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### BRIBING AMERICAN STATESMEN

The worst fears of the American people are realized in the latest disclosures made regarding German intrigue in the United States. A message from Ambassador Bernstorff requests the Berlin government to allow him to expend \$50,000 for the purpose of influencing the American congress—"through the organization you know of."

What is the organization referred to by the ambassador, and who received the \$50,000? These are things the people of this country would like to know. Was it distributed among senators like Stone, Norris, La Follette, Gronna, Gore and Stone, and certain congressmen who have been pleading for peace at any price and attempting to obstruct all efforts to successfully prosecute the war? The very wording of the request indicates that it was not the first time money had been used for a similar purpose, and thus the inspiration for many of the pro-German speeches in congress during the past three years may have been discovered in the message just revealed by the state department.

What is the worst feature of the disclosures is that it quite naturally brands as traitors to their country those senators and congressmen who have expressed friendship for the Prussian cause. The common belief will be that they received the money disbursed by Ambassador Bernstorff, whether this was the case or not, and if any of these men are innocent and, therefore, honest in their expressions of opinion and the casting of their votes they must necessarily suffer in the estimation of the public along with their guilty colleagues.

### GERMAN INSPIRED STORIES

German inspired stories caused the Russian troops to mutiny and murder their officers. One story was to the effect that Korniloff had executed an entire regiment of soldiers, another story accompanied it to the effect that Kerensky had requested troops be sent by General Vassiloff to aid in the defense of Petrograd and that the request was not complied with. Both stories were absolutely untrue, but the unreasoning mob took them as gospel truth and became frenzied. They murdered every officer they caught. Of course the soldiers were utterly foolish to accept any such story without positive corroboration, but they did; and the result should not be pleasing to the German officials, for the acts of the soldiers showed they are intensely loyal. This outbreak should quiet for all time the stories told of the defection of the Russian soldiers. It is quite possible that some of these stories were also of German inspiration, and consequently unworthy of a second thought.

A German spy is reported to have caused the death of nine student aviators in Canada. He enlisted and then took advantage of his opportunities to file some of the brace wires of the machines, almost to the breaking point so that when the students took their flight the wires parted and they were dashed to death. This is another example of Prussian "kultur," and is of the same kind that murders women and children and drops bombs in residence cities contrary to the usages of civilized warfare. It was deliberate murder because it was the killing wantonly of men whose death cannot in anyway effect the result of the war. There is nothing to be gained by such criminal acts, and no one but a subject of the kaiser would consent to do that kind of dirty work for any other government—supposing any other could order it done.

Washington street is impassable and is badly torn up. As is usually the case when that street gets in bad shape the street light at the corner of Saginaw and Washington goes on strike. It was the case last night to the grievous sorrow of an autoist who got into the mess, by himself but who had to send for help to get out.

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### PUT OUR GRIEVANCES IN THE BACKGROUND

While nothing definite has been told as to the progress the federal mediator has made toward settling the strike in San Francisco, it is stated the strike will probably end this week or by Monday of next week at the latest. At the same time the outlook for peace in Portland is said to be brightening. At Seattle, where the I. W. W. gang started the trouble, conditions are said to be growing steadily worse. It looks as though Butte had taken the proper course. There the mines were closed down and the strikers were given to understand they would remain closed indefinitely. If men can refuse to work, which they undoubtedly can, they should not be surprised when the employer refuses to work too. He can shut up shop and go fishing or autoing, and he can stay idle much longer than the average laborer. It is as much of a calamity for the employers to quit as for the workmen to do so. Under present conditions, when every man regardless of position or occupation should be doing all he can toward winning the war, strikes and lockouts should be unheard of. As Americans we should forget such things until the war is over. If we must have strikes and labor troubles let's put the whole business off until after the war, and then fight it out comfortably between ourselves without aiding Germany.

A leading Chinese editor commenting on China's capabilities in the way of furnishing fighters for the Russian front says China could send 250,000 men over the Siberian railroad in nine days—if she had the money. And yet the story has been told time and time again that the Siberian railroad was "two streaks of rust and a right of way." If it can handle 250,000 men in ten days it can give the Southern Pacific cards and spades and beat it hands down. This suggests the S. P. should send for a Chinaman to superintend it. Maybe then it would be able to deliver a carload of piling every week and provide cars enough to haul a few barrels of asphalt for the Pacific Highway, and incidentally build a new depot in Salem.

