached first by Amundsen, who got there and back in safety, and in the same year by Scott, who got his goal and then died with his companions of cold and starvation on the way back, leaving a journal which was afterward recovered and is one of the most inspiring accounts of death coolly met that was ever written.

To the average man, whose chief object in life is to make himself as comfortable as possible, it might seem that the explorers would be satisfied to leave the Antarctic alone now that the pole has been reached. But to the hardy and courageous souls who delight in explorations the Antarctic is still a challenging opportunity. Its exploration has really just begun. Geographers still differ as to whether it is one great continent or two of them, or an archipelago composed of a number of islands. And despite the many expeditions which have gone there and the number of brave men who have died there, many things about the south polar region remain to be studied. Problems not only in geography, but in geology, terrestrial magnetism and meteorology remain to be solved, and the life of the frozen southern seas has not been adequately studied.

The south polar regions present a much more difficult problem to human courage and ingenuity than does the Arctic. Ocean currents warm the region about the north pole much more than they do those about the south pole, so that there is a warm summer and an abundant animal life in the north at a latitude which in the south is bitterly cold all the year around. There is practically no animal life on the Antarctic land mass. Besides this the great southern blizzard is a more deadly thing than the north has to show. Every explorer who goes into the Antarctic practically gambles on the blizzard with his life as the stake.

"Given fairly decent weather and reasonable luck, I am convinced that we will safely return to our base," says Dr. Cope.

That is what Scott said. But he got neither the decent weather nor the luck. One of his men fell on the ice and suffered a fracture of the skull, from which he soon died. Another became ill and soon saw that he was a burden to the party. He walked out of the tent one night and never came back. The rest pushed on a little farther and then, with the blizzard and their luck still against them, and their food and strength gone, sat down calmly to die.

The story of the Antarctic is full of examples of heroism like that, and so is the story of Arctic exploration—of men dying coolly, laying down their lives for each other, persisting in the face of difficulties that seemed insurmountable. The stories of polar explorations are all stranger than fiction, and yet they are all fact, vouched for by men of the most thoroughly established integrity. Pioneering in other lands, when you get down to the facts about it, is often found to be a sordid business. The exploration of our own West, for example, is mingled examples of the greatest courage with many which show men at their worst. There is more than one example of a man killing and eating a companion to save his own life. The rule of each for himself and devil take the hindmost prevailed more often than the higher one that each man's life is at the service of his fellows.

But there are few stains on the record of polar adventure. It is a record of which the human race can be proud. And the reason for this is fairly evident. The men who rush into a new country like our West are men of all kinds and mostly of rather crude and primitive kinds. They are not heroes. They are commonplace mortals driven into danger by the hope of wealth. But the men who go on polar expeditions are the very cream and pick of civilization. Most of them are scientists of high attainment and all of them are men of splendid physique, or they could never undertake work. In a word they are mental and physical supermen, who combine the conscience, sensibility and intelligence of civilized beings with the strength and physical courage of savages. They are the thoroughbreds of adventure who would rather die in the struggle than run away and live to fight another day.

To the good citizen who reads about it in his newspaper, sitting before a warm fire with his pipe in his mouth and his dinner digesting comfortably, there is something incredible and unreal about this whole business of polar exploration. He thinks it makes fine reading, but at bottom he regards the explorers as a pack of fools. He can not comprehend their motives. With all due respect to the glory of being first to get there, and the value to science of knowing what kind of fish swim the arctic seas, he does not see why these things should induce a man to face starvation, freeze off a couple of toes and perhaps die a most uncomfortable death. He puts another chunk of wood on the fire, refills his pipe, and says that he guesses they can have it.

But there are some things to be found in the polar regions that he has not considered. One of these is freedom—the freedom to struggle against a mighty opponent without any of the innumerable and annoying little checks and hindrances that beset our everyday civilized life. Most of us have so long and completely lost our freedom that we have forgotten what it is like. In fact, most of us never had any. The law and the opinions of other people and the need for making a living and a hundred and one customs and conventions bind us on every side. We do not know what we want to do, but do what we must do. We appear to be active and moving, but we are really running in grooves, like the balls at a bowling alley, and have no more independent motion than they. We struggle, but ingloriously against petty and annoying things, such as colds and taxes and mothers-in-law and cost of living and the servant problem. There is not much zest in such struggles. We muddle through them as best we can and we console ourselves with comforts equally petty—with hot baths and tobacco and soft beds and good food. Most of us have completely forgotten that the real destiny of every living organism is to struggle against overwhelming odds and then to die. Most of us have even forgotten that we are going to die. We take out a life insurance policy and feel that we have then attended to the matter of death once and for all. We do not like to hear the undertaker mentioned.

