

CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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Apparently, nearly all candidates are the people's candidates this year.

What is productive and what is non-productive work is now the question.

Now you see it and now you don't—the solution of the Irish problem, we mean.

Germans are using airships to get out of Berlin "because of conditions there."

They are still counting the votes cast in last Monday's democratic primary in Minnesota.

It is a pretty safe bet that when boches enter the American lines, they don't go back.

It was once said that all roads lead to Rome. But Austrians are not finding traveling good.

Greece has been given another loan. Now, will Greece please resume activities on the firing line?

Under its recent annexation by Germany, Austria is apparently not faring much better than Belgium.

The Johnson City staff considers the pro-German comparatively harmless as compared with the pro-fool.

For some reason or other, Secretary Baker has been allowed to rest several days hand-going lately by his critics.

Threshing new wheat is in progress and Mr. Hoover now thinks he can spare time for a vacation in England.

The better sentiment never required any formal declaration to be at war with Turkey, and doesn't require it yet.

Some folks still appear to be uncertain as to whether Mr. Hoover's beef restrictions apply the same way to soup bones.

The allies are planning to make air flights across the Atlantic. That is ever so much nicer than scurrying across in the ocean's depths.

American soldiers are already fighting on German soil—at least Germany claims it—and their faces are turned in the direction of Berlin.

So far as observed, Nicholas Romanoff has manifested little interest in the movement to restore him to the throne. But the colonel is much more appreciative.

Brown Davis, editor of the Smithville Review, is a candidate for the legislature. And, generally speaking, an editor knows how the country ought to be run.

Chicago seems to manifest no curiosity as to whether Jeremiah O'Leary is related to the Mrs. O'Leary, whose cow started a little blaze in that city nearly half a century ago.

A hungry man may be an angry man all right, but he can't fight much unless he has something to eat. Austria's food supplies are said to be approaching the vanishing point.

It seems difficult to work up much excitement over complications which the various leagues and councils formed to take care of the country before war was declared, get themselves into.

In June, 1915, the wheat yield for that season was estimated at 250,000,000 bushels. The harvest showed a yield of 1,025,809,000 bushels, exceeding the June estimate by 75,809,000 bushels. The June estimate of this year places the probable wheat yield at 931,000,000 bushels, an increase over last year of 280,000,000 bushels. The increase is more than half enough to furnish bread to the American people. But this may not be all. In 1915 the crop was 75,809,000 greater than the June estimate. If the crop this year should prove only 69,000,000 bushels greater than the June estimate, it would go over the top with a billion-bushel yield. The season has been unusually favorable and it is not unreasonable to expect the increase mentioned. The oat crop is estimated at 1,500,000,000 bushels, slightly less than last year. The rye crop is substantially the same. While barley is better than in 1917. There is no more heartening circumstance in the present situation than the big production of American food crops. The season has been remarkably favorable for corn, and cotton is said to be promising. Good crops will go a long way toward the amelioration of the distress of the war situation.

ITALY SHOWS THE WAY.

Italians possess an advantage on their front very similar to that which the Germans have enjoyed in France. The shorter lines of communication are theirs. It may be possible, therefore, for Gen. Diaz to turn the recent Austrian offensive into a disaster for the attacking forces of a character which will have an important influence in ending the war. Certainly the Italians have shown that the strongest of these movements of aggression may be met promptly and their effects nullified by a counter aggressive, perhaps more than overcoming the advantages gained by the enemy in his initiative.

Austria's discomfiture on the line of battle, together with the internal political conditions in that country, are indicative of a situation in the dual monarchy much like that in Russia just previous to the overthrow of the monarchy. Some important developments may be just ahead.

It is very difficult for us to realize what are the conditions in Europe. These countries have gone through four years of war. We have had only a little over a year of it. Austria-Hungary was never strong. The young emperor's letter to Count Sixtus indicated how desperately he desired peace a year ago. Since then Russia has dropped out, but that has improved matters in his domain only temporarily. His people are clamoring for bread. The rumor is circulated today that he has been assassinated. It may be only a report. The war began through the murder of an Austrian prince. Is it to be that it will be brought to a close partly through the shedding of the blood of the man who was elevated to the throne through the assassin's shot at Sarajevo?

