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SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 1, 1922.

EVENTS OF A WEEK.

By speeding up work on the remaining numbers the senate has completed its favorable action on all seven of the treaties recently submitted to it, beginning with the Yap treaty and including all of the arms conference treaties. The vote in favor of the Yap treaty, registered more than a month ago, was 67 to 22. That on the four-power treaty, which was regarded as the keystone of the entire structure built at the arms conference, was 67 to 27, the treaty mustering their greatest strength on this roll call. The remaining treaties were approved by practically unanimous votes.

* * * *

Favorable action in the American senate was followed by prompt action by the administration in informing the other nations participating in the conference of the readiness of the United States to exchange ratifications on the several measures. It is expected that ratification by the other powers will follow, although there has been suggestion of modifications in France and Japan. Discussions in the French chamber referred pointedly to the procedure in the United States senate in attaching reservations, and it was suggested that if it were proper for the United States to attach one reservation it would be equally proper for France to attach another. It is not generally believed that action will be taken in either France or Japan seriously affecting any of the treaties.

* * * *

In the matter of reduction of armament congress, or the lower branch of it, at any rate, seems inclined to better the action of the executive. The house has acted favorably on the army bill reducing the total army strength to 125,000 men, contrary to the advice of the war department and the recommendation of the president. Action limiting naval personnel to about 65,000 is also forecast. Provisions in the army bill instructing the president as to what number of men he should maintain in overseas garrisons were eliminated before passage. It was confidently predicted that if this provision had been retained the president would have vetoed the bill. As it is, effort will be put forth in the senate to have the military and naval personnel maintained at the figures which the respective departments insist are the lowest consistent with safety and efficiency.

* * * *

The most prominent news of the day necessarily relates to the coal strike which, according to schedule, went into effect as the clock ticked off the end of March. Work has ceased in practically all the coal mines of the country except one small area in which a few thousand men are employed, in spite of contracts do not expire until next year, and in sections not operating under union rules. Strike leaders predicted that at least 100,000 of the non-union men would stop work as soon as the strike went into operation. How nearly this expectation has been met is not known at this time.

* * * *

It is estimated that the coal now stored in the United States is sufficient for about 100 days. Additions will be made from the new mines remaining in operation. But it is not to be expected that the mines have been so distributed as to work out uniformly. In some districts there will be enough for a longer time, while other sections must face exhaustion within a shorter time. The government has taken no action so far as the public is informed. The department of justice has indicated readiness to act if transportation is likely to be menaced, otherwise no action by the government is indicated.

* * * *

In the foreign field the most interesting development has been the formulation of conditions of cooperation between the governments of northern and southern Ireland for the maintenance of order in the two sections, and for bringing to an end the reign of murder and other violence which has threatened to plunge the entire island into a state of anarchy. In reaching the present agreement the representatives of both sides seem to have been actuated by a sincere purpose to work together toward a common end, there being a very evident appreciation of the fact that unless such an effort is put forth and made effective, a civilized country with a population of three million people will be reduced to a condition appropriate only to the dark ages, without law or government, without personal security, and without any of the guarantees which make it possible for human beings in this age to live and work together.

* * * *

The reparations commission's demand that the German government levy new taxes amounting to sixty billion francs by May 31, and provide further guarantees for the meeting of her reparations obligations, is to be refused categorically by the German government. This was forecast in a speech delivered in the reichstag by Chancellor Wirth. The chancellor characterized the demand as preposterous, and declared that the government would not accede to this or any other similar demand. Formal notification of the German attitude will be communicated to the commission, and it is taken for granted that the note will follow the lines of the chancellor's speech.

* * * *

Premier Lloyd George, of Great Britain, whose administration just recently was crumbling beneath him, and who was on the point of resigning, is to be given a vote of confidence in parliament on Monday on the eve of his departure for the Genoa economic conference. The vote will depend, of course, on the position of the members, but such arrangements have been made with the various groups represented in the coalition that the cabinet has agreed on the form of the resolution to be proposed, and there is said to be every confidence that the resolution will be adopted by a decisive majority. The resolution will be presented by Mr. Lloyd George, and it will contain no reference to the premier himself. It will express approbation of the policy of the administration toward the Genoa meeting, and it will be intended and interpreted as a vote of confidence. Among other things which the resolution is expected to contain is a declaration that there shall be no recognition of the Soviet government of Russia until that government has qualified itself to enter the society of nations.

