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Defining American Rights

Since the senate's rejection of the Versailles treaty and the league of nations, many Americans have wondered about the exact status of the United States relative to the advantages accruing from the World war.

Did that action bar us from further participation in the settlement of international questions in which we have an interest? Have we any rights and claims which the allied nations and associated governments must respect? Or are we precluded from every consideration, and have we no claims which the other nations must respect?

These are some of the questions that may have occurred to us. The note of Secretary of State Hughes to Great Britain, France and Italy, in which he defines our position on the Yap incident, clearly sets forth our rights as a participant in the war and the intention of the United States government to have its claims respected.

It defends the right which the United States has in the settlement of the war—a right which is based on the money we expended and the blood we sacrificed to make possible the termination of the conflict. The note emphatically states that any action on the division of the German overseas possessions must consider the rights of the United States, and that final action must have the approval of this government.

On this point he says:

"It would seem to follow necessarily that the right accruing to the allied and associated powers through the common victory is shared by the United States, and that there could be no valid or effective disposition of the overseas possessions of Germany, now under consideration, without the consent of the United States."

His position on the right of the United States to equal control with other nations of the cable

station of Yap is expressed in unmistakably clear language:

"It also may be observed that the right accruing to the United States through the victory in which it has participated could not be regarded as being ceded or surrendered in any way to Japan, nor to other nations, except by treaty, and that no such treaty has been made."

Secretary Hughes in his concise note to the interested powers has outlined in precise language America's right to be heard and our demand for fair play, based on our participation in the World war. At the same time he indicates again our traditional policy of being just and honorable in our diplomatic dealings with other countries. He disclaims any effort on our part to obtain exclusive interest in the island of Yap or to seek special privileges which are not to be accorded to other nations.

It is hard to see how the governments to whom the note is addressed can escape the logic of his presentation, or fail to be moved by the fairness and justice of his appeal. Secretary Hughes has safeguarded our rights by this important document and at the same time laid the foundation for future negotiations on the whole question of America's attitude toward the treaty of peace.

Mondell Would Cut Taxes by \$1,500,000,000

Representative Mondell, Republican leader of the house, hopes to be able to reduce the taxation estimate to \$2,500,000,000, which would be a reduction of \$4,500,000,000 from the figure set by former Secretary of the Treasury Houston. He favors lifting rather than shifting the tax burden, and believes the public will be dissatisfied with a method that will merely substitute one form of taxation for another.

He has not disclosed the details of the plan by which he hopes to bring about a reduction in taxes, but he expresses the sentiment of the taxpayers accurately when he asserts that they want a reduction in the amount of money required to meet the expenses of the government.

The confusing features of the present taxation system, to say nothing of its paralyzing effect on business and industrial conditions, are bad enough to warrant any kind of change for the better. If congress can cut down appropriations and change the tax laws to ease the burden that oppresses business, it will be hastening the restoration of prosperity.

Memories of Old Days
In This Paper Ten Years Ago TodayTwo Minutes of Optimism
By HERMAN J. STICH

THE SUCCESS FAMILY AND WHERE IT LIVES

This family is old, so old it antedates all traceable ancestry, antedates the most ancient family trees, antedates all sciences, all philosophies, all history, even the Bible.

The line runs so far back that "the memory of man runneth not to the contrary."

One thing we know and that is, it comes of sturdy stock, and today its progeny is more numerous and its blood bluer and redder than at any time before.

The first progenitor was a fiery young chap named Ambition.

Aeons ago, he was enslaved by two heartless taskmasters, Dissatisfaction and Desire-to-Excel.

It is only because he paid his ransom in full in the coin of Realization that Humanity was allowed to start its endless upward climb from Chaos and Dumb-Brute-Level to Cosmos, Progress and Civilization.

We have it on good authority that the father of this chap Ambition was Old Man Necessity; the mother, Grand Old Lady Faith.

They were joined by Love.

Some brothers and sisters in this family are Self-Respect, Character, Health, Enthusiasm, Courage, Initiative, Determination, Integrity and Imagination.

Among the uncles and aunts are Sincerity, Responsibility, Conscience, Harmony, Greed for Knowledge and Capacity.

A few of the first cousins include Loyalty, Honesty, Simplicity, Thoughtfulness, Openmindedness and Reverence.

And other relatives, some near and some distant, are Courtesy, Co-operation, Self-Confidence, Polise, Service and Thoroughness.

Millions of years ago, this family began to be, and today still is, constantly and insidiously attacked by a host of enemies.

Chief of them are the ones who try most to injure it are Fear, Envy, Unscrupulousness, Self-Doubt and Worry.

These latter are the leaders of a whole gang of fools and knaves who do everything in their power to thwart it.

Most active are Laziness, Intemperance, Ignorance, Haste, Waste, Indiscipline and Expediency.

This family has many friends and the older the friends the closer and more intimate do they become, and—true test of friends—the more can they be relied upon when in need.

Some of these friends are Economy, Cheerfulness, Optimism, Courage, Duty, Patience and Vision.

Others are Hope, Backbone, Endurance, Purpose, Self-Control, Balance and Concentration.

Always hanging around and making the most of every opportunity to disrupt and have the last word are the outsiders and strangers Hard-Luck, It-Can't-Be-Done, What's-The-Use, Let-George-Do-It and Tomorrow.

