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HEFTY TOM HEFLIN

Washington, D. C., Sept. 29 — There seems to be a new proverb in the street that "he who constantly plays to the grand stand will some day shed tears of humiliation." Such a sentence would blanket the discomfiture of Congressman Heflin of Alabama, "Handsome Tom" thought to back up the exposures of Bernstoff's $50,000 German slush fund to "influence public opinion" before war was declared, by saying that he could name thirteen or fourteen Congressmen who had "acted suspiciously." Heflin thought to "tag" the handful of anti-war Congressmen but he failed. The whole House arose to bespeak resentment, and, if ever a Congressman was hazed that Congressman was Heflin. The members showed their contempt by hooting the Alabamian when he tried to explain his remarks on the floor of the House. Heflin is the most thoroly discredited man in Washington today.

There is no thought in the Capital that German money ever reached Members of Congress, and the notoriety-maker Heflin knows it full well. The idea that $50,000 would be sufficient to bribe Members of Congress is preposterous on its face. Bernstoff doubtless wanted to further some form of propaganda—likely in friendly publications, with the money he requested from his government.

As has been pointed out, the charges by Heflin have done great damage, by creating a false impression thruout the country, that Congress has, in part, been influenced by the improper use of money.

And people familiar with the situation will acquit Congressmen of the ridiculous charge. The genuine criticism that has been made by Congress is to the effect that its members have been automatic in their obedience to the President. Doubtless they are open to the charge of having been driven "under the lash." Doubtless also the great pressure that has demanded certain forms of legislation, has swept a great many members off their feet. But with an almost unanimous purpose, Congress has gone ahead and helped carry out the President's war program.

No one ever charged the members with corruption — even Bernstoff did not do that. Heflin opened his mouth, and put his foot in it. In consequence he is very unhappy. But it would be a serious mistake for anyone to take such mad speech-making seriously.

Heflin and Ham

On the same day Alabama Tom was floundering and trying to find a way out of his dilemma, Senator Lewis of Illinois, was tiring the Upper Body with a long-winded explanation of how some German said, out in the Phillipines fifteen years ago, that the Kaiser expected to begin a war to conquer the world, "someday." Lewis also explained how—in his opinion, the reply of the German government to the Pope peace proposal was "an insult to the United States and an affront to the President." J. Ham got a lot of space in the newspapers, but the substance of his remarks were unimportant, if true and the speech was of the Heflin variety. When it comes to cold-blooded wind-jamming and notoriety-seeking there are a few gentlemen in the two Houses of Congress that have all records beaten. Among these Heflin and J. Ham are no common slouches.

The Soldier Insurance

A good deal of time has been spent in working out details of insurance for soldiers. The commendable scheme that Congress will place in effect, will provide "accident, health and death insurance." The purpose is to give the beneficiaries, or the wounded soldier, or sailor, the money that is coming to him, without the long-deferred rigamorole entangling the pension system. When the scheme was first suggested the life insurance presidents from all over the United States assembled in Washington to confer with reference to the undertaking. The insurance men took the position that they had no moral right to undertake the war insurance risks, as it would involve the trust funds that were in their keeping—and that the casualties might be so great as to drive many of them into bankruptcy. They recommended that the Government undertake to write the insurance. Such is the present purpose. It is planned to have the insurance appply only for the term of war?

Tariff Fixin' a Light Job

General Daniel C. Roper has left the tariff board and taken up the duties of his new position as Commissioner of Internal Revenues. When President Taft went out of office the Tariff Board went with him. Four years later the Democrats reestablished the Board. Then came the war, and tariffs, as well as all kinds of foreign regulations were smashed to smithereens over night. The tariff expert did not exist that could fix up a scheme that could be guaranteed to last over night. So general Roper was pulled off the Tariff Board and put in a position where he could do real work.

Congress is a Little Charry

Ordinarily a "junket" is popular in Washington. It has gotten so that membership on funeral committees is a coveted place — and some of the Members of Congress have pretty good times attending them. But when an invitation came from across the water, asking Congress to appoint a committee to represent it officially on the European battle front, the Members of Congress were filled with strange and conflicting emotions. They did the "usual thing" by referring the matter to President Wilson for decision.

