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EDITORIAL PAGE

HASKIN LETTER

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A BOOM IN BOXING

Washington, D. C., Sept. 3.—Boxing seems to be in for a boom all over the United States, as a result of the great amateur ring game which was built up in the American army during the war.

In the first place, the army is turning back into civil life about three million men who are trained boxers, and many of whom have a keen interest in the sport. And in the second place, the army has worked out a new set of rules for boxing, and a new attitude toward it, which make clear the difference between professional pugilism and clean amateur boxing.

The army took boxing out of the professional and commercial class and placed it on an amateur basis, just like football or any other game in which a man's courage and skill are put to the test. In the great international bouts, in which the very top cream of the allied armies competed, the men fought with no higher reward for winning in sight than a safety razor. That was the limit in prizes. Usually there was no prize except glory. The Americans, the French and the British were all on a par. They insisted on sport for sport's sake.

Already signs of improvement and a better understanding of the boxing game due to the influence of the rules promulgated in the army, are beginning to appear. New boxing associations to promote clean boxing are being formed in various parts of the country. Out in the northwest, an organization has been formed which is expected to have a far-reaching effect in the development and elevation of the boxing game in that part of the country. It is known as the Western Washington Association for Government of Boxing. Its object, as set forth by the secretary is "to place boxing upon a plane that will make it free from criticism; also to protect managers and boxers alike from the many evils that have beset them in the past. This will be done by following strictly the regulations and rules as prescribed by the government during the war."

At the same time state legislatures which have opposed boxing from time immemorial are passing laws making it legal to conduct amateur boxing bouts. The lawmakers, however, favor the boxing game as carried on in the army. They oppose professional pugilism, and prize fights that are put on merely for the sake of making money.

A bill to allow boxing was recently killed by Governor Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois. In vetoing the bill, he said:

"I favor boxing; I had hoped that a bill would be presented that would authorize boxing as we have learned to know it at the military cantonments during the last two years. The more I study the bill, the more I confess my disappointment in it. So far as I can see, it provides all the necessities for a prize fight, except the decision."

Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft, head of athletics at Princeton university, and a member of the commission on training camp activities, is the man who introduced boxing into the United States army. Shortly after accepting a place on the commission, he visited the Canadian military headquarters at Toronto. There he became a thorough convert to the idea that boxing should have a place in our military training. He presented this belief to the thirty men first called into the camps as physical directors, at their initial meeting at Princeton. Most of these men were college coaches and heads of college athletic departments, and they were slow to be convinced that boxing was what men needed. But they were willing to give it a trial, and the results obtained have completely vindicated Dr. Raycroft's position.

Boxing did not take hold so readily among the men themselves. Many of them were from sections of the country where the game had fallen into disrepute, because of the questionable methods of both promoters and boxers. Also, they did not see the advantage of being pummeled or getting a wallop on the nose.

It is hard to please a wife. If her husband doesn't do a thing she bawls him out, and if he does do it she bawls him out.

MR. WILSON'S FIRST SPEECH.

President Wilson hit the nail squarely on the head when in his Columbus speech, the first made on his swing around the circle, he said that most of the derogatory statements made about the peace treaty were made by people who have not read it or who have read and did not understand it. It is a fact that the republican politicians who have opposed the treaty and the league of nations have muddled the public mind in regard to both of them at every possible opportunity.

The president's first speech was a clear and straightforward discussion of the issues at stake, and they are tremendous. The principal thought of the men who have devoted months of their time to drafting the treaty is to make Germany repay, in so far as it is humanly possible, for the damage she has done, for the terror she spread over the world, for the blood she spilled, for the homes she ravished, for the industries she destroyed, for the farms and the towns and the cities she ruined.

Mr. Wilson admits that the terms of the treaty are severe. But he insists that it is necessary that they be severe, that Germany must be pressed to the utmost point that she can pay and in that way that way only can justice be done. For "this treaty was not intended merely to end this war," he declared, "it was intended to prevent any similar war." And there lies the real value of the treaty. The nations of the world must be warned that who tries to wipe out world civilization and who plunges countries into a vortex of war, will fail, and will be made to pay to the last dime for the damage done.

