

THE OMAHA BEE

DAILY (MORNING)—EVENING—SUNDAY

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James Cardinal Gibbons.

A great churchman, a strong advocate of a right living and clean life for the nation as well as the individual, James Gibbons leaves a heritage to his country greater than can be measured in terms of words.

Early in his career as priest he exhibited those qualities of mind that later brought to him such distinction. He served well in many ways the cause of the church, performing delicate and important duties with such tact and discerning judgment as won for him the confidence and approval of his superiors as well as the people.

Unostentatiously but persistently, Cardinal Gibbons pursued the path of duty, standing firmly for what he held to be right and for the good of mankind. It would be interesting to follow him through a long and useful life, yet it may be summed up in a few words. He could harmonize his religion with his devotion to the United States; he could foster Catholicism without waging vendetta against the Protestants who held views contrary to his; his "Faith of Our Fathers" is admitted to be the absest defense and exposition of the Catholic belief in our language, yet James Gibbons could and did mingle in public and appear on the same program with Protestant and Jew. Humble and devout, he could appreciate the spirit of the land in which he lived, and while holding firm to the tenets of the faith he earnestly espoused and ably defended, he still had love and tolerance for those who worshiped God after another fashion.

A prince of the church, his was the nature and intellect of a man who would have thrust himself upward through the crowd anywhere. That he gave his life to religion ensures him a permanent place in the records of the great church he honored by his labors, but American history will give him enduring record because he was a man.

Summer Truce in Packing Industry.

An armistice has been arranged between the packers and the workers which is to last until September 15. It contains elements that will make it permanent. Under its terms the wage cuts announced remain effective as of date of announcement, the basic eight-hour day with its overtime provisions continues, but the wartime agreement ends on September 15. On that date a new working agreement should be ready for promulgation. Five months should afford ample time for the packers and the butchers to get together and adjust their differences. If the summer is merely employed on either side to make ready for the contest that may come after September 15, then the postponement is of little value to the people. What is most desired just now is some assurance that industrial operations may be carried on continuously for a considerable period, to the end that some of the waste of war may be restored. This is not likely to come about if such differences as exist in the meat packing industry with regard to working conditions are left undisposed of. Adjournment of the dispute from time to time does not afford the assurance of stability that is essential to ultimate normalcy.

What Makes a Nation Great.

The failure of Poland to obtain the allegiance of Upper Silesia does not amount to disaster for that rejuvenated nation. Land hunger as displayed around the world in the annexations and mandate of the last few years is not a beautiful nor even a beneficial trait. It is full time nations behought themselves of their real reason for existence and learned to govern themselves before reaching out for more duties. Men are misguided to seek gold instead of life, and nations are mad to seek land instead of well-being. This is to point to the old truth that the real wealth of a nation depends on its peace and welfare, and the number of persons there given useful employment. The more faithful citizens a country has in proportion to its area, the stronger it is. There is more hope for France in its effort to encourage the increase of its native population, even though it has to resort to bounties for those with large families, than in all its territorial acquisitions. Instead of lusting for lands across the sea, or over the frontier, it is better to devote attention to doubling the honest people who live within a nation's borders. Nations are strong as their people are contented and weak as they are miserable. With

the plow and the machine plenty can be secured and happiness multiplied. At no period of history have statesmen fully recognized this fact, and they are far from this point of view even today.

Simon Bolivar, Liberator.

The president of the United States is to head a parade of unusual significance in New York on April 19. On that day, the 146th anniversary of the Battle of Lexington, an equestrian statue of Simon Bolivar, presented by Venezuela is to be unveiled in Central Park, New York. The importance of the event lies not so much in the fact that it will give to the United States a new remembrance of the Liberator as it does in the fact that it shows that a tie of common interest still unites the republics. In spite of all that has been said, of all the anti-American propaganda, the people of South America feel, as our own must, that the bond of union between the republics of the New World are more than merely surface signs.

