

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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FOR THE SEAMEN

In the seamen's measure, signed by President Wilson in the closing hours of the Sixty-third congress, the Sailors' union has obtained an enactment for provisions of which a continuous 20 years' battle had been maintained. The new law, while it does not meet many of the desires of the mariners, is still sufficiently stringent to satisfy their leaders.

It was pressed through congress chiefly through the efforts of Senator La Follette and, besides meeting demands of the sailors, culminates the agitation for better safety at sea regulations which began with the disaster that befell the Titanic. The bill, as passed, is much amended from the original draft by the Wisconsin senator.

Among other things which the law will provide are:

Enough life boats and rafts to accommodate all persons carried aboard ocean going ships—75 per cent boats and 25 per cent rafts.

On coastwise ships not going over 20 nautical miles from shore, enough rafts and boats to accommodate 70 per cent of those on board—half in rafts and half in boats. This provision operates only from May 15 to Sept. 15, during the summer vacation season.

On the Great Lakes, on routes more than three miles from shore, at any point, life boats and rafts for all, excepting from May 15 to Sept. 15, when 20 per cent and 30 per cent rafts are sufficient.

For craft within the three mile limit, or on waters not of sufficient depth to submerge the decks, the requirements are to be fixed by supervising inspectors of the commerce department.

The enactment provides that all seamen, on either American or foreign vessels, providing they do not make two demands in five days' time, may draw half the wages due them. Arrests for desertion are abolished. A clause prohibiting payment of wages in advance effectually operates against the practice of shanghaiing men into service.

According to urgent pleadings of the seamen, regulations are included requiring better quarters for the men on all ships built in the United States after July 1.

Eighteen months' service on deck is stipulated as the time of apprenticeship for every able seaman. Of these, on each vessel, a sufficient complement is required to provide one or more to every life boat or life raft.

In the opinion of Senator La Follette, the new law is generally satisfying, so far as it goes, except that he has served notice that at the next session of congress he will make a fight for a law providing life boats for all. He opposes life rafts, declaring them a poor substitute for boats.

The members of the Sixty-third

congress came nearer to earning their salaries than have the members of any other congress in the history of the country, if time is to be considered.

If it becomes impossible to send supplies to the Belgians, will the Americans have to wear all those socks the American women have been knitting?

Jack Johnson says he will return to this country and take his medicine. But will he write a testimonial for the medicine?

It seems much more difficult to silence a fortress than to silence a fort. Does the sex cause this difference?

Germany has cut down the size of loaves of bread. But if you know the usual size of German loaves it does not appear so serious.

Congress has appropriated money to build submarines. Seems as though that should be taken from the sinking fund.

WILL WE BE READY?

The war which is raging in Europe has not paralysed business the world over, but it has established a measure of business uncertainty at points even far distant from the actual scene of operations.

Every corner of the globe has felt the results of the convulsion. It is impossible that any other condition could prevail.

The United States has been extremely fortunate. The opening of the war period found this country with a bumper grain crop and with a wonderful supply of the commodities which the world was obliged to buy regardless of the war condition.

While the European tide was materially affected and money became unsteady in this country as a natural result of the war, quick measures were taken to establish the confidence of the American people in their own country.

The finances of the United States were materially strengthened, and anything like a panic was averted. The federal reserve bank system went into operation almost with the breaking out of the war, and nothing could have been more fortunate for the banks of the nation. Although the reserve system has not been used to any extent, the mere fact of its establishment and existence was sufficient to strengthen the confidence of the people in their banks. So long as the people have confidence and do not start the unwise practice of removing the money and burying it in their cellars, there is little likelihood of a panic. A few frightened ones withdrew their savings from banks, but they were in the vast minority. Generally speaking, the banks of the United States are as solid as the rock of Gibraltar. A newly stimulated confidence on the part of the people has made them so.

Thus it is that, financially, America has remained sound during this great crisis in world affairs. The war came when there was a slight business depression already in existence as a result of various internal political conditions. Business was already at a low ebb when the war started. It was going through the usual reconstruction period which comes with relentless regularity at certain stated and almost definite periods.

With the beginning of the new year the bankers and others reported a general uplift and business is steadily gaining. Some optimists have claimed that within a year business will be back on a normal basis.

There is never anything to be gained however, by trying to deceive ourselves. The word of the optimist will come true, but only on one condition is that some sort of peace be patched up in Europe. If the countries now at war continue the program they have mapped out, peace

will not be declared during this year, and it may be two or three years away. But, on the other hand, peace may come suddenly. Something may happen which will bring about a better understanding. It has been suggested probable although, of course, it is possible.

Business conditions in America will not reach normal until the war ends or until the first proposal of peace is made by one of the warring powers.

Then business conditions will not only reach normal, but will surpass it. When the pendulum swings back America will be the scene of the most tremendous business boom in the history of the world.

Every article in America will sell at its greatest possible value, and an uninterrupted commerce will bring a flood of purchasers. Nothing can stop this business revival. In Europe they are not creating. They are destroying. They are destroying not only the luxuries but the things they actually need. The food supply, the clothing supply, and all the necessities are being used up.

In America we are creating all the time, or should be, and this raises a point which must be given much importance.

