

Tägliche Omaha Tribune

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Die deutsche Presse und die Prohibitionswahl im Staate Iowa.

In einem vom Prohibitionsgeister streuenden Artikel greift der „Council Bluffs Nonpareil“ die deutsche Presse, die in Iowa Verbreitung findet, an, weil sie sich kräftig auf Seiten der Prohibitionsgegner gestellt habe.

Zu dem Ergebnis der Wahl hat wiederum dieselben unmöglich war. In dem Ergebnis der Wahl hat wiederum dieselben unmöglich war.

Wohl ist die Majorität der „Rassen“—soweit dies feststeht—nur sehr gering, doch gewinnt der Sieg an Bedeutung, wenn man die großen Anführungen der „Trockenjuger“ in Betracht zieht und sich vor Augen führt, welche ein günstiges Feld dieselben besonders unter der starken Landbevölkerung hatten.

Weit davon entfernt, gegen das Interesse des Staates gearbeitet zu haben, hat die deutsche Presse, vor allem der „Demokrat“ und die „Reform“ von Davenport, die „Freie Presse“ von Council Bluffs und die „Tägliche Omaha Tribune“ gefolgt, für den Wohlstand derselben, für die Moralität und die Gesundheit des Volkes und für Wohlgefühligkeit Vorteile zu erringen, deren Folgen nur gute sein können.

Dereine und die Kriegsteuer.

Von der neuen Kriegsteuer, welche am 1. November in Kraft tritt, werden auch Vereine getroffen. Unter Kapitel 7 „Kriegsteuer“ auf Eintritt und Beiträge wird verfügt, daß eine zehnprozentige Abgabe von Eintrittsgeld für Vergnügungen irgend welcher Art zu entrichten ist.

Eine Vergnügungssteuer ist nicht zu entrichten, wenn alle Einkünfte ausschließlich zum Besten von religiösen, erzieherischen oder wohltätigen Instituten, Gesellschaften oder Organisationen verwendet werden, oder von Eintrittsgeld zu landwirtschaftlichen Ausstellungen, deren Ueberschüsse nicht unter Aktionäre oder unter Mitglieder der Vereine verteilt werden, welche dieselbe veranstalten.

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Die Vergnügungs- und Mitgliedschaftssteuer ist an den „Collector of Internal Revenue“ in diesem Distrikt, dessen Büro sich im Postgebäude befindet, abzuführen. Die deutschen Vereine werden nur in seltenen Fällen von der Vergnügungssteuer getroffen werden, da sie in ihren Fällen keinen Eintritt erheben, aber es fragt sich, ob nicht die Garde- und Uniformgebühren, welche ein solches Mitglied zu zahlen haben, da wir keine bekannt ist, dessen Beitrag pro Mitglied die von dem Gesetz vorgeschriebene steuerfreie Grenze von zwölf Dollars pro Jahr übersteigt.

Das numerische Uebergewicht der Frau.

In den europäischen Ländern befindet in normalen Zeiten ein un- männlicher Frauenüberschuß, der sich für ganz Europa auf mehr als 5,000, 000 beläuft, d. h. die Zahl der Männer ist um mindestens so viel geringer,

als die der Frauen. Dieses ungleiche Verhältnis ist durch den Krieg, der viele Millionen der kräftigsten Männer dahingerafft, noch bedeutend verschärft worden, und die Staatsmänner der meisten Länder werden nach Wiederkehr des Friedens mit der Lösung des Problems sich beschäftigen müssen, wie denselben begegnet werden soll.

Vor dem Krieg hatte Großbritannien von allen europäischen Ländern den höchsten Frauenüberschuß. Nach der Volkszählung vom Jahre 1911 stellte er sich auf mehr als 1,300,000. In Deutschland war der Frauenüberschuß während der letzten Jahre vor dem Kriege wieder etwas zurückgegangen; er betrug aber nach der Volkszählung vom Jahre 1910 immer noch 845,000. Soweit die russische Bevölkerungsstatistik als richtig angenommen werden kann, belief sich dort der Frauenüberschuß auf mehr als 685,000. In Oesterreich-Ungarn betrug er weit über 500,000. Aus Italien, Frankreich und der Schweiz liegen keine neueren Zusammenstellungen über das Zahlenverhältnis zwischen Männern und Frauen vor, doch treten auch in diesen Ländern die Männer zahlenmäßig hinter den Frauen zurück. Das kleine Portugal hatte einen Frauenüberschuß von rund 250,000, in Dänemark 83,000, in Holland 64,000, in Belgien 14,000.

