

THE ALLIANCE HERALD

LLOYD C. THOMAS, Business Manager

JOHN W. THOMAS, Editor

E. CATHERINE MOORE, Editress Social Department

Published every Thursday by

THE HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY
Incorporated

Lloyd C. Thomas, President
John W. Thomas, Secretary

J. Carl Thomas, Vice Pres.

Entered at the post office at Alliance, Nebraska, for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

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POSTING UP ON PREPAREDNESS

When that patriotic (?) organization, known as the Navy League, entered suit last month against Henry Ford for \$100,000 damages on the charge of having published in newspaper advertisements statements of "a libelous and defamatory character," there was great rejoicing in the United States. Militarists and their supporters, the reactionary politicians, rejoiced because of the prospect of seeing a great man whom they hated put to annoyance, and possibly a great expense, and ultimate dishonor; while the people who believe in justice and desired to see the right vindicated rejoiced because of the investigations that would be made and the publicity given to facts that would probably be brought out.

It is apparent that the metropolitan press of the eastern part of this country is to a great extent either subsidized or actually owned by millionaires who are interested in the manufacture of munitions of war and armament. While many other papers, that are not controlled in that way by those interests, are cowed into silence or a support of the measures wanted by militarists, the methods used being to reward, politically or otherwise, those who do their bidding, and discredit and injure those who refuse to do so. Just now a tremendous effort is being made to create a public sentiment in the United States that will help the munitions manufacturers to control the republican national convention and nominate a man to their liking for president. In order to accomplish their purposes fake patriotic organizations have been formed, and such epithets as "copperheads," "traitors," etc., are hurled at those who dare to publicly oppose the grafting schemes of the sleek rascals who manipulate these organizations for their own profit.

It is high time for the people to be better posted on the true inwardness of the preparedness proposition, and not be carried away by the clamor of men who are trying to accomplish their nefarious purposes by sailing under those colors, and thereby deceiving the people. We hope that the Navy League will press its suit against Henry Ford. We expect that if this is done there will be much misrepresentation in the newspapers that are owned or controlled by the munitions and armor plate manufacturers, who largely compose the membership of the Navy League, but in spite of that fact attention will be called to certain matters that need investigation and in a way that will insure more publicity being given to information that the public deserves to have, but might not otherwise receive.

Citizens of the United States who are really patriotic owe it to their country, as well as to themselves, to post up on these matters. The question naturally arises when this suggestion is made, "Where can dependable information be secured?" We are delighted to inform our readers where they can secure some of the desired information. Hon. Clyde H. Tavenner, formerly the Washington newspaper correspondent whose communications were published in The Herald a few years ago, is now a member of Congress from the state of Illinois. On February 15, 1915, he delivered a speech in the House of Representatives on "A World Wide War Trust," and on the 15th of last December he delivered another speech on "The Navy League Unmasked." These speeches are printed in pamphlet form by the government printing office at Washington, as are other speeches of congressmen, for free distribution. We wish that every honest citizen of the United States might read them. They can be secured, no doubt, by sending a request for them to Hon. Clyde H. Tavenner, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

"The Navy League Unmasked" is a gem. Altho of considerable length, it is of such thrilling interest that one can scarcely lay it down after beginning to read until having finished it. It is the greatest exposure of a fake, hypocritical, so-called patriotic organization that we have ever seen, and contains more information concerning men in high places who are grafting the government out of millions of dollars, and would, if necessary to accomplish their vile purposes and gratify their greed, plunge this nation into needless war.

After reading "The Navy League Unmasked," you should read the other speech, "The World Wide War Trust." Here are some facts, briefly stated, taken from it:

Four firms, constituting the war trust, have received army and navy contracts aggregating \$175,000,000.

Army and navy officials have generously paid the war trust from 20 to 60 per cent more than the same supplies could have been manufactured for in government arsenals.

The present chief of ordnance was formerly in partnership with the Bethlehem company, one of the war trust firms.

