

CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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An item states that six steel and two wooden ships—62,300 tons—were launched from our shipyards last week.

Sixteen of the Collinsville, Ill., patriots are indicted for murder. We are awaiting returns from Lexington, Tenn.

Mr. Townley, of the nonpartisan league, probably takes Senator Sherman more seriously than the latter does himself.

If Carson fights England over home rule and Dillon fights an account of conscription, will they form a community of interest?

Perhaps those who pay income tax would rather buy liberty bonds than have their rate of tax doubled. It may yet come to this.

The Huns continue to insist that the damage done at Zebrugge was not serious. They are really suspected of protesting too much.

It assuredly ought not to be necessary to bring men home from the front to speak for the liberty loan. And we do not believe it is.

What more could be asked of a German-American family than the adoption of seven French war orphans—as was done at Knoxville?

Wool growers of the country have agreed to turn over their entire product to the government. What are the dog owners doing in the emergency?

It is comforting to the "profess" to be assured once in a while that the newspapers are of "right smart" help to the country in prosecuting the war.

The little "country" counties of Tennessee are still going over the top in the liberty loan campaign. There are no specks on American country folks.

Gen. Williams, who has been "over there," is to become head of the ordnance bureau. He probably has some first-hand ideas of big, long-range runs.

The boches at Zebrugge seemed to think the Americans were upon them. And it was just such an escapade as you might expect Americans to engage in.

Imagine the consternation of that German gunner who fired a 17-inch shell through a British cruiser and saw it go scurrying away as if nothing had happened.

We do not know whether Greece has yet connected up with that \$44,000,000 loan. Signs of quickening, however, which it ought to produce have not appeared.

The lower house of congress has not yet found time to seriously consider the water power bills. It may first undertake to provide for another month in the calendar.

Charles M. Schwab recently declared that an era of the workman's rule is impending. Wonder if he considers his present job as a sort of advance outpost.

Kansas is said to have an auto for every ten inhabitants—practically one for every other family. Still Gov. Capper is trying to find issues upon which to run for the senate.

It is pardonable that congress should be interested in the progress of the war. Every American citizen is. But trying to overdo things may not appreciably hasten matters.

The fact that more than 2,500 democrats voted in Wednesday's primary indicates that, however absorbing the war situation, the people retain interest in their domestic affairs.

It has been predicted that church organizations which teach polygamy will find Germany a fine mission field after the war. Replenishing the population may possibly become a fad fostered by the government.

The Louisville Post has fallen in line with the president and thinks firing squads might be dispensed with in favor of the courts. It furthermore declares that nobody ought to be executed until convicted of something.

Congress wants more manpower in France. But has it the necessary transportation facilities at hand? If there were 10,000,000 trained men available, could they be sent to the front any faster?

INTEREST AT KEMMEL.

Yesterday the interest was centered on Amiens, where the British, after losing Villers-Bretonneux, in the forks of the Avere and Somme, won it back by brilliant counter-attack. The French and Americans were shoved back, slightly to the south of Hangard, but that hardly counted in view of the success for the allied forces further to the left, including the capture of 600 prisoners.

Perhaps, in this war, there is no better criterion of success in an engagement than the taking of men. With it, nearly always goes the occupation of terrain, and other losses in killed and wounded in proportion.

But today the curtain raises on a scene not so much to our liking. The Germans have been maintaining desperate assaults in two remote positions on the field. While they struck again for Amiens, they are also endeavoring with renewed viciousness to break through the hill barriers which keep them from the plains close to Dunkirk. They have won a lodgment this morning on Mount Kemmel. Over a front from Baillieu, to Hollebeke, a distance of about ten miles, in the hills of Flanders, they are attacking in large force. No doubt the Austrians were reported a few days ago as passing through Belgium are in the fray. North of Kemmel for a space of about two miles the range of hills continues. It extends in a general direction eastwardly and westwardly between Paschendale and Cassel. The enemy has taken the positions on the Measines ridge. They must surmount Kemmel, however, and northwestwardly of that eminence, Mont Rouge, Mont Nair and other hills. The average height of these peaks is about 400 feet above the sea. Should the invader get through here and occupy Poperinghe he would make Ypres and all the line nearly to the sea untenable. He would be almost before Dunkirk, and with no bad ground to cover. His only physical obstruction would be the mud, which no doubt still lingers in Flanders.