Simon Bolivar, born an aristocrat, educated and trained among the exclusive scions of the old Spanish nobility, imbibed in the United States those notions of liberty that led him to battle for more than a dozen years, until he had freed his native country, Venezuela, and with her Colombia, Bolivia and Peru from the Spanish yoke, and had sowed the seeds that brought forth finally the overthrow of both Spain and Portugal in the Americas. Supported by the Monroe doctrine, the republics that grew up were made secure against encroachment from the monarchies of Europe, the fate of Maximilian in Mexico showing how sincere the people of the United States are in their support of the principle laid down in that statement, while Venezuela has benefited to the extent of national existence because of that stand.

Bolivar is called the Washington of South America, and fittingly so, for he was indeed the Liberator. The statue about to be dedicated is the second in his honor to stand in Central Park, but this one will be the more appreciated, as it is a sign of friendship between two nations and an abiding proof that we do have friends among the peoples to the south of us, whose ideals are sprung from the same root and flourish under the same nurture as do ours.

Mr. Harding Rights a Wrong.

The forced resignation of Obadiah Gardner from the international joint commission which has been delving into the need and advisability of the Great Lakes waterway project is one of the inexplicable deeds of former President Wilson which even his friends can not justify. Announcement that President Harding has moved to set the matter to right by securing the resignation of W. B. Wilson, who had been catapulted into the office, and thus opening the way for the reappointment of Mr. Gardner, is reassuring to all who hope for full and fair consideration of this transportation plan.

Since 1913 Senator Gardner had been a member of the joint commission for settlement of questions arising on the boundary waters between the United States and Canada. His experience there had made him exceedingly well qualified to deal with the proposed canalization of the St. Lawrence. In company with the other members of the commission he had held hearings throughout the middle west and the Great Lakes district. To have dismissed him so summarily, thus forfeiting the knowledge he had brought to bear on the problem, in order to furnish a job for the retiring secretary of labor who is destitute of all practical acquaintance with the problem, appears unjustifiable. Mr. Gardner is a rockbound Maine democrat, but President Harding has done a splendid thing to restore him to the service of the nation.

The Quiet Path of Rectitude.

In the reaction from the nervous strain of her trial, Clara Hamon perhaps has no definite plans for her future. Stories of various offers and suggestions have been made public, ranging from the statement that she will sue for a share in the Hamon estate to one that she has been offered a place in the motion pictures and that she considers becoming an evangelist.

The associated writers of moving picture plays have protested the idea of her either writing or acting for the films, and from the standpoint of preventing damage to the reputation of the industry by the exploitation of the sensational they are correct.

The same consideration should operate in the matter of her becoming an evangelist. One need not doubt the sincerity of her repentance to feel that her appearance on the pulpit would cheapen religion and do no good. If Clara Hamon has found a better faith, it is not for her to display it in public, but to live it in private. There are enough people now showing others the way, and none too many following it for themselves. In order to enjoy a useful and honorable life one does not have to do otherwise than to live in the quiet performance of good deeds.

The six sons of the former kaiser are said to be usefully employed, which, according to the account of their doings, means only that they are keeping out of mischief. The former crown prince, for instance, spends his time playing his violin, writing memoirs and painting. Two others are studying farm management at college, another is an officer in a bank, another is a director in a hotel company.

The latest entry for the questionable honor of having first evolved the league of nations idea is Tennyson, who dipped into the future in "Locksley Hall," but as far as that is concerned it might be claimed with equal authority that he therein invented wireless telegraphy and aviation.

It is natural to object to having your wages lowered, but a man has been found in New York who refused to accept an increase of \$1,000 a year in salary. Two explanations are given—he was a clergyman and already was receiving \$6,000 a year.

Curious, how old customs will hang on after the reason for them ceases; for instance, why did those Oklahoma bandits wear masks? Surely, they were not afraid of being apprehended if identified.

A hat, according to the lexicon of high school youth, is an article carried in a girl's hand in order to display her neatly done up hair and not disturb its symmetry.

Northwestern university co-eds who stood their ground and killed 50 mice show that higher education has changed womankind.

