

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

Entered in the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Daily, single copy 5c. Daily, per week 35c. Daily, per month \$1.00. Daily, per six months in advance \$5.40. Daily, per year in advance \$10.00. Weekly Observer-Star, per year in advance \$11.50.

Advertising rates on application. All copy for display advertising must reach the office the day before the ad appears.

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

STATING IT IN MILLIONS.

There are 38,500,000 men now under arms in Europe.

Over 3,000,000 men have been killed in the last two years.

More than 4,800,000 are lying in the prison camps of the nations.

An additional 5,000,000 wounded men are receiving attendance in the war hospitals.

The cost of the war is reckoned at \$100,000,000 a day, which cost is greatly increased by the new offensive movement.

The cost of the war last year was \$30,000,000,000 (thirty billions of dollars) and the total cost to date in money alone—that is, in money expended—is nearly \$70,000,000,000 (seventy billions of dollars.) This sum represents borrowed money mostly, which must be paid back by the people of the countries now at war.

In Belgium there are 7,000,000 people living on three slices of bread and a cup of soup a day.

In Serbia there are 5,000,000 people wholly destitute—dying daily by the roadsides for want of food.

In Poland 11,000,000 people are homeless and 3,500,000 of them are literally starving. Over 200 Polish cities have been utterly wiped out, and 15,000 villages have been destroyed without a trace.

In France 500,000 boys under 18 years of age have been called to the slaughter.

And this is the year 1916 of the Christian Era and all the great instigators of the war call themselves Christians.

The world has erected an altar to Mars. The Cross has been superseded by the dripping sword. Calvary has been veiled by Verdun. The hell of theology is no longer reserved until after death; it has been established in the cradle of civilization.

OUR INCREASING FOOD SUPPLY.

The recent report of the committee on statistics and standards of the United States Chamber of Commerce

We hev hed the circus fever, and the itch for county fairs. We hev had the baseballitis and them one-horse street affairs That they call a grand carnival, we hev hed 'em all, by jing, But there's nothin' stirred us home folks like this new Shee-talk-way thing.

THE SHEE-TALK-WAY

Ma's been savin' of the butter money since the news got to our place, And the boys hev been affected by amazin' works of grace, They are up without a callin' hustling off to feed the stock, And they're puttin' all their coppers in an old gray woolen sock.

Mother sez to me this morning—we wuz talkin' 'bout the thing— 'It's been thirty years this summer since I wore this weddin' ring, I ain't asked fer much vacation, I've been happy tilin' long, But I'm going to Shee-talk-way till I get plumb drunk with song.

"All my life I've been jist hungry for to hear home things like this. Seems there ain't a thing that's comin' that I just can bear to miss, I s'pose there are a lot of things I ought to do that week But I want to hear them singers sing and hear them speak's speak."

Gosh, it seems that these old eyes of mine hev been almighty blind. I ain't been no hard taskmaster, I hev wanted to be kind, But a sort of grippy feelin' ketched my heart to beat the band When I seen the calloused places on her quiverin', wrinkled hand.

Then I thought about the mornin' when we left the parson's place Comin' up here to my clearin'—I kud see her smilin' face, I kud hear her voice a singin' sweet'n a meadow lark, 'Nen I reached and tuk her hand in mine, jes like we used to spark.

And I sez, "Molly, by cracky, you get fixed to go to town. I'm jist achin' fer to buy ye a grand new Shee-talk-way gown. I've been selfish, I'll admit. I've a lot of things to rue. I have thot a heap of Henry and I ain't thot much fer you.

"But we'll take in this Shee-talk-way if the whole plantation skids. It will make this year worth living fer yerself and fer the kids. I s'pose there are some things to do, but dern 'em, let 'em rest Till we git the inspiration, then we'll tackle 'em with zest."

Dog-goned if she wuzn't crying, fussin' with her wedding ring, As she says, "I've allus wanted jist to hear somebody sing, Somebody to give expression to the music of my life That's been hummin' thru my heart-strings ever since I've been your wife."

Then I swallered hard and said I guess I'd better feed the stock, I kud hear the birds a-singin' with the tickin' kitchen clock; All around outdoors wuz sunshine, trouble all seemed gone—and say, We'll be like a pair of lovers goin' to that Shee-talk-way. —Tom Hendricks in Lyceum Magazine.

will surprise a good many people. The committee discovered that the food supply of the country is growing faster than population. This is not wherein the astonishment lies however; it lies in the committee's statement that there are people who believe that we have reached the limit of our ability to make production keep pace with population.