Powder trust represented in Washington by high ex-army official and ex-member of Congress.

STANDING UP FOR NEBRASKA

Again The Herald is pleased to step into the breach and "Stand up for Nebraska." This time it is thru a discussion of the wet and dry question, which is an issue in the coming state election and which is already beginning to be threshed out, that an injustice is being done to the great state of Nebraska. We need not tell readers of this paper that we believe in Nebraska, its people, its wonderful resources, its rapid progress. They know that we do most enthusiastically.

The injustice that is beginning to be done in this campaign to which we refer above is, on the one hand, in minimizing Nebraska in making comparisons with states that have already adopted prohibition; and on the other hand, in claiming that in the event of the adoption of prohibition next fall, which now seems probable, that this state, and particularly her fine metropolis, Omaha, will be prostrated and never more amount to anything.

We object to both representations, because they are both wrong and do the state an injustice. The fact is, Nebraska stands right in the front rank of the states of the Union in moral qualities, intellectual attainments and financial prosperity. In politics she is in the front rank of progressivism. We will not admit that there is another state her superior, either wet or dry.

Furthermore, she will continue to prosper in the years to come, without a jar or rattle, no matter whether prohibition is adopted or rejected. It is an injustice to the magnificent city of Omaha to publish to the world that her industries and commerce will be paralyzed in the event of the state going dry. The leading business men of Omaha do not believe it, and it is unfair to the city to cause the people in its territory to think it. In the face of impending state-wide prohibition, Omaha is making a remarkable growth. No other city in this part of the west can show the progress that she is making, and we have faith to believe that that progress will continue, no matter whether the state goes wet or dry next fall.

The Herald wishes to start a movement among the newspapers to demand that in the campaign upon which we are entering, the two

sides of the prohibition question be discussed upon their merits, and that Nebraska be not slandered in order to make capital on this or any other issue.

Let's all, wet or dry, "Stand up for Nebraska!"

EXPRESS YOUR APPRECIATION

Frequently appeals are made, thru newspapers and magazines, to voters thruout the United States to write to their congressmen and United States senators petitioning them for or against proposed measures that are up to be acted upon by Congress. The Herald recommends to its readers that they write to their representatives in Congress and the United States Senate, but in a somewhat different way. Instead of writing to them only when you wish to influence their action upon some proposed measure or condemn them for going contrary to your wishes, write to them sometimes, often, if possible, and express your appreciation of their action when it accords with your wishes.

We are not writing this for the purpose of getting readers of The Herald to commend their congressmen for their position upon any particular question, but as an illustration, we wish to refer to the vote of the congressmen from Nebraska on the question of warning American citizens to desist from taking passage on the merchant ships of the belligerent nations now engaged in the European war. All of the six congressmen from this state, we are happy to say, voted in favor of giving such warning. The people of the state as a whole approve of their action. It would please and encourage them, no doubt, in the face of the tremendous pressure brot to bear upon them at the nation's capital to pursue a different course, if they received numerous letters from their constituents expressive of the approbation that they are receiving in their home states.

Constituents are appreciative, but they are entirely too neglectful of expressing their appreciation. Let us do it oftener. Do it now. If you are a voter anywhere in Nebraska, and if your congressman has voted to please you on any measure whatever, drop him a few lines and tell him of your approbation, and do the same thing with the United States senators of your state.

NO ARGUMENTS AGAINST PRESIDENT WILSON

What honest issue can be raised against the reelection of President Wilson and the continuation of the Democratic party in power?

With Germany having yielded to the demands of the American government, conceding all the points raised by President Wilson in defense of American rights and for the upholding of American honor, can there be any question of the efficacy of the handling of foreign affairs?

Will the Republican party contend that despite the fact that President Wilson won a great diplomatic victory, not merely for the people of the United States, but for civilization itself, this country nevertheless should have gone to war with Germany?

