

The Knoxville Independent

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Your Flag and My Flag

By WILBUR D. NESBIT

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And oh, how much it holds—
Your land and my land—secure within its folds!
Your heart and my heart beat quicker at its sight;
Sun-kissed and wind-tossed, red and blue and white,
The one flag—the great flag—the flag for me and you—
Gives life all else beside—the red and white and blue.

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And how it flies today
In your land and my land and half a world away!
Rose-red and blood-red the stripes forever gleam;
Snow-white and sod-white—the good forefathers' dream.

Sky-blue and true blue, with stars to gleam bright—
The glorious garden of the day; a shelter through the night

Your Flag and my Flag! To every star and stripe
The drums beat as hearts beat and flares shrilly pipe!
Your Flag and my Flag—a blessing in the day;
Your hope and my hope—it never hid a lie!
Home land and far land and half the world around,
Old Glory bears our glad salute and ripples to the sound!



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"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

PROBLEM NOT WELL HANDLED

Country Undoubtedly Has Failed to Effect a Wise Distribution of Its Labor Supply.

In a general analysis of the causes of labor difficulties, with particular reference to war needs, the mediation commission makes observations, in part, as follows:

"So long as profiteering is not comprehensively prevented to the full extent that governmental action can prevent it, just so long will a sense of inequality disturb the fullest devotion of labor's contribution to the war.

"War has only served to intensify the old derangements by making greater demands upon industry and by affording the occasion for new disturbing factors.

"Broadly speaking, American industry lacks a healthy basis of relationship between management and men.

"Wage increases are asked for mostly in order to meet the increased cost of living, and such demands should be met in the light of their economic causes.

"We have failed in the full use and wise direction of our labor supply, falsely called 'labor shortage,' because we have failed to establish a vigorous and competent system of labor distribution."

SCHWAB IS WELL SATISFIED

Reports to Washington That the Shipping Industry of the Country "Is Enthusiastic."

"The whole industry is enthusiastic," Charles M. Schwab telegraphed Chairman Harley of the shipping board, describing his inspection of shipyards on the Great Lakes.

Results of his trip were declared by the director general of the emergency fleet corporation to be more satisfactory than he had anticipated.

Plans are being made to expand organized yards so that 1,000,000 or more tons of ships can be turned out on the lakes next year of the types and sizes most vitally needed in the war program.

The first international prize for riveting was transmitted to Charles Knight, a negro, at the request of Lord Northcliffe, who offered the \$100 bonus. Mr. Harley challenged British shipbuilders to a new test.

Sailors Will Boycott Germans. Havelock Wilson, president of the international seamen's union, cabled President Poincare of France:

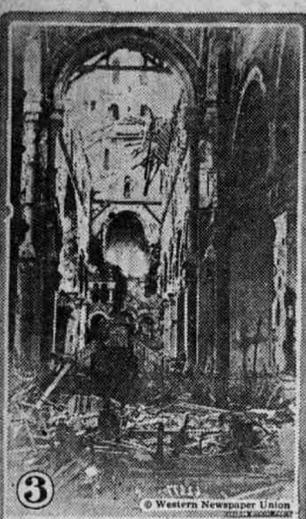
"Our warmest thanks for your renunciation of the most favored nation term for our enemies after the war.

"We seamen are out for a fight to the finish. In just retribution we have decided not to sail the seas with the Germans and not to carry any German goods.

"The Germans foully murdered 15,000 noncombatant seafaring men. John Bull is slow taking off his gloves, but he still has the punch."



1—Remarkable photograph showing the last plunge of a torpedeed steamship.



2—American troops at the dedication of the new Wilson bridge at Lyons, France.



3—Ruins of the beautiful Albert cathedral which the Huns have been using as a site for their guns.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR

Advances of Allies Threaten the Whole German Line From Ypres to Reims.

FRENCH CAPTURE LASSIGNY

Fall of Noyon Made Certain by Victorics of Humbert and Mangin—Haig's Forces Give Huns Several Hard Blows North of the Somme.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Blow after blow was delivered at the Germans last week along the 120-mile front between Soissons and Ypres, and with each blow their resistance grew weaker and their definite retirement in Picardy more certain. At no point did the allies gain any great expanse of territory, but everywhere they struck they gained ground that was of vital importance to the defensive system of the Huns. When the week closed it appeared likely that the enemy must withdraw from the entire Picardy salient and that he probably would be forced back to the Chemin des Dames before long. Marshal Foch was not only "picking the pockets" of the Hun, but he was turning them inside out. More than that, he was forcing the Germans to fight where and when he chose instead of awaiting their attacks in sectors of their selection. Thus he made it almost impossible for them to reorganize their battered divisions and prepare for a counter-stroke that might be effective.

The severest blow sustained by the enemy during the week was the capture of Lassigny, one of the key points of his defensive line. The town, which has long been but a mass of ruins, was taken by General Humbert's French army Wednesday. In the same attack Chiry-Ourscamp was entered, Orval wood was taken with the grenade and bayonet and the plateau that dominated the valley of the Divette was occupied. During the succeeding night Humbert's men drove forward between the Matz and the Oise until they had reached the Ailette. Humbert's troops occupied the height of Piemont on Thursday and then captured Thiescourt, thus completing the conquest of the hills comprising the Thiescourt massif.

