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IS IT TO BE JUST TALK? ARGUMENT is no longer necessary to prove the importance of using the coastal waterways to relieve transportation congestion. The time for discussion has passed. Every hour devoted to it is wasted. It is time to act.

UNTIE THE RED TAPE FROM THE MINERS MINERS in the anthracite region have not been exempted from the draft. And nothing effective has been done to prevent the mine laborers from seeking other jobs.

AN OCEAN WAY STATION THE plan of the British and American aviation services to conduct transatlantic flights next fall exercises a significant strain upon the imagination. The profusion of war miracles increases almost daily and the substitution of the word "commonplace" for "wonderful" proceeds with equal speed.

NEW LEGIONS OF LIBERTY ACTING immediately upon the amendment of the Senate Military Affairs Committee providing for the training and equipment of troops from any Allied nation in our army, Brazil contemplates sending an expeditionary force of 10,000 men.

PUNISHING THE PRESS

New Postal Rates, Under Guise of War Tax. One Way in Which Congressional Blatherers Do It. LEST any one be deceived by congressional blather on the subject, from time to time, it may be as well to state clearly and unequivocally some of the facts concerning the new confiscatory postal rates which affect newspapers and other periodical publications beginning July 1.

Enacted under the disguise of a war tax, these rates were demanded as a source of war revenue not previously tapped. But it requires only the most superficial knowledge of the past policy and design of the Postoffice Department to see how labored is this excuse. The postoffice never has been and never should be regarded as a revenue producer for the general purposes of the Government.

So that in attempting to raise a war tax out of this public utility Congress is merely putting itself in the same position as City Councils in Philadelphia might, were they to add a tax of four or five cents to each street-car fare paid, in order to secure revenue for the current expenses of the city, which are in their way quite as much affected by the war emergency as are national finances.

There must be some other reason, therefore, for this deliberate attempt by Congress to punish the press. What those reasons are might be surmised by any one familiar with the character and philosophy of the politicians in Congress who inspired this vicious law. Even in the back-woods districts of the South and West where they come from the press, by its unceasing vigilance and sharp remonstrance against political charlatans, knows how to sting. Indeed, there are a number of those same blatant gentlemen from unheard-of places who bear scars of editorial lashings which must frequently burn. Enough then, as to a motive.

But, aside from any such considerations, there is another phase which, to even the ordinary intelligence at Washington, ought to be worthy of respectful consideration. In all modesty it may fairly be said that never in the history of this or any other country has the newspaper and periodical press as a unanimous body done more to uphold the efforts of the nation's leader in a time of acute stress and anxiety. No charge of selfishness, greed or profiteering will lie against the press of America today.

President Wilson himself thinks so well of the aid that can be given to his Administration by the newspapers and periodicals generally that he has stanchly stood behind the Creel publicity committee, even though the expenses have run to unheard-of figures. Mr. Schwab only the other day at a luncheon in this city declared soberly and seriously that had it not been for the efforts of the newspapers to arouse enthusiasm and interest in the shipbuilding program he might have fallen far short of the splendid record now being made by the shipping board and fleet corporation forces under his able direction.

Even the Congressmen themselves think so well of the need for Government publicity that they approve huge appropriations out of the National Treasury for maintenance of large and high-salaried corps of departmental press agents to turn out thousands of tons of pamphlets, slip-sheets and what not—and even that much-revered "newspaper," the Congressional Record, of fragrant delight. How utterly and inevitably stupid it is, therefore, for Congress as a whole to permit a small, but at present powerful, group of soured and disgruntled members to vent their spleen in such fashion upon a great and indispensable industry. They might as well put a head tax upon the dissemination of knowledge through the common schools, for in effect they are penalizing what, without doubt, is the greatest medium of education in this country today. Surely such a law cannot stand once the people see how quickly it will cripple and curtail the circulation of the great journals—daily, weekly and monthly—which are the backbone and sinews of public opinion, the greatest safeguard in a democracy.

The war forces seem to have the better of the dogs thus far in June.

no means negligible for each individual soldier counts in the legions of liberty. But the spiritual value of this response is most significant of all. Materialism, even so highly organized as that of Germany, must succumb to the force of ideals grounded in the eternal principles of right. Contingents from the six Latin-American republics which have declared war against the Huns need not necessarily be large to make indissoluble the new bonds between ourselves and most of the southern section of the New World. Whatever their numbers, the boys from Lima, from Rio, from Managua, Guatemala City, Havana or La Paz will represent the might of a glorious concept. They will be enlisted in a fraternity of freedom unprecedented in magnitude in universal history.

