

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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EDITORIAL PAGE

"UNEMPLOYMENT SUNDAY."

We note that President Wilson has given his endorsement to a proposal that the churches of the country observe May 4 as "Unemployment Sunday," urging citizens to give employment to returned soldiers. We are wondering whether this lack of employment exists and what sort of employment it is that returned soldiers are seeking and cannot find. In this neck of the woods at least there is no lack of employment on the farms. We know of many ranchers who are at their wits' end to get needed farm help at higher wages than they ever offered before and can find none, returned soldiers, civilians, natives or foreigners. We are a little suspicious that there is no lack of work in this part of the country for anyone who is not too particular about the kind of work he does. So far as the returned soldiers are concerned in almost every case his former employer would be glad enough to give him his former job if he wants it. In some cases he doesn't want it. He wants something different, or that he considers better. Even then we think he will have no trouble in getting what he wants if he is qualified to fill the place. If the churches or the government, or the various employment agencies who are seeking to find jobs for returned soldiers will find out what they want and that they are qualified for the job it is our opinion that they will have no trouble in finding work for all of them by simply letting it be known that they want certain kinds of work and are fully competent to fill the job.

But we think there is need to get up an organization to find men to fill jobs that are crying for help and get no response. There are thousands of desperate farmers who would welcome a good farm hand and pay him from \$2 to \$3 a day and board and lodging. There are plenty of people in the city who would pay good wages for some competent man who would spade and plant their gardens for them while he is looking for permanent work. There are women in despair all over the United States who are almost ready to abandon their homes because they can find no competent domestic help at any price. If there is suffering from unemployment in the United States there is also suffering for lack of employes, and there ought to be some way to bring the two classes of sufferers together and extinguish their woes.

We don't know how it is in other parts of the country but we have not been able to find any evidence of unemployment in these parts that is not voluntary, and because the unemployed one objects to such employment as he can get for one reason or another. Returning to the question of farm labor. It is almost impossible to find it now and every day from now on is likely to increase the demand for it. If we should have the bumper crops we hope to see at harvest time we don't know what in the world we will do to supply the help needed unless the business men of the city shut up shop and go out into the country to save the crops, as they did in a few places last year, we are told.

RETURNING THE RAILROADS.

It has been evident for some time past that public sentiment is opposed to either the ownership or operation of the railroads of the country. Whatever may be our own views on these subjects the wise man will recognize that it is inevitable in the present state of public sentiment. Evidently Walter D. Hines, railroad director who succeeded by Mr. McAdoo, has come to the same conclusion. When he first took hold of the job he announced himself as favoring a five-year extension of government operation so as to demonstrate conclusively whether government ownership and operation would be beneficial to the public. He said government operation of railroads had not had a fair chance to demonstrate its benefits. We agree with him that this is true. But the experience the public have had with government operation up to date is such that their mind is fully made up that they want no more of it. Director General Hines evidently realizes that fact also, for at a meeting at Spokane recently he announced himself as favoring a very speedy return of the railroads to their private owners under certain conditions. One of these was extensive consolidations of railroads into a few big systems, government representation on the boards of managers, all the present regulatory powers of state and nation, and a government guarantee of earnings.

How these conditions will appeal to the private owners we do not know, but we are sure that they will not like the duplication of state and federal management and regulation. They have never objected to one regulatory power representing the public, but 48 state bodies regulating their business affairs sometimes in contradictory orders does not appeal to them, or in fact to any business man. How satisfactory the proposition of Director General Hines might be would also no doubt depend somewhat on the nature of the guarantee of earnings. So far as the forced consolidation of different roads into a few great systems is concerned many difficulties lies in the way. The stockholders of the different roads ought to have something to say about such merger of their property, and the laws of the United States would have to be changed materially to permit it. They are all at present constructed

with a view to prevent such consolidations and to stimulate and protect competition between railroads.

But the really important fact in the talk of the director general of the railroads at Spokane lies in the fact that the first time he urges a speedy end of government operation that is a reversal of his former policy and utterances, and it is significant. The railroad problem is a tough nut to crack, but whatever solution is tried of its problems, government ownership or operation is not thought of any more. That much is made clear by the director general. We are not so sure that the return to private ownership will be as speedy as the director general would like to have just now. It will take much talking and hot air in congress to get any decision on that question if we are not much mistaken.

