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A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 28

Do good around you; preach what you believe to be the truth; and act accordingly; then go through life looking forward.

OFFICIAL SHORTCOMINGS

WHEN the City Council granted permission to a private corporation to construct an overhead bridge across a city street contrary to the recommendation of the Planning Commission it not only violated those ethics of official courtesy recognized everywhere, but manifestly acted without serious regard for the public welfare.

The incident will not down in the public mind quite so readily as the commissioners profess to believe. Their careless attitude in a matter so important as this invasion of the rights of the general public indicates a further weakening of that fabric of civic betterment which has constituted the best safeguard of the city's welfare. Indifference and defiance and arbitrary exercise of official power usually precede an awakening of the people and it can hardly be imagined that the commissioners will escape the condemnation of their utter disregard of the interests of the city in this case.

Furthermore, the granting of permission to span a main street with an overhead bridge to connect sections of a business plan is held to be illegal and being indefensible from that standpoint it is clearly the duty of the Council to revoke its grant while it may yet be done without hardship to the corporation in question.

As to the Planning Commission, it has increased in favor with the community and in the confidence of the people. Without compensation, directly or indirectly, this body of five public-spirited citizens has labored to improve housing conditions and otherwise to plan in a broad and intelligent way for the future of Harrisburg. In protesting against this obstruction of a public highway the board has again manifested an admirable application of the future needs of the city and a fine grasp of all the points involved in the controversy. Let the members be assured that the public is not without insight and that what sometimes looks like indifference of the people most concerned is merely a long-suffering patience.

Out in Oregon, the Democrats organized what they called the "Woodrow Wilson Nonpartisan League," but it was so completely under the control of Democrats that it aroused the jeers of people of all parties. The promoters finally became convinced of the failure of their attempted deception and abandoned the organization. Now they are sailing under true colors as a Democratic league. It is an example the pretended "Nonpartisan" Democrats might well follow all over the country. They are fooling no one but themselves.

TRIFLING WITH FACTS

SECRETARY M'ADOO refuses to discuss the dismissal of Appraiser Clapp from the New York custom house in order to make a place for the son of "Battery Dan" Finn. Hughes is "merely pettifogging," exclaims the Secretary, rather petulantly. This airy manner of dismissing matters of grave import is characteristic of Mr. McAdoo. Some months ago when ex-Senator Bourne charged that there was no real "net available balance" in the Treasury and proceeded to prove it by the certified statement of the accountant who devised the original form of Treasury statement which Mr. McAdoo introduced, McAdoo waved his hand and said: "The charge is too ridiculous to discuss."

But matters of this sort are not so easily disposed of. Charges of this kind must be met—and refuted, if possible. It is probably because they cannot be refuted that Mr. McAdoo seeks to brush them aside without discussion.

Bainbridge Colby, one of the few Progressives who have embraced Wilson, says that he favors the continuance of this administration because of the record it has made. Two years ago Colby was lambasting this administration for its record in the matter of the Panama Canal tolls. However, politicians have short memories—though the people have not.

FOR MISSOURI'S BENEFIT

THE proposal to make Wallace Bassford, of Missouri, the successor to Daniel C. Roper, who has resigned as Assistant Postmaster General to help in the Wilson campaign, looks like a political deal of no small magnitude. Bassford is Champ Clark's nephew and now serves the Speaker as private

secretary. His preference may serve to mollify Clark; it will show the Democrats of Missouri that the administration is thinking of them once more, and in the remote chance that Wilson is re-elected Roper can take back his old job and Bassford can return to Champ Clark's payroll. Friends of the President was hot with indignation when anyone intimates that the President is giving thought to political matters while Congress is in session; but Wilson himself is constantly furnishing evidence that he is giving thought to nothing but politics.

Mount Etna is reported to be again in full eruption and Jim Ham Lewis is about to take the stump. This is to be a hard summer on both sides of the water.

THE HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

THE recommendations of the new high school committee of the school board represent the careful consideration and mature thought of two outside experts and a delegation of school officials thoroughly familiar with local conditions and needs. It merits the careful reading of every voter.

