

The Daily Tar Heel

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Thursday, January 14, 1932

Intelligent Disarmament Propaganda

Some of the best philosophy, albeit the simplest which has been released for general knowledge on this subject of militarism and armaments was given out through the medium of *All Quiet on the Western Front*. The use of armaments is invariably given to those poor devils who are too poor or too ignorant to realize the destructiveness of them until too late. Statesmen never fight. Their brains are needed in directing others to fight. But one never sees statesmen leading a company of infantry. Yet wars would be much fewer and armaments much lighter if these instigators of wars had to fight themselves.

For an "advanced" people, such as this country pretends to be, to allow itself to be taxed almost to extermination for the purpose of carrying on something it heartily opposed, is insufferable. Where are the leaders to voice the protest? The general protest in its weakest form has so far been presented only by editorials and articles, while the general nuisance has been going on and even increasing. Students must make themselves intelligent, far-sighted leaders to help steer the country out of this paradoxical situation.

If the average taxpayer would only wake up to the fact that 60-75 cents out of every dollar he spends for taxes are going for past, present, or future wars, he would soon demand this be stopped. How can civilization admit its existence when it needs so many things for health and welfare and still spends such a large amount of its fortune to please a few statesmen and militarists?

Intelligent leaders will form the keystone of the new era. America is not developing them fast enough or of a sufficiently inspired quality to want something better for the people and taxpayers of the nation. But the people don't know of the evils; they have to be led. America needs Hyde Park soapboxes on every thoroughfare of the country to tell the taxpayers of

the country the situation. After they comprehend the situation the United States will have disarmament—not before.—O.W.D.

National Friendliness

America, due to tremendous natural resources, has become one of the most critical points in international economic existence. It is one of the largest export nations on the globe, and, in cases where it does not produce certain raw products, it is a tremendous importer; but these instances are greatly outnumbered, and America has had for some time past a favorable balance of trade. This, together with the amount of specie shipped in to pay reparations and war debts, has caused a large influx of gold up until last year. So great was the income that only France possessed a considerable portion of the world's supply.

Part of this fact has been due to the unwillingness of the United States to receive foreign manufactured goods. It has one of the highest existing tariff walls, and is showing not the slightest inclination toward a reduction of them. Still it insists on the payment of war loans and reparations. It is a certain fact that this is rapidly becoming impossible, for if the nations concerned cannot ship in goods and have not the gold necessary, wherewithal are they going to pay?

When one country touches another's pocketbook, it is treading on exceedingly dangerous grounds so far as friendly international relations go. The friendship of the nations of the world is certainly an asset infinitely more valuable to the United States than is the bit of pride swallowing involved in the debt cancellation. One more factor involved may be to the point. It is sometimes less embarrassing to do an hectic thing than it is to wait and until forced to do it.—P.W.H.

Help Wanted

The economic plight of South America is well illustrated by conditions in the United States of Brazil. When we think of Brazil we immediately think of coffee, and vice versa. Coffee is so important to the prosperity of Brazil that the two words are practically synonymous. As the producer of sixty-five per cent of the world supply, as exporter of over half this amount to the United States alone, Brazil watches with eagle eye the price of coffee in the world's markets. And sad to relate she has been watching it go down, down, and down some more.

It was only a few years ago that we sat down to breakfast and said "Ah, coffee, a great drink! Brazil, a great country! She will always be rich because everyone drinks coffee." This thought, in addition to a little persuasion from our international bankers, so permeated the American mind that a small army of our investors purchased several million dollars worth of Brazilian government, state and municipal bonds. It should not have to be told that these same investors no longer have such a keen relish for coffee; it has left a bad taste in their mouths. For all Brazilian obligations are in default, and there is little hope, at present, of a satisfactory solution to the situation for the American bondholder. It was reported at one time last year that there was less than \$10,000,000 in gold in the whole State of Brazil. In consideration of her vast sum of indebtedness, this amounts to bankruptcy.

Reasons for this unpleasant state of affairs are not difficult to locate. First, we run up against the fact that Brazil is an agricultural country, there being no industry of importance,

and that in truth she is a one-crop producer—coffee. No situation could be more unstable. It is just the same old story of putting all the eggs in one basket. You have the welfare of the whole nation depending on the success of one product and when that falls into the depths the country falls with it. Second, the marketing of coffee was dispensed in a most uneconomic manner, in fact, not unlike the Federal Farm Board's method of stabilizing our wheat and cotton markets. The Brazilian government attempted to buy up all the surplus coffee and distribute it on the market over a period of years. This "pegging" of the price of coffee resulted in increased production by the planters and an additional surplus. So that when the bottom finally did fall out of the market it only intensified the seriousness of the situation.

Identical conditions exist in other South American republics. The downfall of tin in Bolivia, copper and silver in Peru, nitrate in Chile and to a certain extent of wheat in the Argentine and oil in Venezuela, has plunged these countries into a series of financial crises which are not only a serious menace to their present state of sovereignty but which will greatly affect their world credit standing in the future.

