

THE MORNING STAR

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1917.



More glory than glory seems to be the Berlin idea of war.

The Austrians are said to be yearning for peace. That certainly is a notable tribute to General Cadorna.

The most modest American is a Chicago man who won't go shopping with his wife for fear he will be mistaken for the exhibitor of September Morn.

The world is very, very large and wide, but you should remember that in spite of it you are more than apt to be cornered sooner or later.

Knockers should remember that when a good man is wanted it is a booster and never a knocker that gets himself selected. Knockers everywhere should carefully paste this in their hats.

Things are going to get tight but yuh gotta grin and endure it without squealing for yuh medicine. Your health will be compelled to do the best it can on the deglutition prescription of Doc Hoover.

Perhaps you have often boasted of your manhood. Now's the time of times to prove that it can come right up to your expectations of it. A fellow who isn't what he says he is, is liable to be interned in a gas bag cantonment.

The members of the Senate and House could save lots of precious time by calling each other what Teddy has called prevaricators oft and on—mostly oft. That would cut the argument shorter and save expenses. Also lots of obfuscation.

Perhaps pacifists may confess at last that attacking American hospitals far in the rear of the battle front, and bombing to death wounded men, surgeons and attendants engaged in humane work, may constitute cause for war in behalf of humanity.

Many men can figure right along on an arithmetical problem, but they can't tackle an economic problem, much less cut any figure in its solution. Those who think they know everything now have the best chance in the world to prove it.

Well, if it's so as some neurotics can't see snakes any more, they are sure to see something that nobody else can see. However, it is the limit when a man in arid territory in Georgia can see an army parading in the clouds. Some folks are so constituted that they can see things in a different light from other individuals.

When war broke out in Europe, one class of economists got in the lime-light with contentions to the effect that motor cars would add to the burden of war. As a matter of fact, motor driven vehicles and devices have greatly added to the efficacy and economy of war, even if they have added to its horrors. Motor cars have proved economical factors instead of otherwise. It happens to be the case oftentimes those who stop to count expenses merely waste time.

TALKING TARIFF TOO EARLY.

America is very ambitious for acquiring a large part of the world's trade after the war, but instead of adjusting our economic system with a view to our competing in foreign commercial fields, there is already considerable agitation for a protective tariff to hold our own markets when the nations of the world settle down to the nationalistic commercial contest. The Charlotte Observer goes so far as to predict that the Democratic party will abandon its low tariff policy and stand for protective duties. Says the Observer:

"The Washington Star thinks the recent forced positions assumed by Speaker Clark and Leader Kitchin on the tariff is significant of coming changes of attitude when the war ends. When Mr. Kitchin voted for an increase in the tariff rates—for the purpose of raising war revenue—he declared that in doing so he was surrendering the convictions of a lifetime. Speaker Clark was a little more emphatic. While contending that as a rule he was against a consumption tax and against raising the tariff, yet rather than issue these bonds and pile them up on my children and my grandchildren's children, I would increase the tariff, praying all the time that God would forgive me." But the tariff is not going to be tinkered with just now. That issue will come to the front automatically when the war ends, and the Observer will undertake to say that we will then hear less of the old-time party thunder against protection. The advocates of protection are going to have their day. It is coming as surely as the end of war is coming. We could say at this time, of course, just how far the Observer might feel justified in moving up in that direction, but we might say that we could safely expect to find some prominent Democrats, perhaps Mr. Clark and Mr. Kitchin, or even Colonel Bryan, not far behind it. The war is going to force a revision of views on the tariff that otherwise might not have come in a generation."

The Washington Star is a Republican paper and necessarily always has been a high tariff advocate, and it is seeing things from the Republican standpoint. However, the Observer agrees with it, and its prediction may come true. Nevertheless, we have seen no economic reasons why the tariff should be revised upward, although it evidently will have to be revised as to some of its inequities and mistakes in order to meet the post bellum necessities, of which, no doubt, there will be many.

