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HOWARD C. STORY

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Omaha, Neb., 10. April 1916.

Baron Astor's Kriegssteuer!

England in Not! England braucht Gold, viel Geld. Und "Baron Astor of Hever", früher ganz gemeiner Wilhelm Waldorf Astor, gebürtig aus New York, jetzt aber englischer Baronet, hat viel Geld. Nach dem Geschehen des "Doctor vacui", wie unser Professor der Bonität den Ausgleichsstreit der Natur nannte, jeden leeren Raum auszufüllen, ist nun auch die englische Regierung bestrebt, den gähnenden leeren Raum in ihrer Kriegssteuer auszufüllen durch Erhebung von fastig geladenen Kriegssteuern. Augenweise schöpft man zuerst da, wo was zu schöpfen ist, nämlich bei den Millionären. Und da hat nun unter einigen amerikanischen Bürgern Baron Astor von Hever das Spezialvergnügen, seinen "Standesgenossen" Greg, Aquith und Genossen die jähwütigen Kriegskosten aufzufüllen zu helfen. Nach dem alten Soze: "Noblesse oblige!"

Aber auch uns hätte es ein Vergnügen bereitet, das lange Gesicht des neuen Barons zu sehen, als ihm freundlich der Steuerzettel in die Hand gedrückt wurde, auf dem zu lesen stand, daß er zu seinem diesjährigen Steuern in der nördlichen Höhe von genau \$1,400,000 noch einen kleinen Zuschlag von 20% gleich \$280,000 zu berappen hat.

Die großen britischen Einommen, die sich bislang dank des Schutzes der Regierung einer fast ungebundenen Steuerfreiheit erfreuten, werden jetzt sehr herangeführt. "Da hält keine Widerrede, da hält kein Weh und Ach!" Sie müssen's eben geben, zum Schluss kommt doch der Krach!

So ungefähr klingt jetzt der Allegoß des britischen Sadelworts. Und die Millionäre stimmen resigniert in den Chor ein. Auch Baron Astor von Hever —

In unser Gefühl der Schadenfreude mischt sich aber auch ein Gefühl brennender Empörung. Diese \$1,680,000 Kriegssteuer, die der englische Baron Astor zahlen muß, sind amerikanisches Geld. Noch mehr, sind die Männer aus den New Yorker Häusern, Eigentum des Baron Astor, aber bewohnt von arbeitsamen amerikanischen Bürgern, die dem englischen Baronet unverschämte hohe Wüsten zahlen müssen. Dieser Renegat hat noch keinen Finger in seinem Leben gerührt, um an dem wirtschaftlichen Aufbau und Ausbau der Ver. Staaten mitzuholen. Er zieht nur von der Herrlichkeit seiner Vorfahren und von der Unfehlbarkeit der amerikanischen Gegebenheit, die keine entsprechend hohe Erbholzungsersteuer feint.

Der Aufall der Geburt, die einen solchen für das Wirtschaftsleben eines Landes gänzlich verlorenen Menschen zum Erben von ungezählten Millionen Dollars macht, ist eine Ungerechtigkeit, die durch die Gerechtigkeit einer hohen Erbholzungsersteuer ausgegliedert werden sollte. Zwar liegen dem Kongress solche Erbholzungsersteueren vor, aber das "Preparedness"-Heber hat ja unsere Solone in Washington derart erschöpft und geschüttelt, daß in ihren Köpfen kein Raum mehr für logische Arbeit ist.

Gerade diese Kriegssteuer des Baron Astor sollte über diesen Gedanken zur Tat umsetzen. Denn wenn die Engländer ein — gewiß unbefriedigtes — Recht haben, den Baron Astor zu strafen, so haben wir ein noch unbefriedigteres Recht, solche Renegaten, wertlose Drahnen für unseren Wirtschaftsbetrieb, recht energisch anzufeuern und dafür zu sorgen, daß das Geld, das in Amerika von siebzehn amerikanischen Bürgern verdient ist, auch in Amerika bleibt und zum Nutzen Amerikas verbraucht wird.

Dr. G.

Holland in Not!

Auf der berühmten Pariser Konferenz haben die Alliierten verabredet, wie sie den Krieg doch noch gewinnen könnten. Mit dem Menschenmassen und den silbernen Engelchen ist es nicht gegangen. Mit dem Aushungern auch nicht.

Frankreich und Italien haben keine neuen Menschenmassen aufzubieten. Die russischen können nicht schnell genug ausgebildet werden, um Erfolge zu erzielen. Neue Wüstenogenen sind nicht zu haben, die die Lant für England zu Marke tragen wollen, seit der starke Herr Wilson einen Strich durch die Rednung gemacht hat und die Rückfrage nach die Wahl jetzt jüngstes Lavieren erfordert. Wenn nicht Gilje kommt, ist aber die Niederlage zu gut wie gewis.

