

**The Watchman and Southern.**

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 The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southern in 1866. The Watchman and Southern now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

**THE FIUME SOLUTION.**

The solution of the Fiume controversy, as roughly indicated in recent dispatches, is disappointing to those who stood for the unyielding application of the principles of self-determination and free access to the sea. Italy so obviously had gained all she required for her safety and interest, and the Jugo-Slavs so obviously needed and deserved an outlet to the Adriatic, that there was little sympathy in America for the Italian claims. The news that Fiume is to go to Italy, after all, comes with a sort of disillusionment.

It is the old story. Abstract principle does not triumph. There is compromise, for the sake of getting Italy back to Paris to wind up the war in due form and leave no spit in the allied ranks.

It may not be so bad, though, as it looks at first glance. Fiume is to be administered by Italy as a mandatory under the League of Nations for four years, after which it is to come definitely under Italian sovereignty. Thus Italy gets, technically what she made her big fight for. And thus, it is to be feared, the Jugoslavs will be bitterly disappointed. But the Italian victory is a rather empty one. The Jugoslavs are to have their "window on the sea" just the same, a window without sentimental attachment, but with full practical value. During these preparatory years until 1923, a new port is to be built for them a few miles lower down on the Adriatic coast. It will take care of their commerce. And Italy will not get anywhere near so much of the Dalmatian coast as she expected—it will remain in the hands of the Slavs.

Thus, if the arrangement is carried out in good faith, the principles at stake will be saved from such gross violation as would have made a dangerous precedent, and the two countries directly concerned may be enabled to get along together without fighting, if not in neighborly friendship. It is probably as good a settlement, all things considered, as could be expected.

**PEACE—THEN WHAT?**

The event so long awaited by the world has actually taken place. The nation that made itself the enemy of civilization has been handed the treaty of peace. Within a month the German signatures undoubtedly will be affixed. And then what? Why—Peace is here!

Within the bounds of the civilized world there can be neither nation so great nor household so small that it is not in some way affected.

With the signing of this great document, the whole normal business of the world can go forward at last. Industry need no longer be arranged with reference to the depletion of its ranks by all its able-bodied men or the subversion of its products to war purposes. Commerce once more will sweep the sea. Women no longer need go about with hearts full of anguish.

For years nations have worked, fought, prayed! And now that peace is here, the intense excitement of conflict over, are we ready, individually, industrially and nationally to go forward? To go forward with a new energy, a new economy and a new enthusiasm? The test of our worth and our patriotism lies in the answer to these questions.

**UNCLE SAM, THRIFT PROMOTER.**

No nation can be prosperous if its people spend no money. No nation can be prosperous if its people save no money. In the attempt to make this, from the highest to the lowest, a prosperous nation, Uncle Sam is entering upon a regular thrift campaign to help his people understand the business of wise spending and careful saving.

A savings division has been organized in the United States Treasury, to assume the leadership in this campaign. Economists, bankers, business men, educators and economy specialists in household and other fields, all will co-operate in service in this division.  
 A series of pamphlets dealing with spending and saving is to be published,

and can be had for the asking. It is desired that the American people spend freely, but think before they spend in order that they may get full values; that present needs and desires be weighed carefully against future needs and desires so that each may take its proper place and have its proper provision.

Everybody wants to be prosperous. Everybody would rather have money in the bank than not. With Uncle Sam blazing the trail, the greenest pioneer in home finance need not doubt that if he follows faithfully he will become one of the prosperous ones.

Speaking of mandatory government, wouldn't it be an appropriate thing if the Russian Bolsheviks were given a mandate to rule Turkey? Or vice versa?

Paris is irresistible. Even an angry Italian Peace delegation can't stay away from it.

**THE AIR FIRE CONTROL.**

Army airplanes will inaugurate the forest fire patrol service June 19 with the opening of two routes starting from Marshfield, California.

Of all the services to be performed by airplanes this would seem to be one of the most valuable. It is catching the fire early which alone can prevent the terrible loss of property and often life which accompanies a great forest conflagration.

Nowhere else does fire do such irreparable harm. "For only God can make a tree" and it takes Him centuries to make a forest of fine old timber.

It is especially suitable for the fire patrol to start in California, for that is the home of the Redwoods, and what could compensate for the destruction of those forests which have not their match in all the earth?

