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A MATTER OF OPINION

E. L. Keen, general manager of the United Press, with headquarters in London, and William Phillip Simms, manager of the Paris bureau of the United Press, are both in Washington, and Saturday gave to the readers of such papers as use the United Press service, of which the Capital Journal is one, their ideas of the mutual misunderstanding of the United States and Europe as to the position and opinions of the others.

Keen points out that England believes this country is staying out of the war for the sole purpose of making money by supplying the necessities of the allies, and openly classes all Americans as "Dollar Chasers." Simms says the French have the same opinion of us, only being more tactful they only shrug their shoulders without making the open charge.

It is difficult to find any reason for our friends across the water having this opinion of us, for they should understand that the United States has no reason for getting into the war on either side, and if it had, those reasons would perhaps force it to take a hand against the allies as well as Germany, to go to war with both.

If England does not want this country to make money out of the war she can easily prevent it by refusing to buy our materials, and France could do the same thing. Both these countries can thank their stars that this country is in position to sell them materials and they would consider it a cause for war, a violation of neutrality should we refuse to sell to them, yet they object to our getting a profit out of the business.

According to the writers named, both England and France think we should get in the row just for the fun of the thing. Fortunately the president and those in charge of the affairs of government are not humorists to the extent of finding anything to laugh at in the situation.

Both Keen and Simms have been away so long that they are not in touch with the sentiment in this country. This is shown in their statement as to our position toward the warring countries. They say Americans think the allies want to quit, and are surprised to learn that they are determined to fight to the end, and that end complete victory over all their enemies. That is where both gentlemen are mistaken. The average American realizes that this is a war to a finish, and that it will not end until one side or the other is exhausted and at the end of all its resources.

That is why all steps toward bringing about peace are looked upon as futile and foolish. Neither side can first offer to consent to peace, and unless one consents first the other naturally can't follow.

America understands this thoroughly, and the fact that Mr. Keen and Mr. Simms do not, gives rise to the thought that they may also be mistaken as to the feeling in England and France toward us.

Colonel Roosevelt rages at President Wilson about almost everything he has done and all that he has not done. The Colonel poses as the one infallible person who is always right and never makes a mistake. Will he kindly take a few days off and explain why he was so rabid in forcing Taft onto the republican party as the one and only man in America worthy of filling the place made vacant by the expiration of his own term, and why, if this is true, he now repudiates him and says he was not the right man for the place. The Colonel was either wrong in forcing his nomination or wrong now in belittling him. The infallible one shows that for once at least he was wrong.

Why would not Roosevelt and Bryan make an ideal combination for the republicans? One is all the other is not and thus would make a self-adjusting balance of affairs. Each is a perennial candidate for the presidency, one a winner once, and the other a continuous loser. One is for peace at any price and the other for war on the same terms. The temple of Janus might be permanently closed so far as this country is concerned if these two could be elected on the same ticket.

LET US REJOICE WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

Tunnel number 4 on the Willamette Pacific Railroad is nearing completion, it being the last of the nine on the road unfinished.

When this is completed it will be but a short time until trains will be running between Eugene and Marshfield, and Southwestern Oregon will no longer be dependent on the sea for communication with the world. It was expected trains would be running this month, but the unusually severe weather delayed the work and it will be March before the last rail is laid. Eugene and Marshfield are both planning big celebrations, the latter making three days of it. It is of much more than passing importance to Salem this opening of another Oregon seaport through which she may send her products out to the world and receive from it such things as she needs. Salem should join in the celebration heartily, sending a goodly delegation to Eugene to take part there, and then on to Marshfield. This is an opportunity the Cherrians should not overlook and the Commercial club can do no nicer or better thing than send a big delegation down to the new shipping point. We all rejoice in our neighbors getting in touch with us and why not show how much we appreciate the fact? Salem should send a delegation of not less than one hundred, and the more the better.

CALL THE BUGS TO THE COLORS

According to a Chicago physician the typhoid vaccine treatment consists of four injections given at five day intervals. The first one is light containing in round numbers and not by actual count 500,000,000 bacteria. The second dose is doubled containing 1,000,000,000 of the bugs, and the third treatment contains a like number. The fourth and knock out dose for the disease is again doubled, 2,000,000,000 of the bugs being squirted under the patient's epidermis. The full complement it will be seen contains 4,500,000,000 enemies of the typhoid germs and it does seem that they ought to be able to lick all of them caught loafing around in a fellow's system. If they adopted the modern mode of warfare and dug trenches, put up barbed wire entanglements and threw hand grenades, what a ruction they would create in a fellow's running gears.