This, in the opinion of competent observers, made certain the early fall of Noyon. To make assurance doubly sure, General Mangin with another French army was steadily forcing his way up the left bank of the Oise, not only helping to surround Noyon but endangering the German lines north of the Vesle. In this Oise-Aisne triangle the Huns were retreating rather rapidly and General Mangin took many thousands of prisoners. At some points, however, notably Vezaponin, they brought up re-enforcements and counter-attacked heavily, with no result except to increase their own losses. Earlier in the week Mangin's troops had won a brilliant victory in that neighborhood, in the Vessens valley, overcoming very heavy attacks of the Huns. Still nearer Soissons, on the extreme right of this battle front, the French took Laval and reached advantageous positions on the plateau north of the Aisne.

On Wednesday General Byng with a British army hit the Huns with one of his sudden blows, attacking on a ten-mile front north of the Ancre facing Bapaume and driving the enemy back in disorder for several miles. Starting at dawn in a heavy fog, the British took Von Below's troops completely by surprise and before the day closed they had captured villages, guns and prisoners in large numbers and had inflicted heavy casualties. Close behind a sweeping barrage the tanks and then the infantry rushed forward until they were almost within reach of Bapaume. The Germans put up stout resistance at some places, especially Courcelles, but the tanks rolled over them remorselessly. Meanwhile the "whippers" tore about the field, clean-

ing out the numerous machine gun nests. The prisoners were in good condition, but seemed very glad to be captured.

Next day Marshal Haig delivered another blow, this time immediately south of the scene of Byng's success, between the Ancre and the Somme. Satisfactory progress was made there also.

On Thursday Haig let loose a third attack, in the Albert sector extending south to Bray. The town of Albert was taken and the British rushed forward for a gain of several miles despite desperate resistance by the enemy.

Meanwhile the Germans were slowly getting out of the salient between Ypres and La Bassée under steady pressure by the British. The fighting here was continuous and sharp for the Huns did not wish to be hurried, but when they moved too slowly they were prodded with vicious attacks, as north of Baillieu and near Merville.

News from the Americans chiefly concerned those holding the center of the Vesle river line. These men made no special efforts to advance, but successfully held on to all their positions, despite the great activity of the enemy artillery. Their aviators did much excellent work during the week, especially in the line of bombing. This seems destined to be their particular duty, and it will prove to be of utmost importance. The arrival at the front of American-made planes caused great rejoicing in the army.

In the West the Americans, by quick work with rifle and grenade, frustrated attempts to raid their trenches.

All of the Japanese troops for the Siberian expedition have been landed at Vladivostok, and more of the American contingent have arrived there. Despite rumors to the contrary, these two nations and China are operating there in complete harmony and their forces are getting into action at once to assist the Czech-Slovaks and to maintain control over the trans-Siberian railway. The enemy, opposing the Czechs in eastern Siberia, made up of soviet troops and Teuton war prisoners, has a strength of 40,000 men with 70 big guns and 200 machine guns. In trans-Balkalia, also, the Czechs are fighting against heavy odds and haste is needed to secure Irkutsk and western Siberia. In Russia the Czech-Slovaks captured Shadrinski, an important railway junction east of the Ural mountains and between Ekaterinburg and Kurgan.

No definite news came from Archangel and the Murman coast, though German dispatches asserted the allies had withdrawn beyond range of the bolshevik artillery.

Petrograd has been the scene of bloody battles between Lettish guards and rioters who demanded food. Hundreds were killed and wounded, and finally martial law was proclaimed. In Moscow there is a veritable reign of terror and several hundred of the 15,000 officers arrested have been shot.

Scarcity of rice caused serious riots in Japan, the trouble spreading to many parts of the empire. The government took forceful action to stop the disorders and also bought up all the rice in storage to be sold to the people at reasonable prices. The outbreaks were due to the taking over by the war department of large stores of provisions for the Siberian expedition and to the hoarding of stocks and inflation of prices by the rice growers and speculators.

The submarines operating off the Atlantic coast have turned their attention mainly to the fishing fleets on the Grand banks and have destroyed a number of trawlers. One of the latter was captured, fitted out with two guns and a German crew and sent out as a raider. It sank several fishing vessels, but the navy put a large number of swift craft on its trail and it was predicted that its career would be brief. It is believed there are three submarines in American waters, and a number of steamships have reported battles with them.

The navy department announced that the American steamer Montanan, used as an army supply ship, was torpedoed and sunk in foreign waters with the probable loss of three members of the civilian crew and two members of the naval armed guard.

