

THE PRODUCERS NEWS

A PAPER OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE
Continuing the **OUTLOOK PROMOTOR**

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FRIDAY, JULY 26, 1918.

What Is Patriotism?

Since this nation entered the world conflict we have read a great deal about patriotism.

We have been confronted with as many classes of it as there are different classes of people.

One would think after hearing it talked of as it has been that the impulse is valuable because of its scarcity.

That is the impression that many people strive to give out. They would like to have it a very exclusive attribute; something that would be a se-same to polite society; something that would divide the "Ruff-necks" from the "Creme Du La Creme" and could be conferred as a sort of an "Order of the Garter" by a number of "self selected ultras" on the eligible. On those who are so refined and accomplished that they can unload soup from a spoon without an accompanying vulgar yowl; whose blood has a peculiar bluish (or maybe more correctly, yellowish) tinge to it. They would like to be distinguished by this attribute. Most of these people have no other hope of distinction.

It must be very encouraging to the kaiser and the German military autocracy to understand that patriotism is such a scarce article in this realm, it must encourage them to continue the war, because they must know that it will not take long to overcome the few patriots that reside in the United States.

Maybe these people are German propagandists.

That was the line of dope that Bolo Pasha, the convicted French-German agent, peddled.

Patriotism, however, is a universal instinct.

Those in whom the instinct is absent are abnormal.

An unpatriotic American citizen would be as much of a curiosity as Bosco's famous "wild man from the jungles of the Nile who ate snakes" and some of the lily handed ultras

would soon be making a fortune showing him in a freak tent at a street fair.

Patriotism is so universal that the poet has asked if there was such a man in the following language:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself has said,
When returning from a foreign strand,

"This is my own, my native land."

Let us look over these people who make such an issue of patriotism.

Every blimpigger is an ultra.
Every procurer is a spy reporting his neighbor on any ridiculous excuse or charge.

Every disreputable scoundrel that resides in your community, goes to the most extreme length in proclaiming his patriotism and demonstrates it by "framing up" to work out his personal spite on some citizen with an unimpeachable record as a citizen.

These patriots do not carry a gun and face the enemy. Such a thing is too practical for their poetic natures. They hide behind their wives skirts. They are busy at their nefarious trades. They are brave where the bullets do not fly. They are heroes when it comes to cheering the boys who leave. Some of them even put on fake khaki and cinch things by joining the home guard.

But where these brave heroes shine is before the local draft board pleading for deferred classification, in order to stay at home to support a rich wife, and then prove their patriotism by testifying against the father of a family in an effort to railroad such a man to the penitentiary on a "framed-up" charge of sedition.

Real patriots in the draft age are carrying guns beneath the folds of old glory.

Ultra patriots are at home doing dirty work befitting their craven hearts and deformed souls. and doing this too, "In the land of the Free and the Home of the Brave."

When the very success of our armies depend upon wheat.

The President had called upon the farmers to plant to the utmost, and the Westphal boy responded to their very limit.

Now enter the "Jackalls."
They neither fight or plant or risk. They knew the Westphal boys were broke.

Now is the time or never.

Now is the time to ruin them, let the wheat go to the devil if Charlie Westphal can be indicted and convicted, the league in Sheridan county is discredited and outlawed—of course the charge is a fake, yet it is something to frame on, and it might work; the results justifies the effort."

Our local Chilo Chilonideas gets busy.

B. K. Wheeler cannot be trusted to spring the deal—he is a man and does not willing and knowingly participate in a "frame-up."

Chilo goes over his head to Attorney General Gregory at Washington, D. C. District Attorney Wheeler got instructions to act, we are told, direct from headquarters.

It was hoped to get B. K. Wheeler in this plot as well as "Charlie" Westphal.

Government agents were sent out, an indictment secured, and "Charlie" Westphal brought to trial. Attorney Wheeler's office for the government did its best, but Westphal, the farmer, with eight hundred acres of grain to feed the starving French children was found not guilty by the jury after hearing the evidence.

Chilo Chilonideas did not appear as a witness. His dirty work, true to character, was done under cover. The "raiser of grain" is free. Free, after a cost of over \$1,000, besides the worry and humiliation. The human blood hound is also at large.

But the plot failed.

There is consternation now in the camp of the inquisition.

Westphal Not Guilty

In the Federal Court last Monday, Charles Westphal, who had been indicted for "action calculated to discourage enlistment in the Army and Navy" was, after a careful trial, found not guilty. He is the only one acquitted at this term of the federal court. The particular thing Westphal was charged with doing was the circulation of a particular book, entitled, "Shanghaied into the European War," a book that was copyrighted by the United States government, the first editions of which were circulated even before the United States entered the war.