RIGHT OF CRITICISM.

The New York Tribune performs a public service in calling attention to the fact that Judge Killits, who punished a newspaper and its editor for calling him "Doc Killits," and whose decree was upheld by the supreme court of the United States is the same Judge Killits that was cited before this same supreme court for undertaking to disregard and nullify one of its orders. The theory upon which Judge Killits "disciplined" the Toledo paper for contempt—not committed in his presence—was that its flippant criticism of him from time to time, obstructed the administration of justice, though he did not institute proceedings until long after the litigation which was the occasion for the criticism had passed out of his court. Summary proceedings under the circumstances seem to be a considerable stretch of the old theory of contempt.

These be strange times. The war has upset our methods of thinking not less than our social and business conditions. Men are actually wondering whether the constitution, our supposed chart of liberty, means what it says. The courts seem to be in the same dilemma, with a leaning to the theory that it may do very well when there's nothing much doing, but that its guarantees have an altogether different significance in time of war. Free press, free speech and free assembly are pretty themes of academic discussion, but they are not to be tolerated at times when they are most needed to help the people to an understanding! Popular and newspaper criticism may be justified in time of peace, but public servants become infallible when war breaks! Judge Killits even got busy before the war began.

We presume it is natural that newspaper men should resent restrictions upon their liberty, a guarantee of which is written in the constitution, but we do not believe that this attitude results from any pride of calling. They believe that freedom of the press is inherent in a free government. They believe that evils growing out of this freedom largely neutralize themselves—that with truth unhampered to combat error, the people get at the facts and the merits of the situation. But truth must work itself out. No man, not even a judge, knows all truth. A censor, who undertakes to indicate what the newspapers may or may not discuss, has a job that is too large for him. A democracy necessarily contemplates a free press and free discussion.

By a free press, we do not mean an irresponsible press. The newspaper should obey the law the same as others, but it should never be put in leading strings. It should be punished for wrongdoing, but should not have its rights taken away.

COMMUNAL KITCHENS.

If prices of food materials go much higher, public kitchens might be tried in larger communities. It is not well to practice customs of the enemy, but when they appear to be desirable there is no reason why we should hesitate to resort to such customs. At the Krupp metal works at Berndorf, Austria, 7,000 persons are fed daily. A midday meal costs from 30 to 50 cents, which at this time in Germany or Austria, is very cheap. It has not been found practicable to serve an evening meal. The government furnishes the meat supply. In Vienna, a purchasing department buys for the communal kitchens, for the banking and industrial undertakings, so far as they do not belong to the food union, for the state employs kitchens, and for such convents and educational establishments as have day boarders and for officers' messes. In lower Austria, it provides for all war kitchens of rural and town communes. No less than 120,000 to 150,000 have been provided for daily.

Of course, we are in no such straits for economy, but if communal kitchens could save our working classes of people considerable sums in their living expenses, why should they not be accorded such advantages?

NOT GERMAN AGENTS.

In prefacing an editorial discussion of alleged bolshevik activity in this country in opposition to armed intervention in Russia, the Nashville Banner declares:

"There can hardly be a rational doubt that the Russian bolshevik, the leaders, at least, are German agents, and they appear to be operating in this country."

This allegation in similar and various forms has gone the round of the newspapers for many months, but we have watched in vain for the citation of one single fact in its support. It is a favorite plan of campaign for jingo and irresponsible editorial writers, but the Banner's reputation for soberness gives us a right to expect a treatment of a vital problem. Assuredly the character of discussion now prevalent does not contribute to the solution of the difficult situation with which we are confronted.

The bolsheviks represent extreme socialistic ideas of government which are not popular in this country. We regard them as visionary and impractical. But no more evidence has been adduced that they are in the pay of Germany than that the socialists of France or England or this country, or any of the neutral countries, are hired by Germany. Socialists, even in Germany, have little in common with the autocracy which rules there and seeks to rule the world. Socialist ideas of meeting a situation may be different from ours, but we should accord them the same honesty which we profess.

