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Thought and Comment

LEADING NEWSPAPER OF THE COAST
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1918

UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

Virtualy Demanded in Latest Note, Which It is Hoped Will Be the Last

ALTHOUGH the President does not use the word 'surrender' until the last few lines of his note, and even then, almost apologetically for being employed as a harsh expression, it is the keynote of his answer to Germany.

While the reply settles nothing beyond the promise to take up the question of an armistice with the allied powers, it does indicate that no armistice will be concluded in the United States if it does not give the allied powers 'unrestricted power' to interfere the details of the peace to which the German Government has agreed, and it is not 'making a reservation of details on the part of Germany impossible.'

Such an arrangement is exactly what we want, but it is not an armistice. It is unconditional surrender, and the armistice would have been clearer if it had been called by the only fitting name. Fewer words and plainer would have left Germany no possible opportunity for misunderstanding our reasons, but if what has been said is a resumption of the enemy to continue the conflict it is to be held that words being found in convey our meaning, we will not bother with any longer but confine ourselves to the unerring language of the sword.

Domestic returns are barren for us, whatever they may be worth to Germany, which is always having that domestic industrial production, because it has not been asked. Diplomatically speaking, the fact has been said that demand is in the hands of the allied powers, but that leaves us handicapped in a leader and leader.

New American, French and British days are in progress on the west, while the Italian and Serbian are rapidly administering death blows to Austria. Of all the Kaiser's former allies, Austria is in the worst way. When Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Serbia and Italy have finished with her all that will be left of Austria will be the city of territory which the Germans are even now trying to hold.

In the world against Germany, and Germany cannot live if only we will keep fighting and not desisting with her. Words are not the only means of making a case do nothing less than establish a verbal blockade, which means to leave her quicker than the food blockade.

EPIDEMIC IS ABATING

Combined Effort Against the Influenza Germ Is Driving Him Out

WHILE every precaution against the spread of the disease is still necessary, there are good reasons for believing that the worst of the influenza danger has passed. New cases are still being reported, but the number each week is less than that for the earlier part of the year. The percentage of fatalities is also decreasing. Not all the death notices are of influenza cases, and moreover, it will be noted that some of the newspaper obituaries are printed more than a week after the decease of a larger daily average than is actually the death toll.

There is continued improvement in the situation in all the Army camps. New York and other Eastern cities report that the epidemic is on the wane, and Pacific Coast camps have a marked decline in the number of new cases.

The health authorities are doing wonderfully good work, and it is very welcome public cooperation a combined effort of the various agencies has done more than all the officials, but, at least, you cannot see any harm in doing what is necessary to prevent the disease from spreading. For fear of what will be a material sentence in the courts, they are doing nothing.

In every case, woman and child in the community will do all that is expected for a few days, then a few days we might be given a clear bit of health and the usual normal conditions. Wear your mask. Take no chances.

THE SCHOOL CHARTER AMENDMENT

It is Absolutely Vicious and Should Be Promptly Voted Down

CHARTER Amendment 37 is a amendment submitted for the purpose of turning our school system over to the hands of the people, making political parties, and the most unadvisable amendment of the kind to be submitted upon to a permanent basis.

In no other way is it more clearly a violation of the public trust than in the case of the school system, which is the most vital of all the public services of a community. The school system is the foundation of our civilization, and it is the duty of the people to see that it is maintained in the most efficient manner possible.

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SELECT A REPUBLICAN CONGRESS

So Shall We Have Efficiency in War and Wisdom in the Problems of Peace

IT IS essential that the next House of Representatives shall be Republican. Now, as heretofore, the Republican party is the party of efficiency. Republicans in Congress are the most effective supporters of the Democratic President in all his measures, and they logically are demagogues by refusal of political capital of the Congress, which is the party of efficiency.

Before the terms of the next Congress expire, it is the duty of the people to elect a Republican Congress. The Republican party is the party of efficiency, and it is the duty of the people to elect a Republican Congress.

That this may be accomplished, it is absolutely essential that we send a Republican majority to the House of Representatives. That is the job this year. Next year we can attend to the Senate.

California must send to the next Congress an all-Republican delegation of eleven Representatives. The country expects every Republican to do this.

COMPULSORY HEALTH INSURANCE

It is Proposed to Cover Jobs and Take Money Without Compensation

THE more compulsory health insurance, as proposed by Constitutional Amendment 20, is another case of the government taking money from the people without compensation.

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QUOTING OLD RECORDS

It is Not an Occupation Which Democrats Can Safely Follow

A CONTEMPORARY which is trying to injure the Democratic party by quoting old records, is not an occupation which Democrats can safely follow.

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TAKE IT OFF



THE PEOPLE'S SAFETY VALVE

THE people's safety valve is the most important of all the safety valves. It is the safety valve of the people, and it is the duty of the people to see that it is maintained in the most efficient manner possible.

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WAR AND THE BIRTH RATE

THE birth rate in the United States has been steadily increasing since the beginning of the century. This is due to a number of factors, including the fact that the birth rate has been increasing in all parts of the country.

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