Moreover, as Pan-Americanism thus takes on tangible shape as a buttress of the league of nations the flimsy structure of concession, which in the past has sometimes handicapped our efforts toward union, will be razed. The names of Simon Bolivar, San Martin and Maceo eminently deserve linking with those of our own sons of freedom. The opportunity for enshrining this truth is at hand.

NEW YORK DOES IT WHILE PHILADELPHIA HESITATES

POLICEMEN in New York are demanding better pay just as they are here. But they have sense enough there to agree on the necessity of paying a living wage. A committee of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment is considering how the money can be found to give the men a 10 per cent increase in pay. It is planned to make the increase date from July 1.

Our policemen are left hanging in the air with the possible hope of relief some time in the autumn—if anybody then has the nerve to use heroic measures to get the necessary money.

ARE WE GOING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT?

NO ONE need be surprised at the statement of John Hilder, secretary of the Housing Association, that the sanitary conditions under which the poor are compelled to live are growing worse. Nor need one be surprised that the death rate is increasing or that, if an epidemic of disease should break out, the physicians would find it difficult to handle it.

The rapid increase in population has congested the districts in which men getting small incomes can afford to live, and the high cost of food and clothing has forced many workmen to move with their families into smaller quarters.

THE recumbent effigy of Colonel Burd and the magnificent marble foot (also by Steinhauser) were the gift of Colonel Burd's widow in 1849 and 1859. The font is very interesting; three cherubs support the bowl on their wings. Each cherub holds one of the instruments of the Saviour's torture—the nail, the thorn and the spear. The cherub with the nail is shown testing the sharpness of the point on his chubby hand. Inside the bowl are carved several fish, representing, of course, the secret symbol of early Christian faith.

IN 1839 the Venetian mosaic of the Last Supper, which contains more than 150,000 tesserae, was erected by the generosity of the Magee family. This was executed partly by Italian workmen and partly by the artist, Henry Holiday, of London, the versatile craftsman who is also well known for a very different type of work in his illustrations for Lewis Carroll's "Hunting of the Snark." The new organ was also given by the Magee family, and "voiced" in the church under the supervision of Dr. David Wood, the famous blind musician, who was organist of St. Stephen's for forty-six years.

IT IS impossible to mention all the beauties of St. Stephen's, but no account, however brief, can omit the touching memorial to Maria Gouverneur Mitchell, the daughter of Dr. S. Weir Mitchell. This monument was done by Saint Gaudens, and the figure, of exceptional grace and simplicity, represents "The Angel of Purity."

ST. STEPHEN'S is a church of very great interest to all Philadelphians. No one can read the names engraved on the old-fashioned silver pew-plates without realizing how many old Philadelphia families have loved this church and worshiped there. The walls are lined with tablets and lit with richly tinted windows, each one of which is a story in itself. It is a curious coincidence that Doctor Grammer, the present rector, was called to St. Stephen's from Christ Church, Norfolk, the same church from which Doctor Ducachet came. Doctor Grammer is noteworthy in cherishing the traditions of his predecessors, and there is no church that better repays a visit from art lovers than old St. Stephen's.

When it comes to rising to the emergency, the flooded Piave gives excellent testimony with the Italian troops.

A WESTMINSTER ABBEY IN PHILADELPHIA

WALKING down Tenth street just below Market we noticed the other day that workmen were again busy in St. Stephen's Church. The interior of the church is being redecored in harmony with the uniquely beautiful chance (the gift of Miss Anna Magee, in memory of her sister Fannie Magee). This interesting edifice, one of the plainest of the city's churches in exterior, is inwardly a marvel of beauty. The exquisite eastern windows, which gleam with brilliant blue and opal tints through a delicate lacework of white marble (almost unbelievably frail and graceful), are a vision of quiet loveliness. On Saturday morning the doors of the church were open while the workmen were busy within, and many passers-by who had not seen the windows before were lured by this gleam of deep and sparkling blue to step inside the church and admire.

DURING the energetic rectorship of Dr. Carl Grammer, who has occupied St. Stephen's pulpit since 1905, the treasures of the church have been notably increased. The generosity of St. Stephen's friends has been unflagging, and considering the number of remarkable memorials and beauties his church houses, Doctor Grammer's own name for the shrine seems not inappropriate. He speaks of it as "Philadelphia's Westminster Abbey."

