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 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1921

A Matter of Simple Decency

Keep still! I am an Irish Republican myself and disagree altogether with the views put forward by Sir Philip, but at the same time he is presenting his side of the question in a fair way and he is entitled to a fair hearing. We can get money to hire a hall and put our own side over when we want to.

The speaker was Rev. Francis P. Duffy, chaplain of the Sixty-ninth Regiment of New York. The occasion was the attempt of Sir Philip Gibbs to make an address Friday night in Carnegie Hall, New York City. After fifty or more jeering visitors had been ejected, the distinguished visitor succeeded in concluding his address.

The chaplain presented the case to the disturbers in a form that should appeal to the American sense of fair play and ordinary decency. Sir Philip Gibbs had been invited to speak before an American audience. There are many Americans who admire him for his brilliant attainments and account it a privilege to hear him speak. Such Americans, under the rights and traditions we hold dear in this country, should be safe in assuming that an effort on the part of Sir Philip to appear before them will not be made an occasion for an outburst of rowdiness and gratuitous insults.

It was not the first time that a Gibbs address had been halted by violent outbreaks of hooting and jeering, of vulgar heckling and denunciation. It has begun to appear, in fact, that the distinguished visitor will be permitted to speak undisturbed only in the seclusion of his hotel room or in the home of a friend. His public appearances are not agreeable to certain New Yorkers, and must be cancelled!

The treatment he is receiving is un-American and indecent.

A clerical error and the perversity of "two leading members of the House" seem to have side-traced our Custom House item for the moment. There is consolation in the assurance from Chairman Good, of the appropriations committee, that the item will be included at the first opportunity during the extra session. The omission of the Wilmington item was clearly an oversight, but unanimous consent to correct the error was blocked by the mysterious objection of the "two leading members" referred to above. The erring clerk is forgiveable, but the objection which prevented a correction seems to have arisen from pure cussedness.

Reporting a serious state of affairs in the Philippine Islands, a Washington correspondent says it may require a Congressional investigation to illuminate the situation fully. We suppose a Congressional investigation might be made illuminating under certain conditions.

Wilson at the Peace Conference

By THOMAS W. LAMONT
 (Extract From An Address Before the Forum of the Philadelphia Public Ledger)

I well remember the day upon which President Wilson determined to support the inclusion of pensions in the reparations bill. Some of us were gathered in his library in the Place des Etats Unis, having been summoned by him to discuss this particular question of pensions. He explained to him that we could find a single lawyer in the American delegation that would give an opinion in favor of including pensions. "Logic! Logic!" exclaimed the President. "I don't care for logic, I am going to include pensions!"

There was not one of us in the room whose heart did not beat with a like feeling. I never saw a man more ready and anxious to consult than he. He has been accused of having been unwilling to consult his colleagues. I never saw a man more ready and anxious to consult than he. He has been accused of having been desirous to gain credit for himself and to ignore others. I never saw a man more generous of those of his co-adjutors who were working immediately with him, nor a man more ready to give them credit, with the other chief of state.

"Again and again would he say to Mr. Lloyd George or Mr. Clemenceau: 'My expert here, Mr. So-and-so, tells me such-and-such, and I believe he is right. If you want to argue with him you will have to get me to change my opinion.'"

President Wilson undoubtedly had his disabilities. If it came to a horse-trade, he might have been outbid by a "black-out-jockey" him; but he did not reach such a situation, because President Wilson, by his manifest sincerity and open candor, always saying precisely what he thought, would early disarm his opponents in argument.

President Wilson did not have a well-organized secretariat staff. He did far too much of his work himself, studying until late at night papers and documents that he should have largely delegated to some discreet aids. He was, by all odds, the hardest worker man at the conference; but the failure to delegate more of his work was not an inherent distrust that he had of men—certainly not to any degree to "run the whole show" himself—but simply to his lack of facility in knowing how to delegate work on a large scale.