THE STRIKE IS ON.

The greatest strike in the history of the United States is on. The present coal strike is the greatest in the number of men and the magnitude of the interests involved. More than half a million men will be found to have ceased work, and, while production of coal will be continued in some sections, to all intents the industry has been brought to a standstill.

The country has had notice of this strike for months. It will not be many days before its effects are felt here and there in local coal shortages. Presently a factory here and another there will be obliged to close because it cannot obtain fuel. The railroads have accumulated considerable stores of coal, but that cannot last long. In a few weeks, if no agreement is reached, transportation will suffer, and before long all the industries of the country will be tied up.

In no case can much of the injury done be repaired. No matter when the mining of coal is resumed, the strike will have created a deficiency. Coal that would have been mined from this date on, will not have been mined. Men who should have been at work now will have been idle. Equipment which should have been profitably employed will have been lying useless, involving the expenditure of money merely to protect it from deterioration. Wherever an industry finds it necessary to close as a result of the strike, there will be a dead loss which can never be repaired.

These are facts with which everyone is familiar. The country has known that the strike was probable, and lately that it was inevitable. Yet, tremendous as are the interests involved, and fully informed as the country has been of the steps being taken to bring about this strike, the country is in the densest ignorance as to what it is all about.

Statements by the yard have been issued by the miners' officials and by the operators. These statements are directly contradictory of each other. Outside of the few who have had opportunity to make a special study of the case, nobody knows what the truth is. Some day there will be some light shed on the situation. Somebody in whom the country has confidence will look into the facts and tell us what they are. On the people's sense of justice and right, based on that information, an adjustment will be made. Work will be resumed. Coal will again begin to move from the mines. But in the meantime there will have been done damage, the extent of which no one can estimate, and that damage will be just so much taken out of the welfare of the country.

We may be destined to pass through a very unpleasant and costly experience. While we are on our way it may be profitable for us to remind ourselves occasionally that it could all have been prevented if the job of informing the public, accurately, reliably and dispassionately, had been undertaken in time.

IRISH PEACE PROSPECTS.

The situation resulting from the meeting of representatives of the two sections of Ireland and of the British government is the most promising that has developed since the signing of the agreement relating to the creation of the Irish Free State. It is an improvement on the former situation in that for the first time the representatives of the two Irish sections have come together on a common basis and taken action which at least gives promise of an era of peace and harmony in place of the discord which has prevailed, and which was rapidly developing a state of anarchy.

Failure of the Dublin and Belfast governments to co-operate earnestly and vigorously in an effort to reconcile existing differences has weakened each in its own sphere of operation. Enemies of the Free State have used the controversies with Ulster as a means for stirring up passion which has resulted in repeated acts of violence, not only against Ulster, but against the Free State itself. In the North these differences have been magnified and emphasized by disorderly elements to such an extent that the authority of the Belfast government was rapidly being undermined. Leaders in both groups have at last realized that unless the friends of peace and order in both sections could get together on some basis, the whole country would soon be without government of any kind, and the population would be involved in a struggle, the end of which could only be destruction.

The agreement reached, affords evidence that the leaders of the Irish people, North and South, have come to a realization of the fact that the destiny of their country is in their own hands; that in the shaping of their affairs they must be content to do as other peoples have found it necessary to do, namely, to make large allowances for differences of opinion, compromise on many points, and concentrate on things that are really constructive.

The conditions which have prevailed in Ireland of late could not have continued much longer without affording justification for the idea that Irishmen are incapable of governing themselves. Responsible men in both sections have at last realized that fact, and have taken steps to provide a demonstration of the opposite character. If the compact which has been made, is carried out in good faith on both sides, it will be possible for each government to deal effectively with the disorderly elements within its own jurisdiction. Moreover, out of the contact which has been established and the co-operative work which has been undertaken may grow such an understanding that, with the cheerful good-will of both sections, the flag of the Free State may float over the whole island. The feeling necessary to bring about that result may not be reached in time to prevent the withdrawal of Ulster under the terms of the treaty, but it seems not too much to hope for as something to be attained in the not distant future.

A Chicago professor says that all red-headed girls are bowlegged. These are questions that do not have to be taken to any professor for solution nowadays.

Trust Vice President Cool-Edge to come forward with the encouraging dope. He finds congress has made a great record.

"Airplanes as cheap as taxis in England" says a headline. In that case, many of us will continue to walk.

