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## A GREAT NATIONAL POLICY

### \$100,000,000 FOR SCHOOLS

Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, has come to conclude that (1) elementary education, (2) native and foreign born illiteracy, (3) instruction in citizenship and loyalty, (4) health education, including recreation, medical and dental examination of school children, trained school nurses, school clinics and instruction of the people in the principles of sanitation and health, and (5) the preparation of teachers, particularly for our rural schools, are all great national problems; that they cannot any longer be left to the chance willingness or unwillingness of taxpayers in local communities and states, but must be attacked on a grand national scale and supported in part at least out of the great national treasury.

And he is everlastingly right about it. The selective draft has been an eye-opener to this nation.

Think of it! More than a fourth of our two and a quarter million men of the first draft, young men in the prime of early manhood, from 20 to 30, were found upon examination to be physically unfit to serve their country; the ratios of unfitness ranging from 14 percent in South Dakota, a rural state, to 46 percent in Connecticut and Pennsylvania, two industrial states. The ratio was nearly 30 percent in North Carolina.

And a disgracefully large amount of this national unfitness was found to be due to cerebral disease, the ratios of infection ranging from 14 percent in a middle western state to 77 percent in a middle Atlantic state.

Think of it! Three-fourths of our 20 million school children suffering from physical defects—heart and lung diseases, disorders of hearing and vision, malnutrition, diseased adenoids and tonsils, flat-feet, weak spines, imperfect teeth and the like, most of which are preventable and curable ailments, says Dr. Frederick Peterson a New York alienist of note.

Think of it! Nearly two-thirds of the native white adult illiterates of the United States are massed in the South, while 94 percent of our white illiterates of all ages live in our country regions. We found 324 raw recruits from a single Southern state at Camp Hancock the other day, and nearly a full fourth or 24 percent of them were near-illiterates while another fourth were near-illiterates! The shame of it was unspeakable.

Truly the selective draft has brought us face to face with conditions that threaten this nation with degeneracy, physical and moral; and it must bring us to our senses quickly, if America is to be the hope of the world in the new order of things.

### What the Millions are for

Fifty millions are to go toward improving public schools below college grade. The states that put up dollar for dollar will reap the benefits of the fund. And no state with less than a six months school term can share these 50 millions—a detail worth noting just now in North Carolina.

Twenty millions will go for health education.

Fifteen millions will go for better teacher training, with the country schools especially in view.

The balance or fifteen millions will be devoted to a fierce assault upon illiteracy, native and foreign born.

The main purpose of the entire fund is to breed intelligent, devoted citizenship in these United States. Without that, the new democracy in this and every other land will face the menaces of Bolshevism, quite as Lord Northcliffe foresees!

### A New Cabinet Officer

Under the new law, we shall have a Secretary of Education in the President's Cabinet, and the scattered educational efforts of Washington will be organized and massed under a single directorship.

At present twenty-seven different federal departments, bureaus, and offices are charged with the educational end of our national life. As a result we have endless duplication and unbelievable waste. It is worse than chaotic, it is idiotic.

Our Federal Commissioner of Educa-

tion is running a national side-show at present, competing with twenty-six other educational side-shows in Washington City. Making your way through the educational enterprises of our national capital is like moving through the midway attractions of the Chicago exposition.

Hereafter—if Senator Smith's bill passes—the Department of Education headed by a cabinet officer will be the whole show, and education in these United States will at last have risen to the dignity of agriculture, labor, commerce, and war.

If our readers are interested in this bill, they will do well to tell their congressman so at once. It is Senate bill No. 4987.

No more important measure has been before congress for a half century—not even excepting our war legislation these last eighteen months. It is fundamental to a rational re-adjustment of our national life when the war is over.

We may say in conclusion that this Federal fund will be applied by the various state authorities, just as the land grant funds, the farm extension and vocational education funds are now applied.

If any man can see in this proposition any sinister purpose to Prussianize education in America, then he has an eye like a Philadelphia lawyer, who is said to be able to see straight through a brick.

### WILL THE GERMANS REVOLT

President Wilson's diplomacy has been based on a steadfast belief that the German government is one thing and the German people another, and that the people of the twenty odd German states can and will repudiate their autocratic overlords and establish responsible governments of their own.

Will the Germans revolt? Mr. Wilson thinks they will—that the fire that blazed in the soul of Carl Schurz and his co-patriots in 1848 can be kindled into flame in Germany today. He has been laughed to scorn by scores of highbrows who affect to know that the German people are incurably craven and servile after fifty years of rigid discipline in a military civilization.

And Dr. Davis thinks they will. As everybody knows, Dr. Davis, an Ohio doctor long resident in Berlin, was the Kaiser's dentist for many years. His letters to the American people, in the syndicated press, have been extremely interesting because they are reliable accounts of the German people at close range.

He has clear convictions on this question of critical importance. It is critical because if the German national mind is fatally one with that of the German High Command, then this war can and will go on for many more years.

The German armies are not destroyed. They are still fighting far beyond their own borders, in enemy territory.