Russia's predicament is a rather natural development of the overthrow of the czar. The masses of the people are illiterate and in large part isolated. Their industrial organization is in a primitive state. Hating the soviets, the autocracy had permitted the development of little in the way of a governmental framework which might take over authority in case of an overturn such as actually occurred. Great confusion was inevitable. Add to this the fact that the country was exhausted and war-worn, and the explanation becomes much easier. In this connection, it is apparent that the president has a much clearer understanding of Russian affairs than those who are continually trying to force his hand and embarrass his plans.

The country rallied readily to the support of Kerensky, who tried, unsuccessfully, to keep the Russian armies in the field. But in their essence, his views were not greatly different from the bolsheviks. He believed a peace by understanding was possible. And he taught the people so. He asked allied countries to join Russia in a comprehensive declaration of war aims, but this appeal brought no response. While urging Russians to stand firm, he continued to urge this course until the Germans were penetrating the country and the German fleet was proceeding up the Baltic. Then followed his overthrow by Lenin and Trotsky and the disastrous and humiliating treaty of Brest-Litovsk. But really there was little help for it.

Bolshevism is much more tolerable to us—as a government system for Russia than for this country. And it is in Russia where it is being tried out. From its success in preventing its own overthrow, we should judge that it has a good hold on the people. It would help to relieve our minds if we could consent to let Russia have any kind of government she wants, and, if we want to thwart any of the Kaiser's designs against that country, to remember that his minions are much more accessible in France than they would be on a flank movement of men and supplies around the world to his rear.

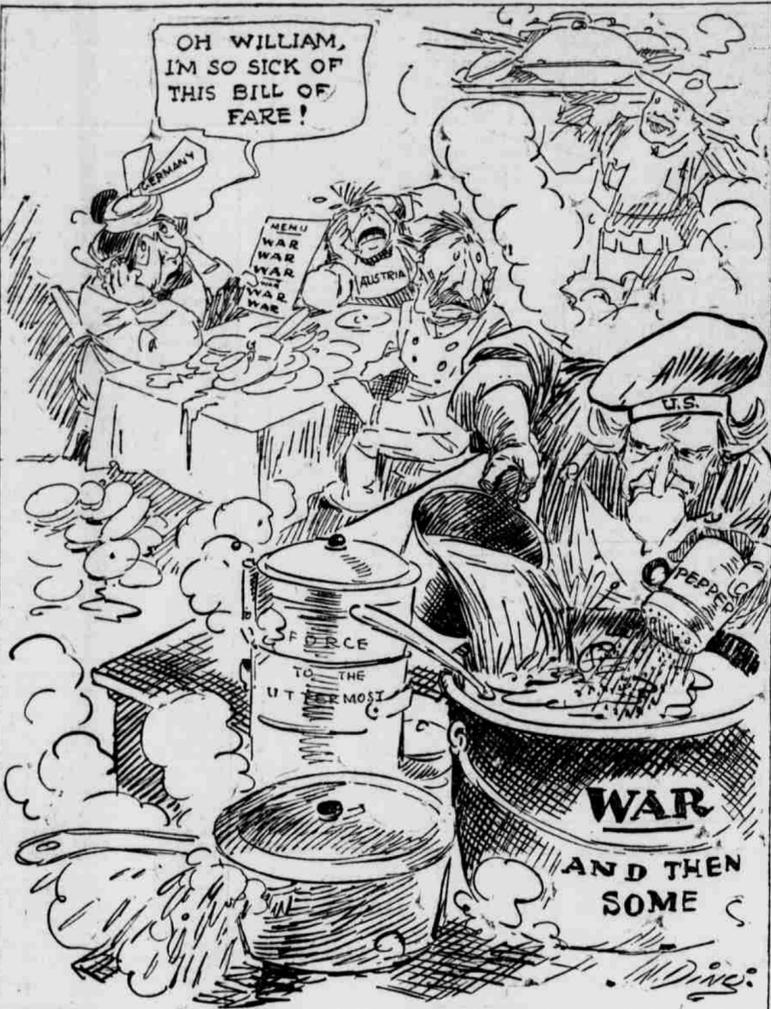
We do not believe this country, nor any of the allied countries, recognizes the binding validity of the Brest-Litovsk treaty. We believe all of them purpose to procure its revision. But they will have to whip the Kaiser in order to accomplish this. They may not bring about the desired changes by abandoning the major task. Neither may they make this task easier by undertaking to subdue the bolshevik at the same time. Nor by heaping abuse and misrepresentation upon their heads. When it is safe for her to do so, Russia will readily join with us in outlawing the Brest-Litovsk pact, which Germany has so shamefully disregarded.