Dunkirk once taken, then Calais would be in serious danger. But they have not passed, and they will not pass. They have been stopped before Amiens, another point whose capture would seriously injure the allies. American blood is today incarnadining the soil of France. We can imagine the spirits of La Fayette and Rochambeau looking down on the scene. We do not know how many of our troops are available at the front. It has been said in the senate that there are at least 250,000. They are gathering more rapidly than any force ever gathered before, which had to be transported such distances over the seas.

It was reported that the Kaiser in the beginning of the war referred to the British army as "contemptible." The first hundred thousand proudly accepted the title, the "old contemptibles," and at Mons, Charleroi and Ypres they made that word have a different meaning. The enemy no longer denies that he has a foe worthy of his steel, and so already the Americans have proved themselves in every clash.

MAY SAY THE WORD.

Let the imperial government understand the purpose of the United States to use all its resources and waste no time in mobilizing them to end the war, and Germany may decide some day to throw her hands up and cry, "Kamerad!" before her armies are actually whipped in the field.—New York Times.

Unless the Germans are impressed with our intention of fighting the war to a successful conclusion they are going to hold on indefinitely. When they are willing to talk sense they will not find the rest of the world unwilling to slouch the bloodshed.

It is said that the pope deprecates the changed attitude of Berlin on peace terms. It seems that the Germans are now determined to consider the famous reichstag peace resolution of July 19 as nonexistent, insisting on annexations in France, Belgium and Poland, besides the imposition of a large war indemnity. Vatican circles, according to a dispatch from Rome, consider such ideas as only leading to a prolongation of the conflict, and embitterment which will make it difficult to cease fighting, and will promote hatred in the world afterward.

Is this war to be like the Thirty Years' war of 1618-48, which reduced the population of Germany from 15,000,000 to 5,000,000?

A friend in the city tells us that several years ago he emigrated from Ohio, purchased a farm in a James county and went into the sheep business. The dogs put him out of it. Naturally, his sympathies are not now with the dogs.

Von Hertling doesn't like for the newspapers to tell of the gay life of German peace commissioners at Bucharest. It is strange, however, that a libel suit instead of suppression has been resorted to.

It has been surmised that since Secretary Baker has smelled powder on the firing line—both in France and in the senate—his fighting spirit will probably not require further stimulation.

MISS MARTIN'S DEMOCRACY.

The country, at the present, has two women candidates for United States senator. One of these has already been extensively advertised. Less has been heard of the other, who is Miss Anne Martin, of Nevada. But, apparently, she has a personality no less interesting than the better known Miss Jeannette Rankin. She is also something of a prophetess of the changing social order.

Miss Martin doesn't attach much importance to old political organizations or formulas. She is, in fact, according to William L. Cheney, running as an independent candidate on a platform of her own construction. She expresses sympathy for and interest in the program of the British labor party. Her platform is more economic than partisan. Instead of a meaningless political dogma, she would make democracy a living principle in industry as well as in government. She bases her appeal for election on a plea of fundamental human justice.

In her desire to break away from old political tenets, Miss Martin does not find herself lonesome. Quite a large number of other persons have already perceived the inevitable trend. James Hamilton Lewis, the rather fantastic senator from Illinois, in several times prophesied the obliteration of parties as they were formerly known. Col. Henry Watterson, the venerable and versatile editor, declares that present-day parties are becoming obsolete because their names have lost their meaning, but thinks substantially the same lines of political demarcation will remain. If objection be raised, to this testimony, however, it may be pointed out that the president has himself predicted a more radical breaking up of the existing order than any of these.

The president is apparently convinced that political slogans of the future will involve something more vital to the masses than the spoils of office. The manifest needs of society will have first consideration. Mr. Cheney notes that while formerly there was an antagonism between the group for whom Miss Martin speaks and the president, developments have largely operated to remove this. Miss Martin is quoted in a recent declaration as saying:

"I accept the leadership of President Wilson in the war because he is the chosen leader of our country; but the world has accepted his leadership because he, more than any other man, has been able to see through the war to this perfected democracy which lies behind it. Even while he labors to win the war he is striving also, as his letter to the men of his party in New Jersey proves, to gather the forces for the industrial democracy which must come with peace."

