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OUR COUNTRY'S BIRTHDAY

July Fourth will be something more than a kid holiday this year. The heart will have gone out of the old time scene of racket and mischief. Some of us will think back to that fateful scene when this nation was born, when it asserted its right to an equal place in the world family.

The familiar old picture in the history books, of our patriotic forefathers signing the Declaration of Independence, looks like a very stilted and conventioned scene. It is hard to imagine that it thrilled with any human emotion. Yet these men by that act were putting their heads in the hangman's noose.

They were defying the strongest military power of their day, and with but a handful of raw soldiers. It was an audacious proposition. The fortunes of time have made us now the ally of that power. But the American spirit of liberty has so far penetrated Western nations of Europe, that our allies go into battle in the same old faith of democracy that inspired the Revolutionary forefathers.

There was great stuff in the blood of the old patriots of 76. They would rather risk their necks than stand for acts of injustice. That temper has persisted to the present day. It has drawn to our shores millions of immigrants who shared the same feeling of revolt from tyranny, and who are fitting heirs of the patriotic legacy.

Blood will tell. The sons of the forefathers will be patriots too. The sons of men who came to this country to escape tyranny will not weakly bow the knee to the autocrat. If a handful of the fathers dared defy the old country in the days of weakness, the sons will never hesitate to defy kings and empires in these days of our strength.

ECONOMY OF FUEL

Scientific authorities have long been telling us that enormous quantities of fuel are wasted in the production of steam power. One authority states that 35 per cent of the combustion of coal could be saved by installing mechanical stokers that feed the coal evenly to the fire.

The traditions of American life are contrary to much interference with the individual. If a manufacturer was burning 35 per cent more fuel than he needs, we have looked at it that was his own affair exclusively. If he was fool enough to throw away that money, we have said that it was his own business, and no one should interfere.

But now we see what fatal consequences may come from such wastes. Last winter many of our factories had to stop because of lack of coal. Enormous quantities of corn spoiled in store houses, because the railroads were so congested by lack of fuel that the corn could not be transported to the mill.

The time has come when we must stop these wastes. The man who burns up coal needlessly because he has an unsuitable boiler, must be informed that he is depleting the common stock, which is contrary to public policy.

The waste of coal can be seen in all manufacturing towns where great clouds of half consumed fuel are pouring into the air in the form of heavy smoke. It destroys house paint and furnishings, and adds to the cost of living, so that the wasteful coal user injures the community in two ways. These are matters in which the government and the business community will have to co-operate to secure more economical use of our resources. Fuel economy must be studied, and necessary appliances provided so that our limited stock of fuel shall be made to go as far as possible.

THE SERIOUSNESS OF YOUTH

The American Boy is not what he was. Formerly a large part of the students out from school and college spent the summer in jollificiations. Now all the boys want to get to work. The boy who has not been able to find a summer job in as unhappy as he used to be if he could not get a chance to play his daily ball game in the back lots. The same spirit of ambition possesses the girls.

Also these young people look ahead much more than was common a few years ago. They are planning their careers, studying out ways in which they can get a start. The burdens of life have descended prematurely upon their young shoulders.

A ten weeks' vacation used to be considered by many people as necessary to rest the children from the fatigues of school; now the boys and girls take their summer jobs the day after school closes.

Some people regret that the young folks no longer have the light hearted and care free vacations they used to have when they wandered free as the wind. But these are very serious times and will continue so after the war is over. The idle roaming of the old time vacation was often demoralizing. Many young people became irresponsible, they acquiring a habit of idle loafing.

Physically, the boy working on a farm or a garden is better off than if he were loafing around the town growing flat chested and slouchy as he slumped on the curbstone. On the farm his muscles are growing and his lungs and heart expanding.

Indoor work is not so favorable, though where workshops and stores are well ventilated and sanitary, it may not be objectionable. This greater seriousness of youth is a normal and hopeful development. We can not meet the world competition of these days unless we cut out something of our pleasure seeking spirit.

INDEPENDENT INDUSTRIALISM

The war explodes many notions and theories. Formerly our more academic economists were indifferent to the establishment of independent industries in this country. If we could buy a thing cheaper in Europe, that was the place to go for it. They saw no advantage in building up a home industry.

Yet where would we be to-day if it were not for our steel and wool cotton mills, our sheep industry, and scores of others? What would we have done to help win the war for democracy? War to-day is not primarily a matter of fighting men. It is first of all a problem of industrial production, of having machinery and tools and work shops all ready to be devoted to purposes of defense when needed.

