

willingness to consider details. The nations, in the order in which they have accepted, are: Italy, Great Britain, France, Brazil, Sweden, Norway, Peru, Russia and Japan. To those expressing a willingness to confer in regard to details a tentative statement has been submitted embodying details suggested by the president—this statement being submitted for consideration, however, with no intention of insisting upon any particular detail. The exact phraseology of the agreements may not be the same in all cases. If the principle is indorsed the government is willing to confer with open mind as to minor points.

#### A GROUNDLESS OBJECTION

Judge Gary, president of the steel trust, is reported as saying: "The proposition to assess the incomes of men who have incomes of more than \$4,000, and exempting the incomes of those who receive less than \$4,000 per annum, is one of the worst things that has ever happened in this country, because it arrays 97 per cent of the people against 3 per cent of the people."

It is strange that a man intelligent enough to be president of a great corporation can ignore the fact that under present methods the 3 per cent are arrayed against the 97 per cent and have been for years. For a generation the poor man has been made to bear more than his share of the burdens of the government through taxes levied upon consumption. Judge Gary has never complained of this, but has heartily used his great influence to keep those taxes up.

Every tax must be paid out of the income of the man who pays it and is, therefore, an income tax. All these years the poor have been paying an income tax—not only an income tax, but a graded income tax, the percentage being heavier, as a rule, in proportion as the income was smaller.

The exemption of \$4,000 is intended to equalize taxation and to distribute the burdens with a nearer approach to equity. And yet, when this attempt is made, it is denounced as "one of the worst things that has ever happened in this country."

Surely, men like Judge Gary are blind not to see the justice of the income tax, and their blindness is the more astonishing when it is remembered that they have not only been escaping the burden that they ought to bear, but have, many of them, been the recipients of privileges and favors which never ought to have been granted.

However, Judge Gary's lament will not avail, and even he may yet catch the spirit of the times and join with the increasing number of the well-to-do in indorsing the progressive measures which are bringing the people into their own.

#### A PRIVATE (?) AFFAIR

On another page will be found an editorial from the New York World calling attention to a criticism of the Wilson administration from a railroad president. He is reported as saying:

"Investigation of wages is not the government's business. The question of the relation of employer to employee is one that must be settled among themselves."

The railroad president referred to is one who belongs to a decreasing group of corporation officials, among whom the idea is still prevalent that corporations are purely private institutions except when favors are to be secured. When they are asking for something, they clamor for privileges and when they do so, they bring forth arguments in abundance to establish the public character of the corporation. But this public character entirely disappears if the public becomes curious enough to inquire into the methods of the corporation.

Corporations also claim and enjoy the protection of the government, even to the extent of asking that the army be called to protect their property; when they are not in absolute need of the government's services, they resent any inquiry by the public into their treatment of employes.

Most of the corporation heads have come to understand that no corporate person created by the government is greater than the government itself, and that the government can no more be indifferent to the conduct of the creatures which it brings into existence than can the parent be indifferent to the conduct of his child.

But let us rejoice that the kind of interview to which the World calls attention is not so frequent now as it used to be and will disappear entirely within a generation. In the meantime the government, acting through its watchful

secretary of commerce, Mr. Redfield, will keep its eye on the corporations and see to it that they do not use coercion to frighten the public away from remedial legislation.

#### PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE

War is a matter of feeling rather than a matter of logic. It can not settle anything that could not be better settled in a better way. There is no more reason why nations should fight out their differences on the battlefield than that individuals should settle their differences by physical force. If there is such a thing as a sense of justice, and we can not doubt it without inviting chaos, the substitution of might only delays the final settlement, which must come at last with accumulated interest. As nations differ greatly in size and strength, it is obvious that war can not be relied upon to establish justice any more than a fight between two individuals can be relied upon to determine which is in the right.

Personal altercations have been decreased in number by the establishment of courts and courts have grown in value as men have learned to restrain themselves. We are coming to understand the truth stated in holy writ, namely, "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." The conquest over the evil impulse in one's self is the greatest of conquests.

The growth in the arbitration of disputes among nations keeps pace with the growth of courts in influence, and with growing intelligence, coupled with development of the heart, the dominant forces in nations, move toward a peaceful solution of international problems. It was a step in advance when duelling was substituted for shooting on sight, duelling giving time for reflection and for friends to intercede, but even duelling is passing away because physical encounters offend the universal conscience.

The plan recently proposed by President Wilson contemplates investigation in all cases, and is a step toward the substitution of reason for violence, although it leaves each party to act independently at the conclusion of investigation. It is a long step toward peace because it gives time for passions to subside and for friends of peace to intercede. The time will doubtless come when all questions will be settled peaceably by means of arbitration, but as that time is not yet here we are justified in making use of the plan providing for investigation of all difficulties of whatever character.

