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BUSINESS EFFICIENCY.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The national government will probably come through the war, purified and cleansed. What it needs is some ordinary, business efficiency. President Wilson has the greatest opportunity of any President that ever lived. George Washington was president when the American credit was at its worst. His first task was to build up the finances of the country and he appointed an able man when he appointed Alexander Hamilton secretary of the treasury. We remember many men in the history of the republic with gratitude, but none is more entitled to a high place than Alexander Hamilton, whose instinctive and acquired knowledge of finance was safe and sound. In the Civil War Abraham Lincoln had the services of Jay Cooke in floating the Civil War loans and no abler feat of finance was ever performed. And it was dollars and resources just as much as men that won the war. McKinley had no difficulty in financing the Spanish-American War and President Wilson will have no difficulty in financing this one, for the wealth of the United States has grown so enormously that we try to think in billions instead of millions, and the human mind cannot conceive of such enormous masses of money. But the difficulty with our modern wars is not so much the difficulty of raising the money, it is the difficulty of spending it and getting dollar for dollar value for it. It is safe to say as other writers have said, that the war will be won and lost in Washington. If it is lost, it will not be lost by the President. Throughout all of the very trying circumstances, President Wilson has preserved real discernment in picking his advisers. He has not hesitated to go to Wall Street for some of his most important lieutenants and he it said to the credit of the men of wealth and riches that they responded promptly and patriotically to their country's call. President Lovett, of the Union Pacific, went to the rescue of the Red Cross. So did Henry P. Davidson. Bernard Baruch, one of Wall Street's ablest operators, went to Washington to take charge of the government's purchasing department when small men like Secretary Baker and Secretary Daniels and their weak and inefficient departments of war and navy collapsed under the strain. Herbert Hoover was called in to be food controller, when the Department of Agriculture fell down and had thrown the country into the edge of a panic by its hysterical economy program at the start of the war. So it was that the President leaned heavily upon the National Council

Supporting the Government

This is a time for every citizen to support the United States Government and many are doing so at considerable cost or sacrifice to themselves.

We have joined the Federal Reserve Banking System established by the Government to give greater financial stability and strength to the member banks and protection to their depositors.

You can give your support to this great Government enterprise and also obtain its protection for your money by becoming one of our depositors.

Member
 Federal Reserve
 System

La Grande National Bank

White Slippers
 Straps
 Low Heels
 Cuban Heels
 Values up to \$5.00
20 Per Cent Off

SALE OF SHOES

Children's and Misses' Button and Lace White Shoes,
Reduced 10 Per Cent

We consider this one of our greatest cuts in shoes. Every pair of our summer shoes reduced—All are new this season. Some are the most popular modes in footwear this summer, and will be good for fall and spring.

We are offering these splendid bargains, simply because we make it a policy not to carry goods over from one season to the next.

You will find some great bargains here and at the prices listed below you will find them all real values.

Genuine White Glove Kid Lace, formerly selling at \$13.00, now **\$11.00**
 White New Buck Lace, formerly selling at \$6.00, now **\$4.95**
 White Reinskin Lace, formerly selling at \$6.50, now **\$5.15**
 White Reinskin Lace, formerly selling at \$4.50, now **\$3.60**
 White Reinskin Lace, formerly selling at \$5.00, now **\$3.95**

Our Bargain Table

Full of good bargains in white canvas shoes, slippers, white buck shoes and slippers—patent and kid pumps and slippers. All at wonderfully reduced prices.

Your Inspection Invited

NK West & Co
 THE QUALITY STORE

White Buck Sport Shoe, formerly selling at \$6.00, now **\$4.95**
 White Buck English Walk, formerly selling at \$4.50, now **\$3.65**
 White Canvas Sport Shoe, formerly selling at \$4.00, now **\$2.95**
 White Canvas Sport Shoe, formerly selling at \$3.50, now **\$2.49**

of Defense composed of the biggest business men in the nation, who serve without pay, and who have saved the government millions of dollars in a few months.

It would be a fine thing if the President were given authority just now by Congress to reorganize the various departments of the national government, reduce expenses, get rid of a lot of the chair warmers, install modern business system and leave the government at the close of the war an efficient capable organization with real competent men in the various positions of responsibility.

THE FOURTH PAYMENT.

The fourth payment, of thirty per centum, on Liberty Loan Bonds purchased on installments was due on August 15th. The payments must be made before that date according to the official statement of terms and conditions of the sale of Liberty Loan Bonds issued by Secretary McAdoo of the Treasury at the time subscriptions to the bonds were invited. Whether the bonds were purchased from the Treasury or from the Federal Reserve Banks or through other banks or agencies it is important that these and succeeding installments be paid promptly.

A Son-of-a-Gun From Bitter Creek.

