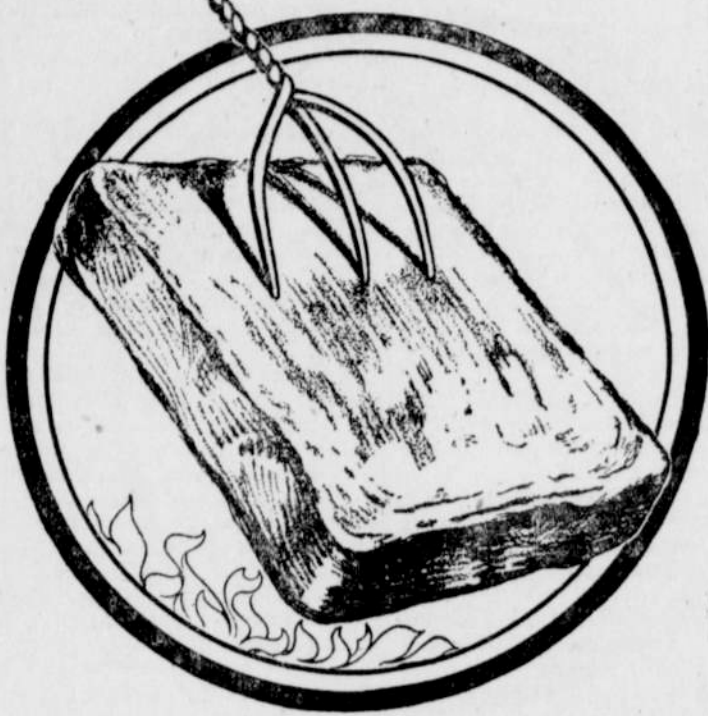




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What the Editors Say

Those parts of Canada which adopted daylight saving will follow the example of the United States and abolish summer time on October 26. The Canadian government refused to legalize daylight saving, and the general opinion is that it will not be adopted next year.—Telephone Register.

As surely as two and two make four, unless Oregon restores the death penalty as applicable to the fiends who assault women and children, the primal sense of outrage that fills the breasts of fathers and mothers of this state will vent itself in mob lawlessness and mob crime. Our civil officers may pay the penalty of upholding the law by laying down their own lives to save the curs whose lives are protected by our Oregon amendment forbidding the death penalty.—The Sentinel.

The stories in the bible are to be filmed. If the right kind of scenario writer takes charge of the matter there will be nothing more interesting ever seen on the screen. There is no more heart stirring romance anywhere in literature than can be found in the bible. They contain, excitement, mystery, intrigue, love, comedy, tragedy and historical settings unexcelled. All that is needed to bring these things to the attention of the public is proper filming of the connected stories.—Gazette-Times.

The people are holding the Wilson democracy in large numbers responsible for present conditions and the people are justified in so doing. Mismanagement of war industries operated by the government or financed more or less by the national treasury was so general as to be a disgraceful scandal. The latest of these scandals comes from Fort Delaware, where the government was mulcted to the tune of fourteen millions for a plant which should have cost about one tenth of that sum and which is now worth little or nothing except junk. That is the way the money went. That is the reason why government taxes are high, why a level is placed on every conceivable article and why people believe they are robbed to make good wholesale profiteering in war contracts.—Umpqua Valley News

Those eastern and middle states people ought to come out west and absorb a little enlightenment and civilization. It would do them good and make them more useful to their home communities. In fact, they might be able to make their sections decent and fit to live in. The experiences of Boston during the recent police strike, the outrages, the robberies, and everything else that was bad which transpired there recently is fresh in our minds. Now comes riots and shooting and killings in the eastern steel strike, and in various other states lynching and mob violence and defiance of law and order. At Omaha an attempt was made to lynch the mayor and the court house was nearly destroyed by

fire set by a mob intent on securing a negro prisoner to put him to death. You haven't heard of any Western people acting so much like savages. We are too civilized for that kind of stuff out here.—Itemizer.