Puzzle — Find the Sherman Law

Two years ago the Sherman anti-trust law was a sacred hero in our governmental affairs, since in its operation it had slain the tobacco trust, the Standard Oil, the steel trust—and a lot of other octupuses that had re-born themselves, and gone right ahead running the country as usual. To-day an entirely opposite condition exists in our affairs, and government is conducted thru the very sort of combinations that it was sought to suppress; but with the difference that compulsory regulations of prices has been and is being, applied, to mostly every branch of business. It took years to pass an anti-trust law, and more years to enforce it. Now the whole plan has been changed over night, and government commissions are engaged in conducting public affairs along entirely new lines.

The Price of Steel

It is announced that the reduction in steel prices will amount to from 30 to 70 per cent. Whew! How much have these beneficient autocrats of big business been trimming off, anyhow! The new schedule of prices, we are told, will remain in effect until January 1. Likely the steel trust calculated that Uncle Sam will not be looking at that time.

Woman Suffrage Goes Ahead

The House of Representatives has authorized a committee on Woman Suffrage. Strange as it may seem, this great measure has been tied up in the House most of the time, for twenty years, simply because a committee declined to act—and there was no way to force them.

Malone of the Job

Dudley Field Malone, who has just resigned as Port Collector of New York, has arrived in Washington, and is on the job promoting the interests of suffragists—and the suffragist women who are now in jail because they picketed the White House. Mr. Malone has been one of the President's best political friends for many years and there is some speculation as to whether the cordial relations will continue as Mr. Malone is now identified with the notorious Woman's Party.

Lieutenant W. W. McElroy came to Albion to organize the school boys between 16 and 19 for military drills as now required by the state law. Three hours a week will be given to the exercise.

A case of infantile paralysis is reported in Batavia by Health Officer Rice. The patient is Anthony Cahoon, aged four years. The child came to Batavia from Williamsville about two months ago.

Due to increased cost of operation under war conditions the Western New York Court of the Independent Order of Foresters in session at Niagara Falls voted to cut the salaries of their officers 20 per cent.

Proposed rules for adequate and proper lighting of factories throughout the state have been nearly completed and public hearings will be held in November, it was announced by the state Industrial commission.

Manager Purdy of the Pavilion Natural Gas company has recommended that all consumers who are depending on gas for other than cooking purposes had better install another heating system as a shortage is looked for.

The cold nights and mornings remind us all that winter is coming and some provision must be made for fuel.

Each year it becomes more difficult to supply sufficient gas during the very cold weather, especially during the latter part of the winter, and altho we have drilled a large number of wells and are still drilling, the new production will probably not make up for the shrinkage in the old wells and the increasing demands made upon us by the high cost of other fuel.

Therefore we take this opportunity to remind our consumers that it will be advisable to have some coal or wood and a stove to use it in for emergencies, as it is not advisable to depend entirely upon the natural gas supply at all times. Extra fuel of some kind bought now may save considerable inconvenience later.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Pursuant to an order of Hon. Elba Reynolds, Surrogate of the County of Allegany, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate of Nor-Town of Andover, N. Y., deceased, to present the same with proper vouchers thereof to the Law Office of Crayton L. Earley, in the Village of Andover N. Y., on or before the 2nd day of February, 1918.

Dated July 20th, 1917.

HAROLD S. BRAINARD,
EDITH M. BRAINARD,
4 Administrators.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Pursuant to an order of Hon. Elba Reynolds, Surrogate of the County of Allegany, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate of Eliza S. Bower, late of the Town of Amity, N. Y., deceased, to present the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned executors of the Last Will and Testament of the deceased at the residence of Orange Smith, executor, in the Town of Andover, N. Y., on or before the 1st day of December, 1917.

Dated May 21, 1917.

ORANGE SMITH,
HIRAM D. SMITH,
Executors.

JESSE L. GRANTIER,
Attorney for Executors,
Wellsville, N. Y. 43

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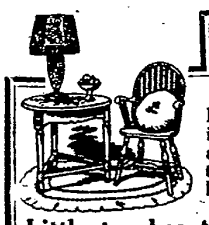

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