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THE REBEL

THE GREAT AFFAIR GREAT TO US ONLY BECAUSE WE ARE ON OUR KNEES TO IT AS AIDES

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NOTION CRASS AND REBELLION.

No. 210

The Fort Worth Record edited by Hugh Newton Fitzgerald, the ablest editor of the Democratic press of the South, devotes the entire editorial page of Sunday, July 18, to a discussion of the impending cotton crisis.

Editor Fitzgerald leads off with a four column wide editorial headed: "Face to Face With the Crisis Are the People of the South."

Beside this there is a two column article from ex-Governor Colquhoun in which he predicts dire calamity for the southern cotton farmer and all lines of business in the cotton states.

Both gentlemen agree that the South was never menaced by such danger even in the darkest hours following the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. They take the position that the President should call a special session of congress at once to save the South from utter bankruptcy. They bluntly demand that cotton be not made a commodity of war and that the British shall not be allowed to search for and seize the South's great staple, that the English Order in Council be annulled, the blockade in cotton lifted and that Germany shall have the right to purchase Southern cotton at 30 cents a pound.

They also point out that the wheat farmers of the North are getting an immense price for their staple, and the "ammunition crisis" is literally making billions of dollars by their shipments of war munitions to the allies, and that indeed one million-dollar who is also United States senator—DuPont of Delaware—has now become a millionaire as a result of the orders he has received at his great powder plants in Wilmington.

DuPont stock made the city settlement of Wilmington jump from \$75,000,000 to \$225,000,000.

After using up seven columns of the editorial page in which all the foregoing facts and a dozen others just as potent are set forth in burning language the editor says that the cotton grower is LAMENTED, the people's conclusion is that the remedy is that if cotton cannot be exported, then foodstuffs and munitions of war shall not be exported, and that the state department should so inform the English government with the result, they say, that England will back down and cotton can be shipped to the friendly nations, in which category Germany, Austria and Russia fall, and also to the neutral nations of Europe.

A more inadequate remedy for this stupendous crisis could not emanate from the brain of a ten-year-old school boy. Let us review all the facts and see if this is not so. At the present time and over since the war broke out cotton has been in greater demand than wheat. It will be remembered that the northern farmers did not gain anything by the immense increase in the price of wheat for the reason that for months after war was declared it fluctuated around 95 cents and did not make its rocket-like ascent to \$1.65 until it was in the hands of the speculative elevator and millers.

In the South the cotton speculator acted precisely as did his northern brother. After closing the exchanges they hammered the price of cotton down to 6 cents and pointed to the closed exchanges as a proof that there was no market for it, and sought through newspaper and bank connections to stampede the cotton onto the market so that the farmers would not receive more than 3 cents. To do this they used every country banker and merchant in the South to force the farmer to accept any price that was offered. It was nothing but the determined resistance of the farmer who in tens of thousands, of state feed, cornmeal, water and blackleg peas that enabled him to hold his cotton that he could get even 6 and 7 cents a pound for it.

We then remember what followed when the bulk of the cotton went out of the farmers' hands at a price far below the cost of production. The exchanges opened and cotton went about ten cents. The speculators made millions out of the misery of the cotton grower and the Southern courthouse square banker boasted his usury rate until even Eighty Percent. Ferguson might blush for their reactions.

Thus we see that the cotton farmer of the South was no guinea from the war any more than his northern brother who raised the wheat. The next big fact is that cotton has been in greater demand as a result of the war in the world's market and even Germany and Austria eliminated because of the amount of cotton that must be used in the manufacture of powder. For instance reports of the war report that the battle lines of the Germanic alliance are consuming thousands of pounds at the rate of more than 300,000,000 pounds per year. This means in the neighborhood of 600,000 bales of cotton. The opposition is turning an equal amount, if not more, toward the war in Europe. Summed up for this time literally millions of private soldiers are garbed in cotton underwear and garments that they knew but little of in the piping time of peace.

To short the war has enormously increased the demand for our Southern staple.

And to this the thousand and one demands for cotton in the war zone, such as in the manufacture of automobiles which have become necessary to the life of the army as the artillery or the trench. The life of the automobile at the front is proportionately as short as that of the horse or the mule, with the result that cotton is being burned up at an unprecedented rate. The demand for cotton for tents and garments in the history of the world and for this time literally millions of private soldiers are garbed in cotton underwear and garments that they knew but little of in the piping time of peace.