And speaking of the league of nations, the president asserts that it is "the only thing that can prevent the recurrence of this dreadful catastrophe."

It stands to reason that if a nation which thought to precipitate a war similar to that for which Germany was responsible, were warned that in any attempt of the kind she would be opposed by the combined nations of the world, she would hesitate. That is the president's view. "The league . . . is not merely to serve notice on governments which would contemplate the same thing that Germany contemplated," said he, "that they will do it at their peril, but also the combination of power which will prove to them that they will do it at their peril. It is idle to say the world will combine against you because it may not, but it is persuasive to say that the world is combined against you and will remain combined against any who attempt the same things that you attempted."

The president's discussions, it is evident, are going to be plain and to the point. He is talking to the people. His addresses are satisfyingly free from terms dealing with international law which do not serve to clarify the matter in the public mind, and which, it is quite evident, have muddled some of the brains of our congressmen at Washington.

What the people want to know is what the politicians have failed to tell them. And it is what the politicians have failed to tell that the president will tell.

MONTANA'S NEWSPAPERS.

The visit to this city of the newspapermen of the state in attendance upon the annual convention of the Montana Press association, cannot but call to mind the tremendous growth of the newspaper industry in the commonwealth. It has walked hand in hand with the general progress and prosperity that has come to the Treasure state. Montana has 18 daily newspapers, nearly all of which publish the full Associated Press report. She has in the neighborhood of 250 weekly newspapers, good live publications which are representative of the communities in which they are located.

The press of Montana has had much to do with the upbuilding of the state and its every line of industry. The newspaperman is a natural booster. More people more subscribers, more subscribers more advertising, more advertising more money, more money more automobiles or more whatever it is that newspapermen most desire.

At each succeeding press convention there are fewer of the old war horses and more new faces and it is a matter of great pleasure to those who are now in Great Falls that they should be honored with the presence of some of the men who have been engaged in the newspaper business in this state for many years, and who have had a large part in the development of the resources which have made Montana great and which will make it greater.

The young members of the profession will pay to them the homage which is their due. And as the big high-speed presses replace more and more the old-time cylinder and as the daily supplements the weekly in those communities which are fast coming into their own, those operating them, as they listen to the song of the plates and belts will have a kindly thought for the men who brought the old Washington hand presses over the mountains on pack mules to set them up as a harbinger of the things which they foresaw would come, and which have come.

THE PROFIT SHARING GOAL.

It is an excellent thought which young Theodore Roosevelt advanced the other day in speaking to an audience at Minneapolis. He stated his belief that profit sharing is surely coming in America, but declared his conviction that it is not the kind of profit sharing that can be legislated into effect. Rather, he thought, it would come with a spontaneous awakening and realization upon the part of every citizen of the country that he or she is concerned with the government of the people, "and this," he said, "will quiet the unrest."

"We have got to work toward the idea," said Colonel Roosevelt, "that every individual must obtain through his own efforts some type of vested interest. They've got to be in the position of stockholders in a concern that everyone is working for and then the spirit of 100 per cent Americanism cannot be shaken by anything."

The idea as advanced by him is that every citizen is a stockholder in a mammoth corporation, the government, from which everyone may benefit. This is basic and it is a goal towards which every good citizen should work. With every man and every woman taking the interest which they should in governmental and political affairs, a change would creep over the nation and before it was realized the problems which are today confronting the people and the government would be solved and we would be a nation of profit sharers in the benefits of 100 per cent Americanism.

ASSESSING "GOOD WILL."

An Associated Press dispatch from Helena throws some light on what Attorney General S. C. Ford was trying to get at in his Labor day speech in Great Falls when he charged that his fellow members of the state board of equalization have undervalued the property of the railroad, power and other large companies doing business in this state for assessment purposes.