Portland is a cheerful village. Saturday the sun shone according to the Oregonian, for ten hours and 13 minutes, and everybody was smiling. As an offset to six weeks of snow, sleet and discomfort, a community that can forget its troubles in ten hours of sunshine is optimistic and cheerful enough to win out over any and all conditions and setbacks.

Seattle complains to the inter-state commerce commission that the railroads charge \$5.60 more for tickets east from Seattle via San Francisco, than they do from Portland. As \$5.60 is the fare from Seattle to Portland why should not the railroads make the charge? or failing, be compelled to do so?

The Oregonian thinks the protest of little Salvador against the treaty with Nicaragua will receive little attention from President Wilson, simply because she is little. Has not our big contemporary become a trifle mixed on the presidents? Is it not Roosevelt of whom it is thinking.



MONEY TO LOAN

Oh, "Money to Loan" is a common sign; it everywhere greets these eyes of mine. In twenty stairways, in this small town, the cheerful legend is hanging down. There's money to loan to the merchant prince when bad collections have made him wince. There's money to loan to the farmer bold, who owns wide acres of fertile mold. There's money to loan to most any skate who has abundance of real estate, or hogs or cattle, or bonds or stocks, to be security for the rocks. But not a plunk, or a dollar's ghost, to lend to people who need it most! Go up those stairs, where the "Loan" sign is, oh, busted pilgrim with pallid phiz, and ask the gent you will find up there, to lend you a buck to relieve despair. You will hit the walk, when he throws you down, so hard you'll rattle the drowsy town. There's money to loan if you're cutting ice, there's money to loan if you have the price, but not a rouble or yen or buck if peradventure you're out of luck.

THE EYES OF LINCOLN By Walt Mason

Sad eyes, that were patient and tender, sad eyes, that were steadfast and true, and warm with the unchanging splendor of courage no ills could subdue! Eyes dark with the dread of the morrow, and woe for the day that was gone, the sleepless companions of sorrow, the watchers that witnessed the dawn. Eyes tired from the clamor and goading, and dim from the stress of the years, and hollowed by pain and foreboding, and strained by repression of tears. Sad eyes that were wearied and blighted, by visions of sieges and wars, now watch o'er a country united from the luminous slopes of the stars!

OPEN FORUM ABRAHAM LINCOLN THE TRUE PROPHET

To the Editor: In a speech of 1864 he said, "I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and makes me tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working on the prejudices of the people until all the wealth is aggregated into a few hands and the republic is destroyed."

He also said in his first regular message to congress, December, 1861, that, "Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruits of labor and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration."

He reiterates in an address to the Republican Workmen's association, of New York, March 21, 1864, the same language. And on other occasions as repeatedly maintained that "The effort to place capital on an equal footing with or above labor means the ruin of despotism."

During this period of preparation agitation, and since "The money power" has entrenched behind this federal reserve banking system which has literally "Aggregated all the wealth of the nation into a few hands," it is well for us, the common people, to pause on this 12th day of February and consider what Abraham Lincoln has said about this present capitalistic and economic system. There can be no better way of honoring this good man's life than by heeding his warnings and acting on his advice. This is the most critical period of our national existence since the civil war, and our country "Needs every man's unselfish devotion—as Jingoists say. God knows we need every man's unselfish devotion; at least we need their wits."

What Lincoln feared most was that the money power would corrupt the "High Places"; while at the same time playing us against each other by working on our prejudices. He being of plain folk, realized the stupidity of the people and continually warned us of our worst enemies; a few of which are: Racial prejudices, religious prejudices, national prejudices (patriotism), class prejudices. No, not class prejudices, for to aim there was only one real class in all the world, the working class. And to prove his international scope of vision will quote from another speech, "Let the workers beware of prejudices working divisions and hostilities among themselves, for the strongest bonds of human sympathy, outside the family relation, should be uniting all working people of all nations and kindreds and tongues."

We who believe in socialism hold Lincoln in high esteem, and with him we maintain that the man who does not want all that he earns is a fool, and that the man who wants more than he produces is dishonest. The method of procedure as given in the quotation below is worthy of every honest man's consideration. He says (inasmuch as most good things are produced by labor it follows that all such things of right belong to those whose labor produced them, but it has so happened in all the ages of the world that some have labored and others without labor have enjoyed a great proportion of the fruits. This is wrong and should not continue.

