

The New Haven Case

Printed elsewhere in this issue will be found the correspondence which passed between the president and attorney general before the bringing of the New Haven suit. The country will endorse the position taken by the executive and the department of justice. The New Haven had an opportunity to comply with the law, but it refused. It is difficult to believe that the reason given was the real reason, because the loss to the New Haven stock, occasioned by the refusal of the road to settle, was much greater than the threatened loss to a part of the stock, given as an excuse for the refusal.

The public has had an opportunity to learn of the mismanagement of the New Haven road—a mismanagement so inexcusable that condemnation has already been pronounced by the public against the directors. The manner in which the managers allowed the road to be plundered by burglars on the inside is now a matter of common knowledge, and a lesson has been learned from the revelations that show how the road systematically corrupted public opinion. A university professor was subsidized to write in defense of the road's methods; newspaper reporters were employed with a view to silencing criticism or securing favorable notices. Every means known to the predatory portion of the business world had been employed, with the natural result. "The wages of sin is death"; this decree applies to business as well as to the individual. While the prosecution of the New Haven and its directors may temporarily disturb business in that section, business there and everywhere will be better for the purging that is going on. If the president and attorney general had needed an object lesson through which to convince the public of their vigilance, this case would furnish it.

W. J. BRYAN.

THE SOURCE OF WAR

"Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth."

How well this truth is illustrated in the war which is now waging over Europe. A student in Serbia killed one of the royal family of Austria; it was the mad impulse of a reckless youth, and yet it was the spark that set a continent aflame. As the result of the killing, Austria made certain demands upon Serbia and, not being satisfied with Serbia's reply, immediately attacked the little Slavonic state. This aroused Russia, and when she began to mobilize her forces, Germany, Austria's ally, declared war on Russia. This alarmed France, and when she began to mobilize, Germany's legions marched toward Luxemburg. On her route to France, Germany invaded the territory of Belgium, and Great Britain, Belgium's ally, declared war on Germany. Thus all the great powers of Europe are involved in the most gigantic war of history, all because a boy assassinated an arch-duke.

Perhaps there is another lesson to be drawn from it. A match is most dangerous when it ignites in a powder house; and Europe is a powder house. In spite of the peace propaganda, there is still enough war spirit to make some of the nations turn to the battlefield instead of to the court of arbitration for the settlement of their differences. War is a state of mind, and the European state of mind is still so much permeated by the ideas and ideals of war that it is as yet difficult to substitute reason for violence. But the day will come, as promised in Holy Writ, when the sword shall be beaten into plowshares, and the United States is doing her part in bringing this day by throwing the weight of her great influence in favor of every proposition that looks toward the promotion of peace among the nations.

AFFAIRS IN MEXICO

Senator Martine of New Jersey, addressed the senate, July 22, as follows:

Mr. President, I desire to give expression to a few thoughts. The events of the past few days as occurring in Mexico are of momentous consequence not only to Mexico, but to the people of America and the civilized world.

On the 27th of August last the president, while addressing the congress on the Mexican situation, said:

"The steady pressure of a moral force will before many days break the barriers of pride and prejudice down, and we shall triumph as Mexico's friends sooner than we could triumph as her enemies—and how much more handsomely and with how much higher and finer

satisfaction of conscience and honor."

A very strong sentiment in this body and in the country endeavored to hold up to ridicule this policy of the president. Had the policy of the president's critics prevailed, bloody battles would have been fought; an army of 250,000 or 300,000 would this day be camping on Mexican soil; thousands of America's brave sons would this moment be sleeping in Mexican graves; thousands of widows and thousands of heartbroken mothers and fathers would be mourning their depleted hearthstones through the death of their loved ones; millions of debt would have been added to our already heavy burden. Surely, Mr. President, this much-ridiculed policy of "watchful waiting" has brought to Mexico and to America manifold and untold blessings. The words "watchful waiting" have passed into a proverb. In after years, when hate and prejudice shall have been allayed and the green sward shall have covered the graves of both brave American and Mexican men, then will the names of Wilson and Bryan be acclaimed, as will be the policy of "watchful waiting," as marking a glorious epoch in the history of this great nation.

BUSINESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION

Following is a reply to a circular letter sent out to business men throughout the country. The writer shows up the efforts being made to curb the administration's anti-monopoly program. The letter follows:

National Association of Manufacturers, New York, N. Y. Gentlemen:—Your circular letter, with assorted lot of stickers, received. These, in connection with certain impressions I gained while attending the United States chamber of commerce meeting at Washington in February of this year, suggest to me that the line between "monopoly" business and "competitive" business is as marked as the line between the corrupt machine politician and the sincere, honest citizen politician. Competitive business suffers from the misdeeds of monopoly business, the same as the honest politician suffers from the misdeeds of the corrupt machine politician.

The government is not after such business as I am engaged in, nor the 95 per cent of retail and wholesale merchants who are in competitive business, but it is after "big business," which is monopoly business, i. e., public utilities, railroads, trusts etc., and it is these perverters of the word business who are asking honest, competitive business to protect them in their exploitation of the public. I am commencing to realize that it is not a matter of too much interference, but not enough, and of the right kind. Any thinking man must realize by this time that we must curb monopoly business, which is today operating its gigantic financial deals at the expense of the manufacturer and the "competitive" business man.

