

The Morning Star

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1921.

War on the Mosquito

The people of Wilmington have learned through experience that the mosquito is not unconquerable, but they have discovered also the price of conquest in this case is unceasing vigilance.

These reports are worthy of attention, not alone because of the recommendations they make along the lines of a united community effort against the mosquito, but also because of the suggested means by which residents, acting individually and single-handed, may sometimes gain a substantial measure of relief.

Nevertheless, that is not the mode of warfare to be accepted by a progressive city of Wilmington's character and mosquito susceptibilities, so to speak.

Wilmington can not afford to neglect the remedies proposed in the reports to Dr. Herring. An appropriation of \$10,000 is suggested as a minimum expenditure.

Mr. Harding Invites Speculation

I think we will have with us the coming week some men who will arouse your interest, and you will be free to speculate concerning them to your heart's content.

But Mr. Harding has done nothing but see men who aroused interest and concerning whom speculation has become rife. The privilege which he now so liberally offers was long ago seized by correspondents without his express permission.

It has not always been pleasant speculation. Mr. Root, Mr. Hoover, Mr. Sutherland, all have undergone demolition. Mr. Hughes remains, but he is apparently to be a Gulliver among Lilliputians.

Having sought to sound the country, it has been inevitable that Mr. Harding should learn that senators like Lodge and Penrose regard themselves as the American people. For a while, the Pennsylvanian was so arrogant in his selection and dumping of prospective cabinet officers that the Public Ledger felt constrained to chasten him with editorial reproof.

The wages of indecision, Mr. Harding is realizing, is trouble.

Reports of improving business conditions in the United States are fortified by encouraging news from abroad. The change in world conditions has hardly been perceptible since the first of the year, according to the Department of Commerce, but in Belgium and in the Scandinavian countries, particularly, the signs are highly promising.

An Engineer's Utopia

That today is the day of the engineer has been forcibly demonstrated many times in the past few years. Great fields are yet to be conquered, and the recent report of the committee on information and service of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers indicates that the engineers are quite ready to make still greater improvements in the mechanics of living.

Advance of engineering science and high prices of domestic and industrial coal and gas challenge the municipalities to put a stop to this medieval way of using raw coal.

If the 400,000,000 tons of coal annually burned in this country is so treated, the following products will be obtained: 1,200,000,000 cubic feet of fuel gas, 4,000,000 tons of ammonia sulphate, 1,000,000,000 gallons of crude benzol, 3,600,000,000 gallons of tar and 238,000,000 tons of artificial anthracite.

The smokeless city will thus be achieved. At the same time large sums now spent for smoke abatement will be saved as well as gas, oil and gasoline, and the price of coal and gas can be materially cheapened.

The use of substances once considered waste has already meant enormous wealth to the world. The South has gained tremendously from the discovery of the food value of cotton seed in its various forms; the by-product chemical plants make as much, and more, from the refuse as they do from the product isolated first.

Germany has pointed out by her process of utilizing the "brown coal" which is useless in its original form, the great economic value of the scientific use of fuel.

The Disabled Veteran

We believe the American people will support with warmth and steadfastness the effort that is being made, chiefly through the leaders of the American Legion, to give adequate relief to the former service men who are suffering from disabilities.

Whenever the fault may lie, it is no longer to be questioned that the men who came back from France so marked by the conflict as to be incapable of meeting the world on even terms have been shabbily treated.

The conditions among the disabled veterans, conditions which have led more than one "gold star" mother to say, "I thank God that my son died on the field of battle instead of returning, disabled, to the state I find here," may no longer be ignored by a generous and grateful people.

Pitiable conditions existing among former service men, who have returned from war to poverty, sickness, suffering and death, were revealed here yesterday by an investigation by the Washington Post.

Men who have become mentally unbalanced because of injuries; men who have contracted incurable diseases; men whose diseases are growing steadily worse, although a few weeks in a hospital would cure them; men who are destitute because their devotion to their country sent them overseas, are wandering around the streets of the National Capital.

It is said that Col. House is writing a book on, "What Really Happened at Paris." The volume, ought to provide considerable diversion for some people, but the world's interest is largely centered in what has happened since Paris.

Miss Alice Robertson, Congresswoman-elect, announces that when she arrives at Washington she will keep her eyes open and her mouth shut. The lady is evidently under some misapprehension as to the office to which she has been elected.