In other words there was not and never was the shadow of a case against Westphal. There was simply nothing to the case—absolutely nothing to it.

The people who know Charles Westphal, know him to be an honest straightforward, law abiding citizen of the best and purest patriotism. In fact, he stands so well in his own community, that the patriotic farmers, donated to a fund to help the man defray the expenses of his trial.

Let us see who "Charlie" Westphal is. Together with three brothers, he is farming eight hundred acres of land north of Outlook. There are no harder working people in this county than the Westphal boys. Last year there was no crop; this year in order to put in this crop, their credit was strained to the breaking point—and mind you, there was no outlay for hired men, these boys did the work themselves. When their crop was in they were fat broke. They depended on their reputation for absolute honesty to feed them till harvest, and if the crop was a failure, four life time efforts were faded and wited.

All of this effort was made when the world, our government and its allies, and the children of Belgium and France are crying for bread,

Hoisting the Flag

The United States flag has been put over the telegraph and telephone systems of the country. When the

senate authorized the president to take control of the wire systems it took the first step toward govern-

ment ownership. With the exception of a few nations of the class of Spain and Turkey, all means of communication have long been owned by the public. From Great Britain and France to Dahomey and Siam, no private monopoly takes its toll from those who telegraph or telephone.

With one more vested privilege driven from its trenches, the effort will now be to convince the people that government control is a failure, and government ownership would be worse.

Men whose whole aim in life has not been service, but profit, will point out that the government system, like the postoffice, is not paying adequate dividends on the investment. Such men are blind to the truth that pro-

A Governor On Greed

The plain speaking of President Wilson concerning war profiteers pleased the public and amazed the grafters. The figures supplied later by the federal trade commission should have convinced the most skeptical that a few conscienceless scoundrels in high life have been robbing right and left.

One of the first state officials to speak out after this disclosure is Governor Arthur Capper of Kansas. In an appeal to the president to drive the profiteers out of business, this governor even went so far as to say that the morale of the people of Kansas was being broken down by greed of the big business interests.

"Kansas will support you to a man in any course you may take to grapple with the profiteers who prey on their country and their countrymen in this time of need," said the governor. "They are doing more to hamper us than all the devices of the enemy in making the necessities of life and industry cost more than the people can earn. To be shamelessly and continually exploited for the necessities of living by a great com-

"Pie-Nears" Pure Patriotism

When Charles Westphal was arrested on a trumped up charge of obstructing enlistment, there was untold joy among the craven curs who constitute our local "gang of the inquisition." The brave and pure and patriotic "Pie-near" just watered at the mouth; it just rolled the tasteful morsel under its tongue, its delight just radiated out of the columns of that patriotic sheet.

Now that Westphal is acquitted it is a safe bet that the patriotic "Pie-near" will announce the news to the public in very modest terms.

That of course is to be expected. The foiling of the plot of the inquisition brings no joy to the "Pie-near."

The friends of the "Pie-near," the inquisition, had built high plans on conviction of a hard working patriotic farmer, who raises grain to feed Uncle Sam's soldier boys and the starving children of Belgium and France; while the like of the "Pie-near" and the members of the holy inquisition stay at home and get their anger into the strong boxes of the people and extract the glistening

The Washington View

A convention of all farm organizations was recently held in Kansas City.

Ex-Congressman Kent of the federal tariff commission, although unable to attend, sent a letter which was read by J. Weller Long of the Equity.

Mr. Kent, who is not the only federal official in Washington whose heart is with the organized farmer, wrote:

"The persecution of farm organizations, notably of the Nonpartisan League, shows the need of a united demand for our civil liberties, the right of peaceful assemblage, the open channels of publicity, and the prosecution, through the federal gov-

Another One On A Packer

The federal trade commission, in its complaint against Armour & Co. of Chicago, alleges that it has reason to believe that these packers are concealing their affiliation with Beyer Brothers company of Rochester, Ind., with effect of stifling competition in the manufacture and sale, in interstate commerce, of dairy products.

It is further charged that Armour has discriminated in prices paid by

The St. Paul Pioneer Press is the middleman's greatest friend. Yet it has opened a dining room in its plant so its employes can get cheaper meals.

Comstock's manager complains that 75,000 Democrats voted for Burnquist in the Republican primaries. That doesn't leave Burnquist a very healthy Republican vote.

fitteering can never be the aim of government business, but that the welfare of the whole people is the main question.

