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SO LONG AS KINGS GOVERN

Marse Henri Watterson reads in the current events the handwriting on the wall for all autocratic rulers...

"In these columns a few weeks since I made the statement that wars which bring such disasters upon the people will never cease as long as czars and kings reign and govern...

"Russia has led the way and in less than a fortnight was changed from an insolent and oppressive monarchy to a republic. This sudden transformation amazed the world...

"There will be no peace for Germany and its suffering and starving people so long as it is ruled by royalty. Peace can only come with the imprisonment or death of kings...

"So after this terrible war is ended there will not only be an entire new map of the world but an entirely new form of government. All countries engaged in it which are not now under a republican form of government will be at the close...

"The United States is forced into this war for its own protection. It is forced into this war just as a man is forced to protect his life and his property from the midnight assault of an assassin...

"Self preservation is the first law of Nature." "So to hell with all kings, emperors and tyrants and up with the Star Spangled Banner, the emblem of a republican form of government which means a government ruled by the people and for the people."

The ice manufacturers of New Orleans and Louisiana met here recently and decided that instead of raising prices they would try to meet the increased cost of fuel, bags, machinery and freight out of their present revenues...

The greatest natural gas field in the world has again been discovered. This time it is fifteen miles southeast of Houma where a company headed by W. B. McCormick, who is the reputed discoverer of the De Solo and Red River fields, has developed an immense gas supply at 2,700 feet depth...

The government crop report discloses the interesting fact that the only thing Louisiana produces that is cheaper than it was last year is hay. This should encourage some capitalist to promote a breakfast food factory in New Orleans.

A dispatch from Washington states that more than 16,000 applications have been received by the war department for commissions in the officers reserve corps. Our idea all along has been that a shortage of material for officers has been one of those things least to be dreaded in this war.

The Shreveport physicians have adopted strong resolutions condemning their professional brethren for giving prescriptions to users of harmful drugs; but the public has an uneasy feeling that should a physician be caught in the act at Shreveport, he would receive the usual professional coat of whitewash when his case was tried.

LOUISIANA OPINION.

Corporation Sets Good Example

Madison Journal: The Singer Company has decided to put acreage in corn and Mr. Turner, its general manager, is now on the ground making preparation to plant as much as is possible. The company will be required to spend a considerable sum for equipment and other expense consequent upon the lateness of the season...

Rice Crop in Good Shape

Abbeville Meridional: Rice farmers are getting in their crops rapidly; early planted rice as a general thing shows a good stand and will soon need a little water. The land is in good condition and most all of the crop has been put in under favorable conditions.

Cattle on the Highways

Baton Rouge State-Times: Road drainage is being damaged by cattle on the highways. Live stock on the public roads do about as much damage to the roadway as the stock would bring in a market sale. By allowing cattle to range on the highways, property owners have more money invested in fences than they have in stock...

Pines for Amusement

Lake Providence Banner Democrat: We are going to let another "May Day" pass without a public gathering, speaking and crowning of the May Queen. There was great pleasure in celebrating May 1st and much enjoyment was gotten out of the day not only for the girls and boys but for the grown-ups as well...

Work, Not Talk, is Needed

Ruston Leader: A "live at home" meeting at Coushatta last Saturday is reported to have been a success. We presume that means so far as the expenditure of "hot air" is concerned. The practical work remains to be heard from. It is easy to pull off enthusiastic meetings, but the enthusiasm generally subsides too soon.

Lost in Oblivion

Lafourche Comet: The Comet offers a quart of sauerkraut to the one who can tell us what has become of the Wade Martin Congressional contest. It must have been like a snow ball and melted from the heat emitted from the war cauldron.

New Light on Paterson, N. J.