Correspondents report Mr. Harding as altogether satisfied with the progress he has made toward the selection of a Cabinet and happy over the probable outcome. We don't feel that it is up to us to worry if he isn't doing any on his own account, but we hope he hasn't lost his calendar down there in the Florida wilds.

There is said to be considerable demand at Washington for the reformation of the postal service. What do they want? Isn't Mr. Burleson going to resign?

Carnegie's Library Inspiration

The loan of a book has been the starting point of many a career, the source of inspiration which has been productive of great good.

It is interesting to know that one of the agencies which have put books into the hands of great masses of our population had its inception in the loan of a book. Andrew Carnegie, when a messenger boy, was lent a book by a great steel magnate of the day.

The impression made upon the boy was of lasting importance, says A. B. Farquhar, president of the A. B. Farquhar Co., Limited, who knew Carnegie well.

Carnegie libraries everywhere, so common that few think of their origin, are witnesses to the sincerity of that pledge to himself.

Announcement at the port of New York that a shipload of unwashed immigrants would not be admitted there caused the shipping line to divert the vessel to Boston.

A Chicago man, announcing the change of his name from Teinowitz to Tenny, registers the opinion that all newcomers in this country should adopt good old American names.

The Congressman who declares that Judge Landis should be removed from the bench may be called upon to explain whether he means the judicial or baseball bench.

Our best wishes go with the Wilmington delegation which last night proceeded to Raleigh to support the pending good roads legislation.

Contemporary Views

LOST, 7 BILLION DOLLARS IN SIX MONTHS

Kansas City Star: With the largest harvest ever gathered, the farmer has sustained a loss of more than 7 billion dollars in the last six months, due to the shrinkage in value of his crops.

A part of this loss was unpreventable and much of it is permanent. It is of such a nature that it cannot be quickly regained and must be charged off the farmer's inventory.

Some of this loss no doubt could have been prevented if the steps we are now taking in forming a government finance corporation and numerous private finance corporations to aid in selling our products in foreign countries had been taken in expectation of the market collapse instead of after much of the damage had already been done.

Fortunately, most of the unused wheat, corn and cotton produced last season is still in the hands of farmers, so that any improvement in the market of these and other commodities that may come through the activity of the selling organizations will benefit the farmer directly.

DRIVING YOUNG FOLKS AWAY

Asheville Times: Rural communities long have been worrying over a problem peculiarly their own: why do our young people leave the home town?

One of the answers is contained in a news dispatch from Scotts Bluff, Neb.

There the town council passed an ordinance banning all forms of dancing and motion pictures.

It went a step farther, forbidding those under 21 from being away from home after 8 p. m.

Scotts Bluff couldn't have conceived of a better way to drive its young and spirited boys and girls into larger cities.

Do you happen to know a young person who would want to live in a town like Scotts Bluff?

And yet, Scotts Bluff fathers and mothers this very day are wondering why it is that their sons and daughters look with desire at railroad trains and the outside world.

MEN OF VISION

Columbia State: The other day, in Brooklyn, died a Mr. White, who was said to be one of the most useful and beloved citizens of that city.

In the State yesterday a dispatch from Saluda, S. C., told of the will of W. J. Chapman. He left his comfortable little estate, which he had accumulated as a country merchant, to aid poor white people in acquiring homes.

Mr. Chapman of Saluda has no such wealth as the two were equal. One can imagine nothing that would be more helpful to the people of Saluda than this disposition of his estate by the late Mr. Chapman.

This plan will be realized remains to be seen, but the plan is all right.

European News and Views

The once-German port of Hamburg has been de-Germanized says the Berlin Tageblatt.

The first impression which is felt on visiting Hamburg is that of a busy port, which after being dead for nearly five years, has come to life again.

But this illusion is deceptive, all the great vessels which are anchored proudly, mast beyond mast in the river, are flying foreign flags. Nearly every nation is represented in this port.

After the declaration of war, the net tonnage registered for the German commercial fleet was 5 million 24,000 tons, of which only 1,000,000 tons, to the Entente, there are only about half a million; of this half million 100,000 tons only are fit for navigation with neighboring countries.

A similar agreement, continues the writer, has been made with the English Company Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. and there is a question of negotiations with Cunard Line, with a Dutch Company and other foreign companies.

