

**The Chicago Tribune.**  
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SVOEN STATEMENT.  
Net paid circulation of "The Chicago Tribune," reported under oath to the United States government under section 4672 of the postal laws and regulations, being the average from April 1, 1914, to Sept. 30, 1914:  
By ..... 393,512  
Sunday ..... 459,728  
The above figures are exclusive of all papers which have been wanted, spotted, returned, duplicated, delivered as complimentary, in exchange, samples, which were mailed or lost, or were left in arriving at their destination, or that remained unsold. They also are exclusive of papers sold for but on which money so paid has been refunded.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1915.  
"Our country, in her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong."  
—Stephen Decatur.

**USING OUR FLAG.**  
Clearly the use of the American flag by British ships is beneficial to the British or the British could not use it.  
Clearly, also, the use of the American flag by British ships lessens its value to American ships.  
It may be, as Prof. Harry Pratt Judson says, that international law does not forbid the use of flags of neutral nations by the vessels of belligerent nations.  
If that be so, then we Americans hope that all belligerents will stretch this particular international law a point in our favor. If they feel they must use some other flag than their own on their ships, let them use the flag of some other neutral nation—China's, for instance.  
We want the stars and stripes kept out of it.

**EXTEND THE FIRE LIMITS.**  
Friday the building committee of the city council will have its final vote on the proposed extension of the fire limits.  
The decision should not be based on consideration of the financial interest of lumber merchants of brick and cement merchants.  
The controlling principle of the decision should be fire prevention. What is best for the security of the whole community? What is the fire hazard? What is the need for reducing it? What is the best method of reducing it?

The social interest in encouraging home building of people of small means is obvious. But the fact that wood is cheaper than less inflammable material should not be allowed to control. The value of substantial building even at the cost of temporary postponement of building in many cases, the lower rate of depreciation and of insurance, and the greater security ought to turn the scale so far as the home builders' private interest is concerned.  
But the council committee is faced with the paramount duty of considering the safety of the whole city. From this point of view, free from pull or politics, its decision should be clear.

**THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN DISTRESS.**  
THE TRIBUNE has intended for some time to direct attention to the enforced economies in the public library of the city and to point the old, old lesson of the need of revenue reform on the one hand and of more consolidated and efficient local government on the other. It is not sorry, however, that correspondents have forestalled it in this instance.  
It is right and significant that individual patrons and friends of the library should cry out and plead for it. The progress made by our library under Mr. Legler is so remarkable that it is a shame and a sin to rob it and compel it to take several steps backward. It has been given little money for the buying, binding, and circulating of new books. This would be bad enough, but a library can manage to get along for a year or two without many "new" books. There are old ones that the library's patrons might read with profit and interest. But when a library is forced to close some of its branches, to give up new services of the most valuable and progressive character, to adopt a policy of stagnation and bewildered waiting for something to turn up, it is idle to talk of the more intensive cultivation of its old assets, of the classics and the good books of past years. To close branches is to lose readers and patrons, to discourage any kind of library use, to go backward. A branch library is more useful as a center of light and leading than the main library.  
Why should the library be forced to renege and halt? The same old cry of the city's poverty. The city is poor because it is inefficient, wasteful, badly governed; the city is poor because we have a wretched and impossible revenue system; the city is poor because we have too many taxing and spending bodies and no budget, no accounting system, no control. And what are we doing to give ourselves better government and a modern revenue system? Look at the legislature.

**THE STATUS OF THE STOCKHOLDER.**  
When Mellon, formerly of the New Haven and Hartford, testified before the commerce commission on his mismanaged property he had a good deal to say about the modern stockholder. He was anything but complimentary. He had never expected aid or intelligent interest from the stockholder, who was content to get his dividends and ask no questions. When any critical situation arises, said Mellon, all the small stockholders frantically try to escape through the same hole, and no wonder some do.