These open-work hose promise a busy season for the mosquito family.

Lansing's Book on Paris

Late Secretary of State Tells What Happened There.

(By The Associated Press.)

Boston, March 24.—Robert Lansing, former secretary of state and member of the American peace commission, will reveal in his book on "The Peace Negotiations," which will be published by Houghton, Mifflin company, March 25, how close he came to resigning from the commission because of differences with President Wilson over the Shantung decision and his belief that many of the terms of peace imposed on Germany were harsh, humiliating and seemingly impossible of performance.

President Wilson, according to Mr. Lansing's belief, at one time during the peace conference proposed to make a preliminary treaty which would stand the League of Nations on a footing without laying the document before the United States senate, and evidently was much perturbed when his secretary of state told him that the only way to change the status from war to peace was by a ratified treaty or a joint resolution of congress.

A profound conviction that immediate peace was the primary need of the world, Mr. Lansing implies, was all that kept him from resigning from the peace conference, because of fundamental disagreements with the president on principles. The former secretary discloses that in 1916, shortly before a meeting in Washington to discuss the League of Nations, which he had been asked to speak, Mr. Lansing wrote to Mr. Wilson, objecting to the use of force to settle international disputes. In this letter he pointed to the menace to the Monroe Doctrine contained in such a plan.

Alarmed at the complications of war and foreign entanglements in the guarantee of territorial integrity and political independence of members of the league, a guarantee that finally was embodied in Article X of the Covenant, Mr. Lansing says that at Paris he tried to have substituted a negative pledge that the members should not use force against each other's territorial integrity or political independence, which was convinced that Colonel Edward M. House, then President Wilson's closest adviser, was completely converted with regard to this question.

It is in relation to Shantung, Mr. Lansing discloses the sharpest differences between himself and President Wilson. Mr. Lansing gives as his opinion that the United States should have impelled the president to agree to surrender to that country such rights in Shantung as before the war were held by Germany and automatically annulled when China declared hostilities. In his opinion only secret diplomacy made it possible for Japan to threaten to leave the peace conference unless its demands were granted, a condition Lansing believed would not have been executed, because of the appreciation by Japan that the benefits of a new and powerful world position could be retained only by membership in the League of Nations.

That other members of the American commission shared his view that Lansing's decision as rendered by the council of four was a flagrant wrong and were prevented from resigning only by the critical conditions in the world situation is clearly implied by Mr. Lansing. He describes the indignation felt by himself and by Henry White and General Tasker H. Bliss, and on that occasion he published the letter written by General Bliss to the president, in which Lansing and Mr. White concurred, stating that to support the Japanese claim would be to abandon Chinese democracy to domination of Japan's Prussianized militarism.

It was impossible, in Mr. Lansing's opinion, to have the league of nations covenant the greatest international document ever written, as was intended, in the 11 days given to the committee. This is established by the document itself, he says, which provides for an oligarchy of four great powers and a continuance of the policy of the balance of power against which the president campaigned in England, but which he in effect subscribed to in approving the covenant.

Relating the difficulties and embarrassments to which three of the American commissioners were subjected by failure of the president to hold a single conference with the American commission, Mr. Lansing says that the president, in his first meeting with the league of nations committee, says the office force of Colonel House is more about the proceedings than the three American commissioners who were not present. Additional difficulties were caused by lack of an American program, the fourteen points of the president being entirely insufficient for such a purpose. Mr. Lansing considers the president disposed to consider the league of nations program. He asked the American legal adviser to prepare a "skeleton treaty," but was told emphatically by the president that the latter did not intend to have lawyers draft the treaty of peace.

Mr. Lansing's idea was to secure adoption of a resolution declaring the purposes and nature of the League of Nations, providing for later negotiation of a detailed plan, and in the meantime to make peace at the earliest possible moment. This, he thought, could be done by April 1, 1919. Delay of peace for the purpose of completing the league he considered an unwarranted risk. The president, however, thought otherwise, and Mr. Lansing thought it possible to infer that the president was disposed to employ the world desire for peace as a means to compel other governments to accept his plan for a league.