The attorney general, the dispatch states, wants to assess them for "good will," franchises and other "intangibles" assets. The governor, secretary of state and state treasurer, other members of the board, take issue with him and declare it cannot be done legally. The attorney general admits, it is stated, that the physical valuations of the plants and properties is probably correct. The majority of the board urges that a test case be made and the matter be taken into the courts for settlement. This will be done by the attorney general, it is understood.

In the meantime, it becomes apparent that whatever of "good will" the attorney general bears the railroads and the power companies will never be assessed at any very high valuation.

THE FOOD CONTROL BILL.

Increased support in the senate for the amended food control and profiteering bill passed by the house is predicted as a result of the success of the sale of the army food surplus by the government. Regarding it, the Springfield Republican says:

The popular sale of army food stores is everywhere successful, but in New York City it appears to surpass all anticipations, so far as the public demand is concerned. This demonstration will doubtless strengthen in the senate the amended food control and profiteering act passed by the house. Ordinarily, such legislation would have no chance in the upper chamber. Even the original food control act of war time was severely criticized and strongly opposed in that body. After the armistice, the president ignored the act and permitted the food administration to disintegrate—which is now seen to have been a blunder—owing to the outcry against continued government interference in trade. It is to be remembered, of course, that last winter the business world confidently expected a general fall of prices and the government was influenced in its policy by that fact. The Lever act, as now amended by the house and newly applied, goes much farther than the wartime law in attacking little as well as big profiteers and in including clothing and other necessities besides food. That rent profiteers are not loved any more than the other sort was shown by the effort in the house to bring them also within the scope of the law.

If the members of the upper house of congress will get down to business and legislate for the benefit of the public instead of playing the political game continually the people may look for some beneficial laws. They should forget the prophecies of the past which have not come true and work upon the foundation of present conditions.

The communist party just organized by the "left wing" of the socialist party in Chicago bars from membership anyone receiving rent, interest or "profit." It also announces that neither lawyers nor editors can have any part in the "coming revolution." Say, who's going to belong to this new party, any how?

Army cutworms are now eating the Russian thistles which the farmers of Teton and Pondera counties had planned to cut for hay for their livestock this winter. One good thing about army cutworms is that they take what they can get.

"Pershing is a Full General" says a newspaper headline. Well, the general is in France and France is still wet. But it's tough when a fellow has to come in for so much publicity.

STAMP OUT BOLSHIEVISTS URGES EDITORS

Former State Official Lauds Loyal Press of Montana for Services Rendered People and Brands Libeller and Slanderer as Disgrace to Free Press.

Paying a tribute to the loyal and patriotic service the newspapers of Montana have rendered to the state and to the people of the commonwealth during the past 30 years. Hon. J. M. Kennedy, of Libby, former commissioner of agriculture and publicity, former member of the state senate and for many years in the newspaper business in Montana, told the members of the Montana Press association at its convention here Friday that there are only a few "professional pimples" in the state of whom the profession need be ashamed.

Senator Kennedy declared that he had but small choice between the advocate of sedition, sabotage and soviet form of government and "the fellow who makes a living dishonestly denouncing his neighbors as disloyalists and bolsheviks." "A free press," said he, "carries no license to libel and lie, to advocate violence and counsel or condone crime." Senator Kennedy's address, which he read from manuscript, in order, he said, that his name be misquoted or misrepresented, follows:

"In the closing days of Montana's territorial existence, I came from the east to Helena to help Russell B. Harrison make a failure of the Helena Journal. We soon succeeded. In the first week of September of the year 1889, I was one of the two men who prepared for the press the first copy of the Anaconda Standard, the venerable and brilliant Dr. J. H. Durston, now publisher and editor of the Butte Daily Post, wrote the editorials, clipped the miscellany, prepared the society news, blue-penciled my local items, put up a dandy sporting page, selected the Snake stories, read the proofs, and the first issue of the paper was made up, and supervised my handling of the telegraph stuff and the religious news and a few want ads which I had faked to show the prosperity of the initial issue of the newspaper. From that memorable day to this I have been more or less intimately associated with the newspaper press of Montana.