Undoubtedly there will be a saving in operation costs, since competing lines will be combined.

No business house now will have to maintain two systems of telephones.

The waste of keeping up two rival telegraph offices when one could do the business immediately becomes apparent.

Ultimately, of course, the cost to the people will be cut.

Thus, in New Zealand, the telegraph rate is 12 cents for 12 words, as against the minimum rate in the United States of 25 cents.

mercial plunderbund, which they and their sons are defending in a war that taxes their every resource, is an outrage on the patriotism of the people, too intolerable to be borne. Such insatiable greed will stop at nothing short of stern and drastic compulsion.

"Our continued fitness in the Middle West depends on a speedy solution of the profiteering problem and the equitable financing of the war or upon a thoroughly effective solution of the problem of price regulation that shall include all necessary commodities. A practical solution of either will amount to a remedy for both and will strengthen and enhearten the people amazingly for all the trials and demands of the war."

The governor is a candidate for the United States senate.

Undoubtedly he knows the feeling of the people of the Middle West. Men who talk that language are needed in congress.

There will be settled the matter of saving the people from a greed that knows no country, recognizes no duty and has no flag except the skull and crossbones.

yellow gold, earned in the sweat of the brow by the farmers of Sheridan county.

Of course a paper can be a pure, patriotic publication, and at the same time be a party to a scandalous procedure that grafts the taxpayers of this county out of thousands and thousands of the hard earned dollars of the people.

Of course, it is absolutely consistent for such people to talk about "Bolsheviks, Socialistic—Pro-Germans and the like."

Right here we want to remark that if there are any pro-Germans in this county, they are members of that gang who are looting the people's money, while the boys are giving their blood over there for world democracy, and their fathers are straining every nerve and muscle here to provide the food to sustain them on the battle line.

Yes, beware of the brand of patriots who loot the people, and instigate trouble against "Raisers of Grain" in order to divert attention away from their own dirty deeds.

ernment, if the states fail in their duty, of those who conspire against the Constitution.

"We have the right to demand open channels between ourselves as producers and the consumers of the nation, free from such abuses as are practiced by the packers and the millers."

This man, who is high in the nation's councils, goes on to say: "The persecution of the Nonpartisan league for alleged sedition is but typical of much that is being done by the practical, profiteering patrioters, and by those who have, through their ignorance, been used as cats-paws."

To all this, thinking men can say, "Amen."

it, in localities where small competitors are engaged in business, higher prices in certain local areas are being paid in these instances than are paid in other localities.

It is often forgotten that the packers have seized on much more than the meat trade, and are aiming at control of butter, canned goods and even shoes.

It looks as if they are getting so powerful the government will have to take them over.

The prosecution of C. A. Lindbergh for entering Martin county has been dropped, now that the election is over. You're right, it was just a political scheme to give a good man a bad name.

J. P. Morgan has invested \$5,000,000 in Montana farming. Now watch him take more interest in obtaining fair market conditions.

The League it is said had a banker picked for state representative, but after the bankers convention held a month or so ago it was decided that Mr. Banker better be placed in the discard for a short spell.—Poplar Standard.

Funny, isn't it? The Socialists have joined the Republican party. According to their own claims it has been a "big biz" party, but now it is to be used as a camouflage in an attempt to land the Socialist candidates in office. It's good!—Scooby Citizen.

Drouth in Montana has brought the demand for government financial aid to farmers up again. Kansas is also asking for aid in seeding for next year.

One or two candidate who flirted with the League and got left out in the col mudst feel sort of "pluto-watery" right now.—Poplar Standard.

It is said that Wolf Point is going to run Jack Leonard for County Commissioner.—Poplar Standard.

Nearly 2,000,000 girls and boys have volunteered for the United States Garden Army in the Department of the Interior. Their service flag bears a crossed rake and hoe with the letters U. S. S. G. in blue on a field of white with a red border. The enlistment entails a pledge on the part of the child to use efforts to increase food production by cultivating one or more crops under a garden supervisor or teacher chosen for this work and to make such reports as may be required.

The Department of Labor reports adjustment of 39 industrial disputes during a recent week. This is a record. Eleven strikes and two threatened strikes were adjusted. Included in the strikes settled was that of machinists at the Curtiss Aeroplane Co. plant, Buffalo, where 300 men quit and 15,000 were affected indirectly.

After that convention of Saturday, it's an open and shut game. It was pretty good politics at that.—Poplar Standard.

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