

THE EVENING NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1918.

WOMEN WORKERS IN FRANCE.

A munition plant in France which maintains a model nursery for the babies of its women employes is described by Dr. Ester Lovejoy, who is attached to the Red Cross in Paris, in a letter to Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, chairman of the woman's committee of the Council of National Defense.

"I have been assigned to work in Paris," she writes, "and have been visiting institutions for the help of women and children in hospitals, maternities, clinics, prenatal homes, homes for nursing mothers and nurseries for children whose mothers have replaced men in industries. At a munition plant I visited recently, provisions for pregnant women, who are obliged to work, and for nursing mothers and their infants are interesting indications of the trend of things under the pressure of economic necessity.

"Six thousand women are employed at this place and there is a model nursery for the care of infants. When the mothers return to the factories after their confinements, their infants are taken, free of cost, and cared for by trained nurses in a home built for babies, not a corner in a house built for grown people. The mothers of these babies are allowed half an hour every three hours to nurse their babies, and at night there is one bottle feeding, which arrangement permits the mother to go home at 6:30 o'clock and rest all night without being troubled by the baby. The babies are always left in the nursery during the night. If ideas of this kind are put in practice during the war and developed afterward there will be some good at least come out of the evil of it all."

Dr. Lovejoy went to Paris as a member of an American medical unit. When the medical unit system was abandoned, she was appointed second medical assistant in the children's bureau of the Red Cross in Paris—a bureau which includes women as well as children.

CANT THE RASCALS OUT.

The senate commerce and military committees are rendering the nation immensely valuable service by probing governmental shipbuilding and the letting of contracts for military supplies. Already enough is revealed to warrant the deliberate declaration that we are facing the greatest scandals since the war with Spain, perhaps the worst known in American public life in 50 years, says the Spokane Review.

Take the case of the Sloan Shipyard corporation of Seattle, which has a contract to build 16 wooden ships for the government for a total price of \$7,840,000. The concern is in a bad way and to protect itself the government has had to take a \$750,000 mortgage on the plant.

In the course of his investigations Admiral Bowles found that the Seattle corporation had paid \$400,000 to the Clinfield Navigation Company. "What was that for?" the admiral asked of the organizer and head of the Seattle concern and the answer was that it was for brokerage or commission for obtaining the \$7,840,000 contract.

Rakeoff, but why rakeoff to a horning-in concern between the government and the company that was to build the ships?

That seems pretty frenzied finance, but it is "small potatoes" compared with the larger interest in the revelations of the contract entered into by the government with the American International a company in which the firm of Stone & Webster, of Seattle, is the chief figure, for the erection of a steel ship fabrication plant near Philadelphia.

In this deal the government advances \$21,000,000 or more to build the plant; in other words, puts up almost the entire capital and running expenses, promising the company \$6,000,000 of fees—fees on 120 ships, all the costs of building which



At the Antlers Tomorrow and Friday.

are to be paid by the government!

The salary roll of this concern is outrageous. Several men are paid in excess of \$2,000 a month. A "publicity manager" is paid \$10,000.00 a year, and his two assistants receive \$8,000 and \$6,000—\$24,000 a year for "publicity"—more probably for secrecy.

"In view of these salaries," asked Senator Johnson, "have you any complaint to make against skilled mechanics, men who work with their hands in ship building, should they ask high wages?"

"It is very natural and human for them to do so," replied Meyer Bloomfield, of the labor organization of the shipping board, who was the witness on the stand at the moment.

There is the poison of it, more demoralizing, infinitely more demoralizing, than the mere squandering of public funds, bad as that is, for it breeds unrest and fosters strikes at a time when our allies are begging us to send them ships and save the great cause that Germany is trying to scuttle with her submarines.

Turn, now, from this inquiry to the other disheartening investigation by the senate military affairs committee.

Charles Eisenman, vice chairman of the council of national defense, admitted on the witness stand Thursday that nine firms that had their representatives on this contract committee got army supply orders from the committee that totaled \$129,000,000. The witness asserted, however, that all but \$15,000,000 of these contracts was placed before the contractors' representatives became connected with the committee.

There are other astounding revelations, but these are enough to justify public indignation and scorn. The senate committees are righteously aroused, and Chairman Chamberlain, of the military committee goes to the heart of the evil with his bill to create a new cabinet member, to be known as the secretary of munitions and have complete charge of all war material purchasing.

A number of greedy, unpatriotic rascals have wormed their way into the volunteer service at the capital. They should be cast out and scourged by public proclamation of the president. Public safety, the good name of the government and justice to the host of honest men who are giving their service without thought of reward, all cry out insistently for that action.

If the government is to forbid the manufacture of left handed plows, we tremble for the left handed screwdriver, monkey wrench and auger. And what about left handed baskets?

For the years in which this country lived in a fool's paradise it must pay a price, but now every possible effort must be made in order that our fighting may be efficient.

President Wilson has sent his cast-off clothes to Belgium, but it is understood that his shoes are to go in 1920 to some poor but deserving American statesman.

SHASTA LIMITED TO CONTINUE IN OPERATION

Rumors that the Shasta Limited may be removed from Southern Pacific schedules as a step toward traffic economy under federal control are vigorously denied by John M. Scott, general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific, who recently returned from a company conference at San Francisco.

"There is no intention of withdrawing the Shasta from service," said Mr. Scott yesterday, "nor has such a proposal been discussed. I am at a loss to know where the rumor originated. We cannot speak for the future, but for the present no change of such nature is even contemplated."

A circular has been issued from the offices of the Southern Pacific general freight agent and general passenger agent whose headquarters are in this city, advising that aside from the discontinuance of soliciting business there will be no change for the present in the service.

Agents will continue to furnish shippers and passengers with all information available on request, as has been the practice in the past, but no suggestions will be made as to the routing of freight or passenger travel, the choice of routes being left entirely to the discretion of the shipper or passenger.

LITERALLY BATHED IN CHAMPAGNE, WHISKEY

The following, from the San Francisco Call of January 2 tells of the death of a former Eugene woman:

"Following a three days' New Year celebration during which dozens of bottles of champagne and Scotch whiskey were consumed, the aged Mrs. Maude Hudson Smith, aged 45, of Portland, is dead today and her husband, Rod E. Smith, fire insurance agent, of Portland, is in a serious condition at his room in the Cliff hotel.

"The couple's drinking was so heavy Saturday night and Sunday. Just after they had arrived from the north that the hotel management Monday refused them more liquor. The Smiths secured additional supplies by telephoning a downtown grocery.

"Mrs. Smith's body was found last night by F. H. Hood, a cousin, who had previously made unsuccessful attempts to get the pair to moderate their potions and who called to see how the pair were faring. He found the woman in the bathroom dead and Smith lying on the bed in a deep stupor. A physician who was summoned at once declared that excessive drinking undoubtedly was the cause of death.

"Jewels valued at more than \$3000 and over \$100 in cash were lying on the dresser. Mrs. Smith was left valuable property by one of her parents some time ago and Smith also is said to be wealthy."

Loyal Stephens arrived in this city Wednesday morning and will visit for a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Stephens.

MUCH INDIGNATION AMONG OFFICERS

Report That American Soldiers Are Drinking to Excess Is Contradicted.

SAYS HIGH AUTHORITY

Vice Admiral Sims and Colonel Slocum Declare That the Charges Are False—Cases Isolated Ones They State.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—Much indignation has been caused among American army and navy officials and other Americans in London because of reports circulated in the United States that American soldiers and sailors in Europe were drinking to excess. The indignation has been intensified by a charge made in his sermon at the city temple Sunday by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Fort Newton, of Iowa, the pastor, of drunkenness among American soldiers in England. "When I see American boys staggering in the street drunk, I hate London," was one of the utterances of Dr. Newton.

