

# The True Northerner.

PAW PAW, MICHIGAN

F. N. Wakeman

A. N. Cole

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OUR FLAG

"Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable."

TO THE CLASS OF 1917

(Editorial)

[Continued from page 1]

are not. But all could have the benefits of a university training if you would. Did you ever look around you and see that many of the most successful men and women in professional and business walks of life are the ones who have worked their way through college, entirely upon their own resources. There are no "soft snaps" for the successful man or woman. It is work, work, work, all the time. Those who "Drift with the Tide" all the time working along the line of least resistance will never rise above the common herd. They are lost. It is the plodder, the worker, the one who is imbued with a zealous determination to win at any price, who gradually but surely forges ahead and reaches the topmost round of the ladder of success and fame. Don't be afraid of work, common work. Remember it is just as honorable to wash dishes in the kitchen, if it is necessary to do that to reach the goal, as it is to play the piano in the parlor; just as creditable to cook a palatable meal of victuals or make a gown as it is to entertain company on the veranda; just as praiseworthy to hoe corn or milk the cows as it is to ponder over a set of books or pound the keys of a typewriter. All this we mean if it is necessary in your race for the goal. But whatever you do, whether it is washing dishes, darning stockings, following the drag or pondering over your books or music, do your work well. Do it just a little bit better than the other fellow. The boy who shovels coal better than his fellow workmen is the one who may be president of the railroad or superintendent of the factory. Don't be content with mediocre service. Give the best there is in you. No half way business will do in this stage of the world. If you would achieve success, you must be a success in whatever you attempt. The world has no use now for a slacker or a laggard. It is the ambitious, determined boys and girls now that win. Boys and girls who are not afraid to work; who are of good morals and reliable character; who have "set their stakes" and are determined to reach the goal. These are the successful boys and girls, and upon such as these the future of the nation depends for its stability and maintenance. Graduates of 1917 you have made a good beginning and we congratulate you upon the progress thus far. We predict for you a successful future. Don't drift with the tide, is our advice, and may your efforts in the future be as successful as in the past is our wish. "Hit the line hard" and don't lose sight of the goal. Play the game to win.

The automobile industry of the State of Michigan is fortunate in having so able a Representative in Congress as Hon. Patrick H. Kelley. He has pointed out to his colleagues in a most graphic way the exorbitant and unfair taxes sought to be applied to that industry by the pending revenue bill. Mr. Kelley has been able to demonstrate that the automobile manufacturers are made to pay three times as much tax as other concerns with a similar capitalization, and rebels at the inclusion of automobiles by the committee in the same class as chewing gum, talcum powder and hair oils. A long list of automobile concerns which have failed even in normal times, was presented by Mr. Kelley as a strong argument in support of his amendment to strike out the automobile section, but those Congressmen who had made up their minds to "close their eyes and vote for the bill" were in sufficient majority to retain the paragraph.

The drive is now on in Van Buren county for the organization of an active and efficient branch of the Red Cross society. This is just as much a part of the great war preparedness plan and just as important as the raising of an army. Everybody should give the matter their earnest support. There is no society in existence that does more, or is as important in times of war as the Red Cross. Bend every effort all over the county to perfect a strong Red Cross society. "In union there is strength" you know. Let the Red Cross be the Van Buren county organization. Let every man, woman and child in the county enlist for service in its ranks. It will be a rich blessing to our soldier boys during the war, and a heritage of which posterity will be proud.

