

THE OBSERVER

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1917

THE NEW PEACE PLAN

President Wilson's words in favor of peace and of a war without victory will find some response from the hearts of the American people.

The American people want peace. We are a cosmopolitan people. Many there are in this country who have been torn in their sympathies because of ties of kindred with the mother countries. But all are good true honest Americans and they would like to see the great European war end as President Wilson hopes without humiliation or conquest.

But President Wilson in his speech to the senate deliberately overlooks the present status of the war. He ignores Lloyd George's recent speeches and the recent notes of the Allies. These told President Wilson plainly that the Allies did not desire peace but surrender, not peace but reparation and indemnity, not peace with an equal power but the humiliation of an enemy appearing upon its knees as a suppliant.

President Wilson ignores the martial and militant spirit of the Allies as one would the cries and shouts of a combatant in the heat of battle.

But his latest note does not bring peace any nearer and it will bring from Europe the same hoots of derision that his first note brought. For Europe is not yet ready for peace. None of the nations has been sufficiently scourged or chastened. None has yet awakened to sympathy for the common people.

President Wilson proposes that an International League to Enforce Peace should be formed. He proposes that the United States should join in order to help this great work for humanity. He urges the adoption of an international Monroe doctrine that all nations abandon their dreams of expansion, of conquest, of new colonies, of places in the Sun and consent to remain in the statu quo so far as new territory is concerned. He proposes that this league shall reduce armaments both on sea and land and also shall insure all nations free access to the sea and freedom upon the sea.

These latter ideas are designed to please Germany.

We admire Mr. Wilson in his efforts to bring about world peace but we are pessimistic about his success for many reasons.

In the first place the Allies will not consent to peace because they feel it their duty to crush Germany. No peace will be granted unless the Allies are in danger of defeat.

Great Britain, having already the domination of the seas, will not consent to limit its sea power, and will continue to make its own laws in regard to commerce on the high seas and to enforce them against Germany, the United States and neutral nations. Great Britain having won this world domination at great cost will not surrender it at the verbal request of the United States. She would be foolish if she did.

Since the present war is being fought because all the nations desire territorial expansion, it does not seem reasonable that they will abandon their national aims and ideals merely because one side or the other loses in the present war. Land hunger affects nations as well as individuals. The suffering of war has not appeased this natural instinct.

The people of the United States who have been raised upon George Washington's farewell address will not approve the United States joining the International League to Enforce Peace. Why should we join with a group of insane nations in signing another scrap of paper which would be violated by any group of nations which would find it to their interest to do so? Does Mr. Wilson think the signing of a piece of paper would eliminate national hatreds, national dreams of conquest and expansion? Does he think any of the nations would really disarm if they signed an agreement to do so? Does he think Great Britain would "scrap" the great navy needed to protect its great empire?

The fact is the present war merely shows the evil passions and the lusts of nations on a rampage. What Europe needs is more democracy, more sympathy for the common people, some real Christianity. Until Europe is civilized and sane an agreement whereby we would cast our lot with nations which are still barbarous, uncivilized, and insane would be the height of folly.

Let us follow the policy of Washington and hold aloof from entangling alliances and bend our energies to minding our own business, to protecting our shores from the foreign invaders and to building up a civilization of our own on the American continent.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Portland And Farmers.

Time will prove that the dock commission acted with intelligence and foresight in its determination to meet the requirements of the bulk grain movement.

The grain growers of the inland empire have declared their intention of shipping grain in bulk. They announce their intention of doing business with the terminal that will provide bulk handling facilities. Years ago they made their first request. Seattle acted. Portland did not.

When shipping has been restored to normal and wheat again is exported from tidewater instead of being sent east in cars, the great test of leadership will come. Then it will be either Seattle doing the business at the end of a mountain haul because of superior terminal facilities and a more aggressive port policy, or Portland at the foot of the water grade adding to this natural advantage facilities equal or superior to Puget Sound's and thereby re-establishing our old-time northwest leadership as a grain terminal.

There is some dispute as to whether ships will take bulk cargoes of grain from northwest ports, but there is no dispute concerning the movement among the growers to ship to the terminal port in bulk. All thru the great

grain producing districts the growers themselves are building grain elevators and it is estimated that nearly twice as many will be built during 1917 as now exist.

The farmers estimate first of all that they save at least 2 cents a bushel by shipping in bulk and when this is computed in relation to an export movement of, say, 50,000,000 bushels its importance is readily understandable. Bulk shipments pre-suppose the cleaning and smutting of the grain in elevator at the point of origin. Thereby the farmers cease to pay freight on thousands of tons of material that lessen the selling price of the grain but which can be utilized as feed by the grower.

