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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of March, 1922.
(Seal) W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public

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New England and the Canal.

When advocates of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway not long ago claimed New England support, New York and Boston harbor and transport interests denied the statement emphatically. As they stated the case, the waterway project is nothing better than a raid upon the national treasury for the benefit of selfish middle westerners, who are greedy enough to want the advantage of water-borne commerce extended beyond the narrow limit of the Atlantic seaboard.

Whereupon the Associated Industries of Massachusetts now takes the witness stand. This organization is a state association of manufacturers, and a very influential and active one. Its members represent factories throughout that great industrial state. Some time ago the Associated Industries appointed a committee to study the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway project. The committee did so. It not only read reports on the subject, but it inspected the route first-hand and investigated particularly the possible development of hydro-electric power. This committee has made its report, entirely favorable to the project. It favors it not only because of its benefit to the middle west and the Great Lakes territory, as a highway of commerce, but because of the cheap electric power that will be made available for the industries of New England.

The west wants this waterway because of its benefit to the agricultural producers through the lowering of transportation costs. New England wants it because it will develop hundreds of thousands of horsepower of electric energy. Isn't it about time that New York's harbor monopoly swing into line with that New York banker who announced not long ago, in this very connection, that "the national interest is bigger than that of New York?"

Harriman's Omelette Well Made.

When the late J. Pierpont Morgan asked how one would go about to unscramble an omelette, he did not have the Harriman system of railroads particularly in mind, but his remark will apply to it. The supreme court of the United States is about to listen to arguments in behalf of the government in a suit that has for its end a divorce between the Southern and Central Pacific railroads.

A few years ago, by a singular construction of law, the supreme court held that the Union Pacific and Central Pacific were competing lines, and ordered the Union Pacific to dispose of its holdings in the Central. A sequel to this was the control of the "Seepee" by the "Esspee," in spite of their obvious competition. Now the government asks that the bonds between the two be broken, and thus restore a condition that existed when Harriman began his great work of developing the lines and making them efficient commerce carriers.

Harriman foresaw what is reflected, first in the policy adopted by Director General McAdoo in his effort to make the railroads function; next, by the proponents of the zone system, under which the country is to be districted for proper railroad management. The great builder did not look to monopoly, but to a properly conceived and efficiently articulated system, which could be handled at the least possible cost and produce the maximum of result. He solved the monopoly problem by putting the grand divisions of his system under independent control, and yet made sure of successful co-operation through related direction.

The government may win its suit against the Southern Pacific, but that will not answer the question, nor unscramble the omelette. Harriman prepared his dish with skill and care, and in it is the germ that ultimately will bring the railroads of the United States to something like real usefulness in their sphere.

Uprising in South Africa.

Allowing for the meagerness and possible inaccuracy of news from South Africa, the conviction is forced that the disturbance around Johannesburg is more than a labor strike. Trouble in the mines, ever present, seems to have been seized upon by dicontented or malicious schemers to start a revolution. Germs of such a demonstration have lingered since the Boer war of 1899-1902, a large percentage of the followers of Kruger never having whole-heartedly accepted the situation that followed the making of peace and the dissolution of the Boer republic. While the government of which Jan Smuts is the head has been progressive and forward looking in all matters, and has elevated the South African Union to an important position in the British empire, it has also been subject to the corrosive action of bolshevism, which is present everywhere, and the combination of radicals with the discontented Dutch may easily be credited with having fomented a rebellion. Latest news from Johannesburg indicates that the government is gaining the upper hand, and will be able to restore order, although the disturbance has cost a great many lives, because of the fierce and determined character of the fighting. More information must be had before a definite conclusion is reached as to the character of the disorder, whether it is but an aggravated strike or an attempt to upset the government, but in either event it is sufficiently important to enlist serious attention.

Our Claim Against Germany.

When the United States made demand that a bill of $213,000,000, on account of expense incurred for maintaining troops on the Rhine, be paid by Germany before any further sums are credited on reparations, answer was given to two questions. The unspoken query of the Allies has been, What course will America take in this matter? Democrats who argued that rejection of the Versailles treaty would either forfeit claims for this indemnity or require direct negotiations with Berlin have wondered what the Harding administration would do about the bill.

The world knows now; America wants its bill paid first of all, and, very much to the surprise of the League of Nations supporters, has made the approach through the Allied commission. No question can exist as to the justice of the claim, nor as to the right of the United States to insist on its being paid forthwith. This is a claim arising out of the war, incident to the making of peace and settlement of treaty terms, and, although the United States is not a party to that treaty, its right to collect expenses incurred does not vanish, but becomes a prior lien.

