

Indiana Daily Times

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THE TRAFFIC problem might be simplified by segregating the bootleggers.

A MAN should pay as he goes—unless he is headed for the United States Senate.

THOSE firebugs who were sentenced to prison for 268 years will have ample time in which to repent.

CITY ENGINEER Elliott can now, with becoming modesty, tell the board of public works, "I told you so."

DON'T FORGET to include a few feet of chicken netting in your spring garden shopping list.

J. P. DUNN probably now is ready to believe that some one has been "kidded" about that buried "treasure."

FORMER Crown Prince for German Presidency—headline. It is unlikely, however, the German presidency is for the former Crown Prince.

MR. ARMITAGE, it seems, asks no special favor for his brand of paving, knowing that the general disposition is to use it, anyhow!

HOWEVER, the man who stole a rowboat probably does not need it as badly as some political office seekers will after the primaries.

SERGEANT COX of the police force says he cannot tell from a man's breath whether he has been drinking red or white liquor and the world knows it makes no difference anyhow!

A False Economy

Congress can expect support for any sincere attempt it makes to reduce governmental expenditures, but it is doubtful whether the public will unanimously approve of the movement under way practically to wreck the Army and Navy, or at least to render these branches of the service so impotent that should an emergency arise again it would find the country defenseless.

Popular approval has been accorded the naval treaty growing out of the armament conference which places it upon a 5-5-3 basis with the other chief maritime powers, but there is no indication that the proposal to cut the Navy below that mark is meeting with anything like public support.

House members, facing an important and to them vital election this fall, want to go before their constituents with a record of tremendous savings to their credit. What offers a better chance for this ambition than to lay off several million dollars from the naval appropriation bill?

Even though the British navy has a strength of 98,000 men, even though a reduction in strength would mean that many magnificent ships would be tied up to the shore parsimonious Congressmen, looking no farther than next November, have convinced themselves that 60,000 men are enough to man the American fleets.

Already they have rendered half of the Navy useless by withholding sufficient appropriations with which to coal the vessels for the remainder of the year and now, according to dispatches from Washington, they desire to make possible a permanently immobile fleet by cutting down the enlisted strength.

This bent for saving on the eve of a campaign is not confined to the Navy alone, unfortunately, but has reached out into the Army, where an enlisted strength of 115,000 men is being insisted upon. General Pershing has bluntly told Congress such action "would cripple the Army materially."

The most dangerous aspect of this sudden parsimonious mania is the fact that the plan if carried through would reduce the number of officers to 11,000.

If the country was suddenly called upon to raise a huge army, such as it was in 1917, the dearth of officer material would again be the chief handicap to an expeditious development of an active fighting force. Lighly trained, technically educated officers familiar with handling large bodies of men under all conditions after all is the nucleus around which a victorious army is built.

The people still remember the frantic and sometimes pathetic attempts made at the outbreak of the World War to obtain leaders for the raw troops being poured into the cantonments and how, aside from a few unusual individuals, the major commands devolved entirely upon men who had been trained by years of experience with soldiers.

No one in the country feels that the United States requires a huge armed force and there is a sincere prayer breathed everywhere that never again will an American soldier or sailor be called upon to fire a hostile shot, but there is an unmistakable feeling that the country should be prepared to meet any emergency that might arise.

Congress, if it looks well and searching within itself, can surely find other means on which expenditures can be saved, rather than by hacking the Army and Navy down to a point of uselessness.

Negroes and Efficiency

The situation in respect to the growing numbers of colored employees in the Chicago postal service is a very serious one," says a report compiled by a joint committee of Congress. "When it comes to the practical handling of mail the colored employees are inferior to the whites. This refers, of course, to the general average. When the importance of the postal service to the whole business and social life of the Nation is considered this subject becomes worthy of discussion.

"Many of the best white employees will not work at such close quarters with the negroes. Consequently, the influx of negroes also results in lowering the standard of the white employees, due to the fact that those whites who do remain in the service are usually of lower standard than those who get out.

"From our observation, which is confirmed by the supervisory officials and station superintendents, the work of the 1,400 colored employees of the Chicago post office could be done by 900 average white employees. This makes possible a saving of (500x1,400) \$700,000 per year.

"The enforcement of efficiency standards of the daily work will automatically eliminate the bulk of these 1,400 negroes, and will effect a saving of \$700,000 per year."

