

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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WHY WE ARE AT WAR.

"FROM many splendid paragraphs in President Wilson's noble message calling the nation to arms we quote the following as expressing what it seems to us is our complete justification of war and should continue to be the soul and heart of our national purpose:

"We are now about to accept the gage of battle with this natural foe to liberty, and shall, if necessary, spend the whole force of the nation to check and nullify its pretensions and its power. We are glad, now that we see the facts with no veil of false pretense about them, to fight thus for the ultimate peace of the world and for the liberation of its peoples, the German peoples included, for the rights of nations great and small and the privilege of men everywhere to choose their way of life and obedience. The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the trusted foundations of political liberty."

It seems to us that the president said not a word too much or a word too little; that to have said it sooner may have been an evidence of over eagerness for war; that to have delayed longer certainly would have been weakness.

If there be a citizen of this country so lacking in patriotism, so blind and deaf to the duties which this solemn hour imposes upon him, that he hesitates to make whatever sacrifice may be called for, he is unworthy to enjoy the liberty so dearly purchased by the revolutionary fathers.

We are about to go to war not only to preserve our own liberties, but to help all the other liberty-loving peoples of the world gain and preserve theirs.

No nation ever went to war with a less selfish purpose, for a more noble cause.

Our allies are the great European democracies, which for nearly three years have been fighting our fight, just as now we shall fight theirs.

We are all at one, and must continue at one, in our determination to crush forever the last remaining military autocracy that menaces the world's liberties.

SPOILATION OF A NATION.

SO MANY stories of German barbarism and cruelty have been related that we have become calloused, but tales coming from the evacuated portion of France surpass in horror those previously related. Apparently the retreating invaders have done their best not only to make this fertile and smiling portion of France a wilderness, but to destroy utterly that portion of the French people inhabiting it.

The Germans have deliberately burned down or dynamited every building. They have cut down the avenues of shade trees and orchards. They have put acid and salts upon the vineyards. They have murdered and slaughtered the male inhabitants, mutilated the children, forced the women into a shameless slavery, carried away the girls and youths into captivity.

That many mothers and children, refugees from the district near St. Quentin, evacuated by the Germans, were deliberately infected with tuberculosis, by cultures injected in their arms under the guise of vaccination, is the statement of Captain Dr. Cailleaux, in charge of the Hospital Conde, at Chantilly, who says:

"A microscopic examination of the pus from the vaccination sores on the limbs of a number of these poor refugees disclosed the fact that they were all inoculated with tuberculosis cell-life, in the form of germ cultures, by German army doctors.

Their object was plain enough—to cause widespread tuberculosis among the French people. They tried to do it a long time ago by innoculating expatriated prisoners of war. Then emaciated and ill-nourished women and children made excellent breeding spots for tuberculosis, and already several babies are dead and others in a serious condition."

There seems to be nothing the human brain can conceive of in the line of torture and refined cruelty that the Prussian juggler has not made use of in his tenth century warfare with twentieth century cunning.

SOIL SLACKERS.

EVERY square yard of good soil should be put to work to help feed the nation.

This is the slogan put out by the United States department of agriculture. In the midst of a world war, threatened with great crop shortage, the owners of vacant uncultivated lots and untilled acres are as much "slackers" as those who refuse in other ways to answer their country's call.

The department suggests "why not put a special tax on the unused land?" The suggestion is an excellent one. Any person who owns good land and holds it from use should be forced by taxation to bring the land into use.

Only one half the arable land in the United States is under cultivation. Probably the percentage is not greater in the Rogue river valley. Here we are in normal times, importing half our foodstuffs, and we may be sure that with war prices and a world demand, that unless we raise our own foodstuffs this year, a good many of us will go without.

If we would raise more potatoes, corn, wheat, garden truck, pigs and cows there would be no question of the valley's prosperity. In ordinary years, we must have irrigation to do it, but we may be able to get by without it this year—at least we can prove that we are no slackers by trying.

FILIPINOES PLEDGING LOYALTY TO AMERICA

MANILA, April 9.—Filipino veterans of the revolution are pledging their loyalty and co-operation to Governor General Harrison. The authorities are registering Germans. The German club here has been closed. Sailors from the German vessels at Cebu and Zamboanga have been confined to camps as a measure of protection. Bridges and public buildings are under guard.

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JOHN A. PERL UNDERTAKER Lady Assistant. 28 SOUTH BARTLETT. Phone M. 47 and 47-J-2. Automobile Hearse Service. Coroner.

CLAIM AMERICA HANDING A LEMON TO THE JAPANESE

AMSTERDAM, April 9.—Under the caption "the bitter bit," Sunday's Koelische Volks Zeitung prints an article under a Berlin date which purports to explain America's plan in the Far East. It says:

"The antagonism between America and Japan was aroused over China but Washington proved craftier than Tokyo and forced China to break with Germany by which action Japan like Esau was cheated of its rights as the first born. President Wilson realized the importance of Chinese and Japanese questions better than any of his predecessors and adopted a strong policy in support of the prestige of the United States, a policy which also became anti-German."