**JAZZ AND BOOZE.**

The relation of alcohol to music may not have been fully appreciated. There may be a subtle connection between booze and jazz. At any rate, that is the sober opinion of Jerome Kern, the popular American composer.

Mr. Kern attributes the present craze for jazz shows and jazz music in general to abnormal hilarity superinduced by alcohol.

"Take the average out-of-town visitor," he says. "He has had a cocktail or two, and perhaps wine with his dinner. He is 'feeling good,' and the most feeble attempts at humor and the most discordant jazz cause him to applaud for all he is worth. Do you suppose theatre-goers who are absolutely sober will applaud jazz bands after July 1? Of course I may be mistaken, but I predict that the jazz craze will vanish with booze."

Thus prohibition, he argues, will improve the music and the musical shows. He says he has demonstrated the truth of his philosophy in a show now running on Broadway. He cut out all the jazz, scored the songs for chamber music, omitted the drums and tried to make his production quieter and more artistic all the way through. The critics told him he would fail without the usual noise, but the piece is drawing capacity audiences right along. And Mr. Kern says those audiences are sober.

The theory seems to imply that all the jazz music in dry communities is more foolish imitation of New York. And that is quite possible.

Anyway, if prohibition will really eliminate jazz, several millions of people who have no settled convictions on the liquor problem, but whose ears and nerves are sensitive, will now rejoice at the approach of July 1.

**CONCERNING BROKEN POINTS.**

The Germans insist that the peace treaty, as worked out at Paris, fails to follow President Wilson's "fourteen points," and so breaks faith with Germany, because those points formed the basis of the understanding by which Germany agreed to lay down her arms.

It is not necessary, nor wise, to ignore the accusation, or answer it with a word of contempt. The issue raised is one of fact, and should be handled by arguments based on fact.

The New York World, after a careful analysis of the treaty with relation to the fourteen points, declares that the German protest "is without substantial basis except in one specific instance." The points have all been adhered to throughout the treaty, so far as they apply to Germany, says The World, except the last one. This is the point which provides for a general Association or League of Nations, "for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small nations alike."

The League of Nations has been formed, as intended, but the Peace Conference has failed to make the

specific connection between the League and Germany. Though Germany is obliged to recognize the League, she is not given membership in it, nor is there any invitation for her to join, nor express provision for admitting her.

Whether this omission is intrinsically serious is a debatable question. It may be argued that there is no occasion for a specific arrangement for admitting Germany to the League, because she can come in according to the general method provided, by making application and receiving an approving vote of two-thirds of the members. But Germany clearly expected something more than this.

The fact that Germany wants or expects a thing is, in itself, of little importance. But the Allies cannot afford to do anything that can be interpreted as dishonorable. Neither can they afford to be short-sighted. It is likely, as the World suggests, that the Allies would be safer with Germany in the League than with Germany outside of it.

Germany should not be admitted, of course, until she has satisfied her obligations to the world. But Germany may at least have a right to know that she is not to be permanently barred from the League and on what conditions she can make herself eligible to membership.

**FEEDING THE WORLD.**

"Feeding the world" is usually spoken of as if it were a tremendous philanthropy in which the nation has been engaged as an unpleasant but necessary part of its war burden. Many people really seem to imagine that tens of thousands of tons of food sent to hungry Europeans are being given away.

Many others, who know that every pound of it is being paid for at full value, nevertheless resent it because of the indirect effect on their own pocketbooks. They point out that it is these enormous shipments of food to Europe that make the cost of living so high here at home.

As a matter of fact, there is nothing really artificial or abnormal about this movement of food to Europe except the unusual quantity of it. Foodstuffs, like other commodities, naturally move toward the place where there is a demand for them. The stronger the demand, the greater the volume. This is always true in a free, open market. And as long as America has more food than Europe, and Europe is willing to pay whatever is necessary to get it, there could be no way of preventing that food from going abroad except an arbitrary interference with the supply-and-demand law, that is, a national embargo on the exportation of food. And such an embargo now would be foolish as well as cruel, because we have far more than we could possibly eat ourselves.

It is true that the United States government made special arrangements for distributing the exported foodstuffs. But that does not mean that the government is deliberately in behalf of the nation, taking and distributing food that would otherwise be left here at home to flood the American market and lower prices. It means merely that the government is putting a little extra order and system into a business that would in all probability go on in just as great a volume if left in private hands and regulated solely by the economic laws. Indeed, it is quite possible that if the demand were allowed full sway without government control, it would make prices still higher, the world over.

