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The War.

After nearly three years of conscientious striving to continue at peace, the United States is now fully embarked upon the tempestuous sea of worldwide war. Congress has passed the declaration of war, the President has issued his proclamation, and every department of the government is bending all efforts to the task of getting ready. Congress is in session, busied first with the great undertaking of raising money and formulating plans for building up a huge army and navy. Indications are that Brazil and perhaps other South American countries will follow the United States in declaring war on Germany, as Cuba and Panama have already done.

The two great events of the war since the attack on Germany in her first sweep of attack are the revolution in Russia and the entrance of the United States into the war. The full significance of these events seems not yet to have penetrated the German mind, yet they are slowly doing so. There is no doubt that Germany held the United States in about the same contempt that the Spaniards had for us at the beginning of the Spanish-American war. It is no boast to say that Germany will be as rudely deceived as Spain was. Since it is nearer home, the Germans have been more concerned about the events in Russia than about those in America. Nothing in history has ever paralleled what has taken place in Russia. The establishment of a government by the people in that country, with as full liberty for all classes as is enjoyed in America, is an event of first magnitude in history and puts the seal of death upon autocratic and oppressive government throughout the world. It was the result of no mere revolutionary agitation by irresponsible classes, but the deliberate overthrow and wiping out of monarchy by all the people of the country. The leaders of the revolution and the men now in charge of Russia can be compared only to that class of citizens of the American colonies who lead the revolt against Britain and established the government of the United States. The leaders are statesmen of profound learning, ability and experience, who compare with the foremost statesmen living anywhere in the world today. They have counted the cost, laid their plans broadly and deeply upon the foundation of liberty and justice, and, though they may encounter some drawbacks, will place Russia upon the list of the most powerful and democratic countries the world has ever seen. It was these facts which President Wilson had in mind when he so eloquently referred to Russia as the latest and noblest ally of democracy.

The Russian revolution is having a profound effect in Germany and the government is attempting to meet it by promising reforms and the extension of liberty. Germany had almost succeeded in making an ally out of Russia instead of an enemy. The rulers of Russia were traitorously helping Germany and betraying the Russia people. This fact is what had brought the greatest dismay in France and England and they are what precipitated the revolution. The traitors were led by the Empress of Russia, herself of German blood, but now the whole ruling family has been wiped out. The fact that the change was accomplished with so little domestic bloodshed, and with such temperateness shows only its depth and power and the wisdom and moderation of the leaders. The last stronghold of tyranny is now in Germany and the whole world is fast allying itself against the cruel oligarchy of that country, and unless the people of Germany themselves do the job sooner, the result of the war will wipe out the ruling family of Germany and all its huge machine of cruelty and oppression. This consummation is the consolation of those of us who dreaded to see our country embark upon war, and the hope of ultimate peace throughout the world by the growth of democracy is the thing that must sustain and comfort the people of this country who tried to see things from other standpoints than mere national pride and vaingloriousness. May we never forget the object of the war.

While the terribleness of war is to be brought home to us, we cannot imagine that this country must suffer anything like the European people

have suffered. The best opinion seems to be that our greatest aid will be financial at first and on sea next. There seems little doubt that congress will lend the Allies two billion dollars at once at a small rate of interest. This aid, which is so much needed, will be given at once. Then the United States will put its naval strength to use in helping clear out the submarines and keeping the seas clear. There seems to be no desire to send men to Europe until several months have elapsed and given us time to prepare a real army. It is to be hoped that during the six or twelve months that this will require the need of their going may be obviated. Congress will take steps to raise half the money needed by taxation and the remainder by bond issues. The form of taxation is expected to be that of large increase in the income taxes, the corporation taxes, and the taxes on tobacco and liquors. But there is no certainty what direction taxation may take. Certain it is that huge amounts of money, amounts heretofore unknown in this country, must be raised. Beside the raising of revenue, preparation of the army and navy, and the other more imperative things to be done, the administration has called into counsel the best thought of the nation in originating and carrying out plans of industrial and economic preparation, including increase of food production, over a long period of time.

How will the war effect the average man at home, and what can each best do to contribute his part? Aside from those families who must sooner or later send their sons to the army things will go on in much their even tenor. As the New York World remarks, the best way for the average man to do is to go on with his daily avocation to the best of his ability as if nothing had happened. Our citizens should not be too much alarmed. There will be all kinds of rumors about as to danger here at home from spies and other imaginary causes but few of these may be taken seriously. There will not be much danger to anybody until our ships get upon the sea and our armies begin to move, and the latter at least will be a long time off.