If the vote of the Argentine senate is any criterion as to the sentiment of the masses, then Argentine will sever diplomatic relations with Germany so soon as the lower house has a chance to vote upon the matter. Under the Argentine constitution it is stated, the president can veto the action of the congress should he so desire. The vote in the senate was that charmed number, "23" to 1 in favor of breaking relations. Pretty soon the war will be between Germany, Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria on one side and the balance of the world on the other. And yet the Prussian militarists would make the German people believe the world has designs on her territory and has combined to destroy her.

It is a hopeful sign when a paper published in the German language suddenly finds it is necessary to use the English language instead and also to change its name. In Portland the German language paper, the Deutsche Zeitung, understanding it was about to be suppressed, switched very suddenly and blossomed out printed in English and under the name "The American." The poet has said: "A rose would smell as sweet by any other name," and possibly the German paper printed in English may do the same, or even improve the perfumery. Anyway it is to be congratulated on having gone the limit while it was going. The name is all right.

It seems American secret service men have not only been able to decipher Germany's secret code, but within a few months to translate three separate ones. When the German mind is matched with that of the American in such work, it falls down everytime. The American having gone through the melting pot some generations ago has sharpened his wits, receiving from all nations the cleverness belonging to each.

## Rippling Rhymes

by Walt Mason

### SAVE GASOLINE

Be sparing with the gasoline, if you approve good sportsmanship; joyride nine miles or seventeen, but shun the long and useless trip. Our Uncle Sam would hate like sin to shut off all our joyride juice, but tricks of that sort he'll begin, if from rank waste we don't cut loose. He's warned us all in tones of brass (and may the warning be not vain), "There'll be sufficiency of gas, if every one is safe and sane. But if the visible supply should shrink too much, you'll have a jar, for in the twinkling of an eye, I'll tie a can to every car." So let us motor here and there, as much as thoughtful people want, and give the folks some evening air, and take a little Sunday jaunt. We still may jog around the town and down the pike and o'er the leas, and journey, when the sun goes down, to rob some farmer's apple trees. So mark the hogs of gasoline, who heed no warning, however kind, who still go scorching o'er the scene, and leave a cloud of smoke behind. They still pursue the wasteful game, and will while they possess the price, and they're the ones who'll bear the blame when all our cars are placed on ice.



WALT MASON

### The Daily Novelette

#### THE CULPRIT.

Oddsen Ends, the riddle fiend, was swinging unconsciously along, whistling "I Knew He Was a Sailor When I Saw Them Sailor Pants", when a large man in a small suit of blue under wear thrust himself nine-tenths way out of a parlor window and cried: "Hallo, there—there's a gas leak in the house and I can't locate it. Come in and help me, will you? Everybody is asleep and I'm afraid they'll all be asphyxiated, and I don't want to wake them up and tell them to stop breathing."

#### FERGUSON YILL NOT ANSWER

Austin, Texas, Sept. 21.—James E. Ferguson, suspended Texas governor, refused to tell the senate from whom he borrowed the \$100,000 which he already admitted was delivered to him in currency. He was on the stand in his impeachment trial.

#### PAROLE FOR COAL KINGS

San Francisco, Sept. 21.—Solicitor

#### GROVER CLEVELAND STOPPED A BIG STRIKE IN CHICAGO

and this over the objections of one Altgelt. He remarked he would settle the strike first and attend to Mr. Altgelt afterward, and as usual Grover kept his word. Altgelt passed into innocuous desuetude, but it was some later that Grover discovered that condition and realized just what he had done to the Chicago anarchist.

#### THE STRIKER WHO IS EXEMPT FROM THE DRAFT

because of his occupation will not remain so unless he is at work at that occupation. This will cut no figure with those above the draft age, but there is a large percentage of the strikers in the shipyards and at other pursuits who are within the draft age. These have the choice of going to work or going to war.

#### THE EQUINOX HAS ARRIVED

and so far there is no storm in sight, though the skies are gray. The weather man said yesterday it would be cooler and fair. That last statement is what we are all interested in here in Salem. We do not care much about the cooler, but the "fair" is the main thing for the next ten days.

#### THREE MORE DAYS AND THEN THE STATE FAIR

is time for every Salemite to put his affairs in order so he and his can attend, and this every day of next week.

#### THE RUSSIANS ALWAYS PUT UP A PRETTY STILL FIGHT

after they have been licked to death.

