

Editorial Page of The Daily Capital Journal

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EFFORTS TOWARD PEACE.

Many Americans are making strong efforts to bring about peace in Europe—a peace that will be lasting. So far no headway in this laudable effort has been made, but it may be that the Kaiser, if he has really met with reverses recently, will agree to some sort of mediation. But will the allies agree to it? And will the Kaiser submit to the terms that will be insisted upon by the allies? It is announced semi-officially in London and Paris that there will be no stopping this war until these conditions are agreed to by Germany.

France shall receive Alsace-Lorraine, and be paid an indemnity of a billion dollars.

Belgium shall be paid for the loss inflicted upon her.

The German navy shall be dismantled and thrown into the scrap heap.

Germany must give up all her colonial possessions, presumably to Great Britain, which already has seized most of them.

It is not reported what Russia will demand, but she already has taken possession of an Austrian province, annexed it and changed its name, and now is invading a German province.

Unless Germany utterly is crushed, she never will grant these demands—it would mean that she would sink to a third-rate power, about in the class of Portugal, with no navy and a small army.

The intimation, too, that the allies will force the Kaiser to abdicate is likely to spur Germany on to fight till the last ditch is reached. Also it is reported from Petrograd that Russia has not intention of quitting the war until Berlin has been taken. The Czar has publicly declared he will use every soldier in the empire to capture the German capital, and no peace commission will be able to head off that awful juggernaut, the Russian army, when its chief orders is to keep moving.

Therefore, it appears that despite the efforts making for peace, the war will continue. Any defeats inflicted on the Kaiser's troops will incite them to greater effort, and victories gained by the allies will inspire them to wish for more.

The war, it seems, cannot end now, despite the noble work of the American nation. It will be fought to a finish, and one side or the other will be crushed, its army annihilated. "Men may cry 'peace, peace,' but there is no peace."

With physical culture gymnasiums and all that sort of education, we seem to be fast reaching that stage in the way of schooling our children that the size and quality of a child's mental development can be accurately measured with a tape line. Professor Jack Johnson, it may easily be imagined, will soon be president of Yale or Harvard, and the school standings instead of being measured by proficiency in reading, writing, arithmetic and the other old-time studies will be graded as: Biceps, 82; neck, 91; calf, 82; breast, 91; forearm, 98; high jump, 65; broad jump, 79; and so on with the time made by the "scholar" for the different distances up to five miles, and to this will be added the points in boxing, wrestling and swimming. In fact, the school books will be eliminated, except the pictures of the "events."

Third-baseman Smith, of the Braves, hurt yesterday, will not be able to play for some time. The dispatches said he had broken his leg, but it proved much worse than that when the doctors got hold of him. This is what they found was the matter with him: "Dr. Herbert Casey and Dr. James Kennedy diagnosed Smith's injury as an anterior dislocation of the ankle joint, a fracture of the tibia, near the external malleoli, and a rupture of the lateral ligaments of the ankle joint."

The latest move on the part of the French in the war zone is to requisition a herd of trick elephants for use in the transportation department. In the old oriental wars elephants were used, but of recent years they have not been reduced to the level of their beastly murderous masters, man, and have been kept off the battlefields.

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THE JEW AND THE WAR.

A movement has been started by local Jews for raising funds to aid their fellow Jews in Europe. It is indeed a worthy object and one that in the broadest way appeals to all humanity. The condition of the poor in the warring countries is now no doubt bad enough, but it is luxurious compared to what it will be when the war is over and the crippled nations again take up their usual pursuits and start the struggle to rehabilitate farm and factory, and lift the enormous burden of debt the war has fastened upon them.

The condition of the citizen will be bad enough, but that of the Jew will be infinitely worse. For centuries he has been the Pariah in every country. For him there has been no rights, no freedom, no law. He has been made to live within certain prescribed limits in the cities, and within those limits to maintain himself and rear his family. It is a high tribute to his manliness, indomitable will and tireless energy that he has been able to do this and at the same time maintain his race and his religion. He has done this without a country and without a flag. He has maintained his race in its purity, and sent it an undefiled stream that, like the great gulf current, flows resistless through the broad ocean of humanity.

