

CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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George F. Milton, editor. Walter C. Johnson, business manager.

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Reports from the wheat crop are all right, but w'd like to hear a few more of them.

Henry Ford heads the liberty loan list at Detroit with a subscription of \$6,000,000.

Those given deferred classification in the draft are expected to go to work or go to war.

Crime is said to be increasing in Berlin. In which Berlin manifests its loyalty to the Kaiser.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal wants to "mix it" with Col. Watterson over draw poker.

Germans are no nearer to Amiens than they once were to Verdun. And they didn't get Verdun.

That "complete German victory in the west," which was to bring peace, has been delayed indefinitely.

Fragments of news filtering through indicate that Hindenburg's Paris date was taken seriously in Germany.

The 75-millimeter French gun is different from the 75-mill Hun product, but it continues to get in its work.

If Count Czernin is for peace he ought to sling out loud enough to be heard above the din of the firing line.

Senator Sherman plays no favorites. He has no more defense of a mob lynching in Illinois than one in the south.

"We must wait," Hindenburg advises the Kaiser, for "our" plans to develop. But Foch is not included in this "must."

When Sammie goes calling on German trenches, they are confronted with the "not-at-home" sign prominently displayed.

The University of Tennessee is doing a timely work in conducting district schools to instruct farmers in the use of tractors.

Henry Ford is not exactly flying, but he is turning out Liberty motors for the fliers at a gait which nearly takes one's breath.

A weekly exchange suggests that most of the few roosters left be sacrificed. Verily, the male of the species gets it in the neck.

Folks at home are not asked to lay down their lives for the boys in France, but to give up all their wheat if it should prove necessary.

It is doubtful whether much wool is being cocoeated by German agents in this country, but this is a time when there is none to spare.

The decision to let the price of wheat remain at \$2.20 is expected to add emphasis to two or three senatorial campaigns in the west.

Not only in the trenches, on the field, in the air and under the water is the war being prosecuted, but even the movies are doing their bit.

The quota of marines has been doubled. Drafted men are being accepted for this excellent arm of the service. Here is an opportunity.

The constitution prohibits cruel and excessive punishments. A man who is not allowed to go to war should, at any rate, be permitted to talk a little.

The "wets" have scored once, anyway. They have succeeded in getting one legislature adjourned before it ratified the prohibition amendment.

The Bristol Herald-Courier presumes that Secretary McAdoo is holding down Baker's job while he's in Europe. Mc. doesn't seem to have much to do.

Congressmen are punctilious in appraising other men's loyalty, to their country, but it will be observed that few of the former have shown their faith by going to the front.

It is reported this morning that the German bombardment has been resumed on a front of one hundred miles. This is the longest extent of battle area since the offensive began.

If an attack is made on such a line it ought to bring the great battle to a decision. A failure would indicate to the enemy the futility of further efforts, and already he is beginning to hear from his people at home. The loss of 4% is causing protest in Germany.

DETERMINED ON BATTLEFIELD.

The question as to what this country's policy shall be as to universal military training, it has been well said by Secretary Baker, need not be settled now and should not be settled until the conclusion of the war.

The opinion at Washington is that the president is of like view with his cabinet officer. And because they have taken this attitude Mr. Roosevelt, Senator Chamberlain and others have been very severe in their criticism.

We are inclined to the belief that better than anyone else who has spoken on the subject Senator John Sharp Williams has put more cogently the reasons why we should not fix our policy on this matter now.

"This is, in essence, a question which must be determined upon the battlefield, which ought not to be determined now by us. If we lose this war Germany wins this war or if a patched-up peace is made, amounting simply to an armistice, and not a lasting and enduring peace, then it goes without saying that we as a nation must become and must remain armed camp-a-ple indefinitely.

To put on the statute books now a pledge that no matter how the war results, "we people of these United States are going to sink to the level of Prussians and Austrians and Bulgarians, to the level of the condition of the continent of Europe, living in armed camps, one against the other, suspecting one another every day, prepared to pounce upon one another every week, I say, is going too far," he continued.

Where it is necessary for the sake of efficiency or safety to imitate Prussian junkerdom, let us swallow our dose and do so, but we fight this war so that Americans nor any other free people shall continue under the slavery imposed by Prussian military masters, and we should not pledge ourselves in advance to a Prussian system. Let us train our millions for this war with the avowed purpose of curing the world of war mania.

SAVE ON COURT COST. A Birmingham newspaper observes the steady falling off of litigation in Alabama as a result of prohibition and other causes and suggests that it is probably time for a reduction in the machinery and expenses of operating courts.