THE LOAN CAMPAIGN IS ON.

Yesterday morning the various committees having charge of the work of soliciting subscriptions to the fifth and last Liberty loan began their work in Cascade county. We think it hardly necessary to bespeak for them once more a cordial reception and a determination to make their volunteer task as short and pleasant as possible. This loan is to finish the job of war, pay for obligations contracted before peace was in sight and to bring the boys home. It will finish our war obligations practically so far as present expenses go, and start the country off on a peace basis. It is the last big financial hill the citizens will have to climb. After it our financial obligations will be on a down grade, so Uncle Sam expects every citizen to do his duty and with a strong pull drag this loan over the top as it did the others.

We noted the other day that Hon. William G. Redfield, secretary of commerce, in the course of an address to the wholesale grocers of New England at Boston, on April 17, took occasion to make a few remarks about this loan, which strike us as being good logic and common sense. In part he said:

"Of course it is understood in advance that each of you have already arranged to subscribe liberally to the victory loan. We must all do that to the full extent of our power. Possibly, therefore, what I can say will only be of use as aiding you in the active campaign you are each about to wage among your friends and associates in order to insure their following your admirable example in this important matter.

"There are, of course, two chief ways in which governments raise funds—taxes and loans—one involuntary and the other voluntary. Of the former we have a sufficient example in our own recent experience. Of the latter we have had a number of examples and now have the last opportunity of the kind. The radical difference between the tax and the loan, however, as regards you and me is that in the former case we give and in the latter case we get. When we look at our canceled checks for taxes we are looking at something which might almost be called a financial corpse. It has done its work. It is dead. There is no life to it any more. When we look, however, at our canceled check for the purchase of a government bond, the situation is very different. In the latter case the check represents not death but life; not the end but the beginning; not an expense but an investment; not a loss but a gain. It means the beginning of non-taxable income; the establishing of additional credit; the gaining of greater buying power; the possession of a security honored by commerce and industry and acknowledged in every bank throughout the land.

"I draw this parallel, or opposition, as you may choose to call it, between the proceeds of a payment for taxes and a payment for a loan partly in order to make the further suggestion that the loan, were it not to be fully taken, might necessarily take for the needed balance the form of taxation. In other words, we are offered a happy alternative, a privilege of saving instead of losing, a privilege of gaining interest instead of paying it out. The truth is, of course, that the war is not over until we have placed this loan. It is the last of the great loans connected with the European war. Without it our work is incomplete, our credit would be impaired. If we lack at this happy hour of peace and with the work of readjustment well advanced the enthusiastic spirit of war, we may well substitute for it a quiet determination to pay our bills, sustain our credit and make good to the world on the task we have undertaken. This is the finish of the job. This brings the last boy home and sets the ships free to carry on the peaceful work of trade. This pays up the obligations to industry and to contractors and restores the normal flow of credit and business. It is a great task this raising so many billions on top of those which have been already raised. Yet the very fact that it is not easy is itself the stimulus for us all to do our part, for the work must be done, the loan must be placed and it can only be placed by the combined efforts of everyone. It is unthinkable that the American people should fail to set their stamp reading 'paid in full' upon the obligations they have assumed.

"I hope and believe, therefore, that every establishment represented by you will become a center of work and influence for the placing of this loan. Those who have bought bonds before like the feeling of ownership so well that they will want more. Those who have not heretofore bought should be encouraged now to do so. Let every employer help those who work for him in every practicable way to save and pay by installments for the loan. The more bond holders in your establishments the better for you, the employer, for bond holders are rarely bolsheviks and the possession of a little accumulated capital adds to a man's responsibility. So the call should go out 'A bond for everyone and everyone get a bond. The last chance—going, going, almost gone. Come in before it is too late.'

HASKIN LETTER

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

WHY THE WOMEN WON'T QUIT.

Washington, D. C., April 19.—With the shutting down of one war plant after another, hundreds of workmen are returning to their old jobs, only to find them filled by women, who show no disposition to give them up. On the street cars, in machine shops, print shops, even in the restaurant work, the men who formerly held these places are unemployed and fostering an ever-growing resentment.

