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Friday, June 9, 1916

A Serious Thought.

In a remarkable article in a recent issue of the New York Sun, Edward Marshall, the eminent correspondent presents over, he has an idea that the saddest serious predictions by Lieut. Colonel Sir Ronald Ross, purchasing of supplies necessary for the English medical service, is the employment of numberless secretaries and clerks and the effect that another period of decadence of the human race may be imminent. He proposes to form a committee to study the results of his research to intimate that one central committee is not sufficient to handle the many local activities, not all of which are charitable, but all of which are necessary to the maintenance of civilization. It is necessary to be in any business or calling which the general public must sustain, cannot afford to withhold financial support therefrom. The consequence is that the average American must draw in a spirit of hysteria, as surprising that he limits his contribution to the foreign appeals. And he is not all selfish in his strength of his argument does not, necessarily, impair its validity. Sir Ronald advances the argument that the human race, as a whole, has today too much of a tendency toward luxury, and gratification of the passion of the moment and that this has produced a warped perspective and a warped mental and moral state. It does seem a sad reflection that civilization, instead of bringing men together in tolerating and applauding, butchery on a scale far beyond the wars of centuries ago of the flower of manhood. Were there not an impelling reason, one might almost doubt the benefits of civilization. But have not the leaders of today forgotten, in the main, the one essential? Have they not set aside God and tried to deny the existence of the supernatural? Have not scientists, like Sir Ronald, tried to deprive the human race of the one great incentive to live rightly, that of a belief in a Supreme Being who rules over all and of a belief in a hereafter where all human levels are adjusted and where all human wrongs are righted? Are not the infidel scientists as much to blame for the present awful conditions in Europe as the militarists?

And so, we Catholics may well pray that fear of God, belief in a hereafter and faith in revealed religion may be restored to all mankind. When that day comes, war and the spirit of war will disappear from the earth.

Not Chide Too Much!

While the men and women who complain that we Americans have not been as liberal as they would too much conceit that the world have us toward the war sufferers in Europe may be justified in their mental attitude, according to their own ideas, nevertheless they should try to put themselves in the other fellow's place before they condemn us as innately selfish and self-centered.

In the first place, after what has been published about the interference of Great Britain with American mails and shipping, even to the extent of searching Red Cross ships, it is not to be wondered if Americans are chary about handing over money to a committee about which he knows little except that some very estimable ladies and gentlemen are listed on the letterheads as honorary vice-presidents and no assurance that his money will reach its destination. Then, again, there are so many different committees soliciting funds for war relief purposes. One is out to relieve the Belgian sufferers, another wants to send dolls to the German babies, another is raising funds to supply the English soldiers with tobacco—one of the most objectionable of all because the English soldiers are fed and clothed by their government and why should we supply them with tobacco? another is out to raise funds to send underclothes to the Canadian soldiers at the front, another wants to clothe the Serbians and the Bulgarians, another would buy new turbans for the Indian troops from India and so on. The average citizen cannot afford to subscribe to all. More over, he has an idea that the administration of these funds and purchasing of supplies necessary for the employment of numberless secretaries and clerks and the effect that another period of decadence of the human race may be imminent. He proposes to form a committee to study the results of his research to intimate that one central committee is not sufficient to handle the many local activities, not all of which are charitable, but all of which are necessary to the maintenance of civilization. It is necessary to be in any business or calling which the general public must sustain, cannot afford to withhold financial support therefrom. The consequence is that the average American must draw in a spirit of hysteria, as surprising that he limits his contribution to the foreign appeals. And he is not all selfish in his strength of his argument does not, necessarily, impair its validity. Sir Ronald advances the argument that the human race, as a whole, has today too much of a tendency toward luxury, and gratification of the passion of the moment and that this has produced a warped perspective and a warped mental and moral state. It does seem a sad reflection that civilization, instead of bringing men together in tolerating and applauding, butchery on a scale far beyond the wars of centuries ago of the flower of manhood. Were there not an impelling reason, one might almost doubt the benefits of civilization. But have not the leaders of today forgotten, in the main, the one essential? Have they not set aside God and tried to deny the existence of the supernatural? Have not scientists, like Sir Ronald, tried to deprive the human race of the one great incentive to live rightly, that of a belief in a Supreme Being who rules over all and of a belief in a hereafter where all human levels are adjusted and where all human wrongs are righted? Are not the infidel scientists as much to blame for the present awful conditions in Europe as the militarists?