It is a matter of common observation that the debates in Congress are not very enlightening. But when the average Congressional spouter gets on to a religious text, or a moral topic, he fairly emulates the Dutchman who every spring bored holes in his cellar door, as he said, "to let the darkness out." The latest example of this is Senator Morris Sheppard, of Texas, who believes in pumping virtue into the people by legislative process.

He is as pious as Satan when rebuking sin and as orthodox as Barebones himself. His theme is temperance. The constant activity of the liquor interests is a peril to free institutions, according to the Chinese statesmanship which would burn the house to roast the pig, while alcoholic liquor is a menace to the nation's health, morals and efficiency. Organized labor, cried the gentleman from Texarkana, has been asked to oppose prohibition because bartenders and brewery and distillery employes are members of unions. And then he blathered thus.

"Labor is asked to imperil its very existence, to take food from the mouths and clothes from the backs of men, women and children to sustain a traffic meaning hunger, disease, insanity and death for the masses while liquor barons live in luxury. If the liquor traffic is to be eradicated, the aid of the Federal government must be invoked. The partnership between the liquor traffic and the Federal government is one of the most frightful heritages of the Civil War."

To a man of Senator Morris Sheppard's stunted intellectual growth and limited mental vision the yawn of the temperance lecturer, like the cackle of the little barnyard hamlet where he lives when at home, seems the noise of all the world. Men of his calibre learn nothing. But men of his environment—the two-State wilds of Texarkana, where a gentleman who gets drunk in Arkansas may sober up in Texas, and vice versa, escaping the sheriff of each vicinage the while—could profit by nothing he might read in the doubtful event that he ever read at all. Such a person in the Senate of the United States recalls nothing we can think of except Mrs. Poyser's cock that thought the sun rose just to hear him crow. Obviously Mr. Sheppard is the original son-of-a-gun from Bitter Creek, high-up and north side!—Louisville Courier-Journal.

No Forest Fires.

Not in ten years, at this season, have the forests of Oregon been so dry and the brush and debris so inflammable. There is need that hunters observe the precautions enumerated

by state and national forestry departments with unusual diligence.

Loss of timber by fire, with its attendant dangers to life and other property, is cause enough at any time for care on the part of those who penetrate the wilds. Now war has made timber of exceptional value, and to the other elements of loss through forest fires is added that of labor.

Timber is in demand for government use and men are needed for constructive work. Expenditure of labor to overcome the carelessness of some sportsman is not constructive or productive.

Curtailment of the deer-hunting season may seem a hardship to those who love the chase, but it is curtailment of a pleasure which has many substitutes. Most of the game of today will be alive another year if not bagged this year. But why it is assumed that hunter are more careless with matches, cigar stubs and smouldering embers than campers and fishermen we are not now prepared to say.—Morning Oregonian, Portland.

Expert Nuisances.

One of the biggest nuisances of the war is the expert, so called, who gets out his pencil and makes all kinds of figures as to what is going to happen in Europe. A late one of this class estimates that if the Germans keep up their submarine activities, and the balance of the world does not increase its ship building much more than it has so far done, or is now doing, then the war must end in 1919 because England and the allies will be cut off from their food supplies. That is the way Germany figured it, too; but the government report for the fiscal year ending June 30, shows our trade with the allies has increased greatly in spite of submarines.—Daily Capitol Journal, Salem.

Works Both Ways.

The fellows who won't enlist because they don't want to give up their jobs may have to stick to those same jobs when men with more courage are getting better ones.—Evening Tribune, Pendleton.

Only a Few Are Killed

Those who enter the military service of the United States are not necessarily going to their graves. In fact an extremely small percentage will be killed or wounded. Therefore the loved ones of those who go forth in the nation's interest should not mourn too much over their departure though there can be of course no questioning the danger assumed by our soldiers.

The best cheer on the subject of battle losses is provided in a report to our secretary of war by M. Andre Tardein, high commissioner of the French republic. The vital part of this statement is found in the following:

Our strength in men, by reason of a better command, and of better methods of instruction, has shown, since the beginning of the war, constantly decreasing definitive casualties (killed, missing and those taken prisoners).

The following figures substantiate this:

Per cent of casualties in proportion to mobilized strength. Battles Charleroi and of the Marne	5.41
First 6 months of 1915	2.39
Second 6 months of 1915	1.68
First 6 months of 1916	1.47
Second 6 months of 1916	1.28

It will be seen from the foregoing that during the year 1916 the French army lost less than three per cent of its men, in killed, wounded and captured. That is a remarkable showing considering the fact the French have borne the heavy part of the fighting on the western front.

In the future the allied losses should be reduced still more because of their increasing predominance of strength, in men, munitions and aircraft.—Morning Democrat, Baker.