Mr. Cheney thinks the discrimination which Miss Martin perceives is vital. He recognizes, as she does, that the present world conflict is a warfare against war and in the interest of democracy and peace. Miss Martin has also been somewhat radical in her ideas of the part which women ought to have in the actual handling of the government. The importance of the housing problem as a factor in our shipbuilding program is cited as one which a woman or the shipping board would have recognized at once. Further on, Mr. Cheney declares:

"She wants the public lands to be developed in the interest of a farming class rather than in behalf of large speculators. This couples up to the need for greater food production. She wants the national government to develop dry lands and to drain river bottoms. She wants more government loans to farmers. She hopes to see measures taken to check the growth of the tenant class. On many of these questions she has as allies men such as Franklin K. Lane, Gifford Pinchot, Louis Post and others of the liberal class of the country—not to mention the president, the greatest of them all."

The fight which this woman is making is termed one against economic and industrial privilege, and her success will be considered a triumph of democracy for men and women. The aspirations of the two American women above-named is invested with an interest much beyond that which the mere fact of their sex would arouse. In a certain sense, they may be regarded as evangelists of the new order.

FOR EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

The democratic executive committee of Dade county, one of the southern counties of Florida, has unanimously declared for the enfranchisement of women. This calls to mind once again the uphill fight which suffrage is having to make in the south, the reputed home of democracy and equal rights. Men of the south have permitted themselves, in large measure, to absorb restricted and bourgeois views of these popular slogans. Apparently, they fear that their wives and sisters will wreck the country if given a voice in our affairs. Subterfuge is often adopted to prevent even a popular expression on the issue. It is therefore a matter for congratulation when the party organization, as in the instance of Dade county, speaks out for progress and democracy.

The most signal advance scored by suffrage in the south, however, is recorded in Texas, the democratic banner state, which has just authorized its women to vote in primaries. This, of course, is merely preliminary to complete suffrage. Primary nominations are equivalent to election in Texas, and full suffrage will at once become an issue in every legislative primary. It is only a question, therefore, of a very short time when Texas will take her place alongside of other progressive western states.

And the south will follow Texas' lead. It will be difficult to reconcile a war for democracy abroad with a partial refusal of the privilege at home. The old prejudice will, we predict, be swept away. While professing democracy, we ought also to exemplify it.

THE SOUTH'S RESOURCES.

Crop diversification and the consequent development of all resources are keeping step with the spread of universal democracy. The war situation has aroused us to a realization of the richness and versatility of our soil and climatic wealth heretofore undreamed of. Listen to this from a Denver newspaper:

"Necessity is the mother of Burbanckism. We are informed by the agronomist of the state agricultural college that there is no reason why Colorado should fail to grow its own peanut supply with a considerable quantity for shipment elsewhere. War has beaten down many prejudices, including the one that the democratic goober belongs wholly to the south. The small peanut—small but tasty—can be grown to advantage as far north as Colorado. Our annual bill for this dainty run—high."

Government agents and others have long urged upon the south the importance of producing her own food supplies. Whatever her inclinations might have been, however, she will soon have little choice in the matter. Economic developments are forcing her to accept the proffered advice. The policy will have to be adopted in self-defense. Colorado purposes to grow her own peanuts, depriving Georgia of a market, the proceeds of which helped to purchase the needed supplies of wheat, corn and meat. The next move may be one to take away the watermelon crown of our neighbor to the south.

There's nothing to it but that the south must produce her own hog and hominy, while at the same time, growing the cotton to clothe the world. Much has been given to the south and much will be expected of her. She has the facilities for producing grain and livestock, greater than those of the middle west and northwest, and for many other things which other sections cannot produce. Other portions of the country, however, will not look to the south for anything if they can help it. They will develop their own resources so far as possible. The south must do the same thing.

WE ARE COMING.

An increase of 20 per cent. in merchant shipping in the month of March is noted in the Marine Record. This gives us 2,762,605 tons in trans-Atlantic service. With 132 shipyards as busy as they can be we shall soon astonish the world by our increase in shipping.