We have been told, so often that repetition becomes a bore, that our farming system is wasteful, and will continue to be so until we study intensive cultivation and realize the value of fertilizers. This applies to grazing land as well as to that devoted to the raising of grain. We have been content to turn our herds loose on immense ranges; but the time has arrived in many states and is rapidly coming to others, when grasses and soils are studied for the production of cattle just as they are in Europe. It is unreasonable to expect that the demand for food will not cause an increase of intensive farming which will result in such increases of crops and animals that even tremendous growth of population will fail to overcome it.

The Chamber of Commerce found that while population increased 200 per cent, the production of wheat increased 560 per cent; corn, 270 per cent; oats, 475 per cent; potatoes, 250 per cent; rice, 3,000 per cent. The number of cattle, which decreased from 1907 to 1912, is now increasing;

the number of hogs is also increasing. The decrease in the cattle supply was reflected in the price of beef. It is natural to expect that high prices will have their effect on the cattle raising industry in encouraging the development of better grazing lands to replace the ranges where the food supply is governed almost entirely by the weather.

The fact that we export so much food, even in years of world peace, must have indicated to most thinking people that the United States is in no danger of becoming dependent on other countries for sustenance. This foreign demand for our surplus also accounts for the fact that prices have not fallen, in spite of the increased supply.

WILSON A SUPERMAN; T. R., CAESAR OF OLD.

St. Louis, Aug. 29.—"A race of 'supermen' is coming. They will be the product of the great American melting pot and the plains of the Western United States and of Australia. Their religion will be the brotherhood of man. They will play 'hunches' on all great decisions and will use their wonderful brains for following their 'hunches' to the limit. They will have the transmigrated soul of the soldiers killed in the European war—the purest of souls, because they are those of men who unselfishly have given their lives for an idea."

This is the belief of Albert P. Warrington, President of the American section of the Theosophist society, here to speak before the national convention of the Theosophists opening Thursday at the Planters hotel.

"The new race will express spiritual attainments just as the Mediterranean races expressed beauty in all its forms and the Teutonic races expressed scientific attainment.

"President Wilson is an excellent example of the new race which even now is being born in the United States. But it will be much greater than even that represented by President Wilson."

Mr. Warrington also referred to Col. Theodore Roosevelt as the reincarnation of Caesar.

"Mr. Roosevelt is the same type of man in the present age as was Caesar during his time," he said. "He may be the Caesar of old. It is highly possible."

WHAT OTHERS SAY

The Deutschland's Triumph (New York World, notoriously pro ally)

The safe arrival of the Deutschland at Bremen completes a voyage which in novelty and in the conditions of daring and adventure involved, no less than as a feat of brilliant seamanship, is without a parallel in the history of navigation. No wonder Germany is delirious with joy at this triumph of submarine transportation. It has been one of the great naval sporting events of the war, the challenge of a fragile craft to the superior sea power of the enemy, and the strategy with which it was carried through may well arouse the enthusiasm of friends and foe alike.

Undoubtedly the return trip was the vital test of the undertaking. For a submarine freighter to slip through the enemy sea-lines and cross the Atlantic in circumstances of more or less mystery and doubt was one thing. But to get safely home past watching warcraft and eluding the nets and traps of an enemy fully advised of its movements—that was the supreme trial, and the success with which it was done is the crowning tribute to the seamanship of Capt. Koenig and his crew.

In the hands of the Germans the submarine has become equally an object of obloquy and of praise. It is

New Styles and Colors in SILK PETTICOATS. They have just arrived and their variety in style, color and price is interesting! Of taffeta, flounced and frills and ruffled to hold milady's skirt a little fuller! New shades of blue, wisteria, galt and emerald green, reds, navy and black—many changeant effects also are shown to harmonize with the new costumes. Priced at \$3.75, \$5.00 and \$6.00. N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE.

more agreeable to dwell on its development as an undersea transport, a submersible blockade runner through the use of which a nation at war and with its ports bottled up may yet gain access to neutral countries and carry on a needful if restricted commerce.

