

THE OBSERVER

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THE PLIGHT OF THE MOVIES

"They are not making pictures with the punch they once did. Most of the pictures are too heavy. Either the long drawn out films break of their own weight or there is nothing in the short pictures."

That reason for an apparent decline of the motion picture business in the city was given by L. W. Brophy, second vice-president of the Exhibitors' league, in convention in Chicago.

Mr. Brophy blames the manufacturers. The manufacturers, on their side, may say that they can't produce better photo plays until better photo plays are written. The scenario writers may claim that they cannot write better plays until they receive better pay. Whereas the manufacturers may reply that they can't pay more until they receive more for their plays, and the theatre proprietors may answer that they can't pay more until more people attend their houses, brought thither by better plays. If this is the true situation, it is hopeless.

The great trouble with the five reel picture play is that so little happens. Much brain energy has been expended in securing suspense; but to sacrifice interest to suspense is to make a huge mistake. A travel picture, in which suspense is lacking, pleases an audience much more than the attitudinizing of a highly paid star who gets into difficulties in Reel No. 1 and then has nothing to do but pose in various costumes and in different cities until she is killed or married in Reel No. 5. But as long as there are 21,600 moving picture theatres in the United States to be supplied, a great many poor plays will find their way before the public.

SCIENCE AND COINCIDENCE.

Almost simultaneously came the announcements of the formation of two companies to conquer the Atlantic in new ways. One will construct and attempt to sail a fleet of submarines, the other a fleet of aeroplanes. The commercial submarine for trans-Atlantic travel has been proven feasible, and perhaps practical, by the voyage of the Deutschland. The possibility of a commercial aeroplane line

across the wide expanse remains to be proven.

Some will see a remarkable coincidence in the fact that these announcements are made at almost the same moment. They will say that great events often happen in pairs. They will point to the discovery of the north and south poles within a short period, after scores of years of unsuccessful attempts. They will adduce the discovery of the planet Neptune in England and Germany at the same time. But the achievements of science cannot be attributed to coincidence. So many men are working with the same material along the same line that it is not so remarkable as it seems that more than one man arrives at the goal at almost the same time.

STATE NEWS BREVITIES.

Aberdeen Boy Drowns.

While playing on the Slade boom, at Aberdeen, Henry Walkama, aged 10, slipped from a moss covered log and was drowned. The boy who could not swim, called for help and one of his companions tried to pull him out but he slipped from his grasp. The body was recovered.

Highland Mine to Resume.

The Highland mine, one of the largest gold properties in the Baker district, will soon resume operations after a shut down of nearly two years. D. E. Metzger, an experienced mining man who has been operating the Maxwell mine adjoining, will have charge.

Douglas County Wants Road Aid.

The Commercial club of Roseburg have officially taken up the matter to have money made available under the so-called Taylor bill for road improvement work in Douglas county. Formal demand will be made upon Oregon's representatives in Congress by the Commercial club.

Oregon Recruits Start for Border.

Under the command of Captain George Schumacher, 161 recruits have gone to the border from Camp Withycombe. Friends and relatives thronged the camp the day before their departure and the men were just a little sober at the thoughts of what might lie before them.

Mother Given Up for Husband.

Called upon to choose between her mother or her husband, Mrs. Chas. Story, 17, who eloped and was married in Salem, has decided to stay by her husband. The bride was formerly Miss Ivy Bilderback. The mother demanded that her daughter choose between her mother or her husband and she chose the latter.

Police Judge Is Speeder.

H. E. Palsey, Aberdeen police judge, was arrested in Centralia recently on a charge of speeding. He was released under bonds.

O. W. R. & N. Raises Wages.

O. W. R. & N. machinists and boiler-makers and other helpers at The Dalles, have been granted a raise in wages. The raise was unsolicited.

Harvest On at Gaston.

Threshing has just begun at Gaston and baling started last week. The grain and hay are both looking fine.

WOMEN MEET TO AGREE

(Continued From Page One)

tin Bluffs, home of Mrs. Leonard E. Curtis.

None Free Until All Are.

"Until all the women of the United States are free, none of them are free," declared Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles of Wilmington, Del., here for the conference Mrs. Hilles, is a Democrat and the daughter of the late Thoms Bayard, secretary of state under Cleveland and this country's first ambassador to Great Britain.

