

EDITORIAL PAGE

Something Labor Should Consider

The Observer has no dispute with those who are so enthusiastic for what is termed the League of Nations, because we, like all Americans, would go a long way to prevent recurrence of wars. But the Observer holds to the belief that there is a lot of excitement both for and against the league at present that should subside, and the whole matter should be thought out in a dispassionate way.

If we thrust America into European affairs we can expect nothing else but that Europe will thrust herself into our affairs. Not long ago, a resolution was passed unanimously by the business people of La Grande taking a stand firmly against foreign labor. It is something that should be adopted by every commercial organization in America and every contractor should be forced to do away with his foreign labor on public and semi-public work, because American labor is of a higher type of manhood than Europe produces and is entitled to a greater consideration from a humanity standpoint. And besides, America pays for her labor from American taxation, hence the money should go to the home folks. There is no sane man who can argue against these facts.

But suppose we fraternize with Europe; suppose we take the different nations into our fold and act as their sponsor, and in turn ask their advice and cultivate their council, will it be very long until the poorly paid labor of the Old World will demand recognition in this country? Will it be but a short time until the world is one mass of people each demanding equal rights in America with Americans? Who knows what this league has in store for us? For this reason, we say to American labor—be careful how we jump. Glittering words and soft phrases are fine while they last, but when it comes to permitting the rabble of the Old World to enter our gates and take places beside the clean-cut American, competing with him for a place in the sun, we say it is not right; and right now is the time to have a care lest we get entangled with a condition which later we cannot change.

America built the Panama canal with American men and American money and American industry. But England, when that canal was completed, said she would use it free. She spoke with wisdom for an old musty agreement gave her that right. Do you suppose if that agreement had to be made when the canal was completed that England would have got Uncle Sam into such a jackpot? No, there would have been war before this country would have given up her rights.

So, we claim, right now is the important period of America's history lest we tie up our children and our children's children to Great Britain for all future time. If anyone thinks Great Britain is a dear friend of America let him guess again. England has no friends except those she can use. She has always gained her existence from her colonies. Her people are taught from babyhood the art of going out and getting things by soft words and polite promises, while the Germans are taught to get things with the bayonet and the bomb. America is very good the way she stands, and when we hear people say "we must concede things to avert another war" our thoughts go back to the old statement that even a war is better than to tie up future generations to the will of England. And even a war is far better than to open our gates so wide that the Italian, the Greek, the Bulgarian, the English Tommy and other races of the Old World can sit and break bread by the side of the American working man, competing with him and taking from him that which rightfully belongs to the man who is born and bred on American soil.

WHO PAYS FOR THE SERVICE?

There is an institution known as the Mount Clemens News Bureau, which is a peculiar animal. When the President started on his journey this bureau offered to send to all the newspapers reports of his trip daily in plate form. To see what sort of stuff it was sending out, the Observer listed its name for the service. Each day plate comes telling of the trip, and of the conversion to the League of Nations of hundreds of thousands of people. We do not say the stories are untrue—not at all, but we would like to know who is paying this vast expense. And we would like to know if this is permissible propaganda under the corrupt practices act.

It costs money to hire editors, to send telegraph stories and to have the Western Newspaper Union make plates, and it costs to prepay the charges on these plates to the newspapers of the United States.

Who pays? That's the question. In these days of sublime purity in politics—in these days when everyone throws up his hands in horror at political expenditures, it would be interesting to know who is paying for this vast work which every newspaper man requires the money to handle.

The County Public Health Nurse is making good. Miss Zorn is one of the welcome callers to any home in Union county.

Perhaps wells will increase the city water supply as the engineers and railway clerks recommend. Anyway, let's try something.

The dear old American public is so impulsive. Now the government finds that the fight on old High Cost of Living is subsiding. In America we are great to say as long as we have the money.

Who could have thought that hogs would take a slump when Tom Johnson, who was Warren's choice for the lunch over produce in 1918, died?

HOW WE MAY ESCAPE INFLUENZA

Question—Are we going to have influenza this winter?

Answer—So far as we can guess, we think that we will not have the number of cases or of deaths that we had last year. It is our guess that nearly every one was exposed to it last year; and that those who were susceptible took it.

Those who were not susceptible last year, we guess, will escape again this year.

Those who were susceptible last year and took it and recovered, will, we think, recover again if they take it again, because their recovery last year shows that they were not very susceptible, or were able to make the antibodies fast enough to defeat the germs.

If we are right, then, most of those who did not have it last year will not have it this year and most of those who did have it last year and recovered, will recover again.

We hope we are right; but this cheerful view of it does not make us less anxious to see the proper steps taken by every one to avoid getting infected, which is the only way to insure of escaping the disease.

