

La Grande Evening Observer

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TRUST UNCLE SAM

Someone who has time to spare from the present to think up horrible things that may happen to us in the future wants to know what will happen to the submarine after the war, says Frank Jenkins in the Eugene Register. He thinks he sees in it the possibility of a return of piracy to the seven seas—which is not such a startling dream as it might be, inasmuch as Germany has made of herself through the submarine the great pirate nation.

But he is not thinking of organized and national piracy that aims at the slaughter of innocent women and children as a means of awing whole peoples into submission. He is thinking of the possibilities of the submarine as a means of highway robbery on the seas. He visions a lean black monster rising from the depths and compelling heavily laden ships to stand and deliver their cargoes and then sinking again into the oblivion of the tossing waters while the guardians of law and order rage helplessly.

He sees, of course, hidden harbors where silver sands come down to the water's edge and where pirates bury their gold as in the good old days when the Jolly Roger flew from the masthead of Captain Kidd and his odoriferous crew or when the more pretentious Barbary pirates levied tribute on the commerce of the world. He believes that the submarine will enable the pirates of the future to elude their pursuers just as their predecessors so often escaped the fate they so rightly deserved.

But let us not worry. It was the United States navy that broke the power of the Barbary pirates, and it is the United States navy that is breaking the power of pirate Germany. Let us rest wholly confident that this same American navy will be able to cope with any other lawless spirits that endeavor to make piracy a profession.

NO FAIR THIS YEAR

The reasons for omitting the annual Wallowa County fair this year are manifest and compelling, is the way Editor Cheney of the Enterprise Chiefly explains the matter, and then he continues: The county has every prospect of the largest crop in its history, and every available man and boy will be needed next fall to harvest it. For the fair to break into the harvest time would be to jeopardize the gathering of the crop, and might cost the county thousands of dollars.

Even if the grain could be gathered, the effort of a week of disorganization of farming, with the expenditures of money that go with it, would be out of harmony with the times. The directors felt they should not hold a fair even if it was possible to conduct it successfully.

Children's fairs will be encouraged throughout the

Farmers!

You Should Keep a Bank Account

Farmers, as a rule, keep no books or accounts. Their bank deposit books afford them a complete record of cash receipts, while the stubs of the check book are a perfect record of expenses and payments. Your returned checks are the best receipts in the world, because the person receiving them must endorse it, and being returned to you by the bank, they can be easily preserved.

Money deposited in a bank is not so easily "foaled away" as when carried around in one's pocket.

Try the experiment for one year of keeping a bank account and see if it does not pay you.

A large number of the best farmers have accounts with us.

No charge for check books. We are desirous of having farmers' accounts, even though small, for in this locality, where mixed farming is preached and practiced, their accounts are sure to grow larger.

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county, to keep up the interest of the boys and girls in the many activities they have started. These activities will contribute directly to greater production now and in the future.

As soon as the war ends the fair will be resumed, with renewed interest. It is a valuable educator, performing a great service in stimulating better farming. The grounds and buildings will be all ready for the next fair, as soon as peace comes.

"NOT DEBATABLE" IS RIGHT

When E. B. Piper's patriotism prompted him to write the following editorial he spoke for every loyal citizen in Oregon and gave the Grants Pass Council of Defense the encouragement it deserves. Mr. Piper says:

A reason might be found why an American citizen should not be a member of the Red Cross. A reason might be found why an American citizen should not be a subscriber to a liberty loan. A reason might be found why an American should not purchase thrift stamps or savings certificates. The reason in every instance would be financial. No plea but poverty, or other justifiable demands upon all of one's means, will suffice.

But no good reason can be found why an American citizen may not wholeheartedly and unreservedly back the government's war program. The reason, if it exists, is a bad reason; and it is that he is not a true citizen.

They have the right idea at Grants Pass. An itinerant propagandist of some sort proposed to deliver a public address on the war and the end of the world. An intelligent and patriotic American community might be quite indifferent to the opinions of all comers on the millennium, but the war is a different matter. No American community can afford to be indifferent to the opinion or action of any citizen, rich or poor, powerful or humble, on the war.

When the local Council of Defense asked the millennial apostle about the Red Cross, liberty loan, thrift stamps and the war, and learned that he supported no one of them, he was refused a public hearing and told to move on.

There is a certain finality about such decisions which admits of no argument and no appeal. We like the Grants Pass way.

DON'T BORROW TROUBLE

The Grande Ronde farmer who worries now because of an apparent lack of labor to harvest the crops is borrowing trouble. Those crops will be harvested. If labor is apparently scarce, an order from Sheriff Warnick to close every business house and professional office in La Grande and other Union county towns would be respected if he ordered every man to the harvest field for a certain number of days.

And we would not need any law for such an act. The man who would stand on a technicality at such a time would not be worthy of his citizenship and doubtless would possess it but a short time after his feelings were known to his neighbors.

No, we do not need a lot of law to clutter up things when it comes to emergency work at a time like this. All we need in Eastern Oregon is for a bunch of regular citizens to get together and plan the work to be done, then let the sheriffs take charge of the details.

THE CASE OF MR. BACH

There is no use for anyone, regardless of how he may feel inside his vest, to think for a moment the general public is going to stand for utterances of a pro-German nature. At least such cannot be pulled off in Eastern Oregon nor in Grants Pass, for the people are "keeping the home fires burning" for the fine chaps who belong here but have gone to Europe because of Germany's desire to rule the world.

