

THE MORNING STAR

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MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1920.

THE IRISH CRISIS.

The situation in Ireland grows worse and worse. The Dublin correspondent of the London Times writes that the country is fast drifting into anarchy. Murder is rampant, the authorities are utterly powerless, terror stalks everywhere.

The government is ineffective to a degree. That curious ineptitude which has always marked the English method of governing Ireland is heightened by recent events which, coming thickly, have given the significance of an awful crisis to the destruction of those sanctions and amenities which make for order and peace.

In England, the demand has become clamorous for the adoption of such policies as will cause the Irish themselves to labor for the return of quiet, respect for law, those processes of life and conduct on which a people's hope and happiness must depend. The demand will be met, it must be met, if Ireland, in addition to its other and innumerable woes, is not to suffer a complete dissolution of the fabric of civilization.

A better day is coming for the Irish people, who will free themselves of the excesses of hatred, the enormities of embitterment, because there will have been placed upon them the obligations of self-control which freedom imposes.

We note that an employment service is going to undertake to find jobs for teachers. The indications are that it will prove to be a very easy task in comparison with that of finding teachers.

It is a pleasure to repeat, with a persistent tapping on wood while we're about it, the official assurance that our community is not in the tornado belt.

One of the most pleasant aspects of a Presidential jubilee is the joy of sitting back and hearing two men like Borah and Wood paste each other with the very things you've been thinking about 'em.

A New Orleans minister says the way women dress nowadays is enough to make angels veil their faces with their wings. Maybe the angels feel that way about it, but we'd bet they feel sorry for a one-eyed man.

We've about decided that if the bolsheviks should be driven out of Russia there wouldn't be enough population left to get up a normal sized game of stud poker.

The Secretary of Agriculture would not be a theorist, but a practical farmer, declares Wood. Very good, General—but how about a practical statesman for President?

The spring crop of tornadoes seems to be of the bumper variety.

Information from The Star's representatives in Pender and Onslow counties conveys an impression of considerable activity in the interest of better roads. The meeting at Maple Hill last week supplied a concrete illustration of this zeal for the improvement of the highways. The enterprising and public spirited citizens of the two counties who are responsible for the impetus that is being given to road-building are earning the gratitude, not only of their own people, but of the entire section of the state. They are leading in the direction of a new era. Pender and Onslow are too rich in natural endowments and in the quality of their citizenship to submit longer to the check of imperfect public roads. The men who are working so earnestly for better roads should not be permitted to falter or to become discouraged, for the want of assurance on any hand that their efforts are watched with the most grateful appreciation.

VIRULENT FORM SMALLPOX PREVALENT IN MISSISSIPPI

Jackson, Miss., March 29.—Smallpox, in some cases of a virulent type, is prevalent in half the counties of Mississippi, Dr. C. M. Ship, state sanitary inspector, announced today before leaving for Jones county, where twenty deaths from the disease have occurred during the last few days. The situation is under control and health officials say thousands are being vaccinated.

New interest period April 1st to 3rd. Citizens Bank & Trust Co.—adv. Get your Easter Shoes and Slippers at Peterson & Hulfs.—Adv.

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD SPEAK

The New York Times praises Southern Democrats for demanding a declaration from the President of his intention with reference to a third term. The Times regards this attitude, as expressed by Congressman Humphreys of Mississippi, as a token of childish ingratitude, because of the large share of patronage which the South has received from the administration. The Times is so sure that President Wilson has no thought of asking for another nomination that it designates a "calculating and precipitate politician" those who are not equally free of doubt on the subject. The Times maintains that Mr. Wilson's silence will have a salutary effect; that as the leader of the party he will expect to be consulted touching the business, the nomination, the platform, of the convention.

The aspirants for the Democratic nomination can afford to bide their time; perhaps Mr. Wilson himself feels that it would be well to proceed with deliberation in so important a matter and give the country time to weigh well the qualifications of the men whose names are mentioned.

We believe that it is a very natural restiveness which the Democrats from the South are exhibiting, a restiveness which they have a perfect right to disclose, without having their motives or their sense of appreciation impugned. They have paid for all favors received in a close adherence to party discipline, in a steady loyalty, a constant fidelity, which strengthened him in every crisis, which gave reality to his every desire. They have been the President's appointees, ex-Republicans to important offices; they are profoundly conscious of the difficult position in which their party has been placed as the result of the futile outcome of the peace treaty controversy; they know that whatever the President may ultimately do, his failure to declare himself has kept a number of men from becoming active, aggressive candidates. The President will not offer for another term; of that there can be no reasonable doubt, but his willingness to make a frank, direct avowal of his intention has had the effect of causing other men to hold back from vigorously pressing their claims because, his very unwillingness to express himself has held the implication that he is unready for other men to enter the field. His consent to Palmer's candidacy in Georgia is merely a stroke against Hoke Smith. A few days before he permitted the use of his name, Mr. Palmer stated in an address that he was not a candidate. His declarations even now indicate that he is not quite sure of his ground; they are quite vague, decidedly cautious, and provide an easy method of retreat.