Fortunately for us, the protective theory did dominate this country ever since the Civil War, and up to a few years ago. We had great industries that could easily be turned to war work. Our woolen mills began to get out clothing for the soldiers, our steel mills to provide ordnance, and so on all along the line. It was the one thing that made us factor in the war at the start. We need to maintain that economic independence in future years. It is a great safeguard.

Had the Free Trade theory prevailed, we would have been as helpless as Russia to defend ourselves. We could have raised an army. But we could not have equipped it, as our manufacturing industries would never have attended great size.

The lesson for the future is obvious. We need every manufacturing industry that we have to-day, and some that we don't possess. They must be given a reasonable protection that will enable them to complete with low cost labor in Europe. In no other way can we secure the mechanical basis on which an army can be built in case of war.

A WAR FOR CIVILIZATION

This war differs from our previous wars not merely in size. It also differs in that we are opposing an attempt to enthrone dishonor and force. In such a struggle as the American Civil war, both sides were sincerely fighting for law and justice as they honestly saw it.

In the present war, the leaders of the German people have deliberately violated treaties and turn up agreements. They have denied all standards of honor and decency. They make a treaty with the Russians one day, and tell the Russians that they favor a peace with no annexations and no indemnities. Then they go in and seize vast areas of Russian territory. They utterly disregard all promises, and eat their own words the next day.

About when will it be possible to make peace with a people that will do that? What would a treaty be worth that we should make with them? How long would they keep any agreement that they might make? As long as we kept an army in the field sufficient to enforce that treaty, and not one day longer.

If that principle is going to rule, all the progress of 30 centuries has been for nothing. Ever since the dawn of history, men have been trying to build up standards of law and justice. They have built their civilization on the principle that men must keep agreements. If they won't do that, then civilization is rotten, all our progress is a lie, and our law is a fake.

If the Germans win this war, we revert back to where the world was 1000 years before Christ. Even then there were some standards of honor. But if the Germans win, the world will be ruled by the nation having the biggest army. The Pacifist is one who wants to let force and guns run this world.

The fighter of today is the man who wants the world ruled by law

THE SMALL BOY AND JULY FOURTH

It was not many years ago that millions of people used to flee from towns for the July Fourth holiday. They had no stomach for a day when the Small Boy's offensive was comparable in noise to the battles on the western front. Conservative citizens put all their old carts under cover and removed their gates to places of safety. The firemen endured an anxious night. Well they might, as millions of property were always burned up in this manifestation of national joy.

Tolerant people felt that boys must be boys. They would somewhat modify that conviction however when the boys burned up their wagons or sheds. But this year they will have little cause to complain. The American people believe good powder should be put where it will do the most good.

ACQUIRING CAPITAL

Some one tells the story of a negro who had acquired $300 all at once from sale of farm products. He never before had so much money. He immediately hitched up his ancient steed, and hied himself to the nearest town. All his life he had wanted a phonograph. He bought one that was to cost $100.

Then learning that he could make a saving in the price by buying two, he put up another $50, and loaded the two instruments into his cart and went home rejoicing.

The profits of the war are most unequally distributed. A great many wealthy people are becoming inordinately rich. Many people of moderate means are wealthy now. Many men that never before had a dollar ahead are drawing their $30 to $50 a week. And a great many others aren't getting a cent more than they used to. They have to meet the high prices by a reduction in standard of living.

The people who unexpectedly find themselves in possession of sums of money to which they are not accustomed, should remember that the harvest is likely to be short. We shall come down to hard pan after the war. And as the war goes on, the government will get after profiteering, and reduce production to a more essential basis.

The man who finds himself in possession of an unexpected roll of money will do well to put it right where he can get it. Let him not spend it the way our negro did. It is the best chance he ever had in his life to get a reserve ahead and begin to acquire some property. Let him reflect that no man ever counts for much who depends every week upon his pay envelope for that week. Capital has built the entire fabric of modern life. The man who doesn't help build it by contributing something to the accumulation of capital, is not of much use to the community.

PERSISTENCE ON THE FARM

It takes a certain quality of dogged persistence to win success in the garden and on the farm. Raising crops is one long battle against the forces of nature. The man who is upset and disheartened by setbacks does not come through.

A farmer was speaking the other day of the reason why so many farmers lack success, and also why so many gardens of last year were partial failures. He illustrated his point by telling about two gardeners who were cultivating a large tract on some low ground near his place. It was exposed to frost, and one cool night after the plants had some start, the tract was badly nipped. One of the gardeners spent much time bewailing his hard luck, and clinging to the hope that the plants would yet revive and sprout up again.