Es kann merkwürdig, als bekannt gegeben wurde, die Alliierten hätten beschlossen, die Blodade zu verschärfen. Deutschland ist durch etwas mehr oder weniger Blodade nicht zu besiegen. Aber sie richtet sich auch nicht so sehr gegen Deutschland direkt, als gegen die Neutralen, die für ihre Volksernährung auf die Einführung von auswärtigen finden. Wie Holland z. B. mit Getreide. Holland stand gerade damals mit England in Verhandlungen wegen einer Vermehrung seiner Getreideeinfuhr, da die bis dahin von England gestattete nicht genügte. Durch die verstärkte Blodade soll auch die noch zum Aufstehen gebracht werden. Holland soll durch Hunger gefügt gemacht werden, entweder zur Teilnahme auf alliierter Seite am Kriege gegen Deutschland und Österreich, oder dafür, daß es einen Einfall britischer Truppen über holländisches Gebiet gestattet und fördert. Dasselbe Mittel wurde befamlich gegen Griechenland angewandt, um es bezüglich Salonicus gefügt zu machen.

Diese Vorgänge sind sehr lehrreich. Sie zeigen, wie Englands Kampf für die Rechte der kleinen Nationen eigentlich aussieht, und was seine Selbstbehauptung im Grunde bedeutet. Das die ganze Schändlichkeit einer Politik offensichtlich jedem eingelenkt offenbar wird, so das es ohne jede Maske vor der Welt dasteht, das ist das einzige Gute an der langen Dauer dieses Krieges.

Sicherheit für unsere Post!

Die Alliierten haben die Forderung unserer Regierung, die Post der Vereinigten Staaten unbedingt zu lassen, schrank abgelehnt. Sie pfieren damit auf die völkerrechtlichen Verhältnisse, die, wie Herr Wilson wiederholt hergehoben hat, während des Krieges keiner Revision unterzogen werden können.

Großmütig versichern die Regierungen der Entente, daß sie fünfzig Briefe und Depeschen unbedingt lassen, daß sie aber die Postpost sowie die Postpost zweiter Klasse noch wie vor konfisziert werden.

Als Grund für die Sicherung geben sie an, daß diese Art Post als Ware zu betrachten ist, und machen außerdem geltend, daß Konterbande mittels der Postpost nach Deutschland und Österreich-Ungarn verlaufen.

Die Vereinigten Staaten betrachten die Postpost, als Postpost, verdeckt demgemäß die Preise für den Verkauf und lassen ihr im Innern den Schutz der postpolitischen Verhältnisse angeben. Es hängt von unserer Regierung ab, den Charakter der Sendungen zu bestimmen, aber nicht von willkürlichen Auslegungen des Ausländers.

Die Postpost ist außerdem auf ein geringes Gewicht beschränkt, so daß eine Verhinderung von Konterbande im großen Maßstab ausgeklammert ist. Dies ist bereits in Betracht gezogen, als durch internationale Vereinbarung die Unverletzlichkeit aller Postposten garantiert wurde.

Diese internationale Vereinbarungen können nun, wie Herr Wilson bei der Lauchost-Kontroverse emphatisch hervorgehoben hat, während der Dauer des Krieges nicht abändernd werden. Wir er diesen Standpunkt auch jetzt den Alliierten gegenüber mit Festigkeit vertreten?

Storz berühmtes Bockbier.

Ein seftiges und reifes oblonges Bockbier, garantirt über 6 Monate alt. Versuchen Sie nicht zu haben. Lassen Sie sich unbedingt eine oder zwei Flaschen für diekem zu einem Preis dieses tollidien Bräus bestellen. Es ist ein echter Bockbier. alt. Am. J. Smotha, Haus-Berland, Douglas 222.

Metz eiches Bockbier

Zeigt an Zapf und in Flaschen zu kaufen. Garantirt über 6 Monate alt. Versuchen Sie nicht zu haben. Lassen Sie sich unbedingt eine oder zwei Flaschen für diekem zu einem Preis dieses tollidien Bräus bestellen. Es ist ein echter Bockbier. alt. Am. J. Smotha, Haus-Berland, Douglas 222.

Open Letter to the Government of the United States Through Vice President Marshall.

His Excellency Thos. R. Marshall,
Vice Pres. U. S. A. Washington,
D. C.

Dear Sir:

Being deeply troubled about the present situation in our country and desiring to appeal to someone who has the three elements within him that give one confidence, namely, a heart and a conscience, as well as a mind, I turn to you. And I do this with all the more assurance because you, as the former governor of our state, know the class of people to whose present feelings I wish to give voice better than many other officials; and also because of your broad and conservative way of looking at great questions.

Of course I do not know what views you take of the present issue in which President Wilson is especially involved, you having shown the good sense not to proclaim these to the world. But, whatever they may be, I am sure that your soul is large enough to look at the situation from all sides before you decide what action ought to be taken under the circumstances.