The Independent is not the only paper to "rare" on its hind legs over the silly anti-cigarette law which may be on the ballot at the 1920 election. Our namesake, the Woodburn Independent, comments thusly on the proposed measure: "An attempt will be made to abolish the cigarette—the little comfort that went with the boys through the trenches and the war. If the fastidious ones who do not smoke cigarettes and do not want others to do so are successful in passing the initiative law, they will next endeavor to do away with all tobacco, then will come the injurious coffee and finally poisoning tea. But we are glad this question of abolishing cigarettes is coming up at the next election. It will, it is opined, be defeated, but it will be the means of bringing voters to the polls that would not even come to vote on the Presidency of the United States. It will be an invitation for a full vote—the greatest ever polled in the state of Oregon. The thousands who generally remain away will be there without fail.—Independent.

Who Delayed Peace?

Senators who have grown personal and bitter toward President Wilson, even those of his own party, can hardly be blamed, for they know so much more of what has been going on in government circles than the average newspaper reader, that it is a wonder that they do not rise in their righteous indignation put country above party as Senators Thompson, Reed and a few others have done, and tell the people the whole truth. That they should permit party politics to silence them and even to join with the yellow press in denouncing their fellow senators is an outrage that history only will demonstrate.

Take the question of the delayed peace. Everybody of course wishes that the peace treaty business was properly settled and out of the way. There is so much domestic legislation that cannot be attended to until it is. But it is monstrously unfair to blame the senate for the delay even if those senators who are patriotically trying to Americanize the treaty were wholly wrong. It is known in Europe and it is known in congress and it is known by all diligent readers who haven't short memories, that the President himself refused to permit peace with Germany and defused as long ago as last March and over the protests of the other signatories to the treaty.

In a Paris cablegram, published in this country March 19, and dated at Paris March 17, Frank Simonds, a man not unfriendly to the President, a correspondent for the New York Times, a Democratic paper, and a man not unfriendly to the president's conservatism, stated that when President Wilson returned to Paris from his short trip to the United States, he

found that an agreement had been unanimously made by the representatives at the peace conference, including our own delegates (who had been left to conduct our affairs in the president's absence), to perfect a preliminary peace with Germany to take effect March 21. This preliminary peace included all military, naval, economic and geographical terms—everything that could in any way effect the immediate welfare, peace and prosperity of the world. It was in effect, the final peace treaty exclusive of the league of nations covenant. According to Mr. Simonds, there had been no difference of opinion among the peace delegates in arriving at their conclusion, and no feeling among the American delegates that the action was intended to or would defeat the league of nations, or was in any way intended to evade the issue even temporarily. The sole idea was to end the war, stop the growing unrest in Europe, enable the belligerent countries to demobilize their armies, and get back to work at the earliest possible moment without awaiting the discussion and decision of important features of the world constitution.

Upon the arrival of President Wilson, Mr. Simonds said, he abruptly and imperatively vetoed the proposed program. The world will remember that M. Pichon had issued a statement to the effect that this peace agreement had been reached. Mr. Wilson issued a statement denying that any such agreement had been reached or would be permitted. He thereby assumed responsibility for continuing a technical state of war, delaying the return of American troops to the United States and a prolongation of the vast expense connected with the maintenance of a large body of troops on foreign soil.

If Mr. Simonds was correct, and his statement of the facts was never denied even by the New York Times or the New York World, is it not perfectly fair to draw the conclusion that Mr. Wilson made the peace and safety of the world a secondary matter to his desire to have a personal triumph over the U. S. Senate by weaving, as he threatened to do, the covenant so thoroughly with the treaty that it could not be extricated? Shortly after this Norman E. Mack, Democratic National Committeeman, announced that if the senate refused to ratify the treaty with the covenant, it would be the basis of a third term candidacy on the part of Mr. Wilson. Newspaper men on the recent tour with the president did not hesitate to say that they felt that the circuit of the country was being made to feel out public sentiment on the third term proposition.