During this temporary lull in business, are the manufacturers of America laying up stores of goods to meet the great demand which will come when the war is over?

When Europe pounds at our doors and demands our goods at our own prices, are we going to be able to satisfy the demand or will we have to tell them that we have been idle during their war and that we have not been creating the goods they so urgently need?

This is a grave question. When the war ceases we cannot start up all mills and suddenly turn out enough goods to supply the world, for the world will need a great deal. The construction period in Europe will make a greater demand for American goods than was ever known. There will be no other place for Europeans to send for goods excepting the United States and South America.

Is America working for the future or merely for the present? If America was working for the future, there could be nothing suggestive of hard times in this country. They tell us that South America is going ahead and, what she cannot deliver she is storing. There may be a practical hint in this.

After every war there comes a business revival. The size of the business depends altogether on the size of the war, and this is the world's greatest war.

This is America's opportunity to get busy and to work for the day that is to come. Are we making the best of this opportunity? We will be practically the only market when Europe, destitute of goods, knocks at our gates.

Will we be able to deliver the goods when the pendulum swings back?



N. K. West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

News From Ready-to-Wear Section

New Arrivals by Express: Easter is Now Only One Week Away.

Some of the prettiest styles of the season arrived yesterday in new suits, coats dresses and waists. They are on display ready for your inspection.

SMART NEW SUITS

Suits that are decidedly different than anything that has been shown this season. Silk suits in Belgian blue poplin and black taffeta made in the newest styles. Also a decidedly military model in black and white check. The prices are **\$32.50 to \$42.50** See them. Other new spring suits we are showing are of serges, poplin, gabardines and crepes, priced **\$15.00 to \$30.00**

NEW DRESSES

Just received—Charming styles in silk—black and colors. Priced **\$7.50 to \$15**

NEW WAISTS

Silk waists in crepe de chine—made with combination high or low collar. Priced **\$2.50 to \$4.00**

Our Piece Goods Department Ready to Supply Your Needs

The stocks are now most complete with the newest and best. The new silks are beautiful in colorings and design. They will be of special interest to those planning the Easter gown—new pussy willow taffetas in all colors—New black and white effects in checks and stripes in all grades. **75¢ to \$1.25**

And new black silks in every wanted weave and quality. Our collection of wool fabrics is the finest we have ever shown—gabardines, whipcords, serges, benetians, wool poplins, wool charmeuse, granite cloths, etc. are here in all the new colors and qualities, 50¢ to \$2.25 yard. We have also just received some new French challies that are beautiful. Then the dainties of wash materials in every wanted material is here for your choosing. See the window display of our beautiful embroideries.

Exclusive La Grande agents for Nemo corsets \$3.00 to \$5.00
Henderson corsets \$1.00 to \$3.50
Fownes' gloves \$1.25 to \$1.75
Black hosiery for women and children 25c
Utz and Dunn and Pingree shoes for women \$3.00 to \$5.00
Society brand, Benjamin suits for men \$20.00 \$22.50 \$25.00
Fidelity suits for men \$15.00
Manhattan shirts, Tilt and Nettleton shoes, etc.

TALENT HELPED, BUT WORK WAS REAL SECRET OF FILM-STAR'S SUCCESS



MISS NORMA PHILLIPS.

"Start early if you have to go far," is Norma Phillips' motto, and "Our Mutual Girl" started her stage career in the kindergarten.

plainly. I was always reciting pieces. I have been working for stage success ever since I was a child. They said I had some talent for acting, but I paid no attention to that. I knew even then that work is the secret of success."

pany to Walter M. Brooke. \$1.00 etc.
Bargain and Sale deed. Conveys: The South 1-2 of North 1-2 of Northwest 1-4 of Northwest 1-4 of section 22, in township 1 N. R. 38, E. W. M. excepting a strip of land 30 feet wide off the East end reserved for road purposes. (Recorded Book 64, page 119.)

Read the advertisements.

LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK

Capital \$200,000.00 Resources \$1,000,000.00
Surplus \$50,000.00

OFFICERS:—

Fred J. Holmes, President C. C. Penington, V.-Pres.
F. L. Meyers, Cashier
Earl Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Ass't Cashiers

DIRECTORS:

Fred J. Holmes A. T. Hill H. E. Coolidge
C. C. Penington J. F. Conley A. Blockland
F. L. Meyers J. G. Snodgrass H. S. Brownton

What This Bank Aims to Do

To promote our customers' interests as we would our own;
To do all we can to make their relations here profitable and agreeable to them;
To contribute to their enterprises, the co-operation, foresight and timely assistance which a good Bank can properly bestow.

Sheriff's Sale.

Notice is hereby given That, by virtue of an Execution and Order of Sale upon decree of foreclosure, issued out of and under the Seal of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the

DARLAND'S CHIROPRACTIC PARLORS

Four Depot Street

George F. Darland

Dr. Mary V. Darland

What Do You Think of This One?

Mrs. Chas. Hamilton, of Lostine, Ore., says "I had rheumatism for 38 years, tried everything, even to change of climate. Paid one doctor bill of \$998.00 and never got any permanent relief until I went to Dr. Darland's chiropractic parlors 59 days two years ago and have been well ever since and do all my own house work on the farm."