As appears from President Wilson's proclamation, no German in this country will be molested provided he obeys the law, as Attorney General Gregory puts it, "obeys the law and keeps his mouth shut." All the German ships that have been lying in American harbors since they put in for safety at the outbreak of the war, have been seized by the United States authorities, and their crews detained. Nearly all these ships have been injured by their crews on orders from their government, and as soon as they can be put in shape they will be used for useful purposes. The total tonnage of these ships is about 600,000 and will make a large addition to our shipping. Austria-Hungary has broken diplomatic relations with the United States, following her ally, Germany. But the United States has no quarrel with that country except as incidental to that with Germany.

This war is the most serious thing that our country has had on its hands since the civil war. It is not going to be any holiday affair. The Spanish-American war was a light frost beside an Arizona snow storm compared to what this war will be if we really get into it. In all wars the lovers of the spectacular have their innings at the beginning and it is not different now. There will be no easy births by raising companies and regiments. Compulsory drafts will be made at once and all recruits will come in on regular army plans. It seems to be the idea of the war department to whip into shape half a million men as soon as possible, to be followed with other half millions as time goes on.

The war speech of President Wilson, in which he declared that the world must be made safe for democracy, has gone around the earth like wild fire. It is to be read in every school in France and publicly posted through France and Italy. It was hailed as a new inspiration in Great Britain, and in Russia it is having large influence in fastening the new government on a solid basis and inspiring the army to renew the fight against the Germans. Russian soldiers paint big signs, with these words, "Get Rid of Your Kaiser", and hold them up over the trenches for the Germans to read. And in Germany the idea is soaking in so fast that reform or revolution will soon come there.

LOCAL MARKET

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|-------------------------|-----------|
| Best Long Staple | 21.25 |
| Best Short Staple | 20.75 |
| Cotton Seed | 75 |
| Sweet potatoes | 1.00 |
| Hens | 50 |
| Eggs | 25 |
| Cured Hams | 20-22 |
| Butter | 25 |
| Peas, colored and white | 2.00-2.50 |
| Corn | 1.40 |
| Country hay, per bale | 50-65 |
| Fodder | 2.50 |
| Baled Shucks | 50 |

SKETCHES

By JOHN BEASLEY.

"Old Timer," as he crossed Bear Skin creek at midnight Saturday, heard a ripple in the water. Fearing it was a German submarine, he made haste to leave the spot, but just before he crossed the last span he discovered that the noise was made by a musk rat. He continued his journey in a quieter frame of mind.

Uncle Ike Hunneycutt is getting worried. He has heard that his old antagonist, Matt Broom, has written friends that if he had been with him in Charlotte his pocket wouldn't have been picked. Uncle Ike is on the lookout, and is prepared with a few grape shots in case Matt seeks the newspapers to air his sentiments.

Prof. D.C. Anderson, an old Monroe school teacher, prophesied war between the United States and Germany over thirty years ago, according to Mr. Lee Griffin, one of his students at that time. The old teacher was an ex-army man himself, and when he made his prophecy, said Mr. Griffin, he stated that it would be a terrible war. There are several living in Monroe today who attended Professor Anderson's school.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather, Judge Lemmond has postponed his inaugural ceremony indefinitely. He regrets that Providence failed to smile on the happy day, but nothing is lost except an inaugural address that cost him many hours of toil, and a full-dress suit that will be moth-eaten ere another opportunity arrives. In this connection we wish to say a few words about the democratic spirit of the Judge. He spurns automobiles; "it's far more pleasure to him to ride behind the slow plodding horse of his fathers; and man! he's so democratic that he has planted a patch of corn in his luxurious law office. May the shades of old Andy Jackson forever guard him from evil!"

It is a good thing for some people that the necessities of life don't include brains.

No man with a full beard has to worry because of the neckties his good wife buys for him.

"Mrs. Dubwaite has been under a great nervous strain for about six months."

"That's too bad. What's troubling her?"

"Some people moved in next door who are evidently well-to-do, but to save her life she can't find out where they get their money."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

WANT ADS.

One cent a word each insertion.

FOR SALE—A good, gentle, well broke horse and top rubber tire buggy.—A. M. Secrest.

FOR SALE—Or will exchange for cattle, one farm mare.—Dock Watkins, Monroe Rt. 6, near Stouts.

FOR SALE—A good Ford touring car.—Secrest Motor Company.

PRIZE WINNING Single Comb white Leghorn eggs, \$1.00 for 15, postpaid.—O. B. Graves, Monroe R. 10.

