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EM-TEES

MY LETTER TO HIM.

By EDNA H. MCCOY, Of the Vigilantes. Now this is the letter I write him. While my heart is sick with dread, 'You are just where you should be, my son, Standing staunch where your duty led.

'At home we are well and happy, And cheerful and proud of our boy, In this war of the world—laddie— A soldier son is a joy.

'Your father struts, just a little, And 'sis' wears your pin all the while, While I—well, the star on your service flag, Brings to my lips a smile.'

And I write the little nothings, Of home, that are much, when away. The funny things that have happened Throat my lonely day.

Then I go and sit by a window, And look to the rising sun, Where 'overseas'—in the trenches— He will fight till the victory's won.

Then—going back to my letter— With tear-wet eyes I sigh: 'With dear love from your mother Who is glad her boy's in line.'

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor: It is possible I am in a hopeless minority, but will you allow me space to express myself in favor of granting the circus permission to stretch its canvases in the city of Medford? We have been strenuously working for weeks and months to aid our country in this cause; we have given time and money cheerfully, and we are not entitled to just a little recognition? 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy' is as applicable at the present time as any.

A. B. WILLIAMS.

PLOT TO DYNAMITE

U. S. JUDGES IS FOILED

MUSKOGEE, Okla., May 28.—An alleged plot to dynamite the residence of Judge Ralph E. Campbell of the United States district court, and W. P. McLaughlin, United States district attorney, police and federal officials declare, was frustrated here late tonight, when four men and a woman were arrested by a party of officers just after they had driven their automobile across a bridge leading into the suburbs of Muskogee.

In the automobile, the authorities said, was found a quantity of dynamite, as well as guns and ammunition.

The four men who are held under charges of conspiracy, carry their names as William Rogers, Henry Sherrill, T. C. Johns and W. P. Hayden.

The woman, held on a similar charge, gave her name as Bertha Thompson.

TIME FOR DRASTIC ACTION.

THE United States has sufficient food supply without using wheat, to sustain the population in comfort. There is abundance of substitutes which can and should be utilized. The wheat is needed for our allies, and all we have and will have should be sent abroad.

The program of depending upon volunteer effort to save food products at best can be only a partial success—just as the program of depending upon volunteers for fighting is only a partial success. The patriotic deny and save and the slacker wastes. The only solution is compulsory denial. If the sale of wheat is prohibited and all stocks commandeered by the government, the allies' food problem will be solved.

The seriousness of food conditions abroad has been harped upon for months by Mr. Hoover and his assistants. As long ago as last summer, David Lubin sounded the warning from the international agricultural institute in Italy. Yet all the pleading of the food administration has failed to awaken the American people to the seriousness of the situation. They consumed more sugar, more meat and as much wheat in 1917 as in 1916. They do not yet realize that the nation is at war for its continued existence and freedom.

The fact is that four years of war threaten Europe with a medieval famine—a famine more acute in the Central Empires than in the allied states. German ruthlessness has destroyed the granaries of Europe and destroyed by the submarines, shipments from abroad. Not half of the land formerly cultivated in Europe has been sown. Lack of fertilizers and unfavorable climatic conditions, and lack of man power have made the output of the cultivated area less than normal. Widespread famine is likely to end the war by the collapse of all the European belligerents.

U-boat warfare has cut down ship tonnage, and every day sees more of the still available tonnage utilized in transporting the armies. There are no ships to bring grain from Australia, from South America, from India, the usual sources of supply. Europe is forced to depend upon its own partial crops and upon America.

A war cannot be successfully fought without adopting autocratic measures. It was for this reason that the makers of the United States constitution gave the president supreme power in case of war. The time is at hand for the president to exercise these powers, and ration the people of the United States in order to win the war by feeding our allies.

A WAR MEASURE.

POINTING out that the fortunes of war turn finally on the use of the nation's man power in productive industry and under arms, a writer in the Public suggests that as there is a visible shortage of labor, bound to grow more acute as the drain upon the man power is constantly accelerated by military and industrial demands, that the large body of labor employed in menial service be utilized in the nation's hour of need.

The suggestion is a good one. Patriotic men and women will not object to driving their own cars and doing their own work, thus releasing cooks, maids and servants, chauffeurs, butlers and flunkies—many of whom are useless extravagances, utilized for appearance, prestige and maintenance of social rank. The ordinary American man gets along without hired domestics and the number of households employing domestics is smaller than the number of domestics employed and there is no reason why, at least for the period of the war, such superfluous luxuries should not be dispensed with.

To utilize the energies of this large class, to divert them from wasteful consumption to productive labor, is one of the aims of General Crowder's order enlarging the scope of the draft. But this only affects the men. There is an even larger number of women who can be profitably utilized, now wasting their energies that others may lead lives of ease and avoid the duties of household drudgery.

