

The Jeffersonian

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THOMSON, GA., DECEMBER 21, 1916.

The Last Jeffersonian for This Year.

FOLLOWING custom, there will be no paper next week.

Don't forget us during the Holidays. Give us part of one day, at least, and push our Five Dollar proposition.

It won't take much of your time, and it means a great deal to The Jeffersonian.

The enormous advance in the price of print-paper has hit us hard, and the proposed increase in postage will hit even harder.

Congress is asked to authorize the P. O. Department to charge *six cents a pound*, on papers and magazines going more than 1800 miles. The present charge is one cent a pound.

This will not seriously hurt daily papers, because their circulation is local, but it will be ruinous to national papers that carry no considerable quantity of advertising.

Magazines that are made up of advertisements, slightly diluted with love stories, can stand the increase, but such magazines as *Liberty, Light, Watson's, The New Age, Etc.*, will suffer.

What secret and sinister influence is at work, to turn the P. O. Department into an enemy of Protestant literature?

A Most Important Special Election in Georgia For Congress.

ALL of us deplore the sudden death of Hon. Sam Tribble, stricken down in the prime of life, and in the growth of his usefulness.

But he has been called away, and his vacant place is to be filled by special election on January 11, 1917.

In fact, two places are to be filled on that date, the unexpired term ending March 4, 1917, and the long term beginning at the end of the other.

The impression prevails that the short term is not important, but this is erroneous, for the Congress now sitting is expected to revolutionize our Postal system by increasing postage, from one cent a pound on papers and magazines to 2 cents, 3 cents, 4 cents, 5 cents, and 6 cents, according to distance.

Such a radical change would ruin The Jeffersonian, The Menace, The Yellow Jacket, The American Citizen, The Appeal to Reason, and other anti-Catholic papers.

The Hon. Tinsley W. Rucker stands with us in opposition to this increase of postage on our national papers, and in opposition to political Romanism.

Mr. Hugh Rowe was a Leo Frank man, a John Slaton man, and is endorsed by the Roman Catholics of Athens.

Let them elect him over Rucker, if they can.

But I hope that none of my friends will help the Catholics in this fight.

It Happened in the Year 1916.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.)

Italy, Germany, and England—and the sense of the proposition was this:

"We will hold Russia back from jumping on Austria, if you will restrain Austria from jumping on poor little Serbia."

That was a fair proposition, but it was rejected—why?

Because Germany thought her "Preparedness" was so perfect, *that she could crush France before England could get ready to fight.*

Great Britain had not been making mimic war for 30 years, as Germany had done, and she had no large standing army. Yet, see how Preparedness deceives its worshippers! England has checked and beaten back the veterans whom Germany trained for many years, *and has done it with men who, two years ago, were raw clerks, mill-hands, farmer boys etc.*

Some ten or fifteen million human beings have been killed or disabled, and now Germany asks peace, on terms that would leave her where she was *at the time William Hohenzollern rejected England's offer for a conference.* Think of that!

When you ponder on German losses, Austrian losses, Russian losses, French losses and Turkish losses, and remember that all this Armageddon is a negation of Christianity, and a relapse into Brute Force and the Rule of Might, you can at least understand why we old-line Jeffersonian Democrats *abhor the policies adopted by the present Administration.*

On account of our long sea coast and Philippine White Elephant, we need a strong Navy, but not a large Army.

Navies do not endanger individual freedom, except on board each vessel. Each floating battle-ship may become a floating hell, if the officers are hellians. But the nation at large is not affected by the Navy, and this is clearly shown in Great Britain, whose navy is the largest the world ever knew, but whose government and people have steadily become more democratic. A man of the humblest birth—David Lloyd George—is now the *actual King of England*, and three Labor leaders are in the governing councils.

But see how different the situation is in Germany, whose standing Army was the largest and best trained the world ever knew.

There, democracy is dead. The Military Clique is supreme. A member of the German Congress (the Reichstag) makes a speech which the Kaiser and his Clique do not like, and the result is that *the member of Congress (Dr. Liebknecht) is tried by a military court martial, AND SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN THE PENITENTIARY.*

This is the same Kaiser and Clique that sentenced Germans to prison for laughing at a silly poem which the Me-and-God egomaniac had published; and these prison sentences, some of them against German girls, aggregated 122 years!

Yet, the German slush funds used in this country has flooded us with literature descriptive of the delights and liberties of German "Culture."

Would we be wise, if we disregarded the in-

For the long term, several candidates have announced, all of them fine men. The Jeffersonian has no quarrel with any of them, and no hard feelings against any of them, but the platform which appeals to me is that of Julian McCurry.

The people who know him best are those who will say by their ballots what they think of him, in connection with his declaration of principles.

herent, inevitable dangers of European militarism?

Are we ready to see our Republic turned into an armed camp, and millions of young men taken from peaceful vocations to be trained into blind obedience to Authority?

Are we ready to welcome the elevation of the military above the civil power?

In short, are we willing that our self-governed Republic should become a military despotism?

If not, we have no time to lose in opposing these revolutionary changes. These changes are taking place under your eyes, and if you voted for either Wilson or Hughes, you voted for these changes, unknowingly of course.

It is not too late to create a public sentiment which will check our President and those who dominate his councils; and, to the creation of that sentiment, each of us can and should contribute his share.

COMPULSORY MILITARISM VIOLATES THE U. S. CONSTITUTION.

Again, we have seen the President officially approve a bill which provides for compulsory military service.

I do not myself see how the Constitution can be so stretched as to legalize this monstrous proposition. It destroys personal liberty and annuls *Habeas Corpus*, in time of peace.

Mr. Lincoln was harshly condemned for his disregard of the law of *Habeas Corpus*, during the tremendous stress of Civil War; and the Supreme Court of the United States decided that President Lincoln was wrong. Those decisions of the highest court have never been reversed, and they are unquestionably sound.

How can Congress legally conscript free men for military service, *in time of peace?*

It cannot be done, without trampling upon the fundamental law of the Union. *Does President Wilson propose to do this?*

Do his advisers care nothing for the supreme Law and the Supreme Court?

Will Congress lose its head entirely, and forget the natural and constitutional rights of the citizen?

Congress has no more authority to draft your son into the Army, against his will, than it has to send him to the penitentiary without warrant, indictment, and trial by jury.

In time of peace, Congress has no more power over you and me than the plain letter of the law gives it, and that law leaves you and me in the perfect freedom of locomotion, vocation, and pursuit of happiness, subject only to be deprived of liberty as a punishment for crime, and to be called to the defense of the country in time of actual war.

The fatal mistake of this Administration is, that *it creates in its own mind a state of war*, and then legislates upon the people the burdens of war, *when there is no war.*

This was illustrated, in a ghastly manner, last Summer, when the President rushed troops to the border.

Congress has no authority to legalize the use of State troops out of a State, when there is no invasion, no insurrection, and no resistance to the laws.

But the President created a mental condition, and then ordered 100,000 militia out of their States—for what?

Nobody yet knows.

The Prussian militarists want everything organized at Washington, and controlled at Washington; and the State troops are to go prancing all over the map, at the pleasure of Military Moguls in the Federal Capital. *Thus, the State lines are wiped out, and the militia federalized.*

Those who are to come after us will feel the evils of all this tremendous innovation, and they will ask, "How was this revolutionary, undemocratic change brought about,