This brings to mind the fact that the election of a new outlay of Tennessee officials is scheduled for this year. The tax system—or want of system—of the state is not yielding sufficient revenue to meet expenses. There is great and urgent need of economy, but each individual hesitates to indicate where he would apply the knife.

As this Alabama contemporary suggests, "the legislature finds it easier to create courts than to abolish them," but the legislature should have, as it once did have, gubernatorial assistance. Quite a number of court officials in Tennessee could probably be spared. An attempt has been made to mend the fee system in the state but this is only a beginning of what is needed.

PUTS OUR OWN IN JEOPARDY. Lynchings are bad enough under any circumstances, but recent outbreaks may endanger those we love, if they should fall into the hands of the enemy abroad, and also the American civilians who are now in Germany. As the Springfield Republican says:

"The Washington government is reported to take a serious view of the lynching of a German subject by a mob of Illinois miners. Our treaties with Germany in time of war cannot be said to afford protection for the subjects of the Kaiser against mob violence; but if some American civilian now in Germany, or an American soldier now held captive in a German prison camp, should be hanged at sunrise in retaliation for the Illinois lynching, the lynching solution of our problem of dealing with obnoxious enemy aliens would be seen to be not only disgraceful, but impossible.

"THIS OTHER SIDE."

Taking note of a "procession of depositors" in a small private bank which had failed who were urging upon the prosecuting attorney that none of the guilty officials be permitted to escape, the Chicago Herald perpetrates the following chunk of sound, common sense:

"In every case of violation of the law there is this other side, but the sentimentally disposed part of the public generally fails to recognize it. One man kills another, but it sees only the living man in the tolls of the law and not his victim. Its sympathy is moved by the family of the offender, brought to misery and disgrace by his act, but it overlooks the pitiable picture of the family of the dead man, deprived of his support, and the families of hundreds of others that are imperiled by practically licensing such crimes."

This maudlin sentimentality, to which the Herald refers, has found expression here and there in statutes forbidding the execution of the divine decree that whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed. Volumes of slush have been written in commendation of the wretch in the toils of the law while the blood of the innocent slain cried to heaven all in pleased, for aught this pseudo-humanity cared. It is only interested in saving the guilty. The state of Tennessee, which has never been over-rigorous in the punishment of crime, was unwise enough to remove, a few years ago, the death penalty upon those guilty of inflicting it upon the innocent.

After declaring that accused persons, in the bank case, are to be presumed innocent, the Herald further on remarks: "But the case carries its reminder that it is the business of justice as well as of reasonable human sympathy to look at considerably more than the embarrassments of the man who happens to be in trouble with the law." Which is even so. No normal human being finds pleasure in the misery of his fellow, but the appeal for sympathy by one who has strangled this tender feeling in his own heart should, at the very least, have careful investigation.

As exemplifying the extent to which sympathy and mercy can go in the interest of the unfortunate, it may be cited that there is at this time a man in Tennessee who is resting under a death sentence, which has been suspended from time to time, for a dark crime, at whose trial, if we remember aright, absolutely no defense was made, and yet who now claims that his conviction was a "frame-up." Justice should be tempered with mercy, but not obliterated by it.

WE'LL MAKE IT. Chattanooga and its territory will, it is confidently believed, subscribe its allotment to the liberty bonds in two days. The country districts so far reported have, on the first day, exceeded their total subscriptions to the last loan.

The likelihood is that this loan will be much over-subscribed. Our people are beginning to realize the war. In asking a citizen to loan money for the support of the government at this time no sacrifice is sought. The purchase of a liberty bond is giving nothing. If the government took the same attitude toward property it does toward the services of men it would take such capital as is needed. Instead, this matter of supporting the war with material means is left to the free will offering of its citizens. This gives us an opportunity to indicate our love of our country. Those who have those near and dear to them at the front wish that they shall be given all the implements and appurtenances necessary for their protection. How insignificant is the denial which any of us may have to make in order to buy these bonds compared with the service given by those who are in our country's service. Chattanooga last night indicated its interest in this matter. It will in the next two days relieve the committees of their work in collecting funds, we believe. The country is at one in the matter.

There's no defense for the spy, German or other sort, who seeks to stealthily injure this country, but it is a peculiar coincidence that, every time congress undertakes to legislate upon the subject, somebody slips in "enactments" to be visited on those who may may criticize their public servants. We are informed that the pending bill contains—or did contain—a provision penalizing criticism of federal or state officials. We are not sure whether the second classification was intended as a protection for constables and justices of the peace!

Some interest has been aroused as to what has become of ex-Senator Bailey, seeing that Morris Sheppard is running without opposition for reelection to the senate. Texas has gone dry, however, and ratified the national dry amendment. Not much is left for him to fight except suffrage, and that will probably go over the top in the senate before he could get there.

