

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Don't forget the day and date.

The old year went out quietly. The Lord knows it had nothing to make a noise about.

The plan is mutual because while aiding Uncle Sam you are acquiring profits yourself.

The czar can reflect happily that his government of Russia had nothing on that of the bolsheviks.

We are willing to admit that the cold wave that swept over this country last week was one of the severest in many years.

Billy Sunday will fall foul of Dr. Garfield if he doesn't quit advising people to brighten the corners where they are. It can't be done without coal.

It is said, "When the days begin to lengthen the coal begins to strengthen." But cannot perceive any difference in the coal proposition, except the price.

As we gather from its comment on Lloyd George's speech, Vorwaerts is eager to change the form of government in Germany, but it hates to have the suggestion come from outside.

The Russian embassy at Washington says the president's address in Congress will deeply touch the Russian people. We hope it will more than touch them—we hope it will touch them off.

A few disappointments in the matter of peace terms now will be good training for the Kaiser who will encounter a lot more disappointments when his own people begin negotiations with him.

American private soldiers need not be discouraged at not being allowed to ride in first class railway cars in England. After this war is over, they will be so popular they can ride in the locomotive cab if they want to.

The past week must have been tough on the country editor who had to run his paper off on a Washington hand press. But then coal oil is cheap as ink and that is what we used to mix the ink with forty years ago and it worked like a charm.

The many friends of Ernest M. Pollard in Nebraska are pushing him for governor on the republican ticket. He is a Cass county man and served three terms in congress. A man who can do this from the 1st district is plenty able to hold down the governor's position just as long as the people want him to.

A single man is exempt from payment of income tax as long as his income does not exceed \$1,000 per annum. A married man is exempt to the tune of \$2,000. Just now it is not contended that two can live cheaper than one. But it will be generally admitted that two at \$2,000 can live better than one on \$1,000. If the income tax promotes matrimony, it will again have proven the fairest and best tax that can be devised.

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How do you like the winter so far.

We are ready for harbingers of spring.

He's a wise man who knows these days that neither side of his bread is buttered.

A little sugar now and then is hoarded by the groccerymen.

Turning over a new leaf isn't exercising enough to keep one in shape for a whole year.

An agriculturist tells us that apples can be grown in Palestine. They were grown there once, and look what happened!

It is weather like this that the news reader can understand if he tries, why rapid progress is not made on the war fronts in the winter.

Peace always is negotiated on the installment plan—a term down and a term a week. The difficulty usually is in deciding the term to pay down.

A trainload of money was discovered the other day on a railroad siding, where it had lain neglected for three weeks. The railroad people must have thought it was coal.

There may be a special or extra session of the legislature next spring if the governor becomes convinced that it is positively necessary, in order to carry out his desire.

When airplanes begin disputing the right of way with wireless telegraph towers, it is time to begin lobbying for higher rates in order to lay double track systems in the sky.

We are not the only ones that are enjoying "real" winter weather. They are getting their share of it in the extreme east and south, and we know what it is in the west and north.

Even the Russian mind will in time grasp the futility of trusting Prussian promises. When that time arrives Russia will "come back." And right now it appears that Russia is coming.

That little old flag with forty-eight stars and thirteen stripes of alternate white and red will never look prettier than when it is floating over the palace of Kaiser Wilhelm in Berlin.

You are no longer able to take a drink and treat a friend. But for the price of two drinks you used to buy you can buy a "thrif stamp" and there isn't a headache in a million of them.

"What America needs in this crisis is a few more George Deweyes and Richmond Hobsons," asserts the Springfield Republican. To thrill the hearts of both the men at the front and the girls at home, we assume.

WRITE TO YOUR BOY IN FRANCE.

If some of the mothers and fathers could see the disappointed look on their boy's face when the mail is given out in France—hear him say, "Another mail and no letter from home; I would rather have one letter from home than one from each of the friends I know"—I think they would not rest at night until they had a letter ready for the post for that boy, and be sure that he got one at least every other post, once or twice a week. I wonder if they know they are depending on them for love. A boy expects it, at least from his own people, and you may be sure if he does not get it in letters from home, in most cases he gets none. Can you picture a young boy ready to go in the line and just before he goes the mail is given out, as is the case sometimes when it just happens along before we leave our billet, he fails to get a letter and remarks: "No letter last time," or "None this time, and I am going in the line," and you see a tear fall. I have seen this happen.—Charles H. Carson in Association Men.