A collateral effect possible as growing out of the proceeding is hinted at by the London Chronicle, which says:

Intrinsically the claim is not unreasonable, and if the practical effect is to make some of our continental friends less zealous to prolong the occupation of German soil this would be quite as much to the taste of British opinion as to American.

The Westminster Gazette sees in the movement a subtle attempt on part of our government to get its troops out of Europe, and also added emphasis to the advice from Washington that the reparations question should be discussed at Genoa. Most beneficial of effects likely to follow, it is argued, will be the termination of the expensive occupation of German territory and a more substantial approach to a real settlement that yet has been attained.

Bombarding the Treaty.

Hiram Johnson of California went into action Monday in the United States senate, fired salvo after salvo against the four-power treaty. He was joined from time to time by Borah of Idaho, whose irreconcilability led him to challenge the veracity of Secretary Hughes, expressing a doubt that the latter told the truth when he said he wrote the treaty. Senator Johnson's argument is that the delegates from the United States were beguiled into signing and the president of the United States fooled into submitting to the senate a treaty that contains the surrender of all our national rights, binds the country to whatever action may be determined by rivals, posing as our friends but really our foes, and exposing the nation to dishonor, danger, and possible extinction. In fact, things couldn't be worse, according to the viewpoint of the senator from California. However, just as a great many American people are inclined to think that Woodrow Wilson really was a patriot, so a lot of them will believe that Warren G. Harding has the interests of his country at heart. More than 16,000,000 Americans voted for Harding because they believed he would do something like call the Washington conference. It may suit the program of Senators Johnson, Hitchcock and Borah to undo the work of that conference, but the people want peace, and they may get tired of listening to these implacable opponents of everything that anybody else proposes to get peace. The treaty is being bombarded, all right, yet it does not appear to be in great danger of demolition.

Slashing Local Tax Rates.

The experience of Dawson county, where a reduction in tax rate to the extent of 41 per cent has beeen accomplished by the county board, is likely to inspire both envy and emulation. Analysis of the facts, however, discloses no evidence of a miracle. In achieving the result attained the authorities merely have used common sense and business judgment. One point must be kept clear in mind. Of the total of $90,000 announced as saved, $60,000 is accounted for by a special levy that will be dropped because its purpose is completed. But $30,000 is to be saved by the simple method of applying prudent, intelligent management to county business. Here is the secret of the whole problem. Waving a wand or pronouncing a cabalistic formula will not reduce taxes; no magic is potent to effect the relief property owners seek. Hard-headed judgment, the exercise of such care in making public bargains as would be put forth in private dealings, intelligent handling of all details relating to the county's activities, true economy and not parsimony, are the essential elements of a program that will lead to better financial conditions among the several counties of the state, and will quiet much of the existing discontent, because taxpayers will have assurance that they are getting value received for the money they pay into the public coffers. The world will never part with all its grumblers, but most people give over complaint when convinced that taxes are not going to waste.

The spectacle of middle aged business men seated at the little desks where 50 years ago they pursued the three R's sounds all right in telling the story, but some of you grown up chaps try sitting down at one of those desks that used to seem so big to you.

"Hold your wheat!" is reported to be the cry in France and Germany just now. How nice it would have been if the farmers over there had said "Hold your horses!" a few years ago.

A revolution in South Africa might add to the death list, but it will not increase the gayety of nations. Down there men shoot with their eyes open and take aim before firing.

The English parson who has gone on strike against the godlessness of his congregation will likely find himself engaged in a war of attrition right from the jump off.

"Uncle Andy" Mellon is for a bonus, but doesn't care to pay out any money on that account.

Talking about taxes, tomorrow is Uncle Sam's receiving day.

The Auto show and the weather man understand one another.

The four-power treaty is gaining power.

Egypt and the Philippines

Some Comparisons of Problems and Policies As to Dealing With Peoples.

(From the London Spectator.)

