

**GOOD WORK FOR THE INDIANS**

The praises of the new department and bureau chiefs in Washington are so familiar an accompaniment of a change of administrations that the experienced observer accepts them with much caution. But there appears to be ample evidence that Cato Sells, the Texan whom President Wilson made commissioner of Indian affairs, has seized his opportunity in a really notable manner, and already instituted intelligent reforms which promise to make the last chapter of the government's dealings with the Indians as wards a bright one and something of an atonement for those that have preceded it. Mr. Sells has received an enthusiastic, not to say eulogistic, indorsement from M. K. Sniffen, secretary of the Indian rights association, that useful organization which was called into being by the necessity of protesting against the iniquities of our earlier policy toward the Indians. The Indian appropriation bill recently passed by congress has been hailed as the best measure of its kind yet made into law, instead of smelling to high heaven with ill-concealed graft. The chief credit for this achievement has been given to Mr. Sells and the weight which his convincing sincerity and clear comprehension of his office had with the congressional committees. It was announced some time ago that, regardless of his views on the prohibition question, Mr. Sells held liquor so vital a menace to the Indians that he felt he could not, as long as he was Indian commissioner, touch a drop of intoxicants. This attitude he wished impressed upon and through the Indian service. The practical measures of reform which he has undertaken are numerous, but the most interesting is the effort, by the introduction of healthy stock in great numbers, to make the Indian the American "cattle king"—a title for which the possession of the best and largest grazing lands now left available gives the tribesmen an obvious opportunity. It seems to be Mr. Sells's idea that if this work can be carried out it will not only benefit the Indians, but may actually avert or temper the threatened "meat famine." — Springfield Republican.

**PROSPERITY ERA IS HERE, SAYS RURAL PUBLISHER**

Sound reasons why the people of the United States must soon realize that the nation has entered upon a new era of prosperity were voiced the other day by Herbert Myrick, president of the Orange Judd Company, which publishes agricultural books and several well known periodicals, says the New York Herald.

Mr. Myrick, who is regarded as a conservative authority, gave as the basis for his optimism the fact that there is a boom in manufacturing, that there is great activity in domestic and foreign commerce, that agricultural conditions are splendid, and that the United States will soon dominate a large portion of the world's trade and finance. These are some of the reasons:

"The period of liquidation is over. Business has been on a debt paying basis for several years, and now is in a position to go ahead, safely and profitably, as there are no accumulated stocks of merchandise. The stoppage of immigration is so restricting the supply of labor that every worthy worker may be employed at fair wages.

**TOILERS BUY LIBERALLY**

"These working people and the masses generally are so bent on having the latest and best of everything as often to be extravagant rather than thrifty in gratifying their wants and thus become liberal consumers of food and merchandise, as well as being producers thereof, creating a vast and constantly expanding home

market, since there is no limit to human wants.

"Therefore, the home trade of our people, their dealings with each other, relatively is but in its infancy, in spite of its present gigantic volume, and is about ninety-eight times our total foreign trade. Our foreign trade, which now constitutes barely two per cent of our total trade, is destined to grow by leaps and bounds. For the last fiscal year our foreign trade per capita was almost double that of twenty-years ago.

"The United States now may furnish the world market with much of the merchandise heretofore supplied by Germany, Austria, France, Belgium and England. Once we get that trade we can hold a goodly share of it against all comers. Furthermore, the foreign demand per capita is destined to increase much more rapidly in the future than in the past.

"The new federal reserve banking system bids fair to enable the American people to rectify most of the errors of their old monetary system, largely insure against financial stress, and provide adequately and safely for the automatic expansion and contraction of credits and credit instruments, in harmony with the natural expansion and contraction of trade at different seasons and under varying conditions.

**FARMERS HAVE MONEY**

"The good crops this year and their value have been so thoroughly demonstrated as to make it unnecessary to dwell on that detail of a fundamentally strong position. Farmers have the property and annually earn profits with which to pay for needed improvements. This means a home market for ten billions of dollars' worth of merchandise, including everything required on the farm and in the home.

"All these factors, along with the increasing activity under way in textile manufactures, combine to spell prosperity for the American people, not only for this winter and spring, but for years to come. The national administration now seeks the co-operation of producers and consumers, capital and labor, bankers and manufacturers, in a patriotic endeavor to hasten good times and insure enduring prosperity."

**MR. BRYAN AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE**

Hating Mr. Bryan is an old and well established New York industry; but our neighbor the Sun rather overdoes it when it growls that "woman suffrage gets no real strength from the adherence of this veteran champion of humbug."

Woman suffrage will be submitted to the voters of Nebraska in November, and Mr. Bryan's open championship of the measure will be worth many thousand votes. If equal suffrage carries Nebraska by reason of Mr. Bryan's support, we should say that this is about as much "real strength" as any one man is likely to contribute to the cause.

Nor do we think that Mr. Bryan's sincerity in supporting equal suffrage is open to attack. Mr. Roosevelt went to Chicago an opponent of equal suffrage and suddenly underwent the most extraordinary Pauline conversion known to American politics. Mr. Bryan said nothing for or against equal suffrage until the issue was raised in his own state. Then he came out in support of it, which is a proper democratic procedure. \* \*

Moreover, it is ridiculous to say that Mr. Bryan has decided to champion woman suffrage merely because it is popular. No American politician of this generation has ever advocated a greater number of unpopular measures than Mr. Bryan, or been more obstinately willing to remain in a minority.—New York World.

