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MAIN BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OF-
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The Porter Resolution—Unpre- cedented Only Because It Meets an Unprecedented Situation.

The sole obstacle to the technical
conclusion of peace with Germany is
at this moment the same President of
the United States who has already
informed the Congress that peace ex-
ists in fact. His unconstitutional
assumption of undivided power to
dictate the manner and terms of a
concluded peace has forced upon the
two houses of Congress the necessity
and duty of action in the interests
of this nation primarily, and indirectly
of the whole world.

The joint resolution introduced by
the chairman of the House Com-
mittee on Foreign Affairs, whether mod-
ified or not in any particular during
its progress to passage, will present
when it reaches the Executive an
issue which he cannot evade. It
squarely challenges the power and
right of a President to nullify, for
his own extrajudicial and self-de-
termined purposes, the power and
right of the coordinate department
to participate in the ending of a war
which the Constitution empowers it
to begin by declaration and to carry
on by raising and supporting armies,
and by making rules for the govern-
ment and regulation of the land and
naval forces—all by the ordinary
processes of legislation.

The pretence that the people
through their Congress can have no
part in terminating a state of war
which the Constitution empowers the
people through their Congress to be-
gin and to carry through to a state
of actual peace, and that this power
in some mysterious way passes into
the exclusive possession of a dictator
Executive, once that hostilities are
begun, is as repugnant to common
sense as it is intolerable to patriotic
American understanding of American
institutions.

The Constitution does not withhold
from the Congress the power of end-
ing war by declaration in the form
of a joint resolution, any more than it
withholds from the Congress the
power to repeal any other of its
legislative acts. The Constitution does
not even require that war be declared
by the Congress shall be ended by a
treaty of peace negotiated by the
President with the advice and con-
sent of the Senate. There is not a
single word in the Constitution war-
ranting the idea that the Federal leg-
islature is impotent to bring peace to
the Republic when an arrogant Ex-
ecutive, rejecting the plain limita-
tions placed upon his treaty negotiat-
ing authority, assumes to decree, on
his individual responsibility, that war
shall continue for the United States
despite the Senate's advice, despite
the will of Congress, despite the will
of the people and despite the plain
fact of peace.

Upon what meat doth this our
Cæsar feed that he is grown so great?
There is only one alternative.
Either the usurper of all authority
must be compelled to bend his stiff
neck and lower his defiant visage be-
fore the law and the will of the
American people as expressed in the
act of their chosen representatives—
elected, be it remembered, in direct
answer to his earlier demand for the
license of absolutism—or the Senate
and the House must surrender to him
the part which the Constitution has
assigned to them in the American
scheme of government by balanced
powers, and the American people must

accept here at home a supergovern-
ment in its most hateful form; more
odious even than the supergovern-
ment which President Wilson has
vainly attempted to establish for us
in a foreign council. The SUN and
New York Herald has no little doubt
as to how the Congress and the peo-
ple will stand on this supreme ques-
tion of Executive service under the
law or Executive mastery above the
law as it has of its own position re-
garding the matter.

For events are rapidly shaping a
situation in which the naked question
of unlimited, undivided Executive
power must be met and settled by the
Congress of the United States and the
people of the United States. The
issue raised by President Wilson's
reckless obstinacy of self-assertion is
neither more nor less than the issue
between representative government
and unrepresentative autocracy.

The Assembly Has Earned the Grat- itude of All Loyal Americans.

In the overwhelming non-partisan
vote by which five members of the
Socialist party have been excluded
from the Legislature of New York
the sentiment of honest, intelligent
patriotism which animates a vast
majority of the people of this State
found adequate expression.

Main men and women who think
straight in simple terms have been
in no doubt as to the purposes of this
Socialist organization and the objects
of the philosophy which directs its
political acts.

The test of the fitness of an in-
dividual to hold office in the United
States and in each of the States is
his loyalty to the republican institu-
tions under which we live.

Without loyalty to those institu-
tions no person can give honest ser-
vice to them. The members of the
Socialist party cannot have that es-
sential quality of devotion. Their
adherence is given elsewhere.

It is given originally to an interna-
tionalism which by its very nature is
destructive to nationalism.