Not only has he done this, but out of his oppression he has furnished the world its greatest financiers, its most splendid poets, its most wonderful painters, and musicians that have searched and laid bare the soul of Harmony. In every branch of learning the despised Jew has left his impress indelibly. Down-trodden and oppressed, he has furnished the world's greatest philanthropists.

It is this magnificent race that will suffer most, as it always has suffered, and it is its people the people of Salem will be asked to aid.

There used to be an axiom of the law that laches did not run against the government. Presumably this applies to the state in its sovereign capacity. Judge Harris has held that the state's neglect to bring suit within a certain time bars it from recovery of certain school lands alleged to have been obtained fraudulently. The dispatches Tuesday, however, stated he had overruled the demurrer to an amended complaint, which indicates the state may still sue, despite its negligence in beginning action. In the amended complaint it is alleged the delay in beginning action was caused by the general government, and this indicates the judge holds laches does not run against the general government. However, nothing will be known as to the law in the case until the trial is over and the supreme court has passed on it, and not much then, if only some technical point is passed upon.

The allies having been driven back at several points at the battle of Aisne, the London dispatches announce that "all the ground gained by the Germans was relinquished by the allies voluntarily." This is probably true and the allies were probably not only willing but anxious to relinquish the ground on account of the evident irresistible desire of the Germans to acquire those same grounds.

The war has broken the records in many ways and certainly in the way of larceny. The dispatches Tuesday tell of an Italian stealing a new submarine, which it is conceded is something new in the line of theft.

THE ROUND-UP

Crescent merchants have adopted an earlier closing hour, changing from 7 o'clock p. m. to 6 o'clock.

A municipal woodpile, at which hobo men can find food and shelter, is one of the institutions at Ashland.

A call for bids has been posted at Molalla for 21430 square feet of sidewalk and 200 feet of curbing. Meanwhile the city's new water system is almost ready for the turning on of the water.

B. C. Jones, is editor and publisher of the Mount Angel Times, a new four-page, seven-column weekly, all home print and uncommonly good print at that. The paper is to be independent in all respects.

Condor Times: John Deart has been collecting subscriptions this week for the benefit of the widows and orphans in Europe. He has been quite successful and has collected nearly \$100 around town so far.

Editor Leonard, who announced some weeks ago that the name of his then recent purchase, the Canby Irrigator, did not please him and that he would change it, has now selected "Herald" as more suitable, and the Canby Herald it is henceforth to be.

When the walks to the elevator approach at Oregon City are completed, the Courier says, there will be afforded the finest possible viewpoint in Oregon City and it will be a most popular promenade. The elevator referred to is that which gives transport up and down the bluff between the upper and the lower town.

TO KEEP OCEAN FREE.

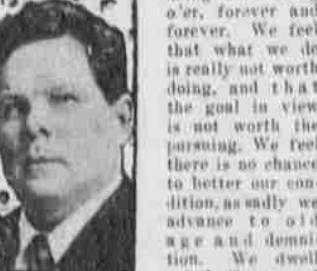
Washington, Oct. 6.—A statement that Japan and England would use their fleets to keep the trade routes of the Pacific free of German warships was given out at the Japanese embassy here today. It also confirmed reports that the German base on the Marshall Islands had been destroyed.

TO DISCUSS PEACE TREATY.

Washington, Oct. 6.—The German ambassador here, Count von Bernstorff, called at the state department late yesterday for a conference with Secretary Bryan over the peace treaty between the United States and Germany.