Self-determination was a phrase of the president that Mr. Lansing considered loaded with dynamite; bound to cause impossible complications, and to stir up trouble in many countries. This principle, he says, was discredited when Germany was refused permission to join with Austria, and was ignored in the president's policy toward Russia. The president's proposed defensive treaty with France was bad; that the president was rejected by the American senate, and that the credited Article X, which Mr. Wilson considered vital to the treaty, was the opinion of Mr. Lansing during the peace conference. He indicates his belief that Clemenceau insisted on the defensive treaty as the price of support of the league.

Secretary Lansing finds the mandate system of administering conquered territories a selfish device benefiting material interests of the mandate-holding powers under cover of apparent altruism. It was sought to take advantage of the weakness of the American people to impose burdensome mandates on the United States, while giving profitable ones to European powers.

Mr. Lansing opposed the mandate system in talking with Colonel House, but never knew whether his objections were conveyed to the president. In connection with other problems were never acknowledged according to Mr. Lansing, who found Mr. Wilson intolerant of suggestions; irritated by opposition, and seemingly suspicious of the secretary's views after November 12, 1918, when Mr. Lansing incurred his displeasure by urging him not to go to Paris personally.

Mr. Lansing discusses the testimony of William C. Bullitt before the senate foreign relations committee. Mr. Bullitt quoted Mr. Lansing as saying that if the American people understood what the treaty let them in for they would defeat it. Mr. Bullitt entirely changed the meaning of what had been said in Paris, Mr. Lansing declares. The president at that time was preparing for the League of Nations in the west and Mr. Lansing telegraphed to him offering to explain the interview with Bullitt, but he says, the president never answered his telegram.

Because of the pressing need of peace, Secretary Lansing, despite his differences with Mr. Wilson, continued to favor ratification of the treaty and covenant without reservations. This he did as long as there was a chance a secure and early peace by this method.

Our Language Again.

Ferriage is what you pay for riding on a trolley, but salvage is not what you spend for riding on a trolley. The money you pay for riding is not in cabbage. Railroad bonds are for running railroads, but baby bonds aren't for running babies.—Public Ledger, Philadelphia.

How to Keep Well

By DR. W. A. EVANS

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally, subject to space limitations. Addressed envelopes are enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

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HERNIA.

Hernia is rupture and rupture is hernia. Beyond this there is no need to define the term for people of intelligence of those who read this column. In hernia of the abdomen some of the contents of the cavity push out between layers of muscle and fibrous tissue and come to occupy a sac which is covered by skin and sac wall and not much else as a rule.

Why a hernia? Because there is in the abdominal wall an opening or a weak place located in a zone where the contents of the abdomen are under a good deal of pressure. Why the openings and the weak places? One way to answer the question is by saying nature made them so, but that answer is nothing more than a string of words. As a rule the weak places are those in or near which something naturally comes out or came out before birth or "shoot" is the term used. A hernia is frequent because of it.

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The Bee's Letter Box

Let Us Have Bergdoff.

Omaha, March 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: Get Bergdoff! What has become of that slogan which you emblazoned across the front page of The Bee several Sundays ago? Is that notorious slacker going to be permitted to sit on his laurels in the lap of luxury peace there in Germany and laugh at Uncle Sam like a grinning hyena or jackal without being brought back here to pay for his crimes?

Germany is crying out for "justice" against the indemnities set down by the Paris peace conference. It has even flaunted an energetic "We won't" and yet in spite of the terrible starving and nakedness of war-suffering Germany, Bergdoff has been made the emperor of his own little province, where he rules with an iron hand, controlling everything from the food to the telegraph wires with his American dollars.

Can a German court, with Germany in the lap of luxury peace there in America send two sturdy Yankee soldiers into a dirty German prison without suffering for it? Has there been any signing of peace between America and Germany? Then why not get Bergdoff!

