THE PUBLIC BE SERVED

EDITORIAL PAGE

OUR COUNTRY FIRST

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INFLUENCE ABROAD

The author of the phrase and the originator of the creed of "open covenants openly arrived at" was President Wilson.

The expression was apt and the purpose was worthy. It brought to his standard numerous supporters who believed that many of the ills of the old world were due to secret treaties and secret understandings, which eventually rose up to plague those bound by them. There was perhaps no principle enunciated within recent years that appeared to possess more real merit or promised more relief from the curse of secret diplomacy.

And yet, for more than a week there have been passing between the representatives of Great Britain, France and Italy on the one side and President Wilson on the other, short and curt communications in which, we are told, the United States is on record as having threatened to repudiate the treaty of peace and the league of nations; that it is ready to withdraw from the treaty guaranteeing protection to France in the event of German aggression, and making other serious representations, if the Adriatic question is not settled in accordance with the views of the United States.

What are the views of the United States on this question? So far as we have observed it has not been debated in the congress and there is a general haziness with regard to the entire subject. At least there is a general misunderstanding between the president and the representatives of Great Britain, France and Italy. They declare the president has not taken into consideration developments of the past five months, and that it is not possible to adjust the subject on the basis of his understanding of last August or September.

There is no doubt that the president is pursuing the subject with the loftiest motives and the most disinterested idea of justice to all concerned.

But he makes a fundamental mistake in talking too much about American ideals. There may be some misunderstanding even of that. The ideals that we say represent America are not the ideals the European nations attribute to us.

We protest that our ideals are a genuine desire to unselfishly serve humanity. We tell the world that we have no thought of gain and no desire for advantage.

The European who knows the United States best through the markets and the official manipulation of the rate of exchange is not impressed with the protestation of our high ideals.

Perhaps the fault of the president is in stressing too much American ideals. It is not well to speak too often or too highly of one's virtues.

Furthermore, Great Britain, France and Italy, and perhaps even some other countries, likewise have ideals. They may even be egotistical enough to claim that their ideals are every bit as high as ours. Of course we know they are not; but what is the use of arguing?

Why talk of ideals as though they were a virtue peculiar to the people of the United States? It is better to talk of things as they are—the questions that irritate and disturb—and seek a settlement for them without going outside the record to raise a question that no two nations in the world will agree upon.

Meanwhile we must trust to the wisdom of the president to keep us free from unpleasant entanglements with our former associates in the war while we remain in ignorance of the point of contention.

Unfortunately the European people are prone to regard the president as being out of line with the sentiment of the country. They fortify their belief upon his demand for a Democratic congress that would more patriotically assist in winning the war, and the election of a Republican house and senate; upon his statement that he would not dare return to the United States without the league of nations, which was finally conceded to him after it was prepared by a British subject and a general from South Africa, and the fact that the senate adopted numerous reservations and has not yet ratified it.

We do not recount these facts critically, but to show why it is that the president has lost prestige in Europe. Irvin S. Cobb, who witnessed the continuous ovation given the president upon his arrival in France and analyzed the psychology of it during his visits to England and Italy, stated what was perhaps at that time the truth when he said, "Wilson could be elected president of any country in the world except the United States."

His popularity elsewhere, however, was based upon the belief that he was invincible at home; that he had the American people solidly arrayed behind him. When the events recounted above transpired he lost some of his influence abroad.

As for the responsibility for this condition, we are of the belief that it is due not so much to anything the president may have done or said or to anything that may have been said or accomplished by his enemies, but to efforts, both persistent and effective, of the nations that have dominated Europe for 100 years, and which look with jealousy and suspicion upon the advent of another into European affairs, and are seeking by the use of every means at their command to discredit and destroy that influence.

