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THAT SEIZURE OF WHEAT

THE Nevada Food Administrator is to be complimented. He has ordered the seizure of 7000 bushels of wheat. Patrick Welsh of Reese River, according to an Associated Press dispatch, refused to sell his wheat to the government when offered \$2.75 per hundred weight. The seizure was then ordered. Without doubt more seizures will follow. There is without question many other men who are holding wheat for a higher price. They were doubtlessly led astray by the agitation that started in congress when President Wilson insisted on the elimination of the senate amendment to the agricultural bill raising the price of wheat from \$2.20 to \$2.50. As a direct result of the agitation that was started to raise the price of wheat which resulted in the adoption by the senate of the Gore amendment, the marketing of wheat has dropped from 8,000,000 bushels a week to 3,000,000 bushels, the farmers in all probability holding their wheat for higher prices. It is said on good authority that the President will veto any bill containing any clause that will tend to raise the price of wheat on the grounds that it would upset the work of nearly a year in stabilizing the price of bread.

Along the same line we wish to call attention to the speech of Senator Jones of Washington delivered in the senate yesterday. The senator is quoted as saying that "the fight for gain is so fierce that it seems almost universal. It is confined to no class or condition. Why is that? It is not because we are not patriotic. We have not come to realize what we must do to win this war. The people do not know the real facts. They will not cease their race for gain and profit till they do know the urgent need for sacrifice and self-denial." We take issue with the senator along those lines. Never before in the history of this country has anything been more widely advertised than the need for self-denial and sacrifice. Newspapers both great and small all over the United States have given freely of their space and are now giving freely of their space with that one object in view. The government has flooded the country with posters calling upon patriotic citizens to save wheat and great has been the response to that call. Despite all the publicity, despite the many examples that are to be seen on all sides of self-denial, however, the hoarding of wheat goes on by those who believe that they are clever enough to get away with it. We are glad to see the order for the taking over of such wheat being put into effect so soon. The words of the man from the mountains of Virginia will bear repeating, "Them as won't see, must feel."

AN EVER-GROWING MENACE

ACCORDING to Senator Overman spies are at work in the Curtis airplane factory. He charges that it has been directly due to their activities that the government has been held back in its airplane program. He declared that spies took the metal braces, sawed them apart and joined the pieces with lead. In other words, they were, in a sense committing murder, for they had every reason to believe that some American would use the machine in making flights. The very first Bristol machine that was tried fell and the defect was then discovered.

Drastic measures are not taken in the United States with spies, that is, we do not hear of them being tried, found guilty and then being led out and stood up before a stone wall and shot. That is the fate they meet in Germany and we are of the opinion that that is the fate that should be meted out to them in this country, when found in such practices. They deserve nothing less. Upon their activities may rest the fate of the nation and of all the allied nations. This is not a time for fine-drawn distinctions. Self-preservation is the first law of nature and were a few of the spies led out and executed and a more diligent search prosecuted for them by all Americans and not only by the department of justice, the example set might and doubtlessly would end the activities of a great number.

The department of justice, known also as the secret service, is anxious for help along this very line. It might be well to state, however, that the spy is not going about with a sign on his back. Nor is he one whose general appearance would mark him as such in any community. In the greater number of cases he is a person who is blessed with a talent for attracting the least possible attention to himself and his practices. On the surface there is nothing of the mysterious about him. And he or she, as the case may be, is generally well educated, affable, refined, and can be found moving in the very best of society. Women of two distinct classes follow the profession of the spy in great numbers. Numerous spies have been arrested among women of questionable character and numerous spies have been caught among trained nurses.

The trained nurse is in all probability one to whom family secrets are most readily given up. She, by her kindness, her winning personality and her ability of gaining the confidence of the family and of the sick who feel dependant upon her, can gain and does gain the confidence of her employers more readily than perhaps any other person not within the family circle. If she is a spy she makes it her business to gather every possible bit of information and to report it at the earliest moment to her superiors. Another profession that just at present is cursed with the activities of many spies is that of the lawyer. He, too, is in a position of trust in numerous instances, he has recourse to family secrets, has the utmost confidence of the head of the family and is ever alert, if he is a spy, for any chance remark that may throw light on the subject that he is investigating. Numerous lawyers are now under suspicion in the United States. Another class is that of the clergy. In fact any profession or calling that brings its members close to the family may develop spies. It behooves the American public to be ever on guard against this insidious menace for there are not hundreds but millions of spies, it is said, scattered throughout the United States.