I served my hitch in the A. E. F. and laid in the mud over Sedan for months after the armistice was signed. Up there where beautiful France offered mute testimony to the world of the suffering it had undergone through the terrible ministrations of the German war machines. But is France bewailing her fate? Emphatically no! France has some back to work, every last man and woman of the republic, but Germany, where not a shot was fired and not a building demolished or a town ravaged by invading demons, is signing an armistice for several months from the just burden they must bear upon the world. And they are making a hero out of a low-born, pseudo-highbrow traitor to the land of his birth.

Can Bergdoff get away with it? Or is there some justice in the world? Get Bergdoff! His case is a direct insult to the millions of boys that flocked to the colors, thousands of whom even now are turning over in their graves in Flanders fields at this stain on the flag for which they gave their lives.

AN AMERICAN FOR AMERICA.

Rank in the Army. Omaha, March 24.—To the Editor of The Bee: I saw several days ago an editorial in The Bee which attracted my attention for several reasons. One was an erroneous statement that General Pershing was the first man to hold the rank of general in the army, and another that General Grant Surely the writer must have known of William Tecumseh ("Uncle Billy") Sherman, who was appointed general soon after General Grant assumed the presidency, and who was commander-in-chief until he reached the retiring age, and who was succeeded by Lieut. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, who was appointed general a short time before his death.

Now, I want to scold a little about the under-ranking of the men who are in command in our army. It looks ridiculous to me for a nation of 105,000,000, with an army of 250,000, to have no higher officer than a major general for its commander-in-chief. That was the case before the World War and it looks as if our congress intended it to be the case after General Pershing retires. There are so many men in authority with his own mind that profess their fears of "The Man on Horseback" whenever any soldier rises to pre-eminence in his profession that they are not willing to give the of-

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American Rights at Stake

(From the Minneapolis Tribune.)

American man, money and food supplies, turned the scale of war against the central powers. Whether the European allies could have won if this country had remained a non-combatant is exceedingly doubtful. The predominance of capable judgment appears to be that they never could have done more than procure a draw. In any event, without American forces to help, the bloody conflict would have been further prolonged, and the allies would have suffered still more in loss of human life and property.

When arms were laid down the United States asked for nothing in indemnity for their services, but the greater because this country did not elect to count itself in on "the spoils."

There is an American post-bellum equity, however, that the allies abroad will readily recognize and grant if they have any real sense of fairness and right. That equity is a reasonable share in the general good to the world that flows from the victory which the powers and resources of this country made possible. In that share should be understood the privilege of participating in world trade on terms that international comity and gratitude dictate as justified and fair.

Unless some administration is vigilant and firm—and we have full faith it will be both—America will be deprived of that equity. There are signs abroad that some of our late allies in the war are in mind to ignore their moral and economic obligations to us in the peace that ensues on war. In some of these ungrateful quarters there is a subtle cultivation of an idea that this country should cross off a debt of \$10,000,000,000 or so owing to it for loans advanced; a spirit that would overlook the fact of ten billions spent by this country on its own war account; and not only that, but would foreclose important trade channels of the world to American commerce.

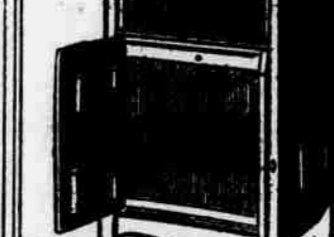
There is, of course, a limit to the slight other powers may put upon this country in their striving to promote their own material interests. The present administration may be trusted to stipulate that limit and to bring appropriate administrative signs upon it. It will not be accepted as an excuse for disregarding the equities of this country that it failed to subscribe to the Versailles treaty.

There is a "dollar diplomacy" that is eminently righteous from an American standpoint. For it the government is in duty bound to command a world respect and to compel recognition by the allies, who seem to think that the scratch of a few pens in Versailles wiped out American title to their standing in the war of the earth.

The United States can afford to forego indemnities, but it cannot and it will not afford the routing of its rights and dignity by self-servers of other lands.

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