ADMIRAL PEARY

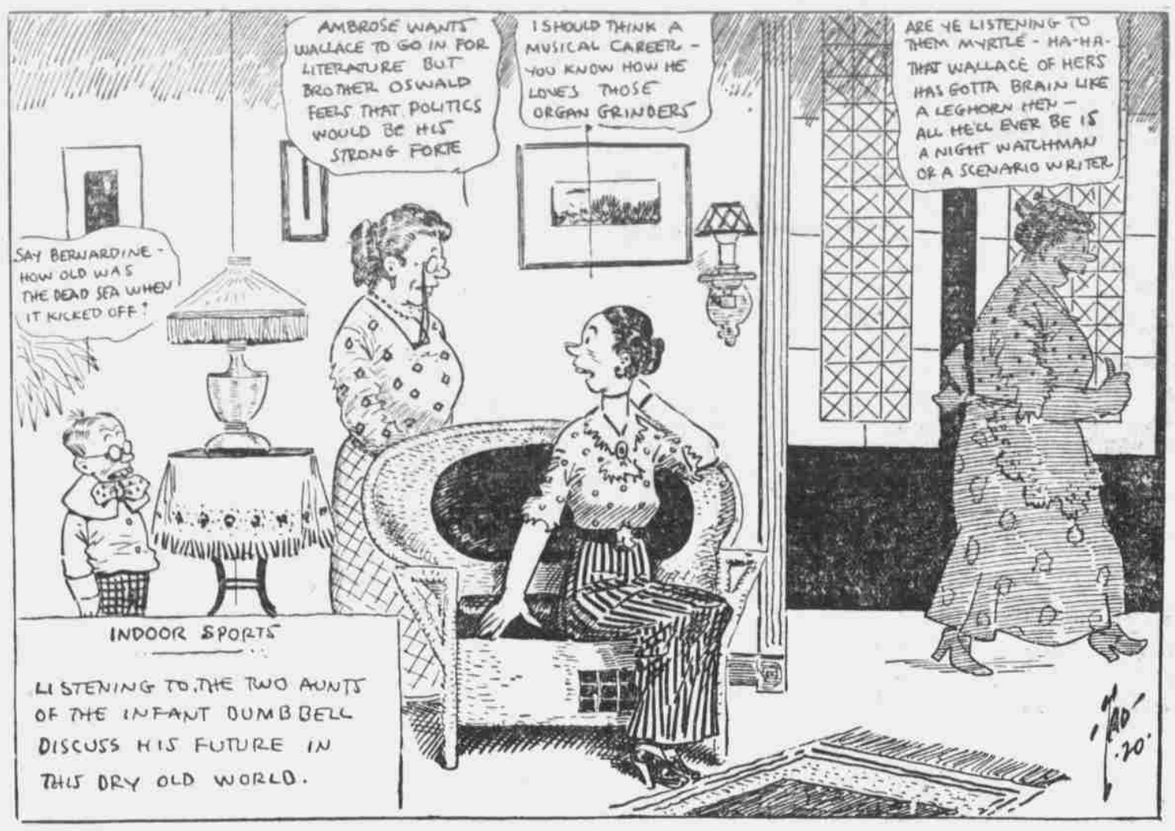
All the world knows the achievement of Rear Admiral Peary. His name has become and will ever remain a permanent inscription in the histories and retain a high place in the esteem of scientists and among the discoverers that the world delights to honor.

It was the Peary personality that charmed those who came in contact with him. There was nothing of the poser and there was no air of greatness about him. He was pleasant, affable, cordial and above all he was invariably interesting.

He had a charming manner. He met the world with a smile. He appeared to be a man of patience and forbearance, and the first and uppermost thought in the mind of one who met him for the first time was that he must have been deeply hurt when he learned that his life's work was all but wrecked by an imposter, but the second thought was that he was a fighter and abundantly able to defend his rights in any company.

Peary was a student and a polished gentleman. The years he spent in the far north took away from him none of the demeanor that characterizes the gentleman in polite company, and it was a never ending source of pleasure to hear the story of his experiences from his own lips.

Peary was scarcely esteemed by the public for his contributions to history and science. The men skilled in research and scientific endeavor were not slow to appreciate his worth, and it is a source of gratification to know that he was made aware of the world's genuine estimate of his achievement.



? The Question Box ?

Q. What does a modern battleship cost?—L. E. S.

A. The navy department says that the approximate cost of a modern battleship is $20,000,000. This is more than it cost to build the capitol at Washington.

Q. How many soldiers are buried in the A. E. F. cemetery at Romagne, France?—A. A. C.

A. In the cemetery at Romagne, Sous Montfaucon, in the Meuse department, there are 25,061 American soldiers' graves.

Q. Are pensions paid Civil war veterans exempt from income tax.—N. E. A.

A. This source of income is not free from income tax, and must be accounted for in the income tax returns.

Q.—How many times a day does the weather bureau make observations?—D. G. Y.