These difficulties arise largely from a want of organization. The whole river from Laurenburg to Cuxhaven is one of the most important and profitable points of view. But from a political point of view it is divided into 3 or 4 distinct districts: Hamburg, Altona, and Harburg compete with one another for the right to undertake the port of navigation.

It would be better," the writer goes on "if the Elbe port were ruled by one single company and that that port were under one political authority. It would be the best way to undertake internal reforms, which, in the interest of the German Empire, would help much towards the revival of Hamburg's prosperity.

Today, more than ever, Hamburg is going to act as economic intermediary between Germany and foreign countries. The port of Hamburg has taken care to stipulate in questions of the establishment of foreign companies that the cost of constructing the wharfs must be paid by foreign firms and that these wharfs shall return to the State of Hamburg after a certain period.

This is a policy," concludes the writer, "which from one point of view at least puts foreign countries at the service of the revival of Germany."

Women Today Cleanest in History

A woman writer in the London Daily Sketch attacks Blinor Glyn's criticism that "women are not as clean as they used to be." Juliet, she claims, possessed no toilet brush.

Women then, she would remind us, were "exquisitely fresh, purely-scented creatures whom it was obvious that man would want to kiss."

But after them trailed a sorry procession of less pampered women who followed their fashions—the little governess who sat up at nights to rebind the frayed and mud-caked hems of those flowing skirts, the busy housewife who scamped the stitching in of fresh linings to those coquettish high collars, the shop girls who could only get time to build up the puffs and rolls of hair (so busy feminine on the "perfectly divine" towels every other day, and so steep in the toilet).

An efficient bath, too. Almost any London business girl today is better bathed than, say, Mary Queen of Scots was. Mary had a silver bath filled with warm red wine, but it probably wasn't half so effective as the hideous plumb-line or sassafras of every suburban bathroom. And Mary of

Belgium Must Have Its Spirit

The sale of spirits in Belgium and restaurants is forbidden, in order to get its customers frequently to get a supply service in a shop.

The punishment for selling spirits to the first offence is 10 days imprisonment, and for a second offence a week. Many proprietors of this punishment as a drastic measure crowded with sympathizers, who are brisken than ever. It is understood that the law will soon be repealed.

Ghost of Stradivarius Walks. A Hamburg business man, Herr Ohliver, is reported to have discovered a means whereby to make an erary violin and other woodwind instruments can acquire a quality of tone of the best Stradivarius.

The London Times tells that Herr Ohliver has had anything to do with their manufacture. He claims that he secured to him a ghostly instrument, the ghost of Stradivarius had appeared to him. This experience, according to the Tageblatt, is not unusual in the case of the last 200 years.

Community Schools Have Scored Success With Enrolment of 250. That the community schools of New Hanover county, established several months ago, now have an enrollment of 250 pupils, and that the attendance on night classes, which are free, is gratifying, the statement of Miss

After three months of work, the director of community schools feels that a report reflecting local conditions is in order. The preliminary work of organizing schools has of necessity gone slowly.

The total enrollment at present approximately 250. The average attendance is slightly lower, yet one considers the distance many pupils come to school, and the fact that all the students are employed during the day, the record is very good.

The teachers of the city and county have done splendid work, bringing adaptability and an interest in their pupils. Some of them are having to teach under conditions which are far from ideal, yet they are teaching, and the students are studying to good effect.

The county is by no means fully organized as yet. At present the following schools, which opened on the 15th, are doing work: two night schools, from 7:30 to 9 o'clock. The days are given for the information of those who may be interested in attending:

Delaware, November 29, Mondays and Thursdays; Castle Hayne, November 20, Tuesdays and Fridays; William Hooper, December 7, Tuesdays and Fridays; East Wilmington, December 10, Tuesdays and Fridays; Scotts Hill, negro, December 13, Tuesdays and Thursdays; Castle Hayne, negro, December

Negroes Heartily Co-operate. Among the negroes of New Hanover county splendid co-operation was secured. The ministers announced the opening of the schools, urging the attendance of those members who had had limited educational opportunities.

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connection with the sanitary engineer, or the perfume distiller. Kissing too did a habit for that. Kissing "Great loves do not depend on dress-jackets. We have no evidence that Juliet possessed a tooth-brush, and incredible as it may appear, she had one another in Shrove-tide and she read and in places which were regarded as calamities associated with death and disease, and where the pollsters are unknown."

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