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THE DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

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PEACE DRIVE GERMANY'S NEXT MOVE.

Here is the opinion of the west front war situation held by J. W. T. Mason, who has attracted considerable attention as the war expert of the United Press Association. He calls attention to certain important facts and draws conclusions which are, to say the least, worthy of thoughtful consideration.

Mr. Mason argues that the reducing of the intensity of the fighting on the west front is a normal condition of the strategy dominating both Von Hindenburg's and Marshal Foch's purposes.

It is Von Hindenburg's natural desire to rest briefly after his difficult retirement; and it is wholly in accord with Marshal Foch's plans to conserve his own driving power until Von Hindenburg resumes his dreary withdrawal to the Belgian frontier. In this respect Von Hindenburg may be said to possess a quiescent initiative. It is for him to say when his backward movement shall be voluntarily resumed. Until that time comes it is not probable Marshal Foch will order offensives on a large scale against the enemy's positions.

Announcement was made yesterday that Admiral Von Hintze, the German foreign minister, had gone to field headquarters for a conference with Von Hindenburg and Ludendorff. This conference may well control for the time being the military situation. One of the major conditions now confronting the kaiser is to control as much territory as he can when peace is declared. Von Hintze has just visited Vienna for what is generally believed in Germany and Austria-Hungary to have been a discussion about a peace offensive.

If Von Hintze reports to Von Hindenburg and Ludendorff that there is any hope of a peace drive succeeding, it is highly probable the German retreat along the western front will be held down temporarily to the lowest minimum of which Von Hindenburg is capable of directing. Von Hintze will report at least that the well-worn Austro-Hungarian peace camouflage is to be tried once more, for Baron Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, has already begun to play his part as a principal, assisted by a minor chorus.

Nevertheless, Von Hindenburg cannot give Von Hintze very much time for his peace maneuver without gravely endangering the work of building up a German reserve force. While the German armies cling to their present elongated front in a vain hope that enchanted words from Vienna will conjure up peace, America's quarter of a million troops monthly will continue to arrive in France.

Von Hindenburg knows he must not tarry indefinitely in western France if he is to defend the Rhine against the Americans. Therefore, if Von Hintze's peace campaign doesn't show quick results, every consideration of strategy will require Von Hindenburg to resume once more his homeward tramp.

It will be a shock to some people who have imagined that gold did not fluctuate in value, but that that trait was limited to silver alone, to learn that the value of gold has fallen so much that many miners refuse to work their claims. The falling off in production in this country for the year is estimated at \$12,000,000. In the meanwhile as compared to gold, silver is increasing in value. William Jennings should again come to the front for the cross of gold just now being pressed on the brow of labor is about half counterfeit, for a dollar is worth only about 54 cents in the common commodities, as compared to three years ago.

Hereafter, but fourteen sizes of white cotton thread will be manufactured while the black will be reduced to seven sizes and the colored to one. This is by order of the war industries board. If these are not sizes enough for the ladies it might be good policy to lay in a stock of thread now while the laying in is good.

Looks like the Yankee boys have started on their long-awaited hike for Berlin.

LADD & BUSH, Bankers

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SALEM RED CROSS NEEDS WORKERS.

Salem women are again allowing their Red Cross activities to lag.

Already there is growing criticism from other cities that Salem is not doing her share; that smaller towns are far more active in the work for humanity than the capital city of the state.

The surgical dressing department is most seriously in need of workers. The faithful band of workers who have been attending there day after day have been unable to keep up with the quota assigned them. The falling off in attendance during the summer put them behind and they have not been able to catch up. Now that the vacation season is over, the attendance is very disappointing and places Willamette chapter in a bad predicament in not being able to ship the goods required of it, as practically every other town on the coast is doing. There are hundreds of women in Salem who are Red Cross slackers; they are shirking their duty to their country and to the boys in khaki at the front; they are not heeding the impulses of common humanity which calls upon them to save every life it is possible to salvage from the wreckage of the great battlefields of Europe, and alleviate suffering wherever it may be found. If there were no slackers here in Salem the workers would crowd the rooms at the postoffice beyond their capacity; that they are frequently almost empty is proof that hundreds of women are not doing their duty. Hundreds who ought to be working have never had their names enrolled there at all. What are the women of Salem going to do about it? Are they going to stand the criticism that is coming from Albany, Eugene, Roseburg and a score of other towns, or are they going to answer the call of their country and their God, even though it entails some personal sacrifice?

