

FOR SEA HOSPITAL

GARDNER'S BILL FOR GIVING AID TO GLOUCESTER FLEET MAY BE PASSED.

PROBABLE ENTERING WEDGE

Right of Federal Government to Care for Welfare of its People Involved—May Open Way for Workmen's Insurance.

By GEORGE CLINTON.

Washington—Representative A. P. Gardner, Republican, of Massachusetts, expects Democratic support for his bill providing for a federal hospital ship to sail with the Gloucester fishing fleet and to give first medical and surgical aid to sick or injured sailors. Progressive Republicans in the house believe that if this bill passes it can be used as a precedent to provide federal aid for workmen in other industries, like the mills and the mines, and they say it will be an entering wedge for humanitarian endeavor on the part of Uncle Sam.

It is said in Washington by members of all parties that if congress shall put through the Gardner bill, thus in effect recognizing the principle of federal aid to workers in all industries, it will be done in part to show that the Democratic party wants to do some of those things the spirit of which dwell in the proposals of the platform adopted by the Progressive party at Chicago. It is known that members of the new party favor the Gardner measure and the leaders here say that the party when it gets its representation in the new congress will support any congressional measure, no matter by what party it is introduced, which looks to the proper relief of the workers of the country no matter in what industry they labor.

Marine Hospitals a Precedent.

Uncle Sam himself has a precedent for giving federal aid to injured workers. In 1798 by an act of congress the marine hospital fund was created to maintain hospitals for the care of disabled seamen employed on ships flying the American flag. For nearly half a century the federal government gave free medical attendance to sailors, but in 1846 by another act of congress a system of industrial insurance, in principle exactly like the Lloyd George insurance act of England, was adopted. The master of each ship was required to keep back from the wages of each sailor forty cents a month. This sum was to pay, in part, for the maintenance of a marine hospital.

In 1884 these deductions were discontinued, and a tonnage tax instead was imposed upon the owners of the vessels. In 1902 this tax in turn was discontinued, the deficiency being made up from a straight appropriation. Today the marine hospitals of the United States public health service still give free medical and surgical aid to sailors, but the sailor must come ashore before he can be treated. The Gardner proposition would widely extend the scope and usefulness of the hospital service, bringing it hundreds of miles out into the ocean to the very bunk of the sick seaman.

It is known that the house committee is seriously considering the establishment of a contributory insurance system for the fishermen—a system much like that established by congress in 1846. What makes that committee hesitate is the fear of opening up the entire question of insurance for workers.

Report on German System.

Dr. H. J. Harris, of the United States bureau of labor, reported recently to his chief concerning the accident insurance of seamen which has prevailed in Germany since 1888. By its terms the law applies to persons engaged in transportation on the high seas, to persons engaged in ship rigging, pilot service, and the like, and in transportation on a small scale by means of seagoing vessels, and to persons engaged in fishing on the high seas and on the coast.

The benefits provided consist of free medical treatment, medicine and a pension up to 65-23 per cent of the annual earnings. In special cases a pension of 100 per cent is given. The administration of this law is left to the Navigation Accident Association, a corporate organization under strong government control. In the case of the fishing industry the annual premium for each sailor comes to \$2.55. The communes or fishing villages pay half this sum from their own treasury, and they may assess the other half as they deem proper.

The action therefore of the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries with reference to the Gardner bill perhaps is much more significant than might at first glance appear. Should the measure be reported favorably it may open the way for workmen's insurance in other industries. It will at any rate bring up the question of nationalism and the right or lack of right of the federal government to care for the welfare of its people.

Two Butterflies.

Mrs. Styles—A curious fact about the butterfly is the size of the case from which the insect proceeds. The case is rarely more than one inch long and a quarter of an inch in thickness; the butterfly covers a surface of nearly four inches square.

Mr. Styles—The same thought has come to me when I have seen a fashionably dressed woman coming out of a fashionable apartment.

MORE COAST FORTS

THEY WILL BE AT SAN PEDRO ON PACIFIC AND CAPE HENRY ON ATLANTIC.

RESULT OF STRATEGY GAME

Army and Navy Officers Several Years Ago Proved We Could Not Prevent Japanese Invasion—Congress Now Waking Up.

By GEORGE CLINTON.

Washington—Congress has awakened to what it thinks is the necessity of additional fortifications on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The appropriations committee of the house has recommended that there be included in the fortifications bill the sum of \$250,000 to start the work of providing great batteries of 14-inch guns at San Pedro, which is the harbor of Los Angeles, and it has recommended also that \$150,000 be appropriated to secure land at Cape Henry at the entrance to Chesapeake bay, where another great fortification will be erected in the near future.