The other was out the day after, and within two days he had planted new lines of seed all through the frost bitten rows. There was a chance that the stricken plants would come back, but he would not run the risk that they would not. Now his garden is coming along well, though a bit late, while the other gardener is still struggling with a half ruined crop

Successful farmers have had to reckon on the fact that climate is very uncertain, that insect pests can not be estimated in advance, and that unexpected things happen They must be ready to accept a loss cheerfully and repair it as best they may

A man of this temperament stands a fair chance to make money in farming, because there are so many men who can not take temporary reverses in this spirit. A man of hopeful and persistent temperament comes out at the end of the season with a fair product in spite of mischances If the season has been unfavorable he finds prices high, so that he takes in as much money as if conditions had been easy, and everyone had raised a big crop

THE TASTE OF MEAT

The butcher in a communicative mood got to talking the other day. "It's a shame these prices I have to ask you" he said apologetically. "But we have to pay the same advances. There are plenty of rich people that will pay it too. They don't consider what it costs at all."

"Well I have to have it, though I can't afford it" remarked a woman who it appeared was the wife of a mechanic. "My husband works hard and he must have his meat. He needs it three times a day".

How many people are there who feel that way? No wonder they demand great advance in pay, resulting in increases in cost of living all along the line.

The demand for so much meat is adnormal and is not supported by any authorities on nutrition. It is merely a love for the flavor. There is a certain strong tang in meat that some people can't seem to give up. It is not that they feel physically the lack of sustenance if they don't have it. It is that they miss the pungent taste that goes with animal flesh.

If some way can be found by which meat eaters can get that flavor without consuming flesh to an almost gluttonous extent, they would be better off physically, and their pocket books would be better filled. Try them on good soups. Let the meat eater have a soup with two of his meals a day, made largely from bones to give him the flavor which he demands so ravenously. In a little while he would be likely to be just as well pleased with it.

There is such a thing as intemperance in eating of meat. Some people devour it with a relish suggestive of a wild animal. It is rich and hearty food and taken in large quantities must wear out the human organs. Man was not created to be so largely a carnivorous creature.

There is some discussion as to the names to be chosen for the 1000 new ships Uncle Sam is to build. Mighty few will be called for the politicians if the people have any say about it.

The best way to get a good rousing salute from the small boy element July Fourth, is to appeal to the authorities to stop noise in front of your house.

Some of the people who think the college students are mere soft snapners and dudes, are sitting on the porches while the college boys march by to the front

German bread ration reduced. Germans may have to live on sawdust, but they will do it if necessary to avoid getting the rights of free government.

The fellow who is so patrotic as to blow out his eyes celebrating an old American victory July Fourth, would better save them to help win a new victory in the trenches.

Among the people who ridicule the newspapers, you won't find the boy in the trenches whose freinds have just sent him a copy of The Sentinel.

Some of these girls that carry knitting bags so conspicuously have to resort to them frequently to freshen up their complexions.

Immense Stores Needed to Feed Men On Transport

An account of how soldiers are fed at sea is given in the daily newspaper published on a transport.

"Outside of providing 210,000 meals at sea, the mess officer of the ship has very little to do. Very little.

"He is only called upon to provide, by the regulations, 180 different varieties of food. That's all. Ever try to order 180 different things to eat? Yet this is the authentic list.

"The food needed to feed several thousand men at sea ranges beyond the glutton's dreams. You get the answer in the ship down below the water line, where 7,290 loaves of bread have been baked in one day, and where you stumble over every variety, from 60,000 pounds of beef to 132,000 eggs, or a compartment of brick ice cream in a 10-degree above-zero vault.

"And if this doesn't suit, you can bump along into 49,324 pounds of potatoes, 7,100 pounds of ham and bacon, 7,800 pounds of butter, 9,200 pounds of sugar, and 61,500 pounds of flour.

"If you can't get a meal out of this you can still fall back on 4,600 pounds of sausage, 3,400 pounds of sauerkraut, 26,000 pounds of apples, 19,800 pounds of oranges, and 4,200 pounds of onions. And this leaves out 1,600 pounds of jam and 9,400 pounds of lima and navy beans."

Also it is amazing how the men will hoe and weed to produce better looking vegetables than their neighbors.

When you go out to get the food substitutes that the government asks us to use, you have to go mighty quick to get them before the sellers put the price up above the original article.

The most earnest competitors for the running record this season are the Austrian army.

The Austrians are of course not disappointed in the failure of their offensive, as they merely crossed the river to hear the Italians pla ythe hurdy gurdies.

The Congressional candidates are beginning to manifest deep interest in our wives and children.

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