

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Oh, thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved ones and wild wars desolation;
Blest with victory, may heaven rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, When our cause is just,
And this is our motto: "In God is our trust!"
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave!

Nobody knows who's drafted yet.
But what's the use worrying about it?

Keep up the good work on the roads.

Buy a Red Cross button, and help the ladies in their noble work.

The more pin money a woman has the more stuck-up she is.

Nobody gives a rap about your ancestors, it's you they are interested in.

These are days when you are not supposed to wear much more than a smile.

Dr. P. L. Hall is one of Nebraska's best citizens, a patriot, but not one of the wind-jabber order.

Some of those windy United States senators who talk much and work little, should join the I. W. W.

Everyone can give aid to the Red Cross. If you can't give dollars, give cents. Every little helps, you know.

Ice is about the only thing that needs a blanket wrapped around it to keep it comfortable this kind of weather.

The way to keep the weeds out of your garden is never to let them get bigger after they have established their identity.

Sunday was the warmest day of the season, and electric fans were called into requisition by all who could afford them.

The Red Cross booths are not to be kicked down or torn down until the ladies get through with them, and the sooner some smart Alecks find this out the better.

The man who is hoarding food products for exorbitant prices is inviting confiscation. And when it comes he will learn something, though his patriotism will still be at abtitude.

With respect to the writer who tells twelve ways to use stale bread, one is now reminded of the rabbit formula. One must first catch one's stale bread, which is increasingly scarce and shy.

Hollweg recently said: "We must fight to the last gasp." There was nothing new in this for the allies, who have already stamped the contingency indelibly upon the face of the war situation.

People sneer at dress suits because head waiters wear them, just as if that fact could make any difference in real democracy. If a man's only mark of superiority is his garb, let him dress like a drum major.

Ever since the organization of this country men have been drafted for service. Thousands have left lucrative businesses to accept posts under the government and receive little or no pay for their service. Patriotism was what prompted them to make the sacrifice.

SUBMARINE LOSSES.

The submarine problem continues to torture mankind. It remains the most formidable obstacle to the prosecution of the war to an early and successful conclusion. The continuing ravages of the U-boats constitute, too, the grimmest menace to the economic stability of the world and the resumption of normal conditions after peace is concluded.

The belief has been growing, of late weeks, based upon British official reports, that submarine destruction has been so appreciably diminished that it is no longer a menace of the first order. This belief experiences something of a shock when it encounters this statement by the new German chancellor, Michaelis. In his opening speech to the reichstag he said:

"The submarine war is accomplishing all, and more than all, it is expected to. I declare, in fact that the submarine war accomplishes in the destruction of enemy tonnage what it should. It impairs England's economic life and conduct of the war, month by month, in a growing degree so that it will not be possible to oppose the necessity for peace much longer. We can look forward to the further labors of the brave submarine with complete confidence."

This might reasonably be looked upon as an utterance more boastful than true, designed to bolster up the waning confidence of the German people. But it is in a measure corroborated by a Washington dispatch of Saturday saying that submarine warfare is destroying merchantmen at a rate "at least four times the amount of tonnage built." This is based upon the "figures in possession of the government," which show the losses "to be averaging about 1,000,000 tons 'dead weight' monthly, this including weight of cargo."

What is even more startling is a dispatch published with alarmist prominence by the extremely conservative and usually reliable New York Times, from Charles H. Grasty, the treasurer of that newspaper, who is now in London. Mr. Grasty, formerly owner and editor of the Baltimore Sun, is a journalist of the highest standing, and his copyrighted dispatch is marked "Passed by British Censor." In it he says that, following the change at the admiralty, attention has been called to submarine conditions and that "there has been a sharp revision of opinion in the last few hours as a result of a re-examination of facts and figures." Recent assuring statements, it is declared, have not been well grounded. The gist of the dispatch follows:

"What has escaped attention and what is now brought to the fore by the change at the admiralty, is the inescapable fact—which anybody with knowledge of the rule of three can cipher out for himself—that at the present rate of construction and destruction there cannot possibly be, at the end of a few months shipping enough, unless British commitments elsewhere are considerably curtailed, to feed England and France and maintain the present armies in the field, and as for conveying America's armies to Europe and maintaining them, it will simply be out of the question."

"The loss of ships by submarines totals 1,600,000 tons a month, or from two to three times the total of new construction. There is no possibility whatever of construction capacity overtaking the present rate of loss in time to avoid a peace being forced on the allies. What is wanted, therefore, is to largely increase the destruction of U-boats."