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private!" Fitzgerald and Colquhoun say that it became the high was are closed to the friendly nations and that the order of council prevent the sale of cotton to the Germanic alliance and the neutral nations. What a preposterous position, in the light of the fact that every other staple that enters the war zone of Europe has steadily advanced in price from day to day.

Serely we must seek another reason. Plainly and bluntly the reason can be found inside our own country. Find the reason among the aristocratic spinners of New England, who have turned Lowell and Lawrence and Andover and Manchester and Fall River into human hell that can only be approached by the slums of Liverpool, Manchester, Middleton, Nottingham, in England, and the Hirodo hills of the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama and other textile states of the South.

Find the reason in the republiken representation in congress such as Lodge and Cabot, and Dillingham and then send their South and lead the Hoke Stables, the Vaplanians, the Clarks, the Browners, the Browners, the Underwoods, the Culversons and the Spencers, each and everyone of whom represent the combined masters of the textile industries of America and not one of whom represent the men and women and children of the South who pull their fifteen foot cotton work down the Irony furrows before the oxen, kick the wheel and dead damp and those who toil in the factories where flying wheels spin the funeral dirges of helpless women and innocent children.

Oh, Fitzgerald and Colquhoun find the reason in the solidarity of the Democratic party and the compact of interests that rule this nation. Find it in the bankers of New York who are reining millions of easy money in war loans to the allies. Find it in the banks of New Orleans, Atlanta, Houston, Galveston, who revel in a "speculative" market, invariably bear the price of cotton, fight bloody battles over it, and when they see the farmers determined to send their cotton to higher prices, corrupt the Farmers Union officials as has occurred through the Business Men's (Bankers) Association whose headquarters are within a thousand feet of Fitzgerald's desk.

To us the editor and the ex-governor, who is now candidate for United States senator, wish to know his ally, the cotton crisis! They let them know that if there is a North or South in the interlocking directorate of congressional and senatorial representatives whose highest type of statesmanship in the South is represented by an absurd shipwreck with his world-wide water wagon and a corrupt Italy and a low-trail Underwood, and a long-haired negro-living, unrepentant Varian, who has been walled into the senate on the order of muscle arms.

Should Fitzgerald and Colquhoun wish to find the remedy for the cotton crisis the foregoing paragraph may give them a lead. Be sure that Holy Writ in the written record that there is no north, there is no south, there is no Republican party, there is no Democratic party so far as politics is concerned today, but there are distinctly, definitely four hundred odd congressmen and 96 senators, each and everyone of whom represent the masters of different economic interests—not so plainly, but just as thoroughly as the oil, coal, and railway interests dominate Colorado and Nebraska who are a Charles of the bodies of men, women and children, while driving coal are brothers of the men, women and children who toil in the cotton fields of Dixie.

If you gentlemen can show me one congressman, outside of the Socials' Meyer London, of the Ninth congressional district of New York, that does now or at any time since the war represent anything but the exploiters, then I am willing to believe that there is something in your request to have Wilson and his secretary of state make threats against England, but I know and you should know that the president and his cabinet are nothing but the balance wheel who adjust the relations between the different sets of exploiters and they are from Wilson down to the most drunken Treue House congressman, in truth, in fact, in law and logic nothing more nor less than the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PLUTOCRACY, that owns and rules this nation more thoroughly than the politicians ruled Rome under a Julius Caesar, or the medieval feudal lords ruled Europe under a Charles of the grand signors who dominated France under a Louis of a Bourbon Louis XVI.

Now figure how insufficient is your remedy. Fitzgerald and Colquhoun! What blind leaders of the blind you are! After telling us that DuPont has become a millionaire as a result of the war, do you expect DuPont in the United States state to become false to the great spirit of English capitalists who control the textile industries of England and who, while helping to make DuPont a millionaire, demand in return SIX CENT COTTON, as DuPont of the great international deal.

Crump the American winners who stand behind DuPont—the Terre Haute and Penrose from Philadelphia, the city leader from Boston, the suave Root from New York, the miserable Sherman from Illinois, the Gallinger from New Hampshire, and the rest of the noble D's that have a veneer of respectability placed upon them by the Standard Oil-Pettit and Marshalls. There tell me that they will be a puritanical pedagogue from Princeton who, if he is a man of scholarly attainments and has studied the material conception of history knows that those senators and their prototypes in the Senate are, in the main, but the breath from the nostrils of the plutocracy.

Now my dear Fitz and Colquhoun tell me what chance you have to reach the ear of the president and his secretary of state Lansing?