The trouble in South America can be traced almost directly to one cause: a lack of diversification of productive forces. Their economic stability can only be accomplished through a greater expansion of industrial activities; that is, a tendency toward greater self-sufficiency.

We have nursed Latin America along under the Monroe Doctrine for over a century and it is to the interest of every American business man to maintain this great foreign market for the benefit of future American enterprise. We have better cause to come to the aid of the republics of South America than to the support of Germany. They need American capital and leadership. Without it there is every reason to believe we will soon have another job for the U. S. Marines.—H.W.P.

The Low-Down

By G. R. Berryman

Alice in Blunderland

After a long walk through the woods, Alice at last emerged upon a large open field, where she beheld a strange sight.

About a large stake were a multitude of strange beasts, each having the body of a hog and the head of an owl. Each was fastened to the stake with a long chain and a small thread. "My goodness!" exclaimed Alice to Humpty Dumpty, "What is the name of this strange place, and what kind of creatures are those?"

"This is the Campus," answered Humpty Dumpty, good-naturedly, "and those beasts are native only to this spot. They are known as 'Stewdents'."

Then Alice noticed that some strange little animals, resembling rabbits, were dancing about the pole, just out of reach of the Stewdents' hungry jaws. "What are those?" she asked her friend, "pointing."

"Those are 'Hi-marks' and are much relished by the Stewdents," explained Humpty Dumpty.

"But, why do the Stewdents wear those chains?" Alice wondered.

"Well," said Humpty Dumpty, "that is what is known as the honor system. The Stewdents' masters, known as 'the faculty,' require each to have a chain of Honor."

At that moment, the chain of

one of the Stewdents stretched so that he was able to grasp one of the Hi-marks between his teeth.

Alice gasped. "Are all the chains made of rubber?"

Humpty Dumpty grinned. "No," he explained, "not all of them are. But, you see, the faculty allows each Stewdent to make his own Honor chain. For that reason, some are stronger than others—and some are elastic." He winked. "That's why it's called a 'system'."

At that moment, the chain of one of the Stewdents broke entirely, and he clumsily pursued the scattering Hi-marks. "Sometimes," said Humpty Dumpty, "even when the chain breaks, the stewdent can't capture any Hi-marks, but generally the dishonest and the quickwitted get the same desserts."

"Well," said Alice, "I understand everything now but one: Why does each Stewdent have a thread tied to him as well as a chain?"

"Oh, them?" exclaimed Humpty Dumpty, "Why, they're Pledges."

"The faculty requires each Stewdent to use the Pledge to keep him from breaking his Honor."

"But," protested Alice, "if the Stewdent wanted to break his Honor, that weak little Pledge wouldn't worry him a bit. Of all the foolish things I've ever seen, I think that is absolutely silliest."

"So do all intelligent persons," agreed Humpty Dumpty, a broad smile spreading over his face.

Princeton has a room entirely set apart for the first year men. It is equipped with card tables, ping-pong apparatus, a radio and a piano. The freshman lounge is known as the Freshman "Castle" where each class is king for a year.

With Contemporaries

Dr. Butler's Nine Points for Peace

Nine points for peace proposed by Dr. Butler when he received the Nobel Award for Peace in 1931: In answer to the address of the Norwegian consul, W. deMunthe Morgenstjerne announcing the award of 1931 Nobel Peace Prize to Miss Jane Addams and to Dr. Butler, Dr. Butler in an address which was broadcasted proposed the following points for promoting world peace:

Abolition of War Department. Abolition of compulsory military training.

Discarding battleships, destroyers, and other fighting craft, and the maintenance of a peace navy.

Development of codes of international law and international conduct.

Strengthening of the authority of the Permanent Court of International Justice as well as

the Permanent Court of International Arbitration.

Increasing the authority and upholding the prestige of the League of Nations.

Bringing the American nation into international cooperation.

Development in cooperation with the League of Nations of a plan of safeguarding the peoples of the Orient.

Cultivation of international good will through an exchange of visits between national leaders.

In regard to abolition of the War Department, Dr. Butler proposed the substitution for it a Department of National Defense. He stated that signatories of the Kellogg Pact had no place in the titles of government departments for the word "war" and that "war between the nations is as much out of date as the torture chamber or the scalping knife."—*North Carolina Christian Advocate*.

On the screen, the masterful lover has everything his own way. But in real life somebody generally ups and marries him.—*San Diego Union*.

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But the telephone conversation must not freeze

A sudden cold snap might seriously interfere with long distance telephone service were it not for the studies made by Bell System engineers.

They found that temperature variations within 24 hours may make a ten-thousandfold difference in the amount of electrical energy transmitted over a New York-Chicago cable circuit! On such long circuits initial energy

is normally maintained by repeaters or amplifiers, installed at regular intervals. So the engineers devised a regulator—operated by weather conditions—which automatically controls these repeaters, keeping current always at exactly the right strength for proper voice transmission.

This example is typical of the interesting problems that go to make up telephone work.

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