Brooklyn Has Searchlight. New York, Aug. 29.—E. A. Sperry, Brooklyn business man, has just built and put atop his building a searchlight of 1 billion 280 million candle power. It is 60 per cent stronger than the navy searchlight tried out here last May, which could be seen 35 miles away.

Coast Gets Business. Oakland, Aug. 28.—Thanks to Europe's warlords, the cream of the ship building business of the world is coming to the United States and California is getting the creme de la creme.

In most instances, shipbuilders are working clear around the clock, great electric lighting systems being provided for the night shifts. In order to get the maximum of speed, the builders, in many cases, are divided with the men the big bonuses given for the completion of vessels before contract time.

To determine the effect of the war, the Oakland Chamber of Commerce has just completed a survey of the shipbuilding business of that port. Here is a part of what the investigators found:

At the Union Iron Works (Charles M. Schwab concern) \$30,000,000 worth of work on hand; four 10,000 ton vessels for private account, two 9,500 ton vessels for the Standard Oil company; one 9,750 ton steamship for the Matson Navigation company of San Francisco; one 9,300 ton steamship for F. D. Strahan of Georgia; one 6,000 ton steamship for C. H. Smith of San Francisco; a number of oil tankers from 70,000 to 90,000 barrels' capacity.

At Moore & Scott, one 10,000 ton and two 7,300 ton steamships for Norwegian capitalists; several oil tankers.

W. F. Stone, two 235-foot wooden schooners with a lumber capacity of 1,500,000 feet; one for Sudden & Christenson of San Francisco, the other for the J. F. Hanify company of San Francisco.

Union Iron Works officials attribute their increase in business to the grant of a lease of Alameda municipal waterfront land, which permits of building six 10,000 ton vessels at the same time. This plant is to be made the biggest shipyard in America, plans being under way for the construction of two building berths for warships.

The boom is also due to the order of Holland prohibiting export of Dutch ships. Advices to shipping circles from Rotterdam quote A. Schippers, a leading Dutch shipping man, as saying that "America was never able to compete with Dutch shipbuilders, either before or thus far in the war, until Holland was closed to the export of ships for European firms."

Savoy Hotel Guests. E. O. Heath, C. Gezel, W. E. Orr, Portland; Mrs. A. C. Daily and family, Enterprise; James S. Hammond, Echo; E. C. Hardesty and family, Portland; M. E. Gordon, La Grande; Jno. Henderson, Garfield Thomas, J. G. Kilpatrick, Portland; M. A. Mill, J. E. Twidwell.

The value-giving policy, which is the biggest asset in this business, has never been better shown than in our present full stock of Black Cat REINFORCED HOSIERY. For Boys and Girls. Reinforced at toe and heel and with triple knee, this is the play stocking supreme. Snug fit, guaranteed fast colors, accurate sizes and moderate price are other reasons why we recommend them. Play Proof Triple Reinforced Knees! Come in Heavy Medium or Light Weight Priced at 25c pair. N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE. Sole Agents.

Our National Bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System of Banks. THE "FEDERAL RESERVE" SYSTEM OF BANKS, OF WHICH OUR BANK IS A MEMBER, WAS THOUGHT OUT BY THE BEST BRAINS IN THE BANKING AND BUSINESS WORLD. THIS SYSTEM DEMANDS THAT A BANK BE SOUND BEFORE IT CAN BECOME A MEMBER BANK. WE CAN TAKE CARE OF YOUR BANKING BUSINESS, AND SHALL BE GLAD TO HAVE YOU COME IN AND "MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME." BANK WITH US WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST 6 1/2% Money for Improved Farm Loans. La Grande National Bank LA GRANDE, OREGON Capital \$200,000.00, Surplus \$50,000.00, Resources \$1,000,000.00 Fred J. Holmes, President; C. C. Penington, Vice President; F. L. Meyers, Cashier; E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Assistant Cashiers. DIRECTORS Fred J. Holmes, J. G. Snodgrass, J. F. Conley, C. C. Penington, H. E. Brownton, F. L. Meyers, A. Blokland, A. T. Hill, H. E. Coolidge.

WE ARE UNABLE TO CONTROL THE STRIKE OR WHEAT PRICES—BUT WE ARE ABLE TO SUPPLY YOUR WANTS IN GROCERIES AND VEGETABLES. Mammoth Grocery The Big Store in the Middle of the Middle Block.—Main 82.