AMERICAN SENTINEL

WESTMINSTER MARYLAND

The Republican Paper of Carroll County

GUY N. FRINGER, Manager

Published every Friday Afternoon
By the American Sentinel Co.
of Westminster, Maryland

OFFICE
MAIN AND LIBERTY STREETS
Entered at the Postoffice at Westminster, Md., as Second-class matter

ENTERING CIVIL SERVICE

The unsettlement of the war and scarcity of labor is opening many opportunities to young people in the various services of the state and nation, and in clerical work in municipal and county offices. Many of these positions are attractive, with easy hours and fair pay. But young people before seeking them need to assure themselves that political considerations do not govern appointment.

Unfortunately these services do not usually offer much incentive to the ambitious. Frequently there is no way of recognizing exceptional ability. The indolent worker may get just the same pay as the earnest one, the salary being inflexible and fixed by law or ordinance or department appropriation.

It often happens in some department of public work that an ambitious subordinate will acquire a complete familiarity with the work, but never be able to draw more than an ordinary clerk's pay. Meanwhile the head of the office may be some politician who looks after the duties in a merely nominal way, the underpaid assistant taking the real responsibility.

The federal government seems to be feeling the shortage of labor, and some of its offers for help sound attractive. Under ordinary conditions young people can do better around home than to enter government employ. But in services connected with war work those who offer their labor perform a patriotic duty, and under present conditions will get well paid and have a useful experience.

Under conditions now existing, all public services should cut out politics from the matter of employment. Promotion should depend upon merit, and those who deserve it ought to find the way open regardless of personal pull. When these conditions prevail, public services will become more efficient and public work less costly.

WINNING THE WAR

One of the most hopeful propositions for beating the submarine is the Depth Bomb. The success of this weapon arises from the fact that you can't compress water. If you set off an explosive under water, the gas liberated has got to find its way somewhere. Manifestly great quantities of gas and water are thrown into very powerful motion, sufficient to crush the shell of a submarine if it is in the way.

Four cubic feet of trinitrotoluel exploded will produce 40,000 cubic feet of gas. It it is very easy to see what will become of a submarine if it happens to be within the range of all this enormous volume of expansion. Five hundred pounds of this explosive, it is promised, will utterly destroy any submarine within 125 feet of the discharge.

This makes a submarine a fairly easy mark if it can be located and the bomb discharged in the right place, before the underwater boat gets away. The bombs are used mostly by hydro-aerplanes and destroyers. The former would seem to be the most effective method. The destroyer is fast, but has to set its course and arrive on the spot where the sub was seen, and by the time it gets there the U boat may be at a safe distance.

The water plane is more flexible than the swiftest destroyer, and it can quickly shape its course to reach the submarine that has shown its telltale periscope.

The difficulty is of course that many times the submarine discharges its torpedo without being seen. Nothing is known until the wake of the torpedo is seen running along the water. But the submarines can frequently be detected from an airplane when they are not visible from the surface of the water. A big flock of these planes armed with these depth bombs could soon make submarining a very risky business.

NO TIME FOR NERVES

A report from a leading English hospital says that there has been a marked decline in nervous troubles among the English women since the war began. One might think that all this anxiety and sorrow would augment such ailments. But it works just the other way. The women are more than busy, and those who are nervous don't have any time to think of their bad feelings.

Modern life under pre-war conditions gave many women a great deal of leisure. With servants to cook and bake and sweep, they had ample time for reflection. A bad feeling of any kind could be scrutinized and analyzed, taken to physicians and talked about with friends. But the more you fuss over a trouble arising from overstrained nerves, the worse it gets. Physicians and medicines are helpless.

People who perform manual labor are not much subject to such affections. They come from three sources, too much mental work and worry, too much social and other dissipation, and too much thinking about oneself.