Vice Admiral William S. Sims, commander of the American naval forces, and Colonel S. H. L. Slocum, military attaché of the American embassy in London, today declared that the charges of drunkenness were false, and that they also were a reflection on the American forces, as well as an insult to Great Britain. Admiral Sims said there never was a time in American history when there was so little drunkenness among the American fighting forces. He has been here for eight months, he said, and had visited the American flotilla base and various cities in England and on the French front and never had seen a drunken American soldier or sailor and no case of drunkenness in the navy had been called to his attention.

"The Americans did not come to Europe to get drunk," Admiral Sims continued. "This war is a serious business with them. As far as the navy is concerned, the young men who are hunting for submarines realize that they must have all their wits about them. Besides, there is a fine feeling of honor among them. They know the navy's orders. They are here to aid their country; they are here to make a record."

Colonel Slocum also declared that he had never seen a drunken American fighting man on this side of the water. Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador and the secretary of the embassy, the American consul general and the officials of the consulate, all made similar assertions—that they had never observed an intoxicated American soldier or sailor on the streets of London or anywhere else in this country.

The Rev. Dr. Newton, in a statement today, said that he was called recently to Eagle Hut, the Y. M. C. A. headquarters, and that there were three American soldiers there who were so intoxicated that they could not take off their clothes and go to bed. One of these men, he added, had been baptized by him years ago. "I have seen Americans drunk in the streets," Dr. Newton continued. "I am as proud of my country as the army and navy officials are, but I am thinking of these boys."

An investigation today showed that it was the general opinion that any drunkenness on this side of American soldiers and sailors is confined to a few isolated cases, and that Dr. Newton's remarks are deprecated by British officials. One of these officials said today:

"Dr. Newton's allegations regarding intemperance generally are in striking contrast with known facts. Regarding drunkenness in London at the present day, the total number of cases during the recent Christmas and New Year holidays showed a decline of 69 per cent, as compared with the figures of 1915. Over the whole of Great Britain a reduction well over 70 per cent has been achieved by the regulations which have been in force since 1915."

Good news. We now have plenty of Coos Bay coal. Page Investment Co., phone 242.

CLASSIFIED COLUMN

FOR SALE—Drainage tile, brick, Port Orford cedar, at rear of new federal bldg. M. Cox. Phone 57-Y.

TIRE FILLERS FOR SALE—Complete set for Ford car. Inquire at News office. Does away with punctures. tf

OLD PAPERS—"Housecleaning" is on at The News office, and we have a lot of old papers for sale at 10 cents the bundle. They will not last long, so get a supply early.

FOR SALE—Six registered Shropshire sheep. Five ewes, 5 years old, and a two year old ram (not related). Good sheep and in good condition. Price \$120.00. H. E. Reed, R. F. D. 1, Roseburg, Ore.

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FOR SALE—Baled and loose oat and vetch hay. Phone 13F12.

FOR SALE—General mdse. store at Melrose, Ore., 8 miles from Roseburg; corner roads; doing good business. Owner will explain reason for selling same. Address R. Stubbs, Melrose, Ore. 14

WANTED.

WOOD CHOPPERS WANTED—Free cabin. C. T. Brown. Phone 3F24.

WANTED—Wood cutters. All winter's work. Phone 14F14. D.

WANTED—Position to do general house work. Apply 337 S. Pine street. j11p

WANTED TO RENT—A stock ranch stocked and furnished. Can give references. Address Box 75, Cottage Grove, Ore.

WANTED—Wood cutters. Good timber on county road, good ground, or will sell stumpage. Inquire N. L. Conn, phone 6F15.

WANTED—A small ranch. Must have some timber on it, prefer one with creek or spring. Call or write A. Berneker, 746 Mill street, Roseburg, Ore. j11p

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—4 room furnished house. Inquire 547 S. Stephens or phone 454-R.

FOR RENT—5-room furnished house close in. See G. W. Sloper 308 N. Jackson street. tf

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MISCELLANEOUS.

STRAYED—Red cow with horns, little white in flank. Phone 15F12. Reward. tf

FOUND—Two small money purses, containing some small change. Inquire News office.

ORDER your rose bushes and shrubbery now of Mrs. F. D. Owen, florist, city, phone 240. Green House 9F 12. tf

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