THE GROWING POTASH INDUSTRY

PROSPECTORS are being told to be on the lookout for alunite, the silicious subsulphate of alumina and potash and from which potash is now being produced in the United States. It is a mineral of grayish, yellowish, pinkish or whitish color and in Italy it is found among the secondary rocks. Large deposits of it have been found throughout the west and the search is each day becoming more keen for it. Nor need the prospector fear that when he has spent his time and money to find a commercial deposit that he will have trouble in disposing of it or of financing a company in order to work it.

Before the war started the United States got practically all of its potash salts from Germany at prices that ranged from \$12 to \$20 per ton, depending on the grade of the material. After the war started the supplies from that country were cut off immediately and for a considerable period of time there was grave doubts as to whether or not it could be produced in this country. But like many other things that the war did it opened our eyes to the vast resources of the United States that for many years had been dormant. Prospectors began scouring the hills for the rock and their efforts were followed by news of finds of considerable importance. Potash had not been found before for the very simple reason that it had not been looked for. Its production in this country was not attempted because of the belief that we could not produce it in competition with Germany. When the German supplies were cut off, however, and the price of the salts began to mount the situation was different.

Native potash is now being produced from several sources in this country. There is an urgent need for it. It is required for fertilizing the soil and thus increasing the crops. And it finds a ready market. Dispatches from Lincoln, Neb., are to the effect that companies are being organized and that the industry is flourishing in the northwestern section of that state. The total capitalization has gone up to more than \$5,000,000. The industry in that section of the country, however, is confined to working the potash lakes. Attention was first directed to that section by the work of two chemists who were rapidly growing wealthy, having cleared more than \$500,000 in less than six months time. And the ranchmen that were attempting to gain a living in the sand hills of that section are now growing rich due to their leasing potash lakes to companies. They are said to be receiving as much as \$1000 per day in royalties.

CLIPPED AND CREDITED

The next betting proposition probably will be as to when Kerevsky will come out of hiding.—Pittsburgh Post.

Perhaps Germany's longing for a square meal will ultimately lead it to accept a square peace.—Kansas City Times.

One German went over to the American side and gave up without any "Kamerad" trick; he was a dog.—Birmingham League.

Uncle Sam's department of agriculture has told us how to grow carrots, but fortunately it isn't compulsory.—Toledo Blade.

If there is any "yellow peril" in the projected entrance of Japanese troops into Siberia it is for the kaiser.—Toronto Globe.

At last accounts, Hindenburg was still standing pat, waiting for the submarines to win the war for him.—Providence Journal.

All that the city of Washington lacks in order to take the lead among American boom towns is a lively press agent.—Rochester Democrat.

We can measure by the fury of the German air attacks on London and Paris the success of recent allied raids on German cities. The Hun is enraged by pain.—Portland Oregonian.

The British have appointed an Ohio man governor-general of Palestine, which as American politicians of several hands will admit, was the next best thing to going to Indiana for him.—Springfield Republican.

The 30,000,000 people of Ukraine will now be expected to quit eating until Germany's deferred appetite is satisfied.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

While just a year has elapsed since Nicholas was driven from the throne, the average Russian must feel as though he had lived through a whole epoch in that time.—Rochester Democrat.

Wonder what the soldiers in the camps in previous wars did without the movies?—Los Angeles Times.

DAY'S WORLD WAR NEWS GENERALIZED

(By Associated Press.)
Slowing assuming the shape of a giant ploughshare, the German drive in Picardy has come almost to a halt except at the very tip of the salient driven into the lines of the entente allies. As the area covered by the Teutonic offensive stands now, it extends on the south, in almost straight line from Landricourt, on the old Hindenburg line to Mont Didier, well behind the allied positions as they stood in 1916.

Savage fighting has taken place on the French part of the line. The German attempts to advance on the extreme tip of the salient driven into the French positions have been fruitless and they have been driven back at the point of the bayonet. The British on the front north of the Scarpe also have repulsed the enemy, but south of this river they

have been forced to retire. From Mont Didier the line to the northeast runs with a sharp angle to Warvillers and there it turns northward and passes along the Somme river to above Albert, where it again turns to the northeast until it joins the old lines held by the contending armies on the morning of March 21.

Out of the confusion of the battle, and the contrary claims of the contending armies, two new features stand out.

The first is that the French over a front of six miles have driven into the German lines along the southern side of the salient established by the Teutonic drive. The other is that the Germans have begun a new operation to the east of Arras which may be the inception of a widening of the area of battle to the northward.

