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HOLD TAFT'S LOGIC IS ABANDONMENT MONROE DOCTRINE

MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec. 1.—The Melbourne Age, referring to the views of former President Taft concerning the Monroe doctrine, expressed recently at Montclair, N. J., and particularly his statement that the United States would not be compelled by the terms of the doctrine to intervene if Canada should be attacked by Germany, has this to say: "If this interpretation represents the views of the government of the United States, an event of first rate importance to the entire civilized world has taken place. If the Wilson government shares Mr. Taft's opinion it is very clear that Monroeism is a thing of the past and that the United States has abdicated the position she has been jealously guarding for a period extending upward of eighty years."

In his address at Montclair, N. J., last Friday night, ex-President Taft said that while the landing of troops in Canada by enemies of Great Britain would not constitute a violation of the Monroe doctrine, an effort to establish a new form of government in case of victory would violate that policy. Mr. Taft said: "All that the Monroe doctrine would consistently require of us would be to insist that when the war is over, if Germany were successful, she could not take over the territory of Canada and overthrow her government and establish her own there, or take any oppressive measures which would have a similar effect but we would not object to her exacting an indemnity if she were the victor."

NOFAVORITISM FOR ALLIES INTENDED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—In reply to Count von Reventlow's contention that the American position on the declaration of London was in a way contrary to the spirit of neutrality and actually worked to the benefit of the allies, state department officials take the view that no other way seemed to be open to the United States in its efforts to observe neutrality than to take the stand it did, as outlined in Ambassador Gerard's official statement, which declared that the United States "will insist that its rights and duties and those of its citizens in the present war be defined by the existing rules of international law and the treaties of the United States with the belligerents independently of the declaration of London."

If the stand of the United States works as Count von Reventlow argues to strengthen the allies, state department officials point out that it is due solely to Germany's position, makes it difficult for her to benefit from shipments from the United States.

BERLIN REPORTS POLISH SUCCESS

BERLIN, Dec. 1, by wireless.—The following official announcement was given out in Berlin today: "There is no news to hand from the western arena of the war. In east Prussia and in southern Poland it was generally quiet yesterday. In northern Poland, south of the Vistula, our war booty was increased still further as a result of the successes announced yesterday. "The number of prisoners taken by us has been increased by about 9500 men, and we have taken nineteen more cannon. In addition, twenty-six machine guns and numerous ammunition carts fell into our hands."

BUT WHAT CAN HE DO?

PRESIDENT WILSON in appointing the federal strike commission to inquire into future labor disputes and offer services as mediators, has taken a long step toward preventing future labor wars such as those recently waged in West Virginia, Michigan and Colorado. While the commission has no power to enforce its findings, its recommendations will create a public opinion that will force arbitration and eventually secure the passage of a compulsory arbitration law.

The president greatly regrets the refusal of the Colorado operators to accept federal mediation, but is in a quandary as to just what he can do to remedy matters. He says:

"I think the country regretted their decision and was disappointed that they should have taken so uncompromising a position. I have waited and hoped for a change in their attitude, but now fear that there will be none. And yet I do not feel that I am at liberty to do nothing in the presence of circumstances so serious and distressing. Merely to withdraw the federal troops and leave the situation to clear itself would seem to me to be doing something less than my duty after all that has occurred."

Most people agree with the president, for conditions in these mining districts, as disclosed by the reports of the federal investigators, indicate that the operators, owning immense tracts of land, have virtually established feudal conditions and made the socialist term "wage slavery" an actuality.

The mining concerns own not only the mines, but the land in all directions for miles. They own the public roads traversed. They own the houses wherein the miners live; they own the villages, the school houses, the churches, the stores, the banks, the saloons—everything, in short.

The mining companies control the public officials. They name the sheriffs and peace officers. They employ armed guards, to police and eject "undesirable" persons who "trespass," and to kill in time of strikes. They force those using the public highways to carry passes. They evict the families of workmen and force strikers to seek shelter in tent colonies, which their gunmen "detectives" ruthlessly shoot into and burn.

