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MONDAY, NOV. 12, 1917

DOING A SERVICE

Judge John F. Hylan, who was elected mayor of the world's gratest city by the largest plurality in history, was opposed by practically all of New York newspapers, those controlled by Hearst alone giving him support. From this face, a great many people are inferring that the New York people have no grip on the public, and the record seems to bear out this assumption. New York does not vote like the newspapers urge, however right they may be.

This emphasizes a point that the Record has realized all along—that good organization wins more battles than the newspapers. Tammany has the best organization in the world, and it is only when the citizens of the metropolis are smarting under the certainty that their funds are being misused, that vice is rampant, and that the city is being turned over to an army of time-servants will they listen to the voice of the press. Always Tammany can be defeated after it has ruled for a season; but always it comes back because the people have short memories.

As vindictive and uncompromising as New York papers seem to be, the service they render New York and the nation cannot be overestimated. They expose wrong-doing wherever found, and they are a watchman placed on the towers of the city. It would be an evil hour for New York and the nation if all the papers there were controlled by some political machine.

Those papers which can see no indications of German weakening probably take it for granted that the Germans are satisfied with an autocracy that uses them merely as pawns. Our hopes are based on a more or less careful reading of history from time to time, and we would not be surprised if the German people should demand an accounting. They might insist on knowing what the junkers mean to get out of the war.

Since the Germans have braced the Austrians on the Italian front, inspired Vienna opinion is that an honorable peace will be obtained soon. An honorable peace in this case includes a liberal slice of territory belonging to weaker nations.

The bolsheviki announce that their policy towards their enemies is "force without mercy," a phrase that Kerensky would do well to learn in the event that he is able to wrest power from this crowd.

The new leaders in Petrograd have German names. Their aims also are German.

SERIOUS CUTTING AFFRAY AT VALDESE YESTERDAY

Morganton, Nov. 14.—As the result of one of the most serious cutting affrays Burke has ever had, two well known Valdese men, Frank Jones and Ernest Berry, were literally cut to pieces Sunday at the station at Valdese and neither is expected to live, while Glenn Isenhour, who is alleged to have done the cutting, is a fugitive in the South mountains with a posse in search.

Frank Jones was brought to the hospital here. Berry was cut too badly to be moved.

Little is known as to the cause of the fight, but Berry was acting as peacemaker and in tttempting to stop Isenhour from cutting Jones was perhaps fatally cut himself, according to the information obtained.

Although there was a large crowd at the depot, Isenhour walked away toward the mountains with a friend named Miller, who later returned for Isenhour's clothes.

Valdese is not incorporated, so there is no officer there and it was a couple of hours before Sheriff Johnson arrived and organized a posse.

It is said Isenhour can be identified by a wound on the forehead caused by being hit with a plank during the affray.

WHO IS THE TRUE IDEALIST?

By Bermann Hagedorn of the Vigilantes.

I know a Pacifist He is a sincere pacifist. He is not a pro-German or a Sein-Feiner, but a real, unsubsidized, conscientious objector to war. He objects to all war. He objects therefore to this war.

He says that it is time that some nation should set an example to the world in the presence of aggression by not offering resistance to the aggressor. Better that the whole nation should be wiped out, its churches and universities razed to the ground, its youth slaughtered or dragged into slavery, than that a people should oppose force with force and fight for its liberties.

My Pacifist expresses these views frequently. A number of people say: "He is a Nut." But a surprising number say. "How beautiful! Of course, his views are impractical. But it is good in times like these that there should be someone who clings to ideals."

Whereupon, these honest people subscribe to Liberty Bonds and do other things to help wage war against Germany, for they are on the whole level-headed citizens. But once a week they grow sentimental about my pacifist.

"He is an idealist," they say.

But it happens that that is exactly what he is not.