"And that will be plenty of the personal or personal pronoun for present purposes. "In point of value of services rendered, returns on investment made, and rewards received for intelligent effort expended, Montana's newspapers, in the nearest paid class of people in the state. "Mental Mutts" Profit. "No man can correctly compute the worth of the work done, without hope of monetary compensation, by the newspaper men of this state. They have made the people and the upbuilding of the commonwealth. The mental mutts who have been snatched from seduction by the newspaper gang and galvanized into temporary greatness, by the making of the half-pint politicians of the township type who have been pushed into high public place and prominence by generous publicity comprise a substantial minority of this state's population. With a few exceptions, the mutts, the king row and crowns have been kicked from many an unworthy king. The powerful have been humbled and the meek have been made mighty. The newspaper men have made all the mistakes, have taken all the blame, have eaten all the husks. In the main the newspaper men serve faithfully every worthy interest but their own. They sleep on thorns and they follow the very best of the down. The loyalty of the average Montana editor makes him humble and keeps him hungry.

"Through the intelligent and unceasing efforts of Montana's newspapers the fascinating story of this state's golden growth has been told to millions of people, many of Montana's marvelous latent resources have been set on the road towards profitable and useful development, and hundreds of thousands of worthy people have come to the state to live here. By the Montana newspapers the world has been told of the salubrity of our climate, the wealth of our hills, the fertility of our valleys, the unatched grandeur of our scenery, the abundance of our wild game, the stupendous extent of our coal and oil deposits, and of the unequalled opportunities that here await honest and intelligent effort.

"I had made Montana with a smile and Montana's editors polished up a good job by persistent and intelligent publicity. In the face of the record no one will question the unflinching loyalty of most of Montana's newspapers to the state and revolting exceptions the newspapers rendered conspicuous and valuable service to this government in the recent great war. The devotion displayed to the cause of the country, the self-sacrificing services, unflinching rendered by nearly all of this state's newspapers in all this nation's war activities aroused the pride and gratitude of all Montana's patriotic people.

"Ashamed of a Few. "We are all heartily ashamed of the few professional pimples that are to be humped and harned our government during that heart-crushing period. True, these scabs were neither numerous nor dangerous but they were disgraceful and annoying nevertheless. They are the outward evidence of a lathsome and insidious civic disease. They should be relentlessly cauterized without delay. The decent and loyal members of the newspaper profession should take prompt and drastic action to prevent the spread of the filthy contagion. Decency demands that such. "From a few printing offices in this state are issued publications that meanace the public peace and dishonor the press. When Old-Man-Afraid-of-Work is driven to actively by the laws governing chronic vagrancy, he either starts a bolshevik paper or packs the black flag of disloyalty or the red banner of anarchy to the haunts of society's deadliest enemies. In the halls of discord he drives a dagger through the hearts of appointed office seekers, the discharged professor, the paid peddler of black-hand propaganda, the drunken dynamiter, and other scullions of society. That's where rebellion breeds and disloyalty has its birth. It's there that the lily-white lick of the prostitute's crib rocks in pain over the wrongs of those who work, and it is there that such influences and in such inspiring surroundings that some editorials are written to denounce our government, blackguard its representatives, malign our institutions, and our flag and another anarchy. The collection plate is nightly being passed in the halls of this country's declared enemies to procure funds for the publication of papers that openly advocate rebellion and de-

ment disloyalty. The publishers of such sheets are always disloyal, generally dishonest and sometimes dangerous. "Their Acme of Service. "To them, the acme of service, the highest form of patriotism, is to abuse prosperity and misrepresent success. An asbestos cat with tallow legs dancing a fox trot in Hell would be a sensational example of success compared with the business triumphs of many of those self-certified teachers of correct business methods. They know it all and do nothing. "An unbalanced bunch of books seek to obtain the balance of power in the state and nation. Having no business of their own, they have plenty of time to attend the affairs of everybody else. If an enterprise succeeds, it is wrong. If an individual works to build he is wicked. If he labors to destroy, he is deified. Every time a bum has the bellyache, the bolshevik editor denounces the cruelties of capital. The person who gives an honest day's work for a fair day's pay is marked as an enemy of society. The man who has anything to show has stolen it. The fellow who hasn't anything, has been cheated out of what belongs to him.

