

# THE POLK COUNTY POST.

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## VICIOUS BILL IS SMOOTHERED

One of the most vicious bills ever presented to congress was smothered by its author when the President vigorously denounced it. Senator Chamberlain as the representative of the extreme militarists who seek to fasten a permanent military system upon America, like the one we are fighting against in Europe, presented a measure to take out of the hands of the civil authorities and to give the military the power to arrest and try all persons suspected of disloyalty and court martial them if found guilty. "Under this bill," said Senator Borah of Idaho, "a business man or a laboring man or an editor or any man in any civil avocation could be arrested without warrant and without a knowledge of the charge preferred against him, taken before a drumhead court martial, tried and punished or executed."

When President Wilson's attention was called to the bill, he declared:

"I think it is not only unconstitutional but that in character it would put us on a level of the very people we are fighting and affecting to despise. It would be altogether inconsistent with the spirit and practice of America and in view of the recent legislation, the espionage bill, the sabotage bill, and the woman spy bill, I think it unnecessary and uncalled for."

In war times the people are willing to give up a great many of their liberties that the cause of the nation may triumph that much sooner and they are loyally and patriotically standing behind the government which they created and which is responsible to them. In return they expect the government to be as easy with them as possible without jeopardizing the success of its arms, and when President Wilson so emphatically denounced this brazen attempt to resort to the kaiser's methods in America, the people were again assured that as long as Mr. Wilson is president, they will be protected from the scourge of autocracy and that democracy still reigns.

Beware of propaganda talk that Geo. W. Creel, chief censor of the questions the patriotism of individuals, present power, has been found not uals. It may be indulged in for a only incompetent but possibly disloyal.

The above two editorials appeared in the same column of the Sheridan Sun. Perhaps the able editor of the Sun wrote one with his right hand and the other with his left, and neither knew what the other was doing. We have to suspect that Mr. Creel is the victim of the "propaganda," the Sun warns others about but which he heeds not himself.

Once upon a time we were quite closely connected with George Creel in newspaper work. While we cannot say that he was a great favorite of ours, still we could not assume that he ever lacked in patriotism. He is a very high strung young man with a daily consumption of one hundred cigarettes and he would turn the world upside down for democracy.

Elbert Bede, who has developed a chronic habit of writing letters to candidates for the purpose of putting them in a hole, might be addressed in the same manner relative to his record as a lobbyist in the last legislature. Over his own signature he has admitted that as a representative of "organized" newspaper men he assisted in defeating the "bone dry" cigarette law. Dear Mr. Bede: What particular interest did the newspaper organization you represented as a lobbyist in the last legislature have in the cigarette law?

Friends of three prominent Washington county prohibition law violators are seeking a pardon for them in Washington. There is no more reason why these three men should be pardoned than some poor bootlegger without a dollar or friend. In fact, as far as the "example" would be, the one should be pardoned rather than the three.

Senator Sherman of Illinois has called all the administration officials "Socialists." No doubt all of them would rather be Socialists than what the Senator is—a pack horse for the plutes.

The kaiser's men have captured Hemmel Hill. If they are obliged to take many more hills between Belgium and Paris, there won't be any Hun army left.

S. B. Huston has withdrawn from the senatorial race which shows good judgment. Mr. Huston had been lost in the political woods.

Eighteen more days and Ben Olcott will be the Republican candidate for governor.

## WHEN DIEDRICH MET DEWEY

The recent death of Admiral von Diedrichs at Baden-Baden recalls one of the most dramatic moments in the history of the United States when, but for the friendly intervention of England—as represented by Admiral Edward Chichester—the opening guns of the world war might have been fired in Manilla bay 20 years ago. Germany, which had encouraged Spain in her defiance of the United States, sent Admiral von Diedrichs and his fleet of warships to Manilla to intimidate the American admiral at a time so critical as to indicate a strong desire to play an important part in the war between the United States and Spain, if not—as revealed by the light of later events—to seize the opportunity, apparently so "divinely" sent, to drive the opening wedge in the realization of her long cherished dream of world domination.

Seymour Wemyss Smith writes in the New York Sun of the anxious days following the battle of Manilla bay in which Admiral Dewey destroyed the entire Spanish squadron:

"The entire story of this period was told the writer by an officer who was present with Dewey and who had unusual opportunity to witness the conduct of the rear admiral and observe the events that took place.