## FOR HEAVENS SAKE, WAKE UP!

What under the heavens is the matter with some of the American people? They do not awaken to the dangers that now confront us, and seem not to realize that the future of the democracy of the world, and the very life of our own Republic itself depends upon the United States in the present world conflict. Scores of citizens all over the land are under indictment for complicity in anti-conscription propaganda. People everywhere, even right here in Paw Paw are criticizing the President of the United States. They are calling it an unjust war, and giving utterance to other sentiments that are very little short of treason. On registration day morning, when the bells were ringing at the opening of the polls one man was heard to remark, "I don't know why it should be made a holiday, it would be more appropriate to get out the hearse." Bless your soul it was not a holiday in the ordinary acceptance of the term. It was not intended to be a day of joyous festivities, or ostentatious levities. It was America's patriotic and loyal answer to the kaiser's boastful defy "That America would be paying indemnity before an army could be raised." The attitude of certain people and the remark that is herein recited is an aid to the enemy just as much as any overt act of treason could be. We are at war now, and if we would live as an independent liberty loving republic; if we would insure for our children and our children's children that freedom and liberty which we have enjoyed as a result of the life blood shed by our forefathers, we must win this war. And another thing we must understand:—Victory may be a long ways off. England and France are nearing the end of the rope. Their resources are sadly depleted, and their ranks thinned. Russia is in a demoralized condition, and it would not be surprising to hear any day that she had concluded a separate peace. Then don't you see that the brunt of the war, if it is to be pushed to a successful conclusion must fall upon the U. S. We must be virtually the granary, the bank and the arsenal for the entire allied forces. Terrible they say to send our boys across the water to the trenches. Of course it is terrible, it is worse than that. It is just what General Sherman said war was, but war is a serious business, and we are at war, don't forget that. If we would assist in winning the victory, we must go where the fighting is. If the victory is not won on European soil now, it will eventually be won (if ever won at all) on American soil. It is a mighty sight better to help the allies across the way win the victory, than it would be to try and win it here, after they are defeated there. No, this is not a dream. The kaiser and imperial government of Germany have had visions of a world empire for years. The subjugation of all Europe first, then America next was the plan. So then if we are to continue to sing of "My Country 'tis of thee: Sweet land of Liberty," we must make up our minds to make any sacrifice, no matter what it may be, money, life or property, to win this war. Wake up then! Look the situation squarely in the face. Think not of the present alone, but endeavor to contemplate the future. Try to realize if you can that our nation is in a mighty perilous situation; that the most momentous and far reaching crisis in our history now confronts us. We can not all go to war, we are not all needed now; but many more will be called before the victory is won. There is one thing however that we can do, and a thing that is our most sacred duty to do, and that is to quit this everlasting apathetic sobbing and whining, and give the President our unqualified moral and patriotic support. The Lord knows that he needs it all.

The Board of Supervisors together with the Sheriff's force are to be congratulated on the appointment of a special officer to look after violations of the automobile speed law. There is no reason why this law should not be enforced the same as any other law. Careless and reckless auto drivers are a menace to the community, and a detriment to the good roads of the country. Here's hoping that the experiment in this county may prove a success, and that henceforth, in this county at least, a little more respect for the speed law may be shown by auto drivers.

What would have happened if in George Washington's time the "Father of our Country" had waited for a referendum of the people before declaring war on Great Britain? What would have happened in Lincoln's day, if the "Rail Splitter" had waited for the vote of the people before declaring war against the confederacy? Did you ever think of that? If not then take a few minutes, you of Pacifist and Socialistic tendencies and canvass the situation carefully. Then wake up and contemplate, if you can, the future.

A great majority of people all over the land are opposed to capital punishment. It remains on the statute books of but few states in the union. There is one crime however, it seems to us would justify capital punishment, and that is Kidnapping. The recent Keet baby kidnapping and subsequent murder, while being held for ransom is too revolting in detail to think about. There is no punishment too severe for the dastardly villains who were responsible for this crime.

Some of the actions of Congress during those trying moments would make a strong man sick at his stomach. They are to levy a tax on distilled liquors, with the express purpose of making it so high that it cannot be distilled or sold. Why not be men about it, and prohibit its manufacture and sale entirely. To "beat about the bush" like a lot of school boys is cowardly and sickening.

Here's to the sweet girl graduate. May she appreciate now some of the advantages she has had, and get out in the kitchen and make mother's pathway just a little smoother. You owe it to her girls. Don't be a "slacker" be real womanly girls.

Here's to the Boy graduate. Get in the game now. Set your stakes and hew to the lines. Above all during the summer months, show your father that you appreciate the many sacrifices he has made for you during your school days. Be a real man, that is what the world expects of you.

Congressman Pat Kelley dropped a bomb on the floor of the house in Congress recently in exposing an attempt to graft a prodigious sum in the purchase of the Jamestown Exposition site for a U. S. Naval training base. As a result of Pat's vigilance and Irish fighting spirit, the modest sum of \$200,000 has been clipped from the purchase price of the site. Leave it to Pat.

The great diplomat and statesman, Elihu Root is now safe and sound on Russian soil. He has a gigantic task ahead of him however, greater by far than that magnificent piece of governmental construction which he accomplished in the Phillipines at the close of the Spanish-American war. If the mission on which he is bent can be accomplished by any human being, Elihu Root can do it. The nation hopes and prays that he may succeed.

## NOTICE.

I am putting in a new Saw Mill at the old Deal Heading Mill plant. I would like the address of all parties who have logs there. I must have this information so I may notify owners when I am ready to saw.  
O. E. Smith.

The "Oh So Easy" Shock absorber for Ford cars is on sale at all of the local garages

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Morning subject. "The Heavenly Transaction."  
Evening subject. "Faith vs. Credulity."

The pastor will preach.  
The prayer meeting will be dismissed in the interests of the Red Cross meeting at the Opera House.

The "Oh So Easy" Shock absorber for Ford cars is on sale at all of the local garages.

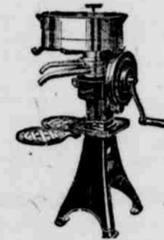
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