These conditions for many people were much relieved by the busy lives that former people of leisure have led in war time. The woman who has consented for the country's good to enter a munition factory has no longer time to consider whether she is feeling as well as she did the day before, or minutely to analyze and compare the sensations following the use of different medicines.

It will be much the same in this country. The people who were living dull lives at home without regular tasks, and were looking for nervous trouble, always found it. If they could be persuaded to take up some regular tasks, whether doing their own housework, or entering some form of war activity, there is quite a chance that the ailments that go with a purposeless life would disappear.

DEFECTIVE ORGANIZATION

Earlier in the war it seemed a virtue to cut out criticism of the administration. Elements not sympathetic with the party in power hesitated to say anything that could embarrass the government in war time. The consequence has been that war proparations have suffered from a complacent feeling that all was going as well as it could.

The revelations before the military affairs committee show deplorable holes. The cruel suffering of many of the soldiers without winter clothing, the rapid spread of pneumonia, the delays in producing heavy artillery, machine guns, and rifles, these are conditions that have greatly disappointed the American people.

Of course the administration faced a very hard proposition. War preparation should have begun before war was declared. The administration must take a large share of the blame for this lack of foresight. While preparation was delayed by the slow growth of public sentiment, it ramains true that since war was declared the work has been greatly delayed by red tape and bickerings and lack of system in the bureaus.

To attempt to make political capital out of these defects will be folly. The American people do not care a hang in this emergency what party runs the war, so long as the war machine operates smoothly and fast.

But they do demand that the administration utterly dissagard political considerations, that it take the best business advice as to how red tape can be cut, and how the bureaus can be organized on a strict business basis. It is the duty of Congress to pass some constructive measure co-ordinating authority, and centralizing responsibility. More action, less talk.

HONEST TAX RETURNS

The man who receives a straight salary and knows just what his income is, will not usually falsify it. Those who are engaged in manufacture, farming, trade, etc., face a more difficult problem. It will be the tendency of some to place low estimates on value stock in trade, since that will reduce business profits.

The only wise way is to estimate one's own business on the same basis as he would make an impartial appraisal of another person's property. The satisfaction one gets from the sense of dealing fairly with his neighbors and the government, should be worth all the tax amounts to.

RAILROAD OPERATION

Opinions differ very widely on the extent to which the government should go in its experiment of railroad control. There are certain general principles of business success that all people or sound sense will want to see recognized.

It will be a big question to decide, how far the government should interfere with the organization and executive forces of a railroad corporation. If on some roads it appears that good results are not being attained, if freight is not moving as it should, it is to be expected that the government will insist on changes.

The pepople will wish to have the element of politics entirely cut out. They will not want any man to be advanced or retarded because he is a Repubican or a Democrat. Nor will they want Congressmen attemping to interfere and secure jobs and promotions for their friends. In handling the executive forces of railroads, the government should be governed solely by the capacity men have shown in their past record.

It has frequently been complained that the railroads, under their old managements, have been too much under the control of the bankers and financial men who financed the roads, and that men who worked on the purely operating side found it difficult to secure advancement, or did not get the chief prizes. If this tendency exists, it is one the government should frown upon.

Operating a railroad is as big a task as there is in the country. It needs the highest type of men. It requires a great gift for handling men, organizing business, and controlling activity. It takes a man who thinks quickly, who can plan ahead and foresee conditions, and be ready in advance to meet exigencies, and see all around and through complicated situations. Any man who has a talent for this kind of management shoud be promptly promoted, and is entitled to a generous reward.

THIS WAR OF SCIENCE—PHOTOGRAPHY

Science brings forth one wonder after another from its arsenal of warfare. Who would have thought five years ago that harmless and diverting sport like photography would become one of the great accessories to deadly combat? Yet so it is, in this war.

The accuracy of the camera in reporting enemy movements is something marvellous. The sensitive plate opens up concealments that would deceive the eye. Attached to the airplane, the camera gives a complete survey and exact diagram of enemy territory. Photographs from 5000 feet high show minute features of the landscape.