There is history connected with the efforts to secure the emplacement of heavy guns at these two harbor entrances and in its way it has interest. Touching the western coast in the vicinity of Los Angeles, it may be remembered that just prior to the close of the Roosevelt administration it was feared that this country was on the verge of trouble with Japan. At that time army and navy officers were not altogether satisfied that the country was in a condition to sustain a conflict with the eastern power.

The army officers connected with the war college in Washington and naval officers connected with the one at Newport worked out jointly a problem in warfare. It was a "game" in a way which was played. On one side of the table was Japan and on the other as its opponent was the United States, and the moves were made by experts at the game of war. Japan won.

What the War Game Disclosed.

Laymen thought that the findings of the men of the militant services could not be considered seriously, but later it became known that the problem as it was worked to its conclusion was accepted by military authorities everywhere, as having been sanely solved with the conditions of the game as they were. As the result of that strategy study congress has just appropriated \$250,000 to begin the work of fortifying the approach to the coast of southern California at San Pedro.

It was found by the strategists that with our feet as it was at that time, Japan could land a sufficient force of men on the coast near Los Angeles, hold the country upon which an immense army could subsist, command the three mountain pass approaches from the east and keep at bay for a long time as great an American force as could be assembled to attempt to force the mountain passes to dislodge the enemy. Puget Sound is fortified, and so is San Francisco. Congress now intends to complete the chain of fortifications by adding the defensive link at San Pedro.

Fortress Monroe, Virginia, has had in its sole keeping for years, the safety of several American cities. It is the outpost defense of Washington and Baltimore, and with Fort Wood, which is a low lying mid-channel battery, it stands as an aggressive sentinel, keeping watch over Washington and Richmond.

Southeast across the mangling waters of the bay and the ocean lies Cape Henry, the rough coast of which is visible on clear days to the gunners on Monroe's parapet, but no projectile which their great steel monsters can hurl is ever likely to prove effective against battleships stealing in around Cape Henry under the cover of fog or darkness to make the run up Cape Charles into the waters of the Chesapeake.

Congress has committed itself to the entering wedge appropriation for a government fortification mounting 14-inch guns to be constructed on Cape Henry. When this is completed it is probable that Richmond and Norfolk, Washington and Baltimore, can sleep in confidence that no foe can come by water to their troubling.

If, through the fortress of war, vessels of a foreign navy should succeed in beating their way by the forts at the mouth of the Chesapeake, they will find difficulties still ahead of them in the approach to Baltimore. There are modern fortifications near the city, and while there are no 14-inch guns on the parapets, the caliber of the mounted pieces probably is sufficient, because of the short range and the consequent accuracy of fire, to put out of commission any ship which succeeds in running the batteries below. The Potomac river does not offer channel room sufficient for battleships of deep draft and broad beam, and so it is likely that the fortifications just below the capital will be all sufficient to keep an already badly battered enemy out of shelling range of the Goddess of Liberty who poses herself on the dome of the capitol.

Japan.

"My dear," said Mr. N. to Mrs. N., "what name did I understand you to call the new hired girl?" "Japan," replied Mrs. N., briefly. "And, pray, why such an odd name, my dear?" "Because she is so hard on China." —Detroit Free Press.

MAY BEAT THE MEN

SUFFRAGISTS WORKING HARD FOR THEIR PARADE MARCH 3 IN WASHINGTON.

IS FEATURED LIKE A CIRCUS

Recognizing the Worth of Publicity, the Women Put Out Some Smart Press Agent's Announcements to Attract the Crowds.

By GEORGE CLINTON.

Washington—Washington has two big parade committees hard at work, one striving for the success of the Inauguration in honor of the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson and the other working hard and willingly to make superior to the parade of "mere man" the suffragist pageant which will be held on March 3 on the stretch of the great avenue between the capitol and the treasury building.

A request from suffrage leaders asking congress to pass a constitutional amendment letting down the bars against woman's voting is to be prepared in connection with the giant allegorical procession and pageant to be held the day before the inauguration of President-elect Wilson. At least 5,000 men and women from all parts of the country, and particularly from the ten suffrage states, are to take part in the procession and in the mass meeting to follow.

The suffragists understand thoroughly the worth of publicity and apparently they also understand the uses of the press agent. They seem to feel that something with "circus features" is a more potent attraction than a pageant of "suffrage solemnities," a fact which makes the advance notice of the March event read somewhat like the unexpurgated forecasting pronouncements of the press agent of the biggest show on earth.

Sounds Like Circus Poster.