We must have additional high school facilities. It remains only to decide whether they are to be provided by bond issue or from current revenue.

The school board assumes the public that it can float the \$1,190,000 loan required without increasing the tax rate of the present year. If the loan is not approved in November, it is extremely likely that the board will have to take other measures to provide relief, and while the directors are silent on that subject the probability is that even temporary facilities could not be made without adding another mill or a fraction thereof to the tax rate.

Obviously the thing to do is to approve the loan. Every child in the city is being robbed of rightful advantages by our present one-session high school plan, with its overcrowded teachers and its overcrowded rooms. That is a condition which any city with proper regard for its future citizens or pride in itself cannot permit to continue long.

Further than that, however, the lack of proper school facilities in Harrisburg is directly retarding the growth of the city, and every newcomer who is turned away from our doors by reason of dissatisfaction with our educational system means a direct loss to the real estate business and to every other line of trade that supplies the family or the individual. The Telegraph has personal knowledge of at least seven such losses and doubtless that number could be multiplied many times.

Beyond question there are many not directly interested by reason of having children at or near the high school age who do not appreciate the importance of this high school question. To bring these to a full and complete understanding of the situation the school board should lose no time in beginning a campaign of public education on the subject. The full publicity should be given to every point at issue. The period is brief at best and no time should be lost in setting the matter before the people.

RUMANIA GOES IN

THE entrance of Rumania into the war against Germany, announced in press dispatches of to-day, may be, and very likely will prove to be, the deciding factor in the great contest at arms.

In many ways Rumania is a great asset to the allied governments. In the first place, it has a well-trained and equipped army of 320,000, which can be increased without serious drain on the empire to nearly a million men able to bear arms, and all of them of military experience. These troops unquestionably will be a great help to the Allies in their Balkan campaign, but far more important than this addition to the arms of the opponents of Germany and Austria is the door that Rumania will open to the Russians into Austria and the food supply that will be turned from the central powers to Russia, France and England.

Rumania is a land of fertile plains and gently rolling fields, upon which vast quantities of wheat, rye and corn are raised. Millions of bushels of these grains are exported every year and crops are excellent in that rain-favored country this season.

Through Rumania into Austria-Hungary, with a food supply ready made and waiting along the way, the Russian armies may be depended upon to make a new strike that will have the double purpose of taking German and Austrian soldiers by hundreds of thousands from the present fronts and of attempting an invasion along a line that promises better results than the attacks that have been made through Poland, especially so since the autumn in Rumania are long and pleasant, thus adding to the length of this year's campaign.

Further than that, the opening of Rumania will result in large quantities of grain finding their way to outside markets.

Rumania may well be the last straw on the back of the Teutonic camel.

PRICES GO UP

THE Louisiana Purchase, from which we later formed an empire of sovereign States, cost us \$15,000,000. We paid only \$7,000,000 for Alaska; for California and what is now New Mexico we gave \$15,000,000; for the Philippines we paid \$20,000,000. The Wilson administration now proposes to give \$25,000,000 for the Danish West Indies. What has caused the boom in the international price of real estate? Is some "deserving Democrat" getting a rake-off?

REDFIELD AND DURAND

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE REDFIELD denied that he forced the resignation of E. Dana Durand, Director of the Census, and asserted that he recommended Durand for the position he now occupies. Now he asserts that if Durand had not

resigned he would have been put out for inefficiency. There you have an example of inconsistency true to the Wilson type.

If Durand were deemed inefficient, how could Redfield honorably recommend him for the position he now holds? If he were about to put him out, why deny that he let him resign? As a matter of fact, a letter of recommendation from Redfield in favor of Durand would be a masterpiece of humor.

There has not been a day since Redfield became known to the country in 1913 when Durand's reputation for ability could be increased by any number of letters Redfield could write. Nor can Redfield hurt that reputation.

Trade Briefs

Half of last year's orange crop from the Malaga district Spain, went to London. The crop amounted to 100,000 boxes.