Not only is there no real philanthropy in this export trade, but there is more actual benefit in it than most people realize. Those high prices paid abroad mean prosperity for American producers, who are the most numerous class in this country, and also prosperity for millions of other Americans engaged directly or indirectly in the food trade. Prosperity never belongs solely to one class. Those who make money spend it, and so help others to make money.

Clarence Mackay of New York just sold his Guernsey cow Nivoleto II for \$6,500. The cow is six years old, and during the last four years has given 16,016 pounds of milk and 748 pounds of butter, which at present prices means a pretty good rate of interest on the investment.

None of the nations concerned are satisfied with the peace treaty. And with so many conflicting interests to reconcile, it would be a miracle if they were.

When congress assemblies will it start again just where it left off, or will it get down to work?

Really, the most surprising thing about the German reception of the peace terms was that the Germans were surprised.

Germany and Mexico are put in the same class by the peace treaty. Neither of them is regarded as suf-

ficiently civilized at present to be invited into the League of Nations.

By the way, N. C. when referring to a seaplane means Navy-Curtiss, not North Carolina.

The Germans complain that in the peace treaty Wilson's 14 points are invisible. Well, those are mighty fine points.

**EATING COCKTAILS.**

New Yorkers of alcoholic propensities are rejoicing over the announcement of a solace for the approaching dry regime. It is called a cocktail, but it is not drunk—it is eaten.

Bibulous authorities are hopeful that it will be permitted when the federal prohibition law goes into effect, and likewise when the federal dry amendment becomes operative next year. The amendment prohibits only "intoxicating liquors." It is considered very doubtful that any court would stretch the term "liquor" to include an "appetizer" which is served in the form of a "small, muddied-green patty," and eaten with a fork.

It never seems to have occurred to congress, or to anybody else for that matter, that it was possible to become intoxicated on food. The substance in question is admitted to have alcohol in it. Its discoverer is a chemist. The presumption is that it is a compound somewhat similar in composition to the "solidified alcohol" now sold so generally as a fuel for al-

cohol stoves, though somewhat better flavored and less disastrous to the internal economy.

So far it sounds like a joke. But it may prove to be much more than a joke. There may be need of a whole new set of laws relating to edible intoxicants, before this prohibition business is finished.

**THE GERMAN AWAKENING.**

The present furor of grief, bitterness and recrimination in Germany has one result, at least, which the allied nations can view with relief and satisfaction. It really seems to be dawning on the German people at last that they lost the war.

Heretofore there has been hardly a sign that the general mass of Germans realized their defeat. Their army never admitted that it was beaten. The soldiers were welcomed home as conquerors, and willingly slunk into that role. The leaders, of course, knew the real situation. But the nation as a whole has either believed or pretended that Germany stopped fighting of her own free will. So far as German mentality could be fathomed, the war was regarded as a draw, in which Germany had, if anything, a shade the better of the argument. The armistice was "negotiated"—a business arrangement by which Germany generously agreed to undergo certain temporary hardships, without any real loss of honor or prestige or any permanent disadvantage.

The treaty that is being crammed down Germany's throat naturally

brings a rude awakening. After the first outbursts of rage, even the stupidest German cannot help concluding that the allies would not dare propose terms of such severity if they did not have Germany absolutely in their power.

There is an evident disposition to argue that this power has been gained by a trick—that Germany was betrayed into disarmament by her trusting reliance on the "Fourteen Points," which the allies are now accused of disregarding. But this line of reasoning will not long satisfy inquiring minds.

Sooner or later the conclusion must dawn on those Germans that they had to quit fighting and now have to accept whatever fate the allies impose, simply because they were everlastingly licked. That dawn is breaking now.

It will do Germany good, too. For it may bring humility and repentance, and only thus can there be any hope for the German national soul.

Melbourne, April 2.—The dozen warships lately given to Australia by the British government as a mark of appreciation of Australia's naval efforts during the war will reach the commonwealth probably in June. The gift consists of six destroyers and six submarines. The flotilla leader is named the Anzac. The acting minister for the navy, Mr. Poynton, says one of the problems facing the government is how to man the Australian navy with Australians.

Berlin, Sunday, May 18.—President Ebert, in addressing a demonstration here today, said that Germany would "never sign the peace terms."

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