There are now 390 big, fast steamships in trans-Atlantic service, flying the American flag, whereas before the war our flag was a stranger on the high seas.

At the end of this war our ships will be seen in every port. We will have regained the position which our country held in the early days of the last century. The carrying trade of the world will be to a considerable extent in American bottoms, and our commerce will be stimulated to an enormous extent thereby.

If the morning paper has any charge to make against the Hon. George W. Charles, based on any utterance he has made, it would seem rather late in the day about it. The public knows nothing that Mr. Charles has said which would deter any good citizen from supporting him. If the morning paper knows of any such remarks why did it not bring them out before the primary? It is rather late in the day to be making intimations about a democratic candidate who has gone before the members of his party and has won his nomination in a manner conceded by all to be absolutely fair.

"Who is to determine just how far a critic of the president and the administration or the propaganda may go and not be guilty of seditious utterances?" asks the Memphis Commercial Appeal. The other fellow would not get very far if each of us were allowed to set limits for his neighbor.

Remarks the Denver News: "We do not want 'efficiency' as it is construed by the German hero-worshiper now or after the war." Then upon what hypothesis does the News continue to insist upon the colonel's brand of militarism?

President Wilson Favors the Concrete Ship Experiment. (Marine Record.) President Wilson has approved the shipping board's suggestion for an appropriation of \$30,000,000 to experiment with concrete ships. Chairman Hurley conferred on the bill with Chairman Sherry of the house appropriation committee and pressed its passage. It is planned to make \$15,000,000 available in the next year.

The president is keenly interested in the new type of construction. He has talked several times with Mr. Hurley and Senator McCumber, who is urging the appropriation in the senate.

Experts regard concrete ships as essentially "covered bridges," capable of standing all the strain and the stresses which concrete bridges have undergone without damage. Shock is the big undetermined factor and they believe that the resistance of concrete ships to shock can be determined only by actual experiment.

Prussian Stupidity in Russia. (San Francisco Bulletin.) What is happening in Russia may be guessed at from the report printed that the Prussians have punished a peasant following upon a demand for money by burning a village and turning machine guns against men, women and children, in one instance murdering a whole family because it was believed that one member had fired upon their troops. The picture is as suggestive of the utter stupidity of the Prussian methods as it is of their sickening brutality. If Prussia were wise she would treat the inhabitants of the provinces she has been looting with at least a show of solicitude, and try to make them believe that German government was at the worst an improvement over that of the czar.

From the Prussian point of view something may be said for frightfulness toward small and weak nationalities, like the Belgians or the Serbians, but toward the Russians, a before many years will number 200,000,000 people, it is desperate folly. Russia cannot be

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

By Condo



THE JARR FAMILY

By Roy L. McCardell

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"I think I'll be a yeoman," remarked Clara Mudridge-Smith. "I wanted to drive an ambulance in the army, but I thought they wouldn't let me take my chauffeur along to change the tires, so I think I'll be a yeoman in the army." "I have a lot of young girls are yeomen, and if you are a yeoman you can wear one of those cute little caucan Brown belts, and you know how cute they are!"

"I know how smart they are, all right," remarked Mrs. Jarr. "But, unless you have some more earnest thing to serve your country on the clothesline, so to speak, I'm sure you won't be taken, Clara," remarked Mrs. Jarr, calmly.

"Well, I'll go as a war correspondent," remarked the other. "I wanted to go as a nurse, you know, for the nurse's uniform is also very becoming to my style of beauty. In fact, it is becoming to any woman's style of beauty. And when my old husband is ill I get 'house nerves' staying with him so much, although I never engage any trained nurse to take care of him unless she is a woman of at least fifty years. Anyway, that's the only kind of trained nurse you can get these days—the young ones are all with the army."

