

# Arizona Republican's Editorial Page

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FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 11, 1914

Party divisions, whether on the whole operating for good or evil, are things inseparable from free government.  
—Edmund Burke.

### A Sensible Proposition

The first sensible, business-like note in congress in connection with the raising of revenues has been heard in the proposition to save money rather than to acquire more money; to bring our needs down to our means, rather than to cast about for means to satisfy our avaricious desires. When it became evident that a deficit of \$100,000,000 would have to be made up, the first thought, as usual, was to raise the supposedly needed money by additional taxation. It seemed to occur to no one that we might forego something, save something, some unnecessary thing, some luxury, so as to obviate the necessity of additional taxation.

Now, there is a proposition to dispense with rivers and harbors appropriations aggregating \$53,000,000. It is commonly understood that a very large part of the sums annually appropriated for the improvement of rivers and harbors is absolutely wasted; that they go either into the pockets of contractors or else are dispersed for the benefit of a few in the various communities where the useless work is done.

The rivers and harbors bill has been for many years a national ill-smelling institution. The party out of power always inveighs against it when congress is not in session, but there is seldom party opposition while a rivers and harbors bill is pending. There is never then a strict party alignment. Democrats and republicans always join in trying to swell its proportions, while a small group of congressmen of all parties, some of whom honest and some of whom disappointed, denounce it as a graft. Each rivers and harbors bill is bigger than that which preceded it, notwithstanding the denunciation to which it is subjected by the press and orators.

If now, as a result of our disappointment at being deprived of certain tariff revenues we expected, we decide to hold up the rivers and harbors bill, the war may turn out to be a good thing for this country. The temporary halting of this shameful graft may be made permanent, and when we find out how easily we can get along without wasting the national substance, we may refrain from waste in the future. In this season of the high cost of living, many sensible families are now getting along without things they do not really need and have ceased spending money worse than uselessly. The government should be as sensible.

We could not, of course, suspend all river and harbor improvement because much of that work is necessary, but every proposed improvement should be shown to be a needed one. The old practice of lumping them and trading in them should be permanently abated.

### The New Maps

The other day a Phoenix father said to another, "It is a good thing that your boy is so young he has not had to study geography; he would have to learn it all over again." The war, it has thus been generally predicted, will bring changes in the map of Europe, and, for that matter, in other maps of the world. But what the conflict may do to the map of Europe will likely be as nothing compared to the effect it will probably have on the map of Asia and the map of Africa. England, France and Germany have large possessions on those continents, and it is not improbable that when the price of peace is settled, some of these territories will change governments.

In Africa, Great Britain has a huge strip extending from Zanzibar to Cairo, and also owns a large section of South Africa. France lays claim to a large section of Sudan, as well as the southern peninsula of China, the island of Madagascar and other islands. Germany has not so much territory, but, nevertheless, she is firmly entrenched in East Africa, southwest Africa and in Kamerun. In Africa, Asia and the islands of the Pacific, Germany owns about 1,134,239 square miles, which is more than five times her area in Europe.

Should the three allies be successful, Germany might be turned out bag and baggage from Africa, Asia and New Guinea. If the dual alliance wins, the possibilities are even more staggering to contemplate, for it is conceivable that Germany might gain the whole of Africa and India, not to mention Australia, Canada and New Zealand with other possessions now held by the allies.

It is wholly improbable that such a wholesale map-changing will ever occur. But it is fairly obvious that the unsuccessful nations will suffer their principal loss of territory when a final settlement is made, in their colonies. There are many reasons why the divisions of Europe must remain pretty much as they are.

For instance, neither England nor France, while grateful to Russia for her assistance in this war, and bound to her in a time of peace as a precaution against Germany, would not want that Slav nation for a next-door neighbor. Germany, in the event of

her defeat, would be regarded by the French and English as a useful buffer, a brake upon the Slav advance. We would probably early witness a new alignment of the nations of Europe.

A conceivable result of the defeat of the dual alliance, as The Republican mentioned at the beginning of the war, would be the dismemberment of Austria-Hungary, which has been held together for fifty years mainly by the genius of Emperor Francis Joseph.

### The Advisory Recall

A subscriber writes The Republican asking an explanation of the "advisory recall." The "advisory recall" is the recall to be applied to elective officers who, but for pledges made by them previous to election, would be beyond the reach of any recall system that might be instituted under state legislation. For instance, a United States senator now elected by popular vote or a representative in congress could not be recalled under any law that a state might enact. They are not state officials, although elected by the voters of a state. The state cannot prescribe the manner of their election or the manner of their removal from office. The federal laws prescribe the former and the rules of each house determine the latter.