Als einzige Länder mit einem Männer-Überschuß kamen vor dem Kriege in Europa bloß die Staaten auf dem Balkan in Betracht. So betrug der Männer-Überschuß in Rumänien 96,000, in Bulgarien 78,000 und in Griechenland 17,000. Insgesamt dürfte die männliche Bevölkerung Europas hinter der weiblichen um fünf bis sechs Millionen überwiegen. Durch den großen Krieg ist dieses Verhältnis noch ungünstiger geworden. Insgesamt dürfte die Gesamtzahl der Toten aus dem jetzigen Kriege mit fünf bis sechs Millionen kaum zu hoch eingeschätzt sein.

Im Gegensatz zu Europa besteht in den Ländern anderer Erdteile vielfach ein Männer-Überschuß. Allein in den Ver. Staaten beträgt er gegen zwei Millionen, und im verhältnismäßig schwach bevölkerten Kanada stellt er sich auf über 132,000 Köpfe. Am stärksten ist der Männer-Überschuß in Britisch-Indien. Dort wohnen gegen 5 1/2 Millionen mehr Männer als Frauen. In Australien mit seinen 4 1/2 Millionen Einwohnern sind die Männer mit mehr als 220,000 Köpfen in der Ueberschuld, und auch in Afrika ist im allgemeinen die Zahl der Männer größer als die der Frauen.

Der Papst ein Souverän. Einer Klauselei in „California Democrat“ entnehmen wir: Die oft gehörte Behauptung, der Papst sei Souverän des Vatikans, des Laterans und von Castelgandolfo, beruht auf Irrtum. Einen auf den Vatikan, den Lateran und Castelgandolfo reduzierten Kirchenstaat, päpstliches Gebiet, gibt es überhaupt nicht mehr. Das sog. Garantietreaty vom 9. Mai 1871 sichert dem Papst, nach Einverleibung des gesamten Kirchenstaates in das Königreich Italien, vielmehr lediglich die persönliche Stellung eines Souveräns, ohne Land, die Unverletzlichkeit seiner Person, das Recht auf eine eigene Leibwache, den Empfang und die Begleitung besonderer Gesandten, Post- und Telegraphenbesorgung, sowie die Exterritorialität des Vatikans, des Laterans und Castelgandolfo, nebst einer Leibwache von jährlich 3,225,000 Franken zu. Der Papst lebte aber am 15. Mai 1871 die Annahme dieses Gesetzes ab und hat auch die Rechte nie angenommen. Wenn also der Papst kein Land mehr besitzet, so ist er doch immer noch in hellem Umfang Souverän.

Die letzten wiederholten Versuche des jetzigen heiligen Vaters, den Weltfrieden herbeizuführen, haben die Aufmerksamkeit besonders auf sein Verhältnis zu den regierenden Fürsten gelenkt, und oft hört man in diesem Zusammenhang die Behauptung, der deutsche Kaiser habe bei dem Besuche, den er Leo den Dritten im Mai 1903 abstattete, dem Papst den Fuß geküßt. Das ist aber ein vollständiges Märchen! Ueber den sog. Fußkuß wird öfters, hauptsächlich in England, viel geredet. Aber Monarch, auch kein katholischer, küßt dem Papst seit den Zeiten Karls des Fünften „den Fuß“ mehr, sondern nur noch den Händrücken, den der heilige Vater am Finger trägt. Dieser Ring, mit dem (oberhalb des Daumens) die vom Kardinal-Staatssekretär unterzeichneten Breven besiegelt werden, zeigt das Bild des Apostels Petrus, der vom Papst aus ein Kreuz trägt. Er wird dem neugewählten Papst nach der Erteilung des ewigen Segens an die Kardinalen vom Camerlengo an die Hand gesteckt, und von ihm selbst allen anderen antiken Siegeln nach dem Tode des Papstes zerstoßen. Ob ein Protestant, Jüdt oder Nicht-Jüdt, dem Papst, falls dieser ihm die Hand reicht, den Fußherring küßt oder nicht, ist in ganz in sein Ermessen, seinen Laiz und sein Empfinden gestellt. Der „Fußkuß“ oder „Pantoffelkuß“ besteht in Wirklichkeit in einem Kuß des Kreuzes, das in den Schuß (die Sandale) eingestickt ist, den der Papst zu seinen feierlichen großen Ernt trägt. Dieser Kreuzkuß wird lediglich von Kardinälen und nur äußerlich selten, jumeist von Geistlichen bei besonderen Gelegenheiten, vorgenommen, und nie anders, als wenn der Papst im vollen Ornat auf der Sedia oder dem Thronessel sitzt. A. V. seitens der Kardinalen nach der Wahl anlässlich der Akkoration in der Peterskirche. Dagegen erweist der Papst selbst einem weltlichen Fußkuß; denn am Gründonnerstag küßt er, wobei ihm Kardinalen Beden und Handtücher halten, in der Clementinischen Kapelle von St. Peter dreizehn Geistlichen die Hände, und küßt sie sodann ab und küßt sie ab. Das ist das sogenannte Mandatum (nach dem Geheiß der Antiphonie: Mandatum novum do vobis, et deshalb heißt der Gründonnerstag im englischen auch Maundy-Thurs-day). Am großbritannischen Hofe wollte man sich an diesem Tage auch von der Kaiserin und mildtätigen Seite zeigen; aber das Fußwaschen etc. Erhielt die Königin und Queen in London auch Lieber den Fußgeheimnissen selbst; dagegen lassen sie (seit 1662 werden dafür besondere 1., 2.,