When the Boches rush a force of men into the front line trench the camera detects them crowded into the ditch, ready for assults. Within 15 or 20 minutes after the film is snapped, the aviator has landed, his plate has been deveoped, and prints given to the intelligence officer. Before the preparations can be completed for an assault, the warning has been telephoned and defence preparations begun.

The big lesson for our war preparations, is the overpowering necessity of speed in airplane work also the need for the very best phpotographic experts. The Germans realizing the threat of our aviation program, have stronger air forces now than ever before. Our allies are still stronger, but they cannot completely control the air.

We must get a large force of airmen and planes actually at work next summer. With expert war photography, we will have a complete information of everything doing by daylight in their lines. And with a sufficient force of battle planes to drive off their camera of battle they will lack this information. Their artillery and infantry will fight blindfolded.

THE WORLD'S FOOD SHORTAGE

Our people might well reflect on the patient frugality by which Japan has become a great nation, though living on a small group of islands with poor soils. They fought and financed a great war, and have grown to a great industrial nation, on a diet mostly of rice, root crops, barley, vegetables, and fish.

In Great Britain the farmers are already growing six months wheat supply on their cramped territory. They expect to be able very nearly to feed themselves in 1918. Yet our country with its vast acres can scarcely raise its own food.

Beans with their rich oils and proteins are a splendid war time substitute for meat. Potatoes form 68 per cent of the food of Germany, Astria. and Russia. The Germans have certainly demonstrated on this diet their physical ability.

Rice is the staple of the Chinese Empire, a nation of hard working industry. Our rice production has tripled in five years, and our people are fast learning its value. Wheat has only three fourths the nutrition of cleaned rice. The difficulty is that rice production requires extensive planta for irrigation and other equipment. In these times it is not easy to find capital for such development.

In conclusion of this series it may be remarked that the world's food shortage will not wholly end when the war closes, though that will afford some relief. There are causes even more fundamental than the great war. We need scientific agriculture, home gardening, intensive farming, more capiptal to put into farm enterprises and equipment. Every man who saves a dollar and puts it into enterprisess that helps agriculture, does something to relieve food shortage.

THE WALKING POPULATION

A great deal is said about Good Roads. It is a grand subject, and none too much can be said about it. But meanwhile we must not forget the pedestrians. It is a bigger population than the owners of horses, motor cars, and trucks that use the roads. The interests of this walking element should be looked after by a satisfactory system of sidewalks.

Some towns assess the entire cost of sidewayks on the abutter. They regard it as his fair contribution to town life. This theory secures the prompt construction of walks as soon as a municipality decides what streets are entitled to them.

In other places it is felt that this policy creates a burden on real estate and so tends to discourage improvement of same. They prefer to see the costs placed on the tax-payers as a whole. In still other places there is a compromise and the cost is divided up. This policy seems a fair one, but it is open to the objection that it is often hard to get the taxpayers to assent to walks on new streets.

It will sometimes happen, when the laying of walks is conceived as the duty of the municipality, that a town will make a spurt and lay some fine strips of costly walk on a few streets. Then the tax-payers will take alarm at the cost, and stop the work entirely. If a little less expensive walk had been laid, it might have been possible to get more of it done.

Whatever policy may seem best a consistent plan should be formed which within a reasonable time would provide walks for the whole town, or such parts of it as are fairly entitled to same. A system of good walks adds as much to the good appearance of a town, its comfort of living and reputation for progressiveness, as any improvement that can be made.

GOETHALS VINDICATED

The wooden ship plan is a failure, according to Admiral Bowles, of the Shipping Board. "The scale of wooden ship construction outlined in the Emergency Flee Corporation's program is entirely beyond the available supply of material in the country," he declared before the Senate investigation committee. "The birds are still nesting in the trees from which ship timber is to come insisted General Goethals, while he was head of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, a statement which Secretary McAdoo's protege, Mr. Denman, denied. Goethals was right, Denman was wrong, both had to resign, and the former has been vindicated.