It is given originally to a so-called
political party which exercises over
its members despotic rule, which
sets up and enforces a higher al-
liance than that which it offers to the
State; a misnamed political party
which, directed by disloyalty, has as
its aim the complete destruction of our
Government and our social order.

That men whose supreme obligation
is to a society which would destroy
what American statesmanship has
built up and American blood has ce-
mented are free to be admitted to
the legislatures of the land, in them
to work their malignant processes of
dissolution on the body politic, is a
theory grossly ridiculous.

To say that we believe in law
and order and progress shall not de-
fend ourselves against these enemies
and must entrust to them the guar-
dianship of the very citadel of liberty
is to utter folly.

To assert that the Assembly acts
inexpediently when it crushes the
serpent of disloyalty coiled to strike
within its own chamber is to charge
the people of this State with coward-
ice or imbecility.

The Socialist party has striven to
wear the cloak of philanthropic pur-
pose where its real intent might not
be safely or conveniently avowed.
It has deceived some. It has been
in contempt by others. It has ex-
cited the laughter of others. But in
the Assembly of New York it has
been exposed for what it is, and from
that body the struggle to preserve
us from its fatal grasp will derive
new and unflinching strength.

Vote of Confidence for Premier Nitti.

The vote of confidence received by
Premier Nitti in the Italian Cham-
ber of Deputies gives the Govern-
ment the safe working majority of
sixty-five, as large a majority as
should be expected under the present
political conditions in Italy. The 195
opposing votes represent the differ-
ent Socialist elements in the Cham-
ber and the 290 votes for the Govern-
ment represent the conservatives
and their supporters within the new
Catholic party.

In going before the Chamber upon
an issue of internal policy Signor
Nitti followed out consistently the
plan which he laid down when he
took over the Premiership. He an-
nounced his Adriatic policy on his
return from the conference in London
and made little reference to it
in the discussion preceding the vote
in the Chamber. Even the Socialists
have apparently accepted his plan of
cultivating the friendship rather than
the enmity of the Jugo-Slavs. This
policy has at least borne fruit in two
instances: In an agreement between
the two countries to maintain the ter-
ritorial integrity of Albania and in
an amicable settlement of the recent
clash between the Italians and the
Slavs at Spalato. The Premier thus
had an opportunity to direct his dis-
cussion almost entirely to the eco-
nomic conditions in Italy. In this he
took the position of opposing Social-
ist measures but at the same time
of opposing a "reactionary" policy or
the application of the law in a rigor-
ous and provocative manner.

Premier Nitti, in fact, is endeavor-
ing to apply to home affairs much
the same principles that he has ap-
plied to foreign affairs, and by doing
so to bring about what he most
longed for, a return to peace and quiet.
Italy is suffering from a disorgan-
ized transportation system, the heavy
fall in exchange and the privations
of the poorer classes, which have been
made more bitter by the extrajur-
agencies of those who have grown
rich through the war. That there

with these careers in view were ex-
tensively educated at West Point and
Annapolis, are abandoning their pro-
fessions because the United States
will not give them a living wage.
Their quitting is smashing the ma-
chines, destroying the instruments of
national self-defence, but Congress,
in the name of economy, declines to
stem the tide of resignation and re-
fusal to enlist.

Economy in Government affairs is
admirable. Nobody has advocated it
more enthusiastically than this news-
paper. But will it be economy to pay
\$2,000,000,000 in bonuses to ex-soldiers
and ex-sailors while refusing to spend
enough money to fill the ranks of the
Army and Navy of to-day and estab-
lish the framework of the Army and
Navy of to-morrow?

Squelching a Stock Corner.

Outside of the speculators who get
their fingers burned off when they sell
stocks short, nobody is going to break his
heart over the gambler who thus sells
securities he does not own to his own
trouble and disaster. Nobody is going
to waste sympathy on him whether
he is compelled to settle his gambling
account only fifty points up or all of
five hundred.

The Stock Exchange governors,
however, very properly take action to
suppress such a performance on the
open floor. A Stutz corner may be
taken by the public to be a common
performance of stock market transac-
tions, when, in fact, it is a rare ex-
ception. It places in a false light the
very useful and very necessary busi-
ness of public dealing in stocks and
bonds. It gives a bad name to the
whole stock market.