Of course this is precisely what so many people predicted would happen when women started pouring into the ranks of the war but now that it has happened no one seems to know what to do about it. In the recent Cleveland episode, the war labor board upheld the attitude of the women street car conductors, who insisted upon keeping their jobs, but they also widespread opinion in favor of the women yielding their places to the old male employes.

According to the United States employment service, women are doing the work of the men who want to go back to their jobs. In such instances they do not have to be asked. An employment manager for a large factory in a middle western city was visited by seven soldier applicants for jobs. One morning a few weeks ago, these jobs referred to were in a machine shop, and since the war had been filled by women. The manager did not like to fire the women on short notice, as their work was satisfactory, and he had to refuse the old employes who had been drafted. Being a man of tact, however, he discussed the women's case with the soldiers, and the soldiers' case with the women. It was the women who immediately solved the problem by offering to give the jobs back to the soldiers.

The federal employment office of a large eastern city also reports the case of one woman who has given up three jobs in succession to soldiers. Each time she has appeared at the registration desk for a new job she has explained calmly that a soldier had wanted her old one. While women exhibit this generous attitude toward the uniform they are strong in their own determination to run their cars, held a meeting with the representatives of the local street railway employes' union and asked it to agree to let them put women on at the same wage as men. If the union agreed, the company and the union never agreed as to when it became necessary, but in the course of time women were trained in a school especially established for the purpose by the company, and placed on the cars. A strong protest against the employment of women when there were men returning to take over the jobs, a strike threatened, and the case was brought to Washington for the consideration of the war labor board. The Women's Trade union took up the matter, and after thorough consideration of the details, in which all sides were heard, the war labor board decided that there had been no agreement between the street car company and the union to dismiss women once employed on the cars, and that the women were therefore entitled to keep their jobs.

The argument made by the protesting male workers in this case was that the street car company had no right to do this kind of work unless she had to. During the war, many women went to work who had never worked before, but the percentage was extremely small compared to the large number already employed in their daily bread. The 1910 census showed eight million women to be engaged in gainful occupations in this country, and estimated that since then this number has increased by two million. What the war actually did for working women was not to give them more work but better work. It permitted them to go a step higher on the industrial ladder. Hundreds of high-waged jobs were suddenly created by our new war industries, and these were taken by men. The old jobs, paying lower wages, were left vacant until the women saw their opportunity and stepped into them.

This accounts for the present tremendous shortage in teachers, dressmakers, domestics and charwomen. Women had been holding responsible teaching positions for years—positions discarded by men because the salaries paid were indignantly low. Thousands of women had been working, sometimes 12 hours a day,

making clothes for other women, and getting barely enough to eat out of it. The work they did was skilled and difficult. The majority of the women who took it up were not inspired by a desire for frivolous things such as are supposed to be bought with "pin money." They had to support themselves, and they did this by teaching and making clothes because all the better-paying jobs within their capabilities were held by men. To them the war was an opportunity, which few of the men who are evidenced by the five hundred thousand teacher shortage and the virtual extinction of the "moderate priced" dressmaker. As the men went up the employment ladder, the women went up too.

Before a state conference on unemployment held not long ago, appeared a wrinkled, hard-worked old woman. When questioned, she explained that ever since her husband died years ago, she had been taking in washing. The year before three of them had been sufficiently grown to go to war. Two of them she still had to send to school. With the war, however, she had enjoyed a great opportunity. She had been able to secure a steady job, sweeping out a brass factory. She had enjoyed the commission please not to take her job away from her now that there were men applicants, because it was the only easy work she had ever had.

Another class of women who climbed into better-paid jobs during the war were domestics and charwomen. The demand for domestic help all over the country today, as shown by the reports of the federal employment offices, is just about three times the size of the supply. In some of our large industrial cities, charwomen are no longer to be found at all. Charring is work that men have always done, but no man would do it if he could get something better, and he usually could. It is the hardest kind of labor, with long hours and little pay, and according to the life has had experience "it takes all the life out of a woman." This is undoubtedly true for it has been found impossible to organize scrubwomen into unions. When they were with their day's work they are too tired and weak for the spark of rebellion to ignite them.