A PATRIOTIC VISION.

America Striving for Supreme Place in Worlds Commerce, New York as the Future Money Centre.

New York as the future money centre of the world, backed by a great merchant fleet, carrying trade to the remotest ends of the earth, is the absorbing vision of the writer of Wollman's Review, issued by W. J. Wollman & Co. of New York.

New York has become the financial centre of the world, says the reviewer. Great economic and political currents, stirred by activities of peace and war throughout the centuries, have gradually moved the seat of business power westward. The movement is traceable in history from Asia Minor to the European shores of the Mediterranean, thence to Northwest Europe, thence to Britain, and finally across the Atlantic to America. Will it remain here?

In the days when Venice was laying the foundation of political and commercial empire, the exchanges and other instruments of trade were drawn on Constantinople. The great city of the Bosphorus was the gateway of the civilized world. Western Europe, including those of its countries bordering on the Mediterranean, was even then shaking the structure of Asiatic power through the Crusades. Venice, strategically located both for commerce and war, was growing rapidly in population and wealth. The twelfth and thirteenth centuries saw her become the chief emporium of trade. The assistance she gave to the Fourth Crusade resulted in the establishment of a Latin empire which included domination of Constantinople itself. Changing Currents of Trade. The discovery of an all-water route to India, by way of the Cape of Good Hope, was a fatal blow to the Venetian supremacy. She lost her monopoly of Oriental traffic. Henceforth Western Europe had a means for foreign trade which did not require the services of Venetian middlemen. The hardy, ambitious races of Northwest Europe were already assuming economic independence and gaining in competitive power when the discovery of a western continent brought a new and unlimited outlet for their energies. Amsterdam now became the centre from which and toward which the great trade currents ran. But wars and natural advantages of location wrought their inevitable changes, and the business genius and maritime prowess of England built a new seat for commercial and financial supremacy at London. For two centuries the business of the globe mainly revolved about and upon the British metropolis. The great war has again shifted the tides of business. But never has the change been wrought so suddenly, or with such significance for the future. New York, now the largest city of the world in population, has become the world's business capital, and the United States the foremost commercial and political power.

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ious kinds to the European belligerents, to Canada and to Latin America totalling two billion dollars.

The financial position of business America may be likened to a wealthy creditor who is drawing a tremendous but legitimate income from his loans, and is at the same time reinvesting a large part of his interest. The interest accruing to this country through the various instances cited will amount by the end of the current year, if the war continues, to nearly forty million dollars per month.

Trade Supremacy and Shipping. It is unnecessary to dwell here upon the material resources of great variety which fortify this country for the maintenance of its premier position. But even these, vast as they are, cannot avail for that purpose unless there be at least approximate adequacy in the chief instruments of foreign trade—shipping and banking. The history of trade movements shows that the possession of facilities for maritime commerce is a vital adjunct of prosperity. Venice, Amsterdam, London, founded their successive reigns in the world of business upon maritime effort. And, in the main, it was for the same reason that each held it for as long as it did.

America's present position is built not only upon her great natural resources, but also upon the fact that for a brief period in the last century she became the chief maritime power. The development of her natural resources diverted the attention of capital from shipping enterprise, but the conditions of to-day—creations both of war and of natural economic developments—have again directed national energies to the building of an American merchant marine.

