

The West Virginian

THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME!

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FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 2, 1920.

THE AMERICAN'S CREED.

I believe in the United States of Amer-
ica as a government of the people, by
the people, for the people, whose just
powers are derived from the consent of
the governed; a democracy in a repub-
lic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign
States; a perfect Union, one and insep-
arable, established upon those principles of freedom, equal-
ity, justice, and humanity for which American patriots
sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is
my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitu-
tion; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it
against all enemies.

UNCHANGING MAN.

THE profiteer is no new bird. In the year 1628 at
Milan, Italy, he kicked against the government fix-
ing prices on corn and bread; held his corn in storage to
create an artificial shortage; and finally refused to do busi-
ness at all at the government's prices.

He is described by one Alessandro Manzoni, an Italian
who flourished in the eighteenth century and who wrote
"I Promessi Sposi," a historical novel of the year 1628
and thereabouts. Therein a whole chapter is given to
the quarrels between the Milan profiteers and the ultimate
consumers.

"The magistrates," he wrote, "busied themselves in
fixing prices that were to be charged on every commodity;
in threatening punishment to anyone who would refuse to
sell, and making other regulations of similar nature."

When the price of bread was lowered about 40 per
cent the people applauded, but the bakery owners "pro-
tested they would willingly throw the shovel into the oven
and take their departure."

In the end the authorities yielded and raised the price
of bread. "The bakers once more breathed, but the peo-
ple raved," wrote Manzoni.

What familiar sound all this has! We have many more
bathubs than existed in 1628 and since that time we
have been blessed with sanitary plumbing and electric
lights and phonographs and flippers, but human nature
stays unchanged, reacting in the same way to the same
set of circumstances.

THE PARALLEL.

THE news from Russia shows the revolution working
almost precisely along the lines of the French revolu-
tion.

That famous event of history opened with the estab-
lishment of representative, democratic government. So
did Russia's overturn.

The first phase in France was succeeded by semi-dic-
tatorship, irresponsibles in office and in the general as-
sembly. The Kerensky government was the counterpart
in Russia.

The second phase in France was the terror, the over-

throw of all common sense, bloody monsters as dictators,
the establishment of Godlessness and the passage of many
insane laws governing life in all its expressions. In Russia,
this was Bolshevism.

The third phase in France was desperation. This coun-
try became desperate from the frightful conditions im-
posed by the neurotics and criminals who ruled under the
terror. In their colossal ignorance, and worse, they had
brought disorganization, starvation and suffering upon a
people who asked for democratic freedom and were given
a stone by the Lenines and Trozky's of that day. Russia
has experienced this phase to the hilt during the last two
years. We need not dwell on its horrors.

From desperation and suffering France developed a
strong army and hardness as a people. She put down civil
war and gave no quarter to the rebels—men, women or
children. Her armies threatened the frontiers, and the
other nations, frightened at her military display and suc-
cesses, made peace with her. Today this phase, the period
of reaction, is opening in Muscovy. Russia has a sternly
disciplined, excellently equipped and well-fed army of a
million men, including Chinese and other barbaric fighters
for profit. This army has routed the rebels right and
left, and forced peace with its nearest neighbor, Esthonia,
insuring a seaport for Russian commerce, while the other
nations—England, France, and America—have with-
drawn.

So far a perfect parallel of France. The question be-
fore the world today—and it ought to be a burning ques-
tion—is: Will the parallel be continued to the next phase?

The further reaction in France was Napoleon, the man
of blood and iron, the scourge of the world. History
shows that the whole French people supported him when
he carried fire and the sword over Europe repeatedly. The
people who were for freedom, for equality and fraternity,
a short ten years before, now became the ruthless oppres-
sors of nearly the whole civilized world, the tyrants of
humanity. Wherever a Frenchman set his feet, there the
rights of people ceased.

Will there a Russian Napoleon? Can a parallel carried
so far, now dissolve into nothingness? Will the Russian
bear, who has fought all his life, now tamely subside and
lie down in peace? Will he lose his centuries-old appe-
tite for other people's territories, for the loot of conquered
lands? Let's watch that same Russian bear!

Prosecutor Coyne, of Chicago, says that the radicals
of that town are urging their followers to await "the
one big day." Which is an indication that they lack
imagination to a degree that one would not naturally
suspect. The Prussian militarists used to toast a one
big day, but when the day came it proved to be very
different from what they expected it to be.

According to statistics compiled by the Railway Age
there was a net decrease in the railway mileage of the
country last year. But 686 miles of new line was laid
down, the smallest total since the beginning of steam
railroads in this country, and 689 miles of road was
abandoned. Such a record at a time when industry was
expanding in spite of strikes shows the blighting effects
of government interference with the transportation
system, which under private management has always
been characterized by notable enterprise.

Dr. Simon Flexner, head of the Rockefeller Institute
for Medical Research and a scientist with a very clear
idea of the value of words, told a gathering of scientists
held at St. Louis yesterday that medical research is
gradually getting into a position of strategic advantage
in its attack upon cancer. This is a most comforting
message to send to the world at the beginning of a new
year. Science has taken away from tuberculosis its
terror; it has made healthy most of the plague spots of
the earth, and it has worked other wonders, but cancer
is the great mystery malady and its death rate has been
climbing for years. Science, however, has never de-
spaired, even though it seemed at times to be waging
a losing fight, and now the man who directs the greatest
research activities in the world tells us that progress
is being made against this invisible foe of civilized
mankind. No one, perhaps not even the men who have
the investigations in charge, can tell when we shall be
able to control cancer as we control diphtheria and
typhoid, for instance, but the knowledge that something
tangible is being accomplished ought to free from mor-
bid fear the children of cancer victims and remove that
nameless dread that lurks in the sub-conscious mind of
many people after they pass into the cancer age. Science
has worked many a miracle. There is every reason
to believe that it will be equal to winning the fight with
cancer.

