

EDITORIAL PAGE OF LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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A FEW THOUGHTS OF WAR.

Let us make up our minds that if we do go to war that we should do so in a way that will be fair and square to the masses of the American people.

The proposal to submit the question of voting on whether or no the United States shall go to war with Germany has novelty to say the least. The burdens of war fall heavily upon the common people. They are the ones who usually send their sons to the front. The others sit in easy chairs or lurk in tents at the rear of the firing line and direct thousands to go to slaughter. But you notice that they don't get close to the front themselves.

Since the people are the ones to pay the bills, since this is their country and their nation, it would not be amiss for them to have a vote first as to whether they wish to sacrifice thousands of lives and millions of treasure. But the munitions manufacturers, the camp followers, the sutlers, the aeroplane patent owners, will not like that. "Why not go ahead," they say, "and spend three billion dollars? It would make business good in this country, and what the country needs is to have more war orders." This is all very nice for the pocketbooks of the plutocrats. It would be a nice melon, indeed, to cut.

Those who remember the Civil War and its scandals will recall that many millionaires were made out of speculating on government contracts. In fact the Civil War really started us into a country of swollen rich fortunes. A war with Germany would do the same thing, and a new horde of American millionaires would rise to fatten off the people, and they and their descendants would wear purple and fine linen for years and years.

No, it wouldn't be a bad idea to submit this war question to a vote; it would, of course, be starting a "bad precedent"—that of consulting the people on a question that they were entitled to be consulted about. But somehow or other this is a country of setting bad precedents, and maybe the people would enjoy being asked once in a while what they wanted their government and their nation to do. It's strange, too, that when these "bad precedents" are suggested that you usually find one or two men at the bottom of them, either William Jennings Bryan or Theodore Roosevelt. And it's surprising how many "bad precedents" these two men have set. And still we manage to get along and be a pretty good country to say the least.

Talking with a prominent man the other day, (you would all know him if we mentioned his name) he said: "It seems to me that in this modern day and age—if our civilization has not entirely collapsed—that war is a crude, costly and brutal way of settling international disputes. It seems that we should be able to devise some other way. Take for instance the question of a war with Germany: A German submarine sinks an American ship worth a million dollars and kills seventeen Americans. In order to avenge the loss of seventeen lives and a million-dollar ship, we start a war and kill several hundred thousand of our very best young men and go into debt three or four billion dollars. To the practical mind of the average hard-headed American, this is bad business. It should be stopped."

Maybe the way to stop war is to submit in all countries to the people, themselves, the simple question of

WAR—YES.

WAR—NO.

We are inclined to believe that, if the present great international war had been submitted to a vote of the people of all the

Society

A committee of eight school teachers, Miss Anderson, chairman, assisted by the social committee is planning a Valentine party in the Y. M. C. A. Wednesday night. The plans include a general open house, informal entertainments and refreshments. A small admission will be charged.

The Pythian Sisters have issued invitations for a Valentine party to be held Tuesday evening, February 13, in the K. of P. hall. The evening will be spent in dancing and cards, and a splendid program has been prepared.

The Lucky Thirteen club met Thursday afternoon with Mrs. William Boltons. Mrs. A. L. Richardson won the honors. Red carnations were used as decorations and a dainty luncheon was served. The club will meet in two weeks with Mrs. C. H. Finn as hostess.

The Pinochle club met Tuesday evening at the J. G. Soodgrass home. Honors were won by Mrs. Loyd Scriber.

Monday evening at the home of Mrs. George Lyman a farewell party was given by the officers of the M. I. A. in honor of Joseph Price who leaves soon for San Francisco. About thirty-five were present and all enjoyed the evening which was spent in music and games.

Invitations have been issued for a series of dancing parties given by the M. I. A. this spring. The first was given last Friday evening, and was a pronounced success. Music was furnished by Mr. Lindsay and Mrs. French.

Mrs. E. P. Mossman of this city was the guest of the Woman's Club in Baker last Monday afternoon when she was requested to give a talk on "Art." Her lecture was interesting and was well received by the number present. After the program a reception was given in her honor.

Mrs. Charles Reynolds entertained at cards last Tuesday evening in her

home on First street. The decorations were suggestive of Saint Valentine's Day, red carnations and hearts being used as the table decorations. Honors at five-hundred went to Miss Janet Jones and Leo French. Mrs. Lee Reynolds entertained the guests with piano selections.

countries involved, we would have peace today.

