

**What the Editors Say**

Job was a patient cuss. But then they didn't have strikes and bone-dryness and influenza and stock-jobbers in his day.—Itemizer.

The Polk Co. Itemizer states the bad fix as follows: "Wages can't come down because prices are so high, and prices can't come down because labor costs so much."

Good roads will end many of the farmer's troubles, but it may bring new ones. His wife isn't going to find time to stay in the kitchen nearly as much as she is doing at present.—Telephone Register.

Don't it beat all how the world does move; one out of every eighteen people in the United States is an automobile owner. The coming season will show a decrease in the ratio for it is predicted that 1919 will be one of the biggest years in the history of the industry. Someday nearly everybody will own a car.—News Reporter.

The demand of employers for female help is said to have decreased one-half since the war's end. What suggestion does this bring to your mind? Here is ours: When the soldiers get home and get settled into jobs there will be the biggest spur in the matrimonial market ever known to the memory of the oldest inhabitant.—Telephone Register.

The United States is not morally bound to a league of nations plan. Because the president assumes to endorse a scheme of that kind, does not make it obligatory. In fact, the president being the servant of the people, should first seek to know the public mind and conform to it, rather than attempt to compel the public to come to his way of thinking. The latter course savors too much of autocracy to set well in this country. The Senate is yet to be consulted.—Umpqua Valley News.

Ninety-six kinds of the common, ordinary, everyday food, clothing and supplies used extensively by Americans, taken as a whole have risen in price from \$8.65 on July 1, 1914 to \$19.93, December 1, 1918. These figures are compiled from Bradstreet's latest index numbers by advanced students of economics, who also see a slight ray of sunshine for the consumer in the fact that prices apparently reached the highest point on July 1, 1918. In the last 52 months the wholesale prices have risen 120 per cent.—Telephone Register.

Parents whose sons went to France may not be making much noise over the order of Secretary Baker setting conscientious objectors free with a payment of \$400, but they can be expected to be heard from when talking will count. These men not only refused to fight but they refused to do non-combatant service such as becoming stretcher bearers as many genuine objectors whose conscience forbade fighting gladly performed. Putting a premium on plain shirking does not sit well on Americans who have made every possible sacrifice during the past year and a half, and it will not be the least of many counts in the indictment which they will return one of these days.—Independent.

The attempt at the present session of the legislature to amend the law requiring the holding of all elections simultaneously directs attention again to the folly of adopting by the initiative half-baked laws which are found defective when tried out, but which unfortunately must remain laws until the people themselves repeal them. This is rarely done for while the author of a law will spend time and money to get it on the ballot there is no one to take the same course when its pretended claims are exploded. The law in question was found as full of holes as a mosquito net when first tried out last fall, but there is little chance of repealing it and it appears that the relief granted by the proposed amendment is slight. Complaint now will do little good and about all there is to do is to grin and bear it and hope the experience will teach the people not to be in a hurry to vote for laws until they are very certain they are what they purport to be. There would, therefore, be no excuse to refer to this law did not the promoters of the amendment make the old claim that it will result in economy, for it does not. It may effect a saving in a few of the larger towns and cities, but Oregon is a state of small towns and only one large city. In an overwhelming majority of cases holding a city election means an election board at an expense of about \$10 and printing ballots which were the size of handbills and which cost but a few dollars. Contrast this with the making of new precincts each with two election boards and then figure out the saving. As we said above, it is too late to kick now, but those who would patch up the law should not fool themselves with the same argument used by the original framer. A way out would be to have it apply to cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants and let it go at that.—Independent.

President Wilson's motto for the Senate: "I came, I saw, I conquered."

**A Contrast.**

Canada is paying its discharged soldiers a "war service gratuity" which amounts to \$100 a month for married men and \$70 a month for single men, for six months after leaving the service. This is in the form of continuation pay, field allowance and all other allowances, and is in addition to provisions made for those who come under the jurisdiction of the department of soldiers' civil re-establishment. Soldiers who require vocational rehabilitation receive this, and the war service gratuity is paid to them after this has been completed.

The United States meanwhile is discharging men without bonus pay or allowance. It tells them in substance, that it is through with them. They have done the work expected of them. Now they may go out and hustle jobs.

The example of Canada is a complete answer to those who always find obstacles to accomplishment. It shows conclusively that the thing can be done. Peace came to Canada and to the United States simultaneously. Canada has acted and the United States has not.

The moral of the contrast ought not to be lost upon the American people.—Oregonian.

**Colossal Cost of the War.**

Secretary Baker estimates the total direct cost of the war to all belligerents at \$193,000,000,000. These staggering figures tally pretty closely with the recent estimate of Joseph Kitchin, a British statistical authority, of 40,000,000,000 pounds sterling, which on the present basis, is equivalent to \$190,400,000,000.

Mr. Kitchin calculates that the national debt of the belligerents have increased seven fold from 6,800,000,000 pounds to 40,000,000,000 pounds and their annual interest burden nine fold, from 225,000,000 pounds to 2,050,000,000 pounds.