Senator Borah has undertaken to query all the can-
didates for the presidency upon their views on the
League of Nations, doubtless with the intention of
branding as traitors all who are not in favor of the
Borah policy of no entangling alliances. While Le is
about it, why does not Borah try to get the country
committed to selling the new commercial feet and get-
ting out of international commercial relations? That
is the logical conclusion of the line of argument he is
putting up.

an individual for a little while, but a
real radiator which would free the
whole human race.

Sure would reconcile a lot of guys to
the inevitable if it could be done.

It was as clear as crystal at dawn
this morning.

Not a cloud in the sky except those
produced by the careless firemen em-
ployed by the Bando.

Wonder if the weather man resolved
to turn over a new leaf on the first?

That he will work harder and more
efficiently, whether he be poor or
rich, employer or employe, than ever
before;

That he will cultivate the spirit of
conciliation and friendship—that in
his work and in his home life he will
adopt as his sworn pledge to follow
the Golden Rule;

That he will do all in his power to
advance the nation's prosperity
through the prosperity of his own
work;

That in recognition of the world
shortage of food he will waste less and
encourage the production of more
food;

That he will heed the cry of Eu-
rope's call to save millions from star-
vation, and

That whether employer or employe,
merchant, manufacturer, banker, law-
yer or farmer, he will be more con-
cerned in serving mankind than in his
own financial advancement as busi-
ness man or as wage-earner.

If this spirit of service can be
evoked among all Americans, it will
then be possible to save America
from turmoil and the world from star-
vation. Then, and not until then,
peace and prosperity will reign
throughout the land.

To all our readers our New Year's
wish is that in consecrated service to
our country and to civilization they
may find a broader life and greater
happiness than they have ever known
in the past.

At times it will look as though the
good old ship of state will surely be
driven upon the rocks of destruction.
But fear not; the end is not yet.

The spirit of America still lives; it
will survive all the storms of the

Not just a gold cure to cut it out for

Sales Commence
Saturday
Be on Hand Early.

Courtneys' Store

Honest Values 108-110 Main St.

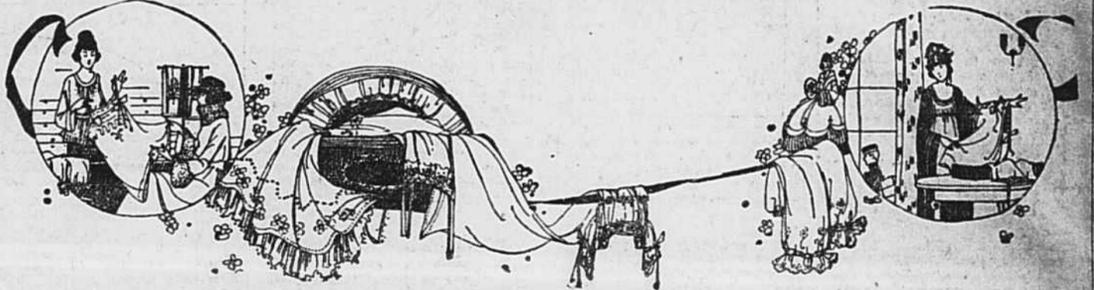
Make Up Your
List of Needs
NOW

1920 JANUARY CLEARANCE SALES

Will Commence
Saturday, January 3rd

Be sure to attend this FIRST EVENT. Very little money will go a long way in it; a small amount will secure for you articles that you could buy a short while ago at only considerable more — this saving is possible not only on a few articles, but many.

If it is your desire to save a good bit on the high cost of living—This Sale offers you plenty of opportunity to do it. Choose from these.



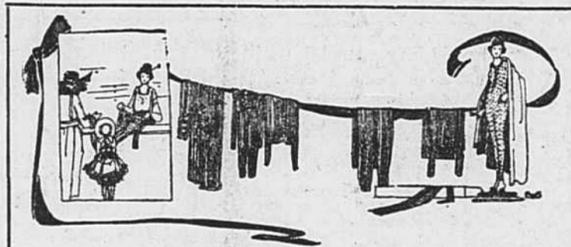
A Most Important Sale of Undermuslins

In White and Pink

Tables and cases loaded with Snowy, Billow Fresh Undermus-
lins at a saving of 10 per cent on last season's prices, and much more
than that on the prices of the coming year.

This includes our stock of GOWNS and ENVELOPES. The ex-
cellent values offered—the broad and comprehensive assortments
—the magnificent and thoroughly reliable quality of the various
garments all combine to make this sale.

AN EVENT OF UNUSUAL IMPORTANCE TO YOU!



Scores of women with an eye to economy will buy
these for future needs! All our light weight Gauze
UNION SUITS including "Niagara Maid" Silk Tops

At 1-4 Off

Buy all you can use for present and future needs—
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KIMONA. Here are choice selections at 1/4 OFF!

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One Lot of Brown Lisle Hosiery
at 39c

One Lot of Light Color Fibre
Silk Hosiery at 75c

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19c

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Georgette Blouses, white and flesh,
but only slightly soiled at 1-3 off
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A Table Of ELASTIC TOP CORSETS



Sizes 21 to 27, very special value
at \$1.95

Some Beautiful NECKWEAR

on a special table. They are slight-
ly soiled so we offer them at Half
Price.



Truthful Advertising

Courtneys' Store

Dependable Merchandise