But if the Hun, like the Prodigal Son, can come to himself any time soon, then this dreadful war can be quickly ended—not otherwise.

If the German soul is salted with democratic grit and grace, then civilization can be saved in Europe, and saved at an early date. Otherwise the war will go on, and we shall witness the passing of Europe into the dust heaps of history.

### THE OPINION OF DR. DAVIS

The weak point in the foundation upon which the German Empire rests today, says Dr. Davis, lies, in my opinion, in the fact that the loyalty of the people has been retained by deception and misrepresentation. Ever since the war started the government has been feeding lies to the people, and the people have accepted them at their face value. What will happen when the Germans realize that their own government has wickedly deceived them?

With the soldiers returning from the front on furlough and the propaganda of the Allies slowly but surely beginning to circulate among the people the concealing of the truth from the German people becomes increasingly difficult. Already the people are becoming restless.

Is it impossible that they are about to wake up?

What will the people do when it begins to dawn upon them that the war was started, not by the European powers to strangle Germany, but by the Kaiser and

### THE TEACHERS' TASK

There never was a period in our history when teachers had a greater opportunity or a heavier responsibility.

The nation is awakening as never before to the possibilities of education and to the necessity of combating ignorance in all its forms—physical, mental, and moral. The war is burning into all the value of knowledge and ordered discipline, of devotion to a great danger and a common cause.

But there is the danger that in the reaction consequent upon peace and in the turmoil of material reconstruction the spiritual truths enforced by the war may be forgotten or obscured.

It will rest largely upon the teachers to secure that these truths become part of the inheritance of the coming generation and that the full influence of education may be directed to the training of men and women imbued by lasting ideals of public service and self-sacrificing citizenship.—Hon. A. L. Fisher, President of the English Board of Education.

his war lords to dominate the world?

What will they do when they realize that the success of the U-boat campaign has been woefully exaggerated right from the start?

What will they do when they realize that America came into this war out of the purest motives that ever inspired a nation?

What will they do when they learn that America's power, growing every day, will eventually be great enough, in combination with the Allies, to smash the German Empire?

What will happen when the German people realize that they have been the pitiful victims of the insatiable thirst of the Kaiser and his supporters for world power, and that the sacrifices they have been compelled to make must inevitably prove futile?

What will they do when they begin to understand that four-fifths of the world is arrayed against Germany, not to destroy the German people, but to emancipate them?

When they learn the truth, I fully believe they will turn upon the leaders who have so wickedly and so consistently deceived them.

I will not venture a guess as to when that will be, but I feel sure that it will certainly come about. Fortified by a large portion of the army, the German people will at least turn on their rulers and destroy the throne and the whole Hohenzollern regime.

There may be two big revolutions. The civilians, consisting of women, old men and youths and others who have not been called into the army, may rise up, but their efforts will be in vain. The defeat of such an uprising, however, may be the signal for a greater one in which a portion of the army itself will take part, and then a civil war will result which will have no counterpart in the world's history.

### MORE SLACKER BANKS

Fifteen Tarheel banks sold no liberty bonds of the third issue—not seventeen as we reported in a recent issue of the University News Letter. The Farmers Bank and Trust Co. at Lattimore and at Caroleen are branches of the Farmers Bank and Trust Co. at Forest City, as it appears, and together they sold their quota of \$50,600 twice over and more—\$110,400 all told. No slacker banks these!

But 19 Tarheel banks sold no liberty bonds of the fourth issue. At least they are so reported in the official letter of Joseph G. Brown, chairman of the state committee, under date of October 22.

We presume their names will be given to the public in the next liberty bond report of the Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond and we shall take a wicked pleasure in passing them on to the readers of the University News Letter.

### BOND SLACKERS IN COURT

While the mere refusal to invest in Liberty Bonds is not an indictable offense, such a refusal from a man able to buy bonds is likely to have behind it some offense which does come within the federal laws. Such is the belief of the United

States attorney for the northern district of Georgia, who has sent the following letter to W. C. Wardlaw, chairman of the district Liberty Loan committee:

"Referring to several cases which have been brought to my attention in which persons who are amply able to subscribe to bonds refuse to do so, you are advised that the mere failure to take bonds, however unpatriotic it may be, is not, in itself and when disconnected with other matters, an indictable offense.

"At the same time, experience has shown that people of this character can very frequently be indicted for other offenses. The man who has not sufficient patriotism to aid his country in this manner, will generally be found to have made expressions which tend to favor the cause of a government with which we are at war, or indicate opposition to the cause of our government therein.

"Matters of this sort are indictable, and the penalty may extend to imprisonment for thirty years and a fine of many thousands of dollars.

"I suggest, therefore, that you cause the past record and conduct and utterances of the people of this class to be carefully investigated and reviewed in the communities where they respectively live, with a view of ascertaining whether they are not indictable under the espionage or sedition acts.

"In all such cases, the names and facts should be reported to the United States attorney in the district where such objectionable people live.

"Juries are not only willing but anxious to convict in all such cases."

