

Scraps of Paper.

Anyway Gene Debs has the consolation of knowing that he won't have to help pay the war debt.

It must be admitted that Democratic politicians can tear down quicker than Republican statesmanship was able to build up.

One statesman of "unyielding opinions" can get along in a conference, but with two such statesmen meet, a conference becomes merely a dead-lock.

When some statesmen get into a conference they treat their dissenting conferees as if they were a bunch of school children engaged in giving back talk to the teacher.

If the peace conference itself can't keep Italy and Albania from fighting does it suppose anybody is going to take seriously the claim that it has conjured up a world constitution that will turn the trick?

"Nobody can ever accuse a New York legislature of being stingy with the taxpayers money," says that faithful Democratic organ, the New York World. The only stingy legislative bodies we have in this country are Democratic Congresses.

North Dakota's first Non-Partisan party legislature added a few hundred more names to the public payroll and increased taxes 21 per cent, besides providing for a bond issue of about forty dollars per inhabitant. Socialism comes high, but we must have it.

The North Dakota farmers who have accepted Mr. Townley's socialism as a means of escape from the oppressions of the grain men remind one of the fellow who gave his horse a sprinkling can full of paris green after seeing him swallow a potato bug.

The late Mr. Woolworth never would have made a good member of an Appropriation committee in a Democratic congress, for he handled ordinary nickels and dimes. A Democratic Congressman cannot recognize a piece of money smaller than a ten thousand dollar bill.

The first item in any sane labor program is to make it possible for productive enterprises to go ahead and do business so that there may be no unemployment, but this is the item that most of the big talkers about labor choose to overlook entirely.

The Democratic papers now engaged in shrieking about Burelesonism know very well that there is not a more thoroughly administration politician and officeholder than the present Postmaster General. Burelesonism is merely one variety of Wilsonism, that's all.

An administration which got into power crying out against the high cost of living is now engaged in artificially maintaining high living costs by hoarding vast stores of food and other supplies purchased for the army on the basis of war's continuance, in order to keep the cost of living up and force it even higher.

Whenever the Mexicans run out of anything else to do they kill another American. This is likely to remain the favorite Mexican out-door sport until the various kinds of istas run out of Americans or an administration comes into power at Washington which believes that Americans have some rights that foreigners are bound to respect.

If you don't believe all the pulpsters who say the world is ready for internationalism, just start a movement for the federation of the Christian, Mohammedan, Zoroastrin Confucian and Buddhist religion, with fixed provisions against the invasion of any one of them by any other faith, and watch the enthusiasm.

How shall it profit the people of the United States, by involving themselves in the European system, to make foreign questions paramount in American politics and keep one element in our citizenship arrayed against another, instead of turning our attention to the rather good-sized job of discussing and deciding the affairs of our own country?

The responsibility for war rests upon two classes; the bully who thinks he can scare other people into sacrificing their own rights and interests, and the pacifist whose pusillanimous conduct when threatened gives the bully the basis for this belief. The man who will not stand up for his own rights is just as contemptible as the bully who tramples on other people.

Organization leaders put through the recent national convention of the D. A. R. a resolution thanking President Wilson for his efforts to bring peace to the world. A patriotic organization, in extending thanks, should not have overlooked giving credit for bringing peace, to the soldiers and sailors who did the fighting that really ended the war. Theirs, after all, was the supreme

effort, the effort of heroic sacrifice.

We do not trust the rumor that when Mr. Wilson has saved the world for democracy, he is going to suggest to Carter Glass that a little of it be introduced on trial into the Virginia constitution.

The advocates of the league of nations covenant, now that it has been patched and half soled, are like the fellow who drank embalming fluid out of the whisky jug; they don't know what's in it but they know they like it, whatever it is.

Robert W. Wooley, member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, says that railroads should not be turned back to private ownership until the Democratic party has had a chance to make a campaign issue of the matter. Mr. Wooley is the inventor of the Democratic party's campaign slogan: "He has kept us out of war." Probably he has thought up something equally cute on government ownership for 1920.

Those who say that the secret treaty entered into by the powers with which we are asked to associate ourselves in a world league, dividing up prospective winnings of the war, is evidence of the necessity of a world alliance. To the level headed American it looks more like evidence that we are invited into a combination, as a minority partner, the members of which have demonstrated anew the foolishness of the idea that they have ceased to have selfish aims.

Vice President Marshall is running true to administration form. In 1914 he said in a public address that he had taken a vow, after attending the funeral of a sailor killed in the Vera Cruz expedition, that he would never support a war except against an alien invader, and the other day, in Texas, he declared that he was in favor of sending to Russia an army big enough to exterminate the bolshevik. Democratic statesmanship seems to consist of inconsistency.

Whose Sunday? Whose Loan?

The reported threat of a local clergyman, in protesting against the use of moving picture screens for the Victory loan campaign that "if they do not respect our Sundays we will not respect their loan", needs further explanation. Whose Sunday and whose loan? It generally has been supposed that Sunday was the Lord's day, and Americans patriotically believe that the war and the loan which arc to pay for it are the Lord's world against the sacrilege of the Hun.

Patriotism never has been barred in the United States as a proper appeal of the pulpit, nor has its service been regarded as inconsistent with the sacredness of the Sabbath, nor is it likely to be so considered by any considerable part of the community at the present moment.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

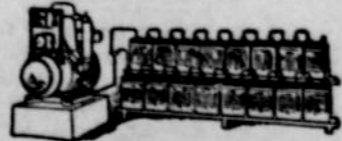
Blowing Hot and Cold

President Wilson's reversal of his earlier statement that there was a reason for every word in the league constitution and that it must be accepted as submitted, is only the latest in a long list of reversals since he was elected President. Here are a few of the declarations on which he has revised himself:

- Maintenance of the merit system in the civil service.
- Free canal tolls for American coast wise shipping.
- Pitiless publicity.
- Economy in administration.
- No injury to legitimate industry by tariff reductions.
- Merchant marine without taxing the people.
- Single Presidential term.
- Presidential primaries.
- "We have not neglected preparedness."
- Demand that Huerta salute the flag.
- Opposition to a tariff commission.
- Opposition to the congressional caucus.
- Opposition to equal suffrage amendment.
- Opposing the regulation of commission.
- Non-intervention in Mexico.
- Full discussion in Congress.
- Dollar diplomacy," in re Chinese loan.
- "Strict accountability" in re German aggressions.
- Engargo in shipment of arms to Mexico.
- "Too proud to fight."
- "Peace without victory."
- "Keep us out of war."
- Open diplomacy.
- Self-determination for races.

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