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National Affairs

Written for this Paper by
FRANK P. LITSCHERT

The pacifists, professional and otherwise tell us that naval armament and war are synonymous. They aver apparently in all sincerity that if we have a navy we must expect to have war. But recent events seem to bar out the assertion that it is easy to have war without any navy. Take the example of Paraguay and Bolivia—for instance. Which navy started the hostilities that broke out between these two countries a short time ago? As a matter of fact nations can go to war with sickles and cutlasses if nothing better is available. This has happened a great many times in the past, before gunpowder was invented, and war was even crueler than it is now.

The unreasonableness of the arguments of the pacifists is well illustrated in the trouble between the two South American republics mentioned above. The pacifists, or at least the socialist wing of the group, claims that wars are always fomented by private interests which seek some advantage through military conflict. But it is quite evident that in the case of Bolivia at least, the heads of the government were driven into hostilities by the demands of an aroused and enthused populace just as our own nation was forced into the Spanish-American war by popular senti-

ment, at time when President McKinley was doing everything possible honorably to avoid the call to arms, and exhausting every means of diplomacy to prevent war.

Of course the trouble between Bolivia and Paraguay was not started by navies which do not exist. Neither did it originate in the maintenance of large military establishments, for neither country boasts of an army of any consequence. Certainly it was not a fifteen cruiser program which started the trouble in Bolivia for that country was not even provided by nature with a seaport.

War, like all crimes of violence, is caused by a state of mind which has not been educated to the point where it fully comprehends the brutality and futility of war. It will end when the spirit which causes physical combat has been exorcised and not before. Now if Bolivia would attack Paraguay without sufficient cause, or vice versa, it is evident that some nation without sufficient provocation might attack the United States. And it might be unwilling after taking that course to arbitrate knowing itself to be without a good case. This danger is increased by the wealth and territorial extent of this republic and would be multiplied a hundred fold by the belief that we had no sufficient means of defense.

The only guarantee we have against such attack is to have the world know that we are prepared and disposed to defend ourselves. The pretense of the pacifists that such defense would be provocative rather than preventive is born either of ignorance or hypocrisy. For instance: it is possible for any pacifist in this day of gunmen and racketeers, to give evidence of the sincerity of his belief without attempting to enforce his philosophy on the national government and perhaps ruining or destroying the nation. Let him hang upon his door this sign: "I will not resist any effort to rob my house or kill my family. I have no weapons and am opposed on principle to calling upon the police to use violence against any intruder. I ask intruders to keep out as a matter of ethics."

This would be equivalent to an in-

Pithy Paragraphs

Calles announces that he will never again be President of Mexico. This is according to precedent established by every Mexican president since Diaz.—Houston Post-Dispatch.

"Hell will freeze over when Texas goes Republican," is an old saying, so W. L. Moorehead, of the Hopkins, Mo., Journal says we can now go to bed without saying our prayers.—Kansas City Star.

Remember the good old days when the people in the rural districts had so much money they could afford to buy a gold brick once in a while?—Rushville (Ind.) Republican.

Us Democrats have got to raise \$1,600,000. Couldn't we trade Massachusetts and Rhode Island back and get a discount?—Dallas News.

What a world of difference the few weeks between Halloween and Christmas make in the behavior of little boys.—Council Bluffs Nonpareil.

Max Libermann, German artist, says that the way to keep young is never to look back. Well if you never look back while crossing the street it's a cinch you'll never have the chance to grow old.

Now that a German chemist has succeeded in absolutely fireproofing paper, Elinor Glyn might try her hand at another novel.—Macon (Ga.) Telegraph.

It's our opinion that when we get into war again, the best way to create an irresistible force that the enemy can't even slow up, will be to put a regiment of taxi-drivers in the front line.

Invitation to any ruffian to enter the house and kill and rob at will. It is doubtful whether even the most ardent pacifist would want to adopt this policy. But many of them seem perfectly willing to apply it to the nation as a whole. Surely this cannot be for the reason that pacifists devote all their love and affection to their private interests and have none left over for their country.