Shreveport Journal: The employees of a silk factory in Paterson, N. J., went on strike the other day because the American flag was not displayed at the plant. They had served notice in the morning that they wouldn't work without a flag, and gave the superintendent until noon to produce one. Noon came and no starry banner. So all the men and women quit. The management promptly ordered a fine, big silk flag from New York, and the next day everybody cheerfully went back to work. This gives us new light on Paterson, N. J. That city has been known, rightly or wrongly, as the American stronghold of anarchism.

Madison Journal: Work that vacant spot of land in the day time and talk patriotism after hours.

CAPITAL ASSUMING WARLIKE ATTITUDE

By KENNETH MACDOUGALL, International News Staff Correspondent.

Washington, April 25.—The capital is gradually assuming a more warlike attitude. The guards around the various public buildings have been doubled, and in the corridors of the State, War and Navy building armed olive-drab-clad black troopers are doing duty as official messengers.

In the streets the rumble of army wagons is getting to be a familiar sound, and the uniforms of the various branches of service are daily becoming more noticeable.

Outside the city every possible approach is heavily guarded. The troops are keeping a watchful eye over every conceivable line of communication, and the order "Halt" greets one at every turn.

In the huge building that houses the Interior Department (KOB) the Department of the Interior and the various sub-divisions which come under its jurisdiction there is a triple line of defense. On the outside special guards armed with army rifles pace back and forth on their tireless post. If you succeed in passing them you are stopped at the second-line trenches, where a line of uniformed house guards hold you up with sawed-off shotguns.

Once inside the building you are an object of interest for the numerous Secret Service men.

The Department of Interior is lining up for the general defense of the nation. Its plans are not for shot and shell, but for speed and production. Already the Secretary of the Interior has instructed the Indian agents on every government reservation to secure immediately at the lowest possible price the best seed available and to place every foot of ground under their jurisdiction under cultivation. Intensive farming is planned for all Indian reservations and all lands under the jurisdiction of the Reclamation Service. Thousands of acres of land which come under the Reclamation Act will be used to furnish the nation and our Allies with food.

Expert government farmers will take charge of the operations.

The position in which the Allied countries have been placed through lack of food has brought the authorities here to a full realization of their responsibilities. The United States will be the means of winning the war and not through force of arms, but by power of money and excessive food production.

Every help to the American farmer will be given the Department of Agriculture, and, in the expectation of the Secretary, the crop reports for this year will reach a high-water mark.

From a hint that was dropped by a prominent official I am led to believe that very soon a national campaign will be undertaken to send back to the land many people who by nature of early knowledge and training would be valuable. There are so many abandoned farms and so much virgin land which can be utilized in this emergency that it is decidedly necessary to get men for agricultural work—if the nation is to do its part.

For some years past there has been a constant increase in the number of young men who have left the farm for the higher wages of the city. The high wages paid by many munition manufacturers have been the cause of many a farmer being unable to secure men enough to harvest his crops.

While it may appear to the average man a braver thing to don the uniform, and march to war, it is just as brave and decidedly more essential that the Allies and the nation be properly fed.

Back yard cultivation is in itself a small thing when taken as an individual unit, but taken as a whole, it is a strong move toward national defense. If every person in the United States would man the hoe and raise a certain amount of food the result would be astonishing.

There are hundreds of thousands of boys who are too young to come under the conscription causes of the army bills. Is there any healthier place, or one that they can be of as much value as on the farm?

In the prisons throughout the country farming in a measure has been used as a corrective method and it would benefit the nation to a huge extent if all prison labor was diverted toward the national food problem.

To the average citizen there is constantly increasing tendency to treat the entrance of the United States into the war as a matter of indifference. This attitude is evident both from a recruiting standpoint and an attitude of "I should worry."

Conscription for the army is

DEFENDER OF LAW IS UNDER ARREST

While a detective with a warrant charging embezzlement was looking for Emile Gassie, 1310 Leondas street, Citizen League member, Gassie yesterday afternoon caused the arrest of Earl Newman, brother of Commissioner Newman, on a charge of operating a handbook and himself walked into the arms of the law. Earl Newman additionally charged Gassie with assault and battery.

