

POISON GAS NOW PURIFIES WATER

British Scientists Have Found a Way to Use Chlorine Product.

SAVES THOUSANDS OF LIVES

Water-Borne Disease Practically Banished From Western Front—Medical Corps Keeps Close Supervision Over Food Furnished Troops.

London.—Chlorine gas, which the Germans brought into the field of battle as a means of poisoning their opponents, is now largely used for purifying the water supply of the British army. That is one of the strange antitheses of this war. Socrates in prison, noting the pleasure which he had when the fetters were taken off his legs, speculated as to how pain and pleasure, though opposite, were so closely linked that the one seemed always to follow on the heels of the other. In the same way what is poisonous to one use is a means of wholesome in another, and divine providence turns even to good what wickedness designed for evil. The Germans rarely get a chance to kill anyone with chlorine gas now, but chlorine gas is daily in the British lines making water wholesome and safe.

Saves Thousands of Lives. The effort to secure pure water for the British armies in the field makes one of the fine stories of the war. It has saved very many thousands of lives by practically banishing water-borne disease from our principal front. At the outset of the war the British Royal Army Medical Corps declared in its mind all water supplies to be suspect. They were held guilty of infection until they were proved to be innocent. A "fool proof" system of making unwholesome water safe by chlorination was designed. Then all that remained to be done was to provide the machinery and chemicals and to safeguard against carelessness. The first was a matter of supplies, the second of discipline. Both were equal to the demand made upon them, and on every front now the general rule is that the men are drinking safe water.

Chloride of lime was at first the standby for water purification. It is efficacious, but water chlorinated with it is not very nice. Now chlorine gas has taken its place at big water supply points. It is just as efficacious and it does not taste the water to the same extent. A simple test, in which a non-commissioned officer of every unit is trained, tells how much chlorination water will need to make it safe. If very heavy chlorination is needed, the water after treatment can be dechlorinated and is left pure. The unit's water cart with its trained sanitary orderly has all the means of making water wholesome. But the system is followed where possible of purifying a main supply and issuing from that. In case of small isolated bodies of men, means of water purification are provided in the shape of tablets of acid sulphate of soda. All the old troublesome water purifying schemes, such as candle-filters, which used to be constantly breaking down, have been scrapped. Water precaution now is simple as well as effective.

Food is as carefully looked after by the British Royal Army Medical Corps as water. Food has to be not only pure but appetizing and scientific. If the food is not pure it causes sickness. If it is not appetizing it causes discontent. If it is not scientific, has not its proper proportion of proteins and fats and carbohydrates, it does not keep up the strength of the fighting men.

Has Scientific Basis. Probably Thomas Atkins has no suspicion that the very generous ration he enjoys has a scientific basis carefully calculated in calories; that there is a distinct change made in his summer and his winter ration, and that scientists look up isothermal tables and so on when he goes to a fighting area to decide what his food should be. But that is so. There are summer food scales. There is a ration for the French front and another for the Italian front and another for Salonica. Yet another for Mesopotamia and another for southwestern Africa. Some people are accustomed to talk as though the Germans had all the science and were the only people who took the food chemist into council. The truth is that the British have as much science but a good deal more humaneness, and part of the humaneness is to keep the scientific calculations in the background.

In regard to cooking, the Royal Army Medical Corps confess to an inferiority in British skill. As compared with the French, we are a nation of bad cooks. The most strenuous efforts are being made, and have been made for a long time, to raise the standard of army cooking. It is very much better now than at the start of the war, but it still will not stand well in comparison with the general French skill in combining economy with savory results. But the cooking is better and will get better; and when the British army come marching home it will have the knowledge to raise greatly the standard of domestic comfort in Great Britain. Thus again, pleasure will follow pain and the evils of war bring good in their train.

Red Cross Benefit at Island City. The Royal Neighbors of Island City will serve a cafeteria supper at the hall in Island City from 5:30 to 8 p. m., on March 4, for the benefit of the Red Cross. Everybody cordially invited.

DON'T WAIT FOR THE DRAFT

This is Appeal of the British and Canadian Recruiting Mission.

This is the appeal of Major C. S. Manchester, Officer commanding the Pacific Coast division, British and Canadian Recruiting Mission, to his countrymen.

