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REPUBLICAN TICKET

For the United States Senate
JOSEPH IRWIN FRANCE
of Cecil County

For the House of Representatives
WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE
of Baltimore County

Election
Tuesday, November 7th, 1916

OUR CONTROVERSY WITH GREAT BRITAIN

President Wilson, through Secretary Lansing, the official medium, is pressing Great Britian with vigor in relation to the British interference with American mails addressed to persons in neutral countries. The President maintains the contention that the action of the British government, in the premises, is without the slightest warrant of international law and is a totally unjustifiable proceeding. While diplomatic language was employed in the American notes, thus far addressed to the British authorities, it has been as emphatic as the communications addressed to Germany concerning her submarine warfare, and there seems to be no room for a modification of the demands of the American government. How this country can maintain diplomatic relations with England, if the latter persists in these mail seizures, is not apparent. In fact, the demand is not only that such seizures must cease, but that all losses incurred by the senders of letters and parcel post packages, in consequence of their seizure, must be made good by the country which has transgressed the rights of American people. There is no intimation, at the time this is being written, that the contention of the government at Wshington will be agreed to. John Bull holds to his purposes tenaciously, and it remains to be seen whether he will make any concession at all in this matter.

It is not alone in the seizure of the mails that the United States has grave cause for controversy with him. His outrages upon American rights in the search and seizure of American ships engaged in neutral commerce, have not been less flagrant than those perpetrated upon the mails. Protests against these outrages have not prevented their repetition, time and time again, and there seems to be no remedy against them short of a severance of diplomatic relations with the offending nation. Nothing short of that, apparently, will curb British arrogance. It remains to be seen whether the government at Washington is prepared to carry its contention to that extent. Certainly there seems to be no reasonable ground to which it can retreat with honor and maintain friendly relations with the British government, if that power continues to assert its right to pursue the course it has been doing.

There can hardly be a doubt that the sympathies of the American people, in relation to the great war, are pro-Ally. The English government and people are well aware of that fact, and may be disposed to presume upon it. But the American government, in dealing with the belligerents must hold the scales of justice in equal poise and must maintain strict neutrality. That it will do so can hardly be doubted. It was in that faith that Germany conceded so much to President Wilson in his hostility to her submarine warfare. As the American people stood by their government in that controversy, it can fairly be presumed they will do so in this.

It is to be regretted that France is to some extent involved in this matter, having in a very little degree followed the example of Great Britain. For that reason Washington, it is said, has addressed a demand to the French government to abstain from further transgression. That, at least is a newspaper story, though it is possibly only a figment of some newspaper man's brain. It is, at least, to be hoped that France will not be hindered by America, in any way, in her brave defence against German invasion.

FRANCE ENTITLED TO THE HIGHEST HONOR

In all wars the contending enemies seek to accomplish successes in battle and to make such aggressive or defensive movements or actions as entitle them to be held in high honor by their own people, or by the governments and people of neutral countries. History records such a desire as a universal motive with every country that engages in war at any time, even though the greatest possible effort has been or may be made to avoid hostilities. For instance, it must be apparent to everybody who looks back to the beginning of the present great war in the Eastern Hemisphere, that France was forced in self defence to resist the invasion of the land by the Germans and has fought with desperation only to preserve her national existence, which was threatened and endangered.

The contrast of her gallant and stubborn defence, in this war, with her feeble and unsuccessful resistance of the Germans, in the war of 1870, is remarkable. The great armies of Marshal Bazaine and McMahon were then overthrown and captured in the brief campaign of a few months, and the country was speedily prostrate before the victorious Prussians directed by von Moltke. France then emerged in ignominy from the one-sided conflict; emerged as a Republic from a proud monarchial empire, with her emperor dethroned and exiled. The honor of France was then at a low ebb and not much expectation or hope was entertained that she could recuperate and regain former prestige as a warlike country, under a republican government.