The situation in Russia as reported by Americans who left that country but a few weeks ago is one that is indescribable. The peasants have grown a fair sized crop of wheat and rye, but they are opposed to the bolshevik government and refuse to let the cities controlled by the latter have any grain or other foodstuffs. The workmen in the cities are without food and the commission tells them to shoulder their guns and go out and take the grain away from the peasants. There are two sides to that proposition, one of which makes the advice unpalatable, and that is that the peasants are armed and will fight for their property. It is evident the bolsheviks are on their last legs for a government that cannot keep its citizens from starving will soon become the object of attack by the hungry ones. Out of the chaos here and there signs of coming order and a semblance of government are beginning to show, and there is still hope for a rejuvenated Russia that will rise to help the allies throw the Germans out. The situation is daily becoming more serious for the Germans, for the peasants show steadily increasing strength and aggressiveness, while the conditions on the western front prevent the German government sending any aid to her widely scattered forces in Russia, which are liable to be overwhelmed should the rising in Ukraine and throughout all Russia concentrate and act as a unit.

While the movie patrons back east are shown the wild Indian of the west still wearing his breech-clout and blanket, out here where they live it is noticed the Indian wears good store clothes and takes his family from the reservation to the orchards to work, in a high priced auto. The west will have to go east to get a glimpse of the Indian of forty years ago.

The Sugar Equalization Board has fixed the price of sugar, so the consumer will pay one cent a pound more than at present. It is ordered though that the new price apply only to the new crop and that the stocks now on hand be sold at the present price. "his means that after the present stock is used up the price will be ten cents.

Rippling Rhymes

by Walt Mason

DEATH IS COMMON.

So many men are lying down, that one more death cuts little grass; we lose some bulwark of the town, and hardly pause to say, "Alas!" It is an awkward time to croak, while war is kicking up its din; no man can leave a trail of smoke, these death-struck days, by cashing in. Today we lost our merchant prince, the owner of the Blue Front store; he's been our Big Man ever since he landed here, in '84. If he in times of peace had died, the village would have lost its breath, and groups of people would have cried, "You love a shining mark, O death!" And we'd have talked for days and weeks, about his merit or his flaw, and looked on men as dreary freaks who did not speak his name with awe. A silken banner we would fling half-masted o'er the city hall; and we'd have hired a band to spring the justly famous march in "Saul." Ah, me, what is one merchant prince, when dead men strew the blood stained globe? Who can the proper grief evince or paw around and tear his robe? In his deep grave we'll lay him down, with naught of pomp or circumstance and then we'll hustle back to town, to hear the latest news from France.

THE WIFE

By JANE PHELPS

THURSDAY—THE WIFE

BRIAN OBJECTS TO BUSINESS TRIPS FOR RUTH.

CHAPTER XXX.

The journey home was entirely without incident. Ruth had been tired from her two days' work in the old mansion, and had retired to her state-room immediately. In the morning she went directly to the shop, altho Mr. Mandel told her she was at liberty to go home.

"I want to do some more work while it is all so fresh in my mind," she told him, and he objected no further. In fact, could Ruth have heard him mutter "A fine, without doubt," he believed in her—was pleased with her, and with her work.

All day she worked steadily over her plans. When closing time came she regretfully laid them aside and went home.

Mrs. Crawford was there, and dinner was nearly ready. Ruth asked no questions, but stationed herself at the window to watch for Brian. He would be along in a minute. In some way she missed seeing him, and the turning of his key in the lock was the first intimation she had that he had arrived.

"Oh, Brian!" and she ran to him and threw her arms around his neck. Were you lonely, Brian dear? Did you miss me?"

"Was there any reason why I shouldn't be lonely?" he asked gruffly. The soft feel of her clinging arms had helped to evaporate his anger.

"Well, I am back now and we'll make it all up. I have so much to tell you, dear! such a wonderful old place, and I am to do anything I want to with it—almost anything," she corrected with a little laugh.

"And Newport is lovely! I never knew a place could be so heavenly!" and—"Did you go alone?" Brian interrupted.

"Why—no—" amazement in her tones, "Mr. Mandel went with me."

"You mean to tell me that you went galivanting off with a man for three days?" the voice in his face swelled to almost bursting.

"Why—Brian—of course—he had to go. He had to see to things. I couldn't do it alone. And—"

"I'd like to know what you would think of me if I took some girl and went away for three days?"

"Oh, Brian—how can you talk so! It's so different! It was on business, and you—"

"Don't talk about it! That's the reason he was willing to pay you forty dollars a week—not because you can't do it. I know you couldn't earn any salary—but because he is in love with you. I'm not such a fool as you think me."