In execution, we all have a blind spot in some part of our eye. President Wilson's was his inability to use mechanical means, not a refusal. On the contrary, when any of us volunteered or insisted upon taking responsibility off his shoulders he was delighted.

Throughout the peace conference, Mr. Wilson never played politics. I never witnessed an occasion when I saw him act from unworthy conception or motive. His ideals were so high that he clung to them tenaciously and courageously. Many of the so-called "liberals" in England have assailed him bitterly because, as they declare, he yielded too much to the own premier, Mr. Lloyd George, and to Mr. Clemenceau. But could he have failed to defer to them on questions in which no vital principle was involved?

I will remember his declaration on the question whether the allies should refuse, for a period of five years during the time of France's recuperation, to promise Germany reciprocal tariff provisions. What Mr. Wilson said to Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Clemenceau was this:

"Gentlemen, my experts and I both regard the principle involved as an unwise one. We believe it will come back to plague you. But when I see how France has suffered, how she has been devastated, by the hand of the destroyer—who am I to refuse to assent to this provision, designed, unwise or wisely, to assist in lifting France again to her feet?"

Congress and ran the Minnesota school others were damaged. We have heard nothing further, but this is a glorious thing for one day, for which we will thank God and take courage as we will.

The affection and kindness with which the southern women worked their negro servants is a convincing proof of their disinterested interest in the negro's welfare. The same writer continues under the date of July 28: S. H. (Wentwood) and Summer Hill and homes of Dr. Brocknough and Captain Newton, in Hancock county, and went off for the whole of Pamunky river, I am sorry for their northern friends, I am sorry for them, taken from their comfortable homes to their noisy and where aid to be treated they know not how. Our man Nat went to work and was very partial, because his mother was the maid and humble friend to my up. He was a comfort to us as a driver and hostler, but now that we are driven to the north, I am glad that he makes but little of his work with us, how with his slow habits get on with us. I am glad that he is so far from himself I can't imagine. I am glad that freedom is natural and that he is so far from himself I can't imagine. I am glad that he is so far from himself I can't imagine.

In October of the same year Mr. McGuire records: "Our man Nat, and some others who went off, have returned. The Yankees made them work too hard."

H. C. L. in 1862

The diary continues:
 "Luxuries have been given up and each soldier's ration of coffee is \$4 per pound (Confederate currency) and that of \$1.50 to \$2 per barrel, and wheat, corn \$15 per barrel, and wheat \$4.50 per bushel. I have seen a muslin dress for less than \$5 or \$10 a yard; calico, \$1.75, etc. This is not a great hardship, for we all resort to our own resources. I have seen stockings and regret that we did not learn to spin and weave. The Carolina homespun is exceptionally pretty, and makes a decent dress."

"We are very much occupied by our Sunday schools—white in the morning and colored in the afternoon." She writes with touching reverence concerning the death of T. J. Jackson, and adds: "His body was buried yesterday in a car to Richmond. Almost every lady in Ashland visited their borders chapters of the United States today at the capitol, wrapped in the Confederate flag and literally covered with ribbons of the various beautiful spring flowers. The sad cortege will wind its way to Lexington, where he will be buried, according to his dying request, in the 'Valley' Virginia."

The southern women during the war assumed again the duty of caring for soldiers in their work for the American expeditious forces overseas. The United Daughters of the Confederacy authorized the establishment of a bed in the American hospital at Neuilly, a suburb of Paris, and the "Jefferson Davis" bed thus established became the center of the endowment and naming of 70 additional beds provided by 36 states for the people of a number of the northern and western states that have within their borders chapters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The Daughters organized no less than 23 Red Cross chapters, and contributed \$448,000 to the American Red Cross. The figures do not include individual subscriptions. As an organization, they go on record as having made 5,000,000 hospital garments, 11,000,000 surgical dressings, 11,000,000 bandages, and 11,000,000 articles. They also officially adopted and cared for 2,200 Belgian and French orphans at a cost of \$82,000 and have begun the accumulation of a special fund for education for the war-impoverished children. They have also memorial for the southern men who served their reunited country wherever needed in 1917-1918.