The committee was composed of the following: Charles E. Townsend, Michigan, chairman; Halvor Steenerson, Minneapolis, vice chairman; Thomas Sterling, South Dakota; George H. Moses, New Hampshire; David I. Walsh, Massachusetts; Kenneth McKeylar, Tennessee; W. W. Grist, Pennsylvania; Calvin D. Paige, Massachusetts; Thomas M. Bell, Georgia; Arthur B. Rouse, Kentucky; Rush Simmons, postal expert; E. H. Mc Dermot, secretary; Frederick C. Riedesel, assistant secretary.

"Fifteen per cent of all the employees in the postoffices in the United States are negroes," remarks the Chicago Saturday Blade. "If these places were filled by competent white people our Government would save enough to pay the interest on a bond issue that would raise the money to pay our soldiers their back pay."

A Princess Goes 'Broke'

It must have been a rude shock to the Princess Fatima to learn that unconventional and republican America would allow a person through whose veins courses the blood of a long line of royal Asiatic forebears to go "broke."

She learned, much to her discomfiture, that a diamond bedecked nose, a retinue of strangely livered servants and the title of Sultana of Kaboul, did not automatically liquidate the debts she contracted in an effort to live in the regal splendor she believed due her exalted position.

Even that forty-four-karat diamond that blazed her way into the presence of President Harding has gone to satisfy her creditors, and now with a childlike simplicity this semi-savage daughter of royalty is a "guest" of the British government.

The fact that she went "broke," however, probably was not as great a shock as her discovery that simply because she was a princess she could not demand and receive an estate befitting her rank from the Government of the United States.

Truly her visit here must have been a liberal education that she long will remember, even though she may not carry back to her mountain domain the most favorable impressions of American customs and manners.

THIMBLE! THIMBLE!
By CONSTANCE CORNWALL

Diana Richmond had contacted her brother Tom's absence from home with the world's design to obtain the jewels. Recent events change her opinions in this regard. Tom's return from the scene of the auto accident makes the case a little more clear. Morell died in a short time after the wreck, but he had given the box which was supposed to contain the other part to who hurriedly drove on down the way. The valuable jewels are found later in the little grave where Tilton had buried them. A new serial will begin Monday. Start with the first chapter.

CHAPTER XIII—Continued

When Tilton returned to the room with a glass in his hand Tom was saying:

"How can you ever forgive me, Di?"
"Hush, dear, let us forget it. We all have something to forgive," Di replied sadly. "But Tom was not to be cheated out of his inheritance. It was in vain that Di tried to put her hand over his mouth—he would speak.

"Would you believe, Larry, that I could be such a silly idiot as to go on my knees to beg this angel of a sister to marry Morell?" he cried excitedly.

"Well, that's exactly what I did. Fancy marrying one's sister to a gambler, a cheat, a thief, a house robber, an associate of a murderer! Oh, my God, I think that I'm the only human being that can make me almost insane."

As nothing could read the shorthand, Tom told the salient points in the document.

Morell was a fugitive from justice. He was very much wanted by the European police for card swindling. He had heard of the Spanish woman, who was a favorite accomplice of the wretched collection of jewelers, and he had been sent to the United States to find her.

Tom pulled out a roll of paper from his pocket and threw it on the table.

"There's his confession," he said disdainfully.

Ye TOWNE GOSSIP

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BY K. C. B.

IT WAS the day.

WHEN THE big airship.

WENT DOWN in flames.

AND NEWSBOYS.

CRYED THE tragedy.

AND WHILE I read.

IN A waiting place.

THERE CAME a girl.

WITH A cardboard box.

SUCH AS is used.

FOR SUITS of clothes.

AND SHE put it down.

UPON A seat.

AND KNITTED.

WHILE SHE waited there.

AND OTHERS came.

AND SAT them down.

AND I read on.

TILL ALL at once.

I HEARD a cry.

"MY BOX is gone!"

AND SO it was.

AND THEN she cried.

AND THEN I learned.

THIS YOUNG girl wife.

AND HER young boy husband.

HAD SAVED a little.

EVERY week.

FOR SIX months past.

AND THEN.

WHEN THEY had saved enough.

THE TWO went down.

AND JOYOUSLY.

HAD BOUGHT for him.

THE FIRST new suit.

SINCE THEY were wed.

AND ON this day.

SHE HAD gone down.

TO GET it.

WITH THE changes made.

AND WAIT for him.

TO TAKE her home.

AND HE came in.

AND FOUND her there.

WITH TEAR stained cheeks.

AND TOOK her hand.

AND PATTED it.

AND TRIED to smile.

AND THEY went away.

WITHOUT THE suit.

AND THE toys outside.

CRYED to them both.

THE TRAGEDY.

OF THE big airship.

BUT THEY didn't hear.

I THANK you.