THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING THE CITIZEN COMPANY, ASHEVILLE, N. C.

ntered at the postoffice Asheville, N. C., as so class matter under act of March 5, 1879.

TELEPHONES Business Office 80. Editorial Rooms 207

& SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
The S. RATZ SPECIAL ADVERTISING AGENCY,
18-18 East Twenty-sixth street, New York City,
974-925 Harris Trust Building, Chicago, Ill., and
712 Waldheim Building, Kansas City, Mo.

Saturday, December 6, 1919.

Why the Public Suffers Many Things. "The public won't take its own part."

In these almost forgotten words, Theodore of paralyzes all public and private business.

Lot a crisis in world politics or industry arise; atributed the largest factor in high prices for by the strike that is now in force. people. The conflict has raged so long that he welfare of ninety-nine per cent. of the people disastrously as would a division of Prussian prived of the presumption of innocence.

If the public had sure convictions on the peace ty and would make them known, the senate sold not postpone for partisan purposes the

If the public would think its way to a basis for industrial peace, there would at least be comory investigation of labor disputes, and ennent of decisions which would give labor relief to business. st wages and proper conditions, capital a fair

to government with something of the blind devoion to the state which placed Prussian autocracy in the saddle and wrought the ruin of the German nd national government has been too largely curned over to professional politicians and incomto transact business and administer justice.

Because the public has no policy except to comized strike which closes schoolhouses, stops trains dustrial conflict. and factories and threatens to starve and freeze the country before the federal judiciary can force the resumption of normal conditions in the soft

Wasted Energy.

Carolina is today suffering from the restrictions this time. hich the coal strike has forced on the use of heat, in the state's industry, and to light and heat every harassed country below the Rio Grande,

face of shoppers unharnessed streams rush on to might have to deal. He appeared to me, certainly ture endowed them.

In Asheville banks are stored up financial reber would make Western North Carolina indendent of strikes or lockouts in the coal fields, and valleys would echo with the soud of industry. The United States geologic survey estimates that in the Southern Appalachian streams is 1,067,000 unped horse power.

dricity. Moreover, it is predicted that by 1923 ordinary popularity. wil wells in the United States will be practically usted. Mexico could supply the world with

Il, but that's another story. When will man and nature in the mountains forces to make the rivers do the work that ment of justice and the federal judiciary as tried for a month to make miners and operaThe Principle In Article X.

Peace treaty critics who assert that President Wilson exceeded his powers and agreed to an unheard of proposition in Article X show ignorance or willful disregard of war history.

In the negotiations which preceded the armis MANAGER Manager tice, the allied governments and Germany accepted the BAKER.

Managing Editor as conditions of peace the principles laid down by BAY GORHAM.

City Editor Mr. Wilson in his address to congress on January 8, 1918. These principles were subsequently em bodied in the Fourteen points, and the last in the list is set forth as follows:

A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.

This statement was almost universally received in America as the just foundation for peace After considerable opposition, America's Allies gave to it their consent. No United States senator lifted his voice in protest against "mutual guaran-

of American sovereignty:

The members of the league undertake to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members of the league.

This sentence in the article is its heart. The addition that the council of the league shall advise (and only advise) the respective governments what action they should take to carry out their obligations cannot reasonably be interpreted as a command to go to war without the consent of congress. And, it should be remembered, in that council the American representatives, acting under instructions from his own government, can by his one vote nullify any advice which he considers ob lectionable.

Those who see in this article a superstand have found a mare's nest.

Local Coal Prices.

A letter in today's Citizen suggests by inference veit diagnosed a chronic civio disease which that coal dealers of Asheville are prosteering. In feres with the proper functions of government, studying the figures presented in this communication, it should be kept in mind that the government fixed price at the mine has/only been in effect for public reads the press bulletins and says, "Oh, a few weeks. Practically all of the coal now on well, let the government do something about it." sale in Asheville was bought months ago at prices
For peace the public has been spectator in the higher than those of a year ago. The coal operasale in Asheville was bought months ago at prices battle between capital and labor without under- tors steadily advanced the price during the summer ending that its own welfare is one of the vital months, and all through that period Asheville coal at stake. Through strike or lockout, the dealers warned the people that prices were rising ders have reduced production and thereby and that the supply might be reduced this winter

. If there is any evidence of extortion in the price illigerent has reached the conclusion that of coal here, the information should be laid before own interests are above the rights of the public. the agents of the department of justice. But the warring classes even believe that the govern- reputation of the dealers should not be attacked ist has no right to interfere in a conflict where with figures and deductions that do not cover all the factors in the case. It is altogether too easy aced by one per cent. Because the public to brand retailers as conscienceless profiteers withhe rights of wage workers and employers, capital which control the price of commodities. It was and labor have become the sole upholders of mili-once the accepted principle at law and among the in a nation officerwise devoted to the ways members of democratic communities that men be. Because the public has not spoken up should be presumed innocent until their guilt was for Back, a year after the gun fire has ceased in proven. It is unjust that in the pursuit of the few politicians in congress neglect public bus- who are profiteering from the necessities of the m and industrial armies lay waste the country country all men who buy and sell should be de-

Business Hours Fixed At Last.