Hard times, hot weather and love tragedies combined have brought about a veritable epidemic of suicides in Havana.

SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE

BEGIN HERE TODAY.

After eight years of married life, Mark Sabre comes to realize that he is neither understood by his prosaic and snobbish wife, Mabel, nor by his colleagues in the firm of Fortune, East and Sabre. A promised partnership in the business has been denied him and promised to Twyning, a jealous associate. Suddenly an old sweetheart, Nona, now the wife of dashing Lord Tybar, returns after two years of travel. Mabel becomes jealous of Nona who visits Sabre at his office. Something makes Sabre suspect that Nona is not happily married. She says she is "just drifting, flotsam."

GO ON WITH THE STORY.

She said swiftly, as though she were stirred, "Oh, Marko, yes, that's mysterious. Do you know sometimes I've seen drift like that, and I've felt—oh, I don't know. But I've put out a stick and drawn in a piece of wood just as the stuff was moving off, just to save it being carried away into—well, into that, you know."

"Have you, Nona?"

She answered, "Do you think that's what life is, Marko?"

"It's not unlike," he said. And he added, "Except about someone coming along with a stick and drawing a bit into safety. I'm not sure about that. Perhaps that's what we're all looking for—"

He suddenly realized that he was back precisely at the thoughts his mind had taken up on the morning he had met her. But with a degree more of illumination. Two feelings came into his mind, the second hard upon the other and overriding it, as a fierce horseman might catch and override one pursued. He said, "It's rather jolly to have someone that can see ideas like that." And then the overriding, and he said with astonishing roughness, "But you—you aren't flotsam! How can you be flotsam—the life you've—taken?"

And, lo, if he had struck her, and she been bound, defenseless, and with her eyes entreating not to be struck again, she could not deeper have entreated him than in the glance she fleeted from her eyes, the quiver of her lids that first released, then veiled it.

It stopped his words. It caught his throat.

III.

He got up quickly. "I say, Nona, never mind about thinking. I'll tell you what's been doing. Rotten. Happened just after I met you the other day."

"The dust on these roads!" she said. She touched her eyes with her handkerchief. "What, Marko?"

"Well, old Fortune promised to take me into partnership about an age ago."

"Marko, he ought to have done it an age ago. What's there rotten about that?" Her voice and her air were as gay as when she had entered.

"The rotten thing is that he's turned it down. At least practically has. He—" He told her of the Twyning and Fortune incident. "Pretty rotten of old Fortune, don't you think?"

"Old fiend!" said Nona. "Old trout!"

Sabre laughed. "Good work, trout. The men here all say he's like a whale. They call him Jonah," and he told her why.

She laughed gaily. "Marko! How disgusting you are! But I'm sorry. I am. Poor old Marko . . . Of course it doesn't matter a horse-radish what an old trout like that thinks about your work, but it does matter, doesn't it? I know how you feel.

She was at the shelves, scanning the books. Her fond, her almost tender sympathy made him, too, feel that it was rather fine. Her light words in her high clear tone voiced exactly his feelings towards the books. Talking with her was, in the reception and return of his thoughts, nearer to reading a book that delighted him than to anything else with which he could compare it. There was the same interchange of ideas, not necessarily expressed; the same creation and play of fancy, imagined, not stated.

IV.

She sat briskly forward in the big armchair in which she faced him, making of the motion a movement as though throwing aside a turn the conversation had taken. "Well, go on, Marko. I'm not going to let you stop thinking yet. I love that about how people get success nowadays. It's jolly true. I never thought of it before. Yes, you're still a terribly thinky person, Marko. Go on. Think some more. Out loud."

Caressing—drawing him on—just as of old.

He said thoughtfully, "I tell you a thing I often think a lot about, Nona. You being here like this puts it in my mind. Conventions."

She smiled teasingly. "Ah, poor Marko. I knew you'd simply hate it, my coming like this. Does it seem terribly unconventional, improper, to you, shut up with me in your office?"

He shook his head. "It seems very nice. That's all it seems. Look here, Nona, this really is rather interesting—"

"Yes," she said. "Yes."

Just so he used to bring ideas to her; just so, with "Yes—yes," she used to receive them.