Ruth's eyes filled. But she was determined not to cry. The injustice of Brian's anger filled her with wrath also. She had been ready to talk of

her trip, to tell him of how kind Mr. Mandel had been; now she would tell him nothing. He didn't deserve her confidence. And—he didn't trust her or else he would not say such things. Just then the situation was relieved by the call to dinner.

Ruth dashed the tears from her eyes, and with head up and a defiant feeling in her heart led the way to the table.

She did not again speak of her trip, neither did Brian refer to it while at table. They ate in silence save when speaking of their food. After dinner Ruth unpacked her bag, taking no pains to hide what she was doing.

"Might as well leave it out, then you'll be ready the next time he wants you to go somewhere with him," Brian sneered.

Again Ruth's eyes filled, but she made no reply, altho an angry one rose to her lips. Quietly she put the bag away, then took a magazine and sat down to read.

"I'm not going to sit in this stuffy hole all the evening!" Brian blurted.

"If you are! I'm going to a show."

Ruth rose with alacrity. She knew that Brian dreaded the long evening with her because he was too proud to own he had been wrong in talking to her as he had, and that he was also too proud to own the fault.

"That's a good idea," she said brightly, "I'll be ready in a minute."

While she changed her dress for one more appropriate, Ruth repressed a smile. What a child Brian was, she thought again, a regular baby. Well, she would treat him as such, humor him. What difference did it make, and it made things pleasant. Nothing would make her give up her work, or anything that her work made necessary. Beyond that, she would not do anything save what Brian approved, and she would keep her temper when he was angry, even if he were angry without cause.

So it was a bright face she presented to her husband when she joined him, ready to go out.

"Where shall we go?" she asked, taking his arm, and snuggling close to him. Even if he was cross and grouchy, she loved him, and it was good to be with him again.

He mentioned a play that she knew was very popular, and the seats in great demand and very expensive, as they had to be bought from the speculators. But she said nothing. He wanted to show her he could take care of her. Well, let him. She would save the cost of tickets in some way.

"Nothing left in the house," the man in the box office told Brian.

"It's an outrage, making people buy tickets of those robbers," indicating the speculators.

"Why buy them then? We can come some other night."

"I'll attend to this!" and Brian handed the man a ten dollar bill, receiving only three dollars in change.

To Be Continued.

AMERICA NRECOGNITION

(Continued from page one)

provide ample verification of the rumors of growing internal troubles in Austria and of the continued weakening of the Austrian government. The clergy of all Bohemian dioceses have recognized the Czechoslovak national aspirations, according to advices from Prague. The Neue Freie Presse has received a dispatch from Prague to the effect that the Bohemian clergy has joined in the solemn declaration of the Czechoslovak state. It is stated that Vienna newspapers are aroused by the stand and are demanding action against the churchmen. Entente diplomats see great significance in the step as demonstrating the increasing strength of the national feeling.

Allied Troops Are Ready.
Washington, Sept. 12.—With American troops landed at Archangel to back up allied marines and United States sailors already in that region, it was held here today that the proposed bolshevik thrust in the north will be futile.

Germany has done her utmost to stir the bolsheviks to make a drive in northern Russia, even getting a treaty providing for such an effort. On the other hand, there have been indications that the allies expected to forestall such a movement by taking the initiative and moving southwest.

The number of nature of the new troops is not revealed, but it is assumed that they came from English or French camps and were well seasoned.

Unofficial reports that the bolsheviks had seized Consul Pook of Moscow came as no surprise here. Pook has been staying bravely on at Moscow as moral support for his detained allied colleagues. Germany has launched a well planned campaign to strip Russia of all obtainable loot before she is compelled to retreat to her own frontiers by the extreme military pressure on the west front and in the east, diplomats here declare.

The Bormann scheme in Russia has suddenly changed with the unexpected reversal of Taton military fortunes, it is asserted, and henceforth her policy to the east will be marked only by the speed and facility with which everything of value is piled loose from the various Russian factions and nationalities and carried off to Berlin.

The initial payment of the Russian war indemnity in the face of the strong opposition among Germans who steadfastly contend that the outrageous indemnity would wreck all hopes of per-

manent relations between Russia and Germany, is held to point strikingly to the evident German aim. The recently negotiated supplements to the Brest-Litovsk peace and the re-

adjustment of the German administration of Poland, the Baltic and other invaded Russian provinces, the latter step announced in neutral cables to entente embassies today, are held to be strictly in line with the proposed robbery.

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