ST. STEPHEN'S is notable as an example of the many services that may be performed by an active church in the heart of the business district. Many men who do not attend any religious services regularly are grateful to St. Stephen's for the noon services held there daily during Lent. These services, which have been held for many years, are remarkably popular; the annual attendance having exceeded 25,000, with a daily average of more than 600. In June, 1917, the church opened clubrooms for men in the service, and more than 50,000 soldiers and sailors have registered there in the last year. The church's service flag shows fifty stars.

THE severely plain and fortresslike edifice of St. Stephen's, so familiar to all who pass along Tenth street, was originally a Methodist church, taken over and remodelled for the new congregation in 1823. That period was one of great expansion in the Episcopal Church, which had by that time outlived the prejudice against it inherited from Revolutionary times as the Church of England. From the beginning St. Stephen's seems to have had a friendly relation with the South and became a favorite place of worship for Southerners in Philadelphia. One of the earliest monuments erected in the church stands in the vestry, a tablet to the memory of three young Southerners, medical students at the University of Pennsylvania, who died in the course of their studies. This was in 1825.

DR. HENRY W. DUCACHET, a man of very great charm and social attractiveness, was rector 1834-1865, and under his care St. Stephen's became one of the leading social churches of the city. Many old Philadelphia families of wealth and refinement worshipped here, but the church has never forgotten that the duties of a sacred edifice extend to every caste. Under Doctor Ducachet's rectorship St. Stephen's became an illustrious example of the Episcopalian tendency to ally the Church with the arts. Colonel Edward Shippen Burd, who died in 1848, left instructions in his will for a memorial to be erected to the memory of his three deceased children. The Burd memorial, executed in Italian marble by the famous German sculptor Steinhauser, is one of the most beautiful pieces of his kind in the country. A replica of it was erected in Bremen, the sculptor's native city. It is known as "The Angel of the Resurrection."

THE bear or fox or lion or leopard adults do not engage in open warfare, perhaps, but there is good reason to believe that such creatures more or less habitually destroy, and perhaps devour, their own progeny in the event that the food supply is inadequate. We only know the intimate family habits of these animals under the abnormal environment of captivity, but we find that many animals are prone to destroy or to abandon their young under these abnormal conditions, and there can be no doubt that they would do the same under similarly abnormal conditions naturally brought about.

CANNIBALISM is normal with many species of very successful insects, and is the cause of many situations. There is a large beetle known as alatus, the larvae of which live upon the insects under the bark of dead trees. Each fallen tree trunk provides food for a certain number of bark and wood-eating larvae. These larvae provide food for a certain number of alatus. The mother alatus does not know how much food there will be for her young, and she deposits more eggs than the food supply warrants. The young alatus, hatching from the eggs, wander about, destroying the young bark and wood feeders. If they lived the peaceful life and did not migrate, the result would be disastrous. They would destroy all the bark and wood feeders (which to their species are as sheep and swine and cattle are to man)—a necessary source of sustenance, and worse than this, they would destroy all their food supply before any of them had become strong enough to leave the tree trunk and seek food elsewhere.

Cannibalism becomes the logical expedient. Whenever two young alatus encounter there is a fight to the death and the victor devours the slain. Encounters are frequent in proportion to number of individuals, and it ends by the survival of no more of them than enough to destroy the superfluous wood feeders. Plenty of the wood feeders survive to perpetuate their race—just as we should if that the breeding stock of cattle shall not be destroyed.

TURN from insects to plants. Go into the Canadian forests of fir and spruce and find there the ground covered with young seedlings of the older trees. They live for one or two years; or one in a million, perhaps, struggles on for a longer period. But unless the older trees meet with disaster, thus making room for their offspring, all are destroyed. By what? By nothing but auto-cannibalism. Light and food are denied them by their own parents, and they are as certainly destroyed as if a human mother refused air or nourishment to her children.

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE?



Change in the New York Evening Post.

YOU CAN HURRY BIOLOGY

By WILLIAM F. FISKE of the Bureau of Entomology of the Department of Agriculture

UNDER the heading "You Can't Hurry Biology," in the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER of June 20, "C. D. M." reviews the opinions of Dr. Robert T. Morris, as expressed in Doctor Morris's book, "The Way Out of War." One paragraph in C. D. M.'s review is as follows: "It is a fundamental law of nature that any species which does not breed its own species if it is to survive. Bears do not kill other bears, and neither do the wolf eat the wolf. Other dogs of the same breed, there may be of course, accidental exceptions. But, man, as a species, is engaged in a struggle against his own kind, and he is killing his own kind."