A.—The weather bureau at all its stations makes observations three times each day, that it may make a record of conditions and obtain the facts upon which to forecast the weather.

Q.—At what price must silver sell for the American silver dollar to be intrinsically worth its face value?—L. G. B.

A.—That the silver in a dollar may be worth its face value, the market price of silver must be up to $1.29 an ounce. When it goes above that point the silver in a dollar is worth more than the coin and speculators may be expected to melt dollars and sell the silver as such.

Q.—Will I have to remove a whisky sign painted on the side of my barn?—G. E. K.

A.—Under the law all such signs and billboards advertising intoxicating liquors must be torn down. Anybody allowing such signs to remain on his premises will be subject to a heavy penalty.

Q.—Name the seven wonders of the middle ages.—N. M. I.

A.—They were: Coliseum of Rome, the Catacombs of Alexandria, the Great Wall of China, Stonehenge, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Porcelain Tower of Nankin, and the Mosque of St. Sophia in Constantinople.

Q.—Is there more rainfall in Florida in summer than in winter?—J. H.

A.—Throughout Florida there is more rain in the summer than in the winter. The rainy season begins and ends a little earlier in the western part than in the eastern part of the state. The dryness of the winters is an important factor in making Florida an ideal winter resort. By far the greater part of the summer rain comes in the daytime in the form of brief showers which cool the air.

Q.—What do the colors of the flag signify?—E. D. V.

A.—The colors, red, white and blue, of the American flag denote valor, purity and truth, respectively.

Q.—Why has the rate of exchange on American money decreased in China?—F. F. G.

A.—This decrease in exchange is attributed to the advance in the price of silver, and the fact that the Chinese monetary system is on a silver basis, while the United States monetary system is on a gold basis. The value of gold has not increased at the same rate that silver has since the war.

Q.—Is it possible to borrow money on a government war risk insurance?—J. K. P.

A.—War risk insurance that is payable in monthly installments over a period of 20 years, is not assignable, and it is therefore not possible to borrow money on such insurance. The converted permanent policies provide for loans at any time after the first year equal to 94 per cent of the cash surrender value.

Q.—How many Greeks are there in the United States?—T. F.

A.—At the time of the last census in 1910 there were 101,232 Greeks in this country, mostly men.

Q.—What was the actual value of the 30 pieces of silver for which Judas betrayed Christ?—L. V. S.

A.—They were actually worth in American money $16.98, which was a fair price for a slave in those days.

Q. How is the president of the French republic elected? A. E. L.

A. The president of France is elected not by popular vote as the president of the United States is chosen, but by the national assembly, consisting of the members of the two chambers of parliament. These two legislative bodies are the chamber of deputies, which has 602 members, each of whom is elected for four years, and the senate, which has 300 members elected for nine years. A majority of the whole number of members is necessary to elect a president. The term of office is for seven years.

Q. What are the 10 largest cities in the world? N. F.

A. They are New York, London, Berlin, Paris, Chicago, Tokio, Petrograd, Vienna, Moscow and Philadelphia.

Q. What is the number of students graduated from high schools in the United States annually? C. H. S.

A. The bureau of education says that the annual number of high school graduates in this country is approximately 193,000.

Q. What is the doctrine of Bahiaism? G. K. A.

A. Bahiaism is a form of universal religion which teaches that all religions and creeds are part of the Divine plan, and that God revealed himself to different people at different times through various prophets.

Q. What holidays are rural mail carriers entitled to? N. M. L.

A. The postoffice department says that they are entitled to New Year's day, Washington's birthday, Memorial day, July Fourth, Labor day and Thanksgiving.

Q. What is the meaning of a "light year?" D. O. D.

A. This term signifies the distances over which light travels in one year's time. According to the best determinations light will travel in 365 days 62,243 astronomical units, an astronomical unit being the distance from the earth to the sun.

Q. Name the members of the supreme court. T. F. K.

A. They are: Chief Justice Edward D. White, Associate Justices Joseph McKenna, Oliver W. Holmes, William R. Day, W. Van Devanter, Mahlon Pitney, James C. McReynolds, Louis D. Brandeis and John H. Clarke.

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STARS INCLINE DON'T COMPEL | HOROSCOPE | FOR THE COMING DAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1920.

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Although Neptune is in benefic aspect according to astrology, this is not a fortunate day for the Sun and Mercury are adverse.

