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Franklinton, La., Dec. 13, 1917



"My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty."

General Kaledines, Cossack leader with Generals Korniloff and Dutoff started civil war in Russia in opposition to the Bolsheviks.

The British armies surrounded Jerusalem, the Holy City, and compelled its surrender by the Turks, under whose control it had been for more than 1200 years.

Thirteen negro soldiers convicted of sharing in the riot in Houston, Tex., August 23, were hanged at Fort Sam Houston, forty-one were given life sentences and others received minor punishments.

Every postal employee in the United States has been instructed to take an active part in the campaign for the sale of war-savings stamps. In order to reach the desired sales mark of \$2,000,000,000 by January 1, 1919, it will be necessary to sell sufficient stamps to average \$16.50 for each man, woman and child in the country.

Germany's Loss.

With the declaration of Brazil of a state of war between that country and Germany, the latter can now count eighteen enemy nations arraigned against her.

Germany's losses in men and money, while they must be enormous, are in reality the least of the disasters that have befallen her. The one great disaster that misguided country has brought upon herself, and which will have most far-reaching effect, is the loss of her standing with the nations of the world. With the exception of the countries leagued with her in this unholy war, Germany is an outcast among the nations of the earth.

Germany is not feeling the blighting effects of this ostracism now as she will feel it in years to come. She claims that her policy of frightfulness is a necessary measure of self-defense yet this same policy has alienated numbers of nations that but for that inhuman course would today be, if not her avowed friends, at least strictly neutral.

Peace will come after a while and in the reckoning Germany's course will be laid bare before a just and discriminating world. We say "just and discriminating" because we believe, despite Germany's frightful defection from national humanity and honor, the large majority of the peoples of the earth are at heart humane and honorable. And the latent principles of humanity and justice that underlie and form the bed-rock foundations of civilized nations, have revolted and will continue to revolt against the savagery displayed by that would-be fount of "kultur."

This antipathy will take form of a prejudice against not only Germany as a nation, but against the German blood. Not all the peoples of the earth have the finely discriminating judgment of President Wilson, and not all of them will be able to separate the acts of the German Govern-

ment from the impulses of the German people. It is a common thing to hear, even in charity-loving America, references to 'German brutality' and 'German savagery.' It is of no avail to tell the people that this brutality and savagery is the result of a "system" and that in reality the German people as a whole do not countenance it. Human nature is prone to believe that actions speak louder than words and Germany's actions will form the complainants' evidence when Germany comes to trial before the people of the earth.

The German bed will be a bed of thorns for generations to come.

If Germany Won.

Do you realize what would happen to us in America if Germany defeated Great Britain and France?

You think of us as separated from her by 3000 miles of water, but oceans in these days of electricity and air-ships and submarines, are barriers no more effective than mountain brooks.

You recall the German U-boat which suddenly appeared last summer at our very door to sink several cargo and passenger steamers off our New England coast?

Within six months after a victory of Germany in Europe, German warships would be on their way to our ports to levy the great tribute upon this great country which is part and parcel of the German war plan.

That's what the triumph of the Kaiser would mean, to America and to you—billions of dollars of tribute to which you would have to pay your share through oppressive taxation. It is on the Pan-Germanic program.

Officers, merchants, educators said as much to me in Germany, Belgium, Poland during my year behind the German lines on relief work. And you have probably read the corroborative evidence of their purpose in the Kaiser's threat to Ambassador Gerard, "America had better look out after this war!"

In Brazil, Chili, Venezuela, prominent German merchants whom I met in the course of my travels, frankly confided to me the intention of Germany "one day" to make an "overseas Germany" of South America. And an elephant catcher from Hamburg told me years ago in the jungles of Lower Siam that "the day was coming" when Germans would not need to ask "permits of England or France or Siam" for a free hunting band in Siam or Malay. As a German officer at their great headquarters in Northern France said to me once at the close of a discussion as to where the war was leading the principal belligerents—Great Britain, France, Germany—"world power or complete defeat; Germany wants no half way result!"

A German victory would at once put in jeopardy all the principles for which we ever fought, freedom on land in 1776, liberty at sea in 1812, the right of frontier lines in 1847, the re-affirmation of the freedom to the negro in 1861, and the rights of little nations in 1898.

A fortnight ago, a German victory seemed the wildest improbability. Since then the situation has changed. The German armies are pouring into Northern Italy. Italy may not be able to stop them. Germany may force her to make peace. With Russia and Italy both out of the war, Germany and Austria would be able to send practically all their force against the Allies on the western front.

The chances are that England, France and Belgium alone could not hold them. The United States must leap to their side, the American people must leap to their side. Not American soldiers only, not American ships only, American guns only, but

American men, women and children from Maine to Texas, from Texas to Oregon, must in one way or another consider themselves fighters at the side of America's Allies on the battle-front.

If they cannot hold a gun, they must support those who do. They must save food and save money. They must talk war. They must think war.

If they don't, Germany will win. And then—

Cotton Report

Director, Sam L. Rogers, of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, announces the preliminary report of cotton ginned in Louisiana up to November 14 th, and comparing 1917 with that ginned in 1916.

In this report Washington Parish is credited with 1064 bales in 1916 and 4,459 for 1917

Stockholders' Meeting.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Peoples Building & Loan Association will be held at the office of the Association in Covington, La., on Wednesday, the 9th day of January, 1918, for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year and transacting any other business that may come before the meeting. Thos. M. Burns, Secretary.