Discouragement

No matter what our task, some days will find us sighing, and wearily we ask, "What is the use of trying?" The heart is often sore, from struggle and endeavor. From doing a new thing over, over and over. We feel that what we do is really not worth doing, and that the goal in view is not worth the pursuing. We feel there is no chance to better our condition, as we advance to old age and demerol. We dwell with fear and doubt, and all ambitious projects, the bottom's fallen out of everything, we cherish. Upon such dreary days, which come to clerk or writer, how quickly words of praise will make the whole world brighter. There are but a few, who murmur, "By St. Bride! I liked your latest story!" This little cheerful word, though it may be deluding, makes us seem absurd, and ends my grief and brooding. And I, refreshed and strong, go forth, no longer fearful, to pass that word along, and make some other cheerier.



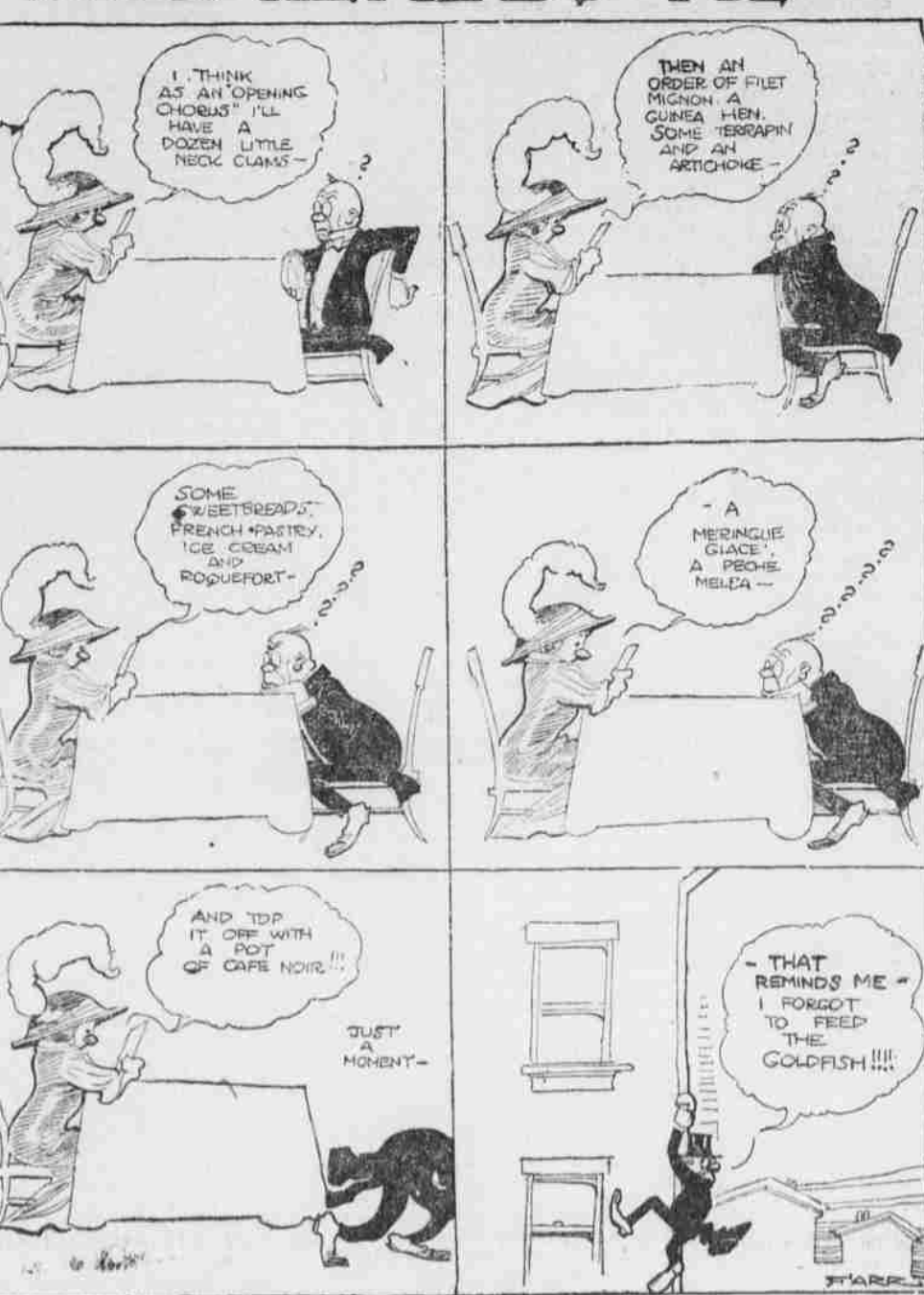
San Francisco, Oct. 6.—Heavy firing off the California coast in the vicinity of Eureka about 10 p. m. was reported by the keeper of the government light at Trinidad Head to the chamber of commerce's marine department today.

