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BLOCKADES CUT BOTH WAYS

One of our exchanges calls attention to the exaggerated ideas which prevail as to the value of a policy intended to seal the ports of a country against commercial intercourse with other nations. More than once in its earlier history the United States resorted to an embargo against foreign trade. Japan by choice was long a hermit nation and built up a remarkable civilization of its own peculiar type. Japan continued its self-blockade until other countries ended it by force. The blockade of the Southern States in rebellion did not starve them, but taught them many new lessons in economic production. Under such circumstances the ingenuity of a people is vigorously exercised, and practical substitutes are found for what had been supposed to be necessities. In the days of the civil war high prices compelled the people of the North also to resort to some makeshifts in such standard articles of food as coffee.

According to a late German trade review some remarkable benefits have resulted from the suspension of German foreign commerce. It is stated that German science has found ways to replace raw materials now lacking, and that the progress made will be of great future advantage. Nitrogen is extracted from the air by a new process, and the fodder value of straw largely increased. The Institute for Yeast Industries in Berlin is making food yeast with over 50 per cent albumen from a simple treatment of sugar and ammonium sulphate. Ammonia is a by-product of coke and is also obtained from the air. The new method is called an extraction of albumen from the atmosphere.

High authority has it that there is something of good in things evil if we will but patiently distill it out. War is giving chemistry at least a lift. Yet a far better road exists up the hill of scientific discovery, and it should be pursued without the slaughter of the young manhood of a generation.

The land grant conference begun its work in a manner that would indicate that the charges of a cut and dried program having been arranged in advance are true. A secret caucus was held last night which indicates that certain interests are organizing to control the gathering which was supposed to have been called purely for the purpose of securing the views of prominent citizens of the state as to the disposal of the grant lands to the best advantage of the people, dealing justly with the railroad company so far as their equity, as set forth by the court decision, was concerned. The secret caucus and the activity of certain railroad politicians for the past few days would indicate that the conference, far from expressing the honest opinion of the people, will, if the wire-pullers can control it, simply voice the wishes of the corporation in reference to this valuable property which belongs to the public, except for an equity of \$2.50 an acre.

The town of Waycross down in Georgia has a new ordinance which requires the registration of all washerwomen and the inspection of the premises where washing is done. In all this riot of demand here in the West for inspection of one sort and another, for examination and issue of diploma or permit, the real object being not so much the protection of the public against incompetency and errors as to provide jobs for lame ducks, it appears that the Waycross plan has been overlooked. The profession of the washerwoman so far goes untaxed for registration and certificate or license, though in instances it is taxed by lazy husbands who lie around and eat up the profits. Their contention that the world owes them a living is no stronger, though, than that of the politicians who sit around waiting to fill the new jobs created at the expense of the taxpayers and real workingman.

At the rate the Allies are spending money that billion dollars will not last long should they succeed in borrowing it.

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A TRENCH IN WARFARE

The trench which has become the chief feature of the present war and is commonly regarded as a strictly modern method, along with the air ship and submarine, is really one of the oldest of inventions of war in ancient times.

The prophecy of Christ against Jerusalem was: "The enemy shall dig a trench about thee."

This was the most effective mode of warfare in those days when stones, arrows and missiles of various sorts were the chief elements in both attack and defense.

Later, when hand-to-hand fighting with spears, axes, broadswords, bayonets and small arms became of greater advantage than missile-firing bows and catapults, trenches ceased to be useful.

But the vast improvement in cannon and machine guns has made a return to trench-fighting necessary for the protection of the soldiers against wholesale slaughter.

Under present conditions a battle like that of Wagram would be simple annihilation of the armies engaged. There 90,000 men on each side were opposed, on a perfectly level and open field, without shelter of any sort. At first the battle was equal, as might have been expected. But Napoleon won over Archduke Charles of Austria by adopting tactics utterly unknown previously in history, and which really inaugurated the methods of the present war. He advanced his cannon in a charge against the center of the Austrians, and they broke and fled. The same tactics are being used on both sides in the present war.

It is an interesting question whether the development of aerial warfare will make trenches untenable and, if so, what development of defensive methods will take their places.

The state of Pennsylvania has a law which prohibits foreigners from owning dogs, but it has been necessary to get an opinion on it from the attorney general, in accordance with which the game wardens are notified to kill dogs only as a protection to game and wild birds. That leaves the farmers to protect their own sheep. One Pittsburgh paper says sheep growing has become almost extinct in the state, owing to the destruction of flocks by worthless dogs, and it adds: "A state which should be one of the greatest in the Union for sheep raising and wool growing gives the industry small attention, compared to what it should get under proper conditions." Here is something of an admission in a strong protective state like Pennsylvania that there can be something other than high tariff to help sheep raising and wool growing.

In the August number of the American magazine there are given three prize essays on the subject of "The Greatest Thing That Women Have Done in Our Town." The first prize was given to the achievements of the women in a California town for settlement work among the foreigners with the resulting lesson that these people are friends and neighbors; the second prize to North Yakima for the cleanliness of the city and food inspection by a woman official; and the third prize to a little old fashioned hamlet in Ohio where they are teaching children and engaging in philanthropic labors.

