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THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEB.

The popular definition of what constitutes a non-essential during war times seems to be what the other fellow is making or selling.

The Kaiser bombastically declares, every once in a while, that he is not afraid of the Americans. Well, the Americans seem to have demonstrated that they retain the same lively opinion of the Kaiser.

Director General McAdoo is doing his best to get railroad employes to treat the general public with due courtesy. The director general seems to have the idea that while we are about it we might as well make a clean sweep of autocracy.

Gas companies, electric light companies, express companies and other public utilities are raising their rates everywhere. Evidently the business theory that the time to get is when the getting is good is growing in popularity.

The Kaiser's dream of empire is over. His soldiers are retreating, and the new chancellor, speaking for the legislative body, accepts the terms proposed by the President. Abdication of the emperor and his entire family would relieve the people whom he has so grossly wronged.

However much we may deprecate war it has its compensations. It creates so much news nowadays that the general public is kept in complete ignorance of scandals in high life in New York city and whether or not the Chicago council has sold another part of the lake front to the corporations.

Judging from the excited comments of employing capitalists, laborer has no business to accept enough money to permit him to own an automobile in which he can ride back and forth from his work. They call men who are making \$10 a day profiteering workers. This is rather strange doctrine coming from a class that has always insisted that the price of an article was not determined by anything else than what could be got for it.

The theory upon which some senators stand by the President is that when he wants what they are in favor of they should vote to enact whatever legislation he desires. When he wants what they are opposed to he is being misled by popular clamor. It is a very good thing for this country and the allied cause that the boys in the army do not claim the right to refuse to allow their commander-in-chief when he indicates what he desires.

People who patronize the restaurants remark that the proprietors were very prompt to follow the suggestion of the food administration that they cut the portions of meat, but that they seemed to have forgotten that fairness requires also that the price be cut. The reason given for not doing so is that it costs just as much to serve a small portion as a large one. The man who invented "overhead expense" sure was a lineal descendant of the chap who first discovered interest.

Wet Democracy in California

Below will be found a statement made by a California democrat in regard to the effort made by wet democrats, aided by wet republicans, to nominate a wet republican for governor on the democratic ticket:

"(1) I was in San Benito County, where I used to live, two weeks before the election. I asked numerous active well-known democrats there if they knew of any democrats in that county who would vote for Mr. Rolph for the democratic nomination and I was informed in every case that no democrats there were known to be for Mr. Rolph. Out of the first 20 precincts counted in San Benito County the democratic vote on the governorship was as follows: Woolwine, 183; Heney, 211; Rolph, 512.

"Here is the unmistakable evidence that whatever campaign was made for Mr. Rolph within the democratic party was made very quietly. The leading democrats knew nothing of it. I am so thoroughly familiar with political conditions in that county that I readily recognize the saloon and its influence and vote as the element that could and did do the things necessary to produce the result above mentioned.

"(2) In a letter from a democratic ex-member of the California Legislature the writer informed me that shortly before the election he traveled through San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced and Madera Counties and in his letter is contained this sentence: Every bartender, rouser, ex-bartender, etc., was flying Rolph's banner.

"(3) I was informed by a prominent resident of Yolo County that the river towns of that county, which are known as wet strongholds, gave heavy democratic majorities to Rolph. I was informed by a prominent citizen in southern California that two saloon men whom he met casually told him they were republicans; that they had registered as democrats to vote for Rolph in the primaries and that their organization throughout the state had instructions to do what they had done.

"(4) A prominent Federal official in southern California told me of one liquor precinct where, as he recalled it, 183 republican electors changed their registration to democratic within the last couple of days within which such transfer could be made under the law, it being generally understood that they transferred to democratic registration to vote for Rolph.

"(5) The publisher of one of the daily newspapers in Stockton told me that in three precincts in the tenderloin in that city, Rolph's democratic, as well as republican, vote was practically unanimous.

"Further evidence might be submitted on this question, but it seems to me that the above is sufficient to indicate that I was not extravagant in my statement that 'In the result the work of the saloon is written large.'"

In eighteen months more the saloon will be gone and such political debauchery will be impossible.