We should say that it is too easily to talk protection, especially a high tariff, since present economic conditions do not warrant it. There is no need of it because of any failure of the present Democratic tariff since the war knocked that tariff into a cocked hat. As a revenue getter, under normal import conditions, the present tariff would have brought the treasury more money than a high tariff, and it has been demonstrated by the reduced volume of our imports, because of the war, that the highest Republican tariff the country ever had would have brought small revenue, for the simple reason that we have exported heavily instead of having been a large enough importer to get revenue from that source. Neither would a high tariff have been necessary to shut out foreign competition with our manufacturers, since the war itself did that more effectually than ever a high tariff could have done. Neither American industries nor labor has needed tariff protection, for there is now a runaway wage condition in America and the manufacturers are doing the biggest business they ever had.

There might arise a demand for a high tariff after the war, but there is nothing in sight now to warrant it for the purpose of raising wages any higher nor to protect manufacturers who have all the war protection that makes it impossible for foreign manufacturers to compete with home production. Of course, wages will fall and competition will increase after the war, but that event is too remote to make us see the need of a high tariff.

It is quite possible that we may have to put up the tariff bars to keep Europe from gobbling up our American market, as well as the foreign markets. In that event we would have to abandon our ambition to compete for the foreign trade, for if we are compelled to put up the tariff wall to save our own markets from being gobbled up, how would it be possible for us to compete with Europe for any of the foreign trade?

Such a high economic authority as the New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle, only last week, declared that with the present high wage condition in America continuing after the war, we certainly could not reasonably expect to compete for the world trade. A high tariff to keep wages high and thus make the cost of production high, would compel American manufacturers to abandon the world trade, to Europe and even put up the tariff wall to keep Europe from taking away their home market.

Perhaps that is what the high tariff advocates want with a high tariff, but since the war is not over it is too early to talk about shutting up the American markets to the Europeans. Then what is to become of all that fine American sentiment against shutting the commercial door in the face of an impoverished Europe trying to get on her legs again? Boys it is entirely too early to talk about an after war condition which the world's keenest economists cannot now foresee.

Now comes the announcement that ice will no longer constitute one of the ingredients in a Scotch highball. As a matter of fact, ice really cuts less ice in a highball than the high jinks concomitants upon which its fundamentially depends, as it might some day be announced from the Chicago University.

FEDERAL ROAD MONEY.

North Carolina counties which have good roads or propose to try to have them stand a showing for some of the Federal appropriation for good roads in this State. Those counties which have no good roads and do not seem to want any won't get any Federal road money for the simple reason that they don't need any of it.

"To him that hath shall be given," etc., is a principle illustrated by the giving out of Federal road funds. The Federal government, like the gods of the ancients, helps those who help themselves. Of course, people who do not try to get something never get it. Likewise, those who do not expect anything have very few surprises coming to them in the way of getting something for nothing. The Durham Herald does not want Durham county to be in that class, so that paper jogs the memory of the authorities after this manner:

"Between this date and June 30, 1919, the Federal government will spend \$34,489.34 for the improvement of roads in North Carolina. The money is appropriated to certain sections which meet certain requirements. Durham county has the opportunity of getting a portion of this money and it would be well for the authorities to look into the matter before all of it is asked for."

The Herald puts it up to the Durham county authorities, but what they will do depends upon how live they are. This reminds us to say that counties ought always to make it a point to put none but live men in charge of their county affairs, because when the authorities are not live wires, a county might as well be a wooden duck anchored in a mud puddle.

No county can be any more progressive than the men placed at the head of public affairs, so dead ones ought to have no showing in matters of public trust at such a time as this. No county should permit itself to be anchored down by a lot of heavyweight moosebacks. This is a time when public affairs should be conducted by the liveliest men in the county unless the people really intend for their county to remain on the map as the little end of nowhere.

We do not know how it is in Durham, so this does not specially refer to that county. It refers in general to all counties that ought to get a move on them if they want to dip into the Federal pie or get in on the 1917 development movement. Unless a county makes a move there will be no such thing as movement from its anchorage grounds.

CANNERS ARE CALLING ON THE WOMEN.