FREE TRADE EXODUS

From Washington comes the announcement that 3,000,000 persons among the foreign population of this country are prepared to emigrate to their homes as soon as peace is declared. A variety of reasons are given why they will leave the United States, but the one reason why they will stay, the comtrolling reason is not mentioned, and that is the wages they receive in American industries. If, however, this country is left a prey to foreign competitors because the Democrats control our policy, there will be an exodus of alien labor. It had begun in 1914. There will likewise be an exodus of American laborers—from the mills to the park benches.

ANOTHER DEMOCRATIC FAILURE

The farmer who had planned to raise money by mortgage negotiated through the Federal Land Bank and who had reckoned upon five per cent interest, as was promised, will now have to pay five and a half per cent. "On account of the war," we assume; though no reason is specially assigned for the increase. As originally planned the Federal Land Banks were to secure funds through the sale of bonds at four and a half per cent, and this money was to be loaned to the farmers at five per cent. It is by no means unlikely that the Land Bank, like other governmental agencies, is unable to keep its expenses within its estimates, and that the half per cent margin is not sufficient to pay the bills of the Federal Farm Loan Board and its subsidiary institutions.

PROVIDENCE INSCRUTABLE

Some people seem to think that from one viewpoint, it is perhaps fortunate that the Democrats won the last national election. If Hughes had been elected, either with or without a Republican Congress, and we had later entered the war, as we would as a result of the policies Wilson had pursued, the new President would have been accused by the Democrats, and by many others, of being the cause of our getting into the conflict. Wilson and his friends would have declared that he kept us out of war and that Hughes plunged us in. The Democrats in Congress would have refused that loyal support of the government which Republicans have freely granted. They would have found their excuse in the plea that it was not their war. While it is certain that a Republican administration would have put greater efficiency into the war than the Wilson administration has, yet it is perhaps better that the war be conducted by those under whose policies we got into it, than to have it conducted by men who would not get the harty support of the Democratic members of Congress.

THE STERLING RESOLUTION

Senator Thomas Sterling, of North Dakota, took the lead of his Democratic colleagues, and introduced a resolution providing for a railroad traffic director. This was before the President appointed a director. The measure was drawn as conservatively as such a radical departure from normal railroad methods will permit. It provided that the new official should be appointed by the President, but subject to the approval of the Senate; that the power bestowed upon him should continue only during the war; that he should have supervision over freight trains only; and that his actions should not deprive the railroads of their right to just compensation for shipments. The director was to have supreme authority in settling all questions of priority between different companies, and a fine of $5000 or imprisonment for five years, or both, were made penalties for failure of any railroad official to obey his orders. The conflict of priority orders and their unreasonable number has been generally charged by the railroad men as being more responsible than any other agency for the present congestion in our transportation system. Senator Sterling's resolution struck directly at the heart of that trouble, and would, if enacted into law, greatly clarify the situation. The measure is now in the hands of the Interstate Commerce Committee of the Senate.

THEY ALSO SERVED

A proposition to erect a memorial in the city of Washington to commemorate the deeds of the negro soldiers and sailors who fought in the wars of our country is contained in a bill introducted by Representative L. C. Dyer of Missouri. A commission is to be created, of which Mr. Dyer will be a member, to work in co-operaton with the Fine Arts Commission, and to prepare plans and designs for the memorial. The structure is to be erected on a site approved by Congress, and will cost approximately $100,000. Mr. Dyer is himself a veteran of the Spanish war, and has a keen appreciation of the assistance that our negro regiments in that conflict and in the Civil War rendered the Government. He intends to press the measure for action at this session.

High schol teachers say the pupils have too many dances, but there is a feeling among the kids that the teachers can stay at home if it is a bother to attend.