Accordingly, some of the states which have adopted the popular form of government have adopted the "advisory recall," under which the candidates for such offices as we have described pledge themselves to resign their offices if a majority of the voters at an election request or advise them to do so. The pledge is without any legal force, but the official who would violate it would go to his political death.

So far as we know, the advisory recall has never been proposed to be applied except to elective officers, but the suggestion was made in this state a couple of years ago for an arrangement by which United States judges and other federal officials would be brought under it. That, however, could not be done without the consent and co-operation of the federal appointing power.

Nothing in this sinful world, that is, nothing for which erring mankind is any degree responsible, is quite right. Some things may distantly approach perfection, but they all need fixing. Now, there, for instance, is our primary system whose defects have been impressed upon us, though no suggestions have been conveyed for the removal of them. That the system is better than the convention plan, as that plan was almost always applied, must be admitted. Usually a very few men directed the affairs of a party. It was seldom that any man was strong enough to force himself upon a convention or secure a place on a ticket without having made a private arrangement with one or more party leaders. Just how our primary system should be "fixed" we do not pretend to say. It should, though, in some way, be made less unwieldy and, if possible, made more attractive to the people if the purpose of it is to be carried out.

The Douglas International devotes a half column to proving that war is hell. Why, in these busy times, waste energy trying to make plain the obvious?

### CIVILIZED WARFARE

Is there any greater paradox than that expressed in the words "civilized warfare?" In the volumes of comment upon Europe's struggle this strange association of words is frequently found, used with serious intent and with apparent unconsciousness of its ghastly irony.

What is civilized warfare? The mortal combat of armored knights in medieval times is looked upon as an evidence of semi-barbarism, but at least it was conducted with some regard to the amenities proper between brave soldiers, and each combatant had a fair show for the exercise of skill and display of courage.

Under our civilized system of warfare, when possible, we hurl 100,000 men against 50,000 and crush out the enemy by sheer force of numbers. Man for man we may lose as many as he, but we have more to sacrifice, and the brute majority rules.

The unpleasant scapling habit of the Indian has been regarded as reprehensible by civilized nations. They prefer to drop bombs from airplanes upon the heads of defenseless people.

The mutilation of the dead enemy, practiced by certain savage peoples who are shockingly devoid of refined sensibilities, naturally distresses us. It is so much more civilized to mutilate the living with contact mines and exploding grenades that scatter a hail of steelclad bullets. The fact that the mine may destroy a shipload of noncombatants as easily and unintelligently as it destroys a battleship of the enemy detracts in no degree from its great advance upon the barbaric method of earlier days.

Even in the stone age it was considered rather disreputable to slip up behind a man in the dark and hit him on the head with a flint hatchet. Behold how our civilization has outgrown such squeamishness! Under cover of darkness and the screening wave the submarine sinks upon its prey and leaves its burden of death in the vitals of a dreadnought.

What is uncivilized warfare today? So far as we can discover, if you are a citizen in a town that is beleaguered; if you have been living in terror of exploding shells and bombs from the sky; if all that you hold dear is threatened by an invading enemy, and under the impulse of these "ifs," when the dread foe appears in your street, you open fire from the shelter of your home, it is uncivilized warfare. Your savage conduct justifies the enemy in setting the city ablaze and avenging himself upon you and yours in any manner that his ingenuity can suggest. And this is true of all nations. It is by common consent the way the game is played.

You have done only what the law would justify you in doing if a burglar forced an entrance to your home, but under the recognized rules of "civilized warfare" to treat a foreign foe as a burglar—unless you wear a uniform—is the height of barbarity.

Let us have done with this talk of "civilized warfare." The thing is non-existent. It is a sardonic euphemism invented by the modern barbarians who butwark thrones with bayonets and prefer the persuasion of rifles to that of reason.—Chicago Post.

### HOW MANY WORDS DO YOU USE?

A well-educated person who has been at high school and a university uses from 3000 to 4000 words, but the average individual can get along with 1000. Shakespeare made use of 15,000, and in Milton's works 8000 are used. By actual count the Hebrew Testament says all that it has to say with 5642 words.



### Soaring Prices

By WALT MASON

The clock strikes one, the noon hour's done. I must resume my toiling; man dare not sleep if he would keep the blooming pot a-bolling. For every hour the price of flour and other grub's advancing; all things suffice to raise the price, the C. of L. enhancing. There's threat of war in Labrador, according to dispatches, so we must pay far more today for cheese and parlor matches. There's too much rain in Southern Spain, fresh rain and kindred liquors, so we must blow far more, you know, for overshoes and slickers. The war on Serbs affects such herbs as we are fond of chewing; it takes more cash for succotash and all the greens we're stewing. The crop of hay at Hudson's Bay is poor, so folks are saying, so Hyson tea is costing me just twice what I've been paying. Blight killed the geese in northern Greece; I would not care a button, but that, amazed, I find it raised the price of beef and mutton. This graft seems queer to me, my dear; it makes no odds what chances, on land or sea, on lake or lea, the C. of L. advances.