More the industrial relations commission several times have expressed their respective notions of modern stockholder. Unconsciously they sought to rehabilitate him morally. They absolved him of all responsibility; he was not answerable for anything conditions, hours, or wages; he could not be struck and shouldn't; he is there simply to sit in his proxy, accept facts, and enjoy his dividends.  
This is a most remarkable notion for captains of industry. The stockholder is a partner in a "pleased" concern. We are hoping and working for co-partnership and cooperation, for the democratization of industry. Even Rockefeller and Carnegie would be happy, they say, to see labor operate and a stockholding partner in industry. The stockholder is to be morally irresponsible, to draw profit without asking how it is made, how labor or the consumers are treated by the

officers and directors! Have we invented the corporate form in order to banish morals and responsibility from industry?  
No; the new doctrine won't go. It is contrary to the spirit of the age and the trend of social development. True, the stockholder may be helpless, and minorities, unorganized, may not know how to assert their concern and responsibility; but the problem is to organize them, to bring responsibility home to them, to make pecuniary partnership the basis of moral partnership. Corporations have no souls, but stockholders have, and if industry is to be humane and efficient their souls must supply the moral element in corporate activity.

**ANOTHER PORK BARREL FIGHT.**  
The sundry civil bill carries \$4,000,000 for rivers and harbors, the "pork barrel" bill, and senate additions \$4,000,000, bringing the pork barrel up to \$42,000,000. Maintenance items are less than \$5,000,000.  
Why in these days of war taxes should we pay the extra \$37,000,000? Why not cut down to \$10,000,000 or even \$20,000,000?  
The senate bill struck out the vicious Mussel shoals project fought for by Underwood, but it includes the same old worthless Trinity, Brazos, and Coosa items, each a \$10,000,000 project and without traffic; also \$800,000 for the worthless Beaufort canal, \$100,000 for a worthless \$900,000 St. Lucia project not yet begun, and a score of other wasteful projects. But among the worst is \$6,000,000 for the lower Mississippi land reclamation, \$1,200,000 for the Missouri 400 mile stretch from Kansas City to mouth that had only 35,000 tons aside from sand and gravel hauled one mile in 1913. The item of \$82,000 for the Ohio this year, counting in the sundry civil bill, is the limit in a year of war taxes. There are many others, including the Big Sandy, that cost the government \$300 per ton last year for 227 tons of commerce hauled thirty-eight miles, after deducting floatable timber.  
All appropriation bills appear to have been held back for the rivers and harbors pork barrel. Why? It is next up after merchant marine.

The press and public opinion should lose no time in concentrating against the pressure behind this pork barrel. That it reappears at the present crowded session and is able to push its measure so far in spite of exposure reveals its tremendous force. The lobby, the log rolling system, the power of selfish local interests make up this force, which is perhaps the greatest single concentrated influence upon legislation now existing. Only the most determined revolt of public opinion will prevent the perpetration of this waste.  
At the last session a victory was won by the courage and indefatigability of a very few men—Representative Frear in the house, Senator Burton, Senator Kenyon, and less notably Senator Borah and some others in the senate. These men should be supported more actively in the present fight. Especially the Republican leaders should realize that the responsibility of the pork barrel should be left squarely on the doorstep of Democracy.

**SUBMARINES AND MINES.**  
As soon as war was declared mine layers went to work. The Koenigstein Luise was sunk while engaged in these operations a day or two after the beginning of hostilities. Since then the British and Germans have charged each other with responsibility for the violation of conventions and the disregard of generally accepted prohibitions, such as against floating mines which pass beyond control and yet retain indefinitely their dangers.  
English trawlers and Scandinavian merchants have suffered considerably. A number of Swedish and Norwegian ships have been sunk with the loss of their crews and the British fishing industry has been injured.  
The mine is a passive instrument of destruction. It acts when its victim strikes it. It does not select a victim. Chance sends one. The submarine is active. It searches for and selects the ship to be destroyed. It is a reasoning and the mine is a mechanical instrument.  
The conventionality of thought is such that news of the sinking of even a passenger ship by a mine would not cause anything like the reaction which would follow the news of a ship sunk by a torpedo from a submarine, and yet the laying of floating mines which may drift into zones considered safe contravenes the accepted laws of warfare quite as much as the sinking of an unarmed ship without warning for the security of the people aboard. Furthermore the floating mine is a greater menace than the submarine.  
This conventionality of thought rests upon several facts. The mine is not a novelty. It does not affect the imagination. We recall that Farragut said, "Damn the torpedoes. Full steam ahead!" It is not one of the new terrors of war. Furthermore, there is a lack of direct, connected responsibility between the mine layer and the sinking of the merchant ship which hits the mine. It was thrown out to chance. It might have found a warship; it was hit by a trawler or a merchant; it might have found any enemy ship; it was hit by a neutral. It is inanimate and gradually frees itself of direct human responsibility.