When interviewed in his office at 268 Market street, San Francisco, Major Manchester said: "While it gives me great pleasure to note that finally a bona fide, signed, sealed and delivered agreement now exists between the United States and Great Britain, which places every British and Canadian subject in this country in a position where he cannot possibly escape liability to service in the war, still I hope even at this late date such subjects will want to show their loyalty and manhood by coming forward before they are actually compelled to do so through conscription. With the draft law now in effect, he becomes much more liable to service than the American, and the age limit in his case extends from 20 to 45 years.

Under this agreement every British and Canadian subject between the age limits of 20 and 45 years is bound to fight either under the

flag of his birth or the flag of his adoption, and he is allowed 60 days grace in which to decide. If he elects to fight under the Union Jack I hope he will come forward voluntarily and offer his services rather than wait until the iron hand of Justice reaches out and forces him to do his duty for his flag, his country, his home and his honor."

Delayed by Quarantine. Arch Moreland, an employee of the railroad shops, left with his family a couple of months ago on a visit with relatives in the East. Their return has been delayed beyond all expectations on account of being quarantined in Kansas against an epidemic of German measles. They are now expected home within a few days.

Today is bargain day in War Savings Stamps. On the first day of each month they increase 1 cent in price.

Bill Hart, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Star Theatre. 2-28-21.

ELSEWHERE IN OREGON

NEWPORT, Ore.: Captain O. P. Jacobson and A. U. Berry, of the Miami Construction company, have asked the public service commission at Salem to fix a rate for the transportation of rock for jetty work from the Pioneer quarry to Yaquina, over the Yaquina branch of the Southern Pacific. General freight agent Henshaw of the railroad quoted a rate of 25 cents per ton, but the San Francisco officials of the railroad raised this to 50 cents, which is considered nearly prohibitive. At a meeting of the Newport Commercial club it was decided to file a complaint with the public service commission against the Southern Pacific to have the railroad show cause why its road should not be extended to Newport.

SALEM, Ore.: Upon receipt of a message from United States Senator McNary stating that the war department expects to purchase a large quantity of dried vegetables here, it was learned that the Salem-Kings Products company will try to secure the contract. The company's plant had been closed down temporarily while machinery is prepared to handle the expected order. Two hundred and fifty tons of potatoes are now on hand, the manager of the company said, and 29 carloads of turnips are on the way.

SALEM JOURNAL: Plans for the organization of the Medford irrigation district, near Medford, were submitted to the state engineer today for approval. The proposed district covers 23,000 acres, which it is intended to irrigate by storing the waters of Beaver creek in what is known as the Beaver creek reservoir. The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$1,700,000 or about \$74 an acre. The directors of the district are Leonard Carpenter, E. G. Coleman and W. A. Folger.

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore.: The big new slab burner now being installed by the Klamath Manufacturing company at Shippington on the Upper Klamath lake is nearly completed. The burner is 90 feet high and 22 feet in diameter. It weighs approximately 100 tons. A new log way is being constructed to facilitate getting the logs out of the water to the mill.

Four fatal accidents and 484 non-fatal accidents were reported to the industrial accident commission last week. The fatal accidents were as follows: Carl Druhat, Portland, steel works; Frank Webster, Enterprise, sawmill; M. S. Ross, Portland, steel works; and Vernon M. Thatcher, Portland, conductor.

Information which has been received is to the effect that the great Horst Brothers' hop ranch near Independence, said to be one of the largest in the world, will be converted into a vegetable ranch and that the dryers will be used for evaporation of vegetables. It is

stated that 400 acres of the ranch are to be leased for vegetable growing.

Queries are being received by the public service commission from the railroad companies of the state as to what demurrage charges were in effect from January 21 to February 19 of this year, which was the interim between the effective date of the first demurrage order issued by Director-General McAdoo and the corrected order, which was the only one that went into effect.

Any resident of Oregon wishing to visit Switzerland must first secure a passport or equivalent paper of identification bearing the visa of the Swiss consulate, according to instructions received by A. Streiff, Swiss consul, from the Swiss legation in Washington, D. C. Mr. Streiff says that no persons except Swiss citizens will be permitted to enter Swiss territory without such a passport.

Standing timber valued at \$96,527 was destroyed by fires last year according to the annual report of Forester Elