

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

Published DAILY AND SUNDAY BY DISPATCH PUBLISHING CO. PARKER R. ANDERSON President and General Manager FRANK P. MORSE Vice-President SIDNEY BIEBER Secretary-Treasurer

TELEPHONES: General Manager's Office... 44 Advertising Department... 176 Circulation Department... 176 Managing Editor... 44 City Editor... 205

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BY MAIL: Daily and Sunday... \$6.00 Daily and Sunday, Six Months... \$3.00 Daily and Sunday, 3 Months... \$1.50 Sunday Only, One Year... \$2.00

DELIVERED BY CARRIER: Daily and Sunday, per week... 15c Cr When Paid in Advance at Office Daily and Sunday, One Year... \$7.00 Daily and Sunday, Six Months... \$3.50 Daily and Sunday, 3 Months... \$1.75 Sunday Only, One Year... \$2.00

Entered at the Postoffice in Wilmington, N. C., as Second Class Matter. Foreign Representatives: Frost, Green and Kohn, Inc., 225 Fifth Avenue, New York, Advertising Building, Chicago.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1918. FREE INFORMATION. Each reader of The Dispatch is afforded the FREE and unlimited use of the largest information Bureau in the world.

This Service Bureau is located in the national capital, where it is in immediate touch with all the great resources of the United States government. It can answer practically any question you want to ask, but it cannot give advice, nor make exhaustive research. The war has forced so many changes in the daily life of the American people that the services of this FREE information bureau will be kept invaluable to all who use it.

TELEPHONE AND LABOR. Rural telephones have been called upon to render another service to their patrons and the government by keeping the government employment bureau and the farmers in close touch with each other in the effort to distribute labor to the best advantage.

Pershing's wildcats have been chewing up the Germans something fierce lately. As the Washington Post observes the crack German regiments have come out of the battle with Yankees badly cracked. If you didn't pledge yourself to buy all the U. S. S. you could afford, you have not been as loyal as you should.

Von Kuehlmann seems to have aroused the ire of kaiser. Bill seems to have right much of a grouch any way here of late and it takes mighty little for him to let his temper fly the track. The Washington Times says as long as Roosevelt remains away from Washington and refrains from attempting to organize congress against the president there is no necessity to intern him.

The recommendation to double the salary of Col. Walker Taylor as collector of port at Wilmington, is a deserved recognition of meritorious service rendered. The nation is said to need every bit of wool available for the next year. How about using some of the wool politicians have been pulling over the voter's eyes.

"The woman suffrage amendment appears to be caught in a bad jam," says a story in a Washington newspaper. That's just like a woman. "Humanity has need for all kinds of music," reads a headline. The man who wrote that is either not human or a liar.

SOCIETY OF NATIONS

Frederick Allain, the able French lawyer who addressed the North Carolina Bar association Wednesday night, apparently was doubtful of the practical success of the project for a world federation of nations as proposed in the address Tuesday night by President A. W. McLean, of the association. Monsieur Allain is one of those who do not believe that any scheme for trying to maintain peace that includes the Prussians can be put through; in fact he left the impression upon many of his hearers that world peace is merely a dream, certainly so far as it will affect the present or the next generation. In this view, as The Dispatch stated yesterday, he has strong support. There are a great many of the leading thinkers of this and other countries who do not believe that the time is ripe for the adoption of plans looking toward permanent disarmament and its enforced peace conditions. As Allain appropriately quoted, "man is wolf toward man," and so long as this element exists or predominates in the human race, just so long will there be armed strife.

The plan as outlined by McLean looks good on its face, and shows more signs of being applicable than any that has been advanced so far, but the question is whether the people of the world are ready to adopt and faithfully observe it. When the time does arrive and some permanent peace plan is agreed upon, whether that be next year or next century, we believe that the principles as laid down by Mr. McLean will be incorporated either in whole or in part.

Monsieur Allain's pessimism is probably due to the bitterness that he and his people naturally feel toward the nation that has caused them so much suffering. It is reasonable that every bit of confidence they ever had in Germany should be torn to shreds. Any people undergoing what the French people have at the hands of the murderous pillagers fighting under the German flag would feel bitter toward them, and refuse to enter into any agreement with a power whereby the joint members were expected to hold sacred their pledges.

In this connection, attention is called to another strong statement made by the distinguished French lawyer. He would deny the right of citizenship to all Germans so long as the statute remains giving them the right to become German subjects again at any time they may ask the government of their native land. This, on the face of it looks reasonable, and in some instances it would be justified. But to deny the rights of citizenship to all Germans because the reichstag passed some objectionable measure would work a hardship on those Germans who have fled from Prussian oppressors and honestly desire to become citizens of the country of their adoption. Such retaliatory measure would have no effect on the German government, for it has no desire to see its citizens legally adopt another government, and would be glad if some way were found to prevent German subjects from transferring their allegiance. The action proposed by Allain, while in some cases probably working a benefit, in more cases would be too drastic and work an extreme hardship.

Pershing's wildcats have been chewing up the Germans something fierce lately. As the Washington Post observes the crack German regiments have come out of the battle with Yankees badly cracked. If you didn't pledge yourself to buy all the U. S. S. you could afford, you have not been as loyal as you should. There is no getting around duty in matters where there is so much involved as now.

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BICKETT'S MISSION

Governor Bickett is today in Jefferson, Ashe county, conferring with the friends and relatives of those 40 misguided young men who have refused to answer their country's call to arms. There is considerable division as to just how the situation in Ashe should be handled, some holding that troops should be sent there to force the deserters to terms, while others contend that milder methods will suffice. Among those who believe that moral suasion is the proper remedy, is Governor Bickett, and he has made the long trip for the purpose of trying to make the people up there see the proper light.

The local board in one of the other western counties recently had ten or a dozen men who refused to report, and the board immediately got in communication with the men and advised with them as to their duties, resulting in all of them voluntarily reporting for service. It is believed by many that the same methods will produce the desired results in Ashe county. Anyway, Governor Bickett has enough faith to go there and try it. The outcome will be awaited with much interest, and all hope that it will be successful, for sending troops there would be likely to arouse the friends and sympathizers of the young draft subjects, creating a serious situation.

Miss Alice Paul ardent suffragist, blames President Wilson with the senate's most recent failure to pass the woman suffrage amendment, declaring that "the patience of American women cannot much longer be taxed." The patience of both the men and women will not stand for much more of the class of rot this suff. pulls. If the amendment wins, which it will sooner or later, it will be in spite of Miss Paul and her kind rather than because of her efforts.

China seems to be anxious to do something to aid the allies in the war against Germany. This leads us to try a mental picture of drawing draft numbers of Chinese between the ages of 21 and 32. Some job that would be eh!

The United States has melted up sixty-four millions of silver dollars during the past two months. A possible explanation of why some people are broke, though the bill collectors refuse to accept it as an excuse for not coming across promptly. A news dispatch says the United States is going to save Russia from the Germans. Certainly; didn't we get in this thing to save the world from the Hun, and is Russia not at least the outer edges of the world?

Those women at the beach who came with a full set of furs kept comfortable as well as fashionable during the last few days. Germany is getting tired of having to extricate Austria from difficulties, but can't afford not to. If China is so anxious to aid the allies why not let her do the laundry work for the soldiers?

A snowfall is reported from Germany. And a mighty frost is due.

America Tightens Its Belt

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Washington, D. C., June 28.—There are now more than 100,000 War Savings Societies in the United States, comprising more than five million men, women and children, according to Mr. Maurice Wertheim, who is the national director of these societies. They are now being organized at the rate of more than a thousand a day; a special magazine, "The War Saver" is published for their benefit; and they also receive a special bulletin service from Washington, designed to spread the gospel of economy.

These societies are based upon a variety of existing organizations, such as schools, churches, lodges, clubs and industrial concerns. Although the only qualification for membership is the willingness to save and to buy War Savings Stamps, the societies are far more than purchasing organizations in intent; their purpose is to teach and practice the idea that the war can be won only by the economical use of all the materials of living.

The total issue of war savings stamps by Congress was but two billion dollars, which is only a small fraction of the revenue needed to carry on the war. The value of the war savings stamp campaign lies not primarily in the amount which it will bring to the treasury, but in the lesson of saving which it teaches. It cannot be repeated too often that the war cannot be won with money alone. If the treasury were filled to the roof with gold, the situation would scarcely be improved. True, some of this money could be used for the purchase of goods from other nations, but since nearly all other nations are drawing upon us for goods, we cannot rely upon imports.

When you buy a five dollar war savings stamp, the fact that you place five dollars in gold in the treasury for war use is the least important phase of the transaction. Far more important is the fact that five dollars worth of material has been saved, assuming that if you had not bought a war savings stamp, you would have spent the five dollars for something else—perhaps for a new pair of shoes. By having the old pair half soled, you save just so much leather, which is needed to make shoes for soldiers.

The annual value of manufactures in this country has been about 34 billion dollars. Some of this was exported, but there are also imports, so that the 34 billion may be taken as a fair measure of the amount we have been accustomed to spend for manufactured goods. Now the government is calling for about twenty billion dollars a year of manufactured products to conduct the war. This means that the government is going to need about half of the material and labor which has been going into our manufactured goods—half of the supplies of shoes and clothes, tools and goods in general which the American people have heretofore had for their own use.

