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THE LANSING OUSTING.

More people than ever, upon hearing of the forced resignation of Robert Lansing, are asking whether President Wilson is in his right senses. There is a furor over the country because of the extraordinary incident and widespread criticism is noted in many of the metropolitan newspapers.

Is Wilson in his right mind to force the resignation of Lansing or has his arrogance so increased, because that worthy public official consulted with the cabinet at a critical juncture, that he can brook no interference with the idea that Wilson alone, ill or well, reigns in America? Wilson's doctor has said that the president suffered an attack of cerebral thrombosis. He was critically ill. It was not known at large whether he would live. What does Mr. Lansing do? He summons at a most critical period in the country's history, the cabinet to advise with him as to baffling questions of public policy. What else could he have done? Now Wilson accuses Lansing of usurping a presidential function, despite the fact that the president was not functioning.

The great autocrat at this late day, even though neither the constitution nor the government suffered any injury, resents Mr. Lansing's action and in fact peremptorily dismisses him. It seems to have come to pass because a cabinet officer in this country has a mind of his own and expresses his opinions, off with his head if they conflict with our ear. Perhaps it is fortunate for Mr. Lansing, Mr. Bryan, and some of the other decapitated cabinet officials, that there is no Siberia in this country.

To hush with the people and the republic has been President Wilson's idea. What does he care about the irreparable injustice he has done a much-respected public official.

WHAT IS A CONTRACT BETWEEN FRIENDS?

Some statesman once made the classic observation, "What's the constitution among friends?" In this day and generation the practice of ignoring constitutions, contracts, ordinances and other scraps of paper has come to a matter of course, declares the Calumet Record.

When the K. & E. franchise was granted by the city council of Chicago eight or ten years ago, one provision was a five-cent fare within the city limits. This has been disregarded between Hegewisch and Pullman, greatly to the expense of employees of local plants.

East Chicago Industries, including the General American Tank Car Corporation, Standard Forgings Co., and others, are protesting against increase in fares between their city and the Pullman-Kensington district.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has authorized these increases, we understand, just as the Illinois state public utilities commission authorized the increase between Hegewisch and Pullman.

Local civic bodies should join hands to fight this illegal practice. The entire Calumet region from Grand

Crossing to Gary is vitally interested in the matter. Carfare has come to be a daily gouge and it amounts to a vast sum. All this comes out of wages—factories—the wealth of the district. It is time to make a concerted fight.

ONE THING NEEDED.

E. B. Allen, proprietor of the Star theatre, has purchased a new pop corn machine, costing several hundred dollars, and will install same in his theatre some time this week.

Mr. Allen is a firm believer in making his theatre the palace of enjoyment and comfort, and soon the munching of pop corn and peanuts will lend music to the work of the stars of the silent drama.—Rensselaer Republican.

Good for Mr. Allen! An hour in his theatre where the munching is good, will be a thing of joy forever. We see but one way to make the affair more complete and that is for Mr. Allen to hang a few strings of garlic in this theatre so that his patrons can vary this munching.

EDUCATION IN NEW ARMY.

Of all the changes brought about by the war none have been as great as those in the army. As the famous old sergeant remarked at the start of the war: "All these here civilians coming in are just ruining the army." And whether or not the old sergeant was right, there has taken place a most marvelous change. For years the army has been bound down to certain hide-bound rules and regulations. For years the progressive spirits have been advocating changes and improvements. But since none of us looked upon the army as our army, but rather as a sort of detached, ephemeral evil, costing a hundred million or so a year to maintain, few of the advocated reforms could be gotten through.

A MURDEROUS GERMAN AUTOCRAT.

Among the Germans whose extradition is demanded by the allies is Baron von der Lancken, former military governor of Brussels. He is accused of responsibility for the unwarranted executions of Edith Cavell and Capt. Fryatt.

Brand Whitlock and Hugh Gibson, in their notable records of life in Brussels under the brutal German regime, have given us a realistic picture of Baron von der Lancken, the typical Prussian military autocrat, brusque, domineering, contemptuous of civilians, exponent of kultur and all that it implies. His avowed object in the governing of the Brussels district was to inspire fear in the hearts of the Belgians. He felt that he was restrained by no law, that he could be a law unto himself, and that the greater the cruelty he displayed the more he would commend himself to his imperial master.

