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AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

In a little pamphlet just issued by the American Association for International Conciliation, the author, James Brown Scott, solicitor for the Department of State, traces the peace movement from the formation of the great North American Union. The interests of this new country demanded peace based upon justice, and from this necessity a diplomacy developed that was entirely new. This was a new nation without the traditions and surroundings of the past, with no powerful neighbors seeking its destruction, and able to husband its resources and devote them to peaceful internal development instead of squandering them upon petty ambitions which have turned Europe into an armed camp. And it was in a position to form a new era in diplomacy, insisting on the right to neutrality and the peaceful settlement of controversies. This doctrine of neutrality, Mr. Scott says, was an American doctrine. The settlement of international disputes by temporary commissions and tribunals of arbitration is an American doctrine, dating from Jay's treaty of 1794, out of which grew the first instance of modern arbitration; the establishment of an International Tribunal, composed of trained judges, acting under a sense of judicial responsibility, will also be the triumph of an American ideal and will be the culmination of what Mr. Scott calls the new diplomacy that may be dated from the birth of the American Union.

ACCEPTS RENOMINATION.

Porfirio Diaz, in response to an appeal by a delegation of business men has announced his willingness to accept another term as president of the republic. The election will be held next October, and it is supposed that there will be, practically, no opposition to his re-election.

President Diaz has had an eventful career. In 1847 he enlisted in the war with this country. Then he was a revolutionist, and by virtue of his superior abilities he was elected president. At the expiration of his first term, his friend Gonzalez succeeded him. Diaz was re-elected in 1884, and since then he has held the high office, the constitution having been amended so as to permit re-election an indefinite number of times.

During the many years Diaz has been the president and ruling spirit in Mexico that country has emerged from the chaos into which practically all the Latin-American countries had lapsed and has become strong enough to assist the United States in the uplift of others less fortunately situated. Its material resources are being developed and progress has been made in raising the masses to a higher standard.

Diaz has been called a dictator. But he has given the country not only a stable but also a just government. Mexico, under Diaz, has gained the respect of foreigners. He has encouraged foreign investments in the republic, stimulated native industries, and carried through a splendid program of internal improvements. Under Diaz' wise leadership, Mexican development will continue with every prospect that when the time inevitably comes for him to lay the burden down, Mexico will have reached a point where she will neither have dictators, nor be a source of worry because of internal disturbances.

INHERITANCE TAX.

Charles M. Pepper, who, as an agent of our government, has been investigating the subject of tariff rates for the bureau of manufactures, department of commerce and labor, in connection with the tariff revision reports that the gross capital value of the British estates contributing to the inheritance tax in 1908, was a little below \$1,400,000,000. The gross value of the personality was \$1,115,000,000, and of the realty \$415,000,000.

This amount of real and personal property inherited by descent or will, is taxed by the British government.

According to the statistics furnished by the English government, these British inheritance taxes, drawn from a population of 44,000,000 yield \$90,000,000 to \$95,000,000 annually out of a total internal revenue of \$470,000,000 to \$480,000,000. About \$500,000 estates pay the bulk of these taxes.

That is to say, nearly one-fifth of the entire expense of conducting the affairs of the British empire is paid out of inherited estates by the heirs to whom property descends by process of law. An inheritance tax is by many considered the least burdensome form of taxation. It is paid at a time when it can be best afforded—when a person comes into possession of property that he did not earn.

It is notorious that some of those who inherit wealth have a strong inclination to waste it. Heirs differ from earners; the latter know the value of money and seek to invest it in some paying enterprise; the former class tend, as a whole, to have "a good time" with their inheritance, and their money is often dissipated or thrown away in extravagant living.

Contrary to popular belief, money spent in unnecessary ways or in luxury, is money wasted, and such expenditure does no good whatever to

the finances of the country as a whole. It represents that much capital consumed, not distributed as people commonly suppose. The only money that aids the country is that which is spent for necessary uses or invested in the operations of industry.

