## September 17, 1917

## THE FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS AND LOYALTY

Since the United States entered the war several individuals have expressed that newspapers in this country, published in other languages than English, ought to be suppressed by the government. Such comments don't seem to gain support at higher levels. Leading men in the government have instead recognized that the newspapers published in foreign languages have been of service to the country through their information printed in respective language. Some of the newspapers have however shown lack of loyalty so it is understandable that some people eagerly want to see them suppressed.

The government has now realized that the nuisance the disloyal newspapers have caused them and will keep a closer eye on them. The authorities have shown that they are liberal and fair when it comes to the newspapers and they will not cut all newspapers in one language. They have said that each newspaper will stand or fall on their own. The authorities do not assume that newspapers published in English are without suspicion. They have explained that they will keep an eye on those papers as well, since they have noticed that it is needed.

We are a people with many languages. This is a fact that you can't avoid through laws. But when it comes to loyalty we need to melt together as one people. When we saw how the nations on the other side of the ocean were fighting from a distance, we had an uncontested right to sympathize with one side or the other, based on our feelings and convictions. But when our own country - we - entered the war it is our duty to ourselves and to our nation, to wish America well and to work to see America prosper. This is where we have our home; this is where we have our earthly belongings; this is where our religious freedom is defended and protected, and that is why the United States have the right to expect a sense of duty, which without doubt will put this country first and above all others. The foreign language newspapers can add to this that the sense of community and duty becomes even stronger and that this wonderful multi-lingual nation can become a strong unit. "United we stand, divided we fall."