A Chicago woman predicts that the day will come when the drudgery of cooking at home will be eliminated by the community kitchen. The can opener has already eliminated a great deal of it.

It is said that over ninety million dollars worth of toys were manufactured in the United States this year. And yet there are some people who say they don't believe in Santa Claus.

A Harvard professor has invented a machine capable of exerting 600,000 pounds of pressure per square inch. Just think how valuable this machine will be for the politician who is trying to get his congressman or senator to do something for him.

Henry Ford is quoted as saying that no successful boy ever saved money. What should he do with it, buy gasoline?

Somebody said the other day that Chicago was the best advertised city in the world. And how!

The Salem News declares that if the communist element would do a little less parading with banners and a little more working with their hands to make communist experiments practical, they would get more converts. All well and good. But the communist theory doesn't include any working with the hands by the communists.

The first book printed on paper made from cornstalks is on exhibition in New York City. Here is a real work on farm relief.

It is said that they now train detectives in New York by sending them out to find a parking place for an automobile. When the applicant finds one he gets a badge.

The fellow who makes money on the stock market is the one who can see the breakers ahead in time to put on his swimming suit.

There is a move on foot now to change the calendar and we have a suspicion that the landlords are behind it in an effort to make rent day come around oftener.

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Slang Big Factor in
Growth of Language

American slang, rather than being maligned and despised, should be depended on to assist in vitalizing and enriching the language, says Dr. Frederic C. Blanchard, professor of English at the University of California, at Los Angeles. Little of the slang of yesterday ever remains, but that minimum that does not drop away is a definite and a constant factor in the growth of language to adapt itself to the changing conditions of a changing world, he adds.

"Much of the exuberance of slang is simply the indication of health, animal spirits, vitality, adaptation to new conditions of thought and action," said Doctor Blanchard. "Ben Jonson, the purist, quarreled with the slang employed by Shakespeare, but much of it has been adapted in our speech, as have some of the quaint but unorthodox expressions of Kipling."

"The multiplicity of new activity which our modern life enjoys requires its special language, and we have the slang of aviation, sport, and even science, the best of which finds its way ultimately into the dictionary."

No-Chance for Men

If a husband is not so good, the neighbors say so. If he is exceptionally good, they say he is afraid of his wife. It's a tough life.—Fort Wayne News-Sentinel.

Mark of Greatness

Maturity is always a mark of greatness whether the persons possessed of it are old or young.—Woman's Home Companion

Notice of Stockholder's Meeting.

The regular meeting of the stockholders of the Kootenai Mercantile Company of Libby, Montana, will be held at the office of the Company in Libby, Montana, on Monday, January 14, 1929, at 7:30 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and transacting all other business which may legally be brought before the meeting.

S. N. PLUMMER,
Secretary.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, Great Falls, Montana, November 13, 1928.

Notice is hereby given that on November 5, 1928, Erdman C. M. Herbst filed his Homestead Application No. 074068, for list No. 1-3185, Homestead Entry Survey No. 1242, in Sec. 2, T. 34 N. R. 32 E., P. M. M. as additional to his Homestead Entry No. 069299, formerly Kalispell No. 07393, for List No. 1-3185 H. E. S. No. 1072, in the same section, township and range, under the act of April 28, 1904.

The purpose of this notice is to allow all persons claiming the land adversely or desiring to show it to be mineral in character, an opportunity to file objection to the application with the Register of the U. S. Land Office at Great Falls, Montana, and to establish their interest therein or the mineral character thereof.

n 29-jn 3-6t M. D. NICHOLSON,
Register

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9 to 12 a. m.—1 to 5 p. m.

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After you are dead it does not matter if you were not successful in a business way. No one has as yet had the courage to memorialize his wealth on his tombstone.—Cora Harris.

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