Under Pisces the sign that rules this part of the month, natives are likely to be exceedingly methodical, logical and mathematical, and these traits marked the character of George Washington, born on this date.

In this year of 1920 the signs seem to be most propitious for ultimate national development, but within the 12 months many sensational events will take place.

On this day Neptune is in a place believed to encourage vision and to assure divine action based on foresight.

While the stars favor those who dare to make great ventures, they most risk operations for them in high office.

During this planetary rule evil reports concerning men and nations are to be expected in the public prints.

It is a most sinister aspect for candidates for office or for men and women with large ambitions in any direction.

For all who seek employment the conditions is most discouraging. They should not put fate to the test until conditions change.

All who would sign contracts or enter into any sort of business agreement delay is counseled.

The rise to power and prosperity of new publishers is indicated. This is interpreted to mean that printers of books as well as printers of newspapers will benefit.

In accordance with the prophecy that numbers of celebrated men and women would pass with the close of the old era, many deaths of distinguished men and women are forecast for 1920. In this prognostication length of fame more than length of life is estimated.

The seers that foretell that new leaders will rise for new occasions declare that power will not remain with those who represent old contests of ideas.

Persons whose birthdate it is may meet many problems in the coming year. They will succeed if they are painstaking and discreet.

Children born on this day are likely to be very quick and intelligent. These subjects of Pisces usually desire change and recreation.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1920.

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Astrologers read this as an unfavorable day, for during business hours Mars and Neptune are in evil place. Saturn is in benefic aspect in the evening.

Discontent and unrest again seem to be of paramount power in the United States. Smouldering fires may burst forth the seers warn.

It is not a lucky day for journeys of any sort, but the signs are especially unfavorable for sea-going.

Movements of troops which may be merely readjustments of military strength are misinterpreted.

Quarrels due to misrepresentation and misunderstanding are likely to be numerous during this planetary government, which is most threatening to domestic happiness.

Some sort of trouble involving both the army and navy seems to be presaged. This is a question of rank or benefits.

With an increased interest in religious subjects and renewed tendency to venture in occult experiments many false prophets and soothsayers will arise during the next few months.

The young are expected to forego all experiment with toys that test the fitness for dangers far in them, since after the age of 12 when the Mercury and of the morning is in that of Venus, the nerves are extremely sensitive.

Many geniuses will develop in the United States and from the national and state capitals both men and women will go forth to receive recognition in Europe the seers declare.

Race problems will again come to the fore next month when a sensational incident seems to be foreshadowed.

Farming will become more popular than ever before in this country and many college graduates will till the soil.

Cleanliness in city streets is enjoined, as epidemics threaten to spread with the coming of the spring.

Persons whose birthdate it is may expect a prosperous year if they avoid litigation.

Children born on this day are likely to be bright and intellectual, popular and witty. These subjects of Pisces may be inclined toward careless ways and should be carefully disciplined.

THE HASKIN LETTER

SIGNALS TO OTHER WORLDS

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—While some other world is supposed to be trying to send us wireless messages, some of our professors and scientists plan communication from our end. One astronomer is going up in a balloon to observe the planets more closely, and study ways of letting other worlds know that the earth is inhabited.

Another professor has invented a multiple-charge rocket which will explode at various points in its flight, thus providing additional motive power at each explosion. With this rocket he believes that he can test the character of the air 200 miles above the earth; while a similar rocket built on a giant scale, to weigh say 1,200 pounds, would, if properly directed, reach the moon.

Some wireless experts believe that we shall soon be able to exchange wireless messages with such planets as may be populated. Five minutes was once set by an electrical authority as a reasonable length of time for a radio impulse to flash between the earth and Mars. Compare this five minutes with the amount of time it would take an airplane to reach our nearest neighboring planet. A plane traveling steadily at 200 miles an hour could go almost 5,000 miles in 24 hours, and could cover a million miles in 200 days. Venus is at its nearest approach 25,000,000 miles from us, and Mars is 35,000,000 miles. This gives some idea of the distance of space, and also of the speed of a wireless that, it is estimated, could cross the void in five minutes.

Whether some other world has mastered radio to a greater extent than the geniuses of the earth is the merest guesswork. But this is not the first time that mysterious signals have been received by wireless operators. Signor Marconi reported unaccountable disturbances a year ago, and some years before that another electrical expert had a similar experience.

That these wireless disturbances might possibly come from the planet Venus is the opinion expressed by Dr. Charles G. Abbott of the Smithsonian Institution.