I, the undersigned, convicted of Incest at the November term of court, 1915, am applying for a parole. J. H. Freddy.

All Dependent on Will. Nothing is impossible; there are ways which lead to everything; and if we had sufficient will we should always have sufficient means.—La Rochefoucauld.

Others' "Best Selves." We all find a good deal of comfort in thinking of our best selves. If we thought very much about our worst selves we should be pretty miserable. Such thinking as we do about "worst selves" is usually about the worst selves of other people. And our consciousness of the worst selves of other people usually corresponds with our power to bring out those worst selves.—John D. Barry.

Notice.

The Tax Roll for 1917 has been completed and filed in my office and taxes are now receivable. J. E. BATEMAN, Sheriff and Tax Collector.

See F. M. BROWN, Franklinton, Louisiana. For Coffins, Caskets and Undertakers' Supplies. A full line of Coffins, Caskets, Robes and Shrouds at prices to suit all.

LOW RATES

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Account

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Return Limit
Tickets available for return passage up to and including January 10, 1917.

One and One-Third Fare Plus 25 Cents For Round Trip.

For further information apply to Ticket Agent, or M. J. McMahon, Traffic Manager, New Orleans, La. or J. A. Lacour, C. A., Jackson, Miss.

WAR TALKS

By **UNCLE DAN**
Number Four

Military Training Necessary for Safety and Defense.

"Say, Uncle Dan," said Billie, "Jimmie and I have been looking up about war in the encyclopedia at school. We found that in the war between Germany and France in 1870-71, Germany lost in killed and wounded 28,000 soldiers while France lost about six times as many, and besides that, she lost every battle. We asked Professor Slocum why this was. He said that the German army was highly trained and ably commanded, while the French soldiers were poorly trained; and that their war department was honey-combed with jealousy and politics; that the officers were not much good, and that's why France lost the war and so many men. What do you think about it, Uncle Dan?"

"Well," said Uncle Dan, "Professor Slocum is right. By inefficiency France lost that war, together with two of her best provinces—Alsace and Lorraine—and had to pay a billion dollars indemnity money. France today learned her lesson by that sad experience, so she put in universal military training, and as a result, her soldiers now know how to fight and how to protect themselves. They are losing less men in the war than the Germans. France also put politics out of her war department, so that expert authority, instead of bureaucratic stupidity, now directs the army. The result is, France has one of the best and most efficient armies every assembled, and this shows what thorough training and good leadership means in warfare. This saved France in this crisis, as well as the liberties of the world."

"As war is now conducted, there is no place for an untrained man. A body of 10,000 well trained soldiers properly handled could defeat five times their number of raw recruits and do it every time with comparatively small loss to themselves. Proper training alone will reduce the death and casualty rate one-third of what it otherwise would be, and right here is an unanswerable argument for universal military training."

"Our government has no moral right to force her men into war service without properly training them for it. To do so is simply murder, hence the frantic effort that is now being made to give her soldiers some training before they are sent to the front. If we are to win this war, it will take trained men to do it, and it will take trained men to win any other war that may come upon us in the future. If we must fight, let us fight to win and not to lose."

"That's the stuff," said Billie. Continuing, Uncle Dan said: "Our government has expended about \$300,000,000 to put up cantonments and training stations in order to train the men called by the selective draft. When these men are trained the training stations should be immediately filled with younger men, say those in their nineteenth year, to receive six months of intensive military training along the lines of the Chamberlain bill. This will be of immeasurable benefit to them individually. It will do them more good than any other two years of their whole life; it will make them strong, manly, self-reliant, quick to see and quick to act; it will equip them for a successful life. In short, it will rebuild American manhood and will also give the government a body of trained men to draw from in case it is necessary to defend our flag and country. We must settle this question of universal military training immediately, otherwise these training camps may be demolished. The adoption of universal military training will be notice to the world that from then on we will be prepared to defend ourselves promptly and efficiently, and this will do more to keep us out of war in the future than anything else we could do."

"Do you think, brother," said Mrs. Graham, "that there will ever be another war?"

"I have no doubt about it," said Uncle Dan. "So long as men are selfish, so long as nations are ambitious to acquire territory, so long as population presses and demands more room, so long as there remains a scramble for world trade—so long wars will be. When the time comes that we reach the high plane for which we hope and dream, when all will recognize the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, then, and then only, will wars cease. When that day comes doors will need no locks, banks will need no vaults to protect their treasures, but that day is a long way off."

"The only safe and sane plan is to be able to defend ourselves at all times. Therefore, every citizen should insist that senators and congressmen shall provide for universal military training, so that never again shall the country be caught so completely unready as this war found us. Fortunately, in this case, our enemy has been held back, so we have had a few months in which to prepare. This advantage probably will never come again. It is however our salvation today."

"Because she was ready, Switzerland is an island of peace in a sea of war. Safety first is good, but safety always is better. In strength there is safety. You never saw a tin can tied to the tail of a bulldog. There is a reason."

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AND

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

Realizing that this year, the next and the next maybe, the American farmer will be called upon to feed the major portion of the peoples of the Earth, we have arranged for our readers to also receive The Progressive Farmer. We recognize it as the South's leading exponent of the now vital doctrines of crop diversification and farm products conservation.

So important have these problems appeared to our President that he has issued an appeal to the South to not only feed itself but have something more for our sorely needing friends across the Seas.

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THE ERA-LEADER, Franklinton, La.

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