With Southern communities taking it easy on the commercial canneries proposition, the Baltimore Sun says the heads of the great canning industry at Baltimore and throughout Maryland have issued a hurry call to all classes of women, society women and all, to come to the immediate aid of the canneries. The canners have sent out their appeal through the Women's Section of the Maryland Council of Defense, and the Council of Defense is urging all classes of women to the rescue of canneries as a patriotic duty, the doing of which will bring them big money compensation at the same time.

According to a Sun article, the canners have urged that their lack of labor was a menace to the conservation of the immense crop of tomatoes with which the canneries have suddenly been swamped. One cannery contended that it was handling from 14,000 to 15,000 baskets of tomatoes a day. Although a large army of women had been registered with the Council of Defense for this service, the belated call from the canners, caused by the delayed ripening of the fruit, had left the women off their guard and only two could be rounded up to go immediately to the canneries. These, says the Baltimore paper, were such prominent women as Mrs. Andrew B. Cross, sister of John B. Ramsay, and Mrs. Mary Halsup, president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Both women cast aside all previous engagements and Mrs. Cross was obliged to break an important luncheon engagement in the general canceling. Both the women arrived at the cannery to which they were assigned early in the afternoon. They refused to accept separate quarters, but stood with their buckets before them, garbed in big apron and cap, side by side with the regular employees. The afternoon had not advanced very far before comradely relationships had been firmly established between the new "skinners" and the regulars.

The Maryland Council of Defense is urging that any woman who has any time at all at her disposal, and who is fairly strong, help out in the canners' emergency. Especially those women who have had some training in canning house work are urged to enlist in the patriotic work now, for of course they will be able to give quicker service. But all women are asked to either register with the council at its new headquarters at 518 North Charles street, or to go direct to the canneries. Six cents a bucket is given to the skinners, and it is said that experienced skinners make \$2.50 to \$4.00 a day.

The Norfolk Virginia-Pilot says: "Mayor William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, has been hanged in effigy. He has good cause to count himself lucky that the hanging stopped there." Yes, but, old pal, have a thought of the poor emphy. Wasn't it tough on the emphy to be made the scapegoat for Thompson?

"BOBS" The chewiest Chewing Gum ever chewed. 10 pieces 50c. Ask your dealer today for "Bobs".

By The Wayside

The rows of army guns at police headquarters, with belts of cartridges loaded with lead and not paper, is rather an impressive piece of scenery and its effect is not lost on any person who might be inclined to start something in these times of war. Still more business like is the drilling of the policemen with these army rifles in hand. One cannot gainsay the wisdom of equipping the police force with such weapons and imparting to the officers some of the knowledge that makes effective a body of men acting in any emergency that may arise. Trained in the manual of arms, familiar with army tactics, and skilled in marksmanship as they will be soon, the Wilmington police force will become an agency of law and order and home defense that will be as effective as any military company—and perhaps even more so than purely military companies for the men have already had experience in dealing with criminals. In the absence of the military of the city, called away by the war orders, it is a very good thing indeed to have a police force that is also a force of soldiers. It is perhaps the only such organization in the state or the south. At any rate, it is rather novel. The blue coats are not expecting any large bunch of trouble demanding the use of military force, but if any do come along of that character, why, Wilmington policemen will be on the job.

The Greenville and Columbia papers' daily articles, concerning the Klondike prices prevailing for everything since the army camps were established at those places. Citizens fall out on dealers and hotels and other chasers of the nimble dollar, for their high prices. "Where is old time Southern hospitality?" they want to know. "Didn't we promise we would extend a glad hand to these soldiers? Are we robbers that we should gouge the men who are going to fight our battles?" etc., etc. All these things make one smile. The old time Southern hospitality fees before a chance to corral a lot of money. A man with a roll of greenback is a man with a roll of greenback and what difference if he wears olive drab or some other drab. Wherever large numbers of men are assembled and paid money, they will spend it, and prices just naturally "go up." Follows with what the soldier wears and what he eats and must have, will get the very biggest price they can for it, and that's all there is to it. It isn't admirable, this hogliness, but it is a fact of human nature, and is eminently human. Showing about how the prices are running in Columbia, the Charlotte Observer says five men from that city went to Columbia the other day and were placed five-in-a-room, and charged \$5 each for lodging—\$25 for the room. Such high prices, we do not give a town a desirable name, but the fellows who practice it do not care.