"GERMAN EMPEROR."

In his book on his experiences in Germany, Ambassador Gerard remarks that his commission as ambassador accredited him to "Germany," a nation that had no existence. He should have been accredited to the "German Empire," Deutsches Reich. Readers of Bismarck's memoirs will recall his discussion of the title of the emperor when the empire was proclaimed in the Franco-Prussian war. Objections were raised to "emperor of Germany," and the title finally agreed on was "German emperor."

In the title finally adopted concession was made to the local pride of the rulers of the smaller German states, who felt they would be less subordinated if the head of the state were regarded as German emperor than if he were proclaimed emperor of their country.

Apparently their expectations did not work out. The German emperor has wielded all the authority an emperor of Germany could possibly have assumed. For this authority he has claimed divine approval. The war is likely to do some revising in the substance, if not in the name of things. The Allies are not particular about names. They are, however, suggesting rather pointedly that a German Reichstag, representing the people, could get peace quite a bit sooner than a German emperor claiming to rule by divine right.—K. C. Star.

GET READY.

The people of America should be getting their nerves ready for the most serious shocks since the days of the civil war. All the signs indicate the Prussian war machine is planning to strike the hardest blow in the history of all wars. The blow will fall on the western front, right where two hundred thousand American boys will be in the fight. This mighty battle may end in a temporary victory for the Prussian war machine, or it may be bloodily repulsed by the combined armies of America, England and France. But no matter who shall win the battle, the slaughter will be awful. Thousands of men will die. Many thousands of the dead may wear the blessed uniform of our own republic. Fathers are hoping, and mothers are praying that the peace proposals recently made by the United States may bring about a parley, ending in ultimate peace before the plans for the great battle on the western front shall begin. But begin it must unless peace shall come at once, and the American people must prepare themselves to receive the intelligence of the battle as heroically as we know our men in uniform will meet the foe. It is horrible to contemplate the loss of our splendid boys over the sea, but if the loss shall come the best blessing it can bring will be to cement our people into one great brotherhood, with one ambition, and that the ultimate overthrow of the enemy, and the ul-

imate wiping out of the great dragon of militarism, which is the first cause of every war between nations.—Columbus Telegram.

NO MERCY FOR TREASON.

With all the expedition possible Paul Henning, the torpedo factory foreman, who has been accused of treason, should be tried. If he is found guilty the higher courts should facilitate the hearing of his appeal. If finally the verdict of guilt stands the ultimate penalty should be exacted without any delay. For the crime with which Henning is charged presents clearly and compactly the method imperial Germany has used in waging war upon the United States before and after the actual declaration of hostilities. Henning, now facing a charge of treason, was brought into court for so tampering with torpedoes that they would have destroyed American vessels and American lives. He is accused of practicing sabotage with the intent to "do murder on a vast scale.

Mercy or mitigation for that kind of offense would be a crime against the brave men at whose lives the plot is said to have been aimed. For the sake of the men of the American navy justice must be immediate and unflinching. And while this case is being disposed of the virtuous seafaring men who are rumored to have mixed ground glass and poison with food destined for the national army contingents might as well be gathered up. Treason of this variety permits just one form of punishment. The lives of the soldiers and sailors cannot be needlessly exposed to diabolical plotting.

The supply of ammunition in this country is said to be none too great and perhaps rope ends are not too numerous. Still a practical showing that there is enough to provide plentifully for the needs of traitors would be in season.—Chicago Herald.

ONE STEP NEARER.

It is again as a leader and spokesman of liberal and progressive thought that President Wilson has addressed Congress.

He has met, as Lloyd George met last week, the reasonable and right demand of the Russian people that the nations at war with Germany should state definitely their war aims and the terms on which they would be ready to conclude peace.

In a general way President Wilson had stated those terms before. He repeats them now, with greater precision and particularity, and applies them definitely to the man of the world. Interest does not attach especially to this part of the President's discussion, since it covers ground already familiar and covers it, for the most part, in a familiar way. As to the essential ends to be accomplished the President stands where he has stood since the beginning of the war, without yielding or compromise.