"Why didn't you take up nursing, then, if the nurse's costume is so becoming to you?" asked Mrs. Jarr. "Was it because they wouldn't let you wear your Sam Brown belt with it?" "No, it was because I found out I had to study day and night, and also do very unpleasant kinds of work for at least six months, if not a year. It is all right to be a nurse in a novel where the hero has brain fever and you bathe his burning brow and he comes to consciousness and says, 'Clara, so it is you, my darling, who has nursed me back to life—and to hope!' And I say, 'Hush, my beloved

conquered or garrisoned or depopulated or successfully split up by the Germans; in the course of time it will develop into an orange. This outcome can be prevented only if Russia is dissuaded from developing her military power, and she can be dissuaded only if she ceases to have cause to fear of late Germany. For every drop of blood now shed by German hands in Russia she will be able to exact torrents of German blood in years to come; for every Russian village now wantonly burned German provinces may be ravaged in years to come. This is not a pretty prospect; it indicates the collapse of European civilization; yet it is toward the brink of such a Niagara that Germany is rushing. If she does not save herself by moderation she will be saved only by such a victory of the allies as will deprive her, and all other nations, of the power to commit outrages against their peaceable neighbors.

Harbingers of Better Times in Russia. (Washington Post.) The situation in Russia, while contradictory in many respects and discouraging to those who take a superficial view, presents several aspects which cannot be regarded as harbingers of better times. The bolsheviks through the immense stores of supplies the former empire are awakening to the fact that Germany is a common enemy. Unfortunately the bolsheviks of the far east also regard England and America as enemies, but these misguided individuals are not in control of affairs. The Siberians have organized a provisional government which gives some promise of becoming able to administer local affairs and to put down the bolshevik-German intrigues that seek to embroil Russia with Japan and the other allies, and also to turn over to the bolsheviks the immense stores of supplies at Vladivostok. The allies are wide awake to the dangers in that quarter and have the means to cope with them.

Finland is rapidly passing under the yoke of Hohenzollern, but the Russians are trying to delay the process, if not prevent it, by offering strong opposition to the Murman coast, where railroad service to Russia is one of the few outlets left. So far as operations can be guarded by sea power the British fleet may be expected to assist the Russians, but further inland the Germans are having their own way. They have taken Helsinki, Viborg and Abo, and are fastening their grip upon all the approaches to the Gulf of Finland.

The financial situation in Russia is desperate. The expenditures for the current half year will be 40,000,000,000 rubles, while the income will not exceed 20,000,000,000, according to the report of the minister of finance. No loan is possible, at least from the outside, as the bolshevik "government" strangled the credit of Russia at one twist when it repudiated the foreign debt. No capitalist in the world dares lend money to the irresponsible and erratic organization that calls itself the government of Russia. As for home loans, the prospect is little better. The people are bankrupt in most cases, and those who have wealth are afraid to confess the fact.

Hard upon financial chaos comes the specter of famine. The railroads are badly disorganized, while the acreage of crops has been greatly curtailed. In one or two provinces there will be a surplus of grain, but the question of transportation to needy sections presents insuperable obstacles. The population faces terrible privations during the next two months.

Yet, with all these horrors, the people of Russia desire freedom, and there can be no doubt of their willingness to fight rather than be deprived of self-government. They are blaming the Germans for their troubles. In many localities there is armed resistance to German authority or German attempts to send food out of the country.

The United States has maintained its unwavering attitude of friendship for and confidence in the Russian people. If it should be necessary for the allies

to lay a restraining hand upon the wildest of the bolshevik elements in Vladivostok or elsewhere, the Russian people will understand that the United States is not seeking to injure them. Russia's emergence from all her trials is dependent largely upon the United States, and as the months pass it will become more and more evident that the American republic is in true sympathy with the great nation that is going through the pangs that precede the establishment of liberty and law. Germany will try to occupy Russia under the pretext of bringing order out of chaos. The enemy will offer to rescue Russia from financial anarchy. It is the duty of the allied governments immediately to thwart these attempts by devising plans for the rehabilitation of Russia and making such proffers as will enable the Russian people to stand independent of Germany. Suitable guarantees would have to be forthcoming, of course, but as the feeling against Germany rises and the vapors of bolshevism fade away the good sense and organizing ability of the better element in Russia may take control of affairs. The natural riches of Russia and the productiveness of the people are more than sufficient to pay off with ease any moderate debt. The creation of a provisional government in Russia, shorn of the worst features of bolshevism, ought to be aided by the allies, and such a government when established should be assisted financially.

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