An inheritance tax, its advocates claim, make the thoughtless heir think more of the wealth that has fallen to him and tends to induce him to invest it in forms that give employment to others, and develop the industries of the community.

If this is true it is a restriction on waste and an inducement to industrial activity.

AWAITING AN HEIR.

If all Holland is eagerly awaiting the arrival of an heir at the royal palace at The Hague, it is because the future of the country depends upon that event. If the present reigning house is extinguished, the Kingdom may either be blotted out as an independent state, or it may return to its status of former centuries. Germany's ambitious naval policy has caused grave considerations, and as the Queen's health was reported to be anything but satisfactory, the future was not perfectly clear. The prospect of the advent of an heir naturally relieves the anxiety and fills the hearts of patriotic subjects of the queen with joy. The present Queen's father, William III, saw the sons of his first marriage die childless, and the coming of the son of his second marriage was awaited with similar eager expectancy as that which now prevails. That is one reason, why Wilhelm always was popular.

In the absence of an heir, a son or a daughter, the nearest candidate in line of succession would be Prince William of Weid, whose mother was the only daughter of William III's uncle, Frederick. But the prince of Weid died in 1907, leaving an offspring of very tender age. Since then the chances of the grown-up sons of the late Prince Henry VII of Reuss, whose consort was a daughter of Princess Sophia, William III's only sister, have been considered. These are German princes, holding commissions in the German army and navy, and their willingness to press their remote claim on the Dutch throne has been considered doubtful.

GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION.

In the current number of the North American Review, Mr. Darwin P. Kingsley, President of the New York Life Insurance company, presents an argument in favor of government supervision of the insurance company. Mr. Kingsley says:

"We have moved on into what is almost a new world. We are facing new problems. We are facing the further development of national ideals. We cling as tenaciously as our forefathers did to what we call the right of local self-government. What we are now and then asked to give up seems to us much more vital than what they were asked to surrender in the general interest. We have the most extended system of railroad transportation in the world. The use of the telegraph and the telephone has extended throughout the nation. Many important types of business are organized on continental lines. The question, then, is: When we insist on what we call local self-government as against the obvious significance of such facts as these, are we not as shortsighted as our forefathers would have been if they had carried their opposition to the Constitution further than they did? The fact is, we are still entirely devoted to local self-government. But what is local self-government? When a business naturally extends over all the states of the United States, is it local self-government to attempt to regulate it in forty-six different places by forty-six separate sovereign authorities? Under these conditions, is not the local idea plainly encroaching on the national prerogative?"

Mr. Kingsley points out some of the hardships which the business is compelled to suffer in consequence of the fact that it must obey the behests of forty-six different legislatures, and he pleads that the business must suffer grievous harm unless and until its superintendence is transferred from these multitudinous rulers to the central government of the country.

TAXING THE LUXURIES.

If Senator Aldrich has correctly forecast the action of the Senate in relation to the taxation of luxuries, 75 per cent of the articles used by all the people have been reduced, and the free list has been lengthened to an extent that would be surprising to everybody.

Senator Aldrich adds that in placing a large number of articles on the free list and in reducing the duties on many others, it has been found necessary to increase materially the duties in many luxuries in order to produce necessary revenue. The Payne bill increased materially the rates on brandy, alcohol, gin, grain spirits, cordials and liquors, but made practically no increase in champagne. The senate committee has decided upon an increase amounting to about 25 per cent above existing rates on wines of all kinds.

The rates on other articles, regarded as luxuries, have been increased, and the tariff experts feel confident that the bill will produce as much revenue as is needed. All of the increases on perfumes and toilet articles provided by the Payne bill will be reported.

Increases on luxuries, we believe, will be cheerfully acquiesced in by the public at large, and the higher prices that follow will be paid without much comment. But articles necessary for the maintenance of sanitation and cleanliness can hardly be classed as luxuries.