Deep interest and great importance, however, attaches to his discussion of the situation as it exists between Germany and Russia. Mr. Wilson attacks and finishes handsomely a task too long deferred when he sets us right with the Russian people. He places us in sympathy and spirit squarely by their side. He pays high tribute to the ideals that animate them and to the loyalty and simple-minded courage with which they have stood by those ideals. Of that carping, querulous, insympathetic criticism of them and their conduct with which we have all grown familiar there is not a suggestion in the President's address. Rather there is sympathy, understanding, faith and support. There is the promise to uphold their hands in the fight for what is in law and in morals rightfully theirs. Instead of driving Russia into Germany's mailed arms President Wil-

son strives to hold its friendship and confidence by proving that we deserve it. If, after what he has now said, a misguided Russia should conclude a separate peace with Germany by a surrender to imperial aggression it will be through no fault of our own. And if Russia is encouraged to stand to the end, and at whatever cost, manfully for the right, it will be thanks largely to the friendly and sympathetic attitude so fully revealed in the President's address.

Equally important, perhaps even more important, is the President's renewed appeal to German liberalism. He makes it clear that it is a divided Germany which today confronts the world. On the one hand there is the liberal element which dictated the reichstag's formula of peace without annexations or indemnities. And on the other hand is the Junker element which, in the negotiations with Russia, betrays the reichstag's mandate by demanding the right to impose a conqueror's terms.

Who, the President forcefully inquires, is entitled to speak for Germany? What is the voice of Germany? For what is it that Germany really stands. The reichstag speaks with one voice. The imperial government speaks with another. The reichstag speaks for peace on fair terms. The militarists will consent to peace on no such terms and demand imperial plunder. If there was a Germany competent to speak and act, he makes clear, under the direction of the reichstag, animated by its purposes and ideals, peace would not be far distant. But the German negotiators at Brest-Litovsk spurned the reichstag formula and fastened the whole German empire to the dead body of war—of war which must continue as long as German militarism is permitted to veto the expressed will of the people.

To the great commercial and industrial interests of Germany, hungry for peace and a restored place in the world, this appeal, we may well believe, must come with telling effect. And so it must come to the masses of Germany, the plain people, the laborers, whose hunger for peace is even keener, just as is the hunger of the plain people the world over.

And the President re-enforces the appeal by clearing away any misunderstanding that may have existed as to our purposes with respect to the German constitution and the German government. We do not "presume to suggest any alteration or modification of her institutions." We do not say that, as the price of peace, she must become a democracy, or a modified monarchy, or any sort of government other than what she is. We must know only that when her spokesmen come to us they speak with the voice of the reichstag, the representative of the German people, and not with the voice of the minority military party. With such spokesmen we can conclude a peace of justice, a peace that will assure Germany its full rights, its place in the world, its free and unrestricted share in the world's commerce and industry.

In a word, we are ready today to treat for peace with Germany with the terms laid down by its own parliamentary body as a working basis.

It is this that Mr. Wilson offers the German people, and this assurance of our unselfish and democratic attitude that he holds out to the Russian people. When we consider the miserable state of the world today, of Germany along with the rest, we are entitled to hope and believe that Mr. Wilson and Lloyd George have brought the day of peace appreciably nearer. Russia has spoken, Britain has spoken, the United States has spoken, essentially with one voice. It is the voice, in effect, of the German reichstag as well. It is the voice of peace with justice. It is now incumbent on the German government—the imperialism that has dared to override the reichstag—to answer it. If the answer is defiant it means the assumption of an indefensible position that brazenly gives the lie to everything Germany has heretofore professed. Such an answer would mul-

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ply the Kaiser's domestic troubles, already gravely serious. If, on the other hand, the answer is reasonable, then the serious discussion of peace terms will be under way, and once such a discussion is entered upon there will be no turning back.—World-Herald.

A VICTORY OF PROPAGANDA.

The hideous story of German plotting in Italy is of valid interest to every allied country. It should be read as a revelation by certain Americans who have unconsciously kept alive the German opportunity in this part of the world. When Germany got ready for the descent upon Italy the ground had been prepared. A division of public opinion had been created and nourished by German agents in Italy, and it was brought to its most potent stage at the proper moment. The Italian armies were overrun by spies who managed to distribute pamphlets and fake newspapers telling of disasters among the Italian people at home, the imminence of revolution and the death of many women and children at the hands of the government. During the Italian retreat false orders were given and complete panic was achieved at some sections of the line. Into this mass of disheartened soldiers the German

Her Trouble is Gone.

Mrs. Thomas H. Davis, Montgomery, Ind., says she had trouble with her bladder and had doctored for several months without relief, when Foley Kidney Pills were recommended and she commenced using them and got relief. They relieve backach, rheumatic pains, stiff, swollen joints and kidney trouble. Sold everywhere.

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