The speed of handling is also a consideration. Sacked wheat is laboriously handled by expensive man power. Auxiliary equipment, teams and trucks are but partially efficient. Grain in bulk is moved mechanically, speedily and without waste. Bulk handling is a matter of minutes, sack handling a matter of hours.

Bulk grain handling is a development for the modern industrial efficiency among the growers. They are acting in concert. They seem determined to bring about a new and permanent condition which if it materializes this port will have to meet if we are to retain shipping.—Portland Journal.

Eight Million Acres of National Forests Taken By Settlers in Year.

Washington, Jan. 24.—More than eight million acres of land was eliminated from the National forests, and within the forests were made available for homestead entry in the last fiscal year, as a result of land classification work, according to the annual report of Henry S. Graves, chief of the Forest Service.

With liquor advertising barred from newspapers and mails, it will soon come to a point where the deaf-mute language will be the only means of discovering where a bottle can be found.—The Oregonian.

FILM NOTES.

They have put tortoise shelled glasses on poor Owen Moore—those "Harvard student" glasses that make the most respectable of men look like bullfrogs. It is all for "A Girl Like That," in which Moore is being co-starred by the Famous Players with Irene Fenwick and is to be released on the Paramount program. When one sees Moore in those glasses it is quite easy to understand why Miss Fenwick decides that she can get the combination of the bank vault away from him. It looks like taking candy from a hoot owl.

Pauline Frederick has made only one resolution for the New York. The Famous Players star has crossed her heart and vowed not to buy a new motor car every month during 1917. In the last twelve-month she has purchased so many cars that her irate mother demanded to know whether or not she was trying to have one to match every gown—just as the mere hoi polloi tries to have parasols that comport in their general color scheme with various habiliments.

Tiny Marguerite Clark just sits back and laughs while her associates at the Famous Players studio rave about the continually soaring price of beef-steak. For, Miss Clark, though not a vegetarian, almost never touches beef. Her appetite is almost as small as she is herself and she frequently goes for days at a time without eating meat.

The first murder to be committed in the Famous Players studio for many months occurred the other day when Harry Lee was shot for refusing to wire Irene Fenwick orders to crack a bank safe out in Wheaton, Ill. It was a very tragic affair, as the shooting was done by Edwin Sturgis, formery a bosom pal of Lee's, just after the pair had had luncheon together. As director Del Henderson neglected to stage a burial scene after the shooting Lee reported at the studio on the following morning to inquire whether or not he was to be interred, but was informed that the ceremony would be omitted. So Owen Moore, who is co-starring with Miss Fenwick in the picture, "A Girl Like That," bought the disconsolate corpse a drink.

Actress Role For Marguerite Clark.

Following her success in the screen adaptation of the Grimm fairy tale "Snow White," Marguerite Clark will star in an adaptation of the late Molly Elliot Sewell's play "The Fortunes of Fifi," which will be released by the Famous Players thru the Paramount Pictures Corporation in February.

In this production Miss Clark forsakes the little fairy princess for the more sophisticated role of a struggling young star in a small French theatre. Despite her high connections—she is the grand-niece of the pope—Fifi has a hard struggle of it and spends many bitter moments because of her older and more experienced rival, Julie Campionet.

This is the first time that Miss Clark has played the difficult role of an actress on the screen, but those who have seen her previous performances will expect her to handle the temperamental, vivacious little French player with distinction and finish.

A theatre will be constructed in the Famous Players studio as the setting for a good deal of the action.

Our Want Ads bring results.

January Clearance & Clean-Up SALE

Ends Saturday, January 27th

SUPPLY YOUR NEEDS FOR MONTHS TO COME

Reduced Prices and Real Bargains in every department.

Unusual Savings on Silks, Velvets, Dress Goods, White Goods, Blankets, Comforts, Pillows, Sheets, Sheeting, Pillow Cases, Gloves, Shoes, Dresses, Suits, Coats, Skirts, Sweaters, Hats, Caps, Shirts, Underwear, Mackinaws, Trunks, Bags, Suit Cases.

The season's newest Coats and Suits, values up to \$27.50. Your Choice \$6.49

Men's and Young Men's Suits, all styles and colors. Reduced 33-1-3 per cent

Clean-up Sale Boys' Clothing 1-3 off



THE HIGH COST OF LIVING?

Mr. L. Garrick Contends It Is the Cost of High Living That Causes All the Trouble—He says Man's Stomach Is Ungrateful and That Fifteen Cents a Day for Food Is Enough—Pays His Respects To Mr. Dyal's Statistics.