"We have not yet proved the existence of life on Venus," says Dr. Abbott, "but conditions there are more favorable for life than on any of the other world's except our own.

"Mars," he maintains, "is absolutely incapable of supporting life, and therefore could not be the outside party trying to signal the earth."

Students of radio have tried to explain the queer sounds coming from some great distance as messages from another planet. As Mars has repeatedly been peopled by scientists and fiction writers, it is usually selected as the planet most likely to be paging the earth. This idea is all wrong, according to Dr. Abbott.

"Mars," he states, "is as dry as any desert in the world. In fact, the Sahara would be quite damp in comparison with the fields of Mars. As water is essential to human existence, this precludes the possibility of life there."

The dryness of Mars is concluded from the fact that there are no clouds surrounding it to create vapor. That there are no seas or rivers on the dying planet was long ago decided by astronomers.

The idea of life on the planet was advocated through the discovery of the so-called canals of Mars in 1877. Some astronomers immediately deduced that the network of straight lines discovered was a gigantic irrigation system by which an ingenious race of Martians supplied their fields with moisture in a last stand for existence.

The source of the water supply, according to this theory, is the snow and ice fields at the poles. White circles are plainly visible at the poles of Mars at times, but astronomers differ as to their character. Some say that they are deposits of frozen carbonic acid gas, which idea spoils entirely the theory of a polar water supply. Others think that the white patches may be ice, but even so, there may be only a thin skim like frost, for it is believed that a layer a quarter of an inch thick would make the surface appear perfectly white.

Whether seas of ice form at the poles of Mars or not, it is difficult to conceive of sufficient water being obtained to irrigate 600 canals, stretching over thousands of miles. Imagine canals five or ten miles wide dug from Boston to Mexico City, and from Seattle to Atlanta, and then with this as a scale, imagine 600 such engineering projects, and you have a vague idea of what you must believe if you accept the Martian canal theory.

Astronomers who refute the canal story say that the lines seen are optical illusions. Occulists make various experiments to show that at certain angles or distances crooked lines are seen to be one continuous line. Something of this sort may be the explanation of the Martian canals. At times the surface of the planet appears marked only with numerous short lines and then again the long straight lines can be seen.

Some of these explanations are mere theory, but Dr. Campbell, of Lick observatory, made two convincing tests to prove the absolute dryness of Mars. The second idea was that in the spectrum the vapor of the earth's atmosphere shows dark lines. Dr. Campbell went up on Mount Whitney and found that there was not enough water vapor on Mars to produce any effect on the spectrum.

Dr. Abbott has weighed all this and other data relative to Mars, and states that the only reasonable conclusion is that Mars is a cold and barren world. Venus, on the other hand, may be regarded as a favorable place for habitation, he thinks. Venus is a young planet just coming into its own, and if there is anything in the belief that worlds were made to live in, Venus should be tenanted. The only trouble in building theories to fit Venus is that the planet is always enveloped in a mass of clouds, so that even though it is closer to us than Mars, yet its surface is not so distinct.

While we cannot get a definite view of this mysterious and neglected planet, we know that it is only 200 miles less in diameter than the earth, and that its temperature is similar to our tropics. The cloud blankets reflect 70 per cent of the sun's heat and cool the atmosphere, which otherwise would be much too hot for life. The clouds indicate water vapor, and therefore both air and water conditions are favorable. As these are the two main requisites of a habitable world, Venus is coming to be regarded as the possible younger sister of our comparatively middle-aged earth.

None of these other planets, except Mars, is thought by astronomers to have any possibilities of life. The sun was once believed to be gaseous and fiery only in an outer rim. Within this, the story ran, was a world protected by heavy clouds and therefore cool enough to support a human order. Science has since decided that the sun is gaseous throughout. The heat also has been calculated, and is certainly sufficiently intense to wither the mythological salamander even if he were screened in clouds.

The moon, as well as the sun, was once pronounced a populated ball. The moon dwellers were supposed to live inside the crust, but this attractive theory died an early death from lack of any proofs, and the moon is now regarded as a dry and desolate globe.

As for the other worlds, Mercury, like the sun, is too hot for life to exist there, and Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Jupiter are far from the sun and get too little heat and light to be convenient dwelling places.