Independence is not the universal benefit which it is assumed to be by some well-meaning persons. It may indeed be the truest kindness to withhold independence from countries which are unable to exercise it for their own advantage. No sane Englishman wishes to withhold self-government from those who are proved capable of it. Unhappily our present government are constitutionally unable to say yes or no plainly. How unlike they are to American officials, although they are in habit of holding over our heads the threat of American disapproval if we should hesitate to hand our powers of self-government to subject races all over the world! We have just received the full text of the report of the American special mission to the Philippines which was led by General Leonard Wood. There is no nebulosity about this report. General Wood says that the transfer of control to the Filipinos has been too rapid, and that, though they are not wanting in the instincts for self-government, they lack sufficient experience. The American government, he says, would therefore "not be justified in relinquishing the supervision of the government of the Philippine Islands." "The present status should continue until the people have had time to absorb and thoroughly master the powers already in their hands." Finally, General Wood points out with great emphasis that "in no circumstances should the American government allow a constitution to come about which would leave the United States in a position of responsibility without authority."

* * *

The British government, if they had not enough information to make up their mind definitely whether it was or was not safe to give Egypt independence, ought to have sent a special commission of investigation like General Wood's commission. Then, having studied the report of the commission, they ought to have come to a decision and have informed the Egyptians precisely of that decision. Unfortunately they acted quite otherwise. They did indeed send a commission of investigation headed by Lord Milner, but they instructed it to draft a scheme for Egyptian independence, and then they made that scheme known to the whole world. The appetite of the Egyptians was immediately whetted by the bill of fare placed before them. Then the government began to have after-thoughts. Egypt was on the direct route to India and the east. What would happen if the Egyptians interrupted the service of the Suez canal? Then, again we had made ourselves responsible for the nationals of many countries in Egypt. How could we be responsible for their interests and their personal safety if we withdrew all troops from the interior and contented ourselves with sitting down and watching the canal zone? And even then, would the troops in the canal zone be safe! Might not the Egyptians cut off the sweet water supply! It may be answered that brackish or salt water could be condensed for the troops in the canal zone and that in any case the sweet water supply could not be cut off without doing irreparable damage to Egyptians themselves. But that is a small matter. The government made endless difficulties for themselves by dangling a bait in front of the Egyptians' noses and then snatching it away.

* * *

The doctrine of nationalism has been popularized so fast and so widely since the war that it seems to us a hopeless policy to say that we will not encourage national aspirations directly after having implied by the publication of the Milner report that we would encourage them. Nor is it only the spirit of self-determination which is working furiousy in the brains of the Egyptians. All over the world the lesson of Ireland has been watched and learned. It is impossible not to trace both in Egypt and India imitations of the procedure which the Sinn Feiners adopted in opening negotiations. We must not be understood to mean that there is a real similarity between India and Egypt. In India we have given all that we promised and more than we ought to have promised. In Egypt, on the other hand, we have given a good deal less than we seemed to promise. The position, of course, ought to have been reversed, for Egypt is not like India—a congeries of peoples—but a comparatively homogeneous mass.

So far we can see the government could have come to an agreement with Adly Pasha. He would probably have accepted a little less than the Milner scheme if only we had not insisted upon the importance of keeping garrisons in so many parts of Egypt. Adly knew perfectly well that Egypt could not prosper at all without us; he even knew that nothing would make his country more insecure than a British policy of leaving Egypt entirely without protection or advice. He valued the experience and good will of British officials. What he wanted, as we understand, was the form of independence. And that was refused.

The riots instigated by Zaghlul Pasha were the sequel. And now Egypt has reached such a pass that no Egyptian dares to take office as prime minister unless he has in his hand a British promise of independence at least in name.

Shakespeare Not Played Out

It is then true that "at no time in our literary history was the English public as represented by its critics and leaders of taste less qualified to admire and celebrate William Shakespeare?" Is it true that never before has his fame been "so low or so confused?" My own answer would be that never before have Shakespeare's critics been so generally enlighteded, his essential potencies so clearly felt, his fame so secure and his contemporaneity so obvious. And this good fortune arises in large measure, I think, from the fact that in these times the readers of his plays are more directly fixing their attention where Shakespeare certainly fixed his. If we are losing interest in those vexed inquiries as to when Macbeth first conceived the murder, why Emilia was silent about the handkerchief and why Hamlet pretended madness, we are the more direct and ardent in our attention to Macbeth, Desdemona and Hamlet themselves. I venture to believe that the informed reader is giving himself more artlessly to the thought, the utterance, the poetry, the crisis of emotion and insight—those moments when the play disappears and we dwell for brief instants in the presence of life itself. This reader. I take it, is more willingly and less fearfully, taking counsel of the school for which Mr. Shaw speaks when he advises us "to dissect out the absurb sensational incidents of the borrowed story from the genuine Shakespearean tissue." I shall not boast that our generation is the first to discern "the genuine Shakespearean tissue." My impression is, however, that the teachers and critics of our time will fall below their privilege if from the labors of the skeptic they do not derive means for delivering the general reader from the delusion that all things in Shakespeare are excellent, and more particularly, that Shakespeare is a flawless artist.—Karl Young in the North American Review.