Mr. Kitchin estimates the British Empire's war costs at 8,325,000,000 pounds, France's at 6,000,000,000 pounds, the United States' at 4,000,000,000 pounds, nearly \$20,000,000,000, Russia's at 3,600,000,000 pounds, excluding the external strife since the ignominious peace with Germany, and Italy's at 2,400,000,000 pounds.

Turning to the central powers the same authority puts Germany's war costs at 8,750,000,000 pounds, Austria-Hungary's at 4,800,000,000 pounds, Turkey's at 370,000,000 pounds and Bulgaria's at 150,000,000 pounds.

These stupendous figures cover only the direct cost of the war, taking no account of the colossal indirect losses resulting from the ruin or depression of industries. They are a staggering indictment of the German militarists who plunged the world into the frightful conflict. But there remains a far more terrific indictment in millions of soldier graves, millions of non-combatants dead from privation, exposure and anguish, and millions of mutilated and wounded soldiers. Outraged civilization will find it hard to forgive these monstrous crimes. They never will be forgiven until the world shall have indubitable proofs of German repentance.—Spokesman Review.

**Foolish Threats are Heard Against Prohibition.**

Sporadic threats of resistance to constitutional prohibition are justly condemned by Senator Wesley L. Jones, who properly excoriates those New York newspapers that are inciting rebellion against the prohibition amendment. Speaking to the senate Saturday regarding the attitude of one New York newspaper, Senator Jones said: "Its columns are used not to uphold, but to discredit the constitution and to bring the laws of the land into contempt. This is unpatriotic, dangerous to the republic, un-American and the worst kind of bolshevism."

Opinions may differ on what Washington, if now alive, would think of the proposed league of nations, but there is not room for two opinions on what he would say and do if called on to deal with these open threats to defy the constitutional law on prohibition. He would, if driven to it, send the armed forces of the government against the misled insurgents and rebels, just as in 1794 he sent 15,000 militiamen against the insurgents in the whisky insurrection, when ignorant, misled and disloyal men defied the laws of congress regulating and taxing the liquor traffic.

These present-hour threats to stir up rebellion against enforcement of the prohibition amendment strike at the foundations of our government. The prohibition amendment was not passed in haste or on impulse. No issue was ever more deliberately and more extensively debated by the American people. The procedure has been lawful, constitutional and entirely regular, and it is the clear duty of every man who calls himself an American to accept in good spirit and ungrudging respect the will of the majority of the nation as it has been written in orderly manner into the Constitution.

The liquor insurgents have not a peg on which to hang their threatened insurrection. We hope they will think better of their mad outbursts and not make themselves outlaws and rebels.—Spokesman Review.

**COAXING YOU TO SMILE.**

**While the Going Was Good.**

A ducky was ushered into an employment bureau of the Du Pont Powder Works and plied with the usual questions put to all new hands taken on at the works.

The old ducky stood the examination pretty well, but was beginning to feel just a little bit uneasy when one of the men suddenly asked:

"And who would you like to be notified in case of a serious accident?"

The ducky paused and scratched his head a bit at this unexpected blow at his morale, but after a little while he thought of two persons who might like to know of his misfortune. Their names were written down.

"And now," said one of the examiners, "where would you like to have your remains shipped?"

"Where would I like my remains shipped?" repeated the ducky in a groggy sort of voice. "Boss, I see wine to take 'em away from here right now!"

**Hopper Recognized.**

"Even animals show their feeling," remarked De Wolf Hopper, the comedian, to a friend the other day. "Only yesterday an animal showed me gratitude. I was going along a stream in the country when I met a cow in great distress. Her calf was drowning. I plunged in the water and rescued the calf and the grateful cow licked my hand."

"That wasn't gratitude," replied the friend. "The cow thought she had twins."

**Mirc'n Full and Mournful.**

Little Willie, together with his parents, was invited to a Sunday dinner at the home of his uncle, Chicken was the piece de desistance of the gladsome layout, and, being a great lover of the dainty morsel, Willie expanded his appetite to fit the occasion.

When the dessert was served the youngster had to balk. Manfully he made two or three stabs at the dish, and then gazed at it with a dejected expression.

"What's the matter, Willie?" asked his uncle, with a smiling glance at the youngster. "You look mournful."

"That's just what the matter is," pathetically answered Willie "I am more'n full."

**The Bad Egg.**

William Howard Taft said, apropos of Germany's invitation to President Wilson to visit Berlin:

"Germany doesn't know it, but for the next generation the rest of the world is going to find her as unpalatable and hard to stomach as well, it reminds me of a story.

"Little Willie, his ma thought one morning, must be ill, for he was at breakfast, stalled on his first boiled egg, when he usually got through two eggs, a piece of steak and nine hot cakes in regular lightning fashion.

"Eat your egg, Willie."

"The urchin sighed and went at the egg obediently but languidly.

"Willie, eat your egg."

"Another sigh and another languid attack.