From this it may be seen that women are an important factor in the present unemployment crisis. Having secured easier, better-paid jobs, they are not willing to go back to their old status. The high cost of living since the war, also, has a great deal to do with this. One employment investigator reports that there is a large surplus of small-waged jobs throughout the east and middle west—jobs paying seven and eight dollars a week—that the women won't take them. In fact, everywhere women seem to be growing more independent in their assertions as to what they will and will not take. Since after the District of Columbia established \$15 a week as a fair minimum wage for women, the feminine population of Baltimore called a convention and declared indignantly that it was impossible for a woman decently to support herself on such a remuneration.

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German Royalty Has Lost 278 Members
Berlin, April 9.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—A German professor figures out that the abdication and dethronements in Germany include 278 persons. Bavaria leads with one king, one queen, 15 princes, 16 princesses, five dukes and one duchess. Prussia has sent 31 royalties into exile, including the emperor, empress, 20 princes and 11 princesses. The two tiny principalities of Reuse, whose area is hardly one three hundredth part of that of Prussia, have exiled 36 royalties.

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Questions and Answers

Q. What is an Anglo-Phobic? A. T. T. A. Anyone who is violently opposed to England and everything English is called Anglo-Phobic.
Q. With whom should a person communicate concerning the personal effects of a soldier who was killed in the recent war? J. T. B. A. Persons interested in the personal effects of soldiers should communicate with the quartermaster depot, Pier No. 3, Hoboken, N. J.
Q. When are the days that are called "dog days" and how long do they last? E. E. L. A. "Dog days" is the name given to the period of from four to six weeks variously placed between the early part of July and the early part of September. This is the hottest season of the year and is so called because it was reckoned in ancient times from the rising of the dog star, "Sirius."
Q. In washing clothes, how can I prevent blue from streaking the clothes? A. L. D. A. To prevent the blue from streaking the clothes mix one dessertspoonful of soda in the bluing water.
Q. Has the United States loaned any money to Czechoslovakia? I. M. A. The United States has advanced in all \$41,530,000 to Czechoslovakia, largely for arms, ammunition and food for the Czechoslovak forces in Siberia.
Q. Has France adopted prohibition? N. E. M. A. Only as far as absinthe is concerned. This is totally forbidden by law for all time; but distilled spirits may be sold to all except to the army, while beer and light wines are only slightly restricted.

TRAVELETTE

By NIKSAH
THE DUTCH KOFFIJ HUIS.

The Dutch coffee house is, unlike many institutions of that name, a place where coffee is consumed. The Dutch are consistent about their coffee. They are built and used for coffee drinking, and if Dutchmen are found in them eating tripe or one of those mainstays of Dutch fare such as cheese or black bread, that is merely because they have temporarily stopped drinking coffee to give the hostess of the inn time to replenish the supply.

Besides the interesting fact that coffee is served in the Dutch koffij huis, it is often observed feelingly by travelers fresh from some nearby land that the Dutch coffee is the real thing. Coffee is to Holland what tea is to England, with the difference that anything pronounced tea will pass with the Englishman. The Dutchman, however, is a more discerning host. He is at all times expertly critical of the flavor of his coffee.

The Dutchman sitting near the fireplace in his favorite koffij huis divides his attention between numerous cups of steaming coffee and his pipe or cigar. After all, there is a limit to the amount of coffee he can consume, but the joys of a pipe smoked in the restful atmosphere of the coffee house may be prolonged until the pipe goes out and the house is closed for the night.
It is no wonder that the Dutch have the koffij huis habit, for many of the smaller establishments are more quaintly and peacefully Dutch than their homes. In the large city cafes, modern improvements and a sophisticated clientele have banished Dutch atmosphere, but in towns and villages there is still the old koffij huis, with its sanded floor, its rows of built-in tables on the wall, and the hostess in native dress, busily dispensing the national drink.
CHINESE WONDERS
Lanchow, a city of great age and undoubted veracity claims the eight greatest wonders of China and therefore in its estimation, of the world. The eight "sceneries," as Lanchow terms its points of interest, are as varied in character as the more widely advertised seven wonders of the world. Otherwise their points of merit are not particularly conspicuous to the foreigner.
To the loyal citizen of Lanchow the scene is a height of miracles. The Chinese guide who had the honor of pointing out the wonderful objects seemed well worthy of a place in the catalogue as "scenery number nine." Joy in each landmark was written plainly on his features and overflowed into his speech which we vaguely understood to be an extemporaneous eulogy of the sceneries.
With ecstasy he indicated the Lily Pool which seemed to be included in the list because it was sacred to officials and