When he assumed charge of affairs in Brussels our nation was not in the war. Minister Whitlock in accordance with custom was entrusted with the interests of Great Britain, among other nations. But he was treated by the German governor as if he possessed no official standing whatever. His protests in the cases of Miss Cavell and Capt. Fryatt were given no consideration, although he merely asked for delay in carrying out the sentences until evidence he was obtaining could be presented.

As usual von der Lancken proceeded on the principle that might makes right. It seemed as if he desired deliberately to affront, not only our nation, but the opinion of the entire civilized world in carrying out these executions without opportunity for a fair hearing. The right punishment for this murderous German autocrat would be a lesson in the vindication of the international law upon which our civilization rests.

PERHAPS the putting of the brand of Cain on the brows of the Hun war lords would be generally satisfactory as punishment for their crimes against civilization.

AMERICAN PRIVATES in Coblenz, as a result of exchange rates, now are paid 3,000 marks a month as the equivalent of their \$30 pay, which is more than high German officers get. Well, they proved that they are worth more.

THE AVERAGE MAN says he's just old-fashioned enough to think that when folks are uncontrollably anxious to get somewhere, they don't spend half a day hunting up an aeroplane.

IN ONE cargo sent to Spain this week were 500 American automobiles. In a country accustomed to bull fighting it must have taken some salesman to land that order.

OIL-BURNING SNOW MELTER FREES SNOWBOUND STREETS QUICKLY



The snow melter in operation.

A snow melter invented by L. V. Stevens, a Canadian, has proved a success in eastern states, where it has been given tests in freeing city streets of heavy falls of snow

which have tied up traffic. The melter burns oil on the principle of a gas torch. It works on a pressure of sixty pounds. The eighteen-gallon tank lasts for twelve hours.

The heat is so intense that the snow melts almost instantly. The burner has been used with great success by the Canadian Pacific railway.

The Passing Show

THESE are the days

WHEN a man has no earthly excuse

FOR cracking his shins on the icy

WHEN he turns around

TO look at some full-figured lass

IN a tight-fitting dress who has just

passed him.

LOTS of new enterprises

ARE floated with the water in the

stock.

PROBABLY it may be laid

DOWN as a general rule

THAT nobody who has as many ex-

planations

FOR the poor mail service

TO make as Mr. Barlow is any good.

THERE is not nearly as much

PEP in the early robin stories this

year as

THERE ought to be.

OF all the candidates

FOR the Republican nomination for

president

AND their managers go to the conven-

tion hall

size.

SOME men even talk when they eat—

THAT is, they eat audibly.

ARE MARTIN is anxious to know who

REMEMBERS when the doctor with the

longest

WHISKERS always got the bulk

OF the business.

WE knew something would happen

WHEN the Democrats held a meeting

in Hammond—

MR. LANSING wrote out his

RESIGNATION immediately after-

ward.

GUESS Tom Marshal knew what he

was doing—

YOU notice he didn't call

ANY cabinet meetings.

THE man who does you the

GOOD turn is apt to have the idea

that

ONE good turn deserves a dozen in

return.

MOST of the neighbors' cats

GAVE a concert in our back yard last

night.

AND there seemed to be considerable

FLATTING among the sopranos.

WHILE now and anon we could not

fail

TO observe a sour baritone note.

WHENEVER we have an

OPPORTUNITY to see a really big

MAN in action

WE go away with a vain regret

THAT we, too, didn't learn how to

bluff

WHEN in our formative period.

THE older we get the more

THOROUGHLY are we imbued with the

idea

THAT good coffee is

ALMOST as scarce as radium.

WE note with relief that the hoop-

THAT'S DIFFERENT

By Hal Probasco



Bringing Up Bill

HE'S UP AGAINST IT—

A Task



Splinters

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PEOPLE WED LIKE TO MEET—

TAKE A WEEK OFF BILL. I'LL DO ALL YOUR WORK—

A FELLOW WHO CONSIDERS THIS A PLEASURE

ASSORTED NUTS

AND THAT CAROUSE NUMBER COST ME SIX DOLLARS!

CRASH

THE BOOB WHO LEAVES HIS NEW VICTROLA RECORDS NEAR THE BABY—

260

HANK and PETE

A Harder Test for Pete's Endurance

By KEN KLING

