

GANGWAY! LET'S HAVE PEACE

REAT BRITAIN has accepted America's offer modifying the terms of Britain's \$5,000,000 debt to the United States.

To make this offer binding, Congress must ratify it. That is, Congress must amend the refunding act to conform to the new terms.

Congress must ratify the offer.

Already there is talk of a terrific battle in Congress against ratification. There is talk of the present Congress packing up and leaving Washington on March 4 without having taken action. And it is known the Administration is strongly opposed to a special session this summer.

Congress must ratify the offer before it quits the job. If it doesn't, a special session will become imperative—as, indeed, it may anyhow.

Ratification will be a big step in the direction of world peace and stabilization.

The spectacle of the two greatest nations on the face of the globe, the two nations upon which civilization at this moment hangs all its hopes, haggling over their debts, certainly will not be conducive to a settlement, say, as between France and Germany.

Particularly destructive will the spectacle be if the professional twisters of the lion's tail fight the battle of Bunker Hill all over again and give the world the impression—altogether false—that Britain and America are about to fly at each other's throats.

Congress must cut out that sort of stuff. In the first place, it's cheap. In the second place, the world can't stand much more bickering.

Congress has been standing in the way of world rehabilitation long enough. Gangway!

HURTY'S HOPE BLASTED

THE vigor of youth is not to be compared with that quality in the man of experience, especially the aged. Neither does the enthusiasm of youth compare with that of the patriarch. The zeal of an elderly person is a thing uncanny.

Man's ideals should reach fruition in his latter days.

Dr. John N. Hurty, now a member of the Legislature, with every ideal centered on the realization of one purpose, saw that desire literally blasted when his colleagues defeated his all-time health officer bill.

For twenty-six years Dr. Hurty bent himself to better Indiana's health. The enactment of the health officer bill was to have been the crowning achievement of those years of service.

It was too much of a tragedy to be treated in mere words. The mist on the man's face; the clouded brow, and the patient gulp of something in the throat visibly indicated the disappointment that befell the venerable benefactor.

One member of the Legislature said Dr. Hurty's bill was TOO good. He probably was right. "Too much," his colleagues agreed, "for one session to pass."

The trail of years, of evolution, someday will accomplish what Dr. Hurty attempted in one session of the Legislature. Ere that day comes many will have forgotten its inception. Then the name of Dr. John N. Hurty will be recalled.

PASSING OF AN EDITOR

WITH the last rites today for Ernest Gross, for eighteen years managing editor of the Indianapolis Star, there passed a man who added much to the high standard of journalism in Indianapolis.

Mr. Gross had great ability as a newspaperman. As a writer he was above the average. As an editor, he looked on the bright side of things. He was not the type of newspaper editor who engages in personalities; he was not a man who could be termed a fighting editor, but he exerted a strong influence in the community through his kindly and patient observations and comment on events.

Through his efforts he assisted materially in bringing about the really remarkable development of the paper, the editorial policies and activities of which he directed.

His passing leaves a serious gap in the community which he graced. It will not easily be filled.

CLIMATE CHANGES LITTLE

IN spite of popular supposition that climate in Indiana is changing, the fact is that it is just about the same as formerly. J. H. Armstrong, Government meteorologist in charge of the local station, has figures covering the past twenty years to prove his statement.

"Times ain't what they used to be," is a frequent reminiscence of the old folks. Then they spin a yarn about the hard winter of '52 or the time in '76 when fourteen calves froze to death in the barn. The open winter this year is pointed to in comparison.

People forget easily. During the month of February, 1918, there was a Saturday morning when the thermometer touched 25 degrees below zero and a heavy snow drifted in the teeth of a fifty-mile gale.

Four days of snow and skating weather when one was a boy is remembered in manhood as a whole winter.

Poultry in United States Is Valued at Total of \$100,000,000

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, Washington, D. C., enclosing 2 cents in postage. Medical, legal and love and marriage questions will be given. Unsigned letters cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential, and receive personal attention. Although the question does not require it, a will assure prompt replies if readers will confine questions to a single subject, writing more than one letter if answers on various subjects are desired.

What is the total value of the poultry in the United States?

The poultry in the United States is valued at more than \$100,000,000. This includes all poultry and all poultry products.

When was James Gerard elected Supreme Court judge of New York?

James Watson Gerard was elected Supreme Court judge of the State of New York in 1917. He served as United States ambassador to Germany from 1913-1917.

What orders were passed in the last three Administrations concerning postmasters of the fourth class and their civil service status?