Why should they for a moment come to the help of the cotton farmer?

Does the record of the Democratic party show that there ever was a time when that organization came to the help of the men and women and children who worked in the cold and in the heat to produce the staple? Did the Democratic party do so in 1860, when it was in power and when cotton went to four cents and the Populist developed a low-bureaucratic plan, that was killed by the same interests who sat at Cleveland's ear just as tight and close as they sit at the ear of Wilson? ! !

Do you wish the real remedy, Fitzgerald and Colquhoun! Then here it is:

Let President Wilson instruct his secretary of state and his entire cabinet that in this crisis for the cotton farmer but one method is to be pursued, namely to use the credit of the United States to valorize the greatest staple and the best security in the world.

THIS MEANS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THROUGH ITS FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS ISSUE ITS DIRECT CURRENCY TO THE COTTON FARMERS DIRECT UPON THE SECURITY OF THEIR COTTON UP TO ITS FACE VALUE OF FIFTY CENTS PER POUND, THIS BEING THE SAME TERMS UPON WHICH THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS ISSUE CURRENCY TO THE NATIONAL BANKS THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

This does not mean that the farmers are to have special privileges, but it does mean that the farmers are to have the same privileges under the law as the national banks enjoy of COINING THEIR ASSETS INTO MONEY, with which they may pay their debt.

The law gives to the national banks the right to do this, and if the cotton farmers of the South are to live on an equality with these corporate men the government of the United States should accord them the same privilege. The only reason the government has not already done this, is because to do so would break the machine which holds the cotton market, while the market rings, the stock holder, the spinner, and the banker picks his pocket.

Will the cotton producers' pocket be picked? Then surely Fitzgerald and Colquhoun have shown the way. An embargo! It is to laugh when we consider that the machinery of cotton is left in the hands of the riggers, spinner, jobber and banker, afterward. Besides, it would take two years discussion in the senate and house, to reach any conclusion and by that time the war will be over and every cotton farmer will live in the north or south or Europe will have his life in the eye of the men and women who raise cotton. And, by the way, he is going to gauge him thence before the movie film in America.

From this it might be concluded that The Rebel despairs of any hope for the cotton producer. Not so. We simply despair of any hope of any good coming from such a polluted source as the Democratic party, historically the arch-enemy of the cotton producer of the South, and the paragon of the rich brother of the north.

And so the scheme of Fitz and Colquhoun meets the a-borning as did the Henry Bill of last December. It must die as did the \$15,000,000 cotton pool, of which the Southern cotton farmers only drew \$75,000 an rat ratio of 1000 to 1, in spite of the fact that they produced no goods.

What then is the hope for the cotton producer of the South? Without an atom of partisan prejudice I point to the 25,300 men, nine-tenths of whom were cotton raisers in the greatest cotton state in the world, who voted the Socialist party ticket last November and earned 7 to become the second political party in the state, forcing the land and cotton question into first place and thereby breaking the fair prohibition question.

Ten men and tens of thousands of others who were seduced into the 1914 Democratic primaries, will demand that their labor and the labor of their women and children must be paid for, because they know full well that they are not worth anything. They are better that they died at the point of a gun in the hands of the Bosses of DuPont and Rockefeller and the spinners' oligarchy of old England and New England than to wear out a miserable existence in which they see their product always sold below the cost of production, to the great advantage of the East, but keep their cottons and their larders in luxury while the vast, virtuous women of the South are hurried to an early grave, proceed therein by the weight of a cotton sack, and with the full knowledge as they die that their children are growing in illiteracy WHILE THE NEGRO IS BEING DEPRIVED IN EDUCATION.

I know full well that Wilson and congress will not for an instant deliver from their allegiance to the DuPont-Rockefeller and Englehardt interests unless there is stuck into their craven hearts the fear of THE NEW REBELLION in the South. Wilson, Lansing, DuPont, Rockefeller et al, might as well know now that Fitzgerald and Colquhoun can not stay them in this hour of Southern proletarian misery. It needs but a Land Lease, 200,000 strong in Texas, and promptness large throughout the other cotton states, which I trust will find its political expression to condemn the hybrid oligarchy of the interests to make Wilson, his cabinet, and congress see that they must either valorize cotton and thus secure to the worker the product of his toil or face armed rebellion.

This then, is the remedy. Either congress valorize cotton, or the Southern people raise political power and valorize it, or shoot it out. Which one do you wish to accept, gentlemen. The way is clear, the road is open. March!

The Rebel.
Hallettsville, Texas