The Stutz corner has been a gam-
bling scandal pure and simple, and
when the Stock Exchange governors
so treat it they do the least that can
be done. They do not protect gamblers
from being squeezed as dry as an empty
orange but to squelch a discreditable
traffic which never ought to be com-
menced on exchanges or anywhere in
broad daylight.

"Infantile Precipitancy."

The ill advised action of the State
Department in making a street riot
in La Paz the text for a lecture to
Bolivia, Peru and Chile has aroused
much resentment in the countries ad-
dressed and in other South American
republics. *El Mercurio* of Valparaiso
referred to the notes as exhibitions of
"infantile precipitancy," and the in-
fluential *La Prensa* of Buenos Aires
said "What is the origin of the ar-
rogant diplomatic style of the White
House in respect to sister republics?"

The notes in question were equalled
in stupidity by a bombastic statement
sent out from Washington a few days
later to the effect that the timely in-
tervention of the United States had
averted an outbreak of war in South
America.

The query made by *La Prensa* must
be for rhetorical effect only, for that
well informed newspaper does not
need to be enlightened as to the source
of arrogant language in our diplo-
matic communications. It is most un-
fortunate, however, that the Wilson-
ian habit of meddling should be ex-
tended to the continent of South
America, which has hitherto been
comparatively free from such inter-
ference. It is hard to believe that
the officials who are in direct touch
with Latin American affairs in the
State Department would have mani-
fested on their own initiative such
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very useful and very necessary busi-
ness of public dealing in stocks and
bonds. It gives a bad name to the
whole stock market.

PHOTO ENGRAVING PRICES.

Up They Go at the Magic Touch
of the Union Efficiency Experts.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD:
Your editorial article on the methods
pursued in the photo engraving indus-
try is interesting. But a good deal more
can be told of how the business in this
industry is now being conducted. As an
example of the efficiency of their cost
system—they have a "cost efficiency"
expert—they make a charge of 50 per
cent. higher for silhouetted half tone
cuts over straight half tones. They in-
terpret a silhouette as a cut in which
there is any part which requires cutting
away the mesh. If you have a cut on
which you want small portions of the
silhouette remaining about ten minutes
work, the cut will cost you 50 per cent.
additional. But here in where the "effi-
ciency" comes in: Let us say that a
certain straight half tone would cost you
\$3. The same half tone with ten min-
utes silhouetting would cost \$1.50 addi-
tional. Now order from the same draw-
ing a larger straight half tone costing
say \$5. To have this size silhouetted
would cost an additional \$4.50, and the
work of silhouetting would take practi-
cally no more time than on the smaller
cut. So, you see, you are penalized \$3
because you gave the photo engraver a
nicer order—the larger you have your
cut the more you are penalized.

"Well," you say, "there is where I get
myself lost." And you are. You send them
a drawing of a complicated machine
with an order for a silhouette cut, one
on which the work would be consider-
ably more than the 50 per cent. over the
cost of the straight cut. But "nuthin"
doin' here!" on jobs of this sort there is
a "time" charge, and they do know
how to charge for time among photo
engravers.

FLAX IS SCARCE.

That is the Cause of the Worldwide
Shortage of Linen.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD:
The offer to supply flax and flax seed
prizes for a spinning and weaving com-
petition by William J. Robinson in a
recent letter would not prove helpful in
breaking the linen famine that exists
all over the world, but would tend to
render the situation more acute by di-
verting needed supplies of flax from the
mills. The cause of the world shortage
of flax is not a lack of labor or power
machinery, but of flax.

The world shortage of linen will re-
main acute so long as the supply
of flax remains inadequate. If Mr. Rob-
inson and the various societies that are
attempting to revive hand spinning and
weaving of flax will go back to the farm
and raise flax they will find a tempo-
rarily profitable outlet for their surplus
flax. Under normal conditions they
could not hope to compete successfully
with cheap European labor in flax rais-
ing for fibre.

That part of the public that is being
fed up with propaganda regarding the
present shortage of linen and flax should
understand that the situation is purely
temporary, and should be warned
against stock jobbing schemes of com-
panies organized to grow and prepare
flax for the market in this country as a
permanent proposition. Millions of dol-
lars have been mislaid from the public
during the last twenty-five years by
companies claiming to have mechanical
and chemical processes which would
greatly cheapen the preparation of flax
fibre.