FOR SALE—Two year old pure bred Guernsey bull, \$150.—J. C. Austin, Marshville, N. C.

FOR SALE—Ford truck in good condition.—A. M. Secrest.

FOR SALE—450 acres fine timber land on Columbia and Charlotte highway. A bargain at \$15 per acre. Will take \$10 for immediate sale.—J. R. Smith, Winnsboro, S. C.

FOR SALE—Pure-bred Berkshire pigs, both sexes, and Cooke's Profit seed corn.—J. P. Wimberly, Battleboro, N. C.

FOR SALE—Good young horse.—A. M. Secrest.

ROOTS AND HERBS WANTED—We want Yellow Dock Root split at 8c per pound; Burdock at 12c; Jimson Slipper Root at 27c; Hellebore Root at 12c; Pleurisy or Buttery Root at 10c; and all other kinds at high prices. Goods must be dry.—R. T. Greer & Co., Marion, Va.

FOR SALE—Two fresh milk cows. B. D. Austin, Wingate.

FOR SALE—Maxwell automobiles.—Secrest Motor Company.

PORK WANTED—Am now paying 13 1/2 cents.—J. H. Trull's Market.

TOMATO PLANTS for sale.—H. D. Browning.

FOR SALE—Dodge Bros. cars.—Secrest Motor Co.

WE HAVE several small parcels of land near Monroe for rent. Suitable for corn, cotton, vegetables or small grain.—H. D. Stewart.

LOST—Black pocket book on Griffith road, between Pineland dairy and Plyler Mill road, containing \$19.00 in bills. Liberal reward for return to Journal or Enquirer office.—Miner Funderburk, Waxhaw, Rt. 5.

FOR SALE—Chevrolet automobiles.—Secrest Motor Co.

WANTED—Some nice lambs. Will pay seven cents.—J. H. Trull's Market.

WANTED—Beef cattle; will pay 6 to 6 1/2 cents for extra fat ones.—J. H. Trull's Market.

LET US show you our line of automobiles. We are sure to please you.—Secrest Motor Co., A. M. Secrest, Mgr.

Stein-Bloch Smart Clothes



The Stein-Bloch Co. 1917



The Stein-Bloch Co. 1917

Your Spring Suit Is Here

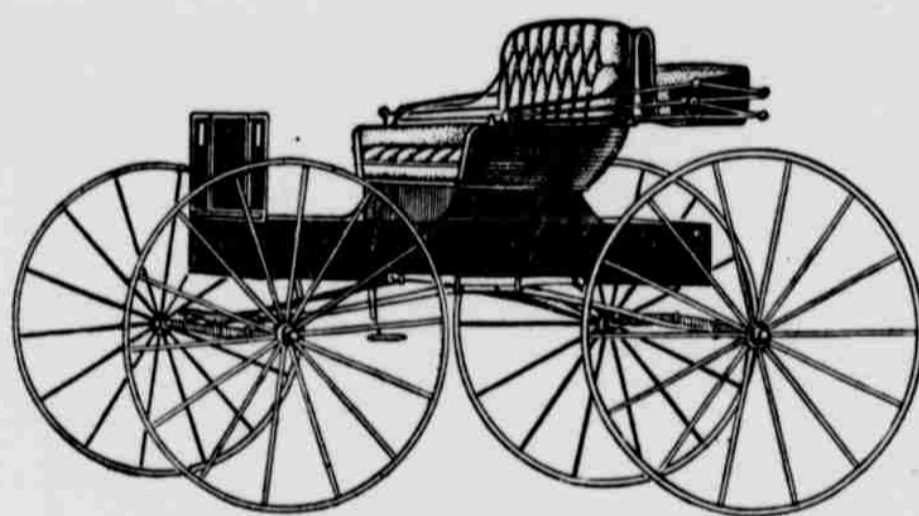
whether it be a young man's model or a middle aged man's model, WE HAVE IT.

Big new line of Stein Bloch and STYLEPLUS to select from at moderate prices.

16 Retail Dept. Stores

BELK BROS.
SELL IT FOR LESS

16 Retail Dept. Stores



We have just placed on the floor of our Display Room a big lot of up-to-date Babcocks at \$115⁰⁰ to \$125⁰⁰.

We also have a variety of Summers, Cortland, Parry, Indiana, Frankiin, Hickory and Taylor and Canady.

Our line of Harness is complete.

MONROE HADRWARE CO.
Main, Hayne, Franklin and Morgan Streets.