The germ we believe is carried from other people by means of their mouth and nose discharges. These discharges reach our noses and mouths in four principal ways.

By the mouthprayer of these other people, sneezing or coughing or even talking into our faces, that is, into our eyes, nose and mouth. Wearing glasses and a mask over nose and mouth will prevent the mouthprayer from reaching us.

By spitting, or spit, thrown out on the sidewalk, etc. We step in it, carry it into the house, get it on our hands as we take off our rubbers or shoes, etc. An anti-spitting crusade will help still more.

By milk or food handled by other people, mouth sprayed on by other people. In restaurants of all kinds or other public eating places, the danger is the greatest, and especially where raw or cold food or concerned. Only hot food should be eaten in public places during an influenza epidemic—better still, don't eat in public places.

By hands. After all, the hands carry infection (not only influenza, but most other diseases, too) more than does mouthprayer or spit or food. And none of these other precautions are worth much as long as we shake hands with other people. Nearly every one refuses nowadays to use the same cup with strangers, but every one agrees that kissing strangers would be more dangerous still. Nearly every one refuses nowadays to use the same towel with strangers and surely every one will agree that shaking hands with strangers would be more dangerous—why cut out the lesser evils and keep on with the greater ones?

Let us summarize to escape influenza infection, in an epidemic:

1. Use mask and glasses.
2. Wash hands after removing the shoes.
3. Eat hot foods only.
4. Cut out the hand shake.

Many people are offended by a refusal to shake hands until they understand why, but every one also quickly agrees, the moment it is mentioned that a military salute is every bit as courteous and far more sanitary.—E. J.

MUST PLAY FAIR IN THEIR DEALINGS.

"Potatoes! We have 100 bushels of first quality Green Mountains, white and free from disease. Price right. John Jones, Washington, one-half mile north of Larned."

This is a sample form ad given in a Michigan newspaper. Advertising farm produce in city papers has been tried out successfully in a number of Michigan localities. The farm advertisement is a new step in the elimination of waste of time, energy and produce in the process of getting farm

products to city consumers.

Farmers in many parts of the country have developed the custom of putting signs along the roadside advertising fruit or vegetables which they have on sale. Sometimes they set out barrels of produce. People passing in automobiles stop to purchase as the happen to see something they want.

The farm ad is a better method. It enables the prospective purchaser to plan definitely on purchases direct from the farmer. He learns through the advertisement just what the farmer near his community have to offer and just how they may be reached. He is glad to go after the stuff in order to secure it absolutely fresh.

There is one thing in the John Jones sample ad, which needs particular attention. That is the "Price Right" phrase. Too many farmers have charged the autoist more for the fruit or vegetables he comes to the farm for than they would charge him for the same goods if he bought them in a city market. The farmer overlooks the fact that the autoist purchaser saves him all the trouble of packing his produce and carrying it to market. He assumes that the autoist is wealthy and "soaks" him accordingly, forgetting that he uses gasoline and tires, not to mention time, in going after the produce. He should not have to pay more at the farmer's door than he would in the city store or at the market place.

Only through honest prices and fair dealing can the farmer and the city man get together in this way. The mutual benefits will be great indeed if the farm advertisement is rightly used.

STRIKERS TRYING OUT THE OTHER SIDE.

Striking cooks and waiters in Omaha have opened a restaurant of their own at which an order of roast beef, potatoes, bread and butter sell for 25 cents. Pork chops with all the "fixings," including apple sauce, takes only 40 cents from the hungry feeder's purse. Other staple meals such as the world rejoiced in before the war are sold at pre-war prices. The union responsible for the move expects to make a fair profit, although the chief idea in starting the cafe was to provide a place where union sympathizers could eat instead of patronizing the restaurants against which the strike was made.

Cooks and waiters must know something of the expense of running a restaurant business. If they figure that they can make a profit at the rates mentioned above, it seems to suggest an undue percentage made by the average restaurant keeper on his investment.

If the backers of this enterprise succeed at such prices, it should serve as more than a hint to the eating public, and the establishment of more places of the same kind should follow as a direct result.

FIRE AND STORM THWARTS AIRPLANE

MISSOULA, Sept. 26.—The army bombing Mattin airplane, making a "round trip" flight of the United States was forced to return to Missoula after starting for Spokane when it encountered forest fire and smoke and a snow and hail storm over Dixon mountain today.

TO BREED RABBITS FOR THEIR FURS

LONDON, (Correspondence of the Associated Press).—An organization known as the Breveron Club has been formed here to breed rabbits for their fur. The scheme is being run cooperative lines.