The regional coal committee has definitely ruled against the request to exempt Asheville from the fuel conservation order except under conditions announced last Sunday. Mayor Roberts in a statement published in today's Citizen interprets the order in a manner that will afford considerable

The hours from 9 o'clock in the morning to 4 The present chaes in industry and politics has case of druggists, grocers and other dealers in se about because the public in democratic necessities. But the mayor's ruling allows all iterics has learned to trust its interests entirely stores and shops to open before 9 and after 4 be added in the afternoon.

ent business men, because the public would not regional committee is opposed to wood chopping. take time to find, and would not pay, the best men It is recommended as an ideal exercise, and was in good repute through the example of Gladstone and Roosevelt before William Hohenzollern took it to one with another for food, clother and lux-up as an antidote to inaction and unrest incident to exile. Woodyards did notable part in winning without reaching agreement. And for that the war. It is hard to see why they might not now reason 406,000 miners are on an unauthor- help save the people from the consequences of in-

Jenkins' Release.

Consul Jenkins' release will probably automatically restrain the recently liberated feelings of congress. Whatever the reason for Mexico's delay in this matter, Carranza has carried the experiment Nearly every industry and business in North with American patience as far as he desires at

But Jenkins was not the cause of the Mexican light and power. And yet in the mountains of the problem, and his negotiated exit from the Puebla state is water power sufficient to drive every wheel penitentiary will not bring peace and order in the

Apparently the most important development in Four hundred thousand miners throw down the conference of President Wilson and Senators their tools and every business in Asheville and its Fall and Hitchcock on the Mexican crisis was the gaboring communities in this section feels the discovery by republicans that Mr. Wilson is, to paralysis that strikes through the norves and quote Senator Fall, "mentally alert and perfectly les of industry. And waile stores close in the able to cope with any question with which he the sea without giving the relief with which na- in as good mental condition as any man could be after being ill for nine or ten weeks."

This is testimony of a man who for political sources of \$15,000,000. Other towns tell similar reasons would not hestitate, if he believed it true, ries of capital and reserve. These results of to announce to the country that President Wilson man's industry and the wealth of nature brought to- is incapacitated. The republican senators have indulged in much wild theory as to Mr. Wilson's condition, and from them and other sources exaggerated stories of his illness have flooded the country. Senator Fall lays many rumors.

Digging coal is an occupation which nature de The age of oil may succeed that of coal. But nied to the inhabitants of North Carolina. But urban communities oil will never supplant sawing wood may assume new meaning and extra

SENATORIAL SYMPATHY.

(London Punch.) "British," says a report. "has asked the United States to send an army of 200,000 men to Armenia to protect the Christian inhabitants." While unable to comply with the request. President Wilson, we learn, has intimated that any Americans who succeed in escaping will receive a sympathetic hearing from the senate foreign relations committee. VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

WORK FOR SOLDIERS.

Editor of The Citizen: Will you allow me a few lines in your paper?
What are we doing for our returned soldiers? The
strongest, most robust and best educated can get
"good jobs," but others not so fortunate find it "good jobs," but others not so fortunate find it harder. I know one young man of splendld morals; does not use tobacco in any form, is sober and has no bad habits, but is not as strong as some and he can get nothing he can do. I know, because I tried to help him. He is not educated enough to keep books or teach school, but there are many things he could do, if he knew where to find them. He tried to enlist in the army, but could not pass physical examination, so went later with the draft, but could have been exempted. Now, when he is back and wants to work, all he can get is to. he is back and wants to work, all he can get is to break rock in a quarry, ten hours a day, at \$3.00 per day with time for rain or breakdowns counted out, or something equally as hard, and he is not strong enough physically to do it. Every time he asks for work he is referred to some "construction work," which he can not hold out at but a few days. I know this to be a fact. Is it any wonder he is bine and discouraged and says it wouldn't have mattered if he hadn't got home? The U. S. A. is just like Europe—men who stayed at home and coined money on account of war prices, and slackers who stayed out on some small pretext and made. ers who stayed out on some small pretext and maders who stayed out on some small pretext and made big wages, smile and ask him why he is not at work. He says he feels like retorting: "If I hadn't gone (with a lot of other boys like me) to France you who stayed at home and enjoyed life while we slept on a blanket, many times in mud and water and lived on hard-tack and corned beef, until we couldn't bear the sight of it, you might today be working for the Germans, beyond your strength, as you expect me to do."

today be working for the Germans, beyond your strength, as you expect me to do."

