

THE FOOD EMBARGO TO STARVE GERMANY

Control of export was given the government several days ago, when the Senate finally approved the administration espionage bill with its embargo clause.

The measure required only the President's signature to put in the hands of the executive the weapon by which it is intended to stop supplies from entering Germany through neutral countries, and he did it.

With this measure, which means the real effective blockade of Germany, President Wilson not only recognizes the fact that the neutral countries are not our friends, as they demonstrated very clearly by refusing to align themselves on the side of the United States, but it means, too, that the embargo is the first and mighty blow this country will give to Germany in her willingness to wage war against ruthless submarine campaign. It is high time that all neutrals should know that whoever is not with us is against us. More than any other step, this one of the food embargo and limitations of shipping to the neutral countries can be retained as proof of co-operation of America with the Entente.

We must not forget that President Wilson offered to all neutrals the opportunity to break their neutrality and courageously denounce the savagery of the submarine campaign. He gave to them good advices and time enough for consideration and reflection. To strike Germany and her allies the President did not hesitate to strike the so-called neutrals when they, with their refusal to break with Germany, showed the most egotistic and selfish disposition so detrimental to the interests of the Entente.

That refusal was judged as a

failure of Wilson's policy, but now it appears clear that the President's policy was not rash, but the fruit of a clear vision of the great struggle embracing not European motives alone, but world-wide motives.

The problem was amply discussed in England and France. There Mr. Tardieu explained how necessary were the enforcements of a complete blockade of Germany through the neutrals.

Today Mr. Tardieu is in Washington and no doubt he has had some influence in the actual decision voted by the Senate and sanctioned by the President's signature.

Now it is absolutely necessary that this resolution of the United States be solidified by unanimous co-operation from all the Entente nations, so that Germany and her Allies find themselves closed by a barrier, so tight that nothing could pass to help them.

It is the exile of the world; it is the interdiction from life that must strike our enemies.

No doubt the embargo voted by the American Senate is the best proof of solidarity given by the United States to the valiant fighters in the trenches.

Card of Thanks

On behalf of the relatives of Antonio Liporati, of Clymer, whose funeral was held in Blairsville on Sunday, 24, the relatives of the deceased in this manner wish to thank the United Mine Workers of Clymer for attending the funeral in Blairsville.

JOE MADONNA.

Best stores advertise in The Patriot.

WARMING A SERPENT

By F. A. MITCHEL

In the middle of the nineteenth century the Mississippi river was a thoroughfare for palatial steamboats plying between the south and the northwest. In those days the western people were more prone to gamble than now, and these steamers were used by professional "blacklegs," who reaped a rich harvest from confiding persons who were enticed by various schemes to play.

One morning several young men from St. Louis were standing about a table at which sat a professional gambler and a rawboned countryman from the interior of Missouri. The onlookers were friends and had often played a friendly gentlemen's game of poker together at each other's home and prided themselves on being exceedingly skillful thereat. They noticed that the gambler was purposely losing his money to the greenhorn, evidently with the intention of drawing him on to play for higher stakes, when he would take all the cash his opponent possessed. Presently the two were notified that the tables must be set for dinner, and they were obliged to cease playing, the gambler exacting a promise that he would be given a chance for revenge during the afternoon.

The party of St. Louisans knew well that the countryman would be cleaned out and regretted to see him made a victim. One of them was deputed to go to him and explain the gambler's game. The countryman was not convinced. At any rate, he declared that he had passed the word of a Missourian to give the man whose money he had won his revenge and he would keep the promise.

Then his would be benefactors concluded that they would ask him to play a small game with them before sitting down with the gambler, desiring to win his money and hand it back to him, exacting his promise not to risk it again to any one during the trip. He said that he had promised to play with the man whose money he had won during the morning, but had not promised to play with any one else before doing so; therefore he felt that it would be honorable for him to accept the invitation.

