

workers—could be informed concerning the provisions of this bill such a protest would go up from all parts of the nation as would insure its defeat.

"That its authors fear just that kind of a result is evidenced by the attempts to jam it through the house.

"It must be remembered that this measure was prepared in secret conference. Presumably no one outside the membership of the committee was familiar with what was taking place behind the closed doors of the committee room.

"The bill was reported to the house last Saturday. A special rule making it immediately in order was adopted Monday, and Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock the bill was taken up for discussion, with the announcement that night sessions would be held until a final vote was secured."

JUDGE WEBB SCORES PROFITEER IN CHARGE TO JURY

(From the Asheville, N. C., Citizen.)

"Public sentiment should condemn in no uncertain manner extortion, profiteering, in the small no less than in the large things," declared Judge Edwin Yates Webb yesterday morning, to the grand jury in the first session of the United States district court over which he presided. The court room was crowded when the crier opened the session at 11 o'clock, many distinguished attorneys from the western district, and a large number of personal friends from Shelby, the home of the new jurist, being in attendance, among the number being Lieut. Gov. O. Max Gardner, of Shelby, a neighbor of Judge Webb.

Judge Webb rapped in no uncertain way the man who would take advantage of these trying times by exacting profiteering prices from his neighbor, and he urged the grand jury to investigate every phase of this matter. "Inordinate greed and selfishness are at the bottom of prof-

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iteering; and these two sins seem just now to be pretty widespread," he said. "It is an age of money madness, an era of wealth gathering, a period of worship of the golden calf. Laws cannot cure this national malady—they can only help. The real cure can only come from the adoption of three noble precepts from that greatest of all books—the Bible: 'Bear ye one another's burdens.' 'I am my brothers' keeper,' and 'Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.'

"When the world accepts and practices these injunctions, then selfishness will end, strikes and lock-outs will cease, and wars will be no more. Our country is full of choice, generous and exalted souls; but we have among us yet many who possess the pirate spirit, and when such men get together and fix the prices of articles of necessity, with no standard but their arbitrary wills and no limit but their greed and daring, and tell the public it must buy or starve, then the condition becomes unbearable, and it is high time that the heavy hand of the law shall be invoked to stop such intolerable shams.

"Men who are willing to rob and gouge their neighbors for money's sake are worse than misers, and the miser is a poor, miserable human being, without soul, friends or happiness—he is the 'cocoon of the human race—death ends his toils and others reel off the glassy product of his labors. With him, charity is accounted no grace, and gratitude no virtue—he worships no god but gold.'

"Paul, the apostle, never spoke a greater truth than when he wrote his beloved Timothy 'and having food and raiment, let us therewith be content, for they that starve to be rich, fall into temptation and snares and into many foolish and hurtful lust, which drown men in destruction and perdition, for the love of money is the root of all evil.' Cicero, the great heathen philosopher and scholar, knew the corroding effect of avarice on the human heart when he said, long ago, 'I hold no man deserves to be crowned with honor whose life is a failure; and he who lives to eat and drink and accumulate money alone, is a failure. He never kindled a fire on a frozen hearth; he never wiped a tear from a sad face; there is no flesh in his heart. I repeat, with emphasis, his life is a failure.'

"Men think that their highest happiness can be secured by accumulating money. This is a false trail—the tragic mistake of life. The highest happiness comes to one from doing good to others. Can gold give happiness? Look around you and see.

"Some one has said there are seven stages nowadays in a man's life:

- "First Stage—He sees the world.
"Second Stage—He wants it all.
"Third Stage—He hustles to get it.
"Fourth Stage—He is satisfied with half of it.
"Fifth Stage—He is satisfied with less than half.
"Sixth Stage—He is satisfied with a strip two by six.
"Seventh Stage—He gets the strip."

"That is a terrible arraignment of the present-day civilization, and yet, we cannot deny that there is sad element of truth in it. It is the duty of our government to curb and punish greed wherever it is found."

MUST OBEY LAWS

The court was very emphatic in his statements that all liquor laws must be obeyed, despite the fact, as he stated, many people, especially here in the mountains, feel that they must submit to a law they do not believe in, and he urged the grand jury to see to it that every phase of the

liquor business be thoroughly investigated.

If not before, the people of America learned during the great world war, which overturned nations and upset kingdoms, what a great nation they have. The best, the court said, that has ever yet been devised by man. In referring to the loyalty of the American people, he said that it cannot be said that there burns a disloyal spark in the breast of the citizens of western North Carolina; here, where the people are free from those disturbing elements which are causing so much trouble in the nation now.

Judge Webb said that every red, radical and anarchist who is taken by the government officers, should be deported to their native countries. America has no place for them.

The liquor traffic in this country, the court said, will soon be as dead as dueling and lotteries, which once flourished in America. This because the people of this great nation have so willed.

WILSON KILLING LEAGUE BY BLUNDERS

(From the Cleveland, Ohio, Press.)

The man who is unalterably opposed to President Wilson, but a firm advocate of the league of nations, addressed the City Club at noon luncheon Thursday and gave his reasons why.

He is William Allen White, newspaper man, war correspondent, author and editor, and special correspondent for The Cleveland News and Sunday News-Leader.

White was brought from Washington by the City Club to tell how the peace conference at Versailles was "covered" and how it was done, but

his talk before the club members was devoted almost exclusively to the league of nations and President Wilson.

"The league of nations is the greatest thing since the crucifixion of Christ," White said. "And the man who is responsible for it, if it becomes a reality, is the president.

"But if it is not adopted, the blame can be placed on the same man—President Wilson.

"I have only one thing to thank President Wilson for—he proposed the league of nations and has worked harder than anyone else for its adoption.

"But he is killing it, slowly and surely. While he was in France in the peace conference he did a wonderful work. But he came back to the United States and 'spilled the beans.'

"Here's why I am opposed to the president:

"He is too secretive, too furtive. He doesn't take anyone into his confidence. He doesn't come out in the open. He does not know how to do team work.

"I believe the president is sincere, believe he is honest, and I think he has a great mind. But he has made a hundred blunders. Why? I can't answer that question. He has simply made them.

"And just as sure as there are twenty-four hours in each day, if the league of nations falls by the way-side, you may blame President Wilson. He has come back to the United States and talked about it, has written about it and he breathes it. But what has he said or written? Nothing. By that I mean he has not said or written anything about the league that would cause you to be in favor of it."

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