Here is the story of the affair as told by the police:

Yesterday morning S. Maloney, grocer at 8539 Oak street, for whom Gassie had been a collector, made an affidavit against him charging embezzlement. A capias for his arrest was then issued by Judge Fisher, of the First City Criminal court. Maloney charges that Gassie on February 2 failed to remit \$2 he collected and a week or two later collected \$3 more which he did not return.

Ignorant of the affidavit, Gassie yesterday afternoon was scouting the business section for lawbreakers who might have been clever enough to evade the police.

Patrolman Bouchon, the big cop who regulates traffic at St. Charles and Canal streets, was in the act of telling a thing or two to a driver who failed to observe a crossing signal when Gassie ran up to him all excited.

"Officer, I want this man arrested," the leaguer exclaimed, pointing to Earl Newman, who was standing nearby.

"What's it all about," Bouchon inquired.

"He's been operating a handbook," Gassie returned with a triumphant air. "Arrest him and you'll find the evidence in his pockets."

"But I am—" Bouchon stammered. "I am a member of the Citizens League and as a citizen of New Orleans I demand his arrest," exclaimed Gassie, somewhat dramatically.

So Bouchon took it for granted that Gassie knew what he was talking about and arrested Newman. Gassie went with them to the Third Precinct station.

Newman was booked. Then he was searched. In his pockets was found no evidence to show he had been operating a hand book. So Newman, who alleges Gassie tried to place him under arrest and got a little rough, had him booked for assault and battery.

But to cap the climax, the desk sergeant announced that Gassie was being sought for embezzlement and he was booked accordingly.

Newman was paroled.

Gassie recently sprang in the limelight by causing the arrest of saloonmen on charges of alleged Sunday and Gay-Sluttuck law violations.

USES AXE ON NEGRO

An axe was the only thing handy last night when Robert Barnes, negro, 334 Saratoga street, became involved in a quarrel with Shepard Murdock, another black, 935 Poydras street, so Murdock picked it up and brought it in contact with his opponent's head, side and back. Fortunately for Barnes, several persons interfered. He was taken to the Charity hospital, not seriously wounded. Murdock was arrested. The trouble occurred at 935 Poydras street, where they work.

bound to come, and it is to be hoped that the same course will not be necessary in order that the food resources of the country can be mobilized to their full extent.

We entered this war with our eyes open. The administration knew what the situation in Europe really was and it has since leaked out that it was pure necessity which plunged us into the world conflict.

France was practically on its last legs as regarded food. England had rations for a specified number of days, how few I will pass over, and it was up to the United States of America to pitch in and do its part toward a world peace or face the German legions after they had forced the Allies to their knees through the medium of the submarine campaign.

The truth will in time come out, and until that time it is just as well for the public to realize that the Allies have not only been fighting their battles, but our own as well.

It will take time for our army to be of much practical value to the Entente; our navy will in all probability see some action, but it is by a speedy relief of the food situation in Europe that the war will be won. The American farmer is in possession of the key to the situation. In his hand is the trump card, and it's up to him to play it.

OLD-TIME HYMN BEING REVIVED

Washington, April 25.—"Onward, Christian Soldiers" The familiar strains of the hymn floated to me through the partly closed doors of an old church.

The voices of the choir mingled with those of the congregation, ring forth like a mighty challenge. There is no half-hearted mumble of words. "Onward, Christian soldiers, marching on to war," seems to bear added significance. The enthusiasm with which it is rendered attracts me and I am drawn by some unseen power into the church.

The congregation is starting to sing the second verse. I slip quietly into a back pew and listen. As the hymn progresses it seems to gain in enthusiasm. The voices gain in power until they seem moulded into a sort of heavenly battle cry. I catch the spirit of the occasion and soon I, too, am singing with the rest.

