

The Watchman and Southron.

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PROPAGANDA IN THE SCHOOLS.

Public schools and higher institutions of learning gladly gave time and effort to spreading essential American propaganda during the war.

It was all necessary and good for the time being. Much effective work was accomplished, and many families were reached that otherwise might not have been brought into the main stream of co-operation for victory.

This need not mean that education will crawl into a shell and proceed without any practical relation to life. That would be to lose much of the good that has come to us out of the war.

What it does mean is that all the work shall be educational, that interests which can be handled by outside agencies shall not intrude on the school curriculum.

The step is a wise one. Worthy propaganda will not be denied a hearing in any community, and its reception will be the more favorable in one where the educational process is not interrupted constantly by outside appeals.

IRELAND MUST WAIT A BIT.

Former President Taft well stated the American attitude toward Ireland when he said, in a New York speech, in answer to a question whether the Peace Conference should not grant Ireland self-determination along with Poland.

"No! Ireland is not in the sphere of war. We have sympathy aplenty for Ireland's past sufferings, but the question of what government she shall have is a question for future settlement. I don't think it is helpful to the president or to the Peace Conference to try to introduce at Paris matters of internal and domestic concern.

"We must do one thing at a time. The job now is to bring peace to the nations which were at war with Germany and Austria in the sphere in which the war took place."

JUSTICE FOR GERMANY.

The Peace Conference seems to be making rapid progress lately in determining the Allies' policy toward Germany, and that policy as announced is one in which the United States will take profound satisfaction.

The German army to be permanently reduced to 100,000 men, raised by volunteer enlistment and serving for a long period of years, in order to prevent the training of many men in short-term periods of service.

All heavy artillery to be surrendered or destroyed, and no more to be built. No poison gas to be accumulated in any dangerous amount.

German munition plants to be supervised by the Allies.

Germany to lose the iron ore deposits of Lorraine and the coal of the Saar valley.

German territory to be bounded by the Rhine on the west and the Vistula on the east, reducing Germany from 212,000 square miles and 70,000,000 people to 172,000 square miles and 67,000,000 people, even if she absorbs German Austria.

It will indeed be a monumental punishment. But however drastic, it will not be so much as Germany deserves, because it will not come anywhere near making amends to the nations she has wronged.

THE NEW PRICE LEVEL.

Many people who keep hoping that prices will drop to somewhere near their pre-war level base this hope on the fact that our currency system at present is highly inflated.

Now, our currency is certainly inflated, admits Prof. Irving Fisher of Yale. But he does not agree that there is going to be any let-up. The government tried to force a deflation after the Civil War, he recalls, by reducing the quantity of greenbacks in circulation; depression ensued immediately, and congress had to forbid any further reduction.

"Against any considerable reduction in bank credit," he says, "we shall find the whole business community in arms." And without such a reduction there can be no general fall in prices.

There is a world-wide cause, too, operating to maintain and even to continue swelling the general volume of credit. Deposit banking, he points out, has increased greatly during the war, in response to government demands in all the warring countries, and it will increase vastly hereafter.

Nobody then need talk hopefully of the prices of 1913 and 1914. It is futile to try to bring them back. Buyers have been trying it, with insignificant results.

There is a new high price level, maintains this expert, and it will prove to be a stubborn reality. The clever business man, he says, is not the one who waits to buy raw materials or manufactured articles he needs, but the one who accepts the new price facts and acts accordingly.

SANE CANNING.

Last year women were urged to can their surplus vegetables and fruits from the war gardens. A good many extra cans of vegetables and jars of fruit and jams were saved up for the coming winter in that way.

The story is told of one woman who made a canning record but failed utterly to get the point of the whole movement. Her husband cultivated an unusually fine back yard vegetable garden. All through the summer there were crops of fresh vegetables, from the tender, early peas to the later maturing tomatoes and a few hills of lima beans that were picked just before the first frost.

When winter came, of course, that family was simply supplied with yet

more canned goods, this time from mother's shelves instead of the grocer's. Of course, too, everything was good, although not so good as it would have been freshly gathered from the garden, promptly cooked and served in the summer months when the family craved just such food.