A few days ago it was recorded that the big seventy-five-mile German gun had killed a lot of women at church. But this was not the limit of German atrocity. Since then it has killed or maimed eight Paris chickens.

An exchange wonders what excuses have been given the German people for Von Hindenburg's failure to keep that dinner date in Paris. Perhaps they were told that he did keep it.

A prospective increase of 200,000,000 bushels in the wheat crop and of 26,000,000 in the rye crop over last year improves the bread outlook somewhat. This with a gain of 100,000,000 bushels in Great Britain and France ought to bring appreciable relief.

A LOFTY PERCH.

As confirming the old adage that we have to go away from home to get the news, we note the following paragraph from the Nashville Banner:

"A Chattanooga man contributed a 1616 city directory to the book collectors for Pershing's library over there. You can't beat that when it comes to real low-downness."

We had observed and perhaps remarked upon some such item as the above going the rounds of the press, but it remained for the lynx-eyed Banner to locate the miscreant in Chattanooga.

It must almost make one dizzy to be elevated to such a lofty height upon a pile of rocks as to be utterly unable to contemplate the "low-downness" of the flatwoods round about.

When we read among the "failures" chalked up to the administration by C. W. Gilbert that we have failed to keep our promise to furnish food and other materials to the allies, a vision of this valiant capital city correspondent, clad as the man with the hoe and going to the field on a diet of corn-bread and coffee to make up for the national delinquency flits across our view. It is with a feeling of shame and indignation that this patriotic scribe shoulders the responsibilities which his country has neglected.

Col. E. R. Strong, a Knoxville capitalist, left most of his wealth in the form of benefactions to public institutions, which his relatives seem to regard as prima facie evidence that he was crazy.

There are some Americans who just naturally won't be satisfied until that new 105-mile gun of Secretary Daniels is dropping shells in the streets of Berlin.

You have to admit the versatility of the Hun. While "me und Gott" stretch forth the sword in the right hand, the olive branch is kept waving in the left.

President Wilson declares it unnecessary to "wake up" the American people—that they are already awake. They certainly are, whether they are manifesting any hysterics or not.

The Chicago Herald objects to being singled out and punished for treason because it laughed at the city school board, pleading in extenuation that everybody's doing it.

"Exaggeration of our activities, accomplished or contemplated," is to come under the ban of censorship. In this event, what is a poor scribe to do for something to fill 'er up with?

We are inclined to agree with the observation of the Louisville Post that an editor may fill an office with dignity and efficiency—especially the former—but he won't be much of an editor meantime.

Lieut. Morelock, whose letter was printed in The News yesterday, intimates that American soldiers in France are not worrying about the Hun, their chief anxiety being about how the folks at home are getting along.

Even Egypt is willing to help curb the Kaiser.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE



THE JARR FAMILY

By Roy L. McCardell

(Copyright, 1918, by the Press Publishing Co., The New York Evening World.) "Mamma, they're going to have Children's Day every morning!" cried Master Willie. "Have you got any hair restorer, maw?" "Just listen to the boy!" cried Mrs. Jarr. "Hair restorer? What would I be doing with hair restorer?" "Tony, the barber, won't give us any except for 10 cents, and he says Gussie will have to come every day for weeks, and if we had 10 cents every day for weeks we wouldn't need the hair restorer for Gussie Bepler!" wailed Master Jarr. "What are you worrying your mother about, young man?" asked Mr. Jarr in his best parental tone. "Why should you wish young Bepler to have his hair restored? His father is a butcher; let the lad use suet."

A CASE OF "NERVES."

(New York Evening Post.) It is not strange that people in this country have for the past few weeks felt themselves under a severe nervous strain. Events on European battlefields have been of a sort to try the mental stuff that is in us. The stoutest could not escape tense anxiety, or fail to have moments of depression. Nor has ground for disquietude been lacking at home. The immense and improvised war machinery of the government has not been functioning as smoothly as we had hoped. Shrill and almost despairing voices have been raised in congress. Newspapers have given expression to both present fears and horrible imaginings. In almost countless ways, in fact, Americans have been under a kind of drum-fire of criticism and complaint, charges and replies, imputations, suspicions, apprehensions. It has been a test of their nerves—meaning thereby the trial of their faith, their sanity, their courage, their tenacity, which is what Hindenburg would have said, he said that the war was ultimately to be won by "nerves."