But he went on. "Why, convention, you know, it's the most mysterious, extraordinary thing. It's a code society has built up to protect itself and to govern itself, and when you go into it it's the most marvelous code that ever was invented. All sorts of things that the law doesn't give, and couldn't give, our conventions shove in on us in the most amazing way. And all probably originated by a lot of Mother Grundy-ish old women, that's what's so extraordinary. You know, if all the greatest legal minds of all the ages had laid themselves out to make a social code they could never have got anywhere near the rules the people have built up for themselves. And that's what I like, Nona—that's what I think so interesting and the best thing in life; the things the people do for themselves without any state interference. That's what I'd encourage all I knew how if I were a politician—"

He broke off. "I say, aren't I the limit, gassing away like this? I hardly ever get off nowadays and when I do!—Why don't you stop me?"

She made a little gesture deprecatory of his suggestion. "Because I like to hear you. I like to watch your funny old face when you're on one of your ideas. It gets red underneath, Marko, and the red slowly comes up. Funny old face! Go on. I want to hear this because I'm going to disagree with you, I think. I think conventions, most of them, are odious, hateful, Marko. I hate them."

V.

He had been strangely affected by the words of her interruptions: a contraction in the throat—a twitching about the eyes . . . But he was able, and glad that he was able to catch eagerly at her opinion. "Yes, yes, I know, odious, hateful, and much more than that, cruel—conventions can be as cruel, as cruel as hell. I was just coming to that. But they're all absolutely rightly based, Nona. That's the baffling and the maddening part of them. That's what interests me in them."

"Look at this stuff there's been in the papers lately about what they call the problem of the unmarried mother. Now there's a brute of a case for you; a girl gets into trouble and while she sticks to her baby she's made an outcast; every door is shut to her; her own people will have nothing to do with her; no one will take her in—so long as she's got the baby with her. That's convention and you can imagine cases where it's cruel beyond words. But it's no good cursing society about it. You can't help seeing that the convention is fundamentally right and essential. Where on earth would you be if girls with babies could find homes as easily as girls without babies?" He smiled. "You'd have babies pouring out all over the place. See it?"

She nodded. "I do think that's interesting, Marko. Yes, cruel and hateful and preposterous, many of them, but all fundamentally right."

Presently she said, "Yes, you do still think things, Marko. You haven't changed a bit, you know."

He smiled. "Oh, well, it's only two years, you know—less than two years since you went away."

"I wasn't thinking of two years."

"How many years were you thinking of?"

"Ten."

They just sat there.

VI.

The insistent shrieking of a motor siren in the street below began to penetrate their silence. "What the devil's that?"

An extravagantly long motor car was drawn against the curb. Lord Tybar, in a dust coat and a sleek bowler hat of silver gray, sat in the driver's seat. He was industriously and without cessation winding the handle of the siren. An uncommonly pretty woman sat beside him. She was massed in furs. In her ears she held the index finger of each hand, her elbows sticking out on each side of her head.

At Nona's call Lord Tybar ceased the handle and looked up with his laughing smile; the uncommonly pretty woman removed her fingers from her ears and also turned upwards her uncommonly pretty face.

As they went down Sabre asked "Who's that with him in the car?"

"One of his friends. Staying with us."

Something in her voice made it—afterwards—occur to him as odd that she spoke of one of "his," not one of "our" friends, and did not mention her name.

VII.

Through the day Sabre's thoughts, as a man sorting through many documents and coming upon and retaining one, tined down towards a picture of himself alone with Nona—alone with her, watching her beautiful face—and saying to her: "Look here, there were three things you said, three expressions you used. Explain them, Nona."

(Continued Monday Evening.)

Council Of Action Has "Decided" How To Prevent Wars

Sydney, N. S. W.—(By Mail.)—The council of action, consisting of 13 delegates appointed by the Melbourne "All-Australian Trades Union congress," has just decided how all wars may be prevented.

The solution lies in the convening of a Pan-Pacific congress of delegates from labor organizations throughout the world, with a view of arriving at an understanding to prevent war. The following motion was adopted:

"We do not believe that the Washington conference is likely to evolve any scheme of value for the prevention of any future wars. Further, we believe that the best way to prevent wars will be for the Australian workers to arrive at an understanding with labor organizations in other countries, and we are of the opinion that an endeavor should be made to bring about a Pan-Pacific conference as early as practicable."

It was decided further that another meeting of the Australasian Trades Union congress should be held next June and that in the meantime the council of action should endeavor to progress with the industrial organization and the establishment of a labor research and information bureau.