THE TURNING POINT.

It is the most natural thing in the world that the people and press of France should want to know how much longer the Germans are to be permitted to keep the initiative. They have the utmost confidence in Gen. Foch, but they do not understand why the allied armies on all fronts should remain consistently on the defensive. Gen. Foch has recently intimated that some of these days the tables would be turned, but his people are hoping that the change of tactics will come soon. An occasional reassuring word from the leaders would have great effect in heartening the people for the supreme struggle. They will bear any sacrifice if they are persuaded that it is not in vain.

Trained military leaders know best. At least, they ought to be better judges of expediency than the unsoberly sophisticated. But the average layman is impressed with the fact that the armies of the central empires have fought where and when they preferred, almost from the beginning of the war. The Russians were somewhat aggressive in the early period of the war, and the English and French pushed back the enemy's lines considerably a year ago, but as a general proposition there has been lacking that power of initiative and that concert of action which seem necessary to bring victory. It was hoped that putting western allied armies under a unified command would cure some of the defects of separate action. It is yet believed that it will. But, as before remarked, it is natural

NOT NEARLY AS SICK AS THEY WILL BE BEFORE THEY GET THROUGH



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that the people desire some assurance.

American troops are now arriving in France in large numbers. Assuredly they are more than counter-balancing allied losses. In the face of this constantly and rapidly-growing reserve, and in consideration of what must be heavy losses of the Germans, it seems that assurances that the allies would soon resume the offensive ought to be forthcoming. Such a message would carry an encouraging thrill throughout the civilized world. It is well understood that such an advance will involve great sacrifices, but it is also known that victory will not come in any other way.

A similar argument was made in our industrial communities in the south against prohibition in the years before it was put into effect to what we now hear as to the ship-building yards. It was said that unless they could get their toddy or beer workmen wouldn't remain here. We have since learned that there was absolutely nothing in such claims. So will Chairman Hurley find as to the labor on ship-building plants. It is very much more likely that the difficulty he now experiences in keeping men is due to the numerous saloons which are preying on them.

Laconically remarks the Memphis Commercial Appeal: "It is a good idea to let the people pick their own senators." It certainly is, but still we don't know just what our contemporary has in mind.

When it becomes impossible for the Red Cross to procure adequate supplies of wool for war work, it will remind us once more of the necessity for increasing the sheep crop and decreasing the dog crop.

TO THE EDITOR

(Communications in this department represent the views of the writers. All matters of public interest may be discussed briefly.)

Thanks to The News.

The board of managers of the Florence Crittenton League of Mercy wishes to thank you for the courtesies extended it by your paper during the preparation of the "Baby Opera," recently given under its direction.

J. C. HALL, Corresponding Secretary, Chattanooga, Tenn., June 20.

KNOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE NOW FLOATS SERVICE FLAG

Knoxville, June 22.—Beside Old Glory on the second floor of the Knox county courthouse now hangs a service flag with twenty-three stars, one star for each member of the Knoxville bar in military service. It was dedicated at special patriotic exercises of the bar. Members in service, most of whom are well-known over the state, are: John Anderson Ayres, son of President Brown Ayres, of the university; Mitchell Long, George Caldwell Hager, James Monroe Meek, Wallace Mitchell McClure, Robert McCheyne McConnell, Robert Andrew McMillan, Harmon O'Neal Acuff, Irvin Sutherland Saxton, Charles LeRoy Householder, Len Gordon Broughton, Jr., William Joseph Cummings, Lawrence Davis Tyson, Henry Nathan McCamp, Jr., John Moore Kelly, Daniel James Kelly, Frank Gibson Reagan, Harry Owen Bales, Herbert Randolph Roberts, Neal Bradford Spahr, Joseph Curtis Thomason, Charles Winfrey and Alexander P. Water.