Every boy can't wield a twenty-pound sledge-hammer ten hours every day, or shovel sand and dirt, and should these boys be looked upon as lazy because they can't? Why don't some one with money build factories in this country anyway, for our young men to work at? What became of the chair factory that was to be built at Balfour? Shouldn't we have some industries for our young ment as well as visitors? people as well as visitors?

A SUBSCRIBER. Balfour, December 5.

COAL PRICES.

Editor of The Citizen: From time to time I have read the letters ap-pearing on the editorial page of The Citizen, under heading "The Voice of the People." These letters are in some instances very interesting and some-

heading "The Voice of the People."

Are in some instances very interesting and sometimes very amusing.

The subject which I want to call your attention to is the one which the nation is today facing with very much concern. That is the coal situation.

During the last eight years I have worked in and around coal mines, being a miner as well as an operator, and during this time I have falled to find anywhere that either the operator or miner has been considered human by the public in general. The miner, of sourse, is as a rule considered ignorant by people who do not know nor who cannot see farther than the end of their nose. The people who look on them in this manner should go to the coal fields and spend a few days, and if they want to get one square meal, go there Sattley want to get one squa

him.

Prices paid for coal at the mines and the prices paid to a dealer is one of the most complicated puzzles I find to solve in Asheville. For instance, we will take the Pineville, Kentucky, district. The government price for coal now at the mines is for prepared size in black coal, \$3.35 per fon of 2.000 pounds. The freight rate on this coal to Asheville is \$2.20 per ton, making a gross price to the dealer at the station in Asheville of \$5.55 per ton. The price in the Jellico district is the same The price in the Jellico district is the same

except a 20c cheaper freight rate.

If you phone your dealer this morning for prices on coal he will say \$10.00 for best coal. He may not have either of the above coal, but he cannot show a better coal than these.

Now the miner is out on strike. The operator is using his energy to in some way find a settlement. The operator has offered a 14 per cent increase; they cannot pay more on present govern-ment prices. There is only a difference of about 15 per cent which could easily be charged to the dealer and still let him sell his coal at present prices and make big money. The dealer must be clearing \$2.50 or \$3.00 on every ton sold here in Ashaville. A COAL MAN.

in the atternoon made by country should go with our present chaos in industry and politics has about because the public in democratic about because the public in democratic and shops to open before 9 and after 4 o'clock provided no electric lights are used, and o'clock provided no electric lights are used, and the state which placed Prussian autocracy and wrough the ruin of the German The administration of city, county, state

The administration of city, county, state

In the atternoon made by country should go with out an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic constructing a certain Asout an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic construction and than article of unversal necessity because less phaltic construction article of unversal necessity because less phaltic construction and than out an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic construction and out an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic construction out an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic construction out an article of unversal necessity because less phaltic construction out an article of unver sense of grievance anywhere. Unionists could not fairly complain if the country supplied itself with coal at wages satisfactory to the workers. That is the manner in which the railway strike was settled the manner in which the railway strike was settled to at an ideal exercise, and was a good repute through the example of Gladstone and Roosevelt before William Hohenzollern took it p as an antidote to inaction and unrest incident. ing coal, and he has asked for volunteers to relieve distress. In some places work has been resumed upon the basis of the general wage decision when reached. Director General Hines reports that the production of coal in successive weeks of the strike has been 26, 30, and 40 per cent. A few weeks more like that, and the coal strike would fade away like the steel strike, and the strikers would be unable to find fault with any one except their leaders. The miners are so little distressed that they do

