

involved or on New York's magistrates. None too severe was the comment on this occurrence made in a letter of protest to Mayor Mitchel by Amos Pinchot as follows:

Nothing that Mr. White or his friends might have said in regard to the Christianity of Calvary Church and of the gentlemen who support it, or of the standards of Christianity in this city, could possibly have amounted to so scathing an indictment as the furious assault which the city's officials and the frock coat phalanx of Calvary piously indulged in.

S. D.



Two Views of the Mexican Muddle.

Whether or not more men and munitions of war should be hurried to the front depends entirely upon the point of view. Military strategists have apparently made out a good case in their attempt to show that an army so large as to be overwhelming would be a merciful provision, both for us and for the Mexicans. A small band of Americans could fight its way through Mexico City, but the very fact of its smallness would encourage resistance, and lead to heavy losses on both sides. A large army, on the contrary, would quickly overcome all opposition, and so reduce the casualties. All this is so self-evident to the admirals and the generals that they cannot understand how the President can be so stupid as not to see it. And the yellow press and the little statesmen fall to, and belabor him, as an enemy of his country. President Wilson, however, sees the matter from a different angle. Doubtless he realizes the truth of all that the military strategists say, but he will not admit that we are to have war at all. And while this may handicap the admirals and generals in the event of invasion, it is the best possible preventive of war. For let it be borne in mind that if the clash comes it will be from our initiative, and not Mexico's.

S. C.



War News Still Lacks Reality.

A long-step toward bringing war home to the children was taken when the "movies" threw upon the screens the actual movements of the troops at Vera Cruz. But there is still one thing lacking. It is an inspiring sight to the little ones to see the action of the soldiers, the firing of the guns, and the fall of the men; but it is all in pantomime. They miss the commands of the officers, the curses of the men, and the groans of the dying. Alas, that Mr. Edison should have been so tardy in perfecting his phonograph! If only the perfected instrument could have been there to record the sharp cry of the stricken boy,

the moan of anguish, the mumbled message to his mother, while the camera caught his fall, the writhing of his body and the ghastly hue that followed the death rattle. Ah, that our children should have been denied such entertainment!

S. C.



Patriotism Run Mad.

Now that the nation has had time to recover somewhat from its state of morbid sentimentality, it might with profit give a few moments to sane reflection. Why all this sudden adulation of the soldier? Are we so lacking in examples of heroism that we must work ourselves into a state of hysteria over the death of a few men who have been killed in the discharge of their duty? They acquitted themselves as soldiers, as men, as Americans; they would have faced greater danger with equal willingness. We honor them as we honor any man who does his duty. But why the partiality? More policemen are killed every year; while a far greater number of firemen perish. And the policeman who engages a band of thugs at night, and the fireman who groups his way through a burning building in search of the helpless, is without the stimulating cheer of companions. Are we altogether just in giving our applause?



And who are these sailors and marines who are now the subjects of such extravagant praise? How long is it since they were denied admission to places of amusement in our coast cities? And how many of the people who have mourned with ostentation these men dead, would have admitted them to their clubs, living? Kipling caught the idea in his lines on Tommy Atkins in war and in peace.

"It's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' 'Chuck him out, the brute!"

"But it's 'Saviour of 'is country,' when the guns begin to shoot."



A little less exultation over our military exploits in Mexico, and a little more humiliation in the presence of our labor conditions in Colorado is in order.

S. C.



Cross and Crescent.

Christians throughout the world have been regaled for generations with tales of Turkish oppression and cruelty, until some otherwise peaceful churchmen have been disposed to look upon a war to drive the Turks from Europe as a holy

war. But what are we to say of the savagery displayed by the Christians of the Balkans? When they had driven the Turks from their territory they fell upon each other with such ferocity as to stagger belief. Each nation accused the others during the war; and now comes the report of the special commission of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, which says all told the truth. That great numbers of men should have been guilty of the acts certified to by this impartial commission leads one to doubt whether less severity than that of the Turkish government will hold them in check. And in any event it is evident that the nominal profession of a religious creed does not necessarily accompany a corresponding state of ethical development. Cruel the Turk doubtless was, as a master, but his subjects have proven to be no less cruel. They are the victims of centuries of wars, and are in sore need of the hand of fellowship. It would be a good investment if each of the great powers could contribute the price of a battleship toward the rehabilitation of the Balkan countries. The example would serve as well as the money. s. c.



The True Inwardness of Toll Exemptions.

Congressman Bowdle of Ohio in a speech in the House on March 30, well explained the predatory nature of the Panama tolls exemption proposition. He asked what would have happened to a Congressman, who, if the canal had not been dug, would have "seriously proposed giving to our coastwise steamship corporations as a subsidy a determined portion of the interest on four hundred millions of money?" That is what the exemption proposition practically amounts to, and no amount of demagogic talk of "British domination" can make it anything else. S. D.



Land Values and the Cost of Living.

In disregard of facts, which can easily be gleaned from census reports, James J. Hill attributes the high cost of living to poor methods of farming and to the increased wages of farm laborers. He suggests as a remedy adoption of methods by farmers to increase production per acre. Of course any improvement in methods is a good thing, but it can not alone solve the cost of living problem. It seems strange that one as observant as Mr. Hill should have overlooked the principal obstacle to farming—one that has grown tremendously during the last decade and is still growing—the increase in farm-land values. Mr.

Hill refers to increase in wages of farm laborers which he estimates at fifty per cent, but he has not a word to say about more than one hundred per cent increase in land values. Adoption of improved methods can not remove that obstacle. On the contrary it must augment it, unless action be taken at the same time to discourage speculative withholding of farm lands from use. Actual decrease of population in Iowa is one example of the result of inflated farm-land values. In Kansas there is a noticeable tendency toward increase of tenantry, especially in the eastern half of the state. What seems most needed to encourage farming is what is needed in all other industries. More opportunities to prosper, should be given the laborer, and less to the appropriator of unearned increment. S. D.



What Ails Iowa.

"What is the matter with Iowa?" asks the Providence (R. I.) Journal and then continues: "It was the only state in the Union which lost in population in the decade from 1900 to 1910. . . . The Census Bureau's present estimate that it has lost about 3,000 since 1910 is probably not overdrawn, as it is known that thousands of Hawkeye farmers have emigrated to the Canadian Northwest during the last few years. But why do they leave?"

The answer to the Journal's question is in a speech by Congressman Vollmer of Iowa, delivered in the House on March 19. Speaking of the price of farm lands, Mr. Vollmer said: "In my county I have seen it go up from \$50 to \$250 per acre, and it is still going up." That means that in order to farm in Iowa one must either pay a fancy price or be rack-rented. Canada offers better inducements, not only in cheaper land, but in exemption from local taxation of labor products. S. D.



Lords as Democrats and Suffragists.

The vote of the British House of Lords against the Unionist Lord Selbourne's bill for the enfranchisement of women was in truth, however intended, a vote *for*, not *against*, woman suffrage. To grant Parliamentary suffrage merely to those few women who through property qualifications already possess the municipal franchise, would be to set back the universal suffrage movement—the one-man-one-vote, one-woman-one-vote cause. The true "entering wedge" for democratic woman suffrage in England is no such limited bill for women, but the Liberal party's "plural