Critics of the style of the President's state papers aver that they could be improved by the use of a snub nosed blue pencil. They say that the President uses too many words to state his case. One of them is inclined to put the blame on the typewriter, and that the words are a characteristic of the President's style," he says, "and the fact has stirred the suggestion that the typewriter is responsible." The President is said to use his own pen, and such highwayman's words against the paper, that floods the mind with words? It may not explain any tautology in the state papers of Mr. Wilson, but there is something in what the critic says, and it is a pity. Given a new smoothly running machine, with a "fat" ribbon and a nice, smooth, firm stock of inviting paper, and almost any one will produce from thirty-three and one-third to fifty per cent more words than are needed to convey his message. No reporter would write to unreasonable lengths these days if he had to wiggle his fingers to put his story down on paper. Brevity is a gift of the gods with some; others must achieve it through years of practice and hard work; some never do get it. These may not always have a constipation of ideas but they are invariably afflicted with a diarrhoea of words."

Up at Statesville, North Carolina, there is holding forth at this time a "preacher-doctor," colored, who advertises that he "cures all kinds of aches and pains, nervous troubles, fevers, and in fact, anything that is not unto death, without the use of drugs." The Landmark of that town says he makes passes with his hands and blows his breath on water, which the patient drinks, with immediate and marvelous relief. One old negro who had been all crippled up "wid de rheumatis," told the doctor her trouble. He made a pass with his hands, and pronto! the pain left. She also suffered with indigestion. The doctor took a glass of water, blew his breath on it, and she drank it. Result—no more indigestion! Eats whatever she wants now and is getting fat. A colored man failed to get relief for his troubles but he stubbornly persisted in believing "day wur something in hit." He said he thought these things came about by fasting and prayer, but has had to revise at least his idea, for he has found out that "He (the preacher) may pray, he shore don't fast!"

CURRENT COMMENT

North Carolina troops passing through Wilmington for camp at Columbia, tried the restaurants in that city with their meal tickets and were refused "accommodations." In consequence, four of five cafe proprietors in that city may find themselves jacked up by government authority, the dishonoring of a government meal ticket being considered a serious bit of business. These tickets are as good as cash, and the Observer hopes no Charlotte eating house or hotel will squint at them as if they were Confed. money.—Charlotte Observer.

The statement from Amsterdam that President Wilson's peace note has made a profound impression upon political circles in Germany may really be accepted. Proof is to be had not only in the truncation of the reptile press but in the increased activity of the liberal forces in the reichstag. Making every allowance for false teaching and for characteristics which have long been taken advantage of by their military masters, the German people are not essentially different from the rest of mankind. A Germany which was the pioneer in representative government may have been misled or corrupted by an autocracy usurping rich and power that belong to the people, but it can hardly be blind and deaf to such appeals as the president has made. There is another Germany besides that which thunders and thunders at Potsdam. It is a Germany long deluded and to a large extent intimidated. It has yielded partly by circumstance and partly by greed of glory and prestige. Its besetting sin today is the belief, inspired by Kaiserism, that the sufferings which it experiences are due to the jealousies and aggressions of free people as not to the ambitions of its own unscrupulous rulers. The world has been on the quiver for some time to know just what Edison is doing in the seclusion of his Menlo Park retreat, and while we wait for further information, news comes that Americans have invented at least two appliances which should prove fatal factors in the war game. One of them is a new bomb which explodes just six feet from the ground, no matter from what height it is dropped. The trouble with the bombs now used is that they explode on contact with the ground, and in that way 90 per cent of their force and efficiency are lost on the dead earth. But this new contrivance, the more important secrets of which have not, of course, been disclosed, carries a rod about six feet long which sets off the bomb when the rod touches the ground, and thus the projectiles with which the shell is filled scatter in thousands of fragments over a large area. In short it should be at least 90 per cent more effective than anything of the kind now in use in Europe. Still another American has invented a contrivance for shooting barbed wire across the path of the enemy. It is a very simple thing—when you understand it—and it promises to work quite a transformation in war methods. It is a known fact, of course, that when the defensive barbed wire has been cut by the big guns of the enemy there is nothing to keep him back but the barrage fire—which is frequently penetrated in a desperate onset—and then the machine guns and the hand to hand fighting. The new gun will throw coils of barbed wire along the pathway of the oncoming enemy, and so entangle his units that they may be overcome the more readily while they are trying to disentangle themselves. The War Department is keeping the real mechanism of this a secret, also, and they are busy with many arrangements which American ingenuity has devised to meet the Hun—who sometimes improves but rarely invents anything. It ought to go far toward reducing the mortality among our own men and in bringing the war to a successful conclusion.—Macon News.