But if such a sentiment toward her was felt, by the people of other lands, it has been more than dissipated by the events of the last two years. Pursuing the arts of peace as a government of the people, her people became commercially prosperous and successful, and to a limited extent maintained a military standing that enabled her to reach out for control of some foreign territory. But she did not seek to build up a great military establishment or to maintain a great standing army. Her citizens were required by law to undergo reasonable military training, so that at her invasion by the Germans she had been able to mobilize a force sufficiently strong to turn back Von Kluck, from his drive toward Paris, and to establish a line of defence which, with little change or reverse, has been heroically maintained up to this time.

Whatever may be said concerning military operations by the Germans elsewhere, it is patent that their strongest desire, effort and purpose has been to overthrow France and overrun the country from the Rhine to the sea. Not even the interference of Belgium, at the beginning of the war, would have prevented that, if the defenders of France had not exhibited a courage and determination equal to their patriotic devotion to the country.

There has not been a moment since they checked and turned back the advance of Von Kluck against Paris, that every French soldier has not been ready to lay down his life to prevent the overthrow of his country. The fiercest and most desperate efforts of the Germans have been launched against these brave Frenchmen. For four months, now, without cessation, Germany has concentrated the most violent continued assaults on the French lines and defences about Verdun, but the defence still holds because the brave defenders consider not their lives in maintaining it. One can hardly doubt that if the other allies had displayed half the intrepidity manifested against the German effort, or rather series of onslaughts on the defences and defenders of Verdun, Germany might be everywhere driven to assume a defensive attitude instead of being the most aggressive power engaged in the mighty conflict.

And, it is in this defence of Verdun, unaided by her allies, that France stands forth as entitled to the highest honor that a neutral can entertain for any one of the belligerent countries. Even her enemies must be constrained to accord her this mead of admiration. It is said that even their German assailants acknowledge that they have never been called upon to grapple with as brave and gallant a foe. Under the circumstances can any American withhold his sympathy from the native land of the Marquis de La Fayette, who did so much to promote the success of the American Colonies in their struggle for independence from Great Britian. All honor to France and may she emerge triumphant from the great conflict.

Much public interest was felt in the criminal prosecution of three officers of the Riggs National Bank, of Washington, D. C., who were indicted for perjury at the instance of the Comptroller of the Currency. The Comptroller alleged that they had sworn falsely in making oath to a statement that the bank had not speculated in stocks and bonds, in violation of law. They, however, proved conclusively, to the jury, that they were not guilty of violating the national bank law in any respect, and in making affidavit to that effect, had simply sworn to the truth. The bank did buy stocks, but not for its own use. It simply acted as the agent for some of its customers, for their convenience. The criminal prosecution of these three bank officials was preceded by a controversy between the institution and the Comptroller's office, which gave rise to what was probably a well founded impression of official persecution. The Comptroller seemed determined to establish his view that the proceedings of the bank were not strictly in accordance with law, and so withheld from it the recognition to which it was entitled. The bank appealed to law for that recognition and brought down upon itself further official hostility. It is now said that its charter as a national bank, which has expired or is about to expire, will not be renewed. The quarrel was an unseemly one and probably both sides were at fault at some stage of it. The failure of the Comptroller to make good the charge of perjury, puts that gentleman in the attitude of a partisan determined to punish opponents without having made investigation of the facts upon which the prosecution was predicated. It will be to his credit, after this defeat, if he shall rise above the pettiness heretofore manifested, and give the bank a clean field, by agreeing to the renewal of its charter. Otherwise, it is said, the institution can continue the banking business, and will do so as a state or private bank.

JAPAN A KEEN COMMERCIAL RIVAL

Washington, May 17, (Special Corpondence).—"Japan must be given serious consideration in any commercial legislation which we enact in the future," said the president of a New York manufacturing concern who was in Washington recently.