Now here I am, a Methodist preacher who, though he does not remember, ever having seen Germany, has preached the word of God to the German speaking people of various states for over forty years, and has at the same time endeavored to impress upon them the obligations of American citizenship.

With this class of German Americans (and there are millions of them) I feel myself one in being disrespected by the drift that things have taken in Washington, and in thinking that the present Administration is pursuing a course that is fraught with the greatest danger.

We are of that class of German Americans who emphasize the American in our name. We expect to be buried in American soil and are doing our part to make this country a good place for our children and our children's children to live in. We believe in America, and want to see it great and prosperous. Nor can we have any desire to embarrass our government in the present crisis. And yet the situation becomes actually distressing to us because of a few facts of such stubborn character that we can not possibly change them.

The first fact is that we look upon the enormous traffic in American munitions with inexpressible pain and horror, and feel ourselves outraged by the argument of our Administration that this is permitted in order to uphold our neutrality, when we are convinced that, taking the matter as a whole, the real motto is the Almighty Dollar. You will be able to appreciate this feeling all the better when you consider that many thousands of us have near relatives in the Fatherland who are being slaughtered or maimed by this American made ammunition. The griefs caused us, those of us who believe in God, try to bear with Christian patience and fortitude; but ask yourself how we must feel toward a government which are supporting by our oil and prayers and which shows us no sympathy in our trouble, but cynically tells us that it must protect American industries and commerce. What shall we think of a so-called democratic government that pursues such a hard-hearted course toward millions of its loyal citizens? Shall we think that the interests of the money changers and the manufacturers of instruments of murder are of greater importance to our government than the souls of millions of honest people who are toiling for their families and their country in the shops and on the farms?

I should think that in this one fact there would be enough affliction for us. But now there comes, in addition to this, the other fact that the Administration is pursuing a course which if persisted in will inevitably lead us into war with Germany, and this upon an issue which we can never recognize as a sufficient reason for engaging in such a terrible venture as a war at this time would necessarily be.

No matter how well our President may succeed in procuring the formal support of a majority in Congress in the course he is pursuing, he cannot stop the exercise of free thought. I might write. But I thought that I might raise him through the man who holds the next highest office in the land to the other, not only from

those of German and Irish blood, but also from all others who love peace too well to support a war that is brought about merely for the upholding of a legal, technical right.

No matter how glibly, or how learnedly and eloquently this stand of the President for so-called "American rights" may be defended and eulogized, it will not prevent the majority (I speak advisedly when I say majority) of the American people from thinking that the physical and moral welfare of the American people is of greater importance than the upholding of a formal right.

I will not argue (as I might) the question as to whether international law, rightly interpreted, gives American dare-devils the right for which President Wilson contends. I will waive that question. But I ask you, as a Christian man, whether a law ought to be enforced regardless of its consequences? I call your attention to the principle laid down by your Lord and Saviour and mine, when he said, "Man was not made for the Sabbath, but the Sabbath for man". So you will agree that international law has the purpose of conserving the welfare of mankind, and not to be a Moloch to whom mankind must be sacrificed. But now, if Mr. Wilson, conjointly with Mr. Lansing, should turn this international law into an instrument of destruction by making its non-observance by the Germans in their present emergency a casus beli, what then?

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Mutiny of 15,000 Recruits in Sidney.
Everybody in Great Britain
Tries to Escape Service.

The New York Times of March 28 contained a correspondence from Sidney, Australia, dealing with a mutiny of soldiers, which was reported in a very short cable dispatch some time ago. The Times now reports: "The strike or mutiny began at breakfast time at Casula on the morning of Feb. 14, when about 5,000 troops refused duty and demanded the revocation of a new training program, issued that morning, which called for 40½ hours of drill a week instead of 36. The increase was due to a recent examination of the training system in the Commonwealth by Inspector General James W. McCay. When it was explained to the soldiers by their officers that the order came from headquarters in Melbourne, and could not be treated in a cavalier fashion, the entire 5,000 marched out of the camp toward the nearby Liverpool camp, which is the chief training post in Australia. There the strikers induced about 10,000 men to join them, making a total of about 15,000 opponents of the new order. Thereupon, led by a few irresponsible privates, most of whom were half drunk, the men wrecked a saloon, got possession of the drinkables in it, and engaged in revelry. This was followed by scenes of destruction and intoxication at another saloon. The evening hours were marked by many acts of lawlessness, such as smashing plate glass windows, stoning the German Club, long since closed, and attacking the office of an afternoon newspaper to demand an apology because the paper displayed posters calling the soldiers 'notors'. Finally late in the evening at the Central Railway Station, near which there had been considerable tumult, some of the strikers stoned and shot at the soldier guards. The guards were ordered to fire, and did so with fatal effect, in one instance. By midnight the disorder had been checked after many arrests had been made by the police."

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