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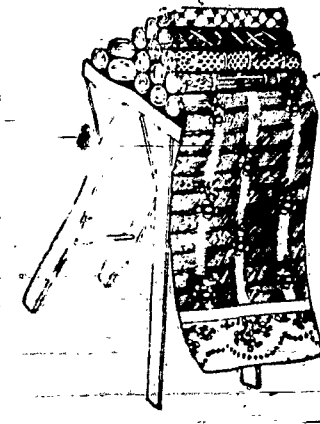
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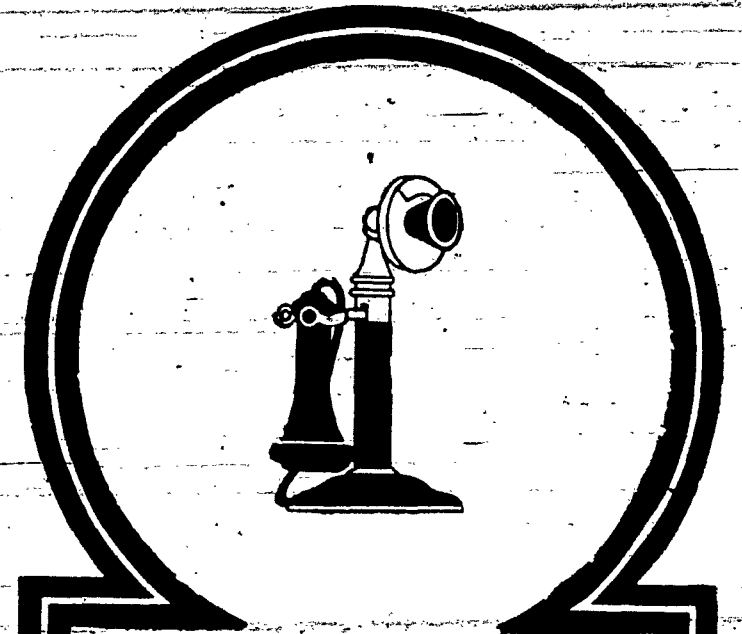
the world to have itself forth to be able to land troops on American soil. The North Sea battle rather than a lingering regret in the mind. Whether we ever have occasion to use it or not, a great navy will be one of the mightiest forces to enforce and maintain peace that we could possibly have. It is to be hoped that Congress will not longer interpose any obstacles to the enthusiasm of the days of the United States navy until it is the peer of any other navy in the world. Some preparedness parade for Rochester!

June weather, so far, has not excelled that presented by Meteorologist Dey earlier in 1916. Let's hope he does better later on!

Naval Battle.
 At last the German and British naval forces have met in battle and, although the press despatches vary in claims as to the relative strength of the opposing squadrons, there is no doubt that the victory lay with the Germans and that they inflicted a crushing blow to the English fleet. To be sure, this battle does not decide the supremacy of the German navy but it has struck a crushing blow to the German navy and for and file of its enlisted men. It is painfully apparent to the self-satisfied Englishmen that its much-vaunted navy is not superior to the English navy. In naval warfare, as in army fighting, the battle will not look so grim. Germany efficiency has been demonstrated in an amazing manner. It is evident that the German navy up to a high state of efficiency and that its equipment will measure up to the other countries of the world.

Commencement.
 Within the next few days, the annual commencement exercises of our parochial schools, academies, colleges, seminaries and universities will be in full swing. The lads and lassies who have been working for a twelvemonth will be taking their examinations for promotion and graduation. Many will only pass on one room or division to another and quality of ships and equipment for these the school time will not be bid of its naval officers and the rank and file of its enlisted men. These "vales" will be spoken and it is painfully apparent to the self-satisfied Englishmen that its much-vaunted navy is not superior to the English navy. In naval warfare, as in army fighting, the battle will not look so grim. Germany efficiency has been demonstrated in an amazing manner. It is evident that the German navy up to a high state of efficiency and that its equipment will measure up to the other countries of the world.

Therefore, we should look with kindly eyes upon these young graduates. What if their graduation essays breathe just a trifle more conceit than the world would have us toward the war sufferers in Europe may be justified in their mental attitude, according to their own ideas, nevertheless they should try to put themselves in the other fellow's place before they condemn us as innately selfish and self-centered.



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