Bolivian merchants are interested in portable houses, school furniture, barbed wire, wire mosquito netting and wireless field installations.

There is a market for wheat, sugar, coal and sulphate of copper in the Malaga district, Spain.

Finnish capitalists are financing a new line of steamships to make direct sailings from Finnish to South American ports.

It is rumored that Germany has manufactured \$1,500,000,000 worth of supplies since the beginning of the war, and is only waiting for the close of hostilities to put them upon the market.

The Bureau of Fisheries has discovered a method for increasing the crop of mussel shells. The natural beds in the Mississippi valley have been badly depleted in the last few years.

It has been discovered that Datura alba a plant growing in abundance throughout the States, contains a large amount of atropine. The plant is not cultivated on the islands, but American drug manufacturers are ordering large quantities of the leaves. Copper has been used in Alaska's shipments to this country in the fiscal year 1916 reaching a total of 117,000,000 pounds valued at \$26,500,000.

Argentina's rice crop for 1916 promises to be a record one. The Government has provided for its milling.

Gas plants in several of the smaller Italian cities have been forced to shut down because of the shortage of coal. Norwegian waters are rich in American hardware and Consul Charles Forman suggests that American exporters establish agencies in Bergen or Christiania.

Greece is in the market for typewriter supplies. White pine suitable for making butter boxes, is needed in New Zealand. The domestic supply of white pine is rapidly becoming exhausted.

Purveyor to the World

[From the Providence Journal.] Now loading at Montreal is the first ship for the Norwegian merchant marine built on the Great Lakes. She is the Nordal, of 3,000 tons burden. With the report of her sailing from Chicago comes the interesting information that she is one of thirty vessels in the course of construction in American yards for Norwegian firms.

Once again the disturbing truth forces itself forward. We do for others the things that we should be doing for ourselves. We build ships for foreign countries, and let our flag trail the sea.

While our arsenals are empty, or nearly so, we make tons on tons of munitions to supply all of the warring nations that can charter ships to carry them away.

Our army aeroplanes make three-day trips to Europe and yet we build the biggest and most modern flying machines for any country that has the money to pay for them.

We are like the woman who was always so busy helping her neighbors that she never had time to build her own house in order. We lead the world in many things—where we could lead it in many more things if we would follow. We have everything to put us several miles ahead of the procession, and we are content to take the dust of our rivals.

Birds and Mankind

[From the Chicago Journal.] The federal government is investigating birds from a view to discovering whether they are harmful or helpful to mankind. Of forty or fifty species, exclusive of hawks and owls, thus far put through this scientific third degree, only one has been found harmful—the English sparrow. All other birds of the group mentioned are either innocuous or helpful, and many of them are worth well nigh their weight in gold to the farmer and fruit raiser. Of hawks and owls there are seventy-five species found in this country, only six of which are injurious. The rest either do no harm at all, or more than make up for occasional depredations by their services in keeping down vermin.

Precautions Against Heat

[From the New York Herald.] In spite of the accustomedness to heat which makes the feeling of oppression less, more than fewer precautions against heat are headed toward the end of the summer. There has been a gradual reduction of resistive vitality. Above all, care must be exercised in the preservation of food materials for young and old. Spoiled foods start many a fatal decline. All our readers need the warning in the matter, and those who are in a position to take the lesson should not forget to be helpful to those less favorably situated. The Herald Free Ice Fund probably represents the simplest and most direct method of offering such help.

Dove From Missouri

Senator Ben Tillman having been convinced that the war is over, the matter may be considered as finally settled.—Washington Post.

Hard Knot to Untie

(Wheeling Intelligencer) Tammany has said to the Democratic campaign managers, "Show us or we will show you." Either way it goes Mr. Wilson will get a pig in a poke.

Too Bad, But We're Willing

(London Spectator) The poor have so little sympathy for the rich! They have never lived among them, and they do not know what they suffer.

