

negligence.

"If we are to reduce the consumption of the few products which we should export abroad, we will need to eat a larger proportion of many different food stuffs which we can not export and which we have at home. For this reason we **MUST NOT** waste **ANY** foodstuffs. A great many individuals in our population eat far more food than is necessary to maintain their health and strength. In this emergency only the simplest of living is patriotic. We want no person in the United States to eat less than is required for good health and fullstrength, for in this emergency America requires every atom of the productive power of our people. While many can eat less, all of our population can substitute other foodstuffs for the few that are vitally needed for export.

"We must not overlook the fact that Russia collapsed not because of the German on her borders but largely because of the failure to organize and feed her own citizens, and, if we are to emerge victorious from this war, we can not risk the collapse of another of our Allies from this same cause. **There is no waste of food among any of our Allies—there is the most drastic reduction in their consumption; there is actual privation among their women and children; there is starvation in Belgium.**

"The problem of saving in food is a local and individual one, so that more precise and definite rules just to all cannot be formulated. It is a matter for the conscientious consideration of every individual that he or she should eat only that which is necessary to maintain bodily health and strength and unselfishly to select those foodstuffs the use of which relieves international necessities. In this winter of 1918 lies the period when there will be tested in this great free country of ours the question of voluntary individual self-sacrifice to save the world."

### PLEASE REMOVE THE HALO.

From the "Weekly Sun."

The Editor of The Sun:—

One of the first duties of an intelligent electorate will be to remove the halo with which affectionate

artists have encircled the head of the Union Government. The attitude of the citizen toward his Government should be critical, not devotional. The Union Government needs criticism just as much as a party Government does. The fact that it is composed of men of both parties does not free it from human imperfection. Morally and intellectually, it is much the same as the party Governments which it succeeded.

It was not elected, as some devotees seem to imagine, by means wholly divine. True, it was proclaimed from the pulpits of the land as having something like a divine origin; but it must not be supposed that while the preachers thundered, the political machines were idle. They were fully aware of the truth that elections are not won with prayers—at least not entirely. Probably there was no election in which the political machines were more skilfully worked. Was there anything more than honest skill? I do not know—at least I see as through a glass darkly—because if there was any crookedness, there was no press to expose it. This is one of the dangers of the abolition of parties.

Union Government brought two great minds together. The late campaign bore all the marks of the genius of Sifton the Great, and Rogers, who worked none the less effectively because they were not in the Government. It is not uncharitable to believe that they were not working for a reign of the Saints. For the first time in their lives, they were free from annoying press criticism and invested with the odor of sanctity. Possibly this immunity from criticism, this association with devotional propaganda, purified them, filled them with a grave sense of responsibility. Possibly they regarded the hosts of new women voters, innocent of electioneering devices, as with that reverence which we pay to the innocent, and scrupulously refrained from poisoning their minds with racial and religious prejudice. But somehow the appeals which filled so large an amount of advertising space did not read that way. They read a good deal like the bad old party stuff.

Let us be fair to the new Union Government, but let us also be critical and watchful. Take off the halo. Treat the ministers as imperfect human beings, not as a congregation of the Saints.

—CRITICAL.

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