"Japan is putting it all over us with respect to the Far Eastern trade, and the seamen's law has given her such a monopoly of the carrying trade on the Pacific ocean that we are absolutely at her mercy. The situation is well summed up in a letter which we recently received from an American firm with which we do business in China. They say: "Japanese ships now practically control the commerce between the States and China, and these are ordered by the Japanese Government to give Japanese ports the preference in calling for cargo, while Japanese shippers in China receive preferential treatment."

"Immediately upon the passage of the seamen's law, which drove American shipping off the Pacific, Japan raised her freight rates, from the Pacific coast to Shanghai flour freights have advanced from $4 to $30 per ton; steel products from $8 to $59; general cargo from $10.50 to $40. With her control of shipping facilities Japan is able absolutely to dictate the terms on which we shall do business in the Orient. We have reports from one corporation on the coast which has 300,000 tons of freight waiting transportation to the Orient, with only 1200 to 1400 tons of cargo space per month available on Japanese boats.

"As if Democratic free trade and the seamen's law were not enough Japan is showing her good faith with Great Britian by ridgely enforcing the British enemy trading regulations. A large amount of our trade with China before the war was handled through German and Austrian houses. Today the Japanese shipping companies have placed a ban on any cargoes consigned to these houses and the enemy trading regulations are being handled in a way to further British and Japanese interests as much as possible.

"As an indication of the aid which the Democratic party is giving Japan, by foolish legislation, let me call attention to the fact that during the calendar years 1914 and 1915, with the Democratic law on the statute books, Japan sent us goods to the value of $214,000,000, and took from us, during those two years but $104,000,000 worth, or a balance of trade in her favor, and against us, of $110,000,000.

"During the eight months of the fiscal year 1916, ended February last, Japan sent to us $89,000,000 worth of her goods. A total of $95,000,000 worth of goods were brought to our shores in Japanese ships. It is a pretty safe bet that Japan is delivering every dollar's worth of her exports to us in her own ships, and picking up a few million dollars worth of freight here and there along the route. Our own Pacific coast lines ceased to operate with the taking effect of the seamen's act November, 1914. During the eight months ended February 1915 Japan sent us $69,000,000 worth of her goods, and $41,000,000 worth of merchandise came in Japanese vessels.

"Every line sailing out of the Flowery Kingdom is heavily subsidized by the Japanese Government. The Democratic party refuses us a subsidy, but insists on spending fifty or sixty millions for ships to be operated by the government. This is an impractical scheme which will take millions of dollars from the people, and which is subversive of private initiative. No private concern will go into shipping business in competition with Government ships. Our hope lies in a Republican administration next year.

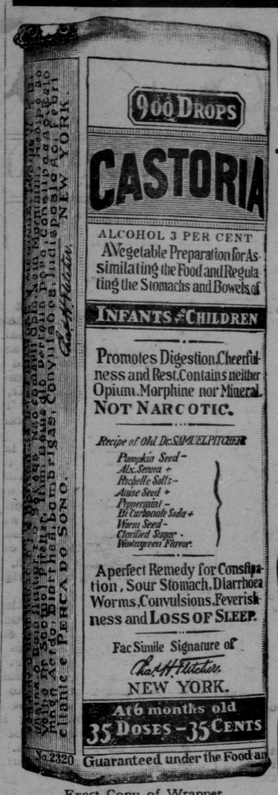
TINKERING THE SHIPPING BILL

Stirred by the successful revolt on the Philippines bill and by the rejection of the government-owned nitrate plant which the army bill proposes, administration leaders in Congress are now attempting to modify the provisions of the shipping bill so as to avert another defeat for one of the President's pet measures.

There is good ground for the fear which this course evidences. The same men who were most active in opposition to the Philippines bill are opposed to the shipping bill. Their opposition is not so much with reference to details of the measure as to the underlying principle of government ownership— and it is doubtful if they can be won to support the proposition in any form. However, the sub-committee which has the bill in charge is now endeavoring to tinker the project so as to make it applicable only for five years, at the end of which time the government-owned ships are to be sold, and if no customer appears they are to be withdrawn from operation.

