

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER  
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THE OBSERVER, ST. JOSEPH, MO.

CALAMITY HOWLERS TUNING UP

Have you noticed that the calamity howlers are beginning to tune up? Have you heard the first notes in Charley Morris' Gazette, John Swanger's Herald Capital and Three E's Magazine's Springfield Republican, followed by the base rump of the Globe-Democrat? If not, you have not had your ear to the ground, for these mighty G. O. P. solonets have put in the perforated chest and started the crank to turning out most doleful calamity howls.

Now, it is not a fact that Morris, Swanger, Three E's and the editorial staff of the G. O. P. are actually themselves candidates for the poor house, neither are the poor houses of the state being enlarged for their reception. On the contrary, all of these "equilibriumers" are more prosperous than they ever were, all being well-filled with clothes, food and bank accounts, as are all of their neighbors, and not a mother's son of them, as their howl would indicate, being dressed in rags, lying on crates, with meat on the table but once a week and never any pie at all.

But here is the secret, of course you need not tell it, gentle reader. There is an election coming on next year, and the cuts of which this editorial push consists want to be the first again and how to hypnotize the sovereign voter into putting the Democrats from power is their tough job and it is a tough one to tackle, for the Democrats have kept the faith. They have been true to their campaign pledges. They have given the country a clean, honorable, efficient administration of its affairs. With the world plunged suddenly into such a fog of death, destruction and chaos as it never before has known, a Democratic administration has succeeded in keeping the United States safe and clear of it all, the only great country on earth today in which the people are enjoying life, looking with buoyant faith to the future, and sleeping well of nights. This doleful editorial quartette should be thanking God for Wilson and the Democratic party. Deep down in their hearts we have a suspicion that that is what they are doing, even though it be an unspoken thought. But the habits of a lifetime are strong. Partisan ship is a mighty motive. The hunger for office and power is keen. The congenial instinct to snipe the Democrats is masterful. And so, with a despicable groan at the ridiculousness and fatuity of it all, they god their lungs and fill up their voices in a sobbing calamity quartette.

It is an unbroken line of history from the time of the Pharaohs down to Oct. 15, 1915, that when the ours are at their worst and with not a single solitary good reason why they should be entrusted with power they make faces at the lie, swallow a cake of soap so they can froth at the mouth, and "holter calamity" for all they are worth. That is the desperate resource of Morris, Swanger and their active cohorts now, and by all tokens it will be the desperate resource of the whole Republican party next year.

They don't tell, yet, just what it is they charge the Democrats with having done to bring on calamity. But they'd be including the charge in their calamity chorus after a while. They won't say it was the legislation to curb the rapacity of the trusts that did it. They won't say it was the federal reserve banking act that did it. But they'll rob the graves of their ancestors, attempt to revamp the old protection issue, and charge that it is Democratic tariff reform that has made the United States the most miserable, woe-begone, destitute and hopeless aggregation of people on the face of the earth.

Obviously it is a little brutal for us to tell just the plain truth about it, but it must be done. The facts are that labor and industry in the United States have the highest wall in the world built for protecting them from the "competition of the pauper labor of Europe," and this despite Democratic reduction of tariff rates. The war has practically stopped all competition for Germany, that formerly sold hundreds of millions of her products in the American market, is retained in by a ring of iron and steel and sells as next to nothing. Russia likewise is hemmed in and sells as nothing. England and France are so busy producing war material on the one hand, while England is attempting to annex more promising markets on the other, that the competition of

their mills with ours in the "home market" has become negligible. The so-called "favorable balance of trade" is more "favorable" than it ever was in the painful days of high tariffs, and the "home market" is more absolutely a home market, and more of a "protected" than was ever dreamed of by the G. O. P. high priests. With increasing imports exports have enormously increased.

If protection, therefore, can make a heaven on earth, as Republicans have always taught us, the United States at this moment is a high tariff paradise. If what we want is to sell, but not to buy, if what we want is to force competition in the home market, if what we want is domestic competition merely, as Republicans have always preached, we have it all. Their dreams, and more than their dreams, have all, by the magic of war, come true. The fullest measure of prosperity that protection can bring is ours, and yet Morris, Swanger et al are howling calamity. The mystery of it is that these noble Romans can thus desert their idol, forsake their principles and admit that their solemn promises were empty solemn humbug.