Meditate that fact a while and you will begin to get an idea of the magnitude of this business of financing a war. It means that on an average each of us must get along on just half as much as he did before the war. Of course, this is impossible for many persons of small income. Those of large income will have to retrench by a great deal more than half. But the war can be financed only if every citizen realizes his duty, not merely to buy Liberty bonds and war savings stamps with his surplus cash, which he would otherwise have put in a savings account, but to do without goods which he would have bought in peace time, and to register that actual economy of material in the purchase of government obligations—war savings stamps or Liberty bonds. Every member of a war saving society signs a pledge that he will practice systematic saving, that he will refrain from unnecessary expenditure and the purchase of non-essentials, and that he will encourage others in his community to practice these essentials of thrift.

Americans must learn that war means millions of men to feed and clothe who are not producing anything, millions of tons of steel and food sent to the bottom of the sea by submarines, millions of gallons of gasoline burned in military autos and planes—consumption on an enormous scale over and above peace time consumption. And they must also learn that their country is no longer a sparsely populated one with resources that cannot be measured; but a country, which, although rich in both resources and accumulated wealth, is nevertheless rapidly approaching the stage of "saturation" in which consumption and production almost balance. And for all that we can produce above our wants, our allies and the neutrals have desperate need.

This lesson of economy is the one that will be hard for America to learn. The European belligerents could not have stood the strain of war this long except for the fact that they have long been crowded countries, and have had to learn the lessons of economy. What an American would stigmatize as stinginess has long been a necessity in Europe. Houses heated just enough to prevent illness, food cooked in quantities just sufficient for a meal, clothes made to serve as long as the fabric would hold together—such economies have been usual even among the well-to-do in Europe. Meanwhile America has been evolving the opposite ideal of wasteful extravagance. "You are no sport" unless you are willing to spend more than you can afford, unless you despise patched clothes and half-soled shoes—and every young American aspires to be a good sport. One of the first things he learns is to lie about his income and live up to the lie.

But America can no longer afford to be a sport among nations; she has come into new and grave responsibilities, for one thing, and her days of prodigal wealth are over for another. There was a time in the early mining days of the West when men would throw away change for a dollar as too small to be worth carrying. When the fur trade was at the height of its glory trappers at Taos, New Mexico, would pitch dollars into the streets to watch theurchins scramble for them. The great oil gushers of the west brought into being another epoch of heroic waste. American farmers have burned corn for fuel and lighted their hayfields with natural gas. There is scarcely one of our resources that we have not squandered when it was abundant, and in this way we have built up our false ideals of spendthrift living. Those days of largess are now definitely over. Experts are ransacking the mountains for new mines, the oil gushers have ceased to gush; all the best of the land is under cultivation, great projects are under way to reclaim the last stubborn bits of the wilderness. And now comes this great crisis of war, in which the world turns to us for help, to make us realize that we have played out the part of careless prodigal, and must adopt another role.

This lesson of economy is the harder to learn because many classes of workers are making more money than ever before. They must learn that the abundance which has come to their hands is accidental, and is not theirs to waste, because it belongs to civilization, which is in sore need. That is the lesson of the war savings stamp.

A PROHIBITIONIST PROTESTS.

Editor the Wilmington Dispatch: I have just read in your paper of even date this paragraph: "We wonder if the prohibitionists will be willing to suspend their activities for the duration of the war in the interest of an efficient ship-building program." I am not authorized to write for but one prohibitionist, but I know I write the sentiments of most of them.

First of all, I do not like an outstanding implication of your paragraph. Your "wonder" seems to raise a question, whether the prohibitionists are as fervently consecrated to the task of winning the war as are the anti-prohibitionists. Such wonder includes within its scope such outstanding workers as Hon. Joseph Daniels, secretary of the navy; Judge Elbert H. Gary, chairman United States Steel corporation; Mr. Frank A. Vanderlip, president National City Bank of New York and now chairman of the National Thrift Stamp committee; Mr. Thomas A. Edison, scientist, patriot and servant of mankind, to say nothing of scores of railroad presidents, other corporation heads and directors of industry in this and other states too numerous to mention.

The subject of prohibition invites discussion along many lines, but I limit myself now to only one phase of it, namely; that which relates itself to the winning of the war. And, for the most part, to shipbuilding as related to winning the war. I am familiar with the views of Mr. Hurley, as reported through the press. But Mr. Hurley faces other experts who do not at all agree with him. Among the number is the honorable Secretary of the Navy. Let some of my readers make answer that the secretary knows more about operating ships than he does about building them, I beg to submit the following from another authority transmitted by a staff correspondent of the Manufacturers' Record, and bearing date Austin, Tex., March 7th.

"It was in response to requests of a large number of large shipbuilding concerns which have contracts with the Emergency Fleet corporation for the construction of wooden ships at Beaumont and Port Arthur that the legislature, which is now in session, created a 10-mile dry zone around all places in the state where this character of government work is in progress. This provision was added to the bill which prohibits the sale of intoxicating liquors within a radius of 10 miles of any camp or post where soldiers belonging to any branch of the military service may be located.