The hymn is finished. The minister starts to pray, but the inspiration of the hymn still grips me. It is the most impressive thing I have witnessed in Washington.

The singing of that hymn brings back to me the realization that we Americans have taken the attitude of the old crusader and will soon be "marching on to war."

I leave the church and walk toward the White House. Through the iron fence surrounding the executive mansion I can see the blossoms of spring. Except for the solitary policeman pacing back and forth before the main gate, the grounds appear deserted.

Outside, where I am walking, there are perhaps a hundred men, women and children. Suddenly a low murmur of excitement sweeps through the street and in an instant, as if springing from the ground, a huge crowd rushes toward the main gate. I follow and get a glimpse of the President.

Seated in a long black limousine, embellished with the national coat of arms, he smiles to the crowd clustered around the gates. Mothers hold tiny youngsters up on their shoulders that they may see him.

The first lady of the land, seated beside the President, smiles and waves her hand at a tiny tot near the machine, and the crowd applauds. The gates swing back and the car moves swiftly up the drive toward the White House porch.

There is no display. No clattering escort in resplendent uniforms. No blast of trumpets, no wild cheering. The very spirit of the entire affair breathes democracy. Its very simplicity is impressive. Here we are at war and our President goes about exactly the same as in times of peace. Except for the few Secret Service men who accompany him there is no guard.

I continue my walk, and in front of the State, War and Navy building catch sight of a familiar figure. Josephus Daniels, in charge of the destinies of our fleet, is standing talking to a tall, distinguished-looking man. A small boy, clad in sailor's togs, is playing with a tiny puppy a few feet away.

"Come here, Jack, and meet the Secretary of the Navy," calls the tall man. Jack and the puppy come forward. He gravely extends his hand to the Secretary and just as gravely the Secretary grasps it.

"This is indeed a decided honor, Jack," remarks the Secretary, bending over to pat the puppy. "I see you have on a sailor uniform. Are you going to join the navy when you grow up?"

"Yep," says the tiny seaman, "I is," and without further formalities, he turns his entire attention to the puppy.

Down the street comes a huge closed automobile. On the left of the hood is the American flag and on the right the tricolor of France.

Inside the car sits the French ambassador, M. Jules Jusserand, and, like many another good American in my vicinity, I am overcome by the pretty compliment enough to shout "Vive La France!"

My spine tingles and I begin to catch the war spirit I have been looking for. I notice an elderly gentleman wearing a G. A. R. button in the lapel of his coat, wipe away a tear.

I pass a number of marines, resplendent in dress uniform and plastered with service stripes. Two cavalrymen clatter by, sitting proudly erect in their saddles. Occasionally I pass a sailor, but with these few exceptions there is no display of uniform.

My eye catches sight of an important looking automobile speeding toward me and in another instant these flashes by the Russian ambassador. Two huge Cossacks, in uniform, are in the front seat and once more I feel like shouting.

BOY SERIOUSLY INJURED BY AN AUTOMOBILE

While playing in the street at Orleans and Broad last night, 7-year-old Timothy Calhoun, 2725 Orleans street, ran in front of an automobile driven by Fred Kunz, 4655 Music street, and was seriously injured. Kunz drove him to the Charity hospital in his machine.

According to the police, Kunz is blameless. The boy, it is said, was playing on the sidewalk and as Kunz rounded the bend, backed into the street and in the automobile's path. Kunz was too close upon him to prevent the accident.

SEA RAID BY GERMANS MADE ON FRENCH PORT

Paris, April 25.—In a brief engagement that followed a sea raid of the French port of Dunkirk this morning, a French torpedo boat was sunk, it is officially announced. The statement says: "A German destroyer fleet, a bombarder Dunkirk between 2:15 and 2:25 this morning. Coast batteries, British and French patrol boats engaged the enemy, who retreated in the direction of Ostend at great speed. One of our torpedo boats was sunk in the brief action. The enemy's losses are not known."

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