

## "Patriotism is Not Enough"

Great Britain is stirred by the execution of a woman who was accused of violating the rules of war in order to aid in the escape of prisoners whose fate touched her heart. The Allies will profit—and in the same proportion Germany will suffer—by the cruel punishment inflicted upon Edith Cavell, but will either side take to heart the rebuke administered by her in her dying words? Both sides have been inhuman—each excusing itself by what the other does. It is only a short time ago that, according to American eye witnesses, British soldiers shot helpless, unarmed German prisoners when a submarine was captured; and now a woman nurse is deliberately put to death under conditions that would shock the world had it not been made almost insensible to horror by what it has already seen. But the lesson taught by the killing of Miss Cavell is that love is mightier than force. The spirit in which she met death was more beautiful even than the calm courage with which she faced her executioners.

The German military chaplain testifies: "She was brave and bright to the last. She professed her Christian faith and said she was glad to die for her country. She died like a heroine." Grand and inspiring words—worthy to be inscribed on the many monuments that will be reared to her—but not so grand or inspiring as her last words to the British chaplain: "But this I would say, standing as I do in view of God and eternity; I realize that PATRIOTISM IS NOT ENOUGH. I must have NO HATRED or BITTERNESS TOWARD ANY ONE."

Will the warring nations overlook these words? They have been appealing to patriotism—and to arouse the fighting spirit they have preached resentment and retaliation—they have sought to find the cure in the same false philosophy that led the nations into this war—hatred, force and fear. But here is one who, about to suffer the extreme penalty of military law, looks serenely at her executioners and offers for them the prayer that came from Calvary—"Father, forgive them."

If the nations at war had dealt with each other in this spirit, there would have been no war; if they would now meet each other in this spirit the war would soon end. If the diplomacy of the world could only be built upon the sentiment "I must have no hatred or bitterness toward any one," universal peace would be assured—and that is the real end toward which we must strive if we would promote peace.

Those who make fortunes out of the shedding of blood—like those who make a profit by cultivating the appetite for drink—may be expected to ridicule and oppose anything that interferes with their profits, but the doctrine of love is the growing doctrine, and Edith Cavell's words will give impetus to that doctrine.

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It is reported that the discount on the Anglo-French loan was reduced two per cent in return for the agreement that there should be no restriction as to the use made of the money. At first it looked as if some of the borrowers were objecting on principle to the use of the money for the purchase of munitions, but it seems that it was not a matter of principle but a matter of per cent.

### A REMEDY IS NEEDED

The investigations which are being conducted by Comptroller Williams show that the borrowers of the country need greater protection than they now have against the usurious bank. The public has been astounded to learn that 13 per cent of the national banks are violating the usury law. The difficulty about enforcing a usury law is that the victim can not afford to employ the penalty. Why not authorize the department of justice to bring suit wherever the evidence shows a violation of the banking law by a bank? The department of justice is in position to protect the borrower without subjecting him to business ostracism. Usually a man who has to pay usury has trouble enough without inviting the combined opposition of the banking fraternity, but the department of justice is strong enough to compel respect for the law. A brief statute conferring authority upon the department of justice would answer a very useful purpose.

W. J. BRYAN.

### THE NAVY LEAGUE'S DEMANDS

On the 31st of August the Chicago American published a New York dispatch by "International News Service," saying:

"New York, Aug. 30. — Colonel Robert M. Thompson, this afternoon elected president of the Navy league, tonight threw down the gauntlet to congress and the American people on the subject of preparedness. Thompson is a well-known sportsman and financier who succeeds General Horace Porter as active head of the league. After a banquet in his honor he told newspaper men:

"International events are so shaping themselves that the United States will be the probable prize of armed conquest by the victorious group of powers now battling in Europe.

"The available gold supply of the world is now pouring into this country. At the close of the war it is absurd to think that an attempt to regain this wealth will not be made unless the United States actively prepares itself on a war footing.

"That Europe is unwilling to awaken the people of the United States to their plight is evidenced by the willingness of one great fighting nation abroad to accede to our demands. In order to avert disaster \$500,000,000 should be appropriated for a larger navy and arrangements should be made immediately to put 1,000,000 men in the field.

"The American people want this preparedness, but we are a commercial nation and the people's voice has not yet been heard in the halls of congress. Now is the time to awaken to grave danger and demand a proper expenditure to preserve peace.

"If the nations of Europe wish to, they may enter New York and take the bullion of the world from her vaults at the end of the present war—unless we set out guarding our treasure."