The blue Breveron and the Hav

anna rabbits are the strain which the club intend to rear. The fur of the blue Breveron is of lavender blue and is long, lustrous, fine and silky. That of the Havanna is of a rich chocolate color and is thick, curly long and fine.

It is hoped to produce from these rabbits natural furs, the color of which will not fade.

PRUSSIAN MILITARISM DIES A VERY HARD DEATH

New Scheme Found In Occupied Zone to Establish a Reserve Army.

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN GERMANY, Sept. 4.—(Associated Press Correspondence).—An entirely new scheme for establishing a reserve army in Germany in anticipation of some future opportunity to establish German military power is seen by some German newspapers in a plan they have just discovered and exposed.

While the scheme is confined to only one regiment and so probably has no sanction from the war ministry it is an indication, in the opinion of American army officers who for eight months have been studying demobilization of the German forces, of how hard Prussian militarism dies.

The Lichtschlag corps in Westphalia, now the Sixty-second Reichswehr, (National Army) regiment of the Thirty-first Reichswehr brigade, has sent out circulars to all men who have served in this volunteer unit since the armistice, urging them to sign a pledge to answer to a call to the colors in the event of general disorder or a new revolution. The Freiheit, the Independent Socialist organ in Berlin, suggests that the men responsible for the scheme really have in mind something more than suppression of disorders, the paper then quoting from the circular as follows:

"Soon the time will come when the Fatherland will have need of every resolute and proven arm."

The circular, according to the newspapers, says that the corps is organizing a "reserve" from among the best of its released soldiers, this reserve to be called into the service of the corps in time of need. Details are then given of the method of issuing such a call. The Freiheit, in a recent issue, demanded to know who had given the corps the right to establish such a reserve and to promise regular Reichswehr or National Army pay to these "reservists" whenever called.

AIRPLANE FLIGHT TO SOUTH POLE

LONDON, Sept. 1.—(By Mail).—John L. Cope, leader of the expedition to the South Pole to start next June, says his airplane flight to the Pole will be about 750 miles. The base from which the airplane will start is about that distance from the Pole. The airplane will be heavily loaded. "We shall be compelled to take a sledge with us and extra provisions to enable us to return in case the airplane breaks down," said Mr. Cope. "Because of this additional weight it will be necessary to cut down our fuel to the minimum for taking off will be very difficult and it will be impossible to lift the machine for crossing the mountain ranges."

"We propose to set off with as much as we can and then, half way out on the outward journey just before we get to a range of mountains that we have to cross, to dump half of it and to pick it up on the way back."

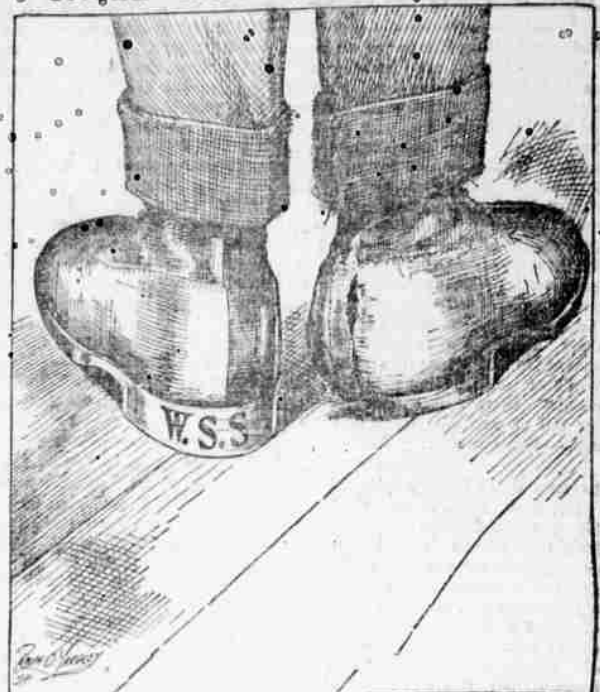
Persian Cookery.

Cookery among the well-to-do classes in Persia is extravagant—partly because they are lavishly hospitable, partly because all house servants are fed from the leftovers of the master's table. Tiny chickens, quail, pigeons, doves and young partridges are handed out, on the spot, to each guest.

So Long!



UNCLE SAM WILL COBBLE IT



A. F. L. BACKS GOVERNMENT IN SAVINGS WORK

American Federation of Labor Will Reach 3,000,000 Wage Earners

Washington, D. C.—Resolutions being distributed by the American Federation of Labor to more than 22,000 local unions and through them to over 3,000,000 wage earners affiliated with the organization, contain hearty approval of the Government's 1919 thrift campaign.

Believing that War Savings Stamps offer a safe, sound and guaranteed method for investment of savings, the annual convention of the Federation, assembled at Atlantic City, declared that it was essential to stimulate thrift and saving in time of peace as in time of war.

