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Scraps of Paper.

We have had all kinds of hyphenates in this country, but the latest, development by the Shantung discussion, is the Jap-American.

If, as has been reported, the U. S. State department has asked Japan to fix a date for the restoration of Shantung to China, the reply must have been entrusted to Mr. Burjeson's department.

Attention is called to the fact that the wages of teachers in colleges have failed to keep pace with the increase in the cost of living. The college professors have had tough sledding ever since a college professor was elected president.

The rotten eggs thrown by the Ardmore, Okla., mob of "idealists" at Senator Reed for advocating an Americanized covenant of a league of nations are not by any means the rottenest arguments that have been advanced by propagandists of the league of nations.

Marching at the regular rate of speed it would take the administration job holders still doing war work at Washington several days to march past the White House, and moving at regulation administration speed they couldn't pass a given point before the next general election.

Secretary Lansing has not denied that he told Mr. Bullitt that if the American people understood what the treaty meant they never would accept it. But probably Mr. Lansing thinks Mr. Wilson is making so many speeches that the American people will never understand it.

Quite a number of the 132 magazines compelled to suspend publication in New York because of the impossibility of meeting the demands of radical labor men acting in defense of their international unions, have been fomenters of radical sentiment. Well, the chickens will come home to roost.

The New York World criticizes General Wood for orders which it interprets as suppression of free speech at Gary. But free speech for I. W. W.'s at Gary is surely no more important than free speech in the United States Senate while a treaty is being debated, and that the world has been trying to suppress for weeks.

Newt Baker says he wants an army only five times the pre-war size along with the universal military training, for the present, but that if we do not get the league of nations we will have to "arm to the teeth." What do you suppose "arming to the teeth" would be under a specialist Secretary of War, anyway?

One of the most laughable claims set up in behalf of the league of nations is that after we have joined England, France and Japan in fulfilling the secret treaties which gave Shantung to Japan, the conscience of the powers participating in this theft may be depended upon to bring about restitution of what is thus stolen.

Vice President Marshall has prohibited the crowds in the Senate galleries from applauding. They have been doing all the cheering for the senators who want to Americanize the treaty and covenant. What irritates the rubber stamp statesmen in the Senate is that the gallery crowds do not act like Democrats in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

The treaty of peace and league of nations covenant will be ratified with effective reservations included in the instrument, substantially as presented by Senator Lodge. There are votes enough and to spare to ensure this result. Ratification will be had in November, probably early in the month. This may be depended upon a conservative statement of the situation.

Colonel Edw. M. House, President Wilson's closest adviser, wrote in his book "Philip Dru, Administrator" the year Mr. Wilson was first nominated for President: "Our constitution and laws served us well for the first hundred years of our existence, but under the conditions of today they are not only obsolete, but grotesque." This seems to state the administration theory concisely.

German workmen are said to be willing to work harder now, in order to rehabilitate the country, than they did before the war. If Germany goes to work and the rest of the world continues to talk big and exhaust all their energies in thinking up fresh means of getting more for doing less, the question of who is going to come out on top will still be open to debate.

The United States should reserve the right to withdraw from the league of nations not in two years but in two minutes. In two years this instrument might wreck the republic. Should it become that its operations are perilous to the United States, why should this government bind itself to take two years to terminate its entanglement in the organization?

In his Labor Day address President Wilson said "I am encouraged and

gratified by the progress which is being made in controlling the cost of living." Attorney General Palmer has more recently informed the people that the cost of living has gone down from 20 to 25 per cent since he began his crusade. And the queer thing about it all is that the fellows who have things to sell do not know it.

The Cossacks who flagged the American soldier in Siberia, probably know that even in next door Mexico booting Americans around is the favorite outdoor sport, with an administration in power at Washington pledged by the platform upon which it was first elected in 1912 to "protect the rights of American citizens at home and abroad."

The New York World declares that "every radical who is preaching social and economic revolution" is opposing the pending covenant of the league of nations. A very fair presentation of these radicals are on the government payrolls by appointment of the present administration, and they are just as loyal to the league as the World is to the treaty maker who gave the World's editor a job on the entourage of the peace commission.

The cure for all our ills, imaginary and real, is simplicity itself. W. P. G. Harding, governor of the Federal reserve board, defined it in a few plain and easily understood words in an address at St. Louis. "If the world would declare an industrial truce for six months it would do more to bring down high prices than ever would be accomplished by strikes and agitation. Work, more work, is what the country needs. Shorter hours and increased wages will not increase production."

Col. Henry Waterson declares: "The scoundrelism—for no other word fits the case—perused by the administration and its janisaries in attempting to blackmail the President's pro-British treaty through the Senate of the United States carries with its autocratic shamelessness its own condemnation, and, except that the organization once known and honored as the democratic party has become the merest Wilson appendage, would carry also its certain defeat."

The real desire for a vast majority of the American people is to pitch into the ocean the whole scheme of American entanglement in the broils of Europe, broils based upon jealousies, rivalry and conflicting ambitions that are centuries old and will take centuries to eradicate except by the force we are expected to apply. It is a safe guess that few men give the unexpurgated covenant their support in the Senate will ever again be elected by the people to a place of public responsibility.

The world's supply of cattle, sheep and swine is approximately what it was at the outbreak of the European war, according to a report by the Department of Agriculture. Losses in Western Europe have been balanced by gains in other countries. The two experts sent to investigate the situation in Europe were of the opinion, however, that American meat exports would drop to pre-war figures before European herds had been entirely restored, as many factors tend to limit the money European countries wish to send out for food purchases.

Henry H. Morgan, United States High Trade Commissioner in Belgium, has just completed a visit to Ghent, Liege, and La Louviere to investigate the report circulated in America that the occupation of Belgium by Germany had been a fatal blow to its industry. Mr. Morgan declares he found the Belgians at work and expressed himself as favorably impressed with the spirit shown by both the employers and workers in settling the difficult questions before them. He says the country is far from a state of helplessness.

The report just issued by Director General Hines discloses the fact that the number of women employed on the railways of the country during the war was greater than was generally believed. At the beginning of the year, when many women had already abandoned railway work, the number employed was 99,709. By July 1 this had been decreased by 7,815. The reduction in the number of women workers in the round-houses and shops was as high as 23 per cent. There was an increase in the number employed in some of the lighter operating work, but there was very little change in the number holding clerical positions.

Mr. Gompers says that Judge Gary's refusal to arbitrate the steel strike proves that he is an industrial autocrat. But it was Mr. Gompers who declared before a congressional committee the other day that if Congress passed a compulsory arbitration law organized labor would refuse to obey it. The relations of capital and labor in this country can be improved only through the elimination of autocracy of all kinds, and the time will come when the people will demand that disputes of this sort, like all other disputes, be settled in public courts of conciliation and arbitration. So long as either side declares that it will not submit to the authority of the people in such matters, it has no ground for denouncing the other for a refusal to arbitrate.

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