But the Times says that the President is looking to an "open" convention. An "open" convention is likely to be the worst sort of a closed convention, unless the country has had a full opportunity to inspect the candidates and to weigh their views, unless the candidates have had to bear the brunt of each other's criticisms, unless what the candidates stand for, and what issues they stand on, are made clear to the public by direct affirmation, are tested in that process of scrutiny and examinations, whose precipitate is a sound and well-informed public opinion. Wait until the convention, and there is likely to develop a situation holding two evil respects, either the convention will be so badly split, or the names submitted will be of men whose personalities and policies will be so vague and nebulous, as to provide a choice opportunity for the benevolent and exalted operations of the bosses and the politicians.

The San Francisco convention is just three months off. It is a short time in which to arrive at that crystallization of opinion which is so wholesome, so shielding against political manipulation. The President owes it to his party to speak. There is much more danger in the uncertainty which he is responsible for than in the cudgeling which aspirants might administer to each other during the preliminary campaign.

ONSLow AND PENDER FAVOR ISSUE OF BONDS

Holly Township To Sell \$25,000 Worth.

Maple Hill, March 29.—At a joint meeting of the commissioners of Onslow and Pender counties in the interest of the Onslow-Pender-Bladen state highway, it was decided that Holly township should sell \$25,000 worth of bonds for road improvement in said township. A very large crowd of representative citizens of both Onslow and Pender counties were present. The weather was beautiful and the day was made a holiday and the ladies prepared a great feast on the old picnic style. Everything moved along serenely and enthusiastically. Several good talks were made on improved highways, maintenance, etc. More than a sufficient number of names were secured to petitions to the commissioners of Pender county to insure an election in Holly township on the bond issue. Among the visitors from Onslow were John Aman, commissioner, Sheriff E. H. Walton and George Walton, supervisor of roads of Onslow. Pender was officially represented by J. E. Henry and Theodore Rivenbark of the Pender board of commissioners and J. B. Davis, register of deeds, and others.

BASEBALL

The opening game of the season Shaw University of Raleigh visit Wilmington Silver Lights Monday, April 5, 1920 at League Park 1:30 and Ann streets. Game called at 4:30 sharp. Secretary Spicer has reserved seats for White people. Don't forget these teams are in good shape. Good order guaranteed. (Adv.)

Haskin's Daily Letter

Is the Flag on the Sea to Stay?

New York, March 29.—Is our war born merchant fleet a mushroom growth that will perish with the hot atmosphere of a military dictatorship, or is the United States to take a permanent place among the great shipping nations, and to become independent of hired caravans in the export trade of the world?

This important question is being energetically put to the American people by the National Marine League, which plans to hold a great exposition in Great Central Palace during the week beginning April 12th, for the purpose of arousing popular interest in our merchant shipping. The navy, the department of commerce, and the shipping board will take part. There will be a great display of marine paraphernalia in a brilliant setting of color and music. The effort will be to make the American conscious of the fact that he belongs to a great maritime nation. As the league states its own purpose, it desires to awaken in the American people a feeling of interest in the American merchant marine.

The league sets forth two major assumptions, both of which seem sound. The first is that we cannot have a merchant marine unless we have men who are really interested in one and want it. The second is that we now need a merchant marine more than ever before.

Undoubtedly the big problem is to arouse the sea-going spirit, to make the nation ship-conscious, so to speak. In the days before the Civil war, when Yankee clipper ships sailed every sea, the merchant marine was a source of pride in the fact that our clippers would crowd on more canvas, take bigger chances, and win bigger rewards than any other ships in the world. The merchant marine was the edge of our continent then, and a large percentage of our young men looked forward to going to sea. Furthermore, that was before the days of great government intervention. A better chance to get a share of the control and of the profits than he has now. A ship then was not the enormous investment that it is now, it was of great interest and another happened, as every school boy knows, and the American merchant marine disappeared off the face of the ocean. The American people had lost all interest in the shipping business. 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