Roosevelt placed the fourth class postmasters in certain districts under the civil service. Taft extended

Is Modern Sex Fiction Harmful? Woman Editor Says 'No'—Medical Expert Declares It Is Menace

By EDWARD THIERRY
NEA Service Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—Is a moral clean-up needed in the literature of today? Censorship? Or ostracization of snappy stories and novels?

Friction grows as our fiction multiplies. Protests against sex stories are answered by defenders of them. Vice crusaders have dragged several books, and their authors and publishers, into court.

PROSECUTION:

"LITERARY pretenders who write sex novels and magazine stories of today are guilty of producing septic literature."

"Such authors are as menacing to the public health, especially in this age of shifting moral standards, as a typhoid carrier. Our mental and physical health is endangered."

That is the burden of an editorial by Dr. Eugene Lyman Fisk, medical director of the Life Extension Institute, under the heading "The Putrid Pen," in the forthcoming February issue of the institute's magazine, "How to Live Journal."

Amplifying his opinions for NEA Service, Dr. Fisk said:

"Books and magazines of this septic type appeal to an evil appetite. This appetite is not as widespread as some think; it is like the appetite for morphine; normal, healthy people do not crave it, but many become mentally infected and develop abnormal tendencies. Clinics and hospitals record the terrible effects."

"This is an age of self-indulgence, of luxury, of the new freedom—particularly for women—of precedents cast aside. Stories of love that are high-minded, spiritualizing a human passion, create good. The other kind, having a pathological trend, brutalize it and appeal only to the animal sense."

"Magazines aping the miscalculated genius of these cowardly attacks on our home circles add fuel to the fire. Young people get the wrong view of life from these extreme stories. Morbid ideas are aroused and the high emotion of love is dragged down into the mud of materiality. This is the wrong kind of sex education."

"We possess a reserve of energy and emotion which must have an outlet. Some get it in adventure, mystery and detective stories. People used to condemn the dime novel



MISS ELEANOR RAMOS, EDITOR OF "SAUCY STORIES."

as spectacular, sensational, exaggerated. Dime novels of the most lurid type were harmless compared to the poison of today's sex stories.

"Two types of authors are guilty, the half-insane type, who think they are geniuses; and those who know what they are doing and de-

liberately prostitute art for commercial reward. We can spare such writers; they breed unhappiness and disease. They say their works depict life? Go visit Bellevue Hospital or the nearest insane asylum and see such life in its disgusting phases; what good does it do you?"

DEFENSE: "SEX stories are not, as many people think, cheap and smutty. People will get over this idea in time."

"In literature people today are demanding directness, frankness, truth. They are crying—at least the younger generation—is for life, more life, life as it is."

"That is the view of Miss Eleanor Ramos, editor of "Saucy Stories," one of the breezy magazines published in the same office with "Smart Set," made famous by H. L. Mencken and George Jean Nathan.

Readers and contributors who imagine magazine editors to be graybeards are mistaken in the editor of "Saucy Stories." Miss Ramos is young, good looking, tall, willowy and has bobbed hair of copper-red.

"The swinging of the literary pendulum toward sex stories is logical," she said, explaining her editorial viewpoint for NEA Service, "I presume that a psychoanalyst would say all love stories are sex stories. I am sorry to find that some think them objectionable."

"As the editor of a so-called sex magazine, I think of the sex story as one that treats of love from the realistic, rather than the romantic, angle."

"Realism has vivified the arts and crafts of today. Gingerbread decorations have passed from our homes and furnishings; women have simplified their clothing—and discarded much of it. In literature the demand now is for frankness. Witness the popularity of 'Main Street,' 'Moon Calf,' 'Cytherea.'

"This demand naturally enters the fiction magazine field. The more pretentious magazines do not dare jeopardize their circulation and advertising by dangerous experiments. They do not understand their public, and they take no sporting chances; they stick to the sturdy old themes."

"It is in the modern sex magazine that the writer with a novel and beautiful experiment will receive a warm welcome, and it is here only that he will get a public."

TOM SIMS SAYS:

BOSTON woman shot two men, so now she can't plead she mistook them both for her husband.

A real mad looking fellow tells us highway robbers sell gas.

Lawyers are debating if a man has any right to drink in his home when the question is has he any left?

Pershing says airplanes are not so expensive. He should point out we already have the air.

Rumor that girls will wear knickers is three years old this spring.

Cincinnati woman of 57 is a fine swimmer except for finding it hard to get her picture in the paper.

Health hint: Get all run down and you may be wound up.