"It would be wrong to attribute this policy to pro-Britishism. During the war President Wilson pursued an American policy above all, to which is ascribable America's huge development in the production of armaments. Every child knows that no one in Germany ever thought of the possibility of a German-American war. President Wilson himself hardly seriously contemplated a German danger but did contemplate a Japanese danger. This is also fully understood in Tokio."

The article says that on the surface nothing is more natural than America should equip a giant army and fleet. It continues:

"They are not for use, however, in this war, during which they will practically not fire a shot, but for use afterward against Japan. Thus our enemies play with their own allies the game of 'the bitter bit,' with Japan acting the leading part."

CARD OF THANKS.

We desire to thank the Medford I. O. O. F., the Sutherland I. O. O. F., Olive Rebekah lodge, the sophomore high school class, Mary C. Tinker and class, Baptist Ladies Aid and The Loyal Hearts class and the many friends for the many beautiful floral offerings and especially the friends who so kindly helped us during our recent bereavement. MRS. E. G. HEADLEE AND CHILDREN.

NATION IS FACING GREATEST SHORTAGE OF FOOD IN HISTORY

ST. LOUIS, April 9.—"We are entering upon one of the greatest wars without a reserve of food," declared Henry J. Waters, president of the Kansas state agricultural college before the conference here today called by Secretary Hurdston of the United States department of agriculture, to consider the food situation of the nation.

"This country's visible supply of food," he continued, "will be consumed before another harvest. Should we have an unfavorable season the United States would face the greatest food shortage since the civil war. The problem of supporting two million soldiers soon will confront us. We must feed our own people at home while they produce munitions and equipment and we must assist in supplying our allies with food."

Increased gardening, rapid extension of community canning clubs and encouragement of potato acreage were among the conservative measures advocated by President Waters.

HEAVY SNOWFALL COVERS PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, April 9.—Eight and one-half inches of snow covered Philadelphia today, exceeding in depth any snowfall during the past winter.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Worshippers leaving the churches after the Sunday night Easter services walked out into a snow storm which, continuing all night long, ended today after laying a five-inch mantle of white upon the city.

R. E. Nealon and M. B. Chase have called a meeting at the Table Rock school house to organize a home guard and emergency club. Mr. Chase, who is a Spanish-American war veteran, has volunteered his services as drill master.

KAISER TO REFORM AFTER THE WAR

AMSTERDAM, April 9.—The emperor's Easter message on electoral reform, addressed to Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg, is treated by the Berlin press as of the highest importance. The only paper which expresses dissatisfaction is the Kreuzer Zeitung, which finds little consolation in the fact that the execution of the reform proposal is postponed until after the war, as it believes the chancellor should not now halt on the path of the complete democratization of Prussia and Germany.

The Lokai Anzeiger thinks that the message will have a useful effect abroad. "No one can interfere with our affairs," says this paper.

The Tagessblatt says it is essential that Prussia should have equal voting, abolishing the present bad plural system. It reminds the emperor that Prussian franchise reform is only one of numerous reforms needed by Germany and that the whole imperial institution needs remodeling.

HUGE REWARDS FOR SUBMARINES

AMSTERDAM, April 9.—The frontier correspondent of the Telegraph suggests that the recklessness shown by German submarines is due to the big financial rewards offered the crews by the German government. The men who man the submarines get ten per cent higher pay than those of any other branch of the national service and receive in addition substantial bonuses.

Fifty per cent of the value of a captured ship is distributed among the crew. Captains, five per cent to the commander of the submarine, five to the chief engineer, fifteen to the remaining officers and twenty-five to the crew. Per centages for torpedoed ships are based on the insurance value of the vessel. In these cases the submarine commander gets one per cent, the chief engineer one, the remaining officers four and the crew ten. There are also extra rewards for special exploits.

MAYOR GATES TO BUILD BUNGALOWS ON WEST MAIN

Mayor C. E. Gates, who purchased three residential lots on West Main street a couple of months ago, has had Architect Clark at work for several days on plans and specifications for the erection of a bungalow on each of these three lots.

Two of the lots join and Mr. Clark has drawn his plans to bring out a very unique and pleasing exterior appearance. In that while the bungalows will be identical in design the plans will be reversed giving them a decided different appearance and a very attractive one. The two buildings will be connected by a pergola which will span a double automobile driveway between them.

Each bungalow will have five rooms, a bath and sleeping porch. The porch piers and fireplaces will be of cobblestones.

The third bungalow to be built will be almost a duplicate of the two above mentioned in interior design, but the outside will be so constructed as to be very unlike the others in outside appearance. The exterior of all the bungalows will be shingled.

Mr. Gates states that he proposed to commence construction work on the buildings at once, or as soon as estimates could be submitted and contracts awarded.

NOTICE.

All accounts due the late E. G. Headlee, agent for the J. K. Watkins Co., must be paid at once to Mrs. E. G. Headlee, 217 N. C., Medford. 17

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