GOVERNOR OSBORNE'S CANDIDACY

Governor Osborne, democratic candidate for United States senator from Wyoming, received the following endorsement of his candidacy from President Wilson:

"August 22, 1918.—The White House, Washington.—My Dear Governor Osborne: Our delightful association here in Washington prompts me to send you a word of sincere congratulation on your nomination by the democrats of Wyoming for the Senate. I am following your fortunes with the greatest interest. Cordially and sincerely yours,
WOODROW WILSON."

Below is a statement of campaign issues by Governor Osborne:

"Underneath all the flag waving of the coming campaign there will stand in direct opposition two warring principles of government—the Wilson ideal and the reactionary ideal. That the reactionary ideal wishes for the moment to pose as in harmony with the Wilson ideal should not be allowed to cloak the wide difference between the two.

"I am in this fight because I believe in the Wilson ideal and because I am convinced that the man who seeks re-election to the senate at your hands this year does not.

"It is necessary to cite only some seven im-

portant measures having direct bearing on the war to show the cleavage between Senator Warren and myself.

"(1) Eight Hour Law.—President Wilson proposed this legislation to avert a great industrial calamity and to assert and furnish a great principle protecting the workingman. Senator Warren voted against the Adamson Eight-Hour Law. I would have voted for it.

"(2) Special War Tax Law, to meet the extraordinary expense of preparedness. President Wilson with that cautious foresight which has characterized his splendid statesmanship, believed that the best way to prevent war was to prepare for war. He therefore asked for special war tax legislation. Senator Warren voted against this important national defense measure. I would have supported it.

"(3) War Revenue Law.—Late in the month of February, 1917, when it was inevitable that this country would be drawn into the war, President Wilson asked Congress to pass a war revenue measure to cover the increased appropriations for the army and navy and the extension for fortifications. Senator Warren voted against this important war measure. I would have supported it.

"(4) Merchant Marine Bill.—This measure was planned to stimulate our ship-building and would have gone a long way toward supplying those "ships, ships, ships," which are the crying need of the present. Senator Warren opposed the administration by opposing the bill. I would have voted for it.

"(5) Government Armor Plate Factory.—This bill was one of the great preparedness measures of the administration. Senator Warren voted against it. It would have upheld the hands of the president.

"(6) Prohibition.—President Wilson asked that the prohibition issue be submitted to the people. Senator Warren voted against that request. Had I been in the Senate, I would have voted for submission for two reasons; first, because I believe that the people have the right to express themselves on so vital an issue; and second, because I believe that submission will and should result in the adoption of prohibition, which I heartily favor.

"(7) The Federal Reserve Act.—This furnished the real foundation of the war program of the president, and without it, this nation would have been incapable of becoming the financial backbone of the allies. Senator Warren voted against the administration by voting against the bill. Had I been your Senator, I would have supported Mr. Wilson.

"Thus we see that on the great issues of finance, preparedness and prohibition, Senator Warren voted against the president at several crucial moments.

"Furthermore, if the full fruits of that victory to which we all look are to be secured, we must have men in the senate who will support President Wilson in making his ideal the basis of the world settlement, for treaties require the approval of two-thirds of the Senate.

"Senator Warren, by his past record and his associations, is opposed to President Wilson. While President Wilson has fought before the world for progressive and ever-widening democracy, Senator Warren has worked constantly for reactionary men and principles.

"If for twenty-five years Senator Warren has represented those very principles against which President Wilson has so splendidly fought, will the people return him to the Senate where he would be in a position to oppose the Wilson ideal in the great settlement which may come within in one or two years, and certainly within the next Senate term?

"When we and our associates in arms win the war (and win it we must), if the Wilson ideal prevails in the settlement, the world will move swiftly into a better and brighter day—a day which will compensate for all those trials through which free men are now passing.

"It is because I, from the bottom of my heart, believe in the Wilson ideal and all that it means to freedom, and because my opponent's whole record shows him opposed to that ideal, that I now come before you, the people of Wyoming, and ask of you, by your votes, add me to the none-too-large list of Senators who can be counted to go All the Way with Wilson.

(Signed) "JOHN E. OSBORNE."

The Kaiser hasn't furnished the press lately with a copy of his menu card, but it is a fairly safe bet that crow is getting to be a rather frequent visitor thereon.