### WHILE THE LAMP HOLDS OUT

A few persons in every community, not many but just a few—

Are well able to buy liberty bonds and war stamps, but so far have turned a deaf ear to the call of their country and the cause of humanity.

Or have bought a small bond or two when they could have bought a dozen or more of large denominations—have invested dimes instead of dollars, to get their names in the printed list of patriots.

Or have given not a penny or only a pin's fee to the Red Cross, the Red Triangle, or any other war benevolence.

Or have opened their purses wide for interest bearing bonds and shut them tight against outright gifts to the welfare ministry of the War Work Council.

Or have been cold and unresponsive, or unfeeling and even insulting to the devoted war-workers soliciting subscriptions.

There have been a few such persons everywhere—not folks, mind you, but persons! Some of them are wheezing, grasping, hardened old sinners, without hope in this world or any other.

Some are quite unconscious hypocrites who grunt unctuously in the amen corner of our meeting houses; who cry Lord, Lord, but have no cups of cold water and no bowls of compassion for the sick and wounded, dead and dying in this war-stricken world; whose piety shines and stinks like a rotten mackerel in the moonlight.

Some of them—the Raleigh papers say—are on the payrolls of the State, and others look forward to a place in Person's Blue Book.

Selah!

### By Way of Contrast

The Negroes buy and give—in some communities, a few of them subscribe more than scores of their white neighbors.

The lepers cable their war offering from Molokai.

The Philipinos buy war securities every time they are offered.

The German prisoners at Camp Oglethorpe petition to buy the liberty bond of America.

The boys in the war camp colleges buy liberty bonds—\$20,000 worth at Wake Forest, and 28,000 worth at the University the other day.

Our soldiers at the front and in the cantonments buy bonds—more than a million dollars worth of one issue at Camp Greene.

Our soldiers boys lay their lives and their pay envelopes side by side on the altar.

But—The little band of bomb-proof slackers in every community—they buy nothing, they give nothing, they surrender nothing in the name of liberty and humanity, neither treasure nor time nor effort—nothing or disgraceful near to nothing.

They are few. Heaven be praised for that!

But they are conspicuous—as conspicuous as Cain and Judas, Benedict Arnold and Bolo Pasha.

Their names are not in the papers, but they are on everybody's tongue.

And they are making history—recorded history.

The central authorities are calling for their names.

And their names are being sent to the Federal Bureaus.

What they want with these slacker lists, few people know and nobody cares—unless it be the secret service agents and the income tax officers.

Which reminds us that a half dozen national bank charters have already been cancelled because their directors were found in the slacker lists. And applications for new national bank charters have recently been denied for the same reason.

And so on and on, later—in various other chapters yet to be written.

These cold-blooded, tight-fisted persons in every community are juggling with conscience and self-respect. Usually they claim to be patriotic—each in his own way, after his own manner of thinking.

Forgetting that the deadliest of all lies is the lie that a man tells to himself to silence his own soul—the 'lie that sticketh in a man,' in Bacon's thought-provoking phrase.

At best they are lukewarm patriots.

And lukewarm patriots are as nauseous to a community as the lukewarm church at Laodicea was to the angel in Revelation.

"I know thy works, that thou art neither hot nor cold," said he. "I would thou wert cold or hot.

"So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth."

An expression of ineffable scorn and measureless contempt. Nothing else equals it in the whole realm of literature, sacred or profane!

### Still Another Chance

The fourth liberty bond issue is now a closed chapter—closed in North Carolina by 118,000 patriotic purchasers.

But there must be another bond issue.

And the voice of the War Work Council is already heard in the land, soliciting gifts to the Red Cross, the Army Y, and other moving, melting causes.

And the twenty Orphan Homes in North Carolina plead for a day's wage from every man on Turkey Day as a thanksgiving to the God of the fatherless.

There will be a way of escape for our lukewarm fellow citizens—one way or another, if they are choice in their charities.

But they'll have to start down the pike far ahead of 80 million red-hot patriots and lovers of their kind in this land and country, if they nose into the home-stretch with any sort of credit to themselves.

We shall see!

The eyes of their neighbors are wide open.

While the lamp holds out to burn, the vilest sinner may return.

### IMPORTANT BULLETINS

Three important bulletins for readers, thinkers and leaders have just been given to the public.

1. An Outline Study of War Facts.—I. C. Griffin. An Extension Leaflet of the University of North Carolina, No. 19 of the War Information Series.

2. An Outline Course of Instruction on the War.—Coulomb, Gerson, and McKinley. Teachers Leaflet No. 4, of the Federal Bureau of Education.

3. Historical and Economic Background of the War. A Syllabus of the War Issues Course for the First Quarter at the University. An Extension Leaflet of the University of North Carolina, No. 20 of the War Information Series.

### SAVING FUEL

A fireless cooker is well-nigh magical in its power to conserve fuel, money, labor, and time. The housewife can buy one ready-made on the market or make one according to the directions of Farmers' Bulletin 771, "Home-made Fireless Cookers and Their Uses," which she can obtain free by writing to the Editor-in-Chief, Division of Publications, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.