The belief that all these worlds are uninhabited is of course based on the assumption that all forms of life are dependent on air, water and a certain range of temperature. We have never in this world met a salamander nor any other animal that could live in fire, and therefore we do not believe that such creatures exist in other planets. Scientists say that the same materials occur in all the planets of our solar system, and that life, if it existed, would be governed by the laws with which we are familiar.

Still, it is not so many years since science agreed that no creatures could possibly live at the bottom of the ocean because of the great pressure. We have since found that certain fish are peculiarly adapted to just such conditions. Some fish, for instance, in Lake Baikal, will explode the instant they are brought up from the depths.

The chances are all against it, but our learned men may yet find these other worlds peopled with beings even more grotesque than Mr. H. G. Wells' fanciful Martians, or the dwellers reputed to live inside the moon.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

Some of the senators were sadly in need of a little Grey matter at that.—Columbia Record.

The railroad workers may strike, but the United States can strike harder.—Washington Post.

If the family coal pile may be taken as a reliable indicator, spring is almost in our midst.—Columbus Dispatch.

Mr Bryan is finding it a little awkward to manipulate the limelight and stand in it, too.—Chicago Daily News.

Speaking of oilcures, Lloyd George says "we must fight anarchy with abundance." But not of words.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

A term in prison appears to be the necessary qualification for candidacy for the important offices on the Socialist ticket.—Indianapolis News.

Carpentier will come to this country next month to appear in the movies. We're willing to wager something that nobody hits him with a piece of pie.—Columbus Citizen.

It can not be successfully denied that Mr. Hoover has given the politicians an abundant supply of food for thought.—Buffalo Courier.

Carranza papers announce that 25,000 federal soldiers "dominate" Villa. The difficulty is that they don't get near enough to him to let him know it.—Los Angeles Express.

Not unlike the crown prince—to count himself a fair equivalent for 900 Germans.—Boston Herald.

Former Emperor Charles of Austria is in no way financially embarrassed, according to word which has come from Vienna. Many of his former subjects are, however.—Buffalo Commercial.

There doesn't seem to be any demand for Hoover except among the voters.—Cleveland Press.

An American consul in Sweden had to go to sea to get married. Many a man marries and then finds himself that way.—Arkansas Democrat.

The movement for peace with the Bolsheviki will grow in strength with the news that the soviet government has discovered two new gold fields.—Chicago Post.

The marquis of Queensberry, who went broke in London recently, owes only $5,150. This pitiful showing makes it hard to believe that he is a real marquis.—New Orleans Item.

Secretary Daniels says Admiral Sims must establish every charge he has made against the conduct of the navy department. Good gracious! Suppose he should!—San Francisco Bulletin.

One man in Pennsylvania says he has 10 cases of whisky buried and he defies anybody to find it. We see the beginning of quartz-mining in Pennsylvania.—Houston Post.

"People in Petrograd are consuming food not meant for humans." They are also using theories not meant for humans.—Columbus Citizen.

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.

Foreign Exchange and H. C. L.

"Foreign exchange may seem a pretty distant subject to most people, but as a matter of fact, it affects us all very directly and decidedly," says the Youngstown Vindicator (Dem.). We refuse to take European money at its face value, and many Europeans are unable to buy our products at the heavy discount to which their money is subjected. As a consequence, we have no outlet for our surplus raw materials and machinery. Europe needs these articles before it can resume production of goods to ship to us. So, according to financial experts, unless this circle can be broken, the situation will go on getting worse instead of better, and the whole world will suffer from lack of necessities.

"There is no depreciation in commodities," as the Columbus Dispatch (Ind.) points out, and this paper goes on to say:

"If a German has a watch that is valuable, he can trade it for something else that is valuable. If a Frenchman were to bring over here a trunkful of laces or chinaware, he would not find it depreciated in value; he could trade for wheat or meat or raw material or manufactured products of any kind. But when the German or the Frenchman comes along with a handful of paper money and wants to exchange it for something which we possess, we look at it and figure in our minds just about what the nation back of it will really be able to pay when it comes to redeeming it, and announce an exchange rate for the stuff."

So the Dispatch concludes that "the European nations whose money is so heavily discounted are bankrupt, and the business interests know it. . . . The solution will probably have to come through the people of Europe going to work and making something we want and exchanging it for something we have and which they want."

