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M'CAMANT VS. MUZZY.

We have read the brief of the plaintiff in the case of McCamant vs. Muzzy. Be it known that Muzzy is the author of the American history which is used in the Portland schools. We hope it is not used here. It is evident that Professor Muzzy has written a very mussy history. He is contentious, ignorant, opinionated and inaccurate. We are inclined to find for the plaintiff. We do not want any American history in our house which does not mention Nathan Hale, which discusses Bunker Hill and Valley Forge with one or two lines and which impudently calls General Grant a "pitiable statesman."

SALES TO NEUTRAL NATIONS.

Neutral nations are complaining because we are shutting off their supplies. All they need to do is to stop selling to Germany. In 1913, we shipped to Holland 6788 pounds of brass; last year, Holland bought from us nearly 2,000,000 pounds. To Denmark we sent in 1913, about 642,000 pounds of brass; and in 1916, over 6,000,000 pounds; in 1913, we sent to Norway no brass, and last year sent her 10,515,497 pounds.

We should sell no war supplies to neutral nations, and no more food than necessary. The quicker we clamp down the lid, the sooner we will end the war.

CHECKMATED.

The Kaiser's objectives were Paris and Petrograd. He has reached neither. Nor will he. He is gradually being driven back. The Russian drive and the entry of Greece are ominous signs. The desertion of German soldiers and their taking refuge in Holland is another omen.

No event favorable to Germany has happened recently. How long will the German people bear up under adversity, famine and the most outrageous military pressure?

The Supreme Court decision that manufacture of beer and wine in the homes is illegal will increase the burdens of enforcing the prohibition law, difficult enough as it is. Before invading the precincts of the home, the officers should ascertain what their rights are under the law as certain persons have been accustomed to regard their homes as their castles. The best way for citizens to do is to obey the law and to avoid chances of trouble.

To make the nation dry will cost a billion dollars for

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whiskey alone. The principle of paying for the goods already manufactured, however, is correct. The United States should pay for all property confiscated.

A WORD FOR THE STATION AGENT.

Dramatists who are in search of material for a "play with a punch" are invited to direct their attention to the station agent in a small town. Shirt-sleeved and unassuming the rural transportation expert possesses nevertheless all the elements of humor, grit and energy which go to form our conception of American character. In him the romance of railroading finds expression. He is the reception committee that greets the stranger on the platform of Lonesome Town. He is the town directory and the information bureau toward which you turn eagerly, and it is with his assistance that you take your departure. You feel that in him at least you have for the time being a proprietary interest, and he doubtless feels the same about you.

Conversely with the size of the town his duties increase until we find him good naturedly holding down the duties of mayor, chief of police, storekeeper, janitor and winder of the town clock. He ships your freight, sells you your tickets, checks your baggage, tells you when the train goes to Kankakee, whether it is on time, how long it will take you to get there, names the best hotel and agrees with you that it looks like rain. He builds a fire in the waiting room when it is cold and in the summer time swats the flies. He keeps one ear cocked in the direction of the ticker, and listens to what you are saying with the other. On the way out to the front platform he frequently collides with himself dashing madly to the telephone or the telegraph instruments. For the trains that rush by, he has a wave of his hand for the engineer and a shout for the brakeman on the rear platform. For those that stop he finds time to hustle baggage and passengers aboard, exchange pleasantries with the crew, and kid the conductor about his youngest baby. He still finds time to make out reports that would give the average man writer's cramp, and he trundles homeward in the evening on a bicycle never sure that he will enjoy a full night's rest.

The station agent isn't inclined to boast, and he looks far from ferocious, but there's many a passenger who owes his life to the mental alertness of this railroad representative. Likewise, many a highwayman is behind penitentiary bars today because he tried to take liberties with the watching of the company's property.

Withal the station agent is a friendly chap when people give him half a chance. He realizes that he is trusted with the Company's honor in playing host to the great traveling public, and he it said that he fulfills the trust to the best of his ability. He realizes that in him is vested the duty of giving the stranger a pleasing impression of both the company and the locality the agent represents. He believes that many people unaccustomed to traveling, count on him to assist them, and he has learned by experience that courtesy brings the quick appreciation of both his employers and those whom they are endeavoring to make their steady patrons.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

An All-American War.

"The conduct of the war," says T. B. Wilcox, who has just returned from the east, "has been admirable. President Wilson's preparations have kept even pace with the needs of our allies. The great things that have been done for the successful prosecution of the war do not appear on the surface, but they have been done nevertheless, and

done to meet the hearty approval of those who are engaged with us in the great conflict.

"The farther you get away from Oregon, the more you hear of Senator Chamberlain. His splendid work as chairman of the Senate committee on Military Affairs has made him a national character. He has grown immensely in the past year or two, and is one of the half dozen great men in the country. Oregon should be proud of Senator Chamberlain—as proud of him as the nation will be of President Wilson.

"We hear a good deal about wasted time in our war work. No time has been wasted. The work is progressing rapidly and efficiently. We learned of the sailing of our troops after they had arrived in France. From time to time we will hear of other great accomplishments when the things are done. This isn't a Democratic or Republican or Bull Moose war, but a national war, and we need not fear that it will not be prosecuted to a successful conclusion on American lines."—The Portland Spectator.

WHY--

The Business Man and The Banker should encourage and The Farmer should practice Diversified Farming

(By Kenneth Gilbert. These articles are reprinted from the "Business Chronicle" of Seattle, Wash., by permission of the publisher. They appeared in serial form in that publication, Feb. 24 to April 21, 1917. A copy may be had by addressing the Union Pacific System.)

Diversified Farming May Be the Sole Remedy for the Farmer's Illness. What can the business man—the merchant, or the banker—do to aid the farmer?

This query should, perhaps, be changed to: What will he do? There are many things that he may do to aid his farmer-neighbor, if he so chooses, but the things that he will do are what count.

One thing that he should do is to encourage diversified farming. It may be the sole remedy for a farmer's financial illness. At any rate, nothing but good should come from the farmer taking an active interest in this phase of agriculture.

That it produces greater and better crops is certain. This assertion is proved by the fact that one railroad at least—O. W. R. R. & N.—maintains an agriculturist, C. L. Smith, or "Farmer" Smith, as he is known, who does nothing but aid and counsel the farmers of the district through which his line passes, in growing more varied and better crops. There is no philanthropy in this practice; it is a strictly business proposition with the railroad.

The railroad has found that where diversified farming is carried on freight traffic is heavier. Hence it is good business for the railroad, as well as the farmer, to maintain an agriculturist for the purpose of creating this additional freight.

FOOD CONSERVATION IS SOUGHT

To the Food Administrator, Washington, D. C.: I am glad to join in the service of food conservation for our nation, and I hereby accept membership in the United States Food Administration in the conduct of my household, insofar as my circumstances will permit. Name Address Number in household Occupation of breadwinner Will you take part in authorized neighborhood movements for food conservation? There are no fees or dues to be paid. The Food Administration wishes to have as members all of those actually handling food in the home. Mail to Food Administrator, Washington, D. C. Free instructions and household tag to hang in your window will be mailed forthwith. Ten cents with your enlistment will bring the official food administration button.