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pride, pomp and noise, never lays an egg nor is he particularly serviceable in persuading other fowls to lay. In fact, the poultry yard would be quite as profitable without his presence.

The loudest rooster may be quieted by enclosing him in a box so low that he can not stretch his neck. In order to crow he has to elongate his pipe to its full extent. Thus the chicken owner might enjoy her flock and profit by their industry, if she would, without annoying the neighbors. A still simpler way to dispose of the rooster would be to fasten his head to his back by a permanent steel clamp. Simpler still and even more effective, is the common device of chopping his head off on a log. This leaves him stern of his principal ornaments, but it does not in any way impair his usefulness.

## DESTRUCTIVE BLOW

**H**UNDREDS of thousands of bushels of grain sold for export are tied up in western elevators and warehouses because of embargoes placed on grain shipments to the east by practically every railroad connecting with Atlantic seaboard ports.

Lack of vessels to handle the exports is advanced as the reason for the refusal of the railroads to accept further grain shipments. Warehouses and elevators at Atlantic ports are choked with grain and all the ports are congested with freight awaiting ocean transportation.

The following are the railroads which refuse to carry further grain out of Chicago: The New York Central, Pennsylvania, Lehigh Valley, Baltimore & Ohio, Chesapeake & Ohio, Walsh, Erie, Norfolk & Western and Lackawanna. In a private statement, the head of the traffic department of the Chicago Board of Trade said:

"All of the port terminals of the railroads are choked with exports. The ships in service are inadequate to handle the traffic. The fault does not lie with the railroads, but with insufficient ocean shipping facilities. The Baltimore & Ohio has 4000 cars of grain stored at eastern ports."

This is the condition President Wilson fore-saw when he urged the last session of the 63rd congress to pass the Ship Purchase bill. In his great speech in Portland, Secretary McAdoo said that if Congress had passed the bill promptly the government could share in the work of devoting the American fleet to the war.

In the case of the Aralde, Germany formally expressed regrets and disavowed the acts of the submarine commander. It seems scarcely possible that Austria will do less, especially since the Austrian submarine sank the *Anconia* in the full light of the American position and of the German acceptance thereof.

The *Anconia*, an Italian ship bound from Naples to New York, was sunk in the Mediterranean by an Austrian submarine with a loss of many lives, including those of several American citizens. That the vessel was torpedoed before all her passengers and crew had left her, and that the small boats were scuttled by the submarine, there seems to be no doubt.

In her reply to the American note, Austria raises question as to what were the facts of the sinking, and doubtless does so in good faith. Her own version of the affair could easily be mistaken due to the tremendous pressure under which she is at all times driven in the conduct of the war.

From this position, she will probably retire, and in the end, she will most likely follow the example of her ally and yield to the American demand.

The American demand is in the interest of every neutral nation in the world. In our position we are contending for the principle of the safety of non-combatants at sea, and it is a contention that directly concerns civilization, now and hereafter. It is a contention that directly concerns every nation that may now or hereafter have ships at sea in time of war, whether they be nations at war or nations at peace.

A refusal by Vienna will be a defiance. A defiance at this juncture would be for Austria to invite the moral condemnation of every neutral in the world and a forfeiture of the decent regard of mankind.

America asks nothing for herself but what she has a right to ask for humanity itself.

WOODROW WILSON.

W<sup>AS</sup> WHICH SOCIETY draws up? 1916 is just organized baptism, an inheritance of the same state, however disguised or ornamented—Louis Napoleon.

## IF AUSTRIA DEFIES

**W**HAT the United States is now demanding of Austria is, in principle, exactly what Germany on October 4, conceded in the case of the Aralde.

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UNNECESSARY NOISES

**N**ERVOUS New York is carrying on a vigorous campaign against "unnecessary noises."

The shriek of the steam whistle, the raucous motor horn, the howl of the madamed motorcycle, the bump-bump-bump of flat car wheels—all these horrors have fallen under the ban and are to be eliminated. Sometime, some day, they are to be eliminated. We do not know just when. Perhaps it will be when Tammany goes to its long home.