A Progressive Program

A battle of some magnitude will feature the legislative proceedings at Raleigh this week, and whatever the outcome, the result will be of great interest and importance to the people of North Carolina. Today's substitute bill will be introduced in both houses for the McCoin measure offered Saturday night, which limits appropriations for permanent improvements at the state's educational and charitable institutions to \$5,750,000, the substitute bill to provide for the six-year program carrying twenty millions.

The McCoin bill virtually follows the budget commission's recommendations, which have been the center of attack by the educational forces of the state. The substitute will embody the views of the citizens who appeared at the joint hearing before the appropriations and finance committees in Raleigh several days ago, and it will be called the "citizens' measure." In the senate it will be sponsored by Senators Elmer and Lunsford Long and Representative Elmer Murphy. With the introduction of the McCoin bill in the senate, the matter has passed from the committee's hands and the issue will be decided by force of public opinion.

If the people of the state want to put their institutions on a broad basis, once for all, provide facilities for educating all of the boys and girls and for housing all of the unfortunates, they will have to acquiesce in the legislature with their desires in no uncertain terms. It is claimed by proponents of the citizens' measure that it represents the wishes of the people "back home" and if it really does, the legislature will doubtless adopt the substitute measure. It is supported by many of the more powerful fraternal orders, by practically every civic organization and by a great many citizens from every part of the state.

On the other hand, there is solid North Carolina conservatism opposed to the ambitious program of twenty millions in six years, together with astute politicians and numerous citizens who view with alarm the present business depression, the increase in taxable valuations and the aggregate of millions that the General Assembly has been called upon to provide for good roads and various other subjects.

The subject is one demanding the best thought of the commonwealth, and there would appear small room for acrimonious debate. It is very certain that North Carolina has reached a point in development where she cannot longer afford stinginess in dealing with the educational and charitable institutions. We have gone on for many years with a hand-to-mouth policy and today we have schools so crowded that thousands of youth can not squeeze into them; schools with physical equipment in a state of deterioration and charitable institutions that cannot possibly accommodate the unfortunates who are lodged in sorry county homes and in jails from one end of the state to the other.

All respect is due those men and legislators who feel that the state ought not to go in for a twenty-million-dollar program at this time; they are patriotic and believe that a less ambitious program is wise for the two-year period present. But the hour is one that calls for progressive action; the demands are pressing and a substantial answer must be given the thousands of high school graduates who are knocking at the state's higher educational institutions and knocking in vain; and to the voices that are crying in the dark for the relief and treatment that our hospitals should give—crying, with no answer but a cry.

Business depression can not last forever; another year will see the state again in the high-way of prosperity, and we are strongly of the opinion that the people of the state are determined to see their institutions enlarged and strengthened to meet the demands of a progressive commonwealth.

Contemporary Views

SYMPATHY
Philadelphia Public Ledger: In some quarters it is the practice to fight shy of the word "sympathy," and the thought for which it stands, that is heroic and militant, all that is bluff and sturdy and virile, we are asked to believe points away from any such manifestation of tenderness and gentleness to impassivity. We are advised to be even-handed, equitable in thought, correctly and calmly neutral, not subject to fits and gusts of feeling, not liable to be swayed by our emotions. But how unlovely is this tame and placid life, though faultlessly genteel! It makes no mistakes because it is incapable of martyrdoms. It incurs no censure because it never sallies out into the open. It receives no blows because it stands forever under cover—and the only stand it ever takes is there.

Sympathy means sacrifice—it means a definite alignment on the side of that which is weak and struggling, not merely on the side of victories and majorities. Anybody finds it easy to fall in with shouting and spectacular successes. Anybody can come along when the rewards are handed out and put in a claim for a lion's share of the credit. But it is another thing to go into the dark with the lovely, to share the bread of sorrow with the despairing and the defeated, to confront failure, to stand by the despised and the humiliated ones, to help in carrying the cross in a wilderness rather than to acclaim the wearer of a crown and ask to sit in glory in the light beside him.