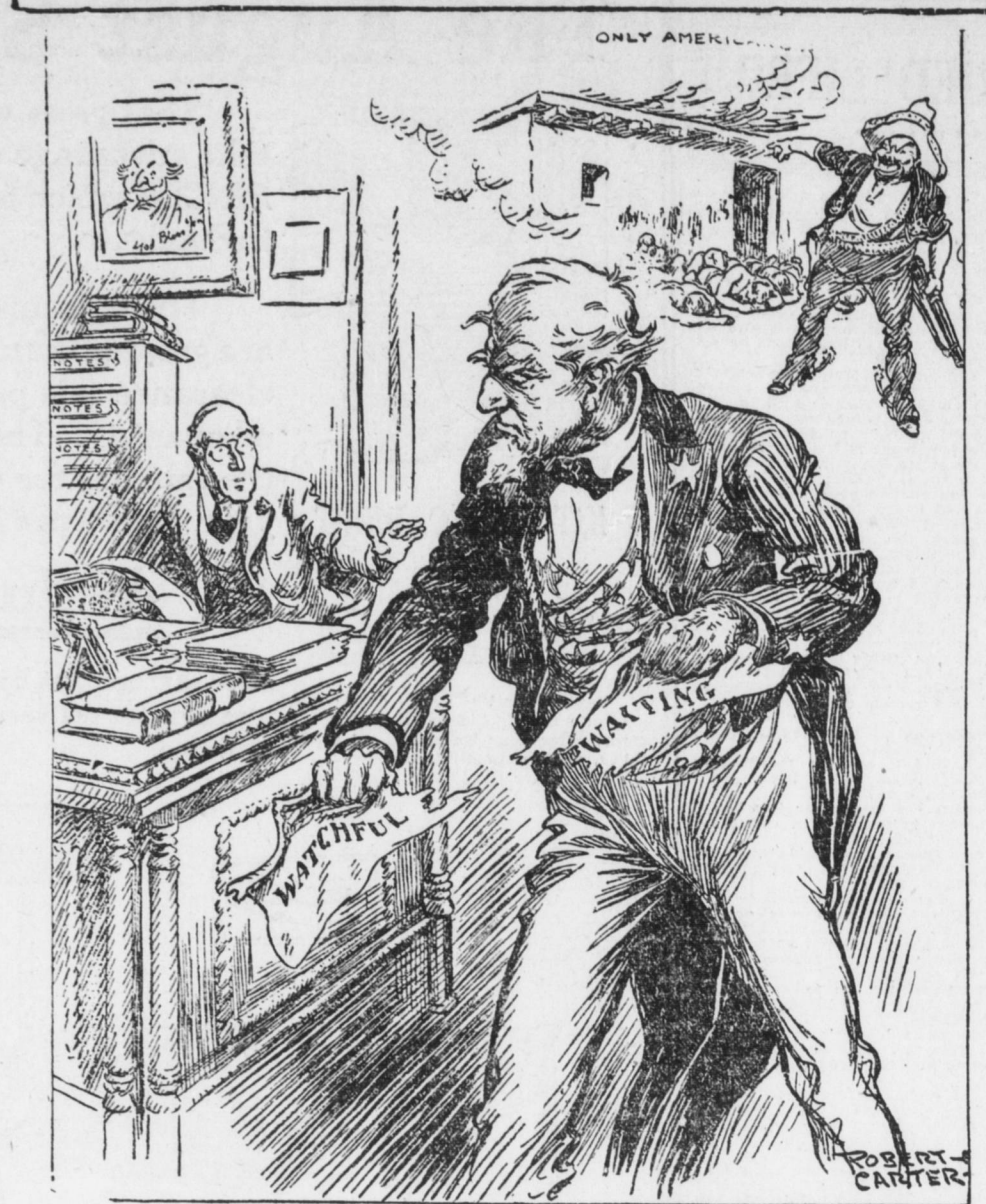
EVERY YEAR

By Wing Ding

Ma holds first home, with the kiddies Up at our place, but gee, That's the way it is in most homes— That's the way it ought to be. But each year about this season, Dad takes first place and his nights For a time are given up to Making many styles of kites.