But "to tell them to do this is much easier than for them to do it," the Springfield Republican (Ind.) reminds us, for, to quote the Chicago Journal (Dem.), "time is needed to turn war factories back to peace factories," and "men from the trenches could not at first bring themselves to go back to the humdrum life of civilian work." "Idleness has been the rule and not the exception," adds the Birmingham News (Dem.): "the socialistic idea, for one thing, has demoralized vast European populations." But the Salt Lake Tribune (Rep.) calls attention to the fact that Europe can not return to work until "they succeed in financing their home industries to such an extent that they may be able to import the necessary raw materials," and the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot (Ind. Dem.) remarks that "French industries are dependent almost wholly for their raw materials on America."

This means that we must furnish raw materials on credit, thinks the New York Journal of Commerce (Ind.). "If we expect to hold the sound elements of our business abroad," it says, "we shall have to provide for financing them." Or, as the Dallas News (Ind. Dem.) puts it:

"The part to be played by America is evidently that of thrift, well-advised investment in foreign loans or securities and the production of the things needed by Europe for purposes of reconstruction. That of Europe is wholesouled effort to get back to a normal, healthy, productive basis. Neither America nor Europe can do the whole thing alone, though each can do what will make it possible for the other to save the situation."

But our terms for foreign credit are pretty stiff, and the Los Angeles Times (Ind. Rep.) goes so far as to express "the opinion that a reason for the present crisis is found in the profiteering by some American financiers."

However, is there a silver lining to this cloud? With our shelves well stocked and no foreign customers, will not prices here take a tumble and drag the high cost of living down? "Under such conditions," declares the Cleveland Plain Dealer (Ind. Dem.), "lower prices are bound to occur," and the Arkansas Democrat (Dem.) thinks "the dollar will recover some of its old-time purchasing power, which means . . . relief to those who have suffered most from the present situation, the salaried workers and those with fixed incomes of small proportions."

On the other hand, as the Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Ind. Dem.) cautions us, "when foreign exchange begins to send the cost of living down to the bottom—if that happens—it will begin to close up factories and send prices of the products of the farms and the mines down below the cost of production, and that in turn will begin to put men out of work and send wages down as well. . . . It doesn't make any difference how low the prices may be if 'you haven't got the price.'" So thinks the Tacoma News-Tribune (Ind.) too. "Goods made for foreign customers will be thrown on the market, prices will drop with a crash and mills and factories will be obliged to close." "A moderate checking of the flow of exports would prove wholesome," thinks the Chattanooga News (Dem.), "but cutting off most of it would be sure to react injuriously."

These opinions are forecasts of a serious financial panic unless trade relations with Europe are restored to something like normality. Against such fears the Chicago Tribune (Ind. Rep.) offers this advice:

"The American who gets flustered or panic-stricken because the law of cause and effect is operating in Europe with a drastic logic, is both weak and foolish. Americans have no reason to fear the present or the future if they will think of the unshaken rock on which we stand and go quietly to develop the resources and opportunities before them."

The Boston Post (Ind. Dem.) flatly declares that "there is not going to be any 'old-fashioned panic' or anything of the kind." For "instead of waiting until the panic possibility was at hand, the federal reserve system has taken time by the forelock and has started in ample time to avoid trouble. . . . A panic that can be as easily foreseen as the one now said to be in sight will never eventuate."

And, to reassure us further, the Seattle Times (Ind.) points out that:

"Next summer there will be a big tourist movement to Europe, equaling if not exceeding the movement prior to 1914. Tens of millions of American dollars will be left in France by these visitors, and these sums will offset the purchases made by the sister republic in the United States."

Why Not Import a Little French Thrift?

Americans may well take a lesson from French thrift. A recent official report shows that notwithstanding their poverty and distress, the French people are putting into the savings banks a great deal more than they are checking out. In ten days, from the 11th to the 20th of December, they deposited 34,000,000 francs and withdrew 4,000,000. From January 1 to December 20 the surplus of deposits over withdrawals was 907,000,000 francs.

France, in fact, is not nearly in so sad a plight as the slump in exchange might indicate. Of 1,986 factories destroyed or damaged during the war in the zone of German occupation, 1,385 had resumed production on Nov. 1. Only 835 had resumed production on August 1.

Taking the country in whole, it is found that the returns from taxes are exceeding the estimates of the government budget. The French people are paying more taxes than the government had thought they could pay, are increasing their deposits in the savings banks, are restoring their wasted industries and recropping lands laid waste by German rutshlessness.