The message said the booming was heard for about 20 minutes but that it was impossible to distinguish ships on the horizon.

What war vessels might be off the Humboldt shore was not known. It was thought possible the Japanese cruiser or Japanese or the British cruiser Newcastle had attacked a German merchantman but it was not thought any other fighting craft were so far north.

All domestic helpers of the best kind are readers and users of the Journal Want Ads.

THAT REMINDS ME—



OPEN FORUM

SEARCH OF NEUTRAL VESSELS

Editor Capital Journal:
An editorial in The Capital Journal headed "Great Britain Should Be Careful," betrays in its tone a readiness to take offense without cause and a looseness of knowledge regarding the rights of belligerents that, in the interests of peace and harmony, should be corrected. In both this editorial and in a previous one similar in tone, The Capital Journal severely criticizes the actions of British naval officers in searching and detaining the neutral vessels of Holland, and then proceeds to say very positive things that if British naval officers attempt to do any such thing to American vessels Great Britain will get herself into immediate trouble with the United States.

As no particulars upon which a proper judgment could be rendered are given in regard to the searching of Holland vessels, I will not attempt to say whether or not the action of the British officers was justifiable in these particular instances. But it cannot be too well known that The Hague Convention of 1907, which the United States has signed, gives every belligerent the right to search any neutral vessel that it suspects of carrying contraband of war, and if it finds any contraband, to take said vessel to nearest port to be tried by a prize court. Germany has the same right of search as Great Britain and would exercise it just as stringently were she able to do so. However, as her commerce and her navy have both been either seized from the sea or bottled up, she is not using much searching nowadays.

There is a considerable body of opinion in the United States—which the editor of The Capital Journal seems to share—that the War of 1812 was over the "right of search" and that the result of that war was the abolishment of the "right of search" of neutrals. This is by no means the case. The War of 1812 was not over the "right of search" but because Great Britain, under cover of her right of search, attempted to take American sailors from American ships and force them to serve in the British navy. It was this taking of American citizens from neutral American vessels that caused the War of 1812, and the result of the war was to particularly establish the principle that neutral citizens cannot be taken from neutral vessels by belligerents. But the "right of search" was not in any way affected by the War of 1812, and has been exercised in every naval war since then, including the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, during which was the United States vigorously exercised the same right of searching neutrals for contraband which Great Britain is now exercising.

The Capital Journal, in a very unwelcome manner, intimates that England searches Holland vessels because the Dutch are a weak nation, and refrains from searching American vessels because America is a strong nation. This is by no means the case. The Capital

Journal's war news during the past few weeks shows that several American vessels have been searched and taken to British ports, but a greater number of Holland vessels have been overhauled.