Cotton Banks Necessary

Business Men Giving Thought to System of Finance for Cotton Crop.

Columbia, March 19.—Governor W. P. G. Harding of the Federal Reserve Board, Hon. Robert F. Maddox, of Atlanta, president of the American Bankers' Association and other speakers of national reputation will probably deliver addresses at the big State-wide cotton rally to be held in Craven Hall, this city, on April 3 beginning at noon.

Governor Harding is expected to speak on the exporting and marketing of cotton. Mr. Maddox's address will be on banking, financing and stabilizing the price of cotton.

It was stated at the office of the South Carolina Cotton Association in this city today that definite steps are now being taken in every section of the cotton belt looking to the formation of plans that will result in a banking system for properly financing and stabilizing the price of cotton, a corporation for the exporting and marketing of cotton along the lines suggested by Governor Harding.

Definite plans are also being formed, it was said, for the organization of a Southern Cotton Association, the membership to be composed of farmers, bankers, merchants and business men. The idea is to have this association represent practically all of the business interests of the South, absolutely controlled by the cotton interests.

The following statement was given out today by the South Carolina Cotton Association:

"As an illustration of the propaganda now being sent out by the cotton bears, the following is cited: 'The movement for reduction in acreage in this section of the country may have some effect but there is no such movement on hand in the West where they have had good seasons and expect to plant a full crop.'"

"Another big cotton firm sends out the following: 'We are glad to note that you have been successful in your campaign to bring about a general reduction in acreage, but as written before, we are sorry to see it because we do not think it will be necessary, and if we are right in our views of the market, we believe that the prices prevailing around planting time will induce farmers to put a much larger acreage in cotton than originally contemplated.'"

"As an illustration of information sent by the New York firm the following was sent a leading business man and planter in South Carolina: 'An opinion has been given by the attorney for the Bureau of Markets of the United States government that all transactions in 'old style' contracts (those trades made prior to March 4) must be liquidated before May 1, 1919. All trades on hand after that date must be in 'new style' contracts. We are ordered to report to the cotton future attorney all 'old style' contracts liquidated by our customers. We must therefore request that you close out your 'old style' contracts in accordance with the above ruling.'"

"This is absolutely and positively contrary to the rulings of Mr. Brand of the department of markets. As a result of such incorrect information being sent out a vast amount of cotton was closed out. If such had not been the case, the market would have shown a remarkable high level before it would have been possible for the bears to have stopped the advance."

It appears that some people in the State are making a fight on the cotton association. The following letter has been received from one man: 'I have asked several men to pledge themselves to cut the acreage and showed the letter, they say they won't pay anything for some big man to live without work and smoke his cigars on.'"

The South Carolina Cotton Association has 1,500 men who are giving untiringly and unselfishly of their work and services without remuneration. Their only compensation is their earnest desire to gain commercial freedom for the South and benefit our State and its citizenship. The central committee members have been overtaxed and overworked. They are paying their own expenses and gladly rendering every effort possible to push the work to a successful termination. In addition they have contributed of their own means to assist in the financial support, which is, of course, absolutely necessary.

Copenhagen, March 18.—The Estonian forces are again masters of the situation on the Pskov front, according to an official statement issued by the Estonian army headquarters.

Copenhagen, March 20.—Bolshevik troops under pressure of Polish forces will be compelled to retire and evacuate Pinsk, according to a Warsaw dispatch.

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County Health Survey.

Table listing health survey data for various counties and individuals, including names like J. H. Myers, Sumter township, and various medical professionals.

Cotton Market

Table showing cotton market prices for LOCAL, NEW YORK COTTON MARKET, and other regions, including columns for May, July, and October prices.

Great Cost of War Described by Baker

One Hundred and Ninety-seven Billion Dollars Reckoned on Money Basis Alone

San Francisco, March 18.—The cost of the war in money alone was \$197,000,000,000, or \$11,000,000,000 more than the total property value of all North America, Secretary of War Baker told a gathering at the Commercial Club here today.

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