La Grande.—(To the Editor of The Observer)—In accordance with your expressed wish, we venture a remark or two on Mr. Dyal's article on the High Cost of Living and the cause thereof. We read the article with some interest and a good deal of amusement. Of all the accusations, justly or unjustly, that have been brought against the kaiser, surely this is the latest, accusing him of feeding the world, and coming from a staunch supporter at that. Well, may the kaiser paraphrase the dying words of the immortal Caesar: "Et tu Dyal"; then fall.

To say or to believe that Germany feeds the world reminds us of a little story. There was a time when good wise men (?) believed that the sun and all the heavenly bodies revolved around his earth in 24 hours; proving that there is nothing too absurd for some man to say and for others to believe.

But to take Mr. Dyal's article seriously (if that is possible) those statistics he offers (without casting any reflections on Dyal's veracity) are utterly unreliable; they are equally as mysterious as the leak on Wilson's peace note; they are mostly issued to influence the market.

And besides they fail to take into account the millions of bushels of grain that are today stored in this country waiting for a rise in the market. Neither do they take account of the many thousand tons of potatoes that are lying rotting waiting for a rise in the market.

The 70,000,000 that Dyal advises Uncle Sam to send to Germany for manure might be more profitably spent in establishing a free college of science in every state capital for the cultivation of young brains, where boys and young men who have not

the money of their own to keep them while they study science, could be maintained free; it would not be very long until we would find bread obtainable without applying to the farmer or the jobber.

Wheat can be produced without either plowing or sowing; it has been done and will be done again in the very near future. It is simply a question of knowing how?

There is just one more remark and we are done.

We deny that the cost of living is high; it is luxuriant that costs high. How many things do we see in a grocer's store that we could very well do without. True it is written that man shall not live by bread alone. But nowhere is it written that man's stomach is to be a receptacle for a portion of every conceivable product of the earth. God ordained that man should eat to live but man thinks that God gives him life that he may eat.

The man whose food and drink is costing more than 10 to 15 cents per day is wasting his substance on his ungrateful stomach and his reward will be premature old age and death. Respectfully, L. GARRICK.

The Passing of Buffalo Bill.

One of the unique figures in the epic of western life has passed to the ultimate range where there are no riders and where the cowboy is tamed. The picturesque costume, the long sweep of grizzly hair, the rifle and spurs are left behind as the Petersque gates are swung, and well may the pioneer wonder what may be the picture of Buffalo Bill in his angel garb and ethereal surroundings. It may be that in the spirit world he can find glass balls to break with a rifle of mystic form. It may be that over the

eternal fields there surge herds of the majestic animal from whom he borrowed his nom de plume, and that the afterworld is in truth a happy hunting ground to Colonel Cody, the spirit militant. Who shall say? Why may it not be true that for each and all there is a heaven adapted to earthly tastes, with sin and sorrow, anxiety and worry, wrong and injustice, jealousy and envy, oppression and caste, all burned away in the transition from earth across the last divide? It was a strange, attractive, impressive and valorous life, which Buffalo Bill lived on earth. There was no angle-worm in him. His was a backbone of iron. His was a brain of sternest steel. His were muscles of tempered steel. He was a real man, teeming with virility. He lived the life. He sidestepped no danger. He faced his enemies. He fought a good fight. Substantially the last of the spectacular actors in a drama of the plains now drawing to its final curtain he goes with applause crowned with triumph, as men measure life's success.—Pendleton Tribune.

Our Want Ads get replies.

Pottery Sale

All Pottery, one-third off during this sale.

"Black Pottery Excepted"

Come in and look it over while the assortment is complete.

La Grande Seed & Floral Co.

Foley Hotel Building.

RICHEY PIANO HOUSE

TAXPAYER IN LA GRANDE 30 YEARS

PIANOS DIRECT FROM FACTORY TO CUSTOMER.

High Grade Pianos Specialty

How much taxes paid by Transit Concerns to the upkeep of the City.

No culls or second-hand goods worked-over, shipped and reshipped, hawked from town to town to beguile the unsuspecting public.

Why buy of small annexes of Portland Houses, goods handled upon consignment, thus paying several profits. Stop and reflect.

Buy of the local dealer, keep your contract and account at home.

Prices are what count, not house to house canvassers, or street corner exhortatory. Call and convince yourself before buying, who has the Pianos to select from, also as to permanency of appearance.

RICHEY PIANO HOUSE

OPPOSITE SOMMER HOUSE

RICHEY BUILDING

Dead or Alive!

A dead dollar is the one which is hidden away; which earns you nothing, and which is liable to turn up missing without a moment's notice; or the kind you carelessly push across the counter, for this and that; things you really don't need—then wonder in a week's time where they have gone.

A live dollar is the one which you place in this bank, where it is always safe. They will call for company; the result is, more saving; then when opportunity arrives, you are financially able to meet it with open arms, and a bank account.

La Grande National Bank

Our Want Ads bring results.