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POLITICAL IDOLATRY

The four power treaty does not
abrogate in any way the sover-
eignty of the United States. Under
its terms the United States is
free to act for itself in carrying out
its provisions. The league of na-
tions, however, provides that the
United States surrender its right
to act on its own initiative to a
council of nations, located in Eu-
rope and controlled by nations
other than the United States,
whose decrees should rule the
world.—Albany Herald.

The league of nations' pact
provided nothing of the kind alleged
above. It provided that the league
should "advise" measures in cer-
tain cases, but also provided that
it could not do even that without
the unanimous vote of the mem-
bers, including the representative
of this country.

This nation suffers from but one
cause equal in virulence to the re-
publican party. That one is the
democratic party.

The most far-seeing American of
his day pronounced a second Ser-
mon on the Mount. It was ac-
cepted with acclaim by a blood-
sick world. Persecutor and per-
secuted alike professed accordance
with the new code, the former in
shame-faced deference to the world
psychology of the moment and the
latter with glowing hope of a new
dispensation when the lion should
no longer rend the lamb.

The nations of the world, with
one exception worthy of note, ap-
proved of this gospel of peace. It
that one nation, the most powerful
of all, by a majority of one 190,-
000 vote, the new heatitudes were
rejected.

One of the two great curses, with
an expenditure of four and one-
half millions of dollars, defeated
the other of the two, which, by
begging, borrowing and stealing
was able to raise only one-third as
much, and we are out of the world
peace league.

The successful party has now
brot about another agreement in-
tended to promote world peace
(puny as compared to the Ver-
sailles league) and leaders of the
minority party are trying to pre-
vent its ratification by the senate.

While the idolators are worship-
ing the false gods of the partie
an augur might quote.
"Look to your hearths, * * *
For here henceforth shall sit,
For household gods,
Shapes hot from Tartarus:
Suspicion, poisoning his brother's
cup;
Wan Treachery, with his thirt
dagger drawn."

WHY THE HIGH TAXES?

The public service commis-
sion faces a recall contest, with the
probabilities against its survival.
Its affirmation of the advance-
rates charged by the telephone
monopoly is the cause, and the
great number of the telephon-
users and their friends is likely to
give a majority for the recall, for
telephone patrons in Oregon are
as mad as the hornets in a dis-
turbed nest, and justly so.

As the commission points out
its defense, it has been actuated by
a desire to permit the Pacific State
Telephone and Telegraph company
to collect a fair income upon its
investment. But the Enterprise
believes the commission has not
investigated deeply enough.

The Bell company owns a con-
trolling share of the stock of the
coast company and directs its pol-
icy. It compels the local compan-
to use its patented appliances, and

pay its prices. It burdens such
local companies in this and other
ways with such an outrageous over-
head load that they must charge
outrageous prices for service or
lose money. And the national
monopoly has just paid a 9-per-
cent dividend, besides increasing
its reserve. Oregon telephone us-
ers contribute their share of all
this.

Under public service commis-
sion control the offending company has
secured a monopoly which is
against public policy. Private
lines have been denied permission
to organize competition and oth-
ers have been forced out of busi-
ness to strengthen the monopoly.

There must be a remedy some-
where for this injustice.

Aside from this specific cause,
there is a crying need for a reduc-
tion of the number of state com-
missions that are fattening at the
public crib. Senator Charles Hall
in his bid for the republican nomi-
nation for the governorship, says
there are seventy of these commis-
sions and that ten would be enough.
Every one of these taxeaters is
ready to make a fight for existance
if reform is mooted in the legisla-
ture, and lawmakers having friends
who want soft jobs are ready to in-
crease instead of lessening these
burdens.

We are governed too much and
too expensively. Instead of in-
creasing the number of members
of the legislature and the 485 con-
gressmen, which would be like
diluting dishwater, they ought to
be cut to one-third, saving the
salaries of two-thirds of them and
their hangers-on and lessening the
hours of legislative talk for which
we pay so dearly.

Taxes are high because we pay
for too much dishwater and get
too little meat.

NO GAMBLING

No gambling. O, no! But
Brownsville men are said to have
left a pile of shekels at Corvallis
when Snyder knocked Letzie out
in a slugging match last week.

No gambling games were allowed
at the state fair last year, we are
told, but lots of money changed
hands at the horse races.

Our county fair is to be free
from games of chance, but there
will be racing and betting, you bet!