An idealist is a man who believes that the things you can't see and hear and touch and taste and smell are more important than the things that actually do strike your physical senses. He thinks for instance that love is worth more than money; that to speak the truth and be poor is better than to lie and own a limousine; that to be right is better than to be president. The real idealist believes that liberty is worth more than prosperity and comfort. He is willing to give up his dollars and his comfort to preserve it. He even thinks that liberty for his children or other people's children is worth more than his own life. He is willing to risk his life for it. He is even willing to give up his life for it.

The pacifist declares that he also believes that the things of the spirit are better than the things of the flesh. In fact, he has an idea that he is the only fellow who does believe that. He thinks that liberty is fine and slavery is awful.

But—

When his neighbors are carried into slavery, he scurries into his cellar for fear of attracting the attention of the slave-driver and irritating him with an appearance of disapproval.

When his own liberty is threatened, and not only his own liberty but the liberty of his children, he proposes to give up that liberty without a struggle, and moves that the keys to the front door be formally presented to the burglar, the cutthroat and the ripper

Does the pacifist love liberty more than prosperity and comfort and life?

We suspect not.

Does he love the things of the spirit more than the things you can uncork or eat with mayonnaise?

Scarcely.

The pacifist converses beautifully. Meanwhile, wrong may triumph, liberty may be quenched, men and women may be sold into slavery, art, literature and religion may be flung back a thousand years.

"Be it so!" cries the pacifist. "Better that, than to slay and to be slain!"

Better that the spirit of man be trampled under the feet of horses, than the body! Is that it, pacifist?

"Better anything" cries the Pacifist, "than to take life."

Better to let your daughters be carried off into slavery, than to take life? Better to let your son be made a servile subject of an autocrat, than to take life? Better to let your own freedom to think and speak be controlled by a Prussian drillsergeant than to take life? Better to let your little children be subtly influenced to revere German Kultur more than the American ideal of democracy—better that, than to take life?

"Not for me!" cries the man in khaki. "Far better to take life and to give up life than to surrender the spiritual heritage of two thousand years."

The man in khaki is right, for that heritage is the heritage of Christ, threatened once more by the barbarians.

"Verily, he who saveth his life shall lose it," cries the greatest idealist that ever lived, "but he who loseth his life for my sake shall have life everlasting.

In this war between autocracy and democracy can there be any question which is Christ's side?

But the pacifist can see nothing except his own body and the body of his foe. Nothing else is in the picture. In comparison to the fate of the body, the fate of things spiritual is without significance.

My Pacifist is not an idealist at all. He is a tough-livered materialist.

The good citizens who are trying to revivify their own idealism by contact with his, are going to be disappointed. There is as much of the true spark in the pacifist's idealism, as there is electricity in a pain of pate de fois gras.

TROOPS AND SUPPLIES IN INCREASING NUMBER

With the American Army in France Nov. 11.—(By the Associated Press)—General Pershing said to the correspondents today:

"Troops and supplies are arriving in increasing numbers."

Thanks to the French, British and American navies, he continued, the submarine to date has not claimed the life of a single American soldier on the troop ships bound for France. The French officers, he said, were enthusiastic over the character, intelligence and eagerness of the young officers who are arriving in France to continue their instruction, and the American army is proud of them.

Conditions in the American sector continue to be normal, with intermittent artillery firing on both sides. At one place the Germans observed that the grass had been trodden down in the rear and they threw in a hundred shells with no result other than to churn up the mud.

The weather continues to be cold and rainy. The American infantrymen have had two diversions. The first incident occurred near daylight. The enemy, apparently thinking a raid was imminent, opened up with machine guns at the point where the lines are closest. A stream of bullets whistled over the American lines.

About the same time, French troops on the American flank, observed four Germans who were cutting the barbed wire defenses. A French patrol succeeded in heading off the Germans, capturing them all.

EX-QUEEN LILUOKALANI, OF HAWAII, DIED SUNDAY

Honolulu, T. H., Nov. 12.—Queen Liluokalani of Hawaii, died Sunday morning. Her death had been expected for several days.

The fomer queen had been in bad health for many months. A week ago she began to fail rapidly and last Thursday physicians announced that the end was near.

Social events planned for the United States congressional party visiting here probably will be cancelled.

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