In brief, the conditions in these mining camps are intolerable in free America. Under these conditions it is no wonder that state government, under domination of mine-owners, broke down completely, failed in restoring order and necessitated the use of federal troops.

THE WAR TAX

A PARTISAN press has vociferously blamed the war revenue bill as the result of the operations of the Underwood tariff bill and asserted that it was necessitated because the bill failed to provide needed revenue.

This is far from the truth. During the first years' operation of the Underwood tariff, the government revenues exceeded the expenditures by some thirty-odd millions of dollars. The deficit threatened this year is due solely to the European war, which has shattered commerce with foreign countries, and hence checked the imports upon which tariff duties were paid.

The Underwood bill reduced the tariff upon necessities and increased it upon luxuries. It shoved part of revenue raising from customs to incomes, giving the consumer the benefit of the reduction in customs.

As failure of imports causes revenue deficiency, it follows that the higher the tariff and the greater proportion of the revenue due to customs collections, the greater the deficiency. Had the Payne-Aldrich tariff been in effect, instead of the Underwood tariff, the deficiency would be many times as great as threatened at present, because the Payne-Aldrich tariff ignored incomes and depended entirely upon customs.

As commerce is rapidly reviving, the war tax will be short lived. As it is, it involves no hardships upon anyone, strikes luxuries rather than necessities, and does not touch the wage-earner.

PRESIDENT WILL CONSULT GARDNER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Wilson will withdraw federal troops from the Colorado strike zone as soon as he receives official word from Governor Ammons that the state is already to resume control. The president reiterated today that the commission named by him Sunday would have nothing to do with the present strike, but was appointed to be of service in settling differences which might arise in the future.

Seth Low and the other members of the commission are expected in Washington December 14 to confer with department of labor officials.

WILSON DISCUSSES ANNUAL ADDRESS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Wilson went over his forthcoming annual address to congress with the cabinet today. It is short and deals with the legislative program already known in general terms; the conservation bills, the bill for a government-owned merchant marine, the Philippine bill and the regular appropriation measures. It does not urge the immigration bill.

Do It Today Resolve to smoke Gov. Johnson cigars, the best, and thereby patronize home industry.

The Desolation of Belgium

(By Samuel G. Rhyne)

It happened that I went over to Antwerp along late in September, and on the boat returning to England there were 500 or 600 refugees, principally from the former villages near Antwerp. I said former villages, for almost every village in this vicinity, or, indeed, in practically every part of Belgium is a former village. This widespread destruction left the people to be cared for. There was no place to care for them in Belgium, for all Belgium is a dark and bloody ground that has already been fought over time and again, and will be fought over many times more before this war is ended.

Whole Region Desolate

Less than two months before my visit this was a peaceful and prosperous country, so thickly populated that it was almost all one village, with a people who had not the slightest idea of what was in store for them, where a burned or cannon-crumbled hamlet excites no remark, and where dead men are so common and so numerous that death seems an incident of every minute of every hour. If the few remaining non-combatants chance on a killed German, or a killed Belgian, or a killed civilian there is no speculation as to how he died, no inquest, no inquiry, if spades are at hand the peasants dig a shallow grave or a trench if there are many of the dead men, push the body or the bodies in, throw the earth over them, and take it all as a part of the circumstances of war.

In seven weeks this happy country was brutalized beyond conception. It isn't a civilized state now. It is a place where there is no law save the law of the sword, a place where human life counts for nothing, where human misery finds no sympathy, where humanity is staggering under terrors that are too horrible for description, and where desolation, destruction and death have ravaged a whole people.

Millions Caught in Whirl

Belgium was the pathway leading to France for Germany and Germany used that pathway. The Belgians made what resistance they could. Thus seven and a half millions of peaceful people were caught in the swirl of the tremendous military operations that followed, and have been the bloody pawns of the great game of war that is being played in that territory. Belgium had no part

in the quarrel. I asked probably a hundred of the most intelligent types of these people who are refugees whether they know why their country is at war, and not one of them knew except vaguely.

