

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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STATE CONTROL IS GROWING

The hand that makes the shells is the hand that wins the war.

If Kitchener were an aphorist, he might have summarized his appeal to the operatives in British arsenals to jog along with their work. But being a matter of fact person "K" merely said that he needed a lot of ammunition and that he worries more over conditions in factories than over conditions in the trenches.

The war lord's appeal to workmen of Great Britain came as the climax to a series of industrial troubles. England is an individualist nation; the government does not interfere with private business except when necessary. Individualism and war do not work well together, as the government has discovered to its sorrow. Strikes developed. The workmen believed that their employers were getting rich out of the emergency and considered that they ought to have a slice of the mead in the shape of higher wages. The government thereupon broke the deadlock by declaring that if capital and labor could not agree the plants would be nationalized. Then the workmen being government servants, would have to obey orders or be shot for mutiny. That settled the laborers. But the government did not play favorites. Lloyd-George said that if it took over two arm plants the men would be paid higher wages, and the lucrative business of making arms and ammunition would become a government monopoly for all time. That settled the capitalists.

But such is the nature of man and master in a country where propaganda pulses and free speech rules that resentment smoldered. The workmen loathed the job. So Lord Kitchener told them to buckle to and warned the employers that if the square deal to labor was not soon forthcoming the government plan for taking over the plants would be put through as originally planned.

Before long the government is sure to take over the plants because it cannot remain forever at the mercy

of bickering individuals. This war, indeed, marks a transition between individual and state control. The change is most marked in Germany, but everywhere in Europe the state is assuming a larger share in the control of industry.

When F. G. R. Gordon says that municipal ownership is a step toward Socialism he overlooks the fact that state ownership is being put into practice by the upper tenth in Europe solely because its most efficient from the state's standpoint. This is not a day when men faced by realities quail before the bogey of names.

A Connecticut wife gave her spouse \$24,000 upon divorcing him. There seems to be a general tendency on the part of the new woman to be kind and considerate toward her husbands instead of thrusting them out without provision for their future.

Gen. Scott was unable to find the leader of the Pulte Indian revolt. We imagine the trouble was that Gen. Scott had no authority to sign him to a baseball contract.

The federal trade commission has been formally sworn in, but it is expected that this body will call for a good deal of additional swearing.

Billy Sunday converted 600 Princeton students in a half hour, but the trouble with most students is that they won't stay converted.

FORUM.

Hot Lake, March 29.—(To the editor.)—I noticed in your editorial recently, you ask why cannot La Grande get up a combined choir, seeing they have two pipe organs and several choirs.

Do you remember how the people of La Grande voted at the last election on the question of whether a nucleus of a fund should be donated by the city toward forming a city band, to amuse the people during the summer evenings by free public concerts?

There was La Grande's answer to anything musically good. Don't try and stir them up for a combined choir. They will answer you the same as they did the proposition for a city band.

With the exception of the good people of the L. D. S. church, how many La Grande people went to hear that prince of organists, J. J. McClellan? Very few, but I was one of those few and shall cherish the memory, for a long time, the music which came from the organ at the bidding of the master mind and hands.

Yours truly,
CHAS. E. KING.

ECHOES FROM TRENCHES.

(Cont. from Page 1.)

rades drop all around, to properly appreciate the victory we won. There was mud and slime and rain, it was impossible to eat or drink, sleep and rest were entirely out of the question. No doubt you read in the papers of the prisoners we took, the many canon, machine guns, etc., that we captured. At Soissons we could note the pleasure of the prisoners who were thus relieved of the great hardships of war. They knew they would exchange these for the comparatively pleasant detention camps of the Germans where they would be well fed and decently treated.

Over our eastern border the Russian "steamroller" has been turned back by the troops of our great General Hindenburg. The latter are not very far from Warsaw at present. At the Masurian Lakes another 65,000 Russians have been taken prisoners, 3 hospital trains and countless other spoils of war. No enemies are left on German soil. Our navy and especially our submarines are a source of constant pride to us and of constant worry to England. They have shown the world that a fight with the "German Michel" is no child's play. Among our closer acquaintances who have fallen in battle are Otto Liebigott, of my company, who was wounded at my side and died of his wounds, Fritz Wittenbacher, that perfect type

of German strength and health. Wilhelm Nieburg, the chairman of my lodge, one of the best of men—and many others.