After reciting how at the first hearing of the Congressional Union before the House judiciary committee "the chairman and some of the members characterized their actions by ill breeding, discourtesy and gross injustice," Mrs. Hilles said:

"The sooner the women of this country, more than half of whom are unrepresented in government, awaken to the fact that this is the kind of unjust treatment to which their most vital interest are subjected, the sooner will there rise, as indeed it has arisen, a tide of action that will put an end to such tactics. Individual liberty is the essential basis of free government, and under our form of government both political expediency and political justice demand the national enfranchisement of women. Until all the women of this country are free, none of them are free.

"The hopeless task of state referendums has taught women the necessity for concentration on the federal amendment. Undoubtedly enough states are now won to enable the most skeptical observer to see that the political power already in the hands of women themselves is sufficient to win freedom for all women."

Old Dream Coming True.

With only a small turnover of votes needed in any of the 12 western woman suffrage states to change the result of the election in November, Mrs. Kent, of Kentfield, Cal., wife of Representative Kent, national chairman of the Wilson Non-Partisan league, tonight will tell the representatives of the Woman's Party that they hold in their hand the power to secure a federal amendment enfranchising the women of the nation.

"The time has come for the fulfillment of Susan B. Anthony's dream. The women today have the political power to demand their rights; and they propose to see to it that justice be extended to every woman in the United States."

"Only a small percentage of the more than 4,000,000 women votes in the West will be sufficient to determine election results at the polls in November. Not all these women will vote with the Woman's Party, some of them dividing along old party lines. Many women will remain away from the polls; so will many men. That will not alter the result and does not change the important political fact that those voting with the Woman's Party for the best interests of the federal woman suffrage amendment, will have a balance of power vital to the interest, not only of the political party desiring our support but vital also to the cause of woman suffrage in the United States."

Portland Woman Outspoken.

Indifferent to the opportunity which was offered it to make a record for itself on a fundamental Democratic principle, the 63d Congress will go down in history as having failed of its duty, said Mrs. Sara Bard Field, of Portland, Oregon, one of the western leaders in woman suffrage work here for the conference of the National Woman's Party.

"Furthermore," she added, "the 63d Congress was indifferent to the interests of the Democratic party because of its failure to give proper consideration to the Susan B. Anthony amendment."

"What the 63d Congress failed to do, this neglect being to the harm of party in power, the 64th Congress should hasten to do to their immediate advantage and to their historic renown."

"The Woman's Party already a potent political factor is growing daily on the Pacific coast. That power should be an influence in making this congress act."

Mrs. Field spoke of the "political tricks" which the present House judiciary committee had played in its efforts to keep the federal suffrage amendment from receiving favorable action and being brought before the House of Representatives.

(Advertisement.) Lodgings for Recruits.

United States Army Recruiting Station, Federal Bldg., La Grande, Oregon, Aug. 9, 1916.—Sealed proposals, in triplicate, made out on the form next following, will be received here until 4 o'clock p. m., August 19, 1916, and then opened for furnishing lodgings for the recruiting party, recruits, and applicants for enlistment in the U. S. Army at the above named recruiting station during the period commencing August 20, 1916.

The lodgings must be furnished in clean and sanitary buildings, with suitable furniture, including clean and comfortable beds, and the necessary heat, light, water, toilet and bathing facilities, towels, bedding, and other similar incidentals. The place must be in a respectable neighborhood and not too remote from the recruiting station.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, and also the right to terminate the agreement that may be made, at any time upon notice from the recruiting officer to the bidder whose proposal is accepted.

For further information relative to the manner of bidding, conditions to be observed, etc., apply to the recruiting officer.

Bidders are invited to be present at the opening of the proposals. Envelopes containing proposals should be marked "Proposals for lodgings to be opened Aug. 19, 1916," and addressed to the recruiting officer at the address given above.

CAPTAIN LEE M. CLARK, O. N. G., Recruiting Officer. 8-10-10C.

New Separate Skirts For Early Autumn Wear--Just In

Blouses and separate Skirts have not been so high in favor for many seasons as now. Some of these new Skirts are of the golf block or small checked wools which are neat and trim, others are plaids and plain shades—They are tailored mostly on flaring lines, very wide with pleated styles running very strong. See these New Skirts in our Ready-to-wear section. Priced \$5.00 to \$13.50

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German Peace

(By CARL W. ACKERMAN)

Berlin, July 5.—(By Mail).—Germany wants peace because she believes she has won the war. The Allies don't want peace because they believe they will win the war.