"The fair-minded and decent-living members of organized labor who refuse to join the dynamite brigade is always dubbed a stool pigeon of capital. But the blatant big game who persistently preaches doctrine of destruction and disorder and practices sedition and sabotage is in their eyes, a patron saint of the poor. The newspaper propagandists of these nefarious doctrines are the residuary legatees of incarnate devilishness. The editor who defends a brawling brood of disruptivists and demagogues, or who advocates and encourages the employment of violence in the settlement of civic controversies and industrial disputes, should not be accorded the privileges and protection usually enjoyed by members of an honest and powerful profession. Such an editor is, every inch of him, from coons to dandruff, disloyal to his state and an arch enemy of public peace and private decency. "Should Form League. "There should be in Montana a league of editors formed to perpetuate public peace, to denounce and destroy demagoguery, to preach patriotism, to purge politics and to stamp out snakes. A lie in type goes farther and harms more than a lie on the lips. Slander is not sanctified by publication. A plea for a free press should not justify license to libel. No man should be permitted to publish in a newspaper what he would not dare say upon the streets. The editorial mantle should not shield from punishment the political wharf rat or the social skunk. "In a few Montana newspaper offices the editorial tripod has become the editorial mast. For the honor of our profession, for the safety of our state, for the enhancement of our services and the extension of our usefulness, we should no longer let it be said there is no law but the slogan for the publication of a Montana newspaper of willful and infamous falsehoods. The truth does not need statutory protection. The professional libeller should be fed from a trough behind iron bars. "The man who takes more than a scratch pad and a pencil to make a good editor. A hat full of type and a political ambition are not all the requisites for successful publisher. An editor who peddles his loyalty out in the highest market, the most disreputable profiteer of his age. "The scribe who must be paid for every declaration of his patriotism or every publication in behalf of his country or community is as lovable a reptile as a prize snipe with a head on both ends. "I have but slight choice between the advocate of sedition, sabotage and the soviet form of government, and the fellow who makes a living dishonestly denouncing his neighbors as disloyalists and bolsheviks. A hired patriot who puts a price upon every one of his utterances is the most dangerous bolshevik in this land, and the most dishonorable.

"The man who persistently prates of his own super-loyalty and his neighbors lack of it is usually an unsafe and unworthy citizen. Loyalty that has to be labeled and that can only be located by the big gold-leaf sign on the window is not of the up-lifting and inspiring brand. All men who complain of conditions and demand a change of officials or government are not necessarily enemies of this country or anarchists. Many classes of our citizens have adult grievances that must be rectified if peace is to come to the commonwealth and prosperity remain. The right of fair protest and the privilege of petition should be denied no citizen. Reforms will not arise from repression, justice and contentment are not the offspring of abuse and coercion. Men to be loyal must be free. Vilifying the honest advocates of a bad policy or a vicious principle is not the best way to convince them of their error. "But the right to plead for reform does not convey the privilege to plot against the government and to plan revolution. A free press carries no license to libel and lie, to advocate violence and counsel or condone crime. No land that permits such dastardly offenses can ever be safe or peaceful. It is time for Montana to wake up."

NEWSPAPER MAN BECOMES OFFICER BROKERAGE FIRM Special to The Daily Tribune. Butte, Sept. 5.—A. B. Keith, who recently retired after a long term of service as city editor of the Butte Mirror, has been named vice president of the commission firm of Laurier-Wolcott. Beginning September 1 Mr. Keith became an active member of that firm.

Stanton Trust & Savings Bank Capital \$200,000 Surplus 50,000 DIRECTORS F. H. Buckley, J. C. Patterson, James W. Freeman, Jacob C. Fay, Bart Armstrong, A. Boydell, P. H. Jones, S. J. Doyle OFFICERS George H. Stanton, President P. H. Jones, Vice-President H. M. Emerson, Cashier Stanton Bank Building, Great Falls.

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