"The first of the German vessels to appear was the Irene, which arrived on May 6. The second arrived shortly after. Both totally disregarded the usual rules of etiquette; in the case of the latter vessel it was necessary to fire a shot across her bows before she gave heed. It would require considerable space to give a complete summary of the German actions at Manilla, but the following is a brief review:

"The German ships repeatedly ignored the presence of the American squadron. Time and again it was necessary for Dewey to call the attention of von Diedrichs to the behavior of his ships. The German officers frequently visited Manilla and were on most cordial terms with the Spanish. It was common talk in Manilla that Germany intended to intervene and the German officers encouraged the impression.

"Not content with fraternizing with the Spanish, German officers became intimate with Aguinaldo's men. On one occasion Prince Lowenstein was taken off to the Kaiserin Augusta by a member of the insurrectionary staff. Owing to a heavy sea the prince and his escort were obliged to seek refuge on an English man-of-war, and hence the fact came to Dewey's attention. Incidentally, when Aguinaldo later adopted a hostile attitude toward the Americans his men were largely armed with Mauser rifles. The Irene was a particularly disturbing factor in fact, the American officers had hard work in keeping track of the various German vessels. The Irene, not content with insolently ignoring our ships, on at least one occasion openly assisted the Spanish at Subwige bay.

"Dewey received much comfort from the attitude of Captain Sir Edward Chichester, commanding the British squadron. Captain Chichester and Dewey quickly became intimate and the moral support of the English commander was of great assistance. Chichester was an officer of the old school, hale and hearty, and the possessor of a particularly agreeable personality.

"Finally a time came when Dewey, worn out by the constant vigil and tired of the brand of friendship which the Germans were displaying, demanded an explanation of von Diedrichs. The writer has heard the account of the affair given by several of Dewey's officers. Siam and correspondent for several papers, also mentions the incident in his interesting little biography words to the German officer:

"If the German government has decided to make war on the United States, or has any intention of making war, and has so informed your admiral, it is his duty to let me know." And then, after a moment's pause, he added: "But whether he intends to fight or not, I am ready."

It was in August that Admiral Dewey decided that he was ready for the seizure of the remaining Spanish forts and the occupation of Manilla. The land forces were commanded by General Merritt, and Dewey's squadron had been reinforced and his supply of men and ammunition replenished. The writer in the Sun says:

"The morning of August 13 was chosen for the attack. The story of what happened then has been told many times. The version I shall give is that related to me by an officer who was present in person:

"During the early morning of August 13, the weather was very warm and humid, but after a time it cleared somewhat. I was standing on shore, together with some other officers. Von Diedrichs' German fleet—there were eight ships in all, seven large warships and one Kansas City Star.

smaller vessel—was in one corner of the harbor. During the night the Germans had moved in until they were much closer to Dewey than before. Owing to the distance it was impossible to tell just what was taking place on board, but there seemed to be considerable activity.

"Captain Chichester's English ships were lying between the Germans and Dewey's fleet. Captain Chichester had taken this same action in a number of instances previously, so we did not regard it as peculiar. Just before 9 o'clock our ships got under way. The monitor Monterey was first in line, but rather nearer shore than the others. The Olympia and the rest of Dewey's fleet were following, steaming rather slowly. Then we watchers on shore all noticed something peculiar. The battleflags were broken from the mastheads and the ships cleared for action, but instead of Spanish flags they were directed upon von Diedrich's fleet.

"I think we all realized what was taking place. It was a moment of supreme suspense for us all. Then at the moment when the conflict appeared inevitable the British ships began to get underway. In a few minutes more Chichester's ships were directly between our fleet and the Germans. And they were ready for action and quite ready to fight if need be. An officer on board told me that as the Immortalite, Chichester's flagship, passed the Olympia, the decks of the British vessel were snatches from 'El Capitan,' 'See, the Conquering Hero Comes,' 'Under the Double Eagle' and 'The Star Spangled Banner.'

"In a few minutes more the crisis was over; the forts were captured and the Germans drew away to the other side of the bay." —Literary Digest.

## GERMANY'S LOSING GAME.

Two more countries, Uruguay and Argentina, are reported to be ready to join the ranks of Germany's, which now include almost the entire world. With the exception of Holland, Switzerland, the Scandinavian countries and Spain, the whole world is either actually in arms against Germany or has declined to have further diplomatic dealings with her.

Take a look at the formidable army which Germany's madness has raised against her: Serbia, France, Belgium, Great Britain, Montenegro, Japan, Italy, Portugal, United States, Cuba, Panama, Greece, Siam, Liberia, China, Brazil, Guatemala. The list does not include Russia and Rumania, although war tries, nor half a dozen South American countries which have broken all relations with her. All continents, hemispheres and all corners of the world are represented in this league of nations which have declared that Germany and her vassals are outlaws against civilization and have destroyed the compact which entitled them to live under terms of law and neighborliness with other peoples. Western Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Australia and the islands of the sea have spoken with a single voice and condemned the Hohenzollern outlaw as the common enemy of mankind.