The difference is between the "has won" and the "will win" and so long as there is this division the neutral diplomats in Berlin, the best informed neutral observers, declare there is no possibility of peace.

The people the world over are encouraged by peace talk and at the end of 2 years of war they are ready to make peace, each on its own terms. So are the German officials, the British cabinet and the government of France, but the public terms are such that an agreement could not now be easily made.

The great difference between the Allies and the Central powers is that the Central powers are open to impartial mediation while the Allies discourage the idea.

The Allies, when their armies were being beaten back in France, and in Russia and when Serbia was invaded, said to the public: "Don't mind these things; we will win ultimately. The Central powers have convinced the German people that every great military advance was a step toward victory and that because there have been so many of them the Central powers have been victorious."

That is the peace situation at the close of the second year of the war, according to the view in Berlin. It raises many questions. Would Wilson be acceptable as a mediator or, if not Wilson, then the next president? Would Germany insist on the peace terms she has outlined?

The answers depend on coming events. They will be influenced by military developments. The election in the United States will have its effect. Internal affairs in the various countries will increase or modify the respective peace views.

There is a peace party in Germany. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg leads it. Some of the Conservative members of the Reichstag are his opponents. They know that if the Chancellor makes peace now he will not insist on the annexation of Belgium and Poland and that his terms will be "moderate". The conservatives lead the party which believes Germany has been decisively successful in this war and they think Germany should dictate iron clad terms. They know the Chancellor will never support their terms so they are out to oust him.

The harder they fight the stronger the Chancellor becomes. Bismarck had a snap compared to the Chancellor's position today. Bismarck had everything his own way, but his view of the world did not extend beyond the boundaries of the United German Empire which he founded.

Today things are different. Germany needs a Chancellor who can see Germany in her relation to the rest of the world. Such is the view point of von Bethmann-Hollweg.

The Conservatives have the standpoint viewpoint of Bismarck. The Chancellor is a Progressive. So is the Kaiser. History will show that neither the Kaiser nor Hollweg wanted war, but that stronger forces did want and got it.

The Chancellor was severely criticized in the Reichstag a few days ago because he "postponed mobilization of

the German army three days at the beginning of the war."

The Chancellor replied that he regretted that he could not have postponed it longer.

Even the Socialists know that the Chancellor will make peace whenever it is honorably possible. The people know it too and they are ready to help.

The people talk about peace. There are rumors of peace constantly. It is impossible to discuss peace terms in the papers, but privately the people are preparing themselves for any peace conferences that may develop. They will be as prepared for peace as they were for war.

So far as Germany is concerned, the President of the United States, whether he is Wilson or the republican nominee, will be welcome as a peace mediator, provided he does not come forth with a definite program and demand peace along the lines desired by people in America.

The only requirement of the German people regarding a peace maker is that he be "FAIR". The war can end by fall or before there is another winter campaign if, as the Chancellor and Count Tizza said, the interests of the Central powers as European nations are respected. The German people believe they are fighting a defensive war and they are ready to make terms at any time their future existence as a nation can be secured. Germany, like England, must insist publicly upon broad terms, because publicly the national leaders cannot change their positions too much or they will lose the confidence of the public and inspire too much hope

in the hearts of the opponents.

While in Vienna recently, Ambassador Penfield said: "It is all right to talk about these foreign countries being ruled by Emperors, Czars, Kings and Presidents, but when the people throughout the world begin to talk peace as they have this summer, peace is coming."

"Public opinion rules the world and public opinion will bring peace."

Hunters Are Warned. Deputy Game Warden John Walden is today calling attention of sportsmen to the provisions of the game laws covering deer, grouse and other game birds. "If any hunter is not familiar with the provisions of the game code he should acquaint himself with it at once" said Mr. Walden today. "There can be no excuse of ignorance of the law."

WALLOWA LAKE PARK "Breath of the Pines" 4,500 feet above sea-level, in the Powder River Mountains, near Joseph, Oregon. Eat, sleep, play, live out-of-doors. A delightful mountain-lake resort. Good fishing. For full information, fares, tickets, etc., ask J. H. Keeney, Agent O-W-R-R-&N.

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