How easy it is to sympathize with the successful, and to help a rich man eat his dinners, and to assist him in the spending of his money! The rich and powerful do not lack for friends!

Sympathy is the capacity for imagining another's condition and then going promptly beyond the mere imagination to some practical measure of relief. If it merely begins and ends with the aroused emotion, it means little. The luxury of sentiment without performance, to make benevolence valid through beneficence, is as enervating and demoralizing as any other luxury. Weeping and wringing the hands does not rescue souls from a wrecked ship; it is the boat launched through the breakers that will bring them in. Perceptive imagination there must be to prompt a nation or an individual to works of mercy; the sympathy that merely remains a feeling, unrealized in act, is of small moment or profit to the world. Moreover, true sympathy is ready to correct as well as to approve. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, and it is a mistake to think that our friends are only those who tell us we are right and feed our vanity and bow in sycophancy to our wills.

The Lonely Stranger

The searching quality of the letter from "A North Carolina Girl" has evoked many replies. We have not the space that would be required by the publication of our readers' comment in full, but we are undertaking here to present a summarization that will suggest the tenor of their letters. Generally the expressions have been characterized by keen sympathy, but there is a wide difference of opinion as to the significance of the lonely young woman's complaint; many insist that her case is in no sense representative and, however unfortunate, must not be taken as a fair commentary on our hospitality or lack of it; others, not so numerous, assert or imply that a considerable number of newcomers here have suffered similarly. It should be noted, however, that among writers of the latter class there is a fairly prevailing disposition to apply the same criticism to cities generally.

One describing himself as "A Lonesome He Tired" may be quoted as a representative spokesman for those who feel that we do not reach out with the proper degree of warmth to welcome the strangers within our gates.

Much comment, some favorable some adverse, but all in a humorous vein, is the outcome of the very human letter addressed to you, Mr. Editor, by a guest whom it would appear we have failed to both welcome and cultivate.

While the method of announcing her feelings might be termed irregular; still, there remained no other avenue for expression, as such an expression, however real and honest, might be construed as ego or painful frankness, or no better than ridiculous, if voiced to friend or foe. In any event, the young lady has pointed out a condition, that is unquestionably a shameful one.

Her case is by no means an unusual or isolated one. To some of us who are familiar with, and accustomed to, city ways, this lack of warmth, whether it be displayed above or below the Mason-Dixon line, is common enough; but for a Southern lady alone in Southern territory, to be consigned to an unhappy solitude, is a sad commentary on our friendliness and hospitality.

On the other side of the picture is the great body of the letters evoked by the young woman's lament. It is inevitably true, say these writers, that many strangers here, as in any other city, will not immediately feel "at home." That is an unfortunate aspect of our modern complex city life and certainly not more apparent in Wilmington than elsewhere, they assert. One of these writes:

Of course, we all feel the deepest sympathy for this young woman in her loneliness here. We realize the difficulties surrounding the life in any city of a girl who comes without friends or connections. I have lived in Wilmington seven years and believe I know the people here. They are not lacking in warmth or hospitality. It was lonely here in the beginning, but friendships soon came to the relief, and even before actual friendships were formed I had many evidences of the community's willingness to accept me on an agreeable basis. Of course, it is comparatively easy to lose one's self in a city. Undue reserve might easily have kept me out of social contacts of any sort. My coming was not heralded, and there was certainly no reason to suppose that I would be met by a hand. The fact is that my obscure position in the business life of the community made it rather unreasonable to expect that I would be "discovered" at all without some little pressing forward on my own part.

Now, I understand, of course, that the case of a woman is different. I think that all cities ought to adopt some means of making life more pleasant for girls and young women who come to them as strangers. I have lived in several other cities, and I don't believe Wilmington is different in this respect, unless it is a difference on the side of being reader to make provision for the young ladies. I believe this young woman would have fared much better if she had not been over-sensitive or over-timid. Wilmington has a warm heart; that I know from experience.