The greatest of all monologue artists—the egotist.

Zeppelin is the legitimate successor to the flying Dutchman.

Good work Judge Bowman: It will keep the undesirable citizens moving.

Holding the duty on silk hosiery will not take the rubbers off the free list.

There are several other bad Indians—unknown aids from Crazy Snake.

Los Shubert's serenade-for words and music, listen to Klaw & Brannigan.

In the face of the fact that this is an

OUR MORAL CODE

To the Editor—In view of the agitation there is all over the country regarding prohibition, and the social evil, it may be appropriate to express a few of the thoughts that have occurred to me regarding these serious subjects.

Our moral code is getting altogether too loose. The cause, I think, is the increasing greed for money that business men are getting, to the neglect of honesty and fair dealing in many cases; the increasing greed of politicians for ruling and power over their fellow men, resulting in the degradation of their conscience, and the betrayal of their best friends; the increasing demand of fashion for fashionable women, to the exclusion of their womanly feelings of home and children, making them like a dog to pet; and a continual whirl of excitement instead of the contentment of home and the love of a cherub of a baby, which last duty is prevented by every possible means in their power, regardless of the sin of so doing, the increasing demands from the woman who must put her shoulder to the wheel, and care for an ever increasing family, and consequently increasing household cares and burdens, with a husband probably, who leaves the majority of the child-rearing and responsibility to them, whose shoulders often break down under the burden, and whose minds get so dulled with sleepless nights with children, and the many duties of the day, so that they are unable to reason and try to make their children understand the truths of life. These are a few of the reasons that cause loose moral codes.

Is it any wonder that the world gets in the condition it is in today? All must have time to think a little, or they will be unable to cope with the difficulties that surround them. The grand rush most of us live in, and the selfish instincts that try to drown our consciences, will give the better of us if we do not pause and think.

I am of the opinion we do not take time to consider life seriously, or to think that there will be an accounting hereafter, for the way we have behaved here or if the very important question of how we shall make our children, who are the coming generation, better and more worthy to make the generation after them better. It naturally will not be by setting them an example of dishonesty; teaching them to be selfishness; or thinking "enjoy life, for tomorrow we die," regardless of others' feelings. It will be in behaving like we would have them behave, for what father or mother, who is decent, would wish their sons and daughters to visit saloons or houses of shame?

These are reasons why I am a prohibitionist, and why I think all bad places should be closed, as soon as possible. Of course, people who keep liquor places of business, should be kept time to enable them to obtain other means of employment with which to support their wives and families. But all such terrible temptations to the young people of the home, should be done away with altogether, as liquor drinking leads to other sins.

I am of the opinion, like the eminent men and women who have been writing for the Ladies' Home Journal, that we make a big mistake in maintaining such secrecy over the truth of life, to our children. We should think over carefully what we wish our children to know, then choose the right time to impart it to them. Ignorance is not innocence. From my experience, at school, and elsewhere, I know that children can be told by their playmates many things that it would be much better for the parents to unfold properly to their minds. French parent, by observing each child, can tell about the right time to impart these truths. How much better it is to do this than to leave the learning of them to chance,

and the information of vulgar children, or, later on to their own surmises, after reading such accounts in the papers as the Thuy trial. Isn't it much better to tell them plainly about these truths, and the consequences of indulgence at houses of shame, which lead to disease, degradation and death, as many a fine young man has found out to his everlasting sorrow? Also the shame and degradation of those who indulge in drink, to the drowning of their finer feelings and consciences; the ruin of homes; the death of the love of a fine woman for her husband, and consequently a divorce in the courts; the estrangement of children from their parents, who gradually grow to learn of their weakness and whose love and respect for a drunken parent soon dies, and who, if they have not strong characters, follow, very often, in the footsteps of their parent. I have seen, in England, a drunkard mother try to starve her infant, to get the insurance money on its life. Such horrors as these make one wish for a prohibition state. I fully and truly believe we must instill into the minds of our little children, the consequences of sin and folly, at the age of eight, nine or ten years. When a little older they will not listen with the same childlike faith, or are too bashful to wish to hear. Everything vulgar or of a lowering nature, should be strongly condemned, and cast out of our own lives, so that our children will have a good example. When they have a fair knowledge and know the consequences, which should be painted as hideous as sin is, then we have done part of our duty as parents, and as citizens of a city which wishes to progress to the highest goal, and of a country we wish to be the finest on earth. Honesty, self-control and less selfishness are some of the attributes that ought to be instilled in our minds from childhood. Then, if we practiced them, we might hope that our children would be better citizens, and farther along to the goal of perfection, and so help the next generation.