TODAY Editorial Notes by Arthur Brisbane

Lo you keep track of the fighting Italians? Rizzo, Italian sailor, was in command of a small motorboat with ten men and good-sized torpedoes. They saw a great cloud and knew it meant the coming out of the Austrian battle fleet—gigantic battleships, torpedoboots, swift destroyers. The battleships carried on their decks boats equal to the one commanded by Rizzo. Which way did he go?

He turned his boat toward that collection of battleships and destroyers. He shot through the destroyers' line, launched his torpedo, destroyed one of the greatest Austrian dreadnoughts—with his crew of 2,000 men—then back through the destroyers and escaped, stopping his pursuers with a depth charge, nicely calculated.

Rizzo, 30 years old, is a typical Italian and what he does is not "luck." Before the recent exploit he entered an Austrian harbor, cut eight steel wire cables to get in, sank one great battleship—the Wier—put another out of commission and came home. When you see any of the Italians that have done such splendid work hoping to build up this country, honor them.

They belong to the race that has been doing things, as Rizzo does them, for more than 2,000 years.

As Rizzo fights in his little boat, so Caesar fought on horseback without a saddle before the year ones, and Lucullus before him, and hundreds of thousands of wonderful Roman and Italian heroes before and since.

Great is the Italian race, and lucky we and the allies to include Italy in our number.

Here is a new story of mixed German efficiency and inefficiency. It is told by an officer representing Belgium in this country. Said he:

The German arranged for every thing except victory. After a period of desperate fighting at Liege, we picked up 43,000 dead Germans, each with two remarkable pairs of shoes, one on his feet, the other strapped to his back.

The shoes were of soft leather and the soles of aluminum. Our men who wore them found them wonderfully comfortable, making it possible to march without fatigue.

The picked troops with these shoes were trained to march fifty miles a day. They could have marched to Paris in two days—they hadn't been shot dead in Belgium.

Here may be a suggestion for American makers of army shoes and the aluminum men.

For the general public there is comfort in this thought: Forty-three thousand Hanoverians so nicely shod to walk into Paris walked into eternity instead—and the great power that was to reach Paris in two days has been marching four years without getting there—and will march many a year more in vain.

This is to be the greatest ship-owning country in the world. The nation owns 1,400 vessels now, will own 25,000,000 tons of shipping, and have five thousand millions invested in 1920—so says Hurley, President Wilson's shipbuilder from Chicago. Very good news!

to buy it and keep it, no matter what happens, buy it, and good luck to you.

But you buy stocks on margin at great risk, especially while this state of uncertainty lasts in Europe. There are possibilities—not probabilities, but possibilities—that might make experiments with stock gambling highly disastrous. If you take this warning, which you won't, you may be glad of it.

One American death Germany will regret bitterly for many a year. It is the death of an American business—the importation of coal tar products, aniline dye especially, from Germany to the United States.

When war began we were dependent absolutely upon Germany for dyes. Thanks to the war, this country in 1917 produced \$150,000,000 worth of coal tar products, exported \$11,000,000 worth—we had more than we needed.

That is one American importation business dead, never to come to life. It is one of many similar deaths that will be bitterly regretted—in Germany, not in the United States.

McAdoo says the country will need twenty-four thousand millions for war this year. The country now talks in thousands of millions.

Experts of Germany will observe that the McAdoo amount, which includes all the billions lent to the allies, is a sum that Germany could hardly raise in four years, with practical confiscation. And it is less than half of 1915's income in the United States.

The men from this country can fight, and have proved it. And this country can pay the bills for itself and others, and is proving it.

Experts in sending men at the rate of 300,000 a month, and money at the rate of \$500,000,000 a month to help the allies. The Kaiser said he wouldn't stand any nonsense from the United States. He is going to stand other things.

Somebody in England and France is wasting time—getting sailors, ship owners and others to promise not to deal with Germany or work with the Kaiser's subjects after the war is over. No man promise not to deal with a rattlesnake that has bitten him?