"Thus five minutes passed. Then Willie looked pathetically at his mother and said.

"Oh ma; have I got to eat the beak?"

**Rhine Wines.**

Apropos of the whines for mercy that keep coming out of Germany—Rhine whines, as they are called—Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia said the other day:

"Germany reminds me of a woman who, entering her little boy in a new school, said to the teacher:

"Leedle Fritz he is delicate and so if he is bad—and he will be had sometimes—jusst lick the boy next to him und dat will frighten him."

**The Truthful Hunter.**

A sportsman of great imaginative gift was telling how at one shot he had bagged two partridges and a rabbit. His explanation was that though he had hit only one partridge the bird in falling had clutched at another partridge and brought that to earth entangled in its claws.

"But how about the rabbit?" he was asked?

"Oh!" was the calm reply, "my gun kicked and knocked me backwards and I fell on the rabbit as it ran past."

**A Sudden Change.**

"Some marriages turn out badly," the late Mrs. Russell Sage once remarked, "because after the ceremony the husband switches too quickly from the romantic to the practical.

"I know a young wife who said, pathetically, an evening or two after the return of the honeymoon:

"You used to love to hold my hand George."

"I love to now" George answered calmly, without looking up from his newspaper, "but it would keep you from your house work dear."

**For Sale.**

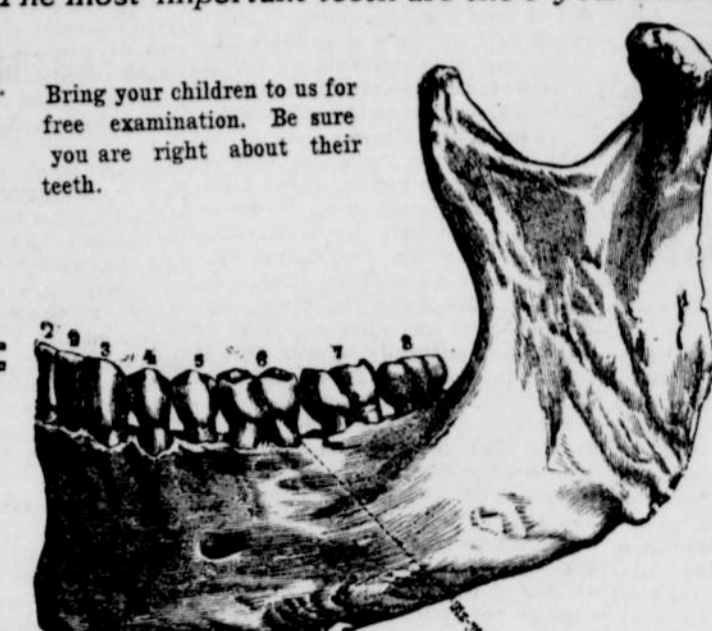
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**The Kansas League.**

A few years ago a candidate for office in Kansas suffered what he and his supporters looked upon as an inexplicable defeat. A wise politician of the Sunflower state, being asked to explain the mystery, replied: "He doesn't speak the Kansas language."

To Kansas no elucidation of that cryptic sentence was necessary, but outside students of etymology found the explanation almost as puzzling as the candidate's defeat was to his supporters. To such students light may be vouchsafed by this extract from an Associated Press story from London containing an American soldier's answer to the question whether he could tell from his conversation what part of the United States a man was from:

"Sure, take a man from the South. He speaks slow, with a drawl—Air-you-going-down-tawn tonight?"—see?—like that, like a bunch of farmers talking. A man from Chicago talks like a man from New York, quick and sharp-like, with a lot of profanity."

"But could you tell the difference between a Chicago man and a New York man?"

"Sure, a Chicago man use more profanity, and he moves his hand like this—see?—as if he was doing a card trick. A New York man's quick and soft."

"What about the middle West?"

"Ah, a Kansas man doesn't speak slow, like a southerner, or too quick, like a Chicago man, but just plain and distinct, so anyone can understand him. Just like I speak. I came from Kansas."

"That's the 'Kansas language' that any candidate for office has to talk, 'so anyone can understand him.'—New York Tribune.

What do you supposed would have happened in this country of the Republic party had about doubled the freight and passenger rates and then asked for a billion dollars a year to meet the deficit in operating the railroads?

**Forgot What He Needed.**

From the Republican, Mt. Gillad, Ohio: The editor had an interesting experience some time ago, when a young gentleman came to this office and asked for a copy of the Morrow County Republican. He scrutinized it carefully when a copy was handed him, and then said: "Now I know!" "What is it you are looking for, we inquired. "My wife sent me after a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and I forgot the name. I went to several stores and the clerks named over everything in the line on the shelf except Chamberlain's. I'll try again and I'll not go home without Chamberlain's Cough Remedy." The Republican would suggest to the proprietors of the stores, that they post their clerks, and never let them substitute. Customers loose faith in stores where substituting is permitted, to say nothing of the injustice makers of good goods and the disappointment of customers.—Paid Adv.