We sincerely hope that the president found that the third term candidacy would be foolish. We hope so, not because we have any fear that he would be elected, for we do not believe that there is the slightest possibility, but we hope so for the reason that the bitter feeling that the campaign would endanger would be a bad thing for the country. The press and the senate have been wonderfully restrained in their expression of the president owing to the respect they have for his high office. That restraint would be thrown

aside in the heat of the hustings and the bitterest campaign this country has ever seen would be sure to follow. In the present state of the public mind, such a campaign ought not to be, but the time for placing the responsibility for delayed peace is right now and it ought not to be forgotten.—Gazette Times.

Shameful Story Must Be A Shock To The Nation.

(From The Kansas City Star)
In spite of previous bitter experience, the Nation cannot fail to be astounded and shocked over the action of the War Department in releasing Joseph Brandon, the leader of the conscientious objectors at Camp Funston. The shameful story was told in The Star yesterday afternoon.

Brandon was one of the foremost of the defiant and disloyal band who if they had their way, would have turned over their country to the foe. The administration went the limit in catering to the eccentricities of these men. It did not ask them to fight. All it required was that they perform noncombatant duty.

The religious conscientious objectors accepted this policy in good faith. The Reds refused and did everything possible to make themselves obnoxious and to destroy discipline. Brandon's offense was so conspicuous that he was sentenced to death by court-martial, then his sentence was reduced by the commanding general to twenty-five years imprisonment, and by the President to five years. His conduct during his brief imprisonment was intended to show his contempt for the government. He even disregarded the common decencies of life.

After he had been sentenced to death and his sentence commuted he wrote: "From what little news we get, we almost go crazy for joy when we read or hear that the red flag is rapidly waving over more and more territory in Europe."

And this is the man who is singled out for release after a few months of confinement! The only thing lacking is the failure of the government to provide him with transportation to Boston to take part in addressing the mobs there.

Do the President and the Secretary of War really consider an attempt to strike down the government while it is fighting for its life so trifling an offense? Do they wish to impress on the country that disloyalty is of no consequence? Or why do they follow the policy defined by Secretary Baker as "doing all that public opinion will stand in the interest of conscientious objectors?"

We should be unfaithful to those who have died in France, says the President, if we do not adopt his League of Nations. So it is unfaithful to those who have died to stand fast for Americanism, but it is not unfaithful to give countenance to the men who tried to destroy what we were fighting for.

Why A League of Nations.

The total cost to England of the Napoleonic wars is estimated at \$4,950,142,500. Practically the debt has not yet been paid, and it is estimated that \$7,500,000,000 has been paid in interest thereon during the century that enormous debt has run.

During the Boer war the British debt rose to \$3,999,000,000 sweeping away in three years of war the savings of 36 years of peace.

During and following the war of 1812, we will say from 1807 to 1821 the interest on our nation's debt ran more than \$40,000,000; as the result of the Mexican war, from 1841 to 1853, the interest totaled more than \$22,000,000; civil war, from 1856 to 1871, more than \$670,000,000; Spanish-American war from 1893 to 1904 more than \$300,000,000 and for five years preceding the world war just closed, that is from 1912 to 1916, inclusive, the interest on our debt totaled more than \$114,182,575.

When the world's debt has grown in two years from \$41,236,800,000 to approximately \$200,000,000,000, and when most of that large sum rests on only a few nations, isn't it about time to call a halt? Has Borah, Johnson or Lodge stopped to think that the annual interest charge of this world's debt has grown from \$2,000,000,000 to \$10,000,000,000?

What great good may be accomplished by the payment of this \$10,000,000,000 annually if spent for improving mankind instead of destroying it.

The average American, and the senate in particular, of late years has been too prone to look askance at war without giving thought to the consequences. We of late have been thinking, talking and acting in millions, and regarding the questions most vital to the republic too lightly.

We believe in fair play. Why not give the league a trial?—Denver Times.

Washington Post: "Senators who are opposed to the peace treaty in its present form are now convinced that they have won their fight for reservations which will make the position of the United States plain to the world and will leave no room for future misunderstanding. In this view they are corroborated by practically all the Democratic Senators; in fact, almost unanimously by the supporters of the treaty with the notable exception of President Wilson himself."

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