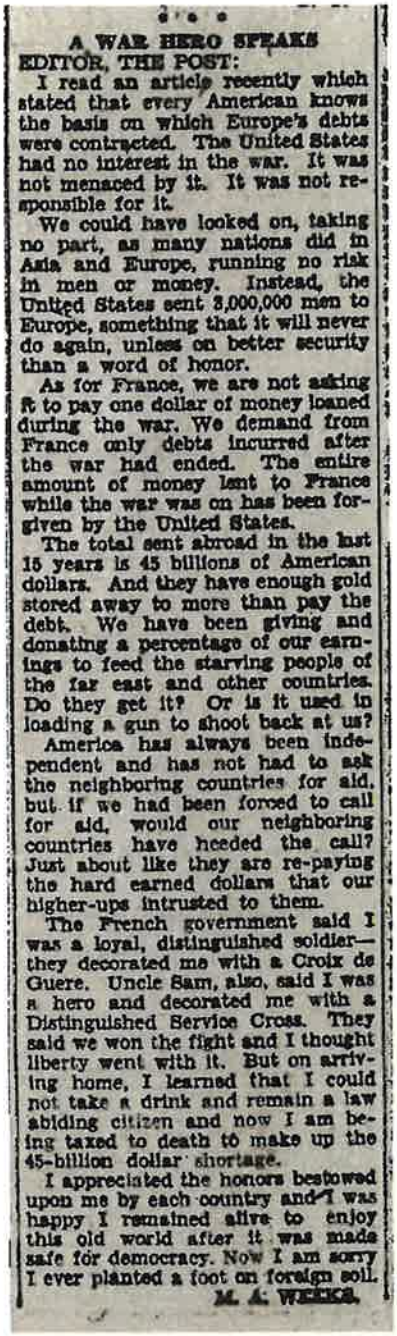
Newspapers by ancestry

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A WAR HERO SPEAKS

EDITOR, THE POST:

I read an article recently which stated that every American knows the basis on which Europe's debts were contracted. The United States had no interest in the war. It was not menaced by it. It was not responsible for it.

We could have looked on, taking no part, as many nations did in Asia and Europe, running no risk in men or money. Instead, the United States sent 3,000,000 men to Europe, something that it will never do again, unless on better security than a word of honor.

As for France, we are not asking it to pay one dollar of money loaned during the war. We demand from France only debts incurred after the war had ended. The entire amount of money lent to France while the war was on has been forgiven by the United States.

The total sent abroad in the last 15 years is 45 billions of American dollars. And they have enough gold stored away to more than pay the debt. We have been giving and donating a percentage of our earnings to feed the starving people of the far east and other countries. Do they get it? Or is it used in loading a gun to shoot back at us?

America has always been independent and has not had to ask the neighboring countries for aid, but if we had been forced to call for aid, would our neighboring countries have heeded the call? Just about like they are re-paying the hard earned dollars that our higher-ups intrusted to them.

The French government said I was a loyal, distinguished soldier—they decorated me with a Croix de Guere. Uncle Sam, also, said I was a hero and decorated me with a Distinguished Service Cross. They said we won the fight and I thought liberty went with it. But on arriving home, I learned that I could not take a drink and remain a law abiding citizen and now I am being taxed to death to make up the 45-billion dollar shortage.

I appreciated the honors bestowed upon me by each country and I was happy I remained alive to enjoy this old world after it was made safe for democracy. Now I am sorry I ever planted a foot on foreign soil.

M. A. WEEKS.

Article clipped from The Birmingham Post