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TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 3, 1919

**A GRAIN OF SALT.**

"It would be well to take with a grain of salt much of the news that comes out of Germany," says George Patullo, in the Saturday Evening Post. Her food shortage is only comparative, and a better distribution would go far towards correcting it. You cannot travel far in this country without sensing a hand on the reins still. Somewhere there is a power that is keeping the bulk of the German people in the straight road. Despite all their surface troubles, you can feel a strong directing force in the nation. \* \* \*

In the meanwhile what of their form of government? Any man who predicts in these is on a par with a weather prophet in Texas, but it would not surprise me to wake up some morning to learn that the adherents of the Hohenzollerns had sprung a coup. Not until the storm has blown over; not until peace is signed and order restored of course—because the Hohenzollerns and their ilk play it safer than that; but I am firmly convinced that so long as the kaiser is permitted the immunity he now enjoys the prospect of a return to his people constitutes a real menace."

Few men have gotten closer to the heart of things in this war game, than has George Patullo. He has been in England and France and Germany, studying the situation close at hand.

Here, far from the center of forces that have contributed to the world crisis, it is not too far to feel the truth of what Patullo says, in his able article. No one who watches events as they shape themselves, no one who senses the unrest of the people on every hand, no one who keeps his ears to the ground, but realizes the truth of what Patullo has to say.

"There have been many significant happenings. In the stream of denunciation that followed her (Germany's) defeat," he says, "who has yet heard a German leader denounce the kaiser or attempt to fasten the responsibility on him? They have risen in their places to peel the hide off Hindenburg and Ludendorff and all the military caste; they have charged the former ministries with every perfidy and blunder of which mankind is capable, but in all the mass of criticism one cannot find an attack on the German emperor. Why? Are the orators and the pamphleteers (of Germany) afraid of a comeback that might be disastrous for them? \* \* \* All of which makes us believe that if the boches perceived a chance to regain their old military prestige they would rise to it as one man. \* \* \*

The only solution is education, and it will require a couple of generations to eradicate the poison from this bred."

But it must be borne in mind that the Germans are not the only ones who need educating, if we are to hope for a prevention of the disaster such as the world has just passed through.

We need to educate the people of our own country to think. As a people we are entirely too credulous. We are too easily led. We are too quickly drawn into party strifes and made the tools of political machinery.

How many of the people of the United States are really educated on public questions. How many men and women know anything about the principles of liberty? Too many of us look upon liberty as something closely akin to license, and consider it not only our privilege but our duty to spend the most of our time trying to prove our inalienable rights to ignorance.

While we go our carefree way, the alens who come to this country are studying our laws, finding out the meaning of government. Go to any city, and you will find night classes, where the alien population are acquainting themselves with the laws of liberty.

It has come to pass that our city governments, our state legislatures, our national congress are largely in control of our foreign population. It is true that this country is largely made up of immigrants from other countries, but because of this, is no reason for stepping aside and turning our country over to them.

This is a free country, and that is the reason the foreign hordes cross the seas to make their home. No one denies their inalienable right to become a part of this government, under the law, but the people of this country have no right to turn this country over to them, because of a lack of loyalty, lack of understanding, lack of education on the part of those whose part it should be to protect this country from the very influences from which it is now suffering and which in time may become disintegrating.

Education is the only thing that will save the world from chaos. It is the only thing which will save this country or any other country from disintegration.

Germany is not yet vanquished, much as the world would like to believe this true. Her emperors are getting in their work in Mexico, their agents have succeeded in stirring up strife in all parts of the world, for scratch any Bolshevik and you are pretty sure to find a German somewhere, it may be in some far off counting house, counting out his money, but that there is a close corporation between the Germans and the Bolsheviks no one will presume to deny.

**LEGISLATIVE ODDS AND ENDS**

**BY JOHN C. TRICE.**  
 Tallahassee, June 2.—With the passage of the hog cholera serum bill out of the way, it having already been signed by the governor, and the things Mr. Green, of Bradford, came here to do, all behind him so far as legislation is concerned, it is understood, that he will devote more time to looking over the field with a view to becoming a candidate for the office of state superintendent. Mr. Green has made good as a legislator and as a teacher, and has many friends throughout the state who have promised him their support in case he announces for the office.

It has been suggested that the heavens are weeping over the predicament of the Florida legislature, if that be true, the tears would perhaps be more appreciated in other sections. This country is already soaked.

They do say there is to be another judicial circuit created, besides the two which have already been favorably passed upon by the house. The other one still contemplated is to be out of Marion, Sumter and Lake, so it is said.

It is believed that if the house was let alone it would soon come to some understanding in regard to road matters, declare a large number of the members. Outside influence, they declare, will not permit this. The same thing has been charged on the floor of the house—one member naming the supposed object to be the defeat of the carrying into effect of the abolition of the convict lease system.

Filibustering against unpopular measures toward the close of the session by a minority is no new thing in the annals of legislation. But a filibustering majority is new.

Delivers into the lore of the ancients tell us there is nothing new under the sun. They have proven to us that the Roman senate was besieged by woman suffragists during the time of Cato the first, that Nero's court was famed for gowns more expensive than the women now wear, that the women of the savage age wore more abbreviated costumes than are now seen on the streets of the most cosmopolitan city, and so on, but they have got to dig further to prove that the house of representatives has not witnessed something new at this session. It has seen the speaker make a motion from the chair, put it himself and declare it carried.