But men who have gone into far wild places, provided they are strong, have realized this law of struggle in its utmost simplicity and nakedness. They have learned that a clean-cut struggle and perfect freedom are the best that any man may hope for, and that whether the struggle ends in death or success does not matter because death is always just a few jumps ahead of us anyway. That is why men who have once been to the polar regions always want to go back, even though they have left a frozen toe or the body of a friend there. You can't get them to talk or think of anything else.

It is not primarily a love of science, nor yet a barren desire to look at a spot which no one else has seen that leads them on their brave quests. It is love of the freedom and the struggle which such a quest gives. Anyone who reads carefully the personal stories of explorers in the arctic or any other great wilderness will be convinced of that, and any man who has known the freedom of a wilderness can understand it.

Not long ago a young man who had been on several arctic expeditions made a speech before a number of newspaper men in behalf of another expedition which he hoped to lead into the north. He blushed and stammered and made nothing clear except that he was a good fellow and could not talk on his feet. But afterward a couple of the scribes had lunch with him and he really unlimbered.

"I want to get back there," he said. "I don't like it here—it's hot and stuffy and there's nothing to do worth doing. I'll be happy when my ship's frozen in, and I can get to work."

And the incredible fact was borne in upon his listeners that this man who had seen a ship crushed between icebergs, who had known frostbite and starvation and night six months long and had seen crevasses swallow men and dog teams, wanted to get back to the scene of these disasters, wanted to face them again simply for the sake of doing it. And they shook their heads and went back to their game of dominoes.

The polar explorers may bring back proof that the antarctic is all one big continent, and that will be fine. But they will bring back, above all, what they have always brought—proof that the human spirit is the biggest thing on earth, that it dares to attempt the impossible and holds death a minor hazard.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

Sir Oliver Lodge says the next world is much like this. Perhaps that is why people are never anxious to go there.—New York Evening Mail.

The league of nations is now performing, but calls from all the other nations for the author go unheeded.—Norfolk Ledger Dispatch.

Senator Capper proposes to put the profiteers in prison. In that case the army cantonments would have to be called into use, for the jails of the country would not begin to furnish sufficient accommodation.—Cheyenne State Leader.

The allies consumed four printed pages in presenting the cases of Von Hindenburg and Ludendorff, and then probably didn't tell all they had in mind.—Indianapolis Star.

Daily Editorial Digest

THIS column is designed to reproduce without bias the latest comment by the leading newspapers and periodicals on the questions of the day.

The Newberry Trial.

It is much too early to guess the outcome of the trial at Grand Rapids, where Senator Newberry and 122 of his campaign workers are accused of violating the federal election laws in the 1918 campaign. The Baltimore Sun (Ind. Dem.) predicts that "the trial will be an exceedingly protracted one." But, says the Detroit News (Ind.) "even as early as this the Newberry trial is not without heart interest. . . . That's what makes it all such a good story."

Although the outcome may involve the conflicting claims of the Republican and Democratic parties to a Michigan seat in the United States senate, the newspapers of the country, for the most part, are not inclined to take a partisan view of the trial. For instance, the Republican Knoxville Journal and Tribune says of Senator Newberry:

"He is charged with having spent an enormous amount of money, or that his supporters did, in violation of corrupt practices laws of both the nation and the state of Michigan. It will be for the jury to decide after hearing the evidence and what the lawyers on each side have to say for the client on the subject. It is not yet proper for the public to say—but on its face it has a nasty look and smells bad."

On the other hand, the independent Democratic Baltimore Sun thinks the prosecution has revealed at the outset that it is weak. The Sun says:

"One thing that will catch the attention of the ordinary reader is the blackness of the picture which Mr. Dailey (the prosecutor) draws of Senator Newberry. . . . It is nearly always a sign of weakness when it is necessary to bolster up a case at the outset with professional 'dramatics,' or to destroy the alleged criminal with verbal vitriol before a single witness has been heard."

