

CHICKASHA DAILY EXPRESS
EVANS & SMITH, Publishers.
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Official Paper of Grady County
Entered at the Postoffice at Chickasha, Oklahoma, as Second Class Mail Matter
Chickasha, Okla., July 12, 1915

THE BASIC ISSUE IN THE CONTROVERSY WITH GERMANY.

In form, at least, the German reply to the last American note is friendly enough. There is nothing suggestive of "blood and iron" in it and taking the language at its face value there is evidence of a desire to reach an understanding with the United States on the points at issue.

When this has been said, however, it is about all that can be said in favor of the reply from the American point of view. Germany defends her right to fight for natural existence which nobody denies; she defends her right to sink vessels bearing munitions of war and other contraband, which the United States does not dispute, and she offers protection to passengers traveling on American ships, asking, at least by implication, that the United States waive the principle of international law whereby passengers on merchant vessels, whether neutral or belligerent, must be given a chance for their lives before a ship is destroyed.

The principle for which the United States is contending is so important that everyone should have a clear understanding of it. We have not seen a clearer exposition of it in non-technical language than was recently given by the Saturday Evening Post and we here present it as follows.

Last July there was a thing called international law. True, at many points it was not exactly defensible; but, in spite of vague and debatable boundaries here and there, a very solid and definite body remained which was presumed to be binding on all civilized nations. And on that non-combatants and neutrals were as much entitled to rely as a man walking down the street of his home town is entitled to rely on the rule that his property shall not be taken from him except by the due process of law.

To assume that any belligerent can change the code of accepted international law to suit its own exigencies is simply to throw the whole code into the wastebasket and accept international anarchy. It is not to put a neutral in the unhappy position of a traveler in Mexico, where the first man he meets with a gun in his hand can declare whatever law he pleases and execute it on the spot.

To say, for example, that international law cannot apply to submarines because they were developed in their present efficiency, since the law was framed, is as cogent as to urge that

a belligerent would be entitled to blow up a neutral's powder factory if it could do so with the new agency of an aeroplane. If a nation is absolved from international law because it is "fighting for its life," then any attempt to set up international law is only a silly futility for every nation that fights at all is always "fighting for its life."

Neutral nations can no more afford to hand the world over to belligerents to set up whatever rules their various exigencies may dictate than peaceful members of a community can afford to give a free hand to the truculent ones. Neutral nations are entitled to say to belligerents: "Shoot one another if you insist on it; but you must not shoot away our guaranteed rights."

ECONOMICS AND WAR.

Saturday Evening Post: Judging by British and French returns, exports of the countries at war must have declined at least a billion dollars in the first quarter of this year—which is one of the smaller illustrations of the folly of trying to find any economic justification for war.

Take the case of Germany. Her sales to the three countries she is now fighting amounted to considerably more than a quarter of her total foreign sales. The notion that she could possibly gain foreign trade by fighting her three biggest customers, and immediately cutting off over a fourth of her business, might appeal to a lunatic, but never to a man capable of adding two and two correctly, yet the militarist propaganda finally leans pretty heavily on the foreign trade. The place in the sun, so far as any tangible meaning can be attached to it, means mostly a place to sell more goods.

China was the chief objective of German imperialism; yet every week since August 1 Germany has probably lost as much foreign trade as her total yearly trade with China amounts to. We know positively that this war can not economically pay any belligerent but the war itself shows that demonstrating a thing does not pay is by no means equivalent to stopping it.

As to total economic effects of the war, destruction of foreign trade, so far, has probably put the world back about ten years—that is, value of all the goods entering into international trade in 1915 will be no greater than in 1905, and may sink back to 1900.

That what is happening in Europe hardly threatens to set the world trade farther back indicates the rapidity with which commerce and wealth have multiplied in late years.

HEAD OFF HESSIAN FLY.

The weekly news letter of the U. S. department of agriculture contains the following:

The loss in the 1915 wheat crop from the ravages of the Hessian fly in some sections will be the greatest in several years. From June to October, 1914, the department issued repeated warnings and advisory statements telling of impending danger of a serious outbreak of the pest during the year 1915. It is too late to do anything toward lessening the devastations of the Hessian fly in this year's crop. Now is the time, however, to begin the work of saving from the fly the mil-

lions of acres of wheat which will be planted on the present infested area within the next few months.

The Hessian fly, being in the "flaxseed" stage in wheat stubble and in unharvested wheat from June till September, or even October in the south, can be destroyed by carrying out the following methods of control:

- 1. Burn, where possible and safe, all stubble and ruined wheat.
2. Disk all stubble and ruined wheat immediately after harvest, where burning is impracticable.
3. Plow under deeply all stubble and ruined wheat fields before August 15, harrow the ground, and roll if necessary.
4. Harrow, disk, pasture, or otherwise effectually destroy all volunteer wheat.
5. As a measure preparatory to sowing, plow as early and deeply as existing conditions will permit; disk, harrow and roll until thoroughly pulverized, compact seed bed is obtained.
6. Do not sow wheat until after fly-free date, approximately shown on accompanying map.
7. Rotate your crops if possible.