I will sell the following property at

Auction

at my farm, 2 miles south of Peoria and
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Monday, March 13,

- at 1 o'clock sharp:
1 team of Horses, age 12 years, weight
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pattern
6 Dining Chairs
2 Rockers, 1 Ironing Board
1 Library Table
3 Steel Beds with Springs and Mat-
tresses
1 Smoller and Muller Piano in good
condition
1 Phonograph, cabinet style, with 85
Records
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and all in one piece
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C. E. EGLE, Owner.
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WHERE YOUR TAXES GO

(by Edward G. Lowry)

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VII. WAR'S HORRIBLE WASTE

Mr. R. C. Leffingwell was the as-
sistant secretary of the treasury in
charge of finances during the war.
While he was in the treasury he be-
came deeply impressed with the mag-
nitude of government expenditures and
the looseness, inefficiency and waste
that are a part of government meth-
od. All the secretaries of the treas-
ury since the outbreak of the war
have shared this feeling of apprehen-
sion and concern with Mr. Leffing-
well. I quote here a recent utterance
of his on war expenditures:

"Of the \$4,000,000,000, exclusive of
interest on the public debt, spent in
the fiscal year 1921, \$1,101,615,013.32
was spent by the War department,
\$650,873,835.58 by the Navy depart-
ment, \$800,000,000 on the railroads,
\$230,000,000 by the bureau of war risk
insurance, and \$357,814,897.01 by the
interior department, mostly, I take it,
for Civil war and Spanish war pen-
sions—a total of \$3,080,000,000 under
these heads.

"In the fiscal year 1920 the War de-
partment spent \$1,610,000,000, and the
Navy department \$740,000,000, a total
of \$2,350,000,000. Secretary Mellon
estimates that in the fiscal year, 1921,
the War department will spend \$1,925,-
000,000, and the Navy department
\$700,000,000, a total of \$1,725,000,000;
and that in the fiscal year, 1922, the
War department will spend \$570,000,-
000, and the Navy department \$545,-
000,000, a total of \$1,115,000,000. This
makes a three-years' total of \$5,190,-
000,000.

"Germany went to war to realize on
her investment in arms and armies.
The burden of universal military serv-
ice, expenditures on the army and
navy, subsidies and doles, became in-
tolerable. She thought she would re-
peat the exploit of 1870 and make war
so profitable in territory and inden-
dities as to recoup herself for the
outlay of 40 years' preparation. The
splendid resistance of the Belgians and
the French and of the little British
expeditionary force made the short
war a futile dream. The untrained
manhood and unmortgaged resources
of the Western World, of the British
empire overseas, and finally of Amer-
ica, determined the issue. Germany
suffered economic collapse, though her
armies, beaten but not routed, were
still on enemy soil. So Germany's
military preparedness was her cause
for making war and was the cause of
her defeat. In the issue, it was eco-
nomic preparedness that mattered
most.

"Today, men, women and little chil-
dren are starving to death in Europe be-
cause of the war's horrible waste and
because of the still more horrible waste
of after the war. Two years and a
half after armistice, nearly two years
after peace was concluded between
Germany and the allies, millions of
men are under arms, eating and wear-
ing the produce of the fields and of
the labor of a civilian population
which must bear the load of taxes and
inflation necessary to maintain those
armies in economic idleness. The peo-
ples of continental Europe are stag-
gering under the load of armaments,
far too great before the war and in-
tolerable now. Their rulers hold them-
selves in power by subsidies and doles,
by playing, now on their fears, and
again on their avarice, still again on
nationalistic ambitions or ancient
racial hatreds. The allies have under-
taken to insure Germany's economic
recovery by insisting upon her disarm-
ament and the payment of reparations
which means the development of a
huge export balance; but for them-
selves they reserve the doubtful priv-
ilege of remaining armed to the teeth.
"We have demonstrated our mili-
tary power. We have shown what
may be done in a few short months
to make an army and transport it to
wage a foreign war. We have no need
to be aggressors abroad, we are in-
vincible at home. Let us accept the
responsibilities of the position of lead-
ership which is ours, show the world
how to beat swords into plow-shares,
relieve the peoples of the world of ap-
prehension and lead them back into
the ways of peace and plenty. If we
prepare for war we shall have it. If
we lead the world in preparation for
peace we may have that."

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Ramsey Milholland
by
Booth Tarkington



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SYNOPSIS

CHAPTER I.—With his grandfather,
small Ramsey Milholland is watching the
"Le Grand Day Parade" in his home
town. The old gentleman, a veteran of
the Civil war, endeavors to impress the
youngster with the significance of the
great conflict, and many years afterward
the boy was to remember his words with
startling vividness.