### ADVISED KAISER TO SEE PARIS

(Madame de Heggermann-Lindencrone, in Harper's) Speaking of indiscretion, I was told (I cannot say whether it is true) that Mrs. X., one of our patriots, having met the emperor of Germany in Norway, where their yachts were stationed, and feeling that she was on familiar enough terms, said to him: "Is it not lovely in Paris? Have you been there lately?"

"No, I have not," answered the surprised kaiser. "Oh, how queer! You ought to go there. The French people would just love to see you."

"Do you think so?" said the emperor with a smile. Thus encouraged, she enlarged on her theme, and, speaking for the whole French nation, continued gushingly: "And if you would give them back Alsace and Lorraine they would simply adore you."

The kaiser looked at her gravely, as if she had solved a mighty problem, and said: "I never thought of that, madam."

The dear lady probably imagines to this day that she is the apostle of diplomacy. She came to Berlin intending (so she said) to "paint Berlin red." She took the list of court people and sent out invitations right and left for her 5 o'clock teas, but aristocracy did not respond. Berlin refused to be painted.

### THE WHALING INDUSTRY

The whaling industry is commonly supposed to be a thing of the past. Yet it is estimated that \$100,000,000 is invested in that business today, and one whaling company recently bought out a rival at a price of \$1,000,000.

Such a business would seem to be rather lively for a back number. A new scheme has been brought up several times of late which may add still more to the importance—and profits—of whaling. This is the plan to can whale beef and put it on the market as a rival to other forms of canned meats.

No doubt this would add considerably to the world's food supply, and under the right handling the quality might not be bad. Japan eats a great deal of whale meat already, and Dr. Greenell of Labrador considers it very good food. But no one yet has explained how the huge carcass can be handled in sanitary fashion with the limited equipment possible on a whaling ship. Until this miracle is achieved it is not likely that whale meat will rival beef and pork in any country peopled by white men.—Chicago Journal.

Charity should not only begin at home, but also stay there while it is needed.—Albany Journal.

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### College Education

By GEORGE FITCH

Author of "At Good Old Siwash"

A college education is a parlor car route to knowledge.

There is a widespread belief that the only way to acquire wisdom is to climb aboard a college and ride four years. This is a great mistake. The college system attains great speed between termini and transports the passengers from a state of



"A Parlor Car Route to Knowledge"

heathen darkness regarding Latin, political economy and clothes to a state of erudition in great comfort. But the walking is also good.

The journey takes considerably longer when performed on foot, but large numbers of citizens have hoofed the distance with great success. Abraham Lincoln did not get near enough to a college in his youth to apply for the janitorship thereof, yet at the age of twenty-three he was a lawyer and legislator and was extending kindly assistance to struggling young possessors of college degrees.

However, it is a great advantage to attend college and to travel through the wilderness of accumulated wisdom with able conductors and courteous attendants. It enables a young man to acquire in four years what would otherwise take him from ten years to a lifetime to obtain, and in these modern days it is also good for father, because it keeps him using last year's automobile, which is good enough for any one. A college education is a fine thing for a young man who desires to become a lawyer, minister, statesman, author, doctor,

### THE ARCH EGOTIST

I know a man who knows it all. You ask me for the proof? No proof we need. This man of gall Admits it. Warp and woof Of life's frail web to him are sheer— To him all truth shines bright. He never reads except for fear The book needs setting right.

You cannot mention any theme From cabbages to kings. But that this man turns on his gleam And hints at many things That he might add unto your store Of facts—indeed he might! He never reads except to roar Because the book's not right.

O happy gink who knows it all! Would you not fain be he? Yes, you would not. You loathe his gall And thus agree with me.

How oft we've bowed our heads and wept Aneath this swell-head's might Who never reads a book except To see if it be right.

—Denver Post.

### DIFFICULT DISCIPLINE

"I'm afraid that my discipline is not what it should be," said the conscientious man. "I reprimand my son severely and at length for neglecting his duties to go fishing."  
"Wasn't he duly impressed?"  
"No. He looked me in the eye and exclaimed, 'Jealous.'"  
—Newark Times.

### HOW COULD HE?

The Girl—Do you enjoy music with meals?  
The Man—Rather!  
The Girl—What do you prefer—a waltz?  
The Man—No, a chew-step!—London Opinion

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