About all that we can do for the great doleful quartette, to save the face of their theories, is to declare that if it be true that they are howling when they about calamity that "protection" that the war has brought has also brought to us not a little adversity and hardship, for the war's uncertainties have made confidence and enterprise a little more timid than they were before. There has been much shifting and much destruction of markets, such a shaking of credits, such an upsetting of the world of finance, such a tremendous destruction of wealth and impoverishment of our foreign markets as has unavoidably affected our prosperity. But it has not blighted it. There is no excuse for calamity howling. Above all the people of the earth Americans today are three blessed. Their institutions, their commerce and industry, their financial and social structures, have weathered the gales of an unparalleled and unprecedented storm. We will not claim all the credit for the Democratic party. We will claim, though, that much of the credit is due President Wilson and his advisers for the calm and statesmanlike wisdom they have displayed through the crisis. And we will claim, furthermore, that which credit is due a Democratic congress that placed the federal reserve act in the statute books in the nick of time. That act strengthened and fortified our banking and finance just before they were subjected to a tremendous strain and without it the war-time exigencies have been, and probably would have been, frightful. But much of the credit we will be magnanimous and say most of it is due to the diversity and magnitude of the natural resources of this great country, to the essential soundness of our business and commerce, and to the enlightened good sense, uncommon ability and dauntless courage of our people, who looked into the teeth of the storm unflinching and whose splendid support of the administration gave it fresh strength and courage in the hours that were blackest.

And just one more word, Messrs. Morris, McInnes et al, and we say it in all kindness to our thoughtless and misguided brethren—if ever there was a time when it was needless and unbecoming and almost impudent for American citizens to sing calamity songs, that time is right now. It is the time of all times when we, the most fortunate people in the world's history, in a time the darkest and most dangerous in the history of the world, should lift our voices in humble and reverent thanksgiving for the blessings that we now enjoy—and that at this dangerous time are ours.

WILSON WILL TAKE BRITAIN ON  
The signal victory which President Wilson has won by peaceful means in his contention with Germany is one of those that all those hostile to his administration said could not be done, therefore it is all the more signal. The stand that the president took and which caused Bryan to resign proves now to have been a means of promoting peace and friendship and a better understanding between the two governments. At the same time the timid pro-Allies who so severely criticized President Wilson for being too mild and dilatory in his methods, and who declared that Germany was merely playing horse with the United States, are wholly discredited. Those who have been frothing at the mouth and demanding war with Germany are out of a job. There is nothing left to fight about. What they would have accomplished, if at all, in an ocean of blood and human misery, President Wilson has accomplished to the full by the peaceful methods of diplomacy and reason.

While all this is true, it is only fair to recognize the extent of the concessions that Germany has made. They were not easy to make. They were a great deal more than most people believed, in the beginning, that Germany would make. And they were made under circumstances far from propitious.

The United States is supplying Germany's enemies with not only arms and ammunition but with enormous loans, while at the same time it is submitting to British violations of international law that transgress the rights of Germany and the United States alike. Because of these conditions public feeling in Germany has been aroused to an inconsiderable extent against this country, and in Germany, as everywhere, public sentiment sways the government. When in spite of all this the Kaiser yields completely to the demands of the United States it signifies either how greatly just were our demands or how great is the desire of the German government to win the favorable regard of the government and people of the United States.

Now that as it may, the incident is now happily closed and with the closing the decks are cleared for President Wilson and Secretary Lansing to bring the big guns of inevitable reason and justice to bear on the British government. The president was firm in his determination that his present to Great Britain should not appear to have been influenced by Germany. He therefore demanded that the German differences be settled first. They have been settled. German aggressions against the United States have ceased. The aggressions of Great Britain continue, and in the aggregate they have cost and are costing this country hundreds of millions of dollars. Good Americans who are for America first, and who insist on the rights of this country against British wrongs, may now confidently look to President Wilson to be as resolute and wise and truly American in his determination to secure redress from Great Britain as he was in the case of Germany.

HOW ABOUT IT, YOU HOWLERS?  
Some of the hide-bound Republican papers of this section who will print any and kind of a story in an attempt to deceive the people, and through falsehoods connive to bolster up their own cause, have been at late filing their columns with all sorts of doleful calamity howls as for instance, this sort of rot. Reports from New England in towns where factories cannot be adapted to the manufacture of shrapnel and leaden bullets are said at all reasonable. There is, in fact, no prosperity down east.

It is significant of business in general. Because silks are luxuries, people do not buy them unless the business outlook is encouraging. The silk industry in the United States may be said to profit out of all by the war, but is, if anything, the loser by it, for the great struggle touches our industry in two vital spots: dyes and fashions.

"According to about all the customary tests, the United States is on a rising wave of prosperity, at the present time. Yet conditions are so extraordinary that the far-seeing man quickly catches the significance of Chairman Gary's short and cautious answer to a question concerning the steel outlook. The steel business is satisfactory, he said, 'at present'."

"Clammy rains down east," cry the prophets of calamity in Missouri, who point "down east" for their evidence because they can find none of it at home.

"There is no question as to the general business activity of the country today," says the "down east" Springfield Republican. "The United States is on a rising wave of prosperity."

