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ARE WE ENGLISH-RULED AND ENGLISH-LED?

The Star has received from Lillian Scott Troy, a Californian sojourning in London, the clipping that will be found in the Press Comment column, "The Giant Liner Mayflower," from the London Express, commenting caustically and cynically upon an address by our ambassador at the court of St. James at the unveiling of the memorial to the Pilgrim Fathers at Southampton, Eng., August 15, in which he appears to have stated that the United States "is today English-led and English-ruled."

Our correspondent, Lillian Scott Troy, is considerably riled over thus being made a subject of King George, be he ever so decent a king, and has sent to every United States senator the following plaint:

"If we are still 'English-led and English-ruled, why not abolish congress and all such plebian institutions immediately and let Carnegie and Elihu Root bring about the open annexation of the United States to Great Britain, which they have abandoned all other honest toil for, as quickly as possible.

"What of it, if Germany is angered at the continual covert threats of the Carnegie ambassadors abroad, that the 'United States will back up England, the motherland, if Germany attacks her.' What do we care about increasing German antagonism to the United States, as long as we do British duty, as mapped out for us by Carnegie and Root?

"Great Britain couldn't influence Germany to join with her and with Japan in smashing the Monroe Doctrine, so she now instructs our dearly beloved U. S. Ambassadors how to say things which will be so resented in Germany that the United States and Germany will come to blows.

"God speed the day, for when weakened and bleeding, even though victorious, we endeavor to rise out of the shambles of war, and investigate how it all happened, the beloved mother country will be sitting on our chest while Japan wallops us flat, and flings the carcass of what once dared to call itself a nation, to the outstretched talons of Great Britain, when we will take our place as a decent British colony. By all means, my dear senator use your influence to keep Page over here; he is pleasing to Carnegie, and what more would you? I deeply regret to say that I am a native of California, a state which has never been under British rule, and I therefore feel my utter unworthiness."

We believe that our correspondent takes too seriously the remarks of Ambassador Page. While he gave us his promise to not wear knee breeches no one swore him to a pledge of teetotaling and the grape juice diplomacy of Secretary Bryan has not yet sloshed over into England. We agree with Lillian Scott Troy, however, that the ambassador made somewhat of a spectacle of himself, a point which the British editor, notwithstanding the alleged crudity of his sense of humor, appreciated.

The ambassador loses sight of the fact that the America of today is only the distantly removed "cousin" of England. He loses sight of the streams of human lava with which the melting pot of emigration and assimilation has been flooding the country for many decades and with increasing rapidity. Not all Americans trace their ancestry back to old England, not all of us cherish a coat of arms in the old leathern trunk in the attic, not all of us came over on the Mayflower. Were a reincarnated Pilgrim Father attempt to land at Ellis Island, he would doubtless be confronted by an Irish inspector, an inquisitive Swede, an insistent German, a suspicious Italian—never an Englishman.

It is a pretty tradition that England and America are "cousins" but it is little more than that. America is not a ward of Great Britain, either politically, socially or in any sense. Less advertised but more real with many is the feeling of friendship between the American and the Frenchman, and that feeling is justified by history.

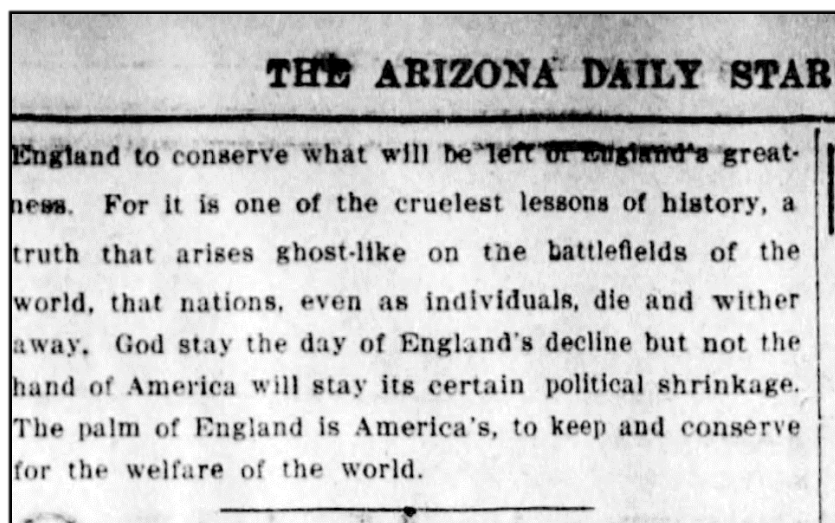
England should not lay the flattering unction to its soul that the Association of Sons of Pilgrim Fathers, Society of King's Daughters and other societies or associations founded on sentiment forms a reserve guard for the perpetuation of English rule. America has its own destiny, England has hers.

