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Thursday, April 23, 1914

Politics Above Patriotism

In the early dawn of yesterday morning, after almost twenty-four hours of empty quibbling, the senate of the United States gave its tardy endorsement of President Wilson's Mexican policy.

To their eternal disgrace, the names of thirteen senators and thirty-seven congressmen of the United States will be recorded on the pages of their country's history as closing their eyes to the president's appeal that the honor and dignity of the United States be maintained.

He is a sorry American who plays politics to the detriment of patriotism; he is a poor type of citizen who answers his president's appeal for support with the utterances of a Benedict Arnold.

Not a War of Conquest

While few can doubt that the events now transpiring in Mexico can only end with actual war between the United States and that country, none can impugn the motives of President Wilson and the American people who are solidly behind him.

The occupation of Vera Cruz by United States forces, whatever its aftermath may be, is the first step in a mission of civilization; the fore-runner of an unselfish effort to give the Mexican people what they stand sorely in need of—a stable government and prosperity.

Let no one deceive himself with the belief that Huerta is being, or has been inspired by the slightest semblance of patriotism. On the contrary, he is willing to sacrifice his country to save his own prestige—and possibly his own neck.

American forces is a much more alluring prospect than death at the instance of the bandit-warrior. So Huerta deliberately invoked reprisal from the United States by insulting its flag.

The punishment, then, of an individual who outlawed himself when he figuratively "waded through slaughter to a throne," cannot be termed a war of conquest.

Notes and Comments

There is reason to fear that The Columbia State, suffering from an excess of patriotic enthusiasm, will throw down its pen and shoulder a musket.

It is quite natural that the report that Johnson had jumped to the federalists should be taken as an announcement that he had thrown in his lot with the Huerta forces.

The prospect of a war with Mexico should furnish a excellent opening for our old friend Cone Johnson.

The senate did its best to throw cold water on the nation's enthusiasm, but, then, our people know that it has always been an obstruction machine.

How now? Has Cole Blease nothing to say?

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

- April 23, 1844—William Shakespeare born. Died April 23, 1616. 1807—Henry Hudson sailed on his first voyage of discovery.

THIS IS MY BIRTHDAY

Chauncey M. Depew. Chauncey M. Depew, former United States senator from New York, was born in Peekskill, N. Y., April 23, 1824, and received his education at Yale college.

OPINIONS BY SUPREME COURT

RALEIGH, N. C., April 22.—The supreme court delivered opinions this afternoon in eleven appeals from various sections of the state as follows: Kelly vs. McLeod, Robinson county, affirmed; state vs. Cardwell, Rockingham, no error; Neville vs. Bernal, from Orange, no error; Brown vs. Southern railway company, Orange no error; Walters vs. Durham lumber company, from Durham, no error; State vs. Andrews, from Guilford, appeal dismissed; State vs. Andrews, from Guilford, appeal dismissed; state vs. McClure, Guilford, no error; Watkins vs. Lawson, Stokes, no error; Ammond vs. Wysonog and Miles, from Guilford, reversed; Austin vs. McCollum, Union county, no error; Seales vs. Seales, from Richmond county, new trial.

POSTMASTERS NAMED

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The following fourth class North Carolina postmasters were appointed today: Angler, Harnett county, James A. Hockaday; Aulander, Bertie county, James A. Dunning; Boardman, Columbus county, Trey Hester; Bulow Creek, Harnett county, Julius F. Blackman; Cleveland, Rowan county, Arthur D. Davis; Ellerbe, Richmond county, Robert H. Gibson; Hays, Wilkes county, Minnie B. Gilliam; Jackson, Northhampton county, John J. Buffalo; Jackson Springs, Moore county, Victoria McKenzie; Johns, Scotland county, Fred A. Kendall; Linhurst, Chatham county, Lewis B. Brooks; Mescots, Washington county, Raymond H. Choason; Magnolia, Duplin county, Florence A. Brisson; Piney Creek, Allegheny county, Felix R. Warden; Pollockville, Jones county, Charles H. Bryan; Sanatorium, Hoke county, Hughes B. Hoyle; Shannon, Robeson county, Geo. J. Klapp; Winterville, Pitt county, Jesse L. Rollins.

Seventy-five million lady-bugs will be distributed to California farmers this spring and will be used to exterminate a variety of aphids which have been causing trouble for the vegetable crop.



Know Her Bible. Bobbie—I wonder where animals go when they die. Are there any animals in heaven?

No Need to Worry. Distressed Damsel—Oh, sir, catch that man. He wanted to kiss me. Passive Pedestrian—That's all right. There'll be another along in a minute.—Williams' Purple Crow.

Client—What! You expect me to pay you 253 francs for taking possession of such a small inheritance? You should have warned me it would cost so much.

Literal Interpretation. A dealer in horse flesh received word one day that his favorite Black Beauty had been accidentally killed in an automobile accident.

In the Rural Jungle. She was even more afraid of cows than most girls, so when she spied a placid animal recumbent under a tree, peacefully chewing its cud, she at first refused to go through the pasture at all.

Another Kind of a Dog. John Bhorer, the great Dane breeder, walked along with one of the best dogs of his kennels the other day. Two ladies fell upon him with glad cries.

A Prosaic Opinion. "What little word of four letters means more than anything else in the wide world?" asked the sentimentalist.

More or Less. One time the ladies sported sleeves a yard or so around. Anon their skirts were like balloons. Their trains next swept the ground.

The Symbol. He had decided at last to make the great avowal convinced that a word would suffice to assure his good fortune. He only lacked a beginning, a beautiful, poetic, inspiring beginning.