The efforts of these intruders and interlopers can usually be more than offset by the guardian angels Hard-Work, I'll-Try, I-Can, Do-Or-Die and Do-It-Now.

This family is the Success family and it lives in a place known as The Average Man.

A man who recently came back to his old home town, says the Howard "Cousin," was that some of the things he noticed that used to disturb his sleep now weigh around one hundred pounds.

Billy Sunday is now going to convert Cincinnati. If he does the revival meeting will last several years.

Parents say an old master has been found hanging in a cafe on the east side of New York City. We wonder what could have been the cause of his suicide.

THE SHERIFF NEEDS A GUN.

The following notice, taken from the New Cumberland (W. Va.) "Independent," indicates that it must be a very tough neighborhood, indeed:

"The undersigned sheriff of Hancock county residing in Weirton, West Va., hereby gives notice that I will apply to the circuit court of said county for license to carry a revolver and other weapons that may be deemed necessary in the discharge of my duties as sheriff of the said county of Hancock. H. L. BROOKS."

Rippling Rhymes
By WALT MASON

THE WISE PHYSICIAN

I had a lot of pimples upon my princely mug, and I took rashes and simplex and bitters by the jug. My blood was out of order, my life was full of care, and I was near the border of bottomless despair. And many learned physicians prescribed their capsules gray; alas, alas, conditions grew punker every day. And then I sought a healer who just had come to town, and many a boasting speller proclaimed his wife renown. No silly trifling question was by this doctor sprung, concerning my digestion, my liver or my lung. He said, "You're always fussing with Jinks, who lives next door; you two are roundly cussing each other, ever more. Unless you live serenely your ills I cannot cure; so long you've acted meanly it's made your blood impure. For giving way to passion gives rise to many ills, and you, in angry fashion, keep kicking

A well-known comedian tells us that the colored "extras" are the most careful and considerate people on the lot when it comes to handling their children. A darkey, his wife and pickaninny were working in a comedy. There came a scene where the parents were needed but the baby was "out." "What's Ah do with li'l Egbert?" asked the father. "Put him in 'at clothes basket ovah there," said the mother. "Be sure an' don't stand him on his head—he might fret."

"Cut this out! IT'S WORTH MONEY

Cut out this slip, enclose with 5c and mail to Foley & Co., 2335 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound for hives and other skin troubles, and Pills for pains in sides and back; rheumatism, backache, kidney and bladder ailments; and Foley Cathartic Tablets, which are strong and thoroughly cleansing, cathartic for constipation, neuralgic headaches, and sluggish bowel movements. A. G. Lukens & Co., 626-628 Main.—Advertisement.

And Then He Joined a Golf Club

TODAY'S TALK
By George Matthew Adams, Author of "You Can," "Take It," "Up"

FINALITY

Strange as it may seem, there is really no end to anything! Infinity grasps everything within its hand. The little cell, from which the mightiest human springs, is no more unusual than the one from which the most lowly finds his life. And each touches the finger of Infinity and thus threads out his part in the history of the All.

Birth is simply a designation, as is death. Both are relatives, and both are important as in turn they rise a little to mark off their space in the one great endless expression which we call Time.

So that if you are wise, you will not worry. Your success is not final—not is your failure.

You may always begin again. There is no finality!

Even decay is but an expression of life. The fallen flower, wilted and forgotten, excepting for the perfume which it sends to the four winds of the world, soon is known to mingle its ashes in the warmth of the earth—to rise again in new forms and new beauties.

He who says that he can't, however, dies quickest—that his dust may form substance for someone who knows in his heart that he CAN!

Time will always be. It always has been.

Our lives are merely faint tappings in the sound of the great. Forever. Yet we must be very important at that, else we would not have been so richly endowed with ability to search, to discover, to appre- ciate, to love, to invent, and to serve generally.

The fact that we are made happiest when we help someone else, is the most profound evidence that we were born to keep the centuries from dying!

Limits? There are none. Everything that seems to end is but the small beginning of something that is to follow—including our own little life.

Who's Who in the Day's News

BRIGADIER GENERAL CLARENCE R. EDWARDS

Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards is to be permanently promoted to the rank of major general in the regular army, retired and appointed governor-general to Porto Rico. That is not in the plan proposed by Secretary of War Weeks, and approved by President Harding, is carried out at the concluding extraordinary session of congress.

General Edwards commanded the New England division in France. The French government decorated him with the croix de guerre with palms and made him a commander in the Legion of Honor.

General Edwards was born in Cleveland, Ohio, 61 years ago. Therefore he is entitled to retire on a retired pay of \$6,000, which is due him as a major general. If he should become governor of Porto Rico he will receive an additional \$6,000.

It is said that General Edwards is very anxious to retire as he has been in the army nearly 42 years. He is considered unusually well qualified for the governorship of Porto Rico as he was chief of the insular affairs bureau of the army under Roosevelt.

General Edwards is to be promoted to the rank of major general in the regular army, retired and appointed governor-general to Porto Rico. That is not in the plan proposed by Secretary of War Weeks, and approved by President Harding, is carried out at the concluding extraordinary session of congress.

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