There are two great reasons for this difference. In the first place, Holland has a larger merchant marine than the United States. In the second place, Holland holds a peculiar geographical position in this war. She controls the mouth of the Rhine, the greatest river in Germany. No commerce can enter German ocean ports because they are blockaded by the British navy. But the Holland port of Rotterdam, situated at the mouth of the Rhine, is open to the commerce of the world because it is a neutral port. There is, therefore, a constant incentive for Germany to import war supplies through the neutral port of Rotterdam and from there up the Rhine into Germany, and undoubtedly the high prices offered in Germany for such goods are a great inducement to the Holland ship owners and merchants to make such imports. But The Hague Convention of 1907 and the Declaration of London of 1909, which together form the international law on the subject, forbid such a practice. I quote from Prof. Charles Cheney Hyde, professor of international law in the Northwestern University, who says as follows:

"Contraband is subject to capture if destined to territory belonging to the enemy. This is true whether the carriage of goods is direct, or entails transshipment or subsequent transport by land. What is decisive is the destination, not of the vessel, but of the goods. Thus, a consignment of uniforms from New York on an American vessel bound for Naples or any other neutral port would be subject to capture even within sight of Nantucket, if it were shown that the ultimate destination of the goods was Trieste."

Of course, from the above quotation it will be seen that a consignment of contraband on a Dutch vessel bound for Rotterdam, but the ultimate destination of which was Germany, would be equally subject to seizure by the British navy. Therefore, when we hear that people in Rotterdam are disgruntled at the action of British naval officers, we must not take such talk too seriously. Probably those who are talking most loudly are the ones who are violating international law most frequently. When British vessels attempted to run the blockade of southern ports during the Civil War and were captured the British owners complained bitterly of what they called the high-handed conduct of United States naval officers. But the British government did not back them up. Now the Rotterdam ship owners complain in the same way of British naval officers. But Queen Wilhelmina and her government will not back them up.

Of course, it is possible that occasionally some over-zealous British officer may exceed his powers, just as an over-zealous American commander in the Civil War exceeded his powers by taking the southern delegates, Seward and Mason, from off a British vessel by force. In such a case the British government will do what President Lincoln

did in that historic case, namely, make proper apologies and reparation for the unlawful act of its officers.

Meanwhile, since the British government up to the present time has given no grounds for the American people to take offense, would it not be well for the editor of The Capital Journal to refrain from proclaiming as loudly what the United States might possibly do under certain improbable circumstances, and let us go on our way with courage, doing that which is right, keeping our own conduct void of offense, and not erasing imaginary bridges until we come to them. By so doing we shall better insure that spirit of neutrality urged upon us by President Wilson, than by letting our imaginations and speech run away with us.

— A. DAVIES FLEET.

Oregon City, Ore., Sept. 30, 1914.
Editor Courier:—Will you or your readers, or some of the mortgage and diamond owners who are opposing the \$1500 Homes Tax Exemption, kindly and fully answer the following questions?

\$15000 invested in a mortgage is not taxed in Oregon. Why should not \$1500 also be exempt if it is invested in farm buildings, cows, teams, land clearings and orchards with which to make a living?

\$1500 spent for diamonds and jewelry "in actual use" is by law exempt from tax in Oregon. Why should not \$1500 spent for a dwelling house and furniture "in actual use" be exempt from tax?

The great department stores will get exemption does not apply to corporations. The great department stores will get nothing from this, neither will the sky scrapers nor the railroads, but the little merchant may save something on his taxes.

The mortgage tax law of Oregon was repealed in 1893, and mortgages have not been taxed since then, in most of the counties, including Clackamas and Multnomah.

No one can justly oppose allowing the farmer and the little home owner so small an exemption while so many wealthy people and corporations are exempt on their mortgages and diamonds, not to mention the money on which they never do pay tax.

Sincerely yours,
W. S. U'Ren.

YAMHILL BRIDGE COMPLETED.

The new steel bridge across the Yamhill river, one mile south of Willamina, was completed on Saturday last, and yesterday the county commissioners, accompanied by Roadmaster Finn, made an inspection of the structure with a view to formally accepting it when court convenes tomorrow. The bridge is pronounced one of the very best in the county. It has a 16-foot roadway, and a carrying capacity of one hundred pounds to the square foot, or one hundred and sixty pounds per linear foot. There are two spans of one hundred and fifty feet each, and the piers are of concrete, resting on a solid rock base nine feet below the river bed.—Dallas Observer.

The problems of farming are as serious as the multiplication tables.