Mean. Employer—Good morning, Robert. I hope all your family are well this morning.

Official Local Weather Report. U. S. Department of Agriculture Weather Bureau. Local Weather Data for April 22.

State of weather at 8 a. m., clear. State of the weather at 8 p. m., partly cloudy. Relative humidity at 8 a. m., 69 per cent.

Local Temperature Data. 8 a. m. 48 3 p. m. 79 9 a. m. 55 4 p. m. 80 10 a. m. 62 5 p. m. 80 11 a. m. 73 6 p. m. 74 12 m. 76 7 p. m. 72 1 p. m. 79 8 p. m. 70 2 p. m. 79

Highest, 80, one year ago, 74. Lowest, 42, one year ago, 38. Absolute maximum, 80 in 1914. Absolute minimum, 36, in 1910. Average temperature today 61. Normal 56.

Local Precipitation for this Month. Normal, 4.04 inches. Greatest amount, 4.87 in 1911. Least amount, 1.44 in 1904. Evap last 24 hours, ending at 3 p. m., none.

Ireland in 1913 produced 139,602,251 bushels of potatoes.



Make the Purpose Plain. (New York World.) Gen. Huerta's final refusal to accede to the demands of the Washington government in the matter of a salute to the flag for the Tampico and other offenses leaves President Wilson no other course than to ask congress for plenary powers in dealing with the situation.

Whether congress acts upon the Mexican question today or a month from today, the motives and purposes of the American people should be set forth by that body in language that will admit of no dispute.

When war was declared against Spain in April, 1898, congress asserted that "the people of the island of Cuba are and of right ought to be free and independent," and added:

The United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is completed to leave the government and control of the island to its people.

President Wilson is already on record. At Swarthmore, Pa., last October he laid down the proposition that nowhere on this continent could a government endure except upon the consent of the governed.

The days later, at Mobile, with the possibilities of action in Mexico in mind, he made use of these memorable words:

I want to take this occasion to say that the United States will never again seek one additional foot of territory by conquest. . . . I say this not with a single thought that any one will gainsay it, but merely to fix in our consciousness what our real relationship with the rest of America is.

We have no quarrel with the Mexican people. Aside from a few chronic jingoes, there is no public sentiment favoring war. If force must be employed south of the Rio Grande now or later, it should be in support of a policy as generous as that which was proclaimed in Cuba and as noble as that which the president himself has outlined, and for nothing else.

To take measures for the deliverance of Mexico from the grip of a murderous tyranny is not to make war in the usual meaning of the term. It is to police our own neighborhood. It is to restore constitutional government. It is to punish a usurper who is as hateful to his own countrymen as he has become menacing to ourselves.

Congress holds the sword. It should never authorize its use against an American state except in behalf of ideas which may be openly published so that all the world will understand.

In the Home of the Procession. (New York Evening Post.) It is hard to believe that the lurid rhetoric of a Biessie can long prevail against so plain a statement of the educational condition of South Carolina as the Columbia State ventures to make.

Pointing out that South Carolina is one of but six states to be without a compulsory education law, while all foreign nations have such laws, The State asks whether it is only coincidence that in Massachusetts, with compulsory education extending over a period of two centuries, two out of three men, women and children have savings bank deposits.

But state pride should be enough to stir South Carolina to lift herself from a position so near the foot of the ladder as is shown by the fact that in percentage of children in school she ranks forty-third; in number of days the schools are open, forty-sixth; in value of school property and in percentage of literacy, forty-seventh; and in yearly expenditures for each child of school age, forty-eighth. Thirty-five states have been admitted to the union since South Carolina and her 12 sister commonwealths formed it, and almost every one of them is ahead of her in popular education, one of the primary elements of self government.

Senatorial Comment. (Indianapolis News.) It seems to be an established rule that, whenever we get into a little muss with some foreign power, certain senators should make exhibitions of themselves. It was so twenty or more years ago, when there was a "demand" that we throw a few shells into Constantinople.

It may be that these eminent statesmen are right. But many will sit.

To the Democratic Voters of Buncombe County: Hon. J. M. Gudge, Jr., our Congressman, from his district, had selected me to manage his campaign in this county and to look after his political interest generally.

It is interesting that precedents should have been followed.

All that can now be said about the Mexican complication is that the administration seems determined to have an apology even if it has to fight for it. The country will hope that the apology will come without a fight. We do not believe that the president cares anything about salutes in themselves nor can he esteem very highly an apology from Huerta.

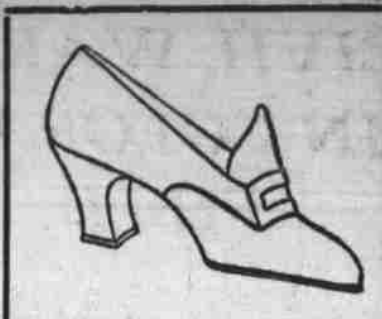
What he undoubtedly desires is to make Mexicans realize that this country is prepared and determined to enforce its just claims. It is the effect of the salute that is wanted. Put there is no reason why Senators Martine and Hughes should be so excited.

think that they have mistaken fustian for patriotism. There are perhaps some who will feel that, as the senate is part of the treaty-making power, and closely associated with the president in the management of foreign relations, senators would do better not to use such undignified language. But the talk is silly as well as undignified.

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At a recent election in Sweden the fact was revealed that only 3.6 per cent of the women voters were disqualified for failure to pay taxes, as compared with 24.8 per cent of the men.