As soon as the dinner dishes were cleared away the St. Louisans and the countryman sat down at a table and began their game. While they were at it the gambler came along and, seeing that his victim had been taken from him, berated him soundly. The countryman excused himself on the ground that he would give the gambler his revenge before the afternoon had passed, and the St. Louisans volunteered to give him up at 4 o'clock p. m. This did not allay the gambler's ire, and for a time it was feared that there would be a fight between him and the Missourian. However, the gambler finally quieted and left the party, saying that he should expect his revenge from the other at 4 o'clock.

The St. Louisans did not proceed to win the greenhorn's money all at once, fearing to frighten him off before they had saved it all for him. They permitted him to win several pots, then glanced at one another the signal to begin operations at once. They intended to play a fair game, believing that they could by skill accomplish their object.

But about the time they were ready to win the man's money he became possessed of several remarkable hands. With tens full on aces he won a pot of \$50, the next highest hand being full sevens on queens. Then he took a large jack pot with four deuces. Before the St. Louisans were aware of how the game was going he had taken over \$200 from them. From this their loss ran up to \$500, and the countryman was still winning.

The men who had taken pity on the countryman began to feel that they had warmed a serpent in their bosoms. Where the man's splendid hands came from they could not divine. But he did not always need good hands to win. Whenever he bet high even if he held low cards, he always overtopped the others.

Soon after he sat down to play a man who looked like one of the passengers loitered by and stopped to have a look at the game. As it progressed he seemed to be more and more interested in it and maintained his position, which was always behind one of the St. Louisans, never behind the countryman. Suddenly one of the former threw down his hand, saying:

"I reckon we've had enough of this, boys. I'm going to quit."

From his manner his friends were satisfied that he had discovered something wrong, and all rose from the table, leaving the countryman some \$1,500 winner. When they were out of hearing of their intended beneficiary the man who had cried enough was asked what had caused him to do so.

"That fellow who stood over us and was so interested in the game had a mirror under his coat, and when he wished to show our opponent the hand of any of us he would move his coat lapel just enough to do so. His success made him incautious, and finally I caught him."

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Your Own Career.

"You may be whatever you resolve to be." That was the motto of Stonewall Jackson, who died a lieutenant general at thirty-nine. The meteoric soldier found that sticking everlastingly at it was what put the solve in resolve. Stonewall's maxim means that you can do what you try to do if you try hard enough. Mr. Favre found that out forty years ago when against obstacles supreme and penalties of \$1,000 a day for failure he pierced the St. Gothard tunnel through the Alps. That stupendous work cost eight times the original estimates of ten millions, but it was done, and done to the everlasting glory of human pluck.—Girard in Philadelphia Ledger.

KINDNESS.

When we consider the results it brings I wonder why it is we are not all kinder than we are. How easily it is done! How instantaneously it acts! How infallibly it is remembered!—Drummond.

Passing Counterfeits.

Johnny—Say, papa, passing counterfeit money is unlawful, isn't it? Papa—Yes, Johnny—Well, papa, if a man was walking along the street and saw a ten dollar counterfeit bill upon the sidewalk and did not pick it up wouldn't he be guilty of passing counterfeit money, and couldn't he be arrested and put in jail? Papa—More likely the lunatic asylum. Now you may go to bed, my son.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Got His Dose Later.

Mr. Courtney (flatteringly)—I had the blues awfully when I came here tonight, Miss Fisher, but they are all gone now. You are as good as medicine. Miss Fisher's Little Brother—Yes; father himself says she'll be a drug on the market if she doesn't catch on to some fellow soon.

Quick Work.

"That editor is terribly slow at reading manuscript."

"Think so? Why, I know the time he went through twelve stories in less than a minute."

"Gracious! When was that?"
"When the elevator broke."—Philadelphia Press.

An Individual Preference.

"What's your favorite animal?"
"A goldfish," replied Mr. Meekton.
"It doesn't sing or have to be put out of the house at night."—Washington Star.

"And what is your favorite game, my little man?" asked the friend of the family.

"Oh, any game mother thinks is too rough for me to play," replied the little man.—Philadelphia Record.

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