Complaint is heard in the United States over the slow decline of the market quotations on Liberty bonds. The cure for that is emulation of French thrift. So long as thousands of Americans sacrifice their bonds to buy luxuries and have a "good time," Liberty bonds will sell below par. They are below par because a considerable number of extravagant and improvident holders are willing to sell them at a discount. The people who are sacrificing their bonds blame others when the blame lies at their door.—Spokane Spokesman-Review (Ind. Rep.).

Atlanta Newspapers Co-operate Against Strike.

Newspaper ethics are evidently on a high plane in Atlanta, where a unique situation has developed because of an unauthorized strike. Pressmen struck in the plants of two Atlanta papers, the Journal and the Georgian, but Sunday morning all three newspapers, including the Constitution, appeared in abbreviated form. There was no walkout affecting the Constitution, but feeling that the action of the pressmen was unjust, an opinion shared by officials of the International Printing Pressmen's union, the publishers of the three Atlanta papers agreed to curtail their issues until normal publication could be resumed.

The Constitution was under no obligation to share the misfortune of its two competitors in the Sunday morning field, but voluntarily sacrificed the huge volume of Sunday business it usually carries for the sake of a principle. In fact, the three papers have imposed identical limitations on themselves, both in their daily and Sunday issues, until the strike is settled.

The Constitution is to be commended for its splendid exhibition of generosity and fair play. Atlanta is fortunate in having three great newspapers thus able to co-operate for the common good.—Birmingham Age-Herald (Dem.).

Progressive.

Pittsburgh Leader: Viscount Grey is liberal enough to try to sympathize with the American viewpoint and in other statements he has frankly admitted that if he were an American he would hold quite the same views as those of the American senators.

Philadelphia North American: He justifies the American attitude and the senate procedure.

YE TOWNE GOSSIP

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

BY K. C. B.

Dear K. C. B.—You seem to be able to solve a lot of problems about newly married couples and also settle disputes that come from the old-timers who can't get along, so I want to ask you if through your column you will let me read what you have to say about this pair of old-timers. He was jealous of her, and she didn't care for him, and I tried to make peace between them. Then they both jumped onto me, and in the end I landed in the station house with a discolored eye and everything else that goes with it. What's your advice to a fellow in my position? EDWARD R.

DEAR EDWARD,
• • •
ONCE ON a time,
• • •
WE HAD a dog,
• • •
AND IN the neighbor's house,
• • •
THERE WAS a cat.
• • •
AND OUT in the alley,
• • •
ONE SUNDAY morning,
• • •
THEY CAME together,
• • •
AND OUR Airedale,
• • •
HAD THE neighbor's cat
• • •
BACKED INTO a corner,
• • •
AND A nice big dog,
• • •
FROM A block away,
• • •
GOT WIND of the scrap.
• • •
HE EDGED his way in,
• • •
AND OUR Airedale dog,
• • •
AND THE neighbor's cat,
• • •
FORGOT THEIR quarrel,
• • •
AND LOOKED him over.
• • •
AND THE last I saw,
• • •
WAS THE nice big dog,
• • •
WITH THE neighbor's cat,
• • •
HALF WAY up his back,
• • •
AND OUR Airedale dog.
• • •
WITH A very firm grip.
• • •
ON THE back of his neck.
• • •
AND THE three of them,
• • •
WERE ON their way,
• • •
TO THE big dog's home,
• • •
AND THEY left him there.
• • •
AND BOTH came back.
• • •
AND AFTER that,
• • •
THEY WERE very good friends.
• • •
AND I'VE always thought,
• • •
THAT THE nice big dog,
• • •
COULD HE have known,
• • •
WOULD HAVE been very glad,
• • •
THAT HE'D brought peace,
• • •
TO A quarreling pair,
• • •
AND PERHAPS after all,
• • •
WHEN YOUR two friends,
• • •
GOT THROUGH with you,
• • •
AND LEFT you safely,
• • •
IN THE station house,
• • •
WITH YOUR eye messed up,
• • •
THEY MIGHT have felt,
• • •
AS OUR Airedale dog,
• • •
AND OUR neighbor's cat,
• • •
AND HAVE trotted away,
• • •
WITH PEACE in their souls.
• • •
AND IF that is true,
• • •
THEN YOU brought peace,
• • •
AS YOU tried to do,
• • •
I THANK you.