ATTEMPTS TO BUY LOTTERY TICKET AND IS JAILED

(By Associated Press.)
SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, March 25.—For sending \$105 to a man in Havana with which to purchase lottery tickets, H. N. Clarity, a former Brooklyn man and pioneer American in the island, entered a plea of guilty in the federal court March 6 and was sentenced to serve twelve hours in the penitentiary and pay a fine of \$105. He served his sentence immediately after paying his fine.

The letter in which the money was sent to Havana was opened by the censor here and referred to Washington for action. Orders to prosecute followed.

In presenting the case to the court Charles Hartzell, attorney for Clarity, said the censorship was a war measure primarily for the purpose of stopping information of value to the enemy and obtaining other important war information.

BIRTH RATE LARGER IN GREAT BRITAIN

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, March 25.—Notwithstanding the war's carnage the number of births in 1916 exceeded by 277,395 the number of deaths, according to the registrar general's report, just made public. The reduction in the number of births amounted to only 12 per cent. There was an unprecedentedly low marriage rate in 1916 as compared with an abnormally high one in 1915, the decrease being attributed to the fact that compulsion for military service was applied to married men in 1916.

DOCTORS HAVE LITTLE TROUBLE DETECTING WOULD-BE SLACKERS

(By Associated Press.)
DETROIT, Mich., March 25.—Although a majority of slackers in Michigan have sought to evade military service by submitting sad stories of physical ailments or helpless dependents, more than a few classical excuses have been heard by local boards and medical examiners.

"I have picked a good many hot air balloons since the draft law became effective," said one investigator, "and I expect to puncture a good many more. Usually the draft evader who thinks he is clever is pitifully clumsy and often falls into the most simple sort of a trap." The following little system caught more than one would-be evader:

A youth alleging defective hearing was taken into an examining room. "My hearing is pretty bad," he told the medical officer. "That so? Let's see," said the doctor, as he stepped close to the young man. "Put your hand over your right ear," said the doctor, loudly. The youth did so. "Can you hear this?" asked the physician, in a low tone. No response. "Can you hear me now?" This was spoken in an ordinary voice. No response. "Now put your hand over your left ear," said the doctor in a very faint voice.

The order was promptly obeyed; the candidate "saw the light" and meekly submitted to the rest of the examination. A sweet young woman, employed in one of the Detroit draft board offices, caught several slackers who were clever enough to foil the medical examiners. One instance, which was reported by a member of the local board, concerned a young man who insisted he was deaf and who evaded the tests and

tricks of the examiners. As he left the medical room the smile which the demure miss flashed at him caused him to forget war and home and country. "Were you accepted?" the young woman asked in a very low tone. "Naw, they turned me down and gee, I wanted to—" "Don't worry, my friend, we made a little mistake and you're accepted."

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HOUSING SOLDIERS AT SAN DIEGO IS A BIG PROBLEM

(By Associated Press.)
SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 25.—Twice a week this city meets and solves a problem in housing and provisioning which probably is as severe as any community of like size in the country ever confronts. These periods are Wednesday evening, when the stress is not so great, and the time from early Saturday afternoon to early Monday morning. They are periods when the soldiers from Camp Kearney, near here, have "liberty" and pour into San Diego literally by the thousands.

When these periods come, work at the camp is at a minimum, set exercises and drill usually being discontinued and as few men as possible held to the camp routine. At these times, extra cars are attached to every train from Camp Kearney to San Diego, and numberless extra trains are run. Nearly everything with four wheels, that can negotiate the road between camp and town is a reasonable time and is not needed for other purposes, is turned into a "stage" and aids in transporting the throngs.

Hotel rooms become hard to get and one Saturday night recently, many soldiers slept in a park because they could not find lodgings. Some restaurants patronized chiefly by soldiers generally have a waiting list on these days, soldiers standing in line to get a meal. This, however, is true only of the establishments which for one reason or another have received a tacit recognition as "headquarters for soldiers."

On the days mentioned soldiers and sailors from stations near here, far outnumber civilians on the streets. They throng the sidewalks, occupy fully half of the in motion picture shows and flock to dances and amusement places by the score. The men are welcomed in town and there is very little disposition anywhere to overcharge them, officers say. Neither hotel or restaurant rates are raised at the times of congestion.

I ask you for your patronage for watch repairing for our mutual benefit. I need the work and you will have a watch that will tell the truth.—Emil Merman, at Roberts' grocery store. advM4tf

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