Considerations such as these are unconsciously taken into account by conventionality of thought which will accept without particular tremor the fact that an unarmed vessel has been sunk by a mine and the crew lost, but which will stand aghast if a submarine sends an unarmed ship down without giving its men a chance to escape.  
TO mistake a vessel the size of the Lusitania for an American boat were a compliment to the U. S. and we should be all puffed up about it.  
**New Faces in the Academy.**  
T. U. L.: To reside at the Academy fountain, let me suggest Louis Sodavasser of Courtland, N. D.  
H. N. B.: He may be a trifle sour, still I nominate Lime Lemmon of Davis county, Iowa.  
H. S. S.: To punch the tickets of admission I offer Cond. Argue of the Yazoo and Miss Valley.  
J. F. F.: Busby the bunch and make room for Turly Curd of Wilmore, Ky.  
THE fine for shooting a scavenger buzzard in Lakeland, Fla., is \$5. "I have not learned," writes Tangerine, "how much the fine is for shooting a tourist."  
**THE PASSING OF BUNN.**  
Bunn the Baker of Baraboo. Has closed his shop and fired his crew, And with his wife has gone away To rest in California.  
"THERE will be a band," reports the Manitoba Free Press, "a foot guard in scarlet and busbies," etc. These always draw a crowd.  
**AWFUL PLACE FOR A SPRAIN.**  
[From the Milwaukee Railway Station.]  
A. A. DeLore, while waiting for a train, the other night, slipped on the icy pavement and sprained his arm, between Groble's corner and the crossing.  
"TWO hours before, Travell had taken part in a card game with his widow,"—The W. G. N.  
These spirit affairs are becoming common.  
**NOTHING TO IT.**  
Sir: They say one must be "gifted" to make the Lane. Is this true, or just an unconfirmed rumor?  
The Sweetzer "slogan" is "Calico." Quelque slogan. Pass the calico tea and the sweetzer-kaise.  
"BUY your tombstones now," advertises a marble concern. But where is one to store them? There's no room in the cellar, and they are not attractive parlor decorations.  
**MUSIC AROSE WITH ITS VOLUPTUOUS SWELL.**  
[From the Barboursville, Ky., Advocate.]  
Prof. Moss Bennett and Big Ellen Hammons were sweetly mingling their voices together Sunday.  
"OLSON Flays Thompson."—The valued Post. Probable headline: "Thompson Grills Olson."  
WHAT has become of the great movement for the relief of the straphangers?  
WHERE are the "crusades" of yesterday?  
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**Editorial of the Day.**  
**CONVERSATION.**  
[From the Ohio State Journal.]  
The noted writer, Robert Herrick, is glad that the war has come, because it gives people something to talk about, something to arouse their lazy and empty minds. Conversation had become a lost art. It had lost itself in gossip and story telling, the women doing the gossip part and the men the story telling, either of which is enough to kill conversation—Mr. Herrick doesn't know which is the worse.  
But there is one thing he says in favor of the women—their gossip is nearer real conversation than story telling, and the women are the main dependence in leading the talk from drive to sense. This is often seen where a bright and ambitious hostess leads in the talk and turns the company to substantial conversation, in which generalizations and fundamentals take the front rank. Men don't do this half as much as women.  
The other night three ladies and three gentlemen were together in a parlor and the question came up about the captivity and return of the Jews, when the women immediately resorted to history and the Bible to decide the point in question, but the men put in their time making rhymes about Nebuchadnezzar.  
There is the trouble that women have—when ever men come about, the latter incline to assume it is time for foolishness. Notwithstanding the women do the gossiping and men the story telling, society would become vapid, indeed, if it were not for the women.