"The British government is, and the American government ought to be, eye to eye with the staggering

fact that the allies have got to find a way to curb the submarine or lose the war—a way not yet found and not even approached, except experimentally."

The figures given here—a tonnage loss of 1,600,000 a month—are so huge as to be incredible. The German government would be boasting instead of explaining if those figures were accurate. And Lloyd George would hardly have said in London Saturday: "Regarding the submarine losses, I must disagree with Chancellor Michaelis. Gradually, but surely, we are increasing our protection and diminishing our losses."

It is conceivable that the Grasty dispatch was written, and passed by the censor, for propaganda as well as news purposes. For example, the disgusting and disheartening Denman-Gothals quarrel that is delaying American marine construction needs a charge of dynamite to blow it up. And again there is a growing advocacy in Britain of an attack in force, by the combined navies of England, France and the United States, on the German submarine bases. The dispatch may have had either or both of these things in view, or some other things in addition to the simple promulgation of news.

But when the proper discounts are made, and the best possible face is put on the situation, it remains true as the New York Evening Post remarks, "that the submarine is a serious problem for the allies." The Post goes on to say:

"We do not need to think of 1,600,000 tons a month. The Manchester Guardian recognized half a year ago that if the U-boats sank only half a million tons of British shipping a month the depletion of the mercantile fleet at the end of the year would be grave. That amount of waste would mean the reduction of British shipping available for non-military purposes by more than 50 per cent. We must add to actual losses by submarine and mine the ordinary casualties of the sea. We must take into account the wear and tear on ships arising from continuous strain and lack of time for repair. We must reckon the progressive effect of a depleted shipping on the energy of the allied military campaigns. We must count in the effect of soaring freight rates and resultant food prices. The figures for submarine losses are always open to a new and more menacing interruption, but there is no reason why the figures themselves should be exaggerated wildly."—World-Herald.

WAR MUST HAVE ITS WAY.

We have a lot to learn in this war. The control of the news which people read is only a start in the program of winning the war. It will become necessary to control labor, to appropriate raw materials, to distribute products and to prevent waste. All these things the government will do in the course of time.

In Great Britain all of these things have been done. Over there the will of Parliament is supreme, there is no constitution to hinder the effect of what the lawmakers have the courage to pass. In America the case is different, our constitution will come between the government and its successful, efficient prosecution of the war.

The government of America is not framed for the fighting of a modern war. The states have power which they use differently, and pass widely divergent laws, upon the same subject.

It will become necessary before the war is won to supplant the authority of the federal government in order to secure uniformity. The point is not whether we like it, or whether we wish it or not, the government must establish its control over every phase of industrial life in order to wage war efficiently, and at present, efficient war making is the big idea behind our government and its efforts.

Conditions have made it necessary that there be a limit to our freedom in order that the world may be made safe for democracy, by removing from its surface, the cancerous growth of militarism.

THE BARRIER.

The submarine problem persists, in spite of the clearing up of the Grasty dispatch to the New York Times. The statement therein made, that submarine sinkings are at the rate of 1,600,000 tons a month, was the basis of a sensation in Washington and New York, and elicited many heated denials. It develops now that it was the result of an error in transmission, and that the figures, as written and passed by the British censor, were 600,000 tons a month. But with this correction the rest of the dispatch stands unshaken by the storm that has been provoked, and admissions are made frankly, in London and Washington, that the submarine menace is the greatest of the war, that it seriously endangers allied success, and particularly that it has created a very difficult problem as to how American troops, in large numbers, are to be landed and supported in France.

In a later dispatch to the New York Times Mr. Grasty quotes Admiral Beresford, who with Lord Roberts was one of the earliest prophets of preparedness, as saying:

"The allies are not the least bit aware of how crucial the situation is. We are all dependent upon British, allied, and neutral shipping, and the fact is that the average rate of loss since February has been at the rate of over 7,000,000 tons per year."

"I make out that if all present ship constructive industries—including engines, boilers, plates—in England and all the rest of the allied powers were working full time, not much more than three and a half million tons per annum could be turned out. Now the grave thing is this. In order to be seriously effective the American nation must send 1,000,000 men to France. You allow from three to five tons per man for transport. Where is that tonnage to come from, especially in view of the need of supplying the world with food and necessities. In addition to this there must be maintained a continual stream of vessels for supplying the American army with food, equipment, munitions, supplies, reserves and all the rest."

