THE DAILY MISSOURIAN

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MAY THE PEOPLE RULE!

War with all its horrors has been brought to our shores. Despite the President's efforts and the people's fervent hopes against war, it has been forced on us by a predatory oversea power and we have accepted the challenge—we have chosen our only alternative. Every citizen of the nation, man, woman or child can do a portion toward conserving the energies of the country and increasing its strength in this hour of trial. Let no one fail.

Democracy and autocracy are struggling in a death grapple. May the sceptre of right and justice prevail in the hands of the people and thus hasten the day of the federation of the world.

Eastern newspapers and magazines find a great deal of delight in cartooning the Middle West as asleep to the seriousness of the international situation. Evidently they forget that there are other means of showing patriotism than by displaying a flag in every conspicuous place and shouting with feverish excitement on the street corners about the "call of the nation." The Middle West has always equaled the occasions in the past, and it will do so again.

MOBILIZING OUR RESOURCES

The mobilization of troops is not the only form necessary for the preparation which the United States now faces.

There must be a mobilizing of our resources. President Wilson in his war message to Congress made clear the necessity for the assembling of the wealth of the country in the sentence, "It will involve the organization and mobilization of all of the material resources of the country to supply the materials of war and serve the incidental needs of the nation in the most abundant, and yet the most economical and efficient way possible."

Wars are lost for want of food, clothing and other necessities of life. Preparedness does not mean men, guns, aeroplanes nor guns alone, but it means wheat, corn, bread, clothing, shoes—everything that is needed by those who are engaged in the war and those who are left behind.

Reports come out from Germany of food riots: the people are starving. Germany apparently has men and munition but not the one fundamental for success—food.

The mobilization of our material resources means an increase in the acreage of all grains that will produce food for man or beast, an increase in the manufacture of canned goods and other food products, a saving of waste in manufacture. By the use of gold we have gained through the European struggle we can give financial aid to the Allies, but what they need most are our material resources.

Not a vacant inch should be found; food should be produced everywhere. The wheels of industry must be set spinning to the utmost capacity, and those manufacturing products of less importance should turn their energies to the making of products more vital and essential to the welfare of the country.

Patriotism has its various forms of display. To the average person it is the man who marches to the front who is the personification of patriotism—and he is—but there are others.

The man in the field, in the factory, in the forge room and on the supply train is performing just as great an act of patriotism as the soldier. True it is that his life is not so much endangered, but it is upon him that the life of the man at the front depends.

The mobilization of resources must begin—sow every vacant lot and acre, speed up the wheels of manufacture, utilize all waste products and stand ready to throw your every energy in the great bringing together of the country's goods.

Along with the egg show which is to be given in May, there might be held a potato festival, an onion fete and a vegetable fair.

The United States, with its two living former presidents, has nothing on Russia, which has a former Czar.

THE AMERICAN WAR MONTH

With the declaration by Congress that a state of war exists with Germany, another mark must be placed on the American war record for April. This month—the period when nature is at her best—has been an ominous one in American History. All the important wars of our nation were begun in April, and many other important events have occured during this month.

From behind rocks, trees and fences the American minutemen "fired the shot heard round the world" on April 19, 1775, and thus started the Revolution. Just nine years later, to the day, General Washington proclaimed the war at an end. The embargo which brought about the War of 1812 was established in April of that year. The first hostilities of both Mexican struggles occured in April, one in 1846 and the other in 1914. Fort Sumter was fired on April 12, 1861, and on the 9th of April, four years later, General Lee surrendered to the Union forces. One the fateful April 19, the Spanish-American Was was really begun, for on that date of 1898, Congress authorized President McKinley to take measures to free Cuba.

Again April has brought strife to the United States, after all efforts for peace and neutrality have failed. Again a united nation will fight for the principles believed to be right, for the rights of humanity and to bring about peace. No stain will be left on the American record.

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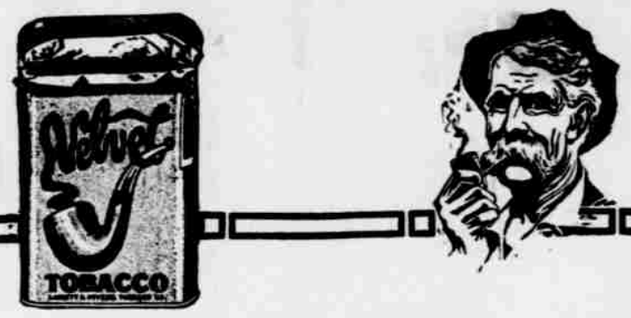

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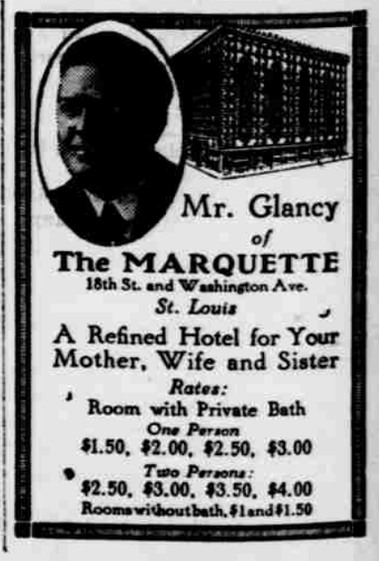

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