

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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THE THREE DARK DREADS OF HISTORY.

The human race has had three great plagues to contend with at one or another time in its history—the plague of hunger, the plague of disease, the plague of war. Famine, Pestilence and War have been the three dark sisters that have overshadowed human life for great periods together.

Two of these have been conquered. The organization of commerce, the multiplication of means of communication, and the stimulation of feeling of physical brotherhood amongst all peoples, has made of famine on any large scale a very remote possibility. Pestilence in all its more raging forms, even those forms which still remain in barbarous countries, has been effectually conquered by medical science. An instance of this was seen in the recent outbreak in China,

where a very obscure and little known but particularly virulent contagion, was quickly curbed and controlled by medical scientists contributed from all the civilized countries. Pestilence has lost its old time power of terror and death. Even where specific cures are unknown, impenetrable sanitary barriers may be raised, and powerful preventatives brought into play.

There is this to note about the plagues of famine and pestilence; they did not come by man's will. He found them lying in wait for him. Man had no voice in the coming of Hunger, nor did he declare in council that a state of Disease should exist.

Of the plague of War, however, it must be noted that it comes exclusively by man's will. It exists because he declares it. It comes only at his bidding. It does not fall by an accident to crops or a failure of nature as Famine used to do. It does not come on the wind, nor breathe out of the miasmatic marshes, as Pestilence used to do. It comes expressly to man's counsel and will.

If man has succeeded in conquering the other plagues which he did not will to exist, why should it be thought impossible for him to conquer this plague War, which has no existence outside of his own will? If he wills the destruction of War, as he wills the destruction of Famine and Pestilence, is it not reasonable to expect that he will conquer this as he did the others?

The present war has done more than anything else could have done to teach this generation how fully in control of its mundane destiny it is. The power that declares and sustains war is the will of the people. No matter how refined that will may have become in various official channels, it is essentially the will of the people

through all phases of war. If, then, that will could be swerved to peace, if that will could be educated to the advantages of peace, how could war possibly continue? It simply could not continue.

Here then is the germinal fact of all pacifist philosophy: War exists because of the will of the people; if it disappears, it must be the people's will that banishes it.

The next great plague of the nations to drop back into history as a black and hateful memory, is the plague of War.

PROSPERITY AND EDUCATION.

Will education survive prosperity? Does knowledge pay? One must have considerable schooling to be a book-keeper, yet a bookkeeper gets no more pay than a bricklayer, and often considerably less. A college professor at \$3,500 a year is not making as much money as many a worker in a munitions factory; and who will deny that he is a hundred times more useful to the community and to the world? Yet the college professor has spent a score of years in preparation for his career, while a twelfthmonth ago the munitions worker was cutting hair in a barber shop. One reads of "W. J. Conners, managing director" of a steamship line, who first attained prominence as "Fingy" Conners, the toughest youngster on the Buffalo docks. "Fingy's" boast was that he didn't need education; he could hire educated men for \$25 a week.

When the uneducated ride in automobiles, while school teachers with a college degree or two have to pinch and scrape to keep themselves and their dependents alive, what encouragement is there to amass learning? One beholds a picture wherein one man is studying a textbook, while another is reading the sport page of a newspaper. "Which will succeed?" asks the advertisement. The one who reads the baseball news, of course. But on, the author of the ad seems to believe that it will be the studious one.

And he is right. There is more to success than money. The scrimping teacher is getting more out of life than the know-nothing whose pleasures are limited to eating, drinking and driving a car. The uneducated man who "succeeds" usually insists that his children go to college. Prosperity for the country means greater prosperity for the schools of the country. The greater our wealth the more we feel the need of education.

MAKING THE BEST OF IT.

An American consul in the far east, who is acting for Germany and Austria while the war continues, reports an interesting fact. He says that he receives occasional requests from prisoners of the central allies in Siberia for reading matter? And though they speak and read German, they do not want German books. They want first of all, works in English; if these are unavailable, then works in French.

There are two reasons for this request. One is that a German book would be read in a few hours, while it takes hard study and consumes a great deal of heavy time to wade through a work in an unfamiliar language—and the prisoners have plenty of time to kill. The other explanation offered is that the soldiers feel that they may as well be learning a new language.

This is a typical illustration of Teutonic efficiency directed into a proper channel. What other nation produces soldiers who would make such a request?

The Mothers

All night the feeble plaint had never ceased, The tiny clutching hands had found no rest, Till wan and gray the slowly-paling east Touched dim the baby face upon my breast.

"Dear God," I said, "oh, teach me how to pray! Through easy paths my faith has loitered slow; No words have I, I know not what to say, Save this alone—O God, I love him so!"

A hand was sudden laid upon my hand; A woman's eyes looked pitying at me;

A gray-haired form stood close—"I understand, I was a mother, too, in Galilee.

"Across the sunny Galilean sea I heard the rumored power of Jesus' name, I laid my dying child upon his knee I trusted him—canst thou not do the same?"

The whisper ceased, and through the blinds astart The first soft rays of morning sunlight crept, Warm-breathing, gathered close against my heart.

My child stretched drowsy limbs, and smiling, slept. —Martha Haskell Clark, in The Christian Herald.