The war masters of Germany may affect unconcern at the widening circle of Germany's enemies. They may drown, for the moment, with the rattle of the sword any questioning that may arise at home of the wisdom of the course they are pursuing. But there are those in Germany who are concerned. There those who are looking beyond the war—manufacturers, exporters, ship owners—and are asking themselves where, in all the seven seas, a German ship can find harbor when peace comes again or a German cargo a market. The German war lords may count the soldiers Uruguay can put into the field and dismiss her, but the German industrial lords who must count the buyers of German goods the war will leave to them will not dismiss her so lightly. And it was the industrial lords who made Germany what she was when the war came, not the war lords. It was the industrial lords who had conquered markets for her in every continent; who had put her mercantile flag on every sea and were rapidly overhauling England in the race for the ocean carrying trade of the world when the impatient vanity of the kaiser undid their work at a stroke and tossed the rich prizes they had gained into the hands of rivals.



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Can Hindenburg, at the sacrifice of millions of lives and all the wealth Germany had piled up in fifty years of peace and commercial conquest, win back this stake? Not if he could go to Paris and London. Sensible Germans know that. The world would have to be reduced to the impotence of China before its markets could be conquered by cannon shot. Napoleon when he held the whole continent of Europe in a serfdom as complete as Germany now holds Austria couldn't make it buy in the markets he dictated. Germany would have no better success at that game if the world was at her feet instead of on her neck.

## Edison-Trained Bullets

Two negroes were walking along Ninth avenue, discussing the wonderful inventions brought about by the war.

"Yes, sah," one said, "an' a friend of mine who knows all about it says dis man Edison has invented a bullet dat can't miss a German, kase of dere's one in a hundred yards de bullet is drawn right smack against his steel helmet. Yes, sah, an' he's done invented another one with a return attachment. Whenever dat bullet don't hit nothin' it comes right straight back to de American lines."

"Dat's what I call inventin'," ex-claimed the other. "But, say, how about dem comin' back bullets? What do dey do to keep 'em from hittin' ouah men?"

"Well, mah frein' didn't tell me about it, but if Mr. Edison made 'em you can bet youah life he's got 'em trained. You don't s'pose he'd let 'em kill an American, do you? No, sah. He's got 'em fixt so's dey jes' ease back down'oun' de gunner's feet an' say: 'Dey's all dead in dat trench, boss. Send me to a live place where I's got a chanst to do somethin''" —New York Herald.

## DO YOU NEED A SOLDIER FOR WORK ON FARM

A recent general order from the war department at Washington makes it possible for farm boys who are now in army camps to be furloughed for short periods to assist with farm work. These furloughs will be granted only to men who are urgently needed at home to assist in putting in crops or with other farm work essential to crop production.

Any farmer having a relative in a nearby camp and who is badly in need of farm help can make application for a furlough of several weeks for this relative. All such

applications should be made thru the local board having jurisdiction over the registrant. These furlough application blanks may be secured either from the local board or the county agricultural agent.

A further ruling of the Provost Marshal makes it possible for any farmer who is in need of a number of men for a short period for farm work to make a similar application for furlough for any soldiers who may be available at nearby camps. These soldiers would have to be paid the going wages in the locality and would not be sent out unless urgently needed. Any further information desired regarding this method of granting furloughs can be obtained from either of the parties mentioned above.

There were 752,607 pounds of tonvoiced at Trinidad for the United States during 1917, compared with 107,263 pounds valued at \$122,628, for 1916.

## POLITICAL ADVERTISING

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Candidate for Representative Polk and Lincoln Counties, May primaries.

(Paid Advertisement.)

### CANDIDATE FOR COUNTY JUDGE

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Republican nomination for the office of County Judge to succeed myself, subject to the voters at the Primary election to be held May 17, 1918.

Same business policy, economical, but not parsimonious administration. Special attention to Probate Court.

Respectfully,

E. C. KIRKPATRICK.

(Paid Ad.)

### Conner for County Clerk

I hereby announce my candidacy for county clerk of Polk county, subject to the decision of the Republican voters at the primary election to be held May 17, 1918. I was born and raised in Polk county and believe I can successfully perform the duties of the office.

GEORGE W. CONNER.

(Paid ad. by George W. Conner)

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