The Women of the South

We are indebted to the Baltimore Sun for the review, published on this page, of the historical volume recently brought out through the efforts of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The book itself has not yet reached our desk, but its sponsorship is sufficient guarantee of its worth as a contribution to Southern history. "The Women of the South in War Times" is surely a subject deserving of elaborate and sympathetic treatment. The title itself makes vivid in the minds of most of us a story of high hearts and imperishable glories, a story that may not too often be told and that has become an inspiring heritage of all American people.

STILL BURDENING THE COST OF LIVING

Kansas City Star: Just at this time business isn't such a good way that congress can afford to add to its burdens, or fall to lighten those that can be reduced. Business, of course, is here not considered in any narrow sense. It means the world of industry, as it affects the average man who works for his living, whether as employer or employee. Industry needs to build up, so as to give regular employment to the largest possible number of persons, at fair wages.

One of the troubles with business has been the distribution of the taxation load, so that it has fallen heavily on industry. The huge excess profits and superprofits have absorbed funds that are usually available for business development, or have diverted them into other uses. This has handicapped normal expansion.

The Longworth program for taxation revision makes only a feeble attempt to correct this condition. It proposes to do away with the excess profits tax and to make a reduction in the super-taxes, although still allowing an impossible maximum of 40 per cent. To make up the deficit it proposes to double the tariff taxes, just at a time when America particularly needs the foreign market to take its excess products. The big business slump came when Europe got to the end of its rope and stopped buying. As industry in Europe revives, an increasing market will open for American products and other goods, provided Europe can pay for its purchases with its own products. If we bar out European goods with a tariff wall, we automatically restrict the American market.

The Longworth program omits entirely any turnover tax, which might place the heavy levy on investment capital imposed by the income tax. The turnover tax would be so light as not to be noticeable in ordinary purchases. In many cases it would be absorbed by the seller. It would be definite and easily collectable. It has worked successfully in other countries. Recently the government officials who drafted such a tax for the Philippines a few years ago and of an argument with a long time resident of Manila who would not believe any turnover tax existed because he never knew he had paid anything.

Evidently congressional leaders who pass up this tax are simply timid. They fear it would give an opening to demagogues to rant about taking the tax off the rich man and putting it on the poor man. There is nothing to that argument. The present tax system, by its restrictions on business, is materially increasing the cost of living, and a materially family would be helped by the change to the turnover tax. It is a common sense proposal, and congress ought not to distrust the good sense of the American people.

To increase the tariff tax and to maintain excessive income taxes, instead of resorting to the simple turnover tax, is to continue the burden on the consuming public, instead of lightening it. It is to hinder business instead of helping it.

Houston Post: A few months ago hides were selling at 40 to 50 cents per pound. Today they are bringing the farmer 3 to 4 cents per pound. A cow hide that brought \$20 during the inflated period will bring only \$1 or more today. The high prices are not to be defended, even as the consumer of hide products gotten the benefit of duers?

Mil News: Technical education is on the way to a much greater expansion, but there seems to be more liberality in Georgia for technical education in that State than is evident in North Carolina. The puny appropriation recommended by the Budget Commission for technical education in this State is a shame in comparison with the millions that Georgia is raising for the expansion of her school of technology. In the future the two States will picture the result.

Women of the South in War Time

(The Baltimore Sun's Review of a Notable Book Published by the United Daughters of the Confederacy)

Who bade us go with smiling tears?
 Who scorned the renegade,
 Who, silencing their trembling fears,
 Watched their hearts then wept and prayed?
 Who nursed our wounds with tender care,
 And then, when all was lost,
 Who lifted us from our despair
 And knitted the torn and shorn?
 The Women of the South.
 —Albert Sidney Morton.

In publishing, under their own auspices, the "Women of the South in War Times," compiled by Matthew Page Andrews, the United Daughters of the Confederacy have made a valuable contribution to history and literature.