EAST HADDAM'S OLD BELL.

It Probably Was Not Cast Earlier
Than the Fifteenth Century.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD:
My attention has been called to the
communication of George A. Akcott, rec-
tor of St. Stephen's Church, East Had-
dam, Conn., in your paper of March 29,
concerning the history of the bell that
hangs in the tower at the rear of the
new church building down by the river
bank.

The old bell was written up volumi-
nously at the time of the Nathan Hale
school house celebration by the Sons
of the American Revolution at the be-
ginning of this century, and it fell under
the eye of expert campanologists, who
asked me, being rector at the time, for
full details concerning the inscription
on the bell and its historical connection
with St. Stephen's Church.

Their conclusion was that the bell
had been the tower bell in a chime that
hung in a monastery in Spain, and that
the date "1513" on the bell had refer-
ence not to the time of the casting of
the bell but to the founding of the mon-
astery. They also declared that the
bell was cast before the twelfth cen-
tury and that this particular bell was
not cast earlier than the beginning of
the fifteenth century. Even at that date
it is quite a historical and interesting
relic to possess.

My understanding of the facts is that
only three whole bells arrived in this
country at the time of the Nathan Hale
school house celebration by the Sons
of the American Revolution at the be-
ginning of this century, and it fell under
the eye of expert campanologists, who
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CRIMES OF BIRDS.

In Florida They Slay, They Rob and
They Destroy Fruit Wantonly.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD:
Concerning the case of cats vs. birds
permitted a lover of both to state a few
facts.

I possess some orange and grapefruit
trees of choice varieties. The wood-
peckers with unerring instinct choose
the sweetest, ripest fruit and bore holes
in it, causing it to fall and decay. They
never appear to eat twice from the same
fruit; thus they destroy far more than
they can possibly eat. I have re-
cently sold sweet seedling oranges, such
as are rarely seen since the big freeze
of 1935, and big ripe grapefruit for 35
cents a dozen to save them from these
birds. Now they are attacking my late
oranges, which I hope to reserve for my
family.

Because birds have wings they are by
no means angels. Big or little, they are
more or less cruel. The mocking
birds drive flocks of robins from
tree to tree, and hiding in the bushes
watch and pounce upon them if they
try to get a mouthful to eat on the
ground. The bald eagles rob fish hawks
and cranes of their hard won prey.

The pretty little shrike, known gen-
erally as the butcher bird, is a blood-
thirsty little villain. I have seen im-
paled on the thorns of usual hedges nearly
a hundred smaller crabs, butterflies and
moth millers, put there by the butcher
bird, and I am told they take young
birds from their nests and impale them
on the points of barbed wire fences. A
bluejay caught a dragonfly—Floridaian
call it a mosquito hawk—before my win-
dow and savagely stripped its gauzy
wings before devouring it.

As for cats, you get plenty in the
North end to sleep under my grapevines
utterly regardless of the birds in the
grape above him. It largely depends
upon his life in his kitchen whether
puss learns to hunt for birds. If he
once gets the habit it cannot be broken,
but if well fed in his youth he can be
kept from following evil customs.

In this part of Florida a cat is most
valued, but it is hard to keep one, as
the bobcats in the woods find them a
most tempting morsel. One of these
wild cats once chased a domestic cat
belonging to a friend of mine into his
house. The wood rats and mice here
are a pest. The rug in a new motor
car has just been chewed by them.

cat on the premises is a sure protection
for his more precious feline friends
away. Less than two miles from me
a friend has a pet cat who makes his
home chiefly on her back porch, and
daily on that same porch there are fed
a pair of mocking birds and a pair of
cardinals which have become almost as
tame as chickens.

But no matter how much of a bird
lover one may be there is an occasion
when one must use a gun for a good gun
and the freedom to use it, and that is
in the early morning when the yellow
hammer gets in his fine work on one's
roof in his search for his breakfast of
spiders and such. He taps with the
speed of an electric bell, and in the sum-
mer, when the house is closed, he, or
it may be his cousin the woodpecker, or
possibly the crow, will find his way
through my window blinds big
enough for him to go through.

Birds. Yes, I love them! But puss
does me no harm. He is a faithful little
guardian about my home, or rather was.
I greatly fear his was a tragic fate.