It happened when the senate returned to the house Mr. Wilder's bill, relating to the taking of acknowledgments in foreign countries. An amendment had been added by the senate. "Whose bill is that," asked the speaker when no one moved to make a motion in favor of concurring in the amendment. "Mr. Wilder's," replied the clerk, while the members laughed. "Mr. Wilder moves that the house adopt this amendment," said that gentleman from the chair. Two members voted "aye" and one "nay," so he declared, "The amendment is adopted."

"Does it cost a thousand dollars a year more to live in Jacksonville than it costs to live in Tampa." This question was asked the other day when Mr. Dawkin's bill was up allowing that much increase in the yearly pay of the state health officer by a member recalling the fact that provision had just a few days earlier been made that the said officer should be required to live in the city where the headquarters of the state board of health are located. It was pointed out to him that the difference of the cost of living in the two cities was not so much but that the cost of living anywhere had increased in the ratio covering this increased salary. The bill passed.

The words "sine die" are thought by many members of the present legislature to possess music to charm even those who are not savage beasts. It will not be used in the legislative effectively until some time between the meeting hours next Friday and the same hour the next morning. But when the words are used at that time they will have the music of "Home, Sweet Home," and a cessation from many worries for many men. It is feared that with others the troubles will have just begun. Here's hoping you are not one of the latter.

If you should see but little more of this column from now until the end of the session, just attribute it to the fact that other things are pressing too hard upon the time of the writer. And here's hoping that we may have many more happy returns of the opportunity to chat together during many recurring occasions of the kind in the years that are to come.

**SOLICITORS OF SOME CIRCUITS TO GET RAISE**

**SALARY INCREASE APPLIES TO CIRCUITS OF OVER FIVE COUNTIES IF GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL.**

**BY HERBERT FELKEL.**  
 Tallahassee, June 2.—Salaries of state attorneys in circuits of five counties with a total population exceeding 75,000 inhabitants, will be increased from \$2,400 to \$3,000 a year if the governor signs a bill that has



passed both houses, all amendments having been agreed upon.

The bill was originally drawn by Senator Butler to affect his county only, being general in form, but local in nature. It provided that state attorneys in counties of over 50,000 population should receive \$4,000 annually. Duval is the only county with such a population, and the state attorney there is hard worked, two judges being employed in that circuit by special act.

The bill passed the senate without amendment, but when it reached the house it was amended into a general bill. It now affects five circuits, but does not relieve the situation in Duval. One amendment changed the population to 75,000 for the circuit, and

another provided that it should affect only circuits containing five counties and a third reduced the salary named from four to three thousand dollars.

It was stated that the increase in the five circuits affected was granted to take care of the traveling expenses in the large circuits of five counties. All these amendments were added in the house and when the bill reached the senate today that body refused to concur, but later in the day Senator Andrews succeeded in securing a reconsideration of the vote by which the senate refused to concur and on reconsideration the house amendments were adopted. This concluded the matter, for a reconsideration cannot be reconsidered. The bill goes to the governor.

**IT IS ALL GONE NOW.**

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**THE WRITTEN WORD.**

Not in all the annals of time has the written word held such power as it holds today. Long ago the wise man said, "The pen is mightier than the sword." The truth of this has been again and again exemplified as the propagandist has gotten in his work.

Back of both the sword and the pen is the mind that furnishes the motive power. And it is easier for the sword to cut down its opponent than it is for the pen to overcome the obstacles that intelligence and common sense rear as a bulwark against cunning and ignorance.

The newspaper editors of this country during the past few years have been inundated with propaganda, printed on good white paper which might well have been put to other uses. It is safe to say some of this propaganda was worth while, when one counts over the various activities which were promoted thereby. But much of it was worthless. And some of it was dangerous. Just how some of the propaganda that gets into newspaper offices ever gets by, will continue to be a marvel to the trained newspaper man to the end of time. Long winded stories about everything under the sun, written by people who do not know how to write and do not know that they do not know how to write. Uninteresting stories about uninteresting people told in an uninteresting way. Stories with absolutely no news value, or other value of any kind, written on reams of good white paper, and going into the waste paper baskets as fast as the exchange editors of this country can dump them there.

Fortunately for the reading public, most of this propaganda never got by. Still more fortunate it was for the interests it was supposed to serve. The stories that were sent out by the so-called bureaus of the various war activities were enough to queer any enterprise under the sun. But, fortunatel, the editors of the newspapers and magazines acted as their own publicity bureaus, and so the so-called propaganda made very good bonfires.

This is not to say, however, that all of this propadanda was futile. Some of the material which came into the newspaper offices has been dangerous in the extreme. And in every instance, almost, such dangerous propadanda has been traced to an enemy source.

The thing that saves the day every time is the swing of the pedulum—the fact that just as long as people will write other people who read will think.

Right now, over in Poland, the propagandists are trying to get in their work. We are hearing terrible tales of the suffering of the Jews in Poland. No doubt some of these stories are true, just as some of the stories that come over the newspaper desk anent the sufferings of the whiskey men are true, and enent the sufferings in Germany are true—but most of these stories are false, made up out of the whole cloth for a purpose, and that purpose is to create sympathy for the enemy. Wherever we turn we see the trail of the serpent. But the pen is mightier than the sword. Slowly as the people throw the vicious propadanda into the waste basket, they begin to study, to question, to understand, and at last to know, where the enemy lurks.

Every advance of civilization must fight its way past an established method of getting a profit.

The politician is right when he says that the people are the government, but wrong when he assumes that he is the people.

If a man is a menace to society, it is usually because he hasn't been getting a square deal or because he has a square head.