The basis of a large merchant fleet is being laid now. The Shipping Board has just announced that by the end of 1918 the United States will have a merchant marine of a tonnage of more than 9,000,000. The country will thus make itself as independent of foreign shipping as it has been dependent upon it for the last half century. Competitive power in the world markets depends upon a command of shipping facilities, and without competitive power national prosperity cannot be properly conserved and enlarged.

Banking Expansion. Just as the country is alive to the necessity of building up its merchant marine, so is our banking community keeping a close watch on events, so that it may be enabled, after the war, to retain the advantages in foreign trade which the necessities of the warring nations have thrown in our path. The Federal Reserve Banking System has done much to encourage the efforts of our bankers. Not only has it materially improved our national banking facilities, but the new measures which are being adopted from day to day will in the future greatly strengthen the newly created international exchange relations.

The bankers of this country deserve all credit for having so quickly grasped the opportunities which were opened up to them by the war. They have sent out able representatives, practically throughout the world, to establish branches in order to open up new trade channels and divert the trade of various countries to the United States, which formerly led to Germany and elsewhere. Much work still remains to be done in order to strengthen the efforts which have been so auspiciously inaugurated and to weld these together into one vast profitable trade machine, which cannot but have a lasting effect on the prosperity of the entire country. Our bankers are gradually realizing that these new foreign relations can only be maintained by extending credit with an open purse and in liberal spirit.

By extending credit on a large scale, England and Germany became the great commercial nations of the world. This question, therefore, is one of paramount importance for this country to study, and the course which our bankers are pursuing indicates that they are fully alive to the importance of this problem, and will continue their efforts to maintain those relations which are now opening up not only in Europe but in the Southern Hemisphere as well. Railroads and the Future. No other country in the world requires in a degree similar to

the United States the co-ordination of the two chief kinds of transportation facilities—rail and shipping. And no other country has a similar opportunity. The maintenance of business supremacy depends also upon the expansion as well as the efficiency of our general railroad system.

The fact that the railroads are to-day doing the biggest business they ever did, with very little increase in equipment, should not be misinterpreted by the public. Newspaper headlines proclaim that railroad prosperity is at record levels, but these refer only to gross earnings. No business man, small or large, measures his prosperity by his total revenues. Yet a large part of the public bases its opinion as to railroad affairs in just that way.

The gross earnings of 400 railroads of the United States, in the first six months of 1917, were \$200,000,000 greater than the gross for the same period of 1916. But the same railroads had net earnings in the first half of the present calendar year \$7,000,000 less than the net for the corresponding six months of 1916. It cost roundly \$207,000,000 more to run the 250,000 miles of railway in this country than it did in that previous period.

It is strongly to be hoped that the business judgment of the Nation, as well as its desire for fair play, will assume such definite form as will remove the check on our railway development. Railroad rates for service are under control at all times, in peace or war; price regulation was applied to railroads long ago, whereas it is only the emergencies of war that have brought its application to other enterprises and this only after they have enjoyed a period of unprecedented prices for their output.

THE PETROGRAD COMPROMISE.

Peter Kerensky has won a victory over the forces of disorder in Russia. By agreement with the steering committee of the democratic congress the provisional government has succeeded in rejecting the decision of the congress, dominated by the Bolsheviks, to exclude from the new coalition government the representatives of the social democrats and the bourgeoisie, the two constructive forces of the country.

The outcome of the conflict between the provisional government and the extremists gives ground for hope that the administration of Russia will not be handed over to theoreticians who lack the elements of a workable programme. It is a sign that the cooler heads of the Bolshevik-dominated congress have themselves realized the danger toward which the destructive forces were driving Russia.

On the other hand, the Bolsheviks have imposed upon the government a new obstacle to orderly development. By the creation of a "provisional parliament" they have laid a heavy hand of restraint and compulsion upon the administrative branch of the government. Kerensky has seen the danger of the new departure in parliamentary systems. He has recognized the provisional parliament, to hold office until the calling together of the constituent assembly. But he has resolutely declined to acknowledge the responsibility of the cabinet to that self-constituted legislative chamber. He has stipulated the full freedom of the coalition ministry to work out the problems of state independently of the provisional parliament.

The success of the coalition government will depend, nevertheless, to a great extent upon the support of the provisional parliament. The vigorous opposition of that deliberative body, permanently sitting at Petrograd until the organization of the constituent assembly, to any governmental policy would place the ministry in an awkward, if not untenable position. It would furnish the machinery for an endless agitation of which the Bolsheviks will not be slow to avail themselves.

Thus the trial of strength between the destructive and the constructive forces in Russia has ended in a compromise—and that compromise is full of dangers to the future of the new democracy. (New York Evening Mail.)