The women want a crowd, and if publicity will draw it for them they are not to be disappointed. The proof of the press agent is his (or in this case, is it her?) ability to get things printed. The suffragists' press agent is setting stuff in type. It may not be that Americans who dwell in the distant places would come to the capital to see simply a plodding procession of women with banners, but what American anywhere can resist this:

"A troop of attractive Dianas, horsewomen known for their proficiency in horsemanship, will have a prominent place in the big suffrage parade on March 3. Miss Julia Goldsborough and Miss Mary Moran, both of whom have won blue ribbons in society horse shows, will display their horsemanship on famous mounts, and among the other women who have already promised to ride are Glenna Smith Tinnin and Mrs. Churchill Cadee. It is hoped that this picturesque feature will be augmented by such dashing riders as Miss Janet Allen, Miss Katherine Elkins, Miss Lucille Cheronnier and many others who have won wide reputation as riders."

The suffragists are showing humbleness of spirit. The Washington press agent tells the country: "There is no suggestion that women are here appear as the equals or the superiors of men, but they will appear as women determined to win for themselves what they deem a God-given right." It seems possible that the words "are the equals" escaped notice of the expurgating staff of the publicity committee.

Mr. and Mrs. MacVeagh to March? Washington at its society end was somewhat stirred by the report that Secretary of the Treasury Franklin MacVeagh and Mrs. MacVeagh were to march in the parade carrying banners with the proud device "Votes for Women." It may be that Mr. and Mrs. MacVeagh will lend their presence to the parade, but the chances are that their "trudging" will be in an automobile.

While the "marchers march" the crowds along the curbs will be asked by "society news girls" to buy their program wares. So it is not the intention of the suffragists to depend upon the parade's potency alone to draw support for their cause. An entire week will be given over to the advocacy of the movement. It is allowed to be known in advance that "Miss Margaret Foley of Boston, the apostle of the working girl, whose eloquence is of a marvelous quality, will be one of the group of notable suffragist speakers who will spread the gospel abroad in Washington during inaugural week at open air meetings."

No one in Washington seemingly feels inclined to criticize the somewhat garish advance pronouncements of the spectacular features of the big parade. Some persons reading the press agent's notices may come to scoff, but the chances are they will not go away scoffing. There will be thousands of earnest women in the parade, every one of them holding that her cause is worth working for. They want to draw a crowd, and they are going after the crowd by methods of which time and experience have approved. March 3 promises to be a bigger day in old Washington than March 4.

Buchanan's Charity Fund.

One of the few funds, if not the only one, left for charity by a president of the United States is used in Lancaster, Pa., for the purchase of coal for the poor at Christmas and for other good uses. The fund was left by President Buchanan, who was a resident of Lancaster, and the income now amounts to about \$8,000 a year.

SOME THAT'S THIS.

But Take Time to Consider Them Carefully and Thoughtfully. That I will throw no impediment in the way of progress. That I will speak well of neighbor, my community and of country and the State. That my influence will be for law and order. That my opinions of others will be tempered with charity and softened by acknowledgment of my own fallibility. That I will cultivate a spirit of sane optimism rather than one of pessimism. That I will attend church as often as I can, pay my debts as soon as I can, work as hard as I can, save as much as I can. That I will lend my aid to every move looking to the material and moral welfare of my State, county and town.

That I will fight the wrong, aid the right and compromise only with death.

That I will drink as little as I need, eat as much as I should, stay well as long as the doctor will let me, and shun the undertaker as long as I live.

That I will observe the law and aid in its enforcement.

That I will be thankful each day that I have something to do, and will do it as well as I can.

That I will read as much as I can, learn as much as I can and forget as little as I can.

That I will try to cultivate courtesy, kindness and forbearance, and will endeavor each day to do something that will make life easier for a less fortunate one.

That I will criticize as little as is necessary, praise as often as will be helpful, and let neither flattery nor condemnation swerve me from the right.

That I will not allow the memories of a glorious past to blind me to the necessity of making a magnificent future.

That I will be satisfied only when I have done my best.

That I will be joyful as much as I can, gloomy as little as I can, and ever ready to work hard to make something good "turn up."

That I will be just as well as generous, letting my charity begin at home and end only beyond the pale of my influence.

That I will work to make the next new year find me better in every way than the present one, so that I will welcome it with greater joy.

That I will think as much as I can of good things, as little as I can of bad things, and as often as I can of the opportunities which are mine for improvement.

That I will lend what I ought, borrow what I must, collect what is owing and pay what is due.

That I will be brave, temperate, prudent, just, merciful, charitable, honest, efficient, courteous, "proving all things holding fast that which is good," and that I will keep all the above resolves as long and as faithfully as I can.—R.

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