The Public would solve this problem by a progressive capitation tax on menial servants, payable by their employers, rising step by step with every additional servant employed in any household. It is proposed that any one household of five persons or more be allowed one servant tax-free, provided that such household includes as many as two children under five years of age. The tax would be equal to one hundred per cent of the wages paid such servants, or their wages and keep in case the servants' keep is included in the terms of employment. Beyond this, the second taxable domestic would be taxed at the rate of two hundred per cent on his cost, the third at three hundred per cent, etc.; each successive step in the series going to the next higher-paid employee, and the rate increasing by one hundred per cent of the employee's wages at each successive step.

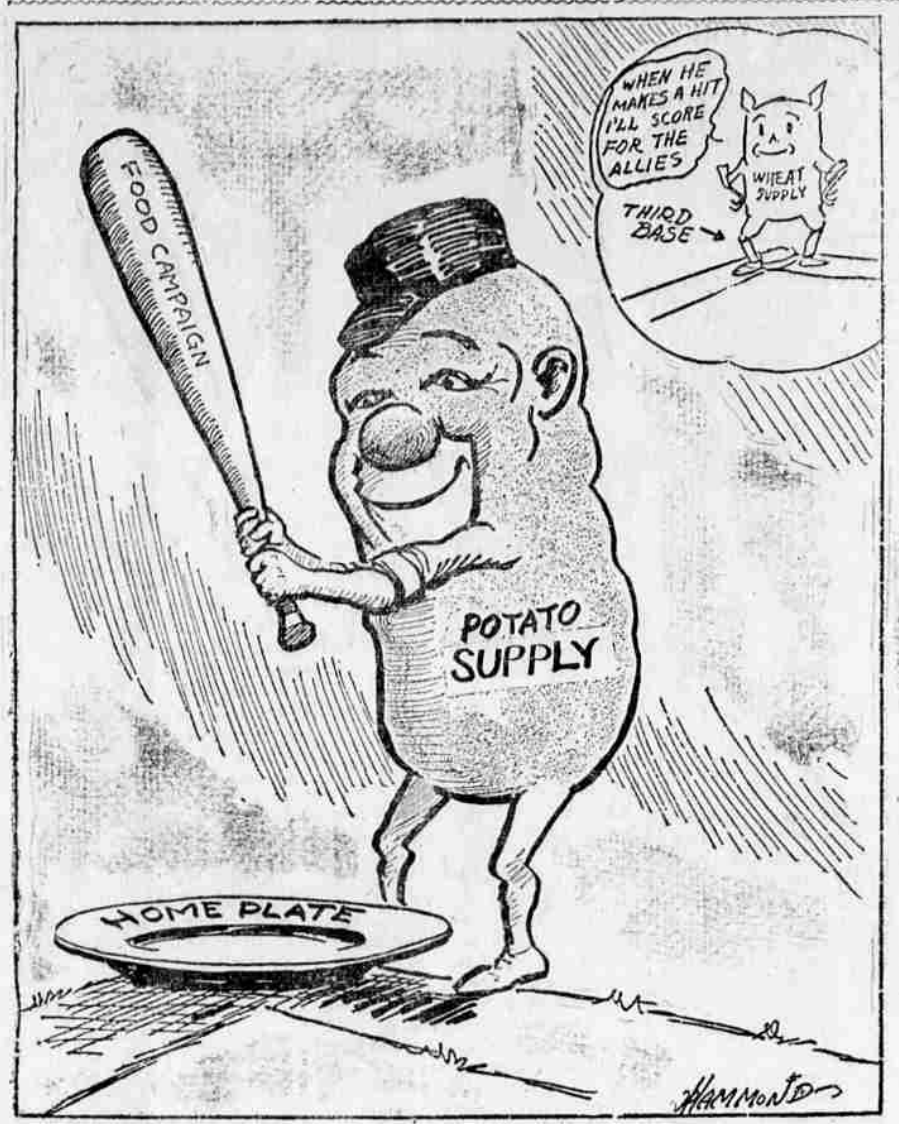
The effect would be to set free an appreciable number of persons for work in useful occupations as well as make the wealthy pay more war taxes, if they insist on maintaining a retinue of servants to minister to their craving for personal comfort and social prestige.

In revising the war revenue bill to double the government's receipts, this source of taxation should not be overlooked—as it helps solve two problems—man power and revenue.

The Flag of Italy.

(By Charles Hanson Towne of The Vigilantes.) The twenty-fourth of May is the anniversary of the third year of Italy's entrance into the World War. Voluntary work her army has done. Colored soldiers the white people of the Western Alps as a wild attempt to sweep down upon the plains before the Italian. But that does not diminish the value of the heroic effort.