Belgium didn't want war. What Belgium wanted was peace and opportunity to pile up France one by one. It was a prosperous country. The people are abnormally thrifty. They save in every possible way. But Belgium got war, got war that, before it is over, will devastate the whole territory of Belgium, and that has already killed thousands of her young men and driven thousands upon thousands of her people to foreign countries for refuge.

Since European war began Belgium has been fought over. Armies have marched back and forth across her fertile fields and drenched the streets of her peaceful villages with blood. The little kingdom has been the sport of Mars. But now, in this war, Belgium faces destruction, except the elimination of her actual ground. The land will be left, probably, but if the war continues for a long time, that is about all that will be left. Or if Germany should win the war, then Belgium will probably cease to be an independent kingdom, or will become a Germanized principality, with a pretense of independence, but in reality in German control. If the allies win the first demand will be for payment to Belgium for her losses, but there isn't enough money in the world to pay Belgium for what Belgium has suffered and will suffer. It is the most luckless little country on the face of this globe.

LLOYD OSBOURNE'S WIFE GRANTED HER DIVORCE

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 1.—A final decree of divorce was granted Mrs. Katherine D. Osbourne from Lloyd Osbourne in the superior court

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IT THEATRE

Wednesday-Thursday Nights Only DON CARLOS AND HOWARD FOGGS Great European Trained Animal CIRCUS See the "Monkey Hotel" run by dogs and monkeys only, in costumes. The picture matinees in the afternoon 5 and 10c. Circus at night 10 and 15c. Positively the best of the season, at the price. Don't miss it. They are playing elsewhere at 25c admission. "Originality, Morality, Merit and Comedy."

DRINK HOT TEA FOR A BAD COLD

Get a small package of Hamburg Breast Tea, or as the German folks call it, "Hamburger Brust Thee," at any pharmacy. Take a tablespoonful of the tea, put a cup of boiling water upon it, pour through a sieve and drink a teaspoon full at any time during the day or before retiring. It is the most effective way to break a cold and cure grip, as it opens the pores of the skin, relieving congestion. Also loosens the bowels, thus driving a cold from the system. Try it the next time you suffer from a cold or the grip. It is inexpensive and entirely vegetable, therefore safe and harmless.

RUB BACKACHE AND LUMBAGO RIGHT OUT

Rub Pain and Stiffness away with a small bottle of old honest St. Jacobs Oil When your back is sore and lame or lumbago, sciatica or rheumatism has you stiffened up, don't suffer! Get a 25 cent bottle of old, honest "St. Jacobs Oil" at any drug store, pour a little in your hand and rub it right into the pain or ache, and by the time you count fifty, the soreness and lameness is gone. Don't stay crippled! This soothing, penetrating oil needs to be used only once. It takes the ache and pain right out of your back and ends the misery. It is magical, yet absolutely harmless and doesn't burn the skin. Nothing else stops lumbago, sciatica and lame back misery so promptly!

IMPORTANT EVENTS

1914-15 AT OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE WINTER SHORT COURSE—JAN. 4-30 Agriculture, including Agronomy, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Horticulture, Poultry Husbandry, Insects, Plant and Animal Diseases, Creamery Management, Marketing, etc. Home Economics, including Cooking, Home Nursing, Sanitation, Sewing, Dressmaking and Millinery. Commerce, including Business Management, Rural Economics, Business Law, Office Training, Farm Accounting, etc. Engineering, including Shopwork and Roadbuilding. FARMERS WEEK—FEBRUARY 1-6 A general clearing house session of six days for the exchange of dynamic ideas on the most pressing problems of the time. Lectures by leading authorities. State conferences. EXTENSION SERVICE Offers lectures, movable schools, institutes and numerous correspondence courses on request. MUSIC: Piano, String, Band, Voice. No tuition. Reduced rates on all railroads. For further information address, The Oregon Agricultural College, (1914-15) CORVALLIS, OREGON

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