Unless I can be shown differently, I am opposed to all this agitation for inveigling competitive business into a scrap to protect monopoly business. I appreciate also that, as a result of monopoly business owning the government, we have corrupt politicians, and are strangled with all kinds of d—f— legislation against business of all kinds, small and large. But, after all, the real issue is the curbing of "big business," something entirely independent of and separate from business which is competitive business.—Theo. F. Thieme, Fort Wayne, Ind., President Fort Wayne Knitting Mills.

Farmers whose prejudices are being appealed to in the effort to discredit democratic administration of affairs should recall that it was Secretary McAdoo of President Wilson's cabinet who inaugurated the practice of giving government aid to crop moving in the summer and fall. Last year fifty millions of the money of the government were set aside for the purpose of financing the crop movement, and this year thirty-five millions will be used. This use of the government money makes it possible for grain growers to cash in on their crops as soon as harvested if desired, and insures better returns by giving a money supply equal to the demands upon it.

One sort of diplomacy has reached its end so far as this country is concerned, and that is the diplomacy which is bound up in securing a government guarantee that if any of our bankers loan money to foreign countries it will be repaid. The ordinary citizen fails to understand why the advisability or desirability of making a foreign loan should rest on any other basis than that which determines the making of a loan at home.

CONSUMERS GET BENEFIT OF SUGAR REDUCTION

Three months operation under the new tariff show that the consumer is receiving all the benefit of the 25 per cent reduction in the duty on sugar, according to F. C. Lowry of the Federal Sugar Refining company, of New York. He says: "Since the new rates went into effect, refiners' selling price has averaged 3.819c per pound as compared with an average price for the last ten years of 4.85c per pound. The average duty paid price of 96 degree test raw sugars for the same period has been 4c per pound. The reduction in the duty combined with the fact that the world's production this year is the largest on record, is responsible for the prevailing low prices, but that the reduced tariff is directly responsible for a large part of the decline, is shown by the following comparison of prices between March 1st and June 1st, 1914, with prices for other years when the duty paid price of raw sugars on the same basis:

Yr.	Prd. of wks.	Av. In- Bd. Pr. 96 raws	Cuban 96	Duty Pd. pr. raws	Av. Nt. Pr. ref'd
1904	5	2.091c	1.348c	3.439c	4.36c
1905	2	2.092c	1.348c	3.44c	4.35c
1906	14	2.072c	1.348c	3.42c	4.375c
1907	6	2.085c	1.348c	3.433c	4.566c
1911	3	2.102c	1.348c	3.45c	4.566c
1913	16	2.089c	1.348c	3.437c	4.229c
1914	*	2.04c	1.01c	3.05c	3.189c

*March 1st to June 1st.

"The average price of refined sugar in other years when raw sugars were selling in bond at 2.09c per pound as compared with 2.04c now, was 4.40c per pound in contrast with 3.819c per pound during the past three months. It is therefore clear that a saving of .581c per pound is being effected by the reduced duty which, figured on the amount of sugar consumed in the United States last year, namely 3,743,139 long tons or 8,384,631,360 pounds, would be equal to \$48,714,708. While the 25 per cent reduction in the tariff affords some relief from the exceptionally high rate that we have been laboring under, the real benefit to the consumer will come in 1916, after which a further saving of some \$100,000,000 per year will be effected."

It is a distinct challenge to the courage and intelligence of the people of the United States that the republicans make, when they contend that the administration ought to be rebuked at the polls in November. But a year and five months have elapsed since President Wilson took office, along with a democratic senate and house. The constructive program which was announced at the beginning in redemption of the platform pledges made, has been adopted, one item after another. At each step the president has taken the voters into his confidence and told them just what it was proposed to do, how it would be done and what the effect would be. Step by step he has accomplished his purpose. It has all be done out in the open, where everybody could see and understand. To say that after having kept his solemn pledges to the people in enacting this legislation and before it has had time to have its real value proved, the voters will turn back to the republicans with the old remedies pushed aside by the voters in 1912 is to say they do not want pledges kept and reforms enacted. And this is preposterous.

A notable order was that issued the last week in July by Secretary Daniels abolishing the traditional practice of imprisoning enlisted men for violations of orders respecting certain phases of conduct. Under the new order, such breaches of discipline will be taken as a desire to leave the service, and a dismissal will follow. Where men desire to leave the navy they will be given an honorable discharge. This is not only a great step forward in humane treatment of the men, but it is following out the teachings of common sense. A dissatisfied or disobedient seaman or marine is of little use to the navy, and his forcible detention merely adds to his inefficiency. The navy offers enough inducements to insure a full quota of competent and earnest young men. It is no longer the refuge of incorrigibles.

Under the republican tariffs of years past the price of wheat in the markets went up or down according as the yield was small or large, and everybody agreed that price was a matter of the supply. Under the democratic tariff now in force, if we are to believe the republican campaigners, the tariff is the sole determining factor. How many persons do you suppose will be fooled by this transparent deception?