When President Wilson gave the order for the American troops to enter Mexico to break up the bandit bands which had been causing the loss of life and property along the border, the Republican leaders in Congress applauded the firm action that was taken. It was agreed by the Republican leaders in the Senate and House that no other action was possible.

Will they say now that the United States government should withdraw the troops from Mexico or will they say that the United States should declare war against Mexico?

So far the opposition party has confined itself to vague and general statements that the handling of foreign affairs will be made an issue. The count will have to be more specific or else it will be given short shrift in the court of public opinion. President Wilson's statesmanship has forced the respect of the world, and the knowledge of his reserve power, the realization that a united nation stood behind him, have kept the country at peace while millions of men are being sacrificed on the battlefields of Europe, because such statesmanship in Europe was lacking when most needed.

JAMES J. HILL

In the passing of James J. Hill, who died at his home in St. Paul, Minnesota, May 29, this country has lost a great man. He was a railroad magnate, but in endeavoring to increase the value of his railroad properties he did so by using his position of influence and power to develop the resources of the country that furnished the traffic. Thereby, he not only proved himself to be a far-sighted railroad promoter and builder, but in reality he became a public benefactor.

Mr. Hill was a great philanthropist, altho that fact is not as generally known concerning him as it is regarding some other men of great wealth. From the time the work of helping the Belgians began, he took a leading part in the movement. It may never be known how much money he sent to King Albert, but the sum was large. He also induced others to contribute largely for the same purpose.

Since his demise many tributes have been spoken and printed to his memory. Among them is the following, by Archbishop John Ireland:

"A great man has gone from earthly life. Not only a man of rarest talent of mind, a genius such as is seldom to be seen amid the moving scenes of humanity, but also one who has put his wondrous talent to the service of fellow men, whose career was marked with strict integrity and highest sense of honor.

"I must say in simplest truth that he lived and respected religion and held the Christian faith to be the supreme principle of human righteousness and human life."

A SLUG DROPPED OUT

Typographical errors in newspapers sometimes make a ridiculous change in the meaning of what is printed. There are not often errors in that fine market paper, the South Omaha Daily Drovers Journal-Stockman, but they some times happen even with the best regulated newspapers.

In the issue of May 29, the Journal-Stockman contained an item regarding the coming stockmen's convention, in which the following statement was made:

John W. Thomas, editor of the Alliance Herald, says that they are anticipating a large crowd at his town on June 20 and 21 which are the dates for the holding of the 1916 convention of the Nebraska Stock Growers association. It has been decided by the committee having such matters in charge to dispense with the officers of the association and cattlemen who feel that nothing else should be allowed to interfere with the business of the meeting.

It will no doubt be surprising news to stockmen to learn that the N. S. G. A. has decided to dispense with the officers of the association. The trouble with the item is not in what the Herald editor said or in what the Journal-Stockman editor wrote, but in a line of type, that printers call a slug, dropping out before the paper was printed. What was intended to be said was that it has been decided by the committee having such matters in charge to dispense with the sports to comply with the wishes of the officers of the association and cattlemen, etc.

AN EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION

The Democratic administration of Nebraska governmental affairs has been constantly reducing expenses. During the first five months of 1916, as shown by recent reports, the state government and institutions of Nebraska were administered for \$217,000 less than in the same period a year ago. The 1915 period included the outgo for legislative salaries and expenses, but that does not account for all the difference. Disbursements of the state treasury have been cut down \$12,000 to \$15,000 per month, in addition to the money saved by not having a session of the legislature this year.

The report of State Auditor Smith for the month of May shows that in that month during this year the warrants issued by his office totaled \$370,481, while in the same month a year ago the amount was \$455,775, being a difference of \$85,000 in favor of this year. During the first five months of the year 1915 the warrants issued came to a total of \$2,286,013. During the first five months of this year the outgo has been held down to \$2,069,340. State officials deserve credit for this showing.

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