War comes because it is profitable for too many silk-stockinged and silk-underwared men and women to have war; because the classes who vote for war do not have to go. They sit in palaces in comfort, and order troops here and battleships there, let big contracts to their friends and partners, and grow rich through the slaughter of their countrymen. The first step toward ending war would be to put the diplomats in the first rank, then the parliaments and the war order men in the second rank. Wars would soon then be a thing of the past.

Another thing that we should decide upon is this: That if war does come to this country, let us be fair in choosing the boys that we send to the front.

Let us have universal military service. Let us send to die the rich as well as the poor, the fit as well as the unfit, the old as well as the young, the brave as well as the cowards. Let us have no favoritism in choosing who shall have the honor of dying for their country.

GET TOGETHER.

A group of La Grande business men and professional men are getting together ever Tuesday for the purpose of sociability and good fellowship. There is no formal organization, no dues, no obligations. The noon day luncheons are open to the business men and professional men of La Grande. All that any one who wants to attend need do is to notify the chairman of the day. A different chairman is appointed at every meeting. The chairman of the next meeting is Mr. Fred B. Currey. If you want to go to lunch next Tuesday with a crowd of good fellows notify him before Monday noon.



Lore, The Girl Mystic, At Arcade Today



A Wonderful Display of New Spring Styles

Coats, Suits, Dresses, Skirts

At a Most Reasonable Price.

Coats and Suits of the newest materials and latest colors \$15.00 to \$45.00
 Afternoon and street dresses. An immense showing \$17.50 to \$50.00
 If you are looking for something unusual you will buy your new skirt here. The largest selection to choose from. All marked at a moderate Price \$6.00 to \$30.00

Foster's Famous Middies

Are now here in the new spring styles and colors. Plain white, white with colored collars, and a big selection of the new stripes.

Extra values at \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75



Mrs. F. S. Ivanhoe entertained the Thursday Bridge club this week at her home. Mrs. W. R. Jones won the honors. Next week, Mrs. J. C. Gulling will entertain the club at the home of Mrs. H. M. Bay.

The Eastern Star Social club will meet in the Masonic parlors Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Members of the Owaissa club were delightfully entertained by the Misses Goldie Campbell and Nora Arluette in the J. G. Miller home last Tuesday evening. The evening was spent in cards, honors going to Miss Elsie Newquist. Decorations throughout the house and on the luncheon table were suggestive of Saint Valentine and the color scheme was well carried out. A two-course luncheon was served.

Members of the Neighborhood club enjoyed an interesting program Tuesday afternoon. The topic of the program was "Art" and the following papers were read: "What Art Means to the State, Home and Individual," Mrs. E. P. Mossman; "What Club Women Can Do to Further the Interest of Art in Oregon," Mrs. George Cochran; and "The Effect of the Right Surroundings on the Health and Morals of Children."

Mrs. George Palmer. Mrs. Turner Oliver opened the discussion. For the benefit of those who were not present Wednesday evening, Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe spoke of the purpose of the scholarship loan fund. Mrs. Pearl Howard of Alaska gave a very interesting talk of her trip through Alaska. Mr. Finley, state biologist, will be here February 20 to show his famous bird pictures.

Miss Sarah Smith entertained at an informal card party Thursday evening. High scores were won by Miss Switzer and Mr. Bolton. Those present were: Misses Evelyn Poes, Enid Switzer, Ruth Ghormley and Sarah Smith and Messrs. Ernest Vehrs, G. A. MacNeil, Virgil Bolton and Harley Richardson.

Mrs. Claude Mackey entertained Thursday afternoon in honor of Mr. Mackey's mother, Mrs. L. T. Mackey of Akron, Ohio. The affair was in the nature of a farewell party and the women "showered" Mrs. Mackey with many beautiful handkerchiefs. Those present included the following: Mesdames William Day, J. G. Holm, Chris Wright, Robert Masterton, Chas. Beddingfield, Wm. Hamilton, C. E. Riley, Julius Roesch, Violet Morgan, Gilee

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"Where There's a Will, There's a Way."

There's no task too great to undertake—if you have the will. If you will to save money, you can do it. You don't necessarily have to be "short" to save—just bank a part of your earnings at this bank, each week or month—you will be surprised at the rapidity of its increase. Then you are ready to tackle the larger things in life. Show your will, and determination to win, by starting an account with us today.—And Stay With It!

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MARY PICKFORD
 as a little Scotch Darling of a lass
 in the latest Artcraft picture.

THE PRIDE OF THE CLAN

EVEN Mary admits no story ever meant as much to her.
 You will say, too, that no picture story ever meant as much to you.

COMING SOON

At The
ARCADE THEATRE