A FATHER'S PROBLEM.

He Compares a Son's Expense With
the Income Tax Exemption.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD:
I have been married for nearly thirty-
two years and have raised, past the age
of ten years, six children, of whom I
have now dependent upon me four,
ranging in years from ten to past eight-
teen.

I enclose herewith a schedule of cloth-
ing and living cost for one boy of
twelve years, which is based on my ex-
perience of the last nine months of ex-
tremely high prices in clothing, shoes
and food, and have given the average
cost for one year of maintaining this
boy—just clothing, shoes and food. I did
not include any expense for doctor,
medicine, candy, movies, spending money,
charity, church or Sunday schools or
secular schooling, vacations or any of
the various forms of summer or winter
amusements. Just barely an existence
such as a healthy and normal boy
of that age would require from day to
day in keeping up with his companions
in and out of school.

The total cost of this I have summed
up as food, \$206.22, and clothing, shoes,
etc., \$296.50, making a total of \$502.72,
a year which I expend for the main-
tenance of one dependent.

The Government allows me the nu-
merical sum of \$200 exemption from my
income for the support of the boy and
expects me to bring him up in a God-
fearing and intelligent manner to re-
spect authority in government and state
until he is schooled and made fit to
support himself in a decent and livable
condition.

All this means that I am to rear this
boy without any of the pleasures or di-
versions compatible with his intelligence
as a normal boy and potential citizen
of this great Republic, or go into debt
far beyond my income to find means
to give him any kind of amusement or
medical care and attention, dental ex-
aminations and care of his eyes, etc.

BIG SUGAR SWindle

CHARGED IN SENATE

Speculators Said to Have
Taken Advantage of Break-
down in Control.

CUBAN CROPS AT BASE

Concession to Louisiana Plant-
ers Alleged to Have Caused
Surge in Shipments.

Special to THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD.
WASHINGTON, April 1.—Charges that
the sugar using public is being sys-
tematically swindled on a large scale
and that the breakdown of the Depart-
ment of Justice scheme for controlling
sugar prices is responsible have been
laid before the Senate Committee on Ag-
riculture and Forestry by Senator
McNary (Or.), chairman of the sub-
committee on sugar. Senator McNary
will immediately proceed to investigate
Attorney-General Palmer and George
Zabriskie, Sugar Controller, who will
be asked to explain. The charges originate
with legal authorities in several States
in whom Senator McNary and other
Senators have confidence.

It is charged that great quantities of
sugar are being imported via Louisiana
from Cuba; that they are refined there
and then marketed at the excessive
prices that have been allowed on the
Louisiana product.

Further, it is alleged that the Cuban
raw sugar that has been coming to New
York has fallen into control of specu-
lators, who get it refined and then sell it
at a big advance.

The story of this manipulation has
been laid before Senator McNary in de-
tail, and with many documents. Last
week the sugar control board recom-
mended purchase of the Cuba
crop, which could have been had on bloc
around 11 cents a pound. Instead the
President took the advice of one mem-
ber of the board who in opposition to all
the others insisted that the crop should
not be bought. It was not, and as a re-
sult prices went up and up, as the world
secretly and competition for limited sup-
plies pulled the market.

Attorney-General Palmer arranged for
handling the sugar situation. The
Louisiana refiners had a crop last
year, and insisted on some special con-
sideration for them. They were un-
willing that the Cuba crop be bought
because that would make it impossible
for them to get the high price for their
crop that would hardly make up for
the fact that their crop
"sugar" it was arranged that Louisiana
should be allowed a price of 17 cents on
its own production.

This had the effect of specifying the
17 cent price for the Louisiana dis-
trict, while the Cuba sugar would have
to take its chances in the general market
elsewhere. Now it is charged that to
get the benefit of the high price allowed
the Louisiana refiners have been steal-
ing Cuban sugar into Louisiana, and
selling them as Louisiana sugar at the
Louisiana price, netting a large profit.

Along with this is the charge of specu-
lation in sugar entering by way of New
York controlled by speculators, refined
on contract and then placed on the mar-
ket by the speculators at such
prices as they can get—always high
prices, however.

It is charged these operations are
largely responsible for present excessive
prices. The McNary sub-committee,
which was never satisfied with the
Palmer plan for handling the sugar
situation and urged