Two or three million men—perhaps five or six millions—will return here from France when the war is done. They will have influence enough and votes enough to take care of German trade, so far as this country is concerned. The new line will be:

Made in Germany, and stayed in Germany.

A hundred spiders in a glass live very nicely on each other, for awhile. Prussia will have a chance to try the spider experiment when the war is over.

STATE POLITICS

(By T. J. Campbell.)

That Tennessee is to have a contest for the position of United States senator, is beginning to be recognized even beyond the borders of the state. A few days ago, the Birmingham Ledger indulged the following comment:

"Tennessee always enjoys a good fight for the senate, and she has had some famous ones in other days. She is having another now. Governor Rye wants to go to the senate and Senator Shields has no idea of retiring in his favor. Hence the contest.

"Senator Shields comes of Irish blood, as his name implies. He has climbed to his high position by his own efforts and likes the political game as any Irishman does who has ever had a chance to reach a chancellery and then on the supreme bench, and then chief justice of Tennessee. He is closing his first term in the senate.

"Governor Rye won a great victory in his battle for the governorship, and is ambitious for a term in the senate. He has a large following of prohibitionists, and they have a majority in the senate. Hence the certainty of a stiff fight with enough to make it interesting. That is what Tennessee likes, and Alabama has always enjoyed Tennessee's political fights, for often she honors Alabama men. She now has an Alabamian for senator, and recently had one for governor."

Tennesseans are much obliged to Alabamians for their interest in the politics of this state. They will reserve the right to reciprocate when they feel like it. They are very close neighbors to Alabama.

A matter of interest in connection with Gov. Rye's candidacy is the fact that he has decided to begin his speaking campaign in Chattanooga on Monday. He is starting the fireworks in this end of the state may be construed as carrying the war into the enemy's country.

Publication of his speech in this city may be considered as the formal opening of Speaker Clyde Shropshire's campaign for the governorship in East Tennessee. It is probable that he will appear on the stump in this section later in the summer. Judge Roberts and Mr. Peay have apparently suspended activities temporarily, neither having spoken during the week.

In the four congressional districts where there are to be contests for nominations, some signs of activity are beginning to be observed. In the first district, Judge Dana Harmon is explaining to the people what an improvement he thinks he could make on the record of Mr. Sells, and in the second district, an advertising and literary campaign is in progress, the purpose of which is to warn voters of what a calamity it would be to lose the services of Congressman Austin. In the fifth district, Judge Ewin L. Davis recently declined to engage in a series of joint debates with his opponent, Mr. J. J. Beair, and the latter is making speeches alone. Judge Sidney J. Everett is also prosecuting a speaking campaign in the eighth district for the seat now and for a long time held by Congressman T. W. Sims. The latter has declined to start the contest for the purpose of meeting Judge Everett.

Interest in the selection of candidates for the legislature has not yet become very keen. In the opinion of this scribe, this is a matter of great importance and should receive much more attention than it ordinarily does receive. As frequently remarked in this column, there is altogether too little initiative manifested in these selections by citizens and taxpayers. It is not enough that choice be made among candidates offering their services, but the people should interest themselves in bringing out suitable men for the responsible duties to be performed. It is also exceedingly important that the public know how candidates for the legislature stand on the questions which are pending for solution in the state. The present problem is a perennial issue which will not be settled until it is settled right. What have candidates to say about taxes—present taxes, back taxes and the latter is making the situation toward retrenchment? Do they feel it possible to sensibly reduce the cost of government in Tennessee? All these things, the people to be represented have a right to know about. The legislative program for the year is a perennial issue which will not be settled until it is settled right. What have candidates to say about taxes—present taxes, back taxes and the latter is making the situation toward retrenchment? Do they feel it possible to sensibly reduce the cost of government in Tennessee? All these things, the people to be represented have a right to know about. The legislative program for the year is a perennial issue which will not be settled until it is settled right. What have candidates to say about taxes—present taxes, back taxes and the latter is making the situation toward retrenchment? Do they feel it possible to sensibly reduce the cost of government in Tennessee? All these things, the people to be represented have a right to know about. 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