

St. Helens Mist

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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER



UNSAFE DOCKS

The question of unsafe docks is again before the council and the usual procrastinating methods of "notifying someone else to fix the dock or tear it down" will be the manner in which the question is disposed of until someone is hurt and the city has a damage bill to pay. The safe and sane solution of the matter is for the city to build a dock. They have the property and the water frontage. Both were bought so that the city would have property on which to build a dock. The people have twice voted in favor of the dock, but it seems the powers in the city administration do not heed the voice of the people nor care for the expression of their will.

It is foolish to delay this dock proposition. The dock is needed and there is no good reason why it should not be built.

YOUR COUNTY FAIR

The Columbia County Fair, your fair, will be held Sept. 18, 19 and 20. The dates are not far off and preparations should now be made to have exhibits.

A good county fair is the best advertisement a county can have and there is no reason why this year's fair shouldn't be a great ad for the county. Columbia's soil is rich and productive and almost anything can be raised and grown at a profit. The farmers and producers should have

enough interest in their fair to have creditable exhibits and the people generally should take sufficient pride in their fair, to attend and by their attendance and interest, do their little part in contributing to the success of the fair.

Let's all pull together to make the 1918 fair the best and biggest one yet.

BRUTE POWER OF MONEY

Numerous initiative bills were started by the plain people of Oregon to go upon the ballot this fall. Also C. S. Jackson, wealthy publisher of the Portland Evening Journal, started two bills.

The plain people not having small fortunes to pay the cost of getting 25,000 signatures to each petition, and being busy working in shipyard, and getting in crops finally abandoned all their bills even after many signatures were obtained.

Mr. Jackson, having riches, was able to afford the expense of getting enough signatures for each of his two bills, so they go on the ballot, the only two initiative measures to have enough names to get them on the ballot.

The two Jackson bills represent pique against other publishers. One is intended to divert revenue from publishers to the postal service, by substituting post card notices for newspaper publication of delinquent taxes. The other bill reduces the charge made for publishing legal notices. Both matters are entirely within legislative control, so no real necessity exists for invoking a vote of all the people.

So far as affording a means for the people to legislate the initiative might as well not be in existence this fall. But it does afford the means whereby the brute power of money may place measures upon the ballot.

AMERICANS NEVER HALT

"The order for the advance came, and the line moved forward across the grain fields directly through the barrage. On a nearby hillside the chief staff officers watched the operation. They saw shells fall, in some cases leaving long gaps in the line, but the troops never halted."

"American troops in the Soissons-Rheims sector have been fighting virtually without cessation along their whole line for the last 24 hours."

These are two items contained in Wednesday's dispatches from the bat-

tle fields in France and they speak volumes. In reading the news from the front, the average person is prone to think of only the advantages which our troops have gained and does not take into consideration the hardships endured and the great sacrifices made. These two items should bring to our attention more forcibly how much we owe the boys in khaki and each of the stay-at-homes should make the firm resolve that there shall be no halt in the industrial enterprises of this country that will delay the great work abroad. We owe this to our gallant troops who when marching through the deadly barrage never halted except when the bursting shells took their toll of death.

The Republican party heralded its own birth by saving the life of the nation, and ever since it has been a party of patriotism, with its loyalty measured only by the possibilities. And now in this, the greatest of all crises, our party, with the control of the government, in other hands, becomes the war party of the nation, insisting upon the right of a full participation, giving to the last of our blood and our treasure, standing immovably against an inconclusive peace and crying continually, "Carry on! carry on! carry on!" —Extract from speech of Will H. Hays, Chairman of Republican National Committee at New York State convention, Saratoga, N. Y., July 18th.

It is sad to see so many of our young men don the accoutrements of war and go forth to battle, but it is glorious to think that the most of them will return some day, flushed with victory and happy in the thought that they had done their part in putting down oppression and freeing the world of its greatest curse—Prussian militarism.—Ex.

GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR

(Continued from Page 1)

Lithographing press, printing some poetry about the Rhine.

If the clothing of these men was bedraggled when they were taken, prisoners, the British officers made them send home for better uniforms, whole and clean, so that, on the whole, the officers presented a very neat appearance.

They were permitted to receive packages from home, and one of these being opened while we were there told eloquently of the conditions in Germany. It had been sent by a mother to her son in the prison camp. The package was about the size of a pasteboard shoe box, and in it were about a dozen very small potatoes, a few pieces of canned meat and other morsels of food.

This meagre portion told of a mother's skimping to send to her boy prisoner who, in reality, was faring very well. Tales were told in Germany of the want among the men in British camps, which led to the sending of this and other boxes, but the fact was and is that the British are living up to international law in caring for enemy prisoners.

There was an agreement made before the war that officers in prison camps should receive 50 cents a day, and England was not regarding that as a dead letter, but was paying the amount to the officers. They had good food, more meat than I had seen in restaurants, plenty of tobacco and cigars and good quarters.

Another package received by one of the prisoners contained in it a small bottle of white tablets. The British officer who was inspecting all packages held it out. The German officer got a companion to draw the attention of the British officer to another package, and then picked up the forbidden bottle, shoving it into his pocket.

"Put it down," commanded another British officer, not seen until then by the German. "Why do you try to take it when told no to?"

"I am a German officer," said the prisoner. "That was intended for me, and you have no right to withhold from an officer that which is his."

"For that, your mail and packages will be withheld for 30 days," was the reply from a British officer who did not hold the German title in such awe and esteem as the German would have him.

It revealed again the trend of mind that comes with German militarism.

In other prison camps the private soldiers and non-commissioned officers were kept at work on the roads and repairing the salvage gathered on the battlefields and made over for use in future battles.

The private soldiers did not impress one as being up to the average of the French, the British or the Americans. They appeared to be men who lacked initiative, but who would take orders because they had been used to it all their lives. In a hand-to-hand combat, on the ground or in the air, the British, French and American can best them almost invariably.

REPORT

all the news happenings that come to your attention to this office. It will be appreciated for every piece of news will make the paper more interesting for you as well as others. We want and with your help will print all

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H. HOLMAN, Agent

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SCHEDULE

	A. M.	P. M.
Lv. St. Helens	7:30	1:30
Warren	7:45	1:45
Scappoose	8:00	2:00
Ar. Portland	9:20	3:20
Lv. Portland	10:00	4:00
Ar. St. Helens	11:50	5:50

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