Thin wood strips, one can't help splitting. When one tries to drive a tack Through them to construct the frame-work, Past that will not stick, slack; Paper thin that turns to pikes With the slightest handling, but Dad sticks to it till successful, And winds up a hopeless nut.

THE CARTOON OF THE DAY



CARTER, in New York Evening Sun

"I've had enough of it!"

TELEGRAPH PERISCOPE

—Edison and Ford are spending their vacations together and the outcome may be a new peace plan or an improved submarine, or both.

—"You can't buy a decent pair of shoes now under \$5," says a trades journal. Then we plead guilty to association with a very disreputable pair of shoes.

—Says a fashion note: "Hips are soon to emerge." Heavens, we didn't think they'd make the skirts as short as that.

—According to the Ohio State Journal, Colonel Roosevelt is at home "thinking up spontaneous epigrams," yes, and we bet President Wilson wishes he'd stop.

—Says an exchange: "Finer grades of sugar have been reduced in price." Reduced to about three cents a pound higher than they were before the philanthropic Mr. Underwood introduced his high cost of living tariff.

Commission Cheaply Held

[From the New York Times.] Never has the advice of a tariff commission been effective. There is no new way of making a tariff. The present tariff proposals, whatever their merit, have been reached in the old bad way of closest negotiations, with resultant benefit to producers in the name of patriotism, but at the cost of consumers, and without benefit to wage-earners. It would be easy to argue for or against a tariff commission upon theory, but it is not possible to sustain on the merits congress' treatment of the subject. Practically, notice is given in advance that the commission contemplated is held so cheap that the investment in it is waste, except for the incidental political benefits.

EXCEPT A CORN OF WHEAT

In the face of the many and frequent assertions that organic church union is impossible comes the steady stream of information from Canada that up there an actual organic denominational union is being effected. Three great churches of Canada—the Methodist, the Congregational and the Presbyterian—have taken positive steps to bring this union to pass. The most recent action was that of the Presbyterian General Assembly of Canada, which voted 406 to 85 in favor of the union.

The three denominations thus merging their identity have seven hundred and fifty thousand members, more than six thousand churches, ten thousand preaching stations, and five thousand ministers. They claim a constituency of more than two million adherents, and disburse yearly, in addition to the funds applied to the upkeep of the million-dollar for missions, education and other benevolences.

The new church is to be known as the United Church of Canada. This means of course, that each of the three denominations will, upon the consummation of the union, actually lose its identity, its very existence. In the midst of the horrible spectacle of worldwide selfishness and strife it is a blisful thing to behold these great Christian denominations demonstrating that they are willing to die in order that a greater church may be born.—The Christian Herald.

Prepare For This

When we contemplate industrial and commercial conditions we see that we are living in a fool's paradise. The temporary prosperity to which our opponents point has been created by the abnormal conditions of the war. With the end of the war there will be a new Europe. Millions of men in the trenches will then return to work. The energies of each of the now belligerent nations, highly trained, will then be turned to production.—Charles E. Hughes.

HOW ABOUT JAPAN?

Our Lost Manchurian Trade By Frederic J. Haskin

JAPAN'S course in Manchuria affords an excellent opportunity to study Japanese business methods. Those methods concern Americans because they have driven American commerce from the position it had built up in the Manchurian field, because they are about to be turned against American commerce in other fields, and because they cast an illuminating sidelight on Japan's cry of a "Monroe Doctrine for Asia."

Under a recent annual report, the American Association of China reviewed the situation. "Turning now from trade in general to some particular considerations," says the report, "the means taken appear to be a departure from fair trading. In fact, they constitute a most serious violation of the open door principle on which the diplomacy of the United States in China is based. Under Russian domination, every nation stood on an equal footing in Manchuria. The same duties and charges were assessed against all and facilities for distributing goods and doing business in general were satisfactory. Now it is all changed. Under Japanese administration, no chance to advance its trade is overlooked and to competitors the means taken appear to be a departure from fair trading. In fact, they constitute a most serious violation of the open door principle on which the diplomacy of the United States in China is based. Under Russian domination, every nation stood on an equal footing in Manchuria. 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