The shoe shiner Bach, who last evening tried to quarrel with a local grocer over the Hoover orders, is a very shortsighted man, and today he should be thankful that the spirit of the American people is broad and generous or he would doubtless be in more trouble than he is.

How long would an American in Berlin last who would try to do what Bach tried to do in America?

THANK PEOPLE FOR SUPPORT

Mr. Leiter and Associates Express Appreciation of Public Co-Operation

Today the formal legal control of the stock of The La Grande Evening Observer Publishing Company will pass to Bruce Dennis. Actual delivery of the property was made last week. On this occasion, the retiring editor and publisher and his associates desire to make grateful acknowledgment to their patrons, their subscribers, and to the people of the large territory served by The Observer for their liberal and steady support, their co-operation, their expressions of friendship and esteem. The retiring management of The Observer bought the property on September 12, 1916, paying cash therefor, and the sale to Mr. Dennis is made on the same terms. From September 12, 1916, to date, The Observer has grown and expanded it has endeavored to do its part in the upbuilding of the community; its part in the great war work of the nation. The work has been interesting and profitable. With the idea uppermost of giving the public best possible service the editor has had loyal support both from the public and his staff. From the opening of the war to the present time, The Observer has thrown itself heart and soul into the great conflict and is proud of the great patriotic record made by its community. The world does not long remember persons or events; but institutions go on forever; to have had a part in aiding in building up a newspaper like The Observer on sound, true principles is its own reward. Again thanking our good patrons and kind friends, we sign ourselves, yours respectfully,

CLARKE LEITER,
HENRIETTA B. LEITER,
J. D. MEYERS.

IT LOOKS LIKE WINTER OUTSIDE---

—BUT COME INSIDE—



We've lots of new spring merchandise to show you. You want to start making your summer dresses now, or your suit or coat.

Come in and see them now, then you can decide later.

SPRING NECKWEAR

Pretty neckwear for spring—high jabots, long satin roll, Buster Brown, stocks and many other shapes.

Prices, 25c to \$1.00

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Pretty voiles in plain colors of blue, sky, lavender, pink and rose. Also many pretty figured patterns for the early buyers.

Prices.....25c to 75c yard

New black and white plaids, 40 inches wide.

Prices, \$2.10 and \$2.90 yard (See window.)

New shepherd plaids, all widths and qualities.

Prices.....60c to \$2.50 yard

Nokata silks in rose, pink, blue and pongee, 36 inches wide.

Price.....75c yard

Palm Beach cloth in blue, green, sky and pongee colors. Also white with figure, and pongee with stripes.

Price.....45c to 75c yard

New Skinner's satins in figured patterns and plain colors; all shades

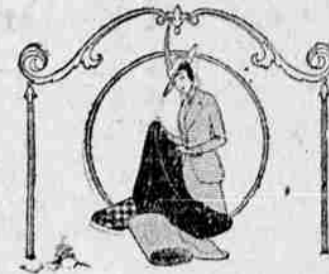
\$2 and \$2.50 yard

Our spring shipment of pongee has arrived. Three grades, all exceptionally good values.

Prices \$1.00, \$1.15 and.....\$1.50

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54 inches wide, Burgundy, brown (two shades), blue and navy. Also figured pieces, stripes and plaids.

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THE FORUM

ALL SHOULD PAY TAX

The war tax levied by the Government on incomes exempts the salaries paid to State, County and Municipal officers, so these are not required to consider their salaries in making up their incomes. The Federal officers are required to pay on their salaries. This exemption is based, no doubt, on the principle that the Federal Government cannot tax a sovereign state or the salaries it pays its officers which might be construed as indirectly taxing the State.

I do not think this is right in principle. A State or County officer drawing a salary which alone or combined with his income from other sources, is sufficient to subject him to income tax should meet the tax the same as his neighbor that makes his income from private sources.

In this hour of national stress a sense of patriotic duty and fairness

should make us all glad to contribute our bit to help our Government. This tax goes directly to the Government to aid it in the great war, and there is no question of its justice or the correctness of its purpose to which it is applied. Not even the doubtful propriety of some of the "drives" can be offered for a person taking advantage of such an exemption. The ability to pay is directly measured by a man's income, whether it comes from a private source, the Federal Government or the State, County or a Municipal Corporation. All should be on a level, any such exemption ought to be waived.

JNO. S. HODGINS.

La Grande, Oregon, Feb. 26, 1918.

A Hint to the Aged.

If people past sixty years of age could be persuaded to go to bed as soon as they take cold and remain in bed for one or two days, they would recover much more quickly, especially if they take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. There would also be less danger of the cold being followed by any of the more serious diseases.

WALLOWA SALUTES SERVICE FLAG

(Continued from Page One)

Sunday evening by the Presbyterian Sunday school. The following program was given: Prayer, Rev. Atkins. Song by Congregation. Salute to Flag, by Congregation. Song by High School Glee Club. Recitation by Burnhamline Hall. Short Address by Roy Conklin. Short Address, Mrs. John McDonald. Vocal Solo, Mary Randall. Dedication Address by Rev. Atkins. Song by Congregation.

The third number of the Lyceum Course was given last Saturday night by Geo. Colby, the cartoonist. A large crowd was present.

Wentzel, the great baritone who will sing the latest war songs at Rex hall Wednesday night, February 27. Be sure to hear him. Concert, 25c; concert and dance, \$1.00. Big dance will follow the concert. 2-27-18.

Columbia Records

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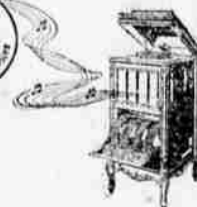
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