**A LINE-O'-TYPE OR TWO.**  
Motto: How to the Line, let the quips fall where they may.  
**NEUTRALITY.**  
The Lion and the Unicorn  
Were fighting for the crown;  
The Lion beat the Unicorn  
All around the town.  
Some gave them white bread,  
Some gave them brown;  
Some gave them plum-cake  
And drummed them out of town.

**ROBERT HERRICK** is dead set against the relating of anecdotes, writes H. L. B. "We all sympathize with him if the anecdote is long and boresome. But a short, snappy story, with a sharp point, is a delight. If you or anybody else wants to make a hit with the unselective multitude, tell us a good short story."  
MR. HERRICK'S attitude toward the anecdote, we apprehend, is the same as an English critic's—the anecdote extinguishes a topic of conversation as one snuffs out a candle. To the good story writer there can be no objection. Thanks to W. F. Y., we have three short, snappy stories with sharp points, which we take pleasure in submitting:  
No. 1. A lady is out walking, followed by her dog. She is met by a policeman. "Madam, how's your dog?" "I will," said the lady.  
No. 2. A man is fishing behind a sign which reads "Do Not Fish Here." He is accosted by a constable. "Didn't you read that sign?" asked the constable. "I did," said the man, "and I don't know, I am sure."  
No. 3. A Belgian widow is sitting on the doorstep of her dilapidated cottage. A German soldier passes. He salutes the woman, who is knitting, and says, "I see you are knitting." "I can," the woman replied.  
THE object is to discover the point in the foregoing stories, which have reduced many massive brains to a pulp.

**The Stars and Stripes.**  
Sir: Next time you print it make it U. S. and S. and oblige.  
U. S.  
MRS. MCCORMICK'S address to the suffragists yesterday was really thrilling, say ladies who were there. The amount and the kind of work that the women are doing in Washington is not generally known, but it is known to the congressmen, whose "numbers" are being taken.  
**SPEAKING OF MUSIC AND GRAND OPERA.**  
[From the Los Angeles Times.]  
Five years ago the Indiana Ice Dealers Association and the Middle States Ice Producers' Exchange had such a convention in Indianapolis. Since then it has been called the Non-Such convention all over the civilized world and in Chicago.  
"SOMETIMES even an editor is enthusiastic," Collier's Weekly.  
Sometimes he is the only one who is.  
"Alice in Wonderland."  
The time has come, the Walrus said, to talk of many things. And so I may tell you that Alice Gerstenberg, whose dramatization of "Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" is to be given its first performance at the Fine Arts theater Thursday evening, is the twenty-eighth playwright to bring Lewis Carroll's characters upon the stage. Five of these versions were German, two Italian, nine French, and the rest, I suppose, English. One moment more—  
[Hold up! This sounds a little like an attempt to use this column for advertising purposes, which is something that we cannot permit.]  
THE mortuary wheeze leaves us particularly cold; nevertheless there is something unaccountably interesting in the name of the Knell Undertaking company of Carthage, Mo.  
**A GREAT ILLUMINATION.**  
Sir: Five to one that up to a moment ago you were in complete darkness regarding the fact that Earle Ressler was a promoter of wrestling matches at Richland, Ia.  
C. C.  
IN case Doc Evans' patient who is troubled with itching finds it inconvenient to humify he might try Fido's remedy. It is an o. f. r., and has always given satisfaction.  
**ON THE HOT-STOVE CIRCUIT.**  
[From the Dunbar, Ark. News.]  
The musical comedy show which was to appear at the Airline last night for the first time of a two night stand, failed to be given on account of the nonappearance of the entire company. Three of the girls and three boys were here to go ahead with a comedy skit, but Mr. Dwyer would not back them unless they had the entire company. So as not to disappoint the patrons entirely, Mr. Dwyer prevailed on the two comedians to do a little vaudeville sketch for the evening show. They did and their wit and nonsense were well as did "Please Pull Down the Curtain" and "It's a Long, Long Way to Tipperary" two song hits. Tonight the entire company will be here four girls and six chorists with a musical comedy that is bound to please. The theater is comfortable heated three large stoves in various parts of the theater giving the required amount of warmth.