STYLE SHOW

of "Seigel" Made Coats and Suits for Women & Misses ARCADE THEATRE all This Week

See this interesting moving picture style show, showing the newest modes in Women's and Misses' "Seigel" made Suits and Coats as worn in New York. It's a treat you'll enjoy—besides, the many style pointers you will be able to secure, regarding "what's what" in the newest Coats and Suits.

"Seigel" Made Garments Are Always Just a Little in Advance!

That is one reason for the popularity of these Suits and Coats. And the tailoring—that is superb as only man tailored garments are. As for the materials—only the best that can be obtained are used whether it be cloth, silk, buttons, trimmings, etc. That is why the real "Seigel" Apparel is so smart.

"Seigel" Apparel Sold Exclusively in La Grande at

N. K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

GOOD ADVICE.

A La Grande Citizen Gives Information of Priceless Value. When you suffer from backache, Headaches, dizziness, nervousness, Feel weak, languid, depressed, Have annoying urinary disorders; Do you know what to do? Some La Grande people do. Read the statement that follows. It's from a La Grande citizen. Testimony that can be investigated. Mrs. J. Filener, 3103 N. Fourth St., La Grande, says: "I was subject to backache. At times, this was pretty severe. It required only one box of Doan's Kidney Pills to make my back feel as strong as ever. Since finding them so good for backache and kidney disorders, I have taken a few doses whenever I have noticed any trouble and they have always given great satisfaction." Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Filener had. Foster-Milburn Co. Props., Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv.



A New and Stylish Stetson that Men Like Immensely

HERE is one of the most beautiful hats we have ever shown—it's the feature hat from the superb line of Fall Stetsons.

A remarkably graceful and dressy hat, with just the touch of smartness that all like to see in these young feeling days.

One thing that surprises us—its becomingness to such a large number of men.

The cue for men this season is to wear better quality in their hats—and we are proud of our Stetsons, every one of them.

You will want one of the Stetson Comfort Derbies too, to alternate with your soft hat.

N. K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

The Home of HART SCHAFFNER & MARX Clothes

Money to Loan

Have \$50,000.00 @ 7 per cent in amounts from \$2500.00 up, to loan on Grande Ronde Valley Farms.

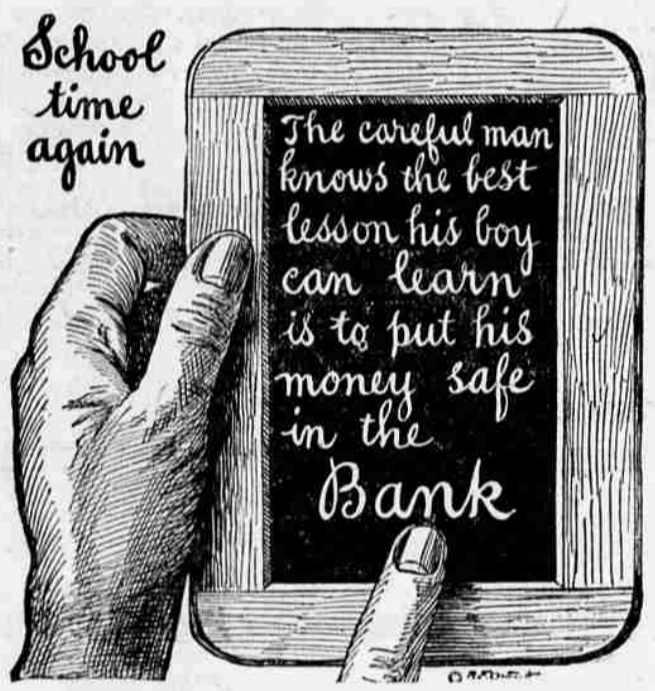
Have \$50,000.00 @ 8 per cent in amounts from \$1000.00 up, to loan on farms in Union County.

\$ 250.00 @ 10 Per Cent \$ 500.00 @ 10 Per Cent \$ 700.00 @ 10 Per Cent \$1,500.00 @ 8 Per Cent

To loan on Improved City Property.

Also an unlimited amount of capital to loan on La Grande property on monthly repayment plan—Building loans a specialty.

W. B. SARGENT, President. LA GRANDE INVESTMENT COMPANY LA GRANDE, ORE.



BANKING YOUR MONEY IS ONLY GOOD ARITHMETIC CARRY YOUR MONEY IN YOUR POCKET; YOU SPEND IT; YOU SUBTRACT FROM WHAT YOU HAVE. PUT YOUR MONEY IN OUR BANK; YOU SAVE IT, YOU ADD TO WHAT YOU HAVE.

THE CAREFUL MAN ALWAYS "ADDS TO" WHAT HE HAS. 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. Hokland, A. T. Hill, H. E. Coolidge.

WHY?

We Consider Your Success Paramount to Our Own

Because our success depends on the development of the communities served by us and the prosperity of their inhabitants.

We have made large investments for your convenience and comfort, in property which cannot be moved to some other locality if our business does not prosper as can yours—Therefore not only from public spiritedness but from business interests we wish to cooperate with you in anything tending to further the welfare of the community.

No proposition is too small to receive our cheerful and thorough consideration and active encouragement.

Eastern Oregon Light & Power Co. Always at Your Service Telephone Main 34