HE IS A FRIEND INDEED  
While the loan to the British was being arranged, the firm of J. Pierp Morgan, financial agents for the English, received a single subscription for more than \$20,000,000 of the Anglo-French bond issue from one of the wealthiest men in the United States, according to a statement given out by the firm.

And what a mental picture the above sentence conjures! One man in neutral America has subscribed \$20,000,000 to aid one of the belligerents in a war in which his own nation has no part. One man in neutral America has given another nation enough to build two dreadnaughts, fifty submarines or several thousand torpedoes such as sank the Lusitania. One man in neutral America has put into the Franco-British war chest enough money to encompass the killings of upwards of 5,000 human beings, as the averages of modern warfare go!

What wonders that \$20,000,000 would have worked if put into peaceful pursuits in America, where, his likely, this millionaire or his heirs amassed it! How many miles of railroad it would have built, how many factories it would have financed, how many mechanics, laborers or clerks it would have employed! What trade it might have promoted if it had been used to enable extensions of credit to our South American would-be consumers, such as they must have if our foreign trade is to be permanently extended!

Lucky it is for those European war chests that there is in America, one man who can, by the mere turning of his hand throw \$20,000,000 into their cavernous interiors, and other men who can put in hundreds of thousands, or a million, at a throw. For, if that \$20,000,000 loan had to be subscribed in \$100 lots, it would be a long time before enough men were found to undertake this neutral method of collecting 8 per cent per annum! It is a method, thank Providence, which is far from popular with the mass of public opinion.

TWO WAYS OF WORLD REFORM  
With such a plentiful assortment of reformers scattered everywhere and with so many of them assuming such arrogance, it might not be out of place to suggest to them that there are two ways of reforming the world. One begins at home. The other begins as far away from home as convenient. One reforms the individual by convincing him. The other seeks to reform masses by compulsion. One wins its way by virtue of love and reason. The other wins, when it wins at all, because it has the policeman's club for its symbol. Both methods serve their useful purposes, though the one is always safe and the latter liable to the gravest abuses. But one thing may be said with confidence, and it is this: The reform that starts away from home, that depends on "be it enacted that it is forbidden" for the achievement of results, never has gotten anywhere and never will get anywhere except thanks to the good homes of the world in which the material for good citizenship is trained.

The fictitious values that a dishonest mortgage dealer created in the Kansas City market by his forgeries were not a marker to the fictitious values that this present stock gambling fever in Wall street is creating. The collapse of that get-rich-quick bubble will inevitably leave a trail of want and disaster throughout the country. And then Wall street wonders that the portion of the country from which solid prosperity comes has not very much use for Wall street.

President Bent Morrison of the board of public works has already shown his interest in the taxpayers' money by making city employees work the eight hours for which they draw pay. Now if he will stop juggling in city-owned automobiles he will have added credit.

Now that Mayor Marshall has not only ousted, but fired, discharged and kicked Rudolph Heim out of his official family it is in order that some work be done on St. Joseph's streets and boulevards, and a "whole passel" of noise stopped. Fix the streets.

Every day you read of someone who has been elected a member of such and such a society and "the honor came unsolicited," when the fact is that the recipient of the honor had been working tooth and nail for it for half a lifetime.

And now, in order that the price of drugs may be raised, it is claimed that speculators are buying up all of the foreign-made goods in the United States markets. There are several ways of milking the public.

Those press correspondents who say that Kansas will have no candidates for national honors next year don't know the windy sunflower state. Such correspondents need the help of Dr. Woodson.

And the Republicans want to run Senator Burton of rivers and harbors fame for president. Without further investigation we can assure them that he will not get a vote in St. Joseph or anywhere along the territory through which the Missouri flows.

Former Supreme Judge Lamm has so far unborn that he has decided to make the race for the Republican nomination for governor and fight for it. Two weeks ago he would take it unless it was handed to him.

The movement of the Retail Merchants' association to repair the Washington-St. Joseph road should meet with the cordial and substantial help of every business man of St. Joseph.

Those were graceful and heartfelt tributes paid by the members of the St. Joseph Bar association to the memory of the late Michael G. Moran, Monday. It was a fitting lowering of his life's curtain.

Uncle Jawa Hockyfeiler has turned over all of his interest in the Colorado Fuel & Iron Co. to Johnnie D., who will now see if he can improve on the old gentleman's grabbing process.

Police Judge Allen should see that all auto speeders who run down people get the limit, or send them to a court where they will. There is too much reckless driving in St. Joseph.

The great war loan which the Austrians and Hungarians are raising so easily among themselves is in curious and striking contrast to the methods of the Allies.

If you can find a Democrat in St. Joseph who will vote for Hadley for governor, bring him to this office. We want to see what he looks like.