upon the busis of the general wage decigion when reached. Director General Hines reports that the production of coal in successive weeks of the strike has been 28, 30, and 40 per cent. A few weeks more like that, and the coal strike would fade away like the steel strike, and the strikers would be unable to find fault with any one except their leaders. The miners are so little distressed that they do not work full time when work is offered. In that they resemble other wage earners, who are so well paid that they indulge themselves in holidays and are asking for more pay when there is distress through deficiency of their production. Director General Hines has stated that the increase of railway wages has been followed by decreased efficiency and the need of employing more workers. Yet it is known that wage earners never before had such pay. In this city it was announced yesterday that a \$10,000,000 building operation was abandoned be expected as a time when the lack of housing distresses the community. No one would desire that labor should receive less than it earns, or should be expolited as "wage slaves." to use the expression of the agitators who thrive on unrest, and whose occupation is gone when the workers are amissied, with fair treatment. On the other hand, when wages are so high that they cease to stimulate production, it would seem that labor itself has shown that it is overpaid in the sense that it is paid more than the standard of living siquires. When building laborers work three days a week because they feel no necessity of earning their living through reliance upon strike funds accumulated for the purpose of necessity of earning their living through reliance upon strike funds accumulated for the purpose of dominating their employers. Sooner or later all economic movements culminate beyond artificial stimulation. The wage rise is near culmination The wage rise is near culmination

The prohibitionist's definition of demobilization evidently is the "period between the last war and the next."

Daily Reminder

"IN THE DAY'S NEWS."

General Alvaro Obregon, who is reported to have broken with President Carranza, has held the post of min-ister of war in the Mexican government for several years. He is a Yaqui Indian and has been generally credit-ed with being the "strong man" of the Carranza administration. Born in the state of Sonora in 1886, he was engaged in farming until the com-mencement of the Mexican revolution. The treason of Huerta and the mur-der of Madero led Obregon to cast his lot with the revolutionlets of that time.

TODAY'S ANNIVERSARIES.

1421-Henry VI. of Englan I, the last monarch of the Lancastrian dy-nasty, born at Windsor. Killed in the Tower, May 21, 1471. Gen. George Mouk who restor-ed the Stuart dynasty in Eng-land, born. Died in London, January 3, 1670.

1768—First court held in litinois open at Fort Chartres.

1832—Prof. Max Miller, one of the greatest scholars of the ninteenth century, born in Dessau, Germany, Died at Oxford, Endland, October 28, 1808. held in Lilinois

land, October 28, 1906.

1888—Irish Land Purchase bill passed by the Britisa parliament.

1914—French captured Vermeles, north of Arras.

1915—Bulgarians made violent assault on allies in Serbla.

1916—David Lloyd George was asked by the king to form a ministry for Great Britain.

An armistice between Germany and the Russians was announc-ed.

A wedding of interest in diplomatic circles will be that of Miss Margaret Erhart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wil-liam H. Erhart, and Andrea G. Celesia de Vegliasco, third secretary of the Italian embassy in Washington, which is to take place at the home of the bride's parents in New York city.

First anniversary of the powder ship explosion which laid Halifax in ruins.

To Hugh LaBarbe, J. E. Pressley, Jas V. Miller, Elix Cain, V. L. Gudger, Frank Samuel, Fred Duncan Mary Dailey, J. H. Bosse, D. E. Penland, C. C. Willis, Cora E. Booth, Bessle A. Corpening, Johannah Stockinger, L. A. Henry, Robert Hoffman, C. F. Pitzgerald, C. F. Allendan, Dunnah THE SCISSORS ROUTE

THE SC proper. Any objection to the above report must be made in writing under oath and filed in the office of the Secat least two days'

G. C. HUNTER. This Nov. 26, 1919.

11-29-10 NOTICE.

above date.
G. C. HUNTER. This Nov. 26, 1919.

stimulation. The wage rise is near culmination when it reaches the point where it is fed by the sacrifices of those more necessitous than the organized workers. The needs of the world are so great that the present level of prices may be maintained for a considerable future time if production is maintained in accordance with costs. But waning production and rising costs cannot long continue.

RROWN'S LUCK.

(Cincinnati Enquirer.)

"Poor Brown is mighty unlucky." said Smith "While on his vacation on the farm he was digging in a hole for a skunk and he broke his ankle."

"Call that unlucky?" said Jones. "Huh! I think he was durn lucky. He might have found the skunk if he hadn't broken his ankle."

The PROHIBITION VIEW.

(Cincinnati Times-Star.)

(Cincinnati Times-Star.)

The prohibition of demobilization rovided by law. G. C. HUNTER,

retary-Treasu This, Dec. 2, 1919.

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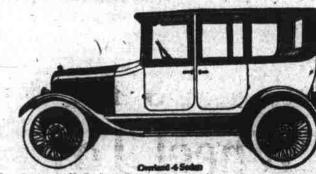


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