I must come to a close for this time with kindest regards to all of you. Your Wilhelm.

The letter also contained a newspaper clipping of another letter written by Mr. Wolff in December to the members of his lodge. Translated, the letter reads:

My Dear Brothers:—Have just received the pleasant news from my wife that you are attempting to bring solace and encouragement to those whose relatives are in the field. How thankful I am for this and how it adds to my peace of mind to know that my loved ones at home are looked after by relative and also by kindly and helpful members of my lodge. I can not well express it in words. I will prove my appreciation with deeds later on, provided God grants me a safe return. Mr. Opel tells me that several of the brothers have been called on to serve the Fatherland. Yes, we will need all that can be spared to resist the attacks of our enemies. It will be a hard struggle and much will be expected of each individual. Hardships of every sort will have to be overcome. Am just thinking of it, for 14 days we have been in the trenches. Day and night, in wind, rain and sunshine, always in the turmoil of war. One fairly yearns for rest. It is 4 a. m. sitting in the trenches we awake with a chill. From the handy field kitchens we receive a cup of coffee. It seems like a gift from Heaven. Now to work, it will no doubt be bloody work for we are going to the attack. The sun rises and its rays scatter the fog that has been enveloping the woods and fields. It gives us a chance to look around. About 2000 meters ahead of us is one of those almost impenetrable French forests and the enemy is hid in it. A large farm, well guarded, seems to be the farthest outpost of the French. Ah, here is a chance for our company! "Forward march!" "Doublequick!" My! how our men rush forward! Then comes the command "Lie Down!" The enemy's sharpshooters appear along the edges. We reply in kind. The volleys roll back and forth. We take deliberate aim and make every shot count. They are already retreating to the buildings. We jump up and run again. Shooting, running and cheering we reach the buildings. We find no sign of the French. It seems they can run even better than we can. We take possession, man all the windows and other openings. Well, just look! There they come out of the woods, much re-enforced. "Now give it to them!" We take good aim, as if at target practice. We are in a ecstasy of delight. "I'll take the fourth one," down he goes! "You take that officer," he's gone! Just a moment, you Redtrousers. What is that? Pandemonium broke loose! A frightful crashing, roaring and ripping! Ah, this is their revenge, their artillery has the range and is shelling the building. Inside of half an hour the horrible work is done. Not a stone is left on top of another. We are precipitated from the first floor into the cellar by three bursting shells. All is confusion and fire breaks out in the wreckage. To stay would mean certain death, no one would survive. Amid the bursting shells we run for the nearest cover. Reaching it we breathe a sigh of relief. "Comrade are you here?" What was it? "Did Hell break loose?" these questions are asked stammeringly by our otherwise brave drummer. The anxious inquiry "who is missing?" intrudes itself. Then we count those present. Out of 60 men (that was the strength of our proud company) there are but 26 present. Impossible! Back, back to save the wounded and perhaps those buried in the ruins. Again the mad rush into a veritable Hell! Then—God is kind to us—the artillery fire slackens considerably. Now hurry up, "Oh Com-

An Easter Suit

Where to buy it? At N. K. West's to be sure! Here's a display of new fabrics tailored into models that will increase your high opinion of the real goodness of our suits at

\$15.00 to \$27.50

"SOCIETY BRAND," "BENJAMIN" AND "FIDELITY" SUITS

Come in and select yours—Easter is next Sunday!

Agents for

Tilt and Nettleton Shoes

Highest grade shoes made for men. New styles are here in all the popular shapes from English pattern to the broad footform last in both lace and button styles. Priced \$3.50 to \$5.50 for Tilt's. \$6.50 and \$7.00 for Nettleton's.

Men's Gordon Hats \$3.00



Society Brand Clothes

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A Great Array of Spring Shirts "Manhattan" and "Standard" Makes

Manhattan shirts may be purchased in La Grande only at N. K. West's. We've just received a big shipment of the new spring styles. See them on display in the window. Beautiful shirt fabrics in all kinds of colors and patterns—and all guaranteed "fast color." These shirts are made right, fit right, and come with either stiff of soft French cuffs

Manhattan shirts	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50
Standard Shirts	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.50
Other military collar dress shirts	50c	75c	\$1.00
New silk front shirts	\$1.50	and	\$2.00

N. K. West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Just received at the N. K. West store by express, new silks in many new beautiful combinations of patterns—flowered patterns, brocaded effects, new foulards and others—all widths. Priced 75c and 90c \$1.00 \$1.25 and \$1.75. We invite your inspection.

