

INDEPENDENCE ENTERPRISE

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MEMBER OF THE STATE EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION



WORKING TOGETHER

Across the silver streak that once constituted a bulwark against aggression we now clasp hands with the French—a people whom we are beginning to know and understand; a generous and intellectually bright race, long cramped politically and socially by inherited fetters, but now ready to take a forward place on advanced lines of progress. We and they have much to learn about one another. The wonderful blending of rival parties under the pressure of a common calamity and call to action has demonstrated the fitness of this mobile and lucid people to work out its destiny without help from pretensions rulers who claim divine right to mould mankind in the image of a discredited feudalism. The union has leveled social and political barriers to an extent that may well excite the envy of broad-minded thinkers in our own land. A new France has arisen out of the older one. A higher meaning than ever has been given to the motto of the Revolution—Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite—and this, once the bugbear of tyrants and their parasites, now represents the international compact which is to usher in the good time towards which tearful eyes have been straining through generations of suffering. The other lands which share the burdens of this unexampled conflict will bring to the recreated world civilization their own special contribution of experience and insight. Italy, in particular, inheritor of intellectual treasure and artistic opulence, where the old and the new exist side by side, having thrown off the shackles imposed by her arbitrary oppressors, has set out on a career of constitutional development which can only be temporarily checked by her paucity of material resources. The later Renaissance will effect changes that may even surpass those of the earlier age. Our children's children will surely witness revived letters and arts which will link themselves with the splendid memorials of the ancient masters; a regenerate nation, with renewed vigour of every kind, may be expected to be something other and greater than the custodian of antiquarian relics of departed grandeur. Italy will stand for things both new and old, unique in its symbolic representation which outgrows its instruments while carrying forward its gains.

Still it is on the Great Republic to the south of us that we must fix our regards at this crisis in the European situation. The ties of blood and civil tradition still hold firmly. During the hundred years of amity which lately came to an end, and would have been impressively celebrated but for the outbreak of war, vast improvements in every kind of resource has signled out the United States, not only as an El Dorado of limitless wealth but also as the Promised Land of freedom and growth to multitudes who gladly turned their backs upon their native shores. A host of difficulties arising out of the unpreparedness of these diverse elements, gathered from so many

alien quarters, to fall in with the habits and social conditions of a land overswept by Liberty's vitalising breath, have been marvelously composed. A terrible Civil War had to be waged to make an end of slavery—and institution inherited from the old Colonial days. Since that time the progress of the great country has outstripped all calculation; and now, with inexhaustible resources at his back, the President brings his nation into the fray, after keeping the enemy in suspense until his intervention could be made effective at home and abroad.

Surely now the Germans are realising the hopelessness of their struggle! When their elaborate structure topples over and their hideous crimes stand condemned before a shocked and disgusted world all lovers of liberty and progress will breathe freely. A great uprising of the human spirit will follow; and once again the Voice that animates and sustains will be heard in countless hearts reverberating through the councils of the nations institutes and social adjustments fraught with untold blessing to the uncoming generations.—London Record.

IS YOUR LIFE A HARD ONE?

Do you people at home feel at times that this war has made your life pretty hard? Read what an American correspondent writes about one of our boys who had been doing his duty:

"In a little field hospital west of Montdidier I stopped at the bedside of an American boy, one of those victims of the German mustard gas, with which the Huns were making all their spring gains. His eyes were matted with yellow pus and he could not see. His face was terribly burned. His lips were swollen and purple. His whole body had been turned the color of an Indian and portions of it looked like melted flesh, as though it had been liquefied.

"The fighting had been renewed all along the American lines, and German wounded had become coming into our hospitals. I said to this soldier:

"The boys are getting their revenge for you fellows tonight. He smiled through his seared lips, and in a voice so faint that I had to bend down to listen, he gasped, "God I wish I was back there with 'em!"

Do you still think your life is a hard one? Help support that boy and the hundreds of thousands of others doing their duty. Buy War Savings Stamps to the limit of your capacity.

AMERICANISM OR PATERNALISM

In a recent great speech in New York state, Theodore Roosevelt struck some ringing blows for the principles of American democracy and initiative.

Regardless of political affiliations one cannot but admire Mr. Roosevelt as a fearless exponent of his convictions.

First, last and all the time he is in favor of national preparedness and pushing the war to a successful finish.

He took up another subject of vital importance to the American people. He is against "government ownership."

A "discreet" politician would not have spoken thus at this moment, when the government is assuming control of utility after utility and there is no end to what it is proposed to take possession of as a war measure.

But Colonel Roosevelt differentiates between what is a war necessity and the instinct of the nation in normal times. He is for any justifiable act that will win the war in the quickest possible time. But we are conducting a great war to save individualism and prevent the citizen from becoming a mere cog in the state wheel.

His economic presentation is not different from what it has been in the last decade. The war has not changed his individualism. He is for private ownership and governmental control; big business for the sake of economy and a firm centralized hand upon it from Washington.

Colonel Roosevelt struck the keynote in his speech as this issue must ultimately be decided on the clear cut line of Americanism or paternalism.

To meet the critical feed situation confronting dairy and stock men of Oregon, a feed committee has been organized at the Agricultural College with E. L. Potter, head of the animal husbandry department as chairman. Other members are P. M. Brandt, dairy; E. B. Fitts, extension livestock and dairy; G. R. Hyslop, field crops; and Paul V. Maris, state leader county agents.

"There is a shortage with high prices of hay, oats and barley in Western Oregon," says Mr. Maris. "Information as to the cheapest and best sources and forms of feed is in demand, and will be assembled by the members of the committee for use of the stockmen. Close touch will be kept with the situation in the field through the county agents, and with millers in Portland and the feed administrator. This office will lend every assistance, possible should it develop that car lots of hay, corn, beet pulp, molasses or other feeds should be imported."

Hogs selling at 20 cents and better on local market. Is it any wonder bacon is high. The hog raiser is due to go into profiteering class and be investigated.

Another reformer has started a campaign against Sunday funerals. We are for it. Sunday is sad enough without funerals.

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