This indignant, sojourning uncrowned sovereign of the Golden State, where not even mere man places his foot on the neck of woman with impunity, writing the Star, suggests:

"With genuinely appreciated servility he whined out to the contemptuous ears of the British pressmen present, that the 'United States was today English-led and English-ruled.' Less hypocritical than he, the English newspapers showed their undying love of an American by gently giving him a boost back into his kennel (when the day's toil was o'er) by out-doing themselves in the funny little editorial which, I am sure, will be appreciated by your readers, whose families were 'commen over mit der Mayflower.'"

Should there come a time when race shall be opposed by race, the comradeship imposed by the white man's burden will make common cause against color but such a contingency is so improbable as to be fantastic. The mere flings of international misfortune, such as the threatened "German invasion of England" would not be excuse sufficient to embroil America in a European war. When the founders of the American nation left England's shores the event combined finality and commencement.

The day will come when King George's kingly title will drop away from his surname like the leaves of a tree before a wind, even as the sap has already ceased to animate the tree. It is the problem of the democracy of



❖ PRESS COMMENT ❖

THE GIANT LINER MAYFLOWER.

(London Daily Express)

A very agreeable jaunt took place yetserday when the American ambassador, Dr. Page, took part in the unveiling of a memorial to the Pilgrim Fathers at Southampton, whence the Mayflower sailed on her famous voyage. We would not for all the worlds, old and new, speak with disrespect of the Mayflower or of her precious human freight. She gave to history many honored names, among which those of Winslow and Alden stand conspicuously high. She founded America. She did more—she gave to the United States of today the proudest and most numerous aristocracy on earth. When William the Conqueror landed on our south coast he brought with him a galaxy of Norman knighthood. We are not allowed to forget it. So many of our forebears came over with the Conqueror. But they are, at best, an insignificant company by comparison with those whose ancestors sailed in the Mayflower. William must have come in a mere cockleshell with half a company of chivalry. The Mayflower must have been the direct progenitor of the Imperator. This was clearly no little ship such as credulous history believes in, but a mammoth liner. Of course, the Mayflower did make more than one trans-Tlantic voyage, carrying her human cargo of the fuller-blooded Byleses and Wedgewoods and Outhwaites of her troublous times. But mathematical accuracy compels the assertion that, on counting up the numbers of persons in America whose families "was commen over mit der Mayflower," the good ship clearly had state-room accommodation for five thousand souls on each journey, even when allowance is made for those originators of the present aristocracy in the States who took passage as stewards and cabin boys. That, however, is no bar to a proper veneration of the Mayflower's mission to a profound respect for the memory of the never-to-be-forgotten Pilgrim Fathers. Dr Page—descended not from the Mayflower pilgrims, but from the more southern Stewart aristocrats—spoke eloquently of the common heritage thus bequeathed to England and America. We share very sincerely his sentiments. But if only the Mayflower could set sail again, taking Mr. Josiah Wedgwood and Sir William Byles and Mr. Outhwaite and Mr. Keir Hardie and Mr. Arnold Lupton and Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. Lloyd George's brother to found an innumerable aristocracy in the far interior Somaliland!