The peace movement will move forward, in all countries, not at a uniform pace, but surely. The future is on our side; the cause can not fail.

#### JAPAN IS FOR PEACE

Japan is the ninth nation to accept the proposed peace plan. The following is an Associated Press dispatch from Washington under date of June 2:

"Viscount Chinda, the ambassador from Japan, late today called on Secretary Bryan with formal notification that Japan had accepted in principle the proposed plan advanced by the United States for universal peace.

"Signatories of the treaty proposed in Mr. Bryan's plan would agree to refrain from hostilities for a period of at least nine months while any conflicting claims were under consideration by an international joint commission. In the case of Japan, as well as the eight other nations that have received the proposal favorably, the response applies solely to the general principle involved, and none has committed itself to approval of any of the details of the project. Therefore, it may be many months before the tentative draft of the convention which Mr. Bryan submitted to the various embassies and legations can be reduced to a form which will receive their unqualified approval.

"The statement by the Japanese ambassador that his government was prepared to give careful and favorable consideration to the peace proposal has no bearing whatever upon the negotiations now in progress between the two countries regarding the California alien land legislation. During his call upon Mr. Bryan this afternoon the ambassador discussed this subject from various angles for half an hour, but without any definite developments."

They say that there is a powerful lobby at Washington trying to prevent the passage of the tariff bill. Why not compel the lobbyist at Washington to wear a uniform that will identify them so that senators and members of the house will be ashamed to be seen in company with them?

#### CUBA AND THE UNITED STATES

General Menocal, the new president of Cuba, is an ardent friend of the United States and in an interview with a correspondent for the Boston Traveler General Menocal said:

"I shall try to draw closer the friendly ties which bind our republic to the United States. Trade relations will be cultivated, and favors granted to American products in proportion as our products are received in the northern market.

"Affairs during my administration will be conducted in such a manner as to earn the confidence and support of the American people. I shall work earnestly for the development of Cuba and her resources, and foreign investments will be welcomed for all legitimate purposes.

"Cuba will conduct herself as to merit the confidence of her northern friends and will demonstrate beyond question her right to independence."

President Menocal's kind words find a responsive note in the hearts of the people of the United States. From every section of this great country of ours come best wishes for Cuba's prosperity. Good health and long life to the talented and patriotic man recently inaugurated president of Cuba. Good fortune to the Cuban government, and may it be in fact a government of, by and for the people of that splendid island.

#### WILLIAM SULZER

William Sulzer, of New York, is winning golden opinions from men of all political parties for his splendid fight in behalf of direct primaries in the state of New York. During all of his public career William Sulzer has displayed keen sympathy for everything that gave promise of genuine progress in the cause of popular government. It is not possible for a man in public life to accomplish all he would like to accomplish or to move as quickly as some of his friends would have him move, but Governor Sulzer has done well and he will do better for he is, in truth, a man of the people, and no one will be able to swerve him from what he really believes to be the proper course for the public good.

#### A STORY OF MRS. WILSON

A pretty story is told by the Washington correspondent for the Associated Press in this way: The sympathy and charity of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson were demonstrated, it leaked out recently, by an unannounced and unostentatious visit a few days ago by "the first lady of the land" direct from the White House to the bedside of a poor boy dying of tuberculosis. Dr. Corty Grayson, naval surgeon and aide to the president, who spends spare moments caring for the sick of the poor, told the president's wife of a particularly distressing case while discussing the remedy which Dr. F. F. Friedmann claims he has discovered for the cure of tuberculosis. Dr. Grayson said he knew the little fellow was in the last stages of consumption, and though there was little hope he was trying to prolong his life. Mrs. Wilson was touched. Collecting a bunch of spring flowers from the garden of the president, she accompanied Dr. Grayson in a White House automobile to the home of the unfortunate boy in the poor district of the national capital. Neighbors spread the news of the visit.

#### A MAN'S BARGAIN

If I cry out for fellowship,  
A comrade's voice, a comrade's grip,  
A hand to hold me when I slip,  
An ear to heed my groan;  
Renew that hour's dark ecstasy,  
When all Thy waves went over me,  
And Thou and I, with none to see,  
Were joined in fight alone.

If I demand a sheltered space  
Set for me in the battle-place,  
Where I at times could turn my face,  
A screened and welcome guest;  
Decree my soul should henceforth cease  
From its wild hankering after peace,  
And rest in that which gives release  
From the desire of rest.

If I for final goal should ask,  
Some meaning for the long day's task,  
Some ripened field that yet may bask  
Secure from hurricane;  
Point to Thy locust-eaten sheaves,  
The burnt-out stars, the still-born leaves,  
And by the toil no hope retrieves,  
Nerve me to toil again!

—G. M. Hort in London Academy.