Why should sin and self-indulgence be looked upon more leniently in men than in women? Why not have one high moral standard for men and women? Why should young men smoke and chew and visit saloons, and still be received in good society; when one of our society women, if she should do likewise, would be ostracized from society? If a man expects his wife to be true to him, then he, too, should be true to her. When one standard, and one only, is upheld by honest, brave and true men and women, there will not be so much opposition to right moral standards. We must strike at the root and cut it out before we can expect right results. There are too many of our young men and women, who do not realize the importance of the God-given truths, and who have their own shy and somewhat vulgar opinions, which ought to be rooted out and right ones planted in their place. We cannot expect a flower to grow in a place choked up with weeds. I do not believe, as President Roosevelt says, there will be any race suicide amongst sensible men and women, who have been taught correct principles of life, and that the one end and aim of life is to live for the benefit of others, and to have the foundation of wealth for extravagant pleasures.

Some are selfish and do not wish any family. Such will regret it in their old age. Children should be desired, and planned for, as they are souls from God, and entrusted to their care to bring into the world, and train in the right way, to help push on the work of the world, and do all the good to their fellow men that is possible, so that when they grow up, their parents may return with good records, and clean, to hold an accounting with their God.

ELIZABETH CUTLER JENKINS.

age of crumdeas why not start in on the "pistol totter?"

Chaplain Joyce of the Fourteenth U. S. cavalry wants to make church-going legally compulsory.

Judging from their intemperate actions, those strikers at Meru, France, are a button or two short.

It is human nature to criticize our friends and abuse our enemies—a distinction without a difference.

Why pay out good money to see refined vandeville when the city council furnishes a free show every Monday night?

That New York woman who stole to reform her husband, believes in the effectiveness of advertising in bringing results.

The fashion in which the Utah girls are sporting the Easter beehive hats should be a source of deep and abiding joy to the milliner.

Three earthquakes reported yesterday. It is about time the city administration had a shake-up, or at least a disturbance.

While the Payne tariff bill taxes most wines it leaves champagne on the free list, probably on the theory that it causes sufficient real pain already.

The dumb waiters are being removed from local saloons. If only the verbose garçons are abolished from some cafes the cup of joy will be filled to overflowing.

It is safe to assert that the tidal waves in the orchestra row are invariably the forerunner of a suppressed storm from the man in the back seat.

The baseball season officially opened yesterday. Those whose habitations that a vacant lot were laboring under the impression that it was duly uttered in with the broken window three weeks ago.

"Is the American girl bent on making a comic valentine of herself?" asks the New York Herald. As the milliner is responsible for some of the prevailing peach baskets, the query is respectfully referred. After all one might expect to find a peach in a fruit basket.

JUST FOR FUN

Dusky Rhades—I wouldn't have to ask for help, but I've a lot of real estate on my hands that I can't get rid of.

Mrs. Rural—Try soft soap and boiling water.—Life.

"You look so pale and thin. What's the matter?"

"Work. From morning to night and only a one-hour rest."

"How long have you been at it?"

"I begin tomorrow."—Success.

"Isn't it too bad?" sighed Mrs. Lap-sing.

"I shall have to go to the dentist's."

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