A Nation of Images.

Breslau is raising funds for a monument to the lost province of Silesia, after the manner of the Strasburg monument, over which Paris long mourned. If monuments are to be raised to all lost German possessions, including colonial and insular, the fund raisers and sculptors of Germany will be kept busy.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

More Work for Reformers.

It has just about got so in some towns that little girls aren't even raising their dolls right.—Dallas News.

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 proper limitation, where a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

THE PILLS OF PONZI.

Men must have faith.

Faith is one of the fundamentals.

We pride ourselves upon the intelligence with which we of this twentieth century savor our faith. We ridicule the blind credulity of the folk of the earlier centuries, but not so with us after our centuries old upward progress.

Particularly not so we canny Yanks. We can tell a wooden nutmeg as far as we can see it.

Whenever you feel sick of the disease of conceit for the people of your age I advise you to pull down from your library shelf "Nostrums and Quackery," vol. II., by A. J. Cramp, A. M. A. press.

It is generally accepted that fiction is never as improbable as fact run amuck.

You may have formed your opinion of the limits of human credulity from reading fiction. When you have read this book you will consider credulity based on fiction rather drab.

It may have been that you got an insight into credulity about wartime when those weird stories were being passed from mouth to ear. Even so, you have something to learn.

For instance, you will read the claims of a food expert, so called; you note subheads: "Butter the Cause of Deafness;" "Gallstones Dissolved;" "Cancer Dissolved, Dispersed and Expelled."

But you say, "Nobody believes claims of which these are samples." There are testimonials, it is true, but Dr. Cramp showed us years ago how testimonials are bought and sold.

What other proof of credulity is there?

Oodles of it. Size of business profit of business, wealth of proprietors, volumes of correspondence.

For instance, here is a concern that has undergone previous exposure.

In parallel columns are shown letters from persons claiming they had been cured and death certificates showing that those same individuals had died of the very diseases which their letters said they had been cured of. Even after these exposures, and in the very same communities, people by the thousands have fallen for the claims.

An then maybe the facts in this column might come in handy.

Note these chapter heads:

Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Cures.
Consumption Cures.
Cosmetic Nostrums.
Cough Medicines.
Deafness Cures.
Epilepsy Cures.
Female Weakness Cures.
Nostrums of Kidney Disease and Diabetes.
Medical Institutes.
Medical Mail Order Concerns.
Men's Specialists.
Mineral Waters.
Miscellaneous Nostrums.
Miscellaneous Specialists.
Obesity Cures.
Quackery of the Drugless Type.
Rheumatism Cures.
Tonics and Bitters.

Names are given and specific charges are made. Inaccurate statements or improper motives would have led to a flood of libel suits.

If you will read this book carefully you will not be taken in by some jailbird, more than once a stripe-wearer, but just then posing as a famous psychologist.

Nose Neurasthenia.

A. P. Q. writes: "Kindly let me know if sulphur dioxide gas is injurious to one's health. In my present position I inhale quite a quantity of it. I am told that it is good for the lungs.

"I suffer from violent headaches. Could this gas cause them? What effect does this have on the heart?"

REPLY.

There is some evidence that those who work in air containing a trace of sulphur dioxide gas are a little less subject to certain respiratory infections. However, the evidence is not scientific. The case is far from being proved.

On the other hand, there is some reason for thinking it causes a little irritation of the throat and bronchial tubes. However, many of the disorders and diseases ascribed to breathing much diluted "odors" are due to coincidence. Some are due to suggestion.

Once a fellow gets it into his mind that an odor is harming him, he is likely to develop corns, bunions, falling hair, headaches, and other disorders, and firmly believe the "odors" responsible.

As you see, both the plaintiff and the defendant have their supporters.

Roaring in Ears.

H. T. S. writes: "1. Will you please publish the scale for telling blood pressure for any age?

"2. What causes swelling of the upper eyelid?

"3. What causes a singing sensation in the ears?"

REPLY.

1. 120 normal at 20 years. Add five for each 10 years over 20. This gives normals that are regarded generally as a little too high.