MURPHY AT THE BAT



You have offered to do everything in your power to help win the war so

Push, Offer, Talk, Advise, Think, Order, Eat and Sell. U. S. Food Administration. Potatoes

ENGLAND'S AIR PROGRAM FULL OF TROUBLE, TOO

LONDON, May 28.—America is not the only one of the allied nations which is having trouble with its aircraft program.

England, too, has found that all is not plain sailing among its aviation experts. Lord Rothermere, who resigned recently as head of the air ministry, has made public a letter he wrote to Colonel Fisher, a parliament member, in answer to criticisms.

The letter makes it apparent that the troubles in the British air service are not due so much to the failure to turn out machines, as in America, as to inefficiency in the service.

He admits that the number of staff officers in the home organization of the flying service is nearly as great as the number of active aviators at the front, calling this a deplorable situation for which no one, but the system which makes possible such a multiplicity of appointments, is responsible.

Do Unnecessary Work.

'There is much duplication,' he says, 'and a great number of those officers are engaged in filling up unnecessary forms and carrying out unnecessary methods of conducting business.'

'Above all things, the air force needs a real strategic staff.'

'Almost every move of the enemy of the front brings into existence some new aerial problem which requires instant examination and consideration. A small strategic council is now being formed, the members of which will be selected for their knowledge of aerial warfare, and for their capacity to envisage aerial problems.'

Not Time for Changes.

'I intend that the door shall be thrown wide open for promotion of every officer whose merit entitles him to advancement.'

'In regard to staff appointments, I think that in the hurry of getting things done, not sufficient consideration was paid, when selections were seldom seen the beautiful colors of the Italy we all love and reverence. Every man has two countries—his own, and Italy.' Let us prove it by displaying her flag. It is little indeed for us to do.

LITHUANIANS LONG FOR FREEDOM SAYS RELIEF WORKER

NEW YORK, May 28.—The people of Lithuania, notwithstanding years of suffering from the war, are determined to establish and maintain themselves as an independent nation, free from the clutches of Germany, and eagerly await recognition by the United States and the entente powers, according to Dr. John Salpach of Scranton, Pa., who has just returned from a visit there as a representative of the American branch of the Lithuanian relief committee. The country, he said, is anti-German; the people are determined they never again will be part of Russia or Poland, and an army of more than 100,000 men, recruited from the disorganized Russian forces, under the command of General Kamaitis, is stationed on the frontier of German occupancy, ready to assist in establishing a permanent government.

BELGIUM DEMANDED BY VON TIRPITZ

AMSTERDAM, May 28.—'We must retain Belgium economically, politically and militarily,' said Admiral Von Tirpitz, former German minister of marines, in an address at Dusseldorf in Sunday, as quoted in the Nachrichten of that city.

The admiral's address was delivered before the Dusseldorf branch of the reactionary fatherland party of which he is one of the leading spirits. Speaking of Germany's requirements after the war, he said: 'Neither central Europe, the Orient nor northern Europe can supply us with the raw materials requisite to our industries. We need to have the sea free from Anglo-Saxon tyranny for that purpose.'

COTTON MARKET TO BE INVESTIGATED

WASHINGTON, May 28.—An investigation of the cotton markets in New York and New Orleans will be made immediately by the department of agriculture, Senator Smith of South Carolina, was advised today by Secretary Horton. The investigation will be made under the supervision of the bureau of markets. The South Carolina senator had requested the inquiry.

WOMEN, PREPARE!

Thousands of women near the coast have overcome their sufferings, and have been cured of woman's ills by Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. This temperance medicine, though started nearly half a century ago, sells most widely to-day. It can now be had in tablet form as well as liquid, at any drug store, and every woman who suffers from backache, headache, nervousness, should take this 'Prescription' of Dr. Pierce's. It is prepared from nature's roots and herbs and does not contain a particle of alcohol or any narcotic. It's not a secret prescription for its ingredients are printed on wrapper. Send 10c. for trial package to Dr. V. M. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

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Leave Medford for Ashland, Talent and Phoenix daily, except Sunday, 8:00 a. m., 1:00, 4:00 and 5:15 p. m. Also on Saturday at 10:15 p. m. Sun. days leave at 10:30 a. m. and 1:30, 5:30 and 9:30 p. m. Leave Ashland for Medford daily, except Sunday, at 9:00 a. m., 1:00, 4:00 and 5:15 p. m. Also on Saturday nights at 8:30. Sundays leave Ashland at 9:00 a. m., and 10:30, 4:30 and 8:30 p. m.

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