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**How to Keep Well.**  
By Dr. W. A. Evans.  
Questions pertinent to hygiene, sanitation, and prevention of disease, if matters of general interest, will be answered in this column. Where space will not permit or the subject is not suitable, letters will be personally answered, subject to proper limitations and where a stamped, addressed envelope is inclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnoses or prescribe for individual diseases. Requests for such service cannot be answered.  
[Copyright, 1913: By Dr. W. A. Evans.]

**MICHIGAN HEALTH MEASURE.**  
UP to now communities have left the protection of public health, the prevention of disease, to men who were engaged in curing sick people during most of their day. The word "left" in the above sentence was selected as fitting the prevailing custom. The health office was an unwelcome baby, and the public dropped it on some doctor's doorstep, when nobody was looking. The doctor who had the founding washed on him allowed it the scraps which fell from his mental table. The curing of disease got the good helpings.  
One of the best efforts to mend this state of affairs is a proposal now before the Michigan legislature. The proposed law provides that the state shall be divided into a number of districts (less than thirty). Each district is to have a whole-time health officer. This health officer is to give the duties of his office all of his attention. He is not allowed to practice medicine, nor to have any other outside interests.  
This provision is not especially new. It is the custom in Ontario and perhaps in other portions of Canada. It is the law in both New York and Pennsylvania.  
The method of selecting the health officers is novel and meritorious. Once a year the state board of health holds an examination in preventive medicine. The examination fee is \$10. The examination is open to people outside as well as inside the state.  
The names of those who pass are registered. The district health officers are to be chosen from the names on the list. No one else is eligible. The judges of the Probate court and the school commissioners of a given district meet on Dec. 1 and select the district health commissioner.  
The appointment is for four years, or during good behavior. The appointee can be removed by the governor, as is provided for all state officers by the laws of Michigan.  
The district health commissioner is a deputy of the state board of health. The local health officers of his district are under his control.  
Each city of more than 100,000 is made a separate district, and the health commissioner is to discharge the duties of a district commissioner.  
Some of the provisions of the proposed law are open to criticism. For instance, is a board composed of probate judges and school commissioners liable to be the judges of the qualities required in a health officer? This criticism relates to details. The law as a whole proposes a very definite forward step.

**LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.**  
[Copyright, 1913: By the Brentwood Co.]  
EDWIN SAMUEL MONTAGU, M. P., who has just been promoted to the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster, is a young Jew of Lord Swaythling and the son of a present Liberal cabinet, the other Hebrew member thereof being his cousin, Herbert Samuel, formerly postmaster general and now president of the local government.  
The real personality of the new chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster is not Montagu, but Samuel. The family was founded by his grandfather, a watchmaker of the name of Louis Samuel, who kept a small shop in Liverpool. His son, Moses, moved to London, married the daughter of Lord Cohen of the stock exchange, and eventually established a banking house in Lombard street.  
In 1894, on being created a baronet, he obtained the license of the crown to change his name to Montagu, and in 1907 his name was changed to Lord Swaythling. This was a house of Lancaster long before the coronation of the present duchy, and when the house assumed possession of the crown of England on the deposition of Richard II. and his chief proclaimed himself sovereign, as Henry IV. he realized that the retention of the name by his dynasty might be as short-lived as that of the revolutionary usurpers.  
Accordingly he set to work to consolidate as much landed property as possible, converting it into a great family entailed estate, so that if he lost the crown he might at any rate remain one of the greatest territorial magnates of the realm.  
When his grandson, Henry VI., was installed by parliament, the duchy of Lancaster was declared to be forfeited to King Edward IV., who caused the property to be continued in a "parcel" and to be vested in himself and his heirs, kings of England, forever, but under a separate government, and subject to the dominions inherited by the crown.  
The revenues of the duchy, now amounting to about a million dollars per annum, have always been paid to the reigning sovereign as the monarch's personal possession, independent of the control or supervision of parliament, on the understanding, however, that the revenues belong to him as King of England, and that, were he to lose the British throne, he would, ipso facto, forfeit all right to any income from the estate known as the duchy of Lancaster.  
It may be recalled that Queen Victoria, when she traveled abroad incognito, usually made use of the title of Duchess of Lancaster, and that the present king, like his father, Edward VII., following her example, styles himself Duke of Lancaster when traveling abroad incognito.  
Lillian, Lady Brisco, who has just instituted divorce proceedings against her husband, Sir Hynton Brisco, fifth baronet of his line, is not only the niece, but also the adopted daughter and heiress of Lady Countess of Egmont, who died in 1897. The Countess must not be confounded with the poverty-stricken American widow of the eighth Earl of Egmont, who was Miss Kate Howell of South Carolina. Lady Countess of Egmont, who is still living, was in her younger days a music hall diva, and, when her husband, the seventh Earl of Egmont, died, he left her his entire wealth, thereby impoverishing the earldom.  
As she has announced her intention of bequeathing this property to her niece, Lady Brisco, Sir Hynton Brisco will be a heavy loser if his wife succeeds in securing a dissolution of her marriage. The Briscos have no children.  
Sir Hynton is the head of one of the oldest families in England and his people have been established at Crofton hall, in Cumberland, ever since the compilation of Domesday book, more than nine centuries ago.