THE DENTIST SAID—

"WHEN the child is between 5 and 6, watch out for the first permanent molar. Don't mistake it for one of the baby teeth and don't let it decay. If that tooth is lost the jaw does not develop properly and the child will be handicapped for life with an imperfect set of teeth."

That all-important six year molar won't decay if it is brushed regularly with a tooth brush and an efficient dentifrice.

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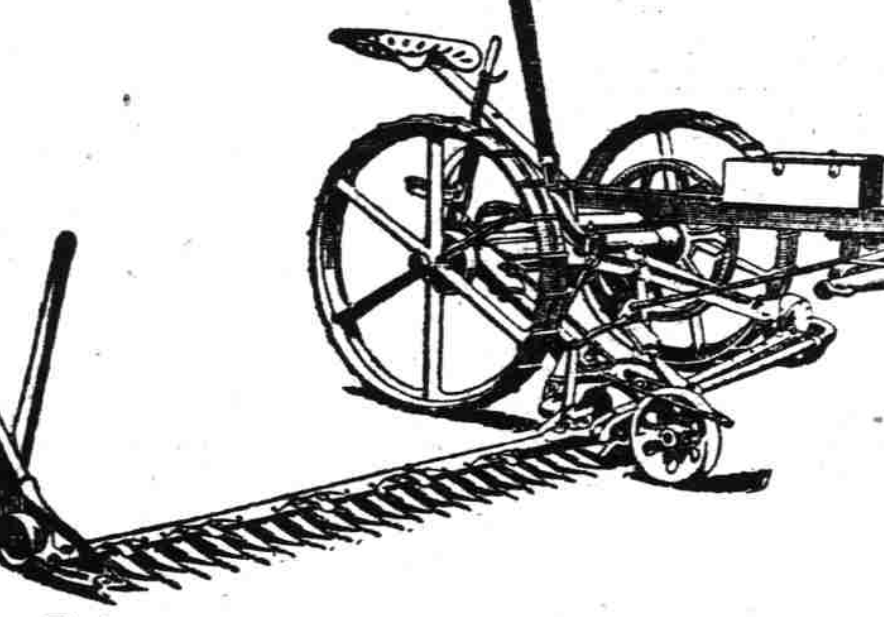
You really should be mighty careful what you buy and where you buy it this year of all years.

You don't need to worry if you come to this store. We'll sell you Hart Schaffner & Marx clothes, they're all-wool, the best in the land.

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We have our stock now on hand for the above celebrated machines. Get your orders in quick. They will be all gone in a short time, and no more can be had this season.

Wm. E. Springer & Company Parcell Building.

ALL MY TROUBLES

Said a business man who had just come to his own in a financial way, "Have been due to the fact that I didn't commence early enough to save money. Opportunities have slipped through my fingers for lack of money; my progress has been retarded because I was so long learning the value of a dollar. I could have been independent years ago had I been a money saver in my youth."

Does that suggest anything to you?

HOME SAVINGS BANK Wilmington, N. C.

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