"Inevitably there will be a shortage of food throughout the world now and after the war, as well as a shortage of cargo vessels to carry what there is. It will require the most acute intellects of men who have proved themselves sound as to organization and preparation to avoid disaster."

The United States is preparing to send and maintain an army of a million men in France. Congress has provided an immense fund of more than \$600,000,000, to construct airplanes and train airmen to operate them, and high hopes are entertained that this arm of the service alone may make it possible to win the war.

But the problem how to get all these men, airships, munitions and supplies to the battle front remains to be solved. The Chicago Tribune says, in a Washington dispatch, that there is high authority for the statement that the United States will not have 200,000 troops in France before September 1, 1918. It quotes the same authority to the effect that when 1,000,000 more tons of British shipping have been sunk England will be forced to abandon the Salonik campaign. It is declared that the 5,000,000 tons of shipping required to sustain an army of a million Americans on the battle front are entirely beyond the present resources of the allies and America. And it has been announced that figures in possession of the government at Washington show that ships are being sunk three or four times as fast as it is possible to construct new ones.

Secretary Baker has explained that the reason southern sites are chosen for militia camps is that the lack of tonnage may require the keeping of the militia armies in this country through the winter.

The situation is in the highest degree exasperating, even after making due allowance for exaggerations. The United States will soon have the arms, the men and the supplies to insure the winning of the war. It sees the Russian armies again melting away in the fires of internal discord and a renewed German offensive. It sees the German armies pounding mightily on the French front, apparently in a desperate attempt to break the French resistance while America and Britain are still figuring on the problem of how to bring this country effectively into the war. And while the embargo weapon is serving a most useful purpose in shutting off supplies that have been reaching Germany in a roundabout way, the harvest season is approaching that for several months, at least, will put Germany beyond the danger of starvation.

There are, however, consolation, and hopeful aspects to the picture. The German government has real internal troubles of its own to reckon with. There are supplies badly needed which no harvests can supply. The people are crying for peace, and as more of the guilt wears off the kaiser's crown their cries will grow more formidable. The harvest is coming on, too, in France and the British Isles, where large crops are anticipated. These, for a short while anyhow, should tend to release shipping for the use of troops and their supplies from the United States. The same resourcefulness and courage that landed Pershing's first army, and that have landed hundreds of thousands of Canadians and Australians in France, should suffice to get American troops there, even if the total shipping tonnage is decreasing at an alarming rate.

But with it all there is no escaping the conclusion that in the submarine there has been turned loose upon the world the greatest danger it has ever faced.—World-Herald.

OUR SOLDIERS' WAGES.

When congress increased the wage of the soldier to \$50 a month it was quite generally understood in the United States that an innovation had been made. It is therefore disappointing to learn that both Canada and Australia have been more liberal. The Canadian soldier receives \$1.10 a day for his service, and the Australian gets \$1.44, while in both countries there is an allowance of about \$20 per month for the support of the dependent families at home.