This is the highest bid yet made by the jingoes. Five hundred millions for the navy, and an army of a million men. This would raise the appropriations for preparedness to somewhere between seven hundred and fifty millions to one billion. According to Mr. Thompson "the nations of Europe, if they wish to, may enter New York and take the bullion of the world from her vaults at the end of the present war—unless we set out guarding our treasure." If the danger is that great, would it not be a good plan to build a vault west of the Alleghenies and store this bullion beyond reach of danger? If there is danger enough to justify such an increase in our expenditures as is now asked, is it not foolish to leave this tempting prize at the water's edge and run this risk of its being taken from us? This would seem reasonable, but the laws of logic are put aside when people get as badly scared as officers of the Navy league or as deeply interested in preparedness as the manufacturers of munitions.

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### GENERAL SHERWOOD'S POSITION

On another page will be found a speech against preparedness, recently delivered by General Sherwood, a member of congress from the Toledo, O., district. The general is a democrat of great popularity, having several times carried a strongly republican district, and is conspicuous in all matters relating to the soldier and his dependents.

He is a man ripe in years and won distinction in the Civil war. It is gratifying to have his strong, clear voice raised against frenzied preparedness. He will be a tower of strength to the people in their fight against the munition trust, which is just now trying to secure a strangle hold upon the nation's throat.

This veteran in war and in politics will be more than a match for representatives of the Navy league, the Security league and other self-constituted guardians of the nation who would commit us to the fatal folly of Europe.

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The actual annual yield to investors in the Anglo-French loan is estimated to be 5.46 per cent. Counting American bonds at three per cent the value of money on the based security it would indicate that the 2.46 per cent is intended to cover risk. The profits of the syndicate underwriting the Anglo-French loan is given at ten millions. As long as the high financiers can make that amount loaning to belligerent nations, there will always be a strong monetary influence against making all war loans contraband. It is hard for public interest or patriotism to stand up against ten millions of dollars profit.

## Nebraska in Line for Prohibition

The representatives of the anti-liquor forces of Nebraska have acted wisely in agreeing upon an amendment which eliminates all unnecessary matter and confines the fight to the real points at issue. The proposed amendment reads:

"Be it enacted by the people of the state of Nebraska: That the constitution of the state of Nebraska be amended by adding thereto the following, to be known and designated as article 17 thereof:

"On and after May 1, 1917, the manufacture, the sale, the keeping for sale or barter, the sale or barter under any pretext, of malt, spirituous, vinous or any other intoxicating liquors are forever prohibited in this state, except for medicinal, scientific, mechanical or sacramental purposes."

It will be noticed that the proposed amendment presents the real issue, namely, whether intoxicating liquors shall be manufactured or sold in Nebraska. The temperance forces have sometimes attempted to go beyond the real requirements of the situation and have aroused opposition on account of what seemed to many an unnecessary interference with private life. Nebraska will do all that she can hope to do if she rids herself of the manufacture and sale of liquor. The saloon is the evil center which is responsible for the demoralization of society and the debauching of politics; it must go, and the brewer and the distiller must go with the saloon because they have been the strong support of the saloon even when they have not actually directed the campaign. The manufacturer and the saloon keeper, acting together against the welfare of the state and the good of the community, have made themselves a menace which can no longer be ignored—an evil that can no longer be tolerated. Colorado on the west, Kansas on the south and Iowa on the east have joined hands to rid their people of the saloon, and Nebraska can not afford to permit itself to be made the rendezvous of the disreputable elements of which these states are purging themselves by their prohibition laws. South Dakota on the north will doubtless be added to the list of prohibition states, as soon as a vote can be taken on the subject, and so much of Missouri as touches Nebraska is now dry territory, as well as all of that part of Wyoming adjoining Nebraska. Nebraska can not afford to be black with a white border all around it.

Prohibition will not only remove the centers of moral disease, but it will free the political organizations and conventions of a sordid, mercenary group that must, so long as the saloon remains, make politics a business in order to prevent any curtailment of their profits.

Great economic, political and social problems press for solution and our parties will not be free to take up these problems as long as the time of our party organizations and the energy of our political campaigns must be expended in trying to protect a shameless pecuniary interest which unblushingly subordinates everything to the making of money by the contamination of society and the degrading of its victims. Nineteen states have already registered themselves against the domination of politics by the liquor interests; it is probable that by the time Nebraska votes, enough others will be added to the list to put a majority of them on the roll of honor.

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WANTED—By their constituents at home: The democratic senators and congressmen who are willing to accept republican leadership in the matter of preparedness.

### PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE

The last congress lived up to its platform pledge and passed the Jones bill. Owing to the heathenish rules of the senate, the democrats were unable to secure action upon this measure. Congress convenes in December and the matter ought to be taken up at once and put through both houses so that the democratic obligation on this subject will be discharged and the promise of ultimate independence be given the Filipinos. They have been trusting the administration to give them this long hoped for assurance, and it would greatly jeopardize our work over there if there should be any failure to make good this promise. A new Jones bill ought to be passed at an early date.

W. J. BRYAN.