Now the wise old gopites say it will be Dickey for senator and Hadley for the empty honors of G. O. P. leaders in Missouri. Come on in, boys, etc.

Before you become madly infatuated with the commission form of government, look into what it has done for cities which have tried it.

And now Robert B. Palmer of South St. Joseph has sued Minister Ryland and wife, claiming that they broke up his home.

Now that we have recognized Carranza in Mexico, let us have some peace down there—even if it must be fought for.

As a public debater ex-Member of the Board of Public Works Heim would not pick many paw-paws.

Judges Allen and Mayer still keep up their heartless separation of families—by the divorce route.

The Kansas City papers state that Pelzer "swindled by a system." Yes, and he stole by wholesale.

Those thirty Amazonia men should get George Morrison, colored, out of the battle.

Missouri Always Has the Goods  
Missouri has so far won 113 medals at the Panama-Pacific exposition. Missouri is there with the goods—Excellor Springs Standard.

At Least Two Think So  
Victor Murdock, chairman of the Bull Moose party, thinks Roosevelt can be elected president. That makes two—Albany Ledger.

Bulgaria Should Have Waited  
If Bulgaria had had a good press agent it would have waited until after the world's series to make its splash.—Kansas City Times.

DEMOCRATIC ANNOUNCEMENTS  
I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Member of Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri, subject to the primary election, August 8, 1916.  
ROBERT L. YOUNG.

Might Have Made Better Selection  
The man who claims to be the heir to the King of Poland might have picked out something better than that.—St. Louis Times.

Unlimbering Their Batteries  
The vacationist returned and settled, the season approaches when the porch sleepers and cold shower bathers begin to unlimber their batteries.—St. Louis Republic.

J. Pierp Should Steer Clear  
Having concluded the half billion dollar loan to the Allies, Mr. J. P. Morgan is going for a two weeks' yachting cruise. He had better keep out of the German submarine zone.—Kansas City Times.

And All Missouri Says "Amen"  
During a speech at the state fair at Sedalia last week, Governor Major named Champ Clark as the greatest living Missourian, a title which is acknowledged by every Missourian, regardless of politics or religious faith.—Milan Standard.

Reps Do Not Explain  
The Republican who is still lamenting for the return of the oldtime high tariff still does not explain how more tariff would afford revenue to pay governmental expenditures when no imports are coming in to be taxed.—Henry County Democrat.

Has It Ever Occurred to You?  
Only about two months until the assembling of congress. Had it ever occurred to the casual reader that the men elected to congress last fall do not retire from that body until the fourth of March, 1917?—Memphis Democrat.

Too Much Railroad "High Finance"  
Another railroad has been placed in the hands of a receiver by the United States court. Too much high finance in railroad manipulation will put any of them out of business. It is only a question of time until the government will control them all.—Howell County Gazette.

When Walt Opens His "Bar"  
About the only good news that has come to the few Republican boys yet in the trenches is the announcement that Walter S. Dickey is going to open his bar and get into the race for United States senator from Missouri.—Linneus Bulletin.

That Great St. Joseph Meeting  
One of the most enthusiastic gatherings of Democratic workers ever assembled in Missouri came together at St. Joseph last Friday. Their meeting was most harmonious and the spirit of approaching triumph was everywhere manifest. The St. Joseph meeting of the faithful presages a great campaign in Missouri next year.—Memphis Democrat.

The Party is United  
That big Democratic pow-wow at St. Joseph on the 1st, showed to all doubters that the party is united in Missouri. In fact, the only differences existing are between candidates for office—and these little variations will be smoothed out by the people next August.—Linneus Bulletin.

Thos Billy Jefferson City Stories  
A lot of stories originate in Jefferson City. Half of them are unworthy serious notice. We learn now Judge Graves will not be a candidate for governor. We would like to hear direct from the judge before we are satisfied on that subject. He can, we believe, get the nomination without leaving the office.—Boonville Advertiser.

Work is a Good Thing  
Work is a great blessing. You can not see how, but some day you will say that you were fortunate in your boyhood days because you were compelled to work. Because you cannot get power in do things save by doing them. Look over the successful men you know. Get their history. Nearly every one was compelled to work in boyhood. They toughened their muscles by hard work and sharpened their brains by looking out for themselves.—Worth County Times.

Does This Indicate Hard Times?  
According to Burlington officials, they are having a hard time to find extra men, as agents, operators and trainmen to relieve those who desire their annual vacations. It is understood that every available man is just now in use and Brookfield headquarters officials say they cannot tell when this heavy traffic will let up. Usually business at about this season of the year, or perhaps a little later, gets slack and extra men find little to do. Burlington officials look upon this as evidence of continued prosperity.—Chillicothe Tribune.

Sayings of Missouri Editors

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