THIS is very pretty—but is it true? Unfortunately for argument based upon it, it is not true. On the contrary a species which does not "prey" upon itself in times of stress is, generally speaking, unfit to survive.

THIS does not mean open warfare, necessarily, as we practice it. It means that individuals of the species fittest to survive and to occupy positions of dominance over others must on occasion destroy, without pity or mercy, other individuals of their own species. Destruction may be wrought in many ways. The bear or fox or lion or leopard adults do not engage in open warfare, perhaps, but there is good reason to believe that such creatures more or less habitually destroy, and perhaps devour, their own progeny in the event that the food supply is inadequate.

Among other things affected by the war is the palm-leaf fan industry. The leaves from which the fans are made come from China, but cargo space is in such demand and freight rates are so high that few of the leaves now reach this country. In 1915 China exported 16,571 packages of palm leaves to the United States; in 1917 only 157 packages were sent. This means that the business is suspended. Should the war continue the old-fashioned palm-leaf fan may become valuable as a relic. Meanwhile the electric fan, which has grown rapidly in American favor, is likely to enjoy a boom—Troy Times.

A SMILE FROM YOU

A SMILE from you is all I ask. To glorify my daily task. The skies may weep, the winds may wail. All outward founts of joy may fail. All costlier graces be denied. The morn for me is beautified. For just a smile from you may bring. The birds and blossoms of the spring. Within my heart to sing and bloom; May scatter sunbeams round my room; May touch the fringes of the mist. And turn its gray to amethyst. Throughout the hours, it well may be. Your thoughts not oft will stray to me. From morning's lull I ask of you. Not morningshine till evening dew. But as you pass me on your way. Give me a sunny smile today. —Lillian Leveridge; in "Over the Hills and Home."

NOYON'S BETSY ROSS

WHEN America joined the Allies Noyon wanted to "demonstrate." Noyon wanted to hang out our flag from the old town hall, as did a Gothic-Renaissance town hall as any in the land. Unhappily, M. Noel, the Mayor, would not let us do this. The Germans had been out of the place only a few weeks, so he called in a French Betsy Ross, who did her very best. Red, white and blue, it was, with thirteen stripes, but stars are not so easy. So the American flag hung from the Hotel de Ville was striped, but starless; and when an American ambulance man, coasting down in his Ford from the new France, saw the flag, he said: "very nice, as an antique furniture man craving about New England with a buggy and a Morgan mare might, a few years since, have traded a brand-new maple suite for some Maine farmer's old mahogany."

Like the spirit that made the Mayor and Noyon's Betsy Ross go to all their trouble, it means something to hang out a flag that you have had to cut out and sew yourself, after you found the cloth. But they were willing to take trouble, those people at Noyon—for they have a certain sentiment about American flags. They remember the gray days when the "commission for relief in Belgium" was serving Noyon. No doubt British and French funds had more to do with making possible the victualling of northern France under the German occupation than our money did, but it was Americans who actually handed out the beans. So when America entered the war we were already old friends to Noyon. They meant it when they spread our flag to the breeze at their fifteenth century Hotel de Ville—Barton, Blake, in the Springfield Republican.

What Do You Know?

- 1. Where is Camp Quiz?
2. Name the author of "Cranford."
3. What is the capital of Vermont?
4. What is the decimal system?
5. Identify "The Good Gray Post."
6. Who is president of Princeton University?
7. What is meant by "Pterian spring"?
8. What President of the United States was a dilettante in the East?
9. When was the Spanish-American War?
10. What religious denomination was concerned in the founding of Pennsylvania?

Answers to Saturday's Quiz

- 1. Montello Plateau, a strategically valuable point in the Italian Alps, was captured by the Allies on June 22.
2. Keenleyside, in the military sense, that portion of an army in order of battle stationed near the front, used as a reserve, and ready to re-enforce or relieve the front line.
3. "What Maie Knew," a novel by Henry James, an author born in America, but who lived in England.
4. "The Blind Bard," a name applied to Homer among classical authors and some times to Milton.
5. Runes, characters in the primitive Teutonic and Germanic alphabets, were used as an utterly mystical or magic.
6. Dr. Frank A. Goodnow is president of Johns Hopkins University.
7. Classon, in spoken language a film showing a new view of an individual or situation.
8. Tschelchewsky, Mikailo-Nikolaevich, was one of the three noted composers of the Russian school.
9. The title he would have.
10. Practise to the best of your ability.