Losses of allied and neutral merchant shipping during July aggregated 813,011 gross tons, an increase over the month of June but a big decrease from the losses of July, 1917. There is nothing in the shipping situation to change the opinion that the submarine campaign is a flat failure. Its outbreaks now are sporadic and more annoying than serious. Among the neutral nations that have suffered from it Spain is showing the most resentment, and last week it notified the imperial German government that Spanish tonnage having been reduced to the extreme limit, Spain will be obliged, in case of new sinkings, to substitute therefor German vessels interned in Spanish ports. At the same time, the Spanish cabinet announced, Spain will continue to observe neutrality. There is a strong pro-German element in Spain, and every hint of a rupture of relations brings violent protest from the pro-German press there.

Germany's latest peace offensive, consisting of speeches by leading men, was opened by Doctor Solf, minister of colonies, who devoted himself mainly to blaming England for "starting the war" and attacking the British intention to retain the conquered German colonies. He also defended Germany's course in the near East, asserting that she was merely protecting the frontier peoples of Russia until they are capable of determining their own national future. The Czech-Slovaks are denounced as "landless robber bands." The expressed determination of the allied nations to defeat the Germans on the battlefield gives Doctor Solf great pain and arouses his bitter anger.

With troops going across the Atlantic at the rate of about 250,000 a month, with the new draft law about to be put on its passage, and with war industries well organized and ready to operate full blast, the American government is confronted with a serious shortage of labor. A million workers are needed at once and the administration intends that they shall be provided for the concerns that are making war materials, no matter what happens to private business. Nonessential industries will be called on to give up many of their men; all idlers will be put to work, and women will be used to release men for war work that women cannot do. The emergency is one that must be met, and those in authority propose to meet it in the same spirit in which they have met the need for a huge army of fighters.

A general feeling of satisfaction pervaded the country when it was announced that the 100 L. W. W. leaders on trial in Chicago for disloyalty had been convicted. Next on the list of alleged disloyalists to be given a dose of justice are five Socialists—Victor L. Berger, Adolph Germer, Irwin St. John Tucker, J. Louis Engdahl and William F. Kruse. The charges against them are even more serious than were those against the "Wobblies."

The house ways and means committee nearly completed the draft of the \$3,000,000,000 revenue bill, but had still to decide between two propositions for the excess profits tax. According to Chairman Kitchin these were, first: An 8 per cent deduction in addition to the \$3,000 specific exemption, with a 35 per cent tax on profits between 8 and 15 per cent; 50 per cent tax on profits between 15 and 20 per cent, and 70 per cent tax on profits above 20 per cent, and, second, the same exemption and deduction, with 40 per cent tax on profits between 8 and 20 per cent, and 70 per cent tax on profits exceeding 20 per cent.

The committee decided on a flat 10 per cent deduction as a minimum on war profits. The proportion of excess profits and war profits taxes will remain the same; that is, 90 per cent of business will fall under the war profits tax. It decided on a flat 10 per cent minimum deduction for prewar earnings in computing the war profits tax.

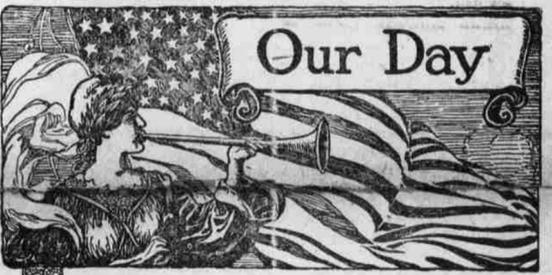
A provision affecting corporations with swollen profits directs that any corporation whose capital exceeds \$1,000,000 shall pay a tax of at least 10 per cent of its net income as excess profits.

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Our Day

By Wilbur D Nesbit
Author of "Your Flag and My Flag"

The banner breaks in glory on the breeze,
The trumpets sing from all their brazen throats
A chorused chant of thrilling harmonies,
The drumbeats throb amid the ringing notes—
An echo, but a growing echo; yes,
An echo that is flung from hill to plain,
An echo that shall never grow the less,
Born from the chord that was not struck in vain.

The diapason of the booming guns
Blends with the shriller sounding of the cheers—
Ah, this had been foreheard by those great ones
Who planned the structure in the former years,
Who dreamed and dared, and gave of wealth and life
That this great nation-song should never cease,
Who blent the surging song of somber strife
With all the after croons of honored peace!

And so today the southland and the north
Clasp hands with their blood-brothered east and west
And in the mighty song their lips send forth
The fullness of our faith is all expressed.
And deeper than the very deepest chord
Are the foundations laid in days ago
When men for hearth and home and manhood warred—
The truths our nation has been builded on.

And higher than the farthest reach of song
That quivers in the bosom of the sky
There flames the flag of faith above the throng—
The flag whose plan and purpose cannot die.
The flag of promise floats from sea to sea,
The bugles shout in answer to the drum
And send a sense of strength to you and me
From days that were, and are, and are to come!

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High Wages Retard Production. Henequen production in Yucatan will be only about 900,000 bales this year, it is estimated. Last year the crop amounted to 1,000,000 bales of fiber. Labor is hard to get, as plantation workers now get so much more in wages that pay for two or three days will support a person a week.

Labor for Farms and Railroads. Labor will be supplied to farms and railroads under the new central control of recruiting by the federal employment service, the labor depart-