**President Wilson Declines to Pass Judgment on Issues of the Great War**

Following is a dispatch carried by the Associated Press:

Washington, Sept 16. — Responding to Emperor William's protest against the Franco-British armies' alleged use of dum-dum bullets and to the Belgian commission's presentation of atrocity charges against the German troops, President Wilson made virtually identical replies today. The keynote of his answer was:

"It would be inconsistent with the neutral position of any nation which, like this, has no part in the contest, to form or express a final judgment."

Thus did Mr. Wilson formally notify the world that the United States could not pass judgment now on issues of the war in Europe or take any part in the controversies of the warring powers. He intimated that after the conflict questions of violations of civilized warfare might be settled by the Hague tribunal.

Mr. Wilson also prepared a cablegram replying to the protest of President Poincare of France, who had charged the Germans with using dum-dum bullets.

The text of this message was not made public, but it became known that it followed closely the president's message to Emperor William of Germany.

**TEXT OF REPLY TO KAISER**

Following is the complete text of Mr. Wilson's cablegram to Emperor William:

"I received your imperial majesty's important communication of the 7th and have read it with gravest interest and concern.

"I am honored that you should have turned to me for an impartial judgment as the representative of a people truly disinterested as respects the present war, and truly desirous of knowing and accepting the truth.

"You will, I am sure, not expect me to say more.

"Presently, I pray God very soon, this war will be over. The day of accounting will then come, when I take it for granted the nations of Europe will assemble to determine a settlement. Where wrongs have been committed their consequences and the relative responsibility involved will be assessed.

"The nations of the world have fortunately, by agreement, made a plan for such a reckoning and settlement. What such a plan cannot compass the opinion of mankind, the final arbiter of all such matters, will supply.

"It would be unwise, it would be premature, for a single government, however fortunately separated from the present struggle, it would even be inconsistent with the neutral position of any nation, which like this has no part in the contest, to form or express a final judgment.

"I speak thus frankly, because I know that you will expect and wish me to do so as one friend should to another, and because I feel sure that such a reservation of judgment until the end of the war, when all its events and circumstances can be seen in their entirety and in their true relation, will commend itself to you as a true expression of sincere neutrality.

"WOODROW WILSON."

**BELGIAN REPORT READ TO KING**

King Albert's Belgian commission, which came across the ocean to protest against the alleged atrocities of German troops in destroying Louvain and in other acts of war, was received by Secretary Bryan about 2 o'clock. Accompanied by Minister Havenith it was taken by Mr. Bryan to the east room of the white house, where Car-

ton De Wiart, one of its members, made a statement and presented written details of atrocity charges to President Wilson.

Mr. De Wiart's statement in full follows:

"Excellency: His majesty, the king of the Belgians, has charged us with a special mission to the president of the United States.

"Let me say to you how much we feel ourselves honored to have been called to express the sentiments of our king and of our whole nation to the illustrious statesman whom the American people have called to the highest dignity of the commonwealth.

**CHARGES NEUTRALITY VIOLATION**

"As far as I am concerned I have already been able, during a previous trip, to fully appreciate the noble virtues of the American nation, and I am happy to take this opportunity to express the admiration with which they inspired me.

"Ever since her independence was first established, Belgium has been declared neutral in perpetuity. This neutrality, guaranteed by the powers, has recently been violated by one of them.

"Had we consented to abandon our neutrality for the benefit of one of the belligerents we would have betrayed our obligations toward the others, and it was the sense of our international obligations, as well as that of our dignity and honor, that has driven us to resistance.

"The consequences suffered by the Belgian nation were not confined purely to the harm occasioned by the forced march of an invading army.

"This army not only seized a great portion of our territory but it committed incredible acts of violence, the nature of which is contrary to the rights of mankind.

"Peaceful inhabitants were massacred, defenseless women and children were outraged, open and undefended towns were destroyed, historic and religious monuments were reduced to dust, and the famous library of the University of Louvain was given to the flames.

"Our government has appointed a judicial commission to make an official investigation, so as to thoroughly and impartially examine the facts and to determine the responsibility thereof, and I will have the honor, your excellency, to hand over to you the proceedings of the inquiry.

**EXPLAINS APPEAL TO U. S.**

"In this frightful holocaust, which is sweeping all over Europe, the United States has adopted a neutral attitude.

"And it is for this reason that your country, standing apart from either one of the belligerents, is in the best position to judge without bias or partiality the conditions under which the war is being waged.

"It was at the request, even at the initiative, of the United States that all civilized nations have formulated and adopted at the Hague a law regulating the rights and usages of war.

"We refuse to believe that war has abolished the family of civilized powers of the regulations to which they have freely consented.

"The American people has always displayed its respect for justice, its search for progress and an instinctive attachment for the laws of humanity. WORLD FEELS U. S. INFLUENCE

"Therefore it has won a moral influence that is recognized by the entire world.

"It is for this reason that Belgium, bound as it is with you by ties of commerce and increasing friendship, turns to the American people at this