The simplest, most business-like proposal for the disposition of the railroad grant lands is that made by Former Governor West. He advocates an appeal to congress for permission to purchase the grant from the railroad company with the idea of gaining profits from its disposition for the benefit of the common school fund. This purchase might be made with a state bond issue which could be paid off out of the receipts of the sale of the lands. If handled honestly these lands might be made a source of great profit to the irriducible school funds of the state.



THE CONQUEROR

Who is this man of stately mien, who gains applause where'er he wends, who makes a hit in every scene, who has all people for his friends? The rich and poor, the high and low, behold his coming with glad smiles, the women say he is a jo, the merchant princes lift their tiles. He is no soldier, who in vain a million quarts of blood has shed; he has not cluttered up the plain with ricks and windrows of his dead. He is no statesman who has held a senate breathless while he spied, and he has never whooped and yelled throughout the broad Chautauqua field. He is no author, who has made a book with fire in every line, that made Gene Stratton Porter fade, and H. Bell Wright take in his sign. Who is this man of lordly air, whom all the people thus applaud, and greet with fervor everywhere, whenever he may walk abroad? Why does he cut such scads of ice? What has he done that is sublime? He is the man who has the price—the man who pays his bills on time.

WICKERSHAM FOR GOVERNOR.

Fairbanks, Alaska, Sept. 16.—James Wickershams, delegate to congress, will, can line up forces so as to make a campaign for a definite term, be a paid give promise of success.

PRACTICAL COURSES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Commercial Departments Are Being Featured Now

The demand for vocational training in the public schools has become stronger and stronger the past few years. This desire to study something that will be of practical benefit in the making of a living, has brought the commercial departments to the front in the public schools, until now fully one half of the students in the higher grades are interested in studies that will be of value to them from a dollars and cents standpoint. The modern idea seems to be that while algebra and geometry may be all right for certain courses, yet a practical business course, including type-writing, bookkeeping and stenography is what the boy or girl needs when looking for a job.

The course in the third year of the Junior high school is as follows:
Third Year (Ninth Grade)
Required.

- Recitations per week
- English
- Physical Education
- Pennmanship and Spelling
- Elective.
- German
- Algebra
- Manual Training
- Home Economics (sewing)
- Drawing
- Music

After the first year's study in the commercial course, in which English, pennmanship and spelling is required, the first year of the senior high school course takes the student into book-keeping, commercial arithmetic and commercial geography. The second year of the senior high commercial course goes into cost accounting, commercial law and elective studies such as stenography and typewriting. The last year of this course includes salesmanship and gives the pupil an opportunity to continue his studies in typewriting and stenography. The complete senior high school course is as follows:

First Year (Tenth Grade)

- Required.
- English
- Bookkeeping
- Cost Accounting & Rapid Calculation
- Commercial Geography
- Elective.
- Manual Training
- Domestic Science
- German
- Pennmanship
- Spelling
- Botany

Second Year (Eleventh Grade)

- Required.
- English
- Cost Accounting
- Cost Accounting
- Commercial Law
- Elective.
- Stenography
- Typewriting
- Manual Training
- Domestic Science
- Chemistry
- Physics

Third Year (Twelfth Grade)

- Required.
- Business English & Correspondence
- National Banking
- Salesmanship
- American History and Civics
- Elective.
- Economics
- Stenography
- Typewriting
- Apprenticeship
- Public Speaking

ANY WOMAN CAN NOW
HAVE PRETTY CURLY HAIR

(Feminine World)
Who'd have thought so simple a thing as applying ordinary liquid silmerline could convert straight hair into such pretty curly locks in a single night! The one who made this discovery is surely entitled to a rising vote of thanks. Now all we need to do is to wet a brush with this harmless liquid at night, draw this through the hair, and in the morning we find it has dried in just the sweetest waves and curls.

It's good news, indeed, that we can now dispense with the destructive waving tongs forever! The curliness is so much more natural looking where the liquid silmerline is used, and certainly one's "crowning glory" appears softer, glossier and more beautiful. When it is so easy to secure a few ounces of this from the druggist—which will keep the hair in curl for weeks—there's no reason now for any one putting up with straight, straggly, or scorched, dead-looking hair.

NO MORE AUTO RACING.

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 16.—Deciding that the dirt track used for horse racing is too dangerous for automobile racing by amateurs, the racing association of the interstate fair ruled today that there will be no more automobile racing. Several accidents have occurred in the past two days.

Good Health To You

The first step is to help Nature improve the appetite and digestion; also keep the bowels regular. This suggests

**HOSTETTER'S
Stomach Bitters**

LIKE th' Irishman sez:
"One man's ez good
ez another an' a durn
sight better." Anyway,
one man can't
get no better to-
bacco 'n another
ef they both get
VELVET.

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