#### THE STRIKE IN THE SHIPYARDS IS LAID AT THE DOOR OF GERMAN INTRIGUERS.

General Davis has approved the application for parole of James B. Smith, president of the Western Fuel company, and Vice President Mills, who are serving terms of 18 months each in San Quentin prison. The men were convicted after a sensational trial on charges of defrauding the government out of nearly \$500,000 in duties in connection with weighing of imported coal.

### And He Did

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

### AGONY OF SPIRIT

CHAPTER XI  
It makes no difference how long I live, how old I get, I never shall forget that night; the first I was ever separated from my husband. At two o'clock I could endure it no longer and called up Tom Langley. A servant answered, and said that Mr. Barton had been suddenly called away on business and had gone almost as soon as he had returned from the country. "Who is calling?" the servant asked after her explanation. "Never mind," I said and hung up. I was glad Elsie had not answered. But in my fear for Bob I never thought that had I been in Elsie's place, and some woman who refused to give her name had called Bob at two o'clock in the morning, I should have resented it. I was so absolutely numb with fear when at a little after three, I heard Bob's key in the door, and he came in, a long drawn whistle escaping him as he saw the place lighted. "Oh, Bob, Bob, where have you been? I thought you were killed!" I cried as I flung myself on his neck. "For goodness sake, Margaret, what's the matter? Why didn't you stay with your mother as you said you were going to?" "I knew you would be lonely, and I wanted to surprise you," I sobbed, drenching his whisker with my tears. "Surprises aren't always the pleasant things in the world," he returned grimly. "There, I'm here, so stop crying and let's get to bed. After this when I am going out, go to bed and go to sleep like a sensible woman, instead of a silly girl. One would think you were nineteen instead of twenty-nine." I knew that Bob meant nothing by that speech. I know it now, but then it hurt me dreadfully. Would he have hesitated to stay out if I had been nineteen? Was that what he meant? He led the way into the bedroom and went to bed almost in silence. I tried to tell him that it was only my great love for him that made me come home; that it was that same great love which made me anxious, but he wouldn't listen. And when I asked him to tell me where he had been, what kept him so long, he wouldn't answer. "Ask me in the morning. I want some sleep," was all he would say. After he was sleeping soundly I leaned over and kissed him. He probably had been disappointed in getting the business he had expected, and that was the reason he didn't want to talk. And he probably hadn't had anything to eat since dinner. The tears came into my eyes as I thought of my housewifely plans all forgotten in fear for his safety. The chicken, the mushrooms, all spoiling on the table, added poignancy to my grief. I should have put them in the ice box. Then came the thought. "No nineteen year old girl would have cared what became of them, they didn't have sense enough," and comforted by the thought that I was doing as a younger woman would have done I finally went to sleep not caring that the food I had prepared would be only fit for the garbage pail. But what I DID mind was that Bob could find ANYONE ANYTHING that could interest him for that length of time without me. Why I couldn't even be contented with father and mother without him. When we went in to breakfast the next morning, Della wore a "didn't I tell you so" air that was most aggravating. After she had waited and left the room, I said to Bob:

"Now, dear, tell me all about it! Did you get the business?" determined to show that I was interested, though it was really more curiosity to know what he had done, where he had been, than interest. "Yes, I think I shall land it," he said, his mouth full of food. "But why did it take you so long?" I persisted. Then I got my first insight into what Elsie had termed the unevenness of my husband's disposition. "Oh, after we finished talking Creedmore took me to a studio affair a friend of his was giving, to introduce a new singer. She had a voice, too, I can tell you!" and without even noting the look of horror with which I listened he launched into the most enthusiastic praise, not only of the woman's voice, but of the woman herself. "She was lovely, in her dark foreign way," he said as he stopped for breath, "and so young." "How old was she?" I asked, astonished that Bob should praise another woman to me, and praise her so fulsomely. I couldn't have done such a thing to save my life. "About eighteen," and again he sang her praises with kindling eyes until he looked at his watch, and with an exclamation that he would be late at the office rushed from the table. He kissed me as usual however, and when I whispered that I loved him so, that I couldn't stay in the country, he replied: "All right, then, don't say you are going to stay unless you mean it." I cried for an hour, then, realizing that I couldn't persist and not look unattractive when he came home, I tried to comfort myself by thinking that nothing in the world, no one, would have kept him out had he known I was waiting for him.