"This is no defense of Senator Newberry," the Sun goes on; "but the government's case is prejudiced by a lack of dignity and self-control in its presentation. . . . The real issue is obscured and the country as well as the jury may be left in a state of indecision. The case is too serious to be allowed to end in that way."

It seems to be conceded that large sums of money were spent on Senator Newberry's election, but the defense insists, first, that Senator Newberry himself was not responsible for nor even acquainted with the campaign methods of his followers, and second, that there is no evidence of "conspiracy" among the latter to violate the law. This line of defense, in the view of the Chattanooga Times (Ind. Dem.) is too technical:

"Whether there is conspiracy or not," it says, "the stark, bald and disgraceful fact is made clear that enormous sums of money were used to corrupt the electorate of the state—'the lid is off,' said one of the workers to an intimate, 'and the sky is the limit.' Whether Senator Newberry shall be able to escape on the technicalities of the law is not so much the question as that decency and honest regard for the law were thrown to the winds and a reckless and contemptuous program for buying the election was adopted by the managers of the campaign."

But, remarks the Columbus Dispatch (Ind.):

"Men of the Newberry type are really not so much to blame. They are millionaires who are worked by designing politicians in most instances. They are willing to disburse their money to obtain the honor, and they do not pay enough attention to the details of the disbursement. They do not see that it is a terrible thing to have established in this country such systems and policies as will enable a man literally to buy his way into the senate."

The defense reminds the jury also that Senator Newberry's opponent was Henry Ford, because of whose "known pacifist attitude," as the Idaho Statesman (Rep.) puts it, "many patriotic people of Michigan were greatly aroused lest he should be elected to the senate in war time." However, the Chattanooga News (Dem.) declares that Ford's "views on preparedness and peace were not essentially different from those of the president" and reminds us that "President Wilson considered Mr. Ford the best man in Michigan for the senate." The News holds that "our institutions are in more danger from men like those who manipulated the Newberry fund than from Mr. Ford." The Atlanta Journal (Ind. Dem.) thinks Mr. Ford's views irrelevant to the case; "we might suppose, from the tone of the eminent counsel's speech," it says, "that Ford and not Newberry was on trial."

The trial has its amusing side. "The whole country chuckled appreciatively," says the Grand Rapids Press (Ind.) "over the prosecution's description of Senator Newberry in uniform standing on the bridge of a toy battleship in a New York park while motion pictures were taken for the benefit of his campaign." But the "defense had a ready explanation. There was no attempt to deceive or make it other than a dry land view, and the park craft was plainly marked 'the only American warship not in the water.'"

"Nevertheless the country chuckled," continues the Press, "because the mental picture of a naval candidate posing on a dry land ship fitted in so well with what it knows of the great American system of political grandstanding and bluffing."

"If Michigan has any sense of humor," comments the Harrisburg Patriot (Ind. Dem.), "a disclosure of this kind ought to give them a month of laughs and spare their minds for the moment from other phases of the campaign which were shameful and sordid."

The moral of the whole affair, as the Richmond News Leader (Ind. Dem.), draws it, is that we must "provide by statute that all the campaign managers of any candidate subscribe to oath, precisely as he does, that the only funds expended were those covered by the statement of the candidate. If this should be done, how vastly would shrink the proportions of political campaigns!"

But the Sioux City Journal (Rep.), sees no hope in that direction. "Political integrity cannot be legislated into a people," it says, and goes on:

"It must come from within them and be voluntary. The purity of the ballot in any state is no greater than the purpose of the people of that state to be incorruptible. The Newberry funds could not have been spent in Michigan had there been no place to spend them; no people willing to accept them for the purposes they were expected to accomplish. . . . The Michigan electorate was corrupted because a portion of that electorate was willing to be corrupted."

Europe Boycotting Our Goods.

If the British government has placed an embargo upon cotton importations, as rumored, it would be merely giving official sanction to a tendency that has been growing ever since the exchange situation became acute. Such a step might give added impetus to the tendency; but the tendency itself, if not official stimulated, would ultimately produce in a natural way the same effect as an embargo would be designed to do in an artificial way. Therefore, one might doubt the truth of the rumor, unless it be assumed either that the British authorities have no knowledge of natural economic processes, or that the situation is so much more acute than we have assumed as to make swift action imperative.