CHAPTER II.—In the schoolroom, a
few years afterward, Ramsey was not
distinguished for remarkable ability,
though the two pronounced dummies were
arithmetic and "Recitations." In sharp
contrast to Ramsey's backwardness is
the precocity of little Dora Yocum, a
young lady whom in his bitterness he de-
signates "Teacher's Pet."

CHAPTER III.—In high school, where
he and Dora are classmates, Ramsey
continues to feel that the girl delights to
manifest her superiority, and the vici-
tiveness he generates becomes alarming,
culminating in the resolution that some
day he would "show" her.

CHAPTER IV.—At a class picnic Ram-
sey, to his intense surprise, appears to
attract the favorable attention of Miss
Milla Rust, a young lady of about his
own age and the acknowledged belle of
the class. Milla has the misfortune to
fall into a creek while talking with Ram-
sey, and that youth promptly plunges to
the rescue. The water is only some three
feet deep, but Milla's gratitude for his
heroic act is embarrassing. He in fact
taken captive by the fair one, to his great
consternation.

CHAPTER V.—The acquaintance ripens,
Ramsey and Milla openly "keeping com-
pany," while the former's parents won-
der. His mother indeed goes so far as
to express some disapproval of his choice,
even hinting that Dora Yocum would be
a more suitable companion, a suggestion
which the youth receives with horror.

CHAPTER VI.—At this period our hero
gets the thrill of his "first kiss," Milla
being a very willing partner in the act.
Her raptitude over the matter discon-
certs Ramsey immensely, but shortly af-
terward the girl departs for a visit to
Chicago. She leaves an endearing missive
for Ramsey, which adds to his feeling of
melancholy.

CHAPTER VII.—Shortly after Milla's
departure, her friend, Sedie Clews, in-
forms Ramsey that his innamorata is not
coming back, so that little romance is
ended. Within a few months Ramsey
and his closest friend, Fred Mitchell,
go to the state university, Ramsey's chief
feeling being one of relief that he has
got away from the detested Dora. To his
horror he finds she is also a student at
the university, induced to join a debating
society. Ramsey is chosen as Dora's op-
ponent in a debate dealing with the mat-
ter of Germany's right to invade Bel-
gium, Dora being assigned the negative
side of the argument. "Party" is the
subject of his feelings toward Dora, and his nat-
ural nervousness, he makes a miserable
showing and Dora carries off the honors.
A rash youngster named Linaki objects
to the showing made by Ramsey and be-
comes personal in his remarks. The mat-
ter ends with Ramsey, in the presence of
vernacular, giving Linaki a "peach of a
punch on the snout."

CHAPTER VIII.—Dora appears to have
made a decided hit with her fellow stu-
dents, to Ramsey's supreme wretchedness.
A rumor of his "affair" with the girl
Milla spreads and he gets the reputation
of a man of experience and a "woman
hater."

CHAPTER IX.—The story comes to the
spring of 1918 and the sinking of the Les-
tania. The university is stirred to its
depths. Faculty and "frat" societies alike
urge the government offering their ser-
vices in the war which they believe to be
inevitable. Dora, holding the belief that
all war is wrong, sees with horror the
spirit of the students, which is an intense
desire to call Germany to account. She
seeks Ramsey and endeavors to impress
him with her pacifist views.

CHAPTER X.—Miss Yocum's ap-
pearance somewhat disconcerts Ramsey,
especially as the girl seems to place some real value
on his opinions, and his feelings toward
her are somewhat vague.

CHAPTER XI.

Ramsey was not quite athlete
enough for any of the "varsity" teams;
neither was he an antagonist safely
encountered, whether in play or in
earnest, and during the next few days
he taught Fred Mitchell to be cau-
tious. The chaffer learned that his
own agility could not save him from
Ramsey, and so found it wiser to con-
tain an effervescence which sometimes
threatened to burst him. Ramsey as a
victim was a continuous temptation,
he was so good-natured and yet so
furious.

After Commencement, when the
roommates had gone home, Mr. Mitch-
ell's caution extended over the long
sunny months of summer vacation;
he broke it but once and then in well-
advised safety, for the occasion was
semi-public. The two were out for a
stroll on a July Sunday afternoon;
and up and down the street young
couples lolled along, young families
and baby carriages straggled to and
from the houses of older relatives, and
the rest of the world of that growing
city was rocking and fanning itself on
its front veranda.