"While this bill was pending in the legislature, Governor Hobby received a number of letters from large manufacturers and shipbuilding companies signifying their support of the measure. W. H. Stark, of Orange, one of the largest mill owners in the south, in a letter to the governor, said in part: "When we first read of this zone system it occurred to us, governor, that next to improving the morale and increasing the efficiency of the soldiers themselves, there might be easily connected the morale and efficiency of the laborers who are engaged in the shipbuilding industry. For without ships the soldiers cannot sail."

"The words just quoted are from a man who is tremendously interested in getting ships built as speedily as possible and he wants intoxicants kept away from the men who work in the shipyards, in which he is interested especially. Secretary Daniels believes the best fighting can be done on ships by men who have let intoxicants alone. By what sort of reasoning can it be demonstrated that men who build instruments of war can build more speedily and more strongly by saturating themselves with the very stuff which is denied the men who fight?"

"Maybe you saw, Mr. Editor, the 'Petition to Congress' for national prohibition, which was signed recently by a thousand of the foremost makers. Let me forward to our law escaped your memory. I give the opening paragraph: "In view of the scientifically proved unfavorable effects of small quantities;" and then the closing paragraph: "The undersigned believe the time has come for the federal government to take steps looking to the prohibition in the United States of the manufacture, sale, import, export and transport of alcoholic liquors."

Following that remarkable memorial to congress is a list of 1,000 names, not of fanatics, but of business and professional men like the chairman of the United States Steel corporation, president of the New York Life Insurance company, president of Seaboard Air Line Railway, Orville Wright, aeronaut and inventor, president of Studebaker corporation, president of American Iron and Steel Mills Co., Surgeon W. J. Mayo of Minnesota, president Otis Elevator company, president New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, president Brooklyn United States Hospital for Insane, the governor of Michigan, president Fairbanks Scale company, president United States Casualty company. You will notice I have not called the name of a preacher, a teacher, a publicist or a woman. The above and hundreds of others which can be cited, are the names of men of industry or who have wide acquaintance with industrial workers.

You raise a very practical question, Mr. Editor, and it calls for answer. Give me "in the interest of an efficient shipbuilding program," and all other worthy programs I shall not only not suspend my prohibition but shall go my limit to help the men who fight at home to be as clean and capable as the men who fight in France. Respectfully, JOHN JETER HURT, Wilmington, June 27th.

Travellette

Kidwelly is a quaint old town in Wales. It is a dreamy little community set in snugly between broad marshes and Carmarthen Bay, and divided by a curving river with an unpronounceable Welsh name. Old Kidwelly lives largely in the past. It has been the scene of battles and sieges. It has a castle whose turrets and round towers still stand bravely, their age kindly hidden by the vines that enfold them.

A Hero Every Day

Secretary Daniels has awarded a medal of honor and a gratuity of \$100 each to Frank Monroe Upton, Quartermaster 3rd class, U. S. N., and Jesse W. Covington, ship's cook, 3rd class, U. S. N. for extraordinary heroism. Following the destruction of the Florence H., by an internal explosion, April 17, 1918, the sea was strewn with wreckage and smokeless powder boxes which were continually exploding, and the wreckage was so thick that small boats could not reach the survivors. Upton and Covington jumped overboard from a U. S. destroyer amidst the flaming and exploding powder boxes and succeeded in rescuing one of the survivors. Upton enlisted at Denver, Colo., September 23, 1914; next of kin father, Wallace L. Upton, Denver, Colo. Covington enlisted at San Diego, Cal., June 23, 1916; next of kin Lena Dearing, sister, Grace Mount, Okla.

First Tee Imagination



In the News

Most Rev. Alexander Christie, the present head of the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Portland. One today celebrates the twentieth anniversary of his consecration as a bishop. Among the prelates of the church in America Archbishop Christie is noted for his high attainments as a scholar and administrator. A native of Vermont and a graduate of the Grand Seminary in Montreal, his first pastoral charges were in Minnesota, following his ordination in 1877. In 1898, while serving as rector of St. Stephen's church, Minneapolis, he was appointed and consecrated bishop of Vancouver Island, B. C. Less than one year later he was promoted to the archiepiscopal see of Oregon City.

NAMES IN THE NEWS.

Fouragere—pronounced foor-ah-zhair—is a French honor conferred only for distinguished service in battle. It consists of a colored cord knotted in a brass tag, and is worn around the left shoulder.

Epidemic of Typhoid

Amsterdam, June 29.—Rumors are in circulation, says the Echo Belge, that an epidemic of typhoid is raging among the German soldiers in northern France. Several units are reported to have had virtually their entire personnel affected with this disease.