Under the heavy tension, two opposite tendencies have been visible. Neither of them is absolutely spontaneous. There is no "defeatist" campaign in this country. Those who speak most bitterly of the shortcomings of the administration do not admit for an instant that there is any thing necessary in order to win the ultimate outcome. But two rival schools of thought—two philosophies of the war—have been seeking a hearing from the people. One is the school of what are called the "Forgodakkers." Their cry is, Tell us the truth. Cover up no weakness. Let the worst be known. Don't coddle us with smooth prophesying. Leave off silly bragging, and then, by heaven, I tell you that this puissant and invincible nation will crush the haughty German empire into the dust. Opposed to these gentlemen who clamor for bad news are some who go to the other extreme. They are official optimists. Their message is going well, and it is not, all you have to do is to tell us what it is necessary to do to win the war and the thing is as good as done. As it was said in the senate yesterday, certain public men are ready to make race and tatters of the constitution, ready to suppress the freedom of the press and every individual liberty, ready to burn New York to the ground, if it can be argued that such things are necessary in order to win the war. This is a state of mind, a proof of nervous upset, about as unfortunate as the hysterical symptoms of the "Forgodakkers."

Try This Use Grandma's Powdered Soap on the finest silk or the daintiest nitre. It will not harm either. Saves soap, too, because it's powder. No waste. 5c and Larger Packages GRANDMA'S Borax Powdered Soap Ask Your Grocer For It!

AMONG THE BRETHERN.

Queries the Murfreesboro News-Banner: "Wisconsin is not such a bad state after all. But then, who ever thought of her being anything but loyal to the government and democracy?"

Listen while the Nashville Banner calls the roll of its great departed. "Our lost and almost forgotten list includes Grand Duke Nicholas, Kerensky, Dudley Field Malone and Charles Edward Russell."

In discussing the approaching "sheep" convention, the ever-optimistic Columbia Herald declares: "Whenever the farmers of the Middle Tennessee determine to raise sheep on a large scale it will be goodbye to the worthless cur."

Remarks, the Greenville Democrat: "New is the time to plant your war garden. The need this year is more important than last. There are fewer workers than ever before. Raise enough to feed your own family and a soldier."

According to the following, the editor of the Memphis News-Scimitar is not running for anything. "We hear very little about democracy or republicanism these days. Party seems to be forgotten, and every one has turned American."

"Our word for it, that this bond issue is to be the easiest thing yet. You can lay your last dollar on the patriotism and honor of the American farmer and citizen and the confident way in which the Union City Commercial expresses itself.

This extra hour of daylight ought to give Secretary McAdoo a chance to take on another line of work; he has only about four sets full now," remarks the Memphis Commercial Appeal which doesn't want even cabinet officers to be slacking on the job.

It was just like the grim old soldier who writes editorials for the Knoxville Journal-Tribune to declare: "We don't know just how to pronounce his name; but we will all stand by Gen. Foch as long as there is standing room."

Republicans are not always satisfied with the fairness of their own party, according to the following paragraph from the Newport Plain Talk: "Rankin have stated they will be candidates in the August election, alleging fraud in the December primary."

Some folks may be uneasy about something to eat, but not so the Rockwood Times which allows that "the average American will not suffer for 'cass' at least for a while. Why not trust the German assurance that the allies can go to the dickens with the balance of the products of this country?"

The following from the Jackson Sun indicates that the Switzer is wise to that scraps of paper theory: "The Swiss government has bought \$50,000 gas masks. This means that it does not trust the German assurance that its neutrality will be respected, not if Germany figures it will pay to violate it."

The Sparta Expositor tapers its services in the war which humanity is fighting: "To our government, we say, Here is the Expositor, use its columns, spread the printing of our country's successes or adversities; let the people know what is wanted and what is expected of them. If its columns can humbly contribute a mite to winning this war, it shall be most highly honored."

The following suggestion is thrown out by the Bristol Herald-Courier: "The government should offer a \$500 reward for the arrest and conviction of each member of a mob that recently lynched a negro in that state. If such reward does not get them, it should be a new means of collecting. There are worth thousands of dollars a head to any law-abiding state."

In the following paragraph, the Morristown Gazette suggests that, after the war is over, we may still find something to worry about: "Peace must come some time, as all sensible people and governments know and which it does our government must prepare to take care of a large national debt of at least ten billions, probably more. Taxes are going to assure this new importance in ultimately eliminating this vast amount."

The sage of the Pulaski Citizen thinks it would be well to heed the advice of the fuel administrator and buy coal if you can get it. He says: "The mines usually slow down during April and May because there is not much demand for coal at this time. And this is our chance. Buy coal now for next winter, and take what you can get. You can only get Kentucky and Tennessee coal, but that beats none when the mercury makes a dive for zero."

TODAY INVEST IN A LIBERTY BOND YOUR Government must have money. It prefers to borrow it at a fair rate of interest, but if you will not lend it, you can be forced to GIVE it by taxation. THE PROVIDENT LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE CO. Your Home Company.