Are You Going To Build?

Two great questions to the prospective home-builders are "How much is your home going to cost," and "what will be the cost for repairs in the future." There are two ways to build, the cheap and inexperienced way, and the good and substantial way which means good workmanship and good material.

See me before you build,
H. E. Roskamp
Contractor and Builder

LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK

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

OFFICERS:—

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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.

Swish! Corns Gone! We Use "GETS-IT!"

2 Seconds, 2 Drops—Corns Vanish!

For everybody with corns, there is in every drug store in the land one of the real wonders of the world, and that's "GETS-IT!" for corns! It's the first and only corn-cure ever known that removes



"Some Foxy Trot, M'amselle, What? Corns Gone? Yes, I Used 'GETS-IT!'"

any and every corn or callus without fail, without fussing with thick bandages, too harshness, corn-swelling salves, irritating ointments. It's applied in 2 seconds—bing, bing—2 drops, the work is done, the corn shrivels up, your corn agony ends and the corn leaves forever! All the limping, the pains that dart to your heart's core, the crucifixion of having to wear shoes over screaming corns, the danger of blood poison from making them bleed by using knives, razors and scissors—are gone at last! "GETS-IT!" is the new way, the sure, simple, painless way. Try it for corns, calluses, warts and bunions. "GETS-IT!" is sold by druggists everywhere, 25c a bottle, or sent direct by E. Lawrence & Co., Chicago.

rade help me" comes a cry, from another direction come pitiable groans. We push forward over the wreckage and are overjoyed to find twenty men alive, and unhurt in an arched over cellar where they had taken refuge. Now all is hurry and bustle, we must pick up the wounded. Here a last death rattle, there a faint cry for help in another place the glassy eyes tell us that we are too late to help. We must not weaken, again we hear the horrible hissing sound over our heads, therefore we must retreat. In the meantime our re-enforcements have followed up the advantage we gained and have driven the enemy out of the woods. Our company's loss was three killed and ten wounded. God be praised that there were no more for it was awful. The attack was a success for it accomplished its purpose of driving the French out of that piece of forest. This, my brothers, is one day's record of the life we are leading. How much longer will it last? In general and for me in particular? God has watched over me and will keep on watching—but please pray for us. I hope these lines will find you in good health and spirits. Please excuse the phraseology of this

letter, it is no easy matter to find the e and even the most primitive material required, when at the firing line. Please save these lines for me, if God so wills it I shall later on incorporate them into some lectures I expect to give. It is night now and we must go out to relieve the men who have been on the firing line, so farewell, my dear brothers. I salute you with the well known greeting.
Your grateful and true
WILHELM WOLFF.

INDIAN CREEK NEWS

Indian Creek, Mar. 27.—(Special). Arthur Bussear was a business visitor in Elgin Monday.

A. S. Zeamer was in Elgin transacting business Tuesday.

Mrs. J. S. Spiker was in Elgin Tuesday as her mother-in-law, Mrs. Spiker, of La Grande returned to her home.

Mrs. Clingheimer, was a visitor to the Wilson home Tuesday.

Messrs. Wilson and Gray transacted business in Elgin Wednesday.

Everyone is busy with farm work on the creek.

School Dist. 14 had a basket dinner and a short program in honor of their school superintendent Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe, Mrs. Henderson and Mr.

and Mrs. J. S. Spiker were visitors to the school. All had a splendid time. J. S. Spiker met Mrs. Ivanhoe at Elgin and brought her out to the district.

J. Wisdom was in Elgin last Saturday.

L. L. Cross and son Walter, were Elgin visitors on Saturday afternoon.

J. B. Wilson's son-in-law Gus Setterdale of Spokane, died of heart trouble suddenly at his home in Spokane Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson received a telegram about midnight and left on Friday for Spokane to attend the funeral.

\$100 Reward, \$100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.
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Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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"Golden West" 24 lb. size	.80	56c
"Daisy" 24 lb. size	.75	48c
"Winner" 22 lb. size	.60	38c

ALL WE ASK OF YOU IS TO LOOK OUR BROOMS OVER AND THEN COMPARE PRICE AND QUALITY WITH OTHERS. PHONE US MAIN 700. WE DELIVER.

Eastern Oregon Produce Co. Inc.