BABYLON & LIPPY

"The Dependable Store"

Some January Specials

ON SALE NOW ODD LOTS OF MERCHANDISE AT PRICES THAT WILL MAKE PURCHASING INTERESTING.

OUR MILLINERY DEPARTMENT

About fifty hats ready to wear, values from $2.00 to $4.00 on sale now at the small price of 98c.

UNDERWEAR SPECIALS

Unbleached underwear in small sizes, fleeced, nice heavy weight worth 50c. Now on sale while they last 29c.

SPECIAL IN COATS

We place on sale about fifty black coats cheviots, broadcloths and serges. These coats are out of style, the cloth is exceptionally good, many are long coats. To the thrifty persons who can remodel coats these will be welcome bargains. They are placed on sale at the extremely low price of 98c., on sale on center counter.

OTHER COAT VALUES

Our regular stock of this seasons coats are priced at values that will make bargains to those who have waited for their coat wants. Ladies and children's coats are priced at interesting figures.

CLOTH REMANTS

We have placed on sale center counter, all of our remnants of cloth which have accumulated during the fall season. You will find here many bargains in these short pieces of cloth. It will pay to inspect these.

CLOTH REMNANTS

An assortment of ladies' and children's sweaters will be placed on sale, these are priced for quick sale, most anything will be found in this lot.

OUR DISTRIBUTION CONTINUES

Many customers have availed themselves of our profit sharing plan to obtain household necessities free and below actual cost to produce. We have several plans by which you can obtain silverware, aluminum kitchen sets, dinnerware sets, and large rocking chairs. These are not cheap and worthless. They are substantial, guaranteed, and made by reliable manufacturers. We are pleased to co-operate with our customers in securing for them valued necessities with little outlay.

WHERE YOUR DOLLLARS GO FARTHEST

BIG SALE

AT

H. Feldman's

Extra Friends, we are still continuing our Sale and until Christmas and now is the time to buy your gifts at Feldman's Store. We have a full line of Men's and boys'

Suits, Overcoats, Pants, Sweaters, Underwear, Shoes, Hats, Neckties, Felt Boots, Arctics, Rubber Boots

and full line of other footwear, for boys, and ladies. We have a fine line of

Boys' Suits from 3 to 18

years of age the prices are very low. We carry a fine line of guaranteed rain garments for men ladies and children. We give a hat free with every rain garment. We ask for your business and you will get in return fair dealing and the best satisfaction. To save money do not forget at Feldman's Sale.

H. Feldman, 9 E. Main St., Westminster

The equipment of no soldier is complete without emergency food rations. United States troops are supplied with three different parched maize-meal packets and three chocolates. The former is a revival of the maize-meal of the American Indians, on which they could exist for days while hunting or on the warpath. The "chain-shot" ration furnished Belgian, French and Teutonic soldiers is a winter food of compressed meat. There are more than a dozen varieties of compressed teas used by the Russian commissary. Compressed rice macroni is supplied Oriental forces. Oat-bread in sausage form is used by some of the North British troops. A curious ration is the compressed fig coffee of the Central Powers, which may either be utilized for food as it is or converted into a coffee-like drink. Smoke-dried pears are used in the same armies. The Swiss soldier receives an emergency ration of white chocolate, made entirely of cocoa-butter and sugar. An Italian army chocolate is in sausage-length form, while their plum duff goes into a beef membrane.

Did you ever notice that when a person has what is called a stylish handwriting, it is often exceedingly difficult to read it?

SPECIAL

We have a car-load of Sleighs for sale at an attractive price.

The W. H. Davis Co.

Westminster, Maryland

BABY'S DIMPLES

Bring the Baby to the studio in the morning. He feels better and brighter then, and so do we, and we have [illegible] to perpetuate those cunning little dimples of his. Make an appointment, —call, write, or phone 81 m

The Lewis Studio

30 E. Main Street Weftminster, Md

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2900_scm2311-0013