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EDWIN SAMUEL MONTAGU, M. P., who has just been promoted to the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster, is a young Jew of Lord Swaythling and the son of a present Liberal cabinet, the other Hebrew member thereof being his cousin, Herbert Samuel, formerly postmaster general and now president of the local government.  
The real personality of the new chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster is not Montagu, but Samuel. The family was founded by his grandfather, a watchmaker of the name of Louis Samuel, who kept a small shop in Liverpool. His son, Moses, moved to London, married the daughter of Lord Cohen of the stock exchange, and eventually established a banking house in Lombard street.  
In 1894, on being created a baronet, he obtained the license of the crown to change his name to Montagu, and in 1907 his name was changed to Lord Swaythling. This was a house of Lancaster long before the coronation of the present duchy, and when the house assumed possession of the crown of England on the deposition of Richard II. and his chief proclaimed himself sovereign, as Henry IV. he realized that the retention of the name by his dynasty might be as short-lived as that of the revolutionary usurpers.  
Accordingly he set to work to consolidate as much landed property as possible, converting it into a great family entailed estate, so that if he lost the crown he might at any rate remain one of the greatest territorial magnates of the realm.  
When his grandson, Henry VI., was installed by parliament, the duchy of Lancaster was declared to be forfeited to King Edward IV., who caused the property to be continued in a "parcel" and to be vested in himself and his heirs, kings of England, forever, but under a separate government, and subject to the dominions inherited by the crown.  
The revenues of the duchy, now amounting to about a million dollars per annum, have always been paid to the reigning sovereign as the monarch's personal possession, independent of the control or supervision of parliament, on the understanding, however, that the revenues belong to him as King of England, and that, were he to lose the British throne, he would, ipso facto, forfeit all right to any income from the estate known as the duchy of Lancaster.  
It may be recalled that Queen Victoria, when she traveled abroad incognito, usually made use of the title of Duchess of Lancaster, and that the present king, like his father, Edward VII., following her example, styles himself Duke of Lancaster when traveling abroad incognito.  
Lillian, Lady Brisco, who has just instituted divorce proceedings against her husband, Sir Hynton Brisco, fifth baronet of his line, is not only the niece, but also the adopted daughter and heiress of Lady Countess of Egmont, who died in 1897. The Countess must not be confounded with the poverty-stricken American widow of the eighth Earl of Egmont, who was Miss Kate Howell of South Carolina. Lady Countess of Egmont, who is still living, was in her younger days a music hall diva, and, when her husband, the seventh Earl of Egmont, died, he left her his entire wealth, thereby impoverishing the earldom.  
As she has announced her intention of bequeathing this property to her niece, Lady Brisco, Sir Hynton Brisco will be a heavy loser if his wife succeeds in securing a dissolution of her marriage. The Briscos have no children.  
Sir Hynton is the head of one of the oldest families in England and his people have been established at Crofton hall, in Cumberland, ever since the compilation of Domesday book, more than nine centuries ago.

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