EXPRESS PACKETTES.

When Old Sol sends sizzlers down, What's the use to wear a frown? "Hail to summer," drink the toast, Ere we luckless sinners roast.

S) Stimp says he notices that a girl is always better looking when she isn't homely.

One reason for not complaining about the weather is because it doesn't help any.

Uncle Hl suggests that every man should strive to excel in something, even if it is nothing more than playing golf.

Also, it is about time for some scientist who sits sweltering in his study to give up a set of rules on "How to Keep Cool."

But the mere fact that one is a member of the Sunshine club need not make him shun the shady side of the street.

A man may pride himself on being a peach of a housekeeper—but he is soon disillusioned when his wife comes home from a visit.

Under existing conditions you can hardly blame Germany for preferring to keep on sending notes instead of forwarding the cold cash.

One Chickasha man wonders how it is that his wife can save up a month's work for him about the house while he is away from home for a week.

We may be mistaken about it but we doubt very seriously whether the Bug River in Europe has anything on the localities about our street lights on these beautiful summer evenings.

Bob Richards came home the other day and soon started trouble. It arose when he suggested that Albert Thomp-

Another Big Shipment of "PALM BEACH WEATHER" has arrived, and although we didn't order it, there's a lot more coming. We are well prepared to aid in your defense against the sweltering heat. We still have a big assortment of Palm Beach, Silk and Mohair Suits, Panama, Bankok, Leghorn and Split Straw Hats, Sport Shirts and B. V. D. Underwear. You know the sort of clothes we sell, if you know us. They have set a new record, not only in little prices, but in lasting satisfaction to the wearer. Eagle Mercantile Co. Home of Hart-Schaffner & Marx Clothes.

son and W. S. Richards look alike. Both of the latter were mad enough to fight.

A STOLEN SMILER TWO.

Protest Answered. "Hang it, Jones, I've just been stung by one of your confounded bees! I demand reparation!" "Certainly, Bilson. You just show me which bee it was and I'll punish the horrid thing severely!"—Philadelphia Evening Ledger.

A Busy Font. Sexton (to young farmer who has called to arrange for the christening of his child)—Doan'tee bring 'e Toosday—Vivar be fishing o' Tooseday." Farmer—Well, then, say Monday. Sexton—Noa—not Monday. Font'll be full o' minnows Monday.—Punch.

JUST A THOUGHT ERE THE DAY IS GONE.

This is the preparation for a good old age: duty well done, for its own sake. For God's sake, and for the sake of the commonwealth of man. When a man works only for himself, he gets neither rest here for reward hereafter.—Robert Collyer.

MY NEW AUTO.

My new auto 'tis of thee, Short road to poverty. Of thee I chant, I know I blew a pile of dough. For thee, only a short while ago, But hate you I really can't.

I love thy gaudy hue, Thy nice rubber tires so new, And to distance I bid adieu, When riding in you. In town and o'er countryside, You are my joy, my pride, Each happy day.

"This true I have no bank roll now, Like, once, enough to choke a cow, But I do not regret, Probably I paid a price, That would buy a mansion twice, But mansions are not to ride in, And cars are, you bet.

Now if you should ever wear out, A thing I very much doubt, That would be too bad. Anyway though, I am saving my mon, From this time on, so help me John, To buy me a new car, if needs be, And speed some more my lad. —By a Subscriber.

Daniel Frohman presents Florence Reed in the famous emotional drama, "The Dancing Girl," by Henry Arthur Jones, in motion pictures, produced by the Famous Players Film Co., Sugg Theatre, Monday, July 12th.

CLOSING OUT SALE---THE STOCK OF HIGH GRADE MILLINERY Of Miss Edith Bradfield, Rear of First National Bank Building, MUST BE DISPOSED OF AT ONCE REGARDLESS OF VALUE. We bought this stock of HIGH GRADE MILLINERY from the Trustee, M. Behr at 30 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR and every article in the store must go. We expect to continue the business and will leave for New York in due time to purchase our stock of Millinery for this fall. The Sale Begins Tomorrow Morning. Just come and help yourself. The bargains will be far beyond your expectations. BURR-BURGESS MILLINERY COMPANY Rear of First National Bank Building

KOZY Special Feature Extraordinary—Monday, July 12th "THE GODDESS" 5c-10c Featuring Anita Stewart and Earle Williams. Both of these stars appear in this chapter. Coming Tuesday—Maurice Costello and Norma Talmage in "The Criminal." A 3-Reel Vitagraph Feature. Some Picture.