2. Bright's disease is one possibility.

3. Head noises generally result from middle ear trouble.

Bonus But No Appropriation.

What congress would like to do would be to vote for the soldiers' bonus and then adjourn, leaving someone else to find the money with which to pay the cost.—Portland Press-Herald.

The Bee's Letter Box

Irish and the Democrats.

Omaha, March 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: It is very unfortunate that the Irish at Kearney should have allowed themselves to be made the butt of criticism by some unwise democratic politician. His or their methods were so coarse that they could not possibly escape criticism. Here are the arrangements. All connected officially with the affair were against Ireland when her sons and daughters were dying in the struggle. One of the guests of honor was openly hostile to suffering Ireland. Only two guests of honor at the banquet. The two are active and well known democrats of the state. Both have held the highest offices within the state at one time. Now that I have clearly proven to you that the first campaign meeting of the democrats is to be held at Kearney March 17, 1922, I will will make one guess and it is this: "The meeting at Kearney will lose the democrats thousands of votes" I would say to those of Irish descent and their friends, in the campaign of 1922 before you cast your vote find out what color was that man in 1921 and also the color of the politician speaking for party or individual. In a word, let us use our heads this time; we have been fooled too often. I am a democrat; I may go to the convention at Kearney March 17, but I would not wear the shamrock at the convention; I have too great respect for that sacred emblem. Don't follow any party this year. Be a man of honor and cast your vote for one whom you know could be trusted. Encourage men like George W. Norris. A DEMOCRAT.

Mother's View of a Bonus.

Ravenna, Neb., March 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: To "M. M. B.," "Could Not Get to Go," and others like them who attack the boys of the world war: Of course, $33 went a long way, a terrible amount. The boys had to have hair cuts regularly and other expenses that didn't go with the camp life. They kept up their insurance for the loved ones in case they never returned. They divided the $33 with aged parents, wife and family, as the case might have been. And when their loved ones came to camp to visit they defrayed the expenses. They bought bonds and stamps while here and sent money home for the same purpose. They aided Red Cross, Salvation army, the K. C., and others. Don't you think they made the paltry $33 go far enough? What did you do, stay at home? Can't you figure out why they didn't take you?

They needed men of courage and brains, manly men. The men of courage and refinement went and fought to protect such as you, while you got your hand in to make a fortune where no bullets would puncture your delicate hide. Suppose it was a moneyed war, didn't you grab your share? If not it was your own fault. The boys say it was a just war and they know. If the United States government rules don't suit you, why don't you move on. Didn't the boys go over there and win in a short time? What is a financial expense? Nothing. What is a brave boy's life? Everything. What if you did use a paltry sum for stamps and bonds, you got it all back with interest. You had three meals a day and a bed and never went four or five days without anything to eat, as some of the brave boys did, maybe all, who knows? They are not telling the worst of their experiences.

They did not go over there to fill the prisons, to keep out of danger. They went to win the war, which they did. There is no history of so great a war. The boys not only fought with their man power but used their money power. Many a state has given the boys a state bonus and if this bonus goes through suppose they will get their share also. What is the state of Nebraska doing? Nothing.

A BRAVE BOY'S MOTHER.

Is 18 Per Cent Too High?

Julesburg, Colo., March 10.—To the Editor of The Bee: How would you like to have your banker say 18 per cent when you ask him for a loan? I have always been told that long time loans on real estate would be made cheaper than short time loans such as we usually get at the banks. I have a neighbor who applied for a loan of $6,000 on his improved half-section. When he got the loan he was charged $600 cash commission. This is 10 per cent. This $600 he never got. He gave a mortgage on his place for $6,000 and actually got only $5,400. He pays 7 per cent on the $6,000. Now in order to get the full $6,000 which he needed, he had to go to the local bank and borrow $600, on which he is paying 10 per cent. Now 10 per cent on $600 is $60; $60 is 1 per cent on $6,000. Now, by adding the 10 per cent cash commission, the 7 per cent interest and the 1 per cent you will have the 18 per cent which he gives for the first year.

Now, what I can't see is this: How these loan companies can charge more than the legal rate, which is 10 per cent in the state of Nebraska?

Also, if the security in this county is good enough for these loan companies, why it is not good enough for the land banks. I and others have tried to get loans from them, but they refuse. Through them we could get 40-year loans at 6 per cent and no cash commission. Wouldn't it be great if we could get together and demand it and get it? What do you farmers say?

H. W. RENQUIST.