In this form the measure would be a mere makeshift and a costly one at that. It might "save the President's face," but there is no warrant of law for expending millions of public money for that purpose. Moreover, it is extremely doubtful if the shipping bill can command a majority of the House no matter how it is tinkered. There is suspicion of the bill's origin in Washington which cannot be lulled—and if the administration leaders who are now taxing their brains with the problem really wish to do something effective with the shipping bill they will forthwith abandon it utterly.

In dealing with the Philippines bill the House not only displayed scant consideration for the views of the President as expressed in a letter which he wrote to the Democratic caucus, but there was also demonstrated a lack of courtesy for the Senate which would have caused a good deal of a commotion a few years ago. The House not only rejected the Senate bill but it adopted a bill which had never even been reported to the House, and then instructed its conferees to accept no modifications of the essential provisions of its legislation. This is conclusive evidence of the lack of team work in the Democratic party—which Mr. Wilson has always insisted upon having. Not only can he not secure acquiescence from the House in plans which he has much at heart, but the House will not work in consonance with the Senate.



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WHAT THE VETERANS GAVE

Regret is often expressed that the exercises of the National Memorial Day attract so little attendance and attention. A pessimist remarks that a parade of callow soldier boys of 1916 in their spick and spandy uniforms would attract a much larger crowd. Yet these youths are mere raw recruits who have had no baptism of fire. But they represent the forward look. The men who wore the Blue or the Gray represent a past age and the backward vision. History and those who stand for it are set aside in this hurrying age.

Yet it is not always possible to guage popular interest merely by attendance at public exercises. Poor church attendance does not mean that the people are ready to give up religious worship. The Memorial Day observances are about the same thing year after year, and our restless people demand novelties.

Public appreciation is always tardy. But the luster of soldierly deeds of '61 is bound to increase. Great societies will grow up of men and women glad to claim descent from soldier blood. Records will be searched to prove this distinction.

When the old soldiers are asked to address school children, the youngsters always seem thrilled by their simply told tales of heroism. The public gratitude to these men is warmer than they or their friends realize. When one of them dies, the fact of his soldierly service is the one thing the newspapers emphasize the most.

It is too bad that full recognition is not given these men before they pass on. The younger generation too little realizes what they gave up for their cause. Half of those who returned were so affected by disease and overstrain that they could never achieve any business success. They gave up their all, and our people should never forget it.

CHURCH FINANCING

A man got up in a meeting of a church that had been unbusinesslike in its arrangements, and suggested that as they seemed to be running behind in money matters, the church should be closed until a balance had been accumulated for pew rents and pledges. It is needless to say that his proposal was not seriously considered.

Another man, in the meeting of the same society, remarked that he didn't understand why it was that a business man considered his receipts before deciding what he should spend, while the church decided what to spend and discussed the matter of receipts later. The only answer that could be made to his pertinent inquiry was that churches are not run like other enterprises.

The churches are full of sincere and pious people who have had little experience with business methods, and they do not quite see how slipshod their methods look to the business community. For instance many churches will figure on this basis. There will be at the close of the year 1916 as usual a certain amount of unpaid pledges and pew rents. They will call these prospective receipts a part of the 1916 income. Then they will include in the 1916 income, the portion of the 1915 pledges and pew rents that was unpaid January 1st, 1916, but is being paid during 1916. Thus one class of receipts is counted twice a year.

It is very easy to figure out a surplus on this basis, but it does not go in business. Another common error is to account for a deficit by showing that it went into repairs on the building, considering that this adds to the value of the property so as to increase the assets of the society. Such expense for repairs should be considered as a part of regular running expense, as work of that kind has to be done regularly on any building.

The churches would appeal much more strongly to men if they would limit their payments to their income, and have their accounts and methods passed on and approved by substantial business people.

If some people don't hurry up and start a garden, the insects pests will not have anything to live on this season.

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