SOVIET RELIEF MONEY MUST BE SPENT IN TRANSPORTING FOOD

Moscow—A large proportion of the money which Soviet Russia itself has available for famine relief has to be paid to transport the food which the American relief administration is furnishing to 2,000,000 children and 5,000,000 adults in the Volga region.

This was revealed in a recent speech by M. Kalinin, the "peasant president" of Soviet Russia. The sums expended by the Russian government for transport of the American food from the Baltic ports to the actual famine areas, said M. Kalinin, almost equal the cost of the food.

Up to date, he declared, Russia has spent 15,000,000 gold rubles, or about $7,500,000 for transportating food to the Volga, and, in 1922, will have to spend not less than 40,000,000 gold rubles, which, he added, is not less than the American relief administration itself spends.

RULES WERE BROKEN.

Rome—The hard and fast rule of Cardinal Gasparri, inflexibly enforced by the Swiss Guards, that no photographers were to be allowed inside of Saint Peter's on the day of the coronation of Pope Pius, the Eleventh, was broken at least once.

The staff photographer of an English newspaper, wearing a top hat and bearing a beautiful leather valise, presented himself at the Bronze Gates when the crush was at its height.

"No cameras allowed in," the huge Swiss guard informed him, in a tone of finality.

"Camera; nothing," responded the photographer haughtily, "this is a medicine case; please let me pass that I may render aid to the injured in-side."

"Pass right in, doctor," the Swiss guard said, humbly.

Country Undergoing Epidemic Of Defiance Of Law, Says M'Connell

Winona, Minn.—The country is undergoing a dangerous epidemic of defiance of law and of relaxed social standards, and there is a disposition to challenge lawful authority, which cannot be defended on any ground of personal privilege, J. M. McConnell, commissioner of education, said in addressing the annual convention of the Southeastern Education association here.

The period demands the co-operation of educational forces and a co-ordination of educational interests, Mr. McConnell said. He emphasized the need for the public, the school boards, and the superintendent and teachers to get together in a common cause. The times inopportune for a division in the ranks, because of any separate interest, he added.

"The period since the war," he said, "is one of reconstruction and readjustment. Such a period is the sequel to every great war, and was called by John Fiske 'The Critical Period' in his history of the era from the close of the Revolutionary war to the establishment of the government under the constitution.

Reorganization Necessary.

"It represents a time for readjustment, both between countries and within them. It calls for economic reorganization. It is time for continued high taxes, without the support of the large incomes, and the enthusiasm which made them tolerable during the war. Most of all, it involves a state of mind which becomes a large factor in the situation, both as a cause and an effect.

"It is a difficult time in the educational field. The inflated costs and high taxes of war will continue, in large measures, despite the inevitable business and industrial reaction has come.

"The situation presents an important problem of relation between teachers' qualifications and salaries. This relationship become much disturbed during the teacher shortage, and school boards were forced to hire teachers, without the usual regard for qualifications. This condition usually militated against the well-trained and successful teacher and in favor of the untrained and inexperienced."

Public education must capitalize the ability of every child, the state commissioner continued. It must discover and develop leaders. It must represent our highest ideals and must be universal in its conception. It must be conceived in terms of the future and must not limit those who are trained in it, either as to occupation or environment.

"The largest single factor in our educational growth is that of teachers' progress," Mr. McConnell said. "Despite the retarding influences through which we have been passing, rapid progress is being made toward professionally trained teachers with sound academic education. The time is not far distant when Minnesota, with its splendid high school education, will demand that all of its teachers possess a high school education and at least some measure of professional training."

Just Folks

by Edgar A. Guest

THE CROCUS.

A yellow crocus bloomed today,
Where all is dead and bleak and bare,
It flashed in light along the way
And radiantly twinkled there.

Out of the darkness and the gloom,
Braving the blizzard's bitter sting,
There came this golden bit of bloom
To herald the advancing spring.

"Hold out! Hold out!" it seemed to say,
"Soon may the siege of winter fail,
The daffodils are on their way,
The hyacinths have heard you call.

Behind me comes a countless throng
Of bigger, braver blooms than I;
The woods shall shortly ring with song
Spring's glorious army draweth nigh."

A yellow crocus flashed today
Its torch of faith for all to see—
The troops of spring are on the way,
The captive earth will soon be free.

Among the participants in the "Sun Dance" recently given at Palm Beach was "Aunt Polly Parker, the oldest living Seminole Indian, and whose age is variously estimated to be between 112 and 125 years.