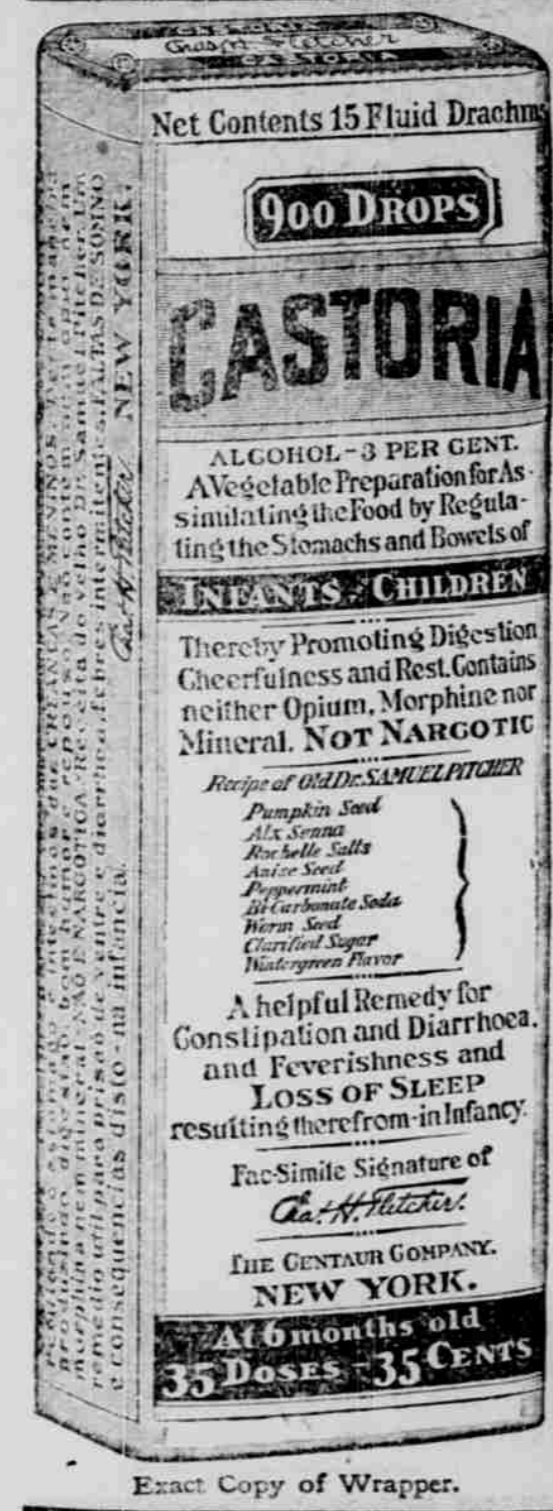
The new pay for the soldier of Uncle Sam is approximately \$1 a day. No provision has thus far been made for dependent families, for under the selective draft system there is an understanding that those with dependent families will not be called.

However there will be men going into the service whose families are dependent upon them. There have been such men accepted as volunteers; and there will be many who will soon to claim exemption on that ground. There will be dependent families to care for when our boys go abroad, and the increased soldier's pay will hardly suffice to prevent it.

Someone moved by a humane impulse has proposed that a fund be raised to care for those mothers and children who may be left by our soldiers in ill-supplied homes. Some of the enormously wealthy men who have been trying to keep their possessions within mobile limits by building universities and libraries might take care of the problem without incurring want, but if they do not, the government ought to make provision for that character of necessary work.

While the campaign for the \$100,000,000 Red Cross fund was in progress there were occasional statements from sources not always official that some of this fund would be devoted to caring for the dependents of soldiers, but it is doubtful if even so liberal a fund can meet this necessary in addition to the other recognized needs that will make heavy drafts upon it.

Stay-at-home Americans are fond of thinking that their army will go forth better equipped and better cared for than any other soldiers at the front. That may be true. It is comforting to believe it. But the boys



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would go out in better spirit if they were assured by the government that those they leave behind will be cared for as fully as are the dependents of soldiers from other democratic countries.—Lincoln Star.

Pancho Villa is still doing work at the same old stand in Mexico.

It is all right for a girl to smoke cigarettes in public—if she is that kind of a girl.

Some people are born lucky, while others are easy victims of lightning-rod and book agents.

President Wilson has ordered eighty-seven German vessels taken over for the United States. Every little helps.

No sooner had the government advised substituting corn for wheat, whenever possible, than the price began to advance.

The steel trust brags about its patriotism, and then turns around and tries to force the government to pay exorbitant prices for steel.

Give a dollar to the Red Cross ladies and get a button. Show your patriotism by helping the ladies prepare for the wounded soldiers.

Whether right or wrong, whether for cause or without cause, whether justified or not, we are now in the war and must fight to a victorious end. Every American must patriotically subscribe to the imperishable sentiment of Stephen Decatur: "My country, may she always be in the right; but right or wrong, my country."

In Nemaha county the Germans are very numerous, and no matter what their feelings may be, the most of them have sense enough to keep their mouths closed on the war issues.

The fellow who persists in standing in the middle of the road—like the old-fashioned pops used to do—must expect somebody to take an occasional shot at him.

It used to be that a bathtub on a farm was worth going miles to see. But in these days of seven-passenger touring cars, standing where horses used to be hitched, bathtubs are as common in the country as cook stoves.

The "yellow lense" doesn't appear to get the automobilist anywhere except into trouble.

Do something for your country. If nothing more, buy a Red Cross button.

It doesn't do any good to aim high while shooting off your mouth.

Don't get into the habit of putting things off until "after the war."

Those Omaha gum-shoe men certainly got their foot in it.

There is always a way for the man with a will.

He's a wise man who knows when to compromise.

Obey the Law. Order your Osgood Lens. Plattsmouth Garage. All sizes.

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