These annals depict in graphic, spirited, yet unexaggerated words, the lives of the southern people within the Confederacy during the four years of their war existence. They are gleaned from the lips and memories of those who underwent the experiences chronicled, and in some cases the pages reproduce the intimate diaries of the women whose pens jotted down the actual happenings of days when the southern people lived from hour to hour and the lives of women were concentrated in efforts to promote the success of the cause for which their husbands and sons fought; in efforts to feed and clothe soldiers who were fighting in tattered clothing and upon almost empty stomachs, and to nurse the wounds of the wounded of Confederate and Federal forces.

It is a book ably edited and written without rancor, and one of the strongest impressions made upon the reader is the picture it reveals of the burdens and sufferings resultant upon a state of war. It is a book that will be read and read again, not only by the southern, but especially in the north, where many names among the participants in stirring events are household words, and episodes have all the absorbing interest of a family story. The southern gentleman of ante bellum days shared the scholastic education and out-of-door sports of his brothers. She read Virgil and rode horseback. She was a woman of many parts, she quickly recognized and assumed great responsibilities. She was resourceful in emergency. She possessed fortitude and was acquainted with the States, the southern woman stood dauntless behind the man behind the guns.

The committee upon the publication of the book is Mrs. Roy W. McKinney, of Kentucky, president-general of the United Daughters of the Confederacy; Mrs. Charles H. Hyde, of Tennessee; Miss Mary S. Popenheim, of South Carolina; and Mrs. J. A. Rountree, of Alabama. The foreword explains briefly the issues upon which the war of secession was fought, and throughout the book the editor appends such notes as contribute to better understanding of the subject matter.

Among especially interesting and dramatic features of the book are the wartime experiences of Elizabeth Waring Duckett, who had interviewed with both President Lincoln and Secretary of War Stanton; the publication by Rebecca "Maryland, My Maryland," and its singing by Miss Cary on the battlefield of Manassas. There are excerpts from the diary of Judith Brocknough, of Tennessee, who, like the Tennesseean Betsy Sullivan, "Mother of the Tennessee Regiment," the capture and imprisonment of Mrs. William Kirby, who smuggled supplies through the lines of the Federal army, and Mrs. Betty Taylor Phillips, of Kentucky, "Mother of Orphan Brigade"; the hospital service of that Joan of Arc of the Confederate States army, and of Mrs. Ella K. Traylor, of Mississippi and Arkansas, who organized hospitals and earned the tender name of "The Florence Nightingale of the South."

One of the most inspiring chapters is entitled:
 "A Night on the Field of Battle."
 "Near Winchester, Va., on the afternoon of Jan. 20, 1862, a Confederate force under General Ramseur was defeated by Federal troops under General Averell. The Confederates were compelled to beat a rapid retreat and left their dead and wounded on the battlefield. As night came on a number of wo-

COMMANDER WAR VETERANS

(Special to The Star)
*CHARLOTTE, Feb. 27.—*Robert Woodland, formerly commander of the 1st division of Camp Green, now commander-in-chief of the National Organization of Veterans of Foreign Wars, spent today in the city with the Hon. Donald W. Wear, post commander of Veterans. He was met at the station by the full membership of the post afterward entertained at luncheon. He held an informal reception throughout the afternoon and left for Spartanburg, S. C., tonight.

Lieut. John A. Wiseheart, Jr., was appointed provisional department commander for North Carolina.

BELGIAN CONGO DIAMONDS

*WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—*Two hundred thousand carats in raw diamonds came out of the Belgian Congo fields in 1919 and the use of production is expected to continue in the future. Constant Messersmith, at Antwerp, has reported. Owing to the state of the diamond market, however, efforts to establish an agency for direct sale of raw stones to Antwerp cutters have met with opposition. He said, on the ground that further raw stones should be marketed until conditions improved.

March 1—March 3

A new interest quarter begins March 1. Deposits made on or before March 3 draw interest from March 1 and will receive credit for a full quarter's interest on June 1.

Now is the time to open an account, or to add to your balance

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