When you think the kids are noisy just suppose you lived in Holland, where they wear wooden shoes.

Krupp's profits dropped five million in three years. Wouldn't it be terrible if yours did that?

Some men are better than others, but that is easy.

Our opinion of Europe is that we hope it is true about the Atlantic being 3,000 miles wide.

Reliable statistics show every ball team will win the pennant.

Some men are lucky. Florida alligator bit off a man's wooden leg.

Can you borrow enough money to pay your income tax?

Mr. McNeely of Scottsburg, Ind., shot an eagle. This will teach eagles to leave Mr. McNeely alone.

Pittsburgh woman who wondered if the new servant would run away with the silver found she would.

In Quantico, Va., a marine was selling uniforms. Maybe he thought he was our merchant marine?

One corner of an eternal triangle usually gets knocked off.

Of course we favor the French, but how would you like to have fifty thousand collectors camped in your front yard?

Entirely too many hired hands are wishing the boss would make them mad enough to quit.

Yeggs got \$600 from the Gasoline Coal Company in Toledo. Perhaps the coal was in a secret drawer.

Money Changers of America Profit by Chaos in Europe

By R. F. PAIN

An American who prides himself on being a sort of super-economist got off this recently:

"You are wrong in your idea of the effect of European disorders upon America's prosperity. If those European peoples go to fighting, they will produce little, certainly no surpluses, and they will not have any to America to buy their necessities."

"This demand naturally enters the fiction magazine field. The more pretentious magazines do not dare jeopardize their circulation and advertising by dangerous experiments. They will produce little, certainly no surpluses, and they will not have any to America to buy their necessities."

"Isn't that a glorious thought? Isn't it profound economics? All we have to do is to sit still, watchfully waiting and avoiding alliances, wise, justifiable, humane or otherwise, and when our fellow-men get to cutting throats and starving and dying off in a frost, raise our prices and skin 'em alive. It looks very simple. It tempts with prospects of American prosperity. Christian Americans are a people of generous heart, high principle, and noble aims. But they lack courageous leadership."

Government "Crawfishes"

Our Government at Washington accomplished nothing save earning a reputation for avoiding doing anything positive. It seems to take a step forward today but crawl forward tomorrow, and heaven only knows where it will be next day.

This newspaper presents a plan for an international conference under America's leadership, for a possible change in the present terrible world status. Whatever that plan's weaknesses, note this fact well—it is a radical change from the attitude of American thought and effort in doing nothing.

Fellow Americans, let's drop our quibbles and pettifoggings and try to put this plan through. The Lord has blessed us as no other people on earth. While His other children kill, starve or rot with pestilence by the million, let's not say to Him, "I'm not my brother's keeper!"

Selfish Nation

What is America but a thoroughly selfish Nation standing on the ocean shore expecting the awful storm to cast up rich flotsam at her feet, regardless of the corpses of men, women and children that will be washed up with the riches?

Shall her schools, her churches, her colleges, her newspapers, her Washington, make no move, while the Four

Horsemen mount their steeds to ride the rest of mankind? War, Death, Famine, Pestilence, with America's soul fixed on profits?

The powder and gun makers, the meat packers, the militarists, the money-changers may see in it only a matter of economics, but how do the American people as a people, feel? Americans are a people of generous heart, high principle, and noble aims. But they lack courageous leadership.

But isn't that the exact attitude of America today?

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\$15,000 Jobs Are Spurned by Americans, Says Ritz Chef

By E. R. HIGGINS

NEA Service Staff Writer

"Prohibition?" Ah, zat is jus foolishness! But zis country will always be dry. It is good business. Zee grapes of California sell much better now."

PACKER MERGER WILL BE ENDED BY MARCH 1

Formal Announcement Will Be Made Before That Time.

By United Press

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—Formal announcement of the purchase of Morris & Co. by Armour & Co. will be made before the end of this month. It was learned today.

The Armour concern has until March 1 to complete the \$30,000,000 deal.

90 DAYS FOR BLIND TIGER

Wilmeth Sentences James Wilson; Fines Two Others.

James Wilson, colored, 348 W. Tenth St., was sentenced to the Indiana State Farm for ninety days and fined \$300 and costs by Judge Wilmeth in city court for operating a blind tiger. John Yocom, colored, same address, was fined \$10 on the same charge. Floyd Scott, 446 W. Washington St., was fined \$100 and costs.

Charged with operating a "bootleggers' club," James F. Fennel, proprietor of a soft-drink parlor at 152 W.