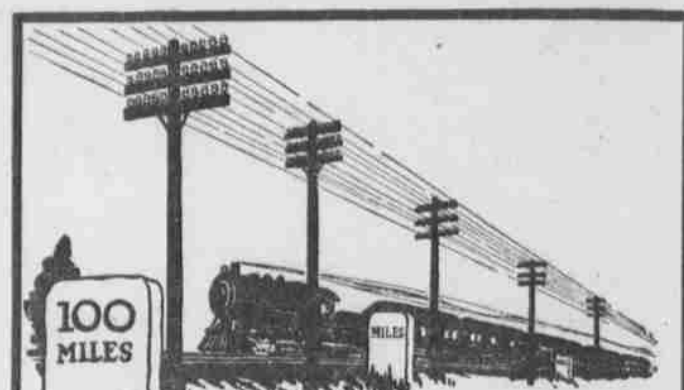
To secure to each worker the whole product of his labor, stock and bonds and securities and houses, lands and industries have an earning power of themselves. "It means," inevitably and absolutely, "It means the return of despotism." Because labor, in any possible form of servitude, can not now, and shall never be able to maintain itself, and create a surplus equal to the sum total in interest that is forever being compounded on all these things and that is the least demand the capitalists will make.

Lincoln clearly saw these truths and being courageous, he, like Moses, the prophets and Jesus, and Marx, rolled up his sleeves and laid the ax to the roots of this infernal money system, this beastly economic system that enthrones Mammon and debases God. It has made a few absolute rulers of the world, and of labor it made the goat who carries the load of the world.

Yes indeed, he was a true prophet in warning us of "A crisis approaching that unnerves him." And if this crisis is not "approaching" let us ask you why Woodrow Wilson and the capitalists behind him want such a vast army and navy? He not deceived, it's not the Germans or Austrians, English or Japanese that they want this fighting machine for, for in the president's recent Manhattan speech he says that we Americans were in no danger from any quarter whatever.

The truth is, the social point of view has already taken possession of the people of the nation, the same as in Germany, and Wilson and Lansing, the armament trust, and the money trust, are not one whit better than Kaiser William and the crown prince, the Imperial Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Krupp armament company and the rest of the corrupt capitalists.

The truth is they determine to defend their hold on an ill-gotten world; and straightway, like all the greatest scoundrels of the ages, they fortify themselves behind patriotism and prejudices. It is written, "Be not deceived,



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God is not mocked for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." Every gun and every sword we make makes the birth pangs of the New World just that much more painful. Remember 1860-61. If we had had a greater fighting equipment then our cause would have been just that much harder to win, because it was mostly all betrayed into the hands of the enemy by president Buchanan, and history repeats itself. And an only restrained from still further disagreeable comparisons, because the leading republicans, the most progressive republicans, are many times worse.

He who supports this military preparedness and those other underlying economic causes that so surely make for "despotism," he who supports these things, either by voice or ballot or silent consent, is traitor to all humanity, is traitor to that true freedom which was ordained and established by the blood of our fathers.

So let us, in all sincerity, again with Lincoln, "Resolve, that this nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

T. J. SHIPLEY.
Campfire Girls to Entertain Tomorrow
The Ching Chink camp fire girls will give a vandyville and moving picture show at the Opera house tomorrow evening and are planning to give it at

Albany and other towns. The girls gave a benefit last fall at the Oregon but tomorrow evening will put on the entire program. The moving picture reels will show camp fire girls at Sebago lake, Maine, giving an idea of what the eastern people are doing for their girls in the way of camping out.

Fancy dancing, group singing and solos will be included in the program. Mrs. O. B. Gingrich is guardian of the camp and is drilling the girls. Those who will take part in the program are: Amelia Babeek, Alice McClellan, Edjys Reynolds, Florence Shafer, Ferrol Libaugh, Thelma Libaugh, Ruta Mendelsohn, Edna Ackerman, Annabelle Golden and Isabelle George.

NEW BOOKS AT PUBLIC LIBRARY
Bennett, The Old Adam; Boshier, The House of Happiness; Chester, The Enemy; Conter, Co-operation Among Farmers; Cyclopedea of American Government, ed. by A. C. McLaughlin and A. B. Hart; Eisenwein, Writing the Photoplay; Farrol, Ebbetts the Smith; Hall, Educational Problems; Kreisler, Four Weeks in the Trenches; Martin, Selma; Monroe, Cyclopedea of Education; Woman's Who's Who in America.

Juvenile—Bacon, Operas Every Child Should Know; Bacon, Pictures Every Child Should Know; Doubleday, Birds That Every Child Should Know; Fryer, The Mary Frances Cook Book; Gordon, Bird Children; Mable, Heroines That Every Child Should Know; Seton, Wild Animals at Home.

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