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Friday, April 5, 1918.

## We Must Act.

That the problems confronting nations after the war is ended and while peace is being adjusted will be even more momentous and far-reaching than those of the war itself is the opinion now of the thinkers.

Conditions similar to those in Russia, underneath the surface, exist in well-nigh every country of the world. In England the workers are demanding more and more recognition as their reward for their help in winning the war. There is a deal of restlessness in all quarters of the world.

Catholic students of economics like Professor Ryan, Father Kelleher, of Maynooth, and others hold that we must be prepared with a constructive and sound economic programme yet sufficiently progressive to combat the constantly rising tide of Socialism.

In a recent article Father Kelleher writes as follows:

"Workers are going to be more critical and less tolerant of the grievances under which they labor, nor is it likely that they will be over-scrupulous about the means they employ, nor the social consequences of rashness. There will certainly be found leaders within and without their own ranks to urge them on. The only likelihood we have of being able to oppose an effective barrier to the alluring schemes of socialism in its various forms is by possessing a program ourselves of speedy, genuine and effective redress. Not that reforms are to be offered merely as counter attractions to socialism and other dangerous tendencies. Such motives are unworthy and hypocritical, and generally defeat their own end. What I mean is that at critical times like the present, prudence itself suggests to us to seek out justice by drastic means which we should be slow to adopt in normal peaceful times."

Supplementing this a Catholic exchange writes:-

It will be well for American Catholics, especially for their intellectual and spiritual leaders, to bear in mind the counsel offered them by Father Kelleher. Efforts should be made to understand the real current of thought of the masses and its exponents; greater attention than ever should be directed towards ascertaining their mind to promote their welfare by social legislation and by other constructive means. It is necessary also to remember that many of the conditions which render our problems most acute are not only national but international. To close one's eyes to social conditions would be fatal. Nothing is more dangerous than to believe that because of outward appearances and surface evidence, all is well in the social and economic world, while beneath a semblance of content deep-bred discontent is seething.

## Keep Straight.

There is a heap of misunderstanding about and much misinformation abroad as to Ireland and the part Ireland should play in the present crisis and after the war closes.

In the first place there is no dispute that the Asquith Government did not keep faith with John Redmond and the Irish party in that it shelved the promised Home Rule when the war broke out.

Secondly—right-minded and thinking men unite in saying that the Sinn Fein uprising was unnecessary and unwise, even if the English authorities were needlessly and brutally cruel in their treatment of the misguided revolutionists.

Third—There is no dispute that while John Redmond bitterly resented the bad faith of which he had been the victim, he and his followers gave Great Britain loyal support in prosecution of the war and in all that pertained thereto.

Granting these premises, why should a portion of the American press be so bitter and so contemptuous toward Irishmen—Catholic Irishmen—and to so tolerant when they do not openly praise—Sir Edward Carson and his Orangemen of Ulster—who were just as much rebels toward Home Rule as were the Sinn Feiners toward the war?

If President Wilson correctly states the reason the United States entered the war—to establish and preserve world democracy and to guarantee to nations the sort of Government favored by a majority of the people—then there is no impropriety in the Irish people looking forward to being a free and independent nation. They are as much a distinct race as are the Russians and they have their own language and their own traditions. To express such a hope is not treason to the Stars and Stripes.

Loyal Irishmen will fight under the Union Jack, the Stars and Stripes, and the tricolor of France, to win the war for freedom of peoples and individuals and when that is done they will demand in the peace congress that Ireland shall once more take her place as a free and independent nation.

And we shall not be surprised if Woodrow Wilson leads the van in demanding a free and independent Ireland!

## Unified Effort.

In line with unified effort in France, comes the announcement that there is to be a united effort in solicitation of war relief funds. There is to be a non-profit corporation formed, officered and led by our Rt. Rev. Bishop, Mr. George Eastman, Mr. Roland B. Woodward and other representative citizens which will take steps to build up "a war chest" of ample proportions from which will be distributed Rochester's quotas for war relief activities such as the Y. M. C. A., Red Cross, Knights of Columbus, Belgian relief and so on through the list. In this way, there will be but one solicitation a year and the citizen approached will know how to gauge his contribution for the year.

While the "drives" conducted in Rochester during the past year have demonstrated the dynamic energy, the wonderful generosity and the splendid team work of Rochester's citizenship, nevertheless it is felt that there has been a needless waste of energy and a needless duplication of effort which may be eliminated by the creation of this new corporation.

It is to be hoped the public will appreciate the splendid underlying motive of the new movement.

There are worse things than Sunday baseball.

## Hopeful Sign.

Indications are that the much advertised German drive has failed of its ultimate object, despite the awful sacrifice of human lives, and the needless waste of supplies. At last accounts while the Germans were still fighting hard their drive had lost much of its force and the Allied lines were unbroken even if they had fallen back because of the superior force of the enemy.

All accounts agree that the German loss was frightfully large. Military experts concede that the attacking party in an offensive drive must expect to lose heavily—some say that the attacking army must expect to lose twice as many men as the defending army. Despatches indicate that the German losses were four times those of the Allies. Such havoc cannot be withstood very long.

Another apparent result of the German offensive is the centering of the supreme command in General Foch, of the French armies.

British, French, Italian, American, all will march at Foch's command. This is likely to eliminate much of the pique that has been manifest by some of the Allies in accepting orders from British sources—especially on the part of some Americans and some Irishmen. No longer will there be a British sector, a French sector, an American sector, an Italian sector—and so on. It will be one Allied Army fighting for world democracy and world freedom.

And that unified army cannot but eventually achieve victory. God grant that it be soon!

Golden jubilees by nuns are quite common this year. The latest to come to our notice is Rev. Mother M. Severin, superior of the Sacred Heart Convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph in St. Louis.

Did you set your watch ahead the first day? Or did you neglect it and thereby was late?

Did you file your income tax return? Or were you fortunate or unfortunate enough not to have enough income to be taxed?

Our Catholic boys give good accounts of themselves whether in Army or Navy.

While the cause was a good one, let us hope that another Good Friday will not compel the congregation of St. Mary's church, while trying to listen to a sermon, be interrupted by the blare of band, the tramping of marchers and the cheering of enthusiasts.

Well, Charlie Chapin wants Rochester to have baseball in 1918. Charlie's a good sport, if ever there was one.

If enemy spies have tampered with our aeroplanes and have caused so many accidents to our American aviation students, they should be dealt with as spies summarily and under the military law at that.

There may be one disadvantage in the "war chest plan." Unless the lists of all contributions are published, the many who give liberally in order to achieve publicity may withhold or reduce their subscriptions.

While there is little credence placed in the report, his Rochester friends are interested in the gossip current that Archbishop Hanna may be transferred from the See of San Francisco to that of Philadelphia, in succession to the lamented Archbishop Prendergast because now, I believe, the latter is being entirely eliminated by the creation of this new corporation.

It is to be hoped the public will appreciate the splendid underlying motive of the new movement.

William Jennings Bryan always draws a crowd especially when there is no admission charge.

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Passed by the Capital Issues Committee of the Federal Reserve Board (Opinion No. 68) as not incompatible with the interest of the United States, but without approval of the merits, security or legality thereof in any respect.

(Signed)  
Capital Issues Committee  
of the Federal Reserve Board  
By PAUL M. WARBURG,  
Chairman

March 21, 1918.

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