But a certain degree of progress has been made. Police order No. 16, issued the other day, handles the general subject of unnecessary noises in a manner which leaves no room for argument. The purpose of the order is to make life at least partially endurable in the metropolis. Two of the noises particularly dwelt upon are those made by unmuffled motorcycles and yell on the streets at night. We could mention others equally hideous were we in a disagreeable mood and inclined to discuss unpleasant facts about the neighbors.

For instance, we could speak of the early morning rooster, the fowl that pipes up at about 3 o'clock and continues without intermission for four solid hours. His voice is musical to his owner, no doubt, but to everybody else it is unmitigable torment. The problem of the shrieking rooster is complicated by the fact that a few chickens in the back yard help solve the cost of living problem for many a family, and the male chicken, for all his

all this should be done by a little clique of political bosses. Oregon has tried both ways.

For a good many years her officers were selected and her laws made in the way which looks so beautiful to Mr. Ballinger and the results were not satisfactory. The people made up their minds to change the system. They felt certain that no new method could yield worse results than the Ballinger system of boss rule, and there was a possibility that better results might be obtained.

So the people changed from the Ballinger system to the Oregon system which Mr. Ballinger hates so bitterly. He feels toward it very much as the devil is said to feel toward holy water and for about the same reason. The Oregon system has put the Ballinger system out of business. It has broken up the old rings and routed the old bosses. It has not made government perfect, but it has made government clean.

In popular government such men as Richard Achilles find themselves left out in the cold, poor, foreign ports at the gate of Paradise, with no prospect of ever gaining admittance. No wonder they weep and wail. But selling rarely accomplishes much in politics or history. We can pardon Mr. Ballinger's shrewd expansion since we know the reason for it, but if he wishes to get away where he must change his tone.

It is, of course, too much to expect a man with his ignorance to talk honest or common sense, but he might, for the good of his own bad cause, be expected to practice a little decent courtesy toward the people whom he was only too glad to serve as long as they could put up with his weakness and inefficiency.

## TAX WAR ORDERS

**T**HE best suggestion for raising revenue to meet the federal shortage is the proposed tax on Japanese and Chinese people dealing with Japan as the dominant member of the partnership.

These earlier exertions made no more apparent impression on the Chinese audience than a bullet would make on a bed of clay. They vanished into a sea of somnolent quiet without leaving a bubble behind. The *World War of public opinion* who replied to the farce disregarded the meaning of the speech. They talked about Pan-Pacific conference, preparedness, anti-preparedness, the virtues of the Japanese people, the brotherly friendship between the two countries and their own indifference to the fate of the world. Thinking they are needed to do something, they are needed to do something. However, anyone can tell me that there is no excuse. At present, I believe, the Chinese are doing the above but amounted to \$100. The addition of an interest rate of 5% to 10% of the weekly wage of a man is a good performance, for a man with a twelve-hour team as a runner respects a dozen or fifteen yards in 10 seconds, or a mile in 5 minutes, as the author of the article does. Let us see if we can do better in the same time. Is it not a good show that the Chinese are doing the above but amounted to \$100. The addition of an interest rate of 5% to 10% of the weekly wage of a man is a good performance, for a man with a twelve-hour team as a runner respects a dozen or fifteen yards in 10 seconds, or a mile in 5 minutes, as the author of the article does. Let us see if we can do better in the same time. Is it not a good show that the Chinese are doing the above but amounted to \$100. The addition of an interest rate of 5% to 10% of the weekly wage of a man is a good performance, for a man with a twelve-hour team as a runner respects a dozen or fifteen yards in 10 seconds, or a mile in 5 minutes, as the author of the article does. Let us see if we can do better in the same time. Is it not a good show that the Chinese are doing the above but amounted to \$100. 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