"Here's a right pretty place, isn't it,
Ramsey, don't you think?" Fred re-
marked innocently, as they were pass-
ing a lawn of short-clipped, bright
green grass before a genial-looking
house, fresh in white paint and cool in
green-and-white awnings. A broad
veranda, well populated just now,
crossed the front of the house; fine
trees helped the awnings to give com-
fort against the sun; and Fred's re-
mark was warranted. Nevertheless,
he fell under the suspicion of his com-
panion, who had begun to evince some

nervousness before Fred spoke.
"What place you mean?"
"The Yocum place," said Mr. Mitch-
ell. "I hear the old gentleman's mighty
prosperous these days. They keep
things up to the mark, don't they,
Ramsey?"

"I don't know whether they do or
whether they don't," Ramsey returned
shortly.

Fred appeared to muse regretfully.
"It looks kind of empty now, though,"
he said, "with only Mr. and Mrs. Yocum
and their married daughters, and
eight or nine children on the front
porch!"

"You wait till I get you where they
can't see us!" Ramsey warned him
fiercely.

"You can't do it!" said Fred, man-
ifesting triumph. "We'll both stop right
here in plain sight of the whole Yocum
family connection till you promise
not to touch me."

And he halted, leaning back im-
pudently against the Yocum's iron
fence. Ramsey was scandalized.

"Come on!" he said hoarsely. "Don't
stop here!"

"I will, and if you go on alone I'll
yell at you. You got to stand right
here with all of 'em lookin' at you
until—"

"I promise! My heavens, come on!"
Fred consented to end the moment
of agony; and for the rest of the sum-
mer found it impossible to persuade
Ramsey to pass that house in his com-
pany. "I won't do it!" Ramsey told
him. "Your word of honor means noth-
in' to me; you're liable to do anything
that comes into your head, and I'm
gettin' old enough to not get a reputa-
tion for bein' seen with people that
act the idiot on the public streets. No,
sir; we'll walk around the block—at
least, we will if you're goin' with me!"

And to Fred's delight, though he
concealed it, they would make this de-
tour.

The evening after their return to
the university both were busy with
their trunks and various orderings and
disorderings of their apartment, but
Fred several times expressed surprise
that his roommate should be content
to remain at home; and finally Ram-
sey comprehended these implications.
Mrs. Melg's chandelier immediately
jingled with the shock of another crash
upon the floor above.

"You let me up!" Fred commanded
thickly, his voice muffled by the pile
of flannels, sweaters, underwear and
raincoats, wherein his head was being
forced to burrow. "You let me up,
damn you! I didn't say anything." And
upon his release he complained that
the attack was unprovoked. "I
didn't say anything on earth to even
hint you might want to go out and see
if anybody in particular had got back
to college yet. I didn't even mention
the name of Dora Yocum—Keep off of
me! My goodness, but you are sensitive!"

As a matter of fact, neither of them
saw Dora until the first meeting of the
Lumen, whether they went as sophom-
ores to take their pleasure in the
agony of freshmen debaters. Ramsey
was now able to attend the Lumen, not
with complacency but at least without
shuddering over the recollection of his
own spectacular first appearance there.
He had made subsequent appearances,
far from brilliant, yet not disgraceful,
and as a spectator, at least, he usually
felt rather at his ease in the place.
It cannot be asserted, however, that
he appeared entirely at his ease this
evening after he had read the "Pro-
gramme" chalked upon the large easel
blackboard beside the chairman's desk.
Three "Freshman Debates" were an-
nounced and a "Sophomore Oration,"
this last being followed by the name,
"D. Yocum, '18." Ramsey made im-
mediate and conspicuous efforts to
avoid sitting next to his roommate,
but was not so adroit as to be success-
ful. However, Fred was merciful;
the fluctuations of his friend's com-
plexion were an inspiration more to
ply than to badinage.

The three debates all concerned the
"Causes of the War in Europe," and
honors appeared to rest with a small
and stout, stolidly "pro-German" girl
debater, who had brought with her
and translated at sight abso-lute proofs
(so she called them), printed in Ger-
man, that Germany had been attacked
by Belgium at the low instigation of
the envious English. Everybody knew
it wasn't true; but she made an im-
pression and established herself as a
debater, especially as her opponent
was quite confounded by her intro-
duction of printed matter.

When the debates and the verdicts
were concluded, the orator appeared,
and Fred's compassion extended itself
so far that he even refrained from
looking inquisitively at the boy in the
seat next to his; but he made one side
of a wager, mentally—that if Ramsey