The adoption of the resolution by the central body of organized trade unionism followed similar action by several State Federations of Labor. The text of the resolution, known as No. 171, is as follows:

"Whereas, This war has happily ended has required our people to develop thrift and saving which to some degree has stimulated freedom of action and independence on the part of some wage earners; and

"Whereas, It is essential to stimulate thrift and saving in time of peace as in time of war; and

"Whereas, The inauguration of the national system of War Savings and Thrift Stamps has afforded to some of small earnings a safe, sound and guaranteed method of Government investment of their hard earned savings; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this convention do approve of the continuation and extension of the War Savings and Thrift Stamps Institution, or the substitution of a National Savings Institution akin in character and method, which shall prove helpful to safeguard the earnings of the toiling masses of our country."

Thomas E. Burke, general secretary-treasurer of the United States Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada, has promised his assistance in the work of forming War Savings Societies, and has invoked aid from other union officials.

Mr. Burke, in assuring the Government of his cooperation, said in part: "The labor organizations and fraternal societies are a very fine medium through which to educate the people of the necessity and usefulness of supporting our government and at the same time helping themselves."

"One of the unique features explained to me was that it is the intention of our government to make War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps a permanent institution. Such action would be a very progressive one, and I believe would be heavily acclaimed by all our citizens, especially the workers, because it would be in keeping with the great cooperative and democratic spirit that now prevails throughout our great country."

"From a psychological standpoint, it would be considered by the mass of the people, especially the wage earners, a great opportunity to participate in such a great function of government. It would bring the people and the government closer together, which is greatly needed in these unresolving times."

Financial physicians are warning against the new disease which is appearing in many parts of the country. They have named it "Influenza." Persons attacked by this disease uniformly utter the cabalistic words, "The war is over," and decline to take any further interest in the nation's affairs. No serum has been discovered which can prevent the ailment, but investing regularly in War Savings Stamps and Registered Treasury Savings Certificates is a preventative as well as a cure.

Butter wrappers posted at the Observer office.

"BUY LESS," RETAIL MEN WARN PUBLIC

San Francisco.—The retail dealers' advice to the victims of high prices is to curtail buying. Following is a portion of a letter from Edward A. MacLean, secretary of the Oregon Retail Merchants' Association, to Governor John U. Calkins of the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank:

"Portland, Oregon, August 28, 1919.

"So long as the free buying spirit of the American public exists, mayors and governors can fuss and fume and Congress can enact what it pleases, but high prices will continue. It is my opinion that the purchase of government securities such as War Savings Stamps and Treasury Savings Certificates instead of merchandise will hasten the overthrow of the 'high cost of living.'"

"Here is the point—it is high time that the American people were brought to realize that the responsibility for the high cost of living is not a responsibility of Congress or any other agency. Unless the American people, themselves, quit supporting high prices, they can right now make up their minds to pay high prices for some time to come."

Yours very truly,
(Signed) E. A. MacLEAN,
Secretary,
Oregon State Retailers' Association."

SEVEN STATES SAVED MILLIONS IN SEVEN MONTHS

Thrifty Westerners' Investments Will Earn Nearly Million and One-half Interest

San Francisco.—Thrifty folks in the seven states of the Twelfth Federal Reserve District saved \$6,427,308 by purchasing Thrift and War Savings Stamps from January 1 to July 26, 1919, according to a report made by the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank. Five years from now at their date of maturity, those stamps will be worth just about a million and a half dollars more than they cost the purchasers. In other words, the United States Government will pay back to the Stamp purchasers approximately \$5,000,000 for \$6,427,308.

Every man, woman and child who buys Thrift and War Savings Stamps or Treasury Savings Certificates this year will share in the Government's dividend. Get into a War Savings Society in your community, save and invest your savings in stamps and certificates, and get your share of the million you can buy a Thrift Stamp for twenty-five cents.

CONNECTICUT BUYS STAMPS

New London, Conn.—The State of Connecticut, through G. Harold Gilpatrick, state treasurer, has purchased \$1000 worth of U. S. S. as an investment for state funds. They will be held until the date of maturity. The purchase is to be credited to the City of Putnam, of which Gilpatrick is a resident.

The Connecticut state treasury subscribed for \$1,250,000 worth of Victory notes during the last campaign. This brought the total of the state's investment in government war securities up to more than \$2,000,000.

With the purchasing power of the dollar lower than it has ever been, it is the part of wisdom to put some of them to work, earning interest, until the time that money is worth more. War Savings Stamps enable you to earn to do this. Save what you can and invest it in U. S. S.

The Observer furnishes and prints Butter Wrappers.