Only a few days ago it was reported that dealers in Denmark were prepared to send back to the United States, for sale here, millions of dollars worth of American goods because they could not sell them at a profit in Europe while European money was so low in value. If the British government determined to keep out American cotton it would be for a different object, but the conditions impelling it to take that step would be the same as in the case of the Scandinavian merchants.

So far as the final outcome is concerned, it might make little difference whether the report about the British embargo was true or false. In either case the stoppage of shipments from America to Europe, whether effected by artificial or by natural means, would logically be expected to arrest the processes which have been working to Europe's financial disadvantage.

A general boycott of American goods by foreign nations, besides tending to bring the rates of exchange into a tolerable relationship, would certainly be expected to reduce prices in the United States—and such reduction in prices would be an additional factor in Europe's favor as well as in favor of our own domestic consumers.

In this light it might be said that the unwholesome situation brought about by the disparity in the rates of exchange contains within itself the elements for its own cure. The depreciation of European money is a process that cannot go on forever.—San Antonio Light (Ind.)

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

When the wets fight to that last ditch they'll find that it's dry.—Greenville Piedmont.

It's a good thing for senators that they are not paid by piece work.—Cleveland Press.

Lenine may not have known that civilization was so widespread when he set out to destroy it.—Toledo Blade.

That employe of the Denver mint, who buried bars of gold in his yard hit upon a unique plan to make his garden pay.—Birmingham Age Herald.

It is said that Holland is willing to intern the ex-kaiser. Too many letters in that word to suit the allied authorities.—Portland (Ore.) Telegram.

Potatoes are used for money in Poland. No cheap currency there.—Nashville Banner.

We have with us today Mr. Lansing, secretary of the exterior.—Greensboro News.

YE TOWNE GOSSIP

(REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.)

BY K.C.B.

Dear K. C. B.—You don't know me and I don't know you, but I read your column, and so we are friends. And the other night I was riding home on a crowded car and I heard a man just next to me say to a friend who was reading your column that he knew you and your brains weren't much because your wife did all the thinking and all you did was to copy what she said with one finger on a typewriter.

And it's none of my business whether it's true or not, but, anyway, I'll be glad if it isn't, and if you publish this maybe the man who knew so much will see it and maybe his friend will let him not to talk so much about things that he knows nothing about.

So there you are. I thank you.

R. M. C.,

Boston, Mass.

MY DEAR R. M. C.

IN THE first place,

OF COURSE, you know,

THAT NO married man

COULD COPY on a typewriter,

WITH ONE finger.

EVERYTHING HIS wife said.

HE COULDN'T do it.

HE'D HAVE to use 'em all.

EVEN IF it happened.

THAT HE had a wife.

THAT DOESN'T talk as much.

AS A lot of other wives.

AND BESIDES,

SUPPOSING FOR instance,

THAT THE man on the car.

WAS TELLING the truth.

I ASK you Robert,

OR WHATEVER your name is,

IF YOU don't understand,

THAT ALL married folk,

NO MATTER how happy,

ARE JUST human beings.

AND THAT every little while,

THEY HAVE their little spats,

AND GO round the house,

NOT SPEAKING to each other,

AND IF it were true,

THAT ALL I do,

IS JUST copy the things,

MY WIFE says to me,

WHATEVER WOULD I do,

WHEN SHE wouldn't say anything,

AND WHATEVER would I do,

WHEN SHE goes away,

AND LEAVES me all alone,

WITH MY typewriter,

AND ALL of my fingers,

AND NOTHING to write,

AND ANYWAY, Robert,

WHAT DIFFERENCE does it make,

WHO WRITES the column,

SO LONG as you read it,

AND THINK it's all right,

AND I get my check,

ONCE EVERY week,

AND EVERYBODY'S happy,

EXCEPT THE man,

THAT YOU overheard,

ON THE crowded car,

AND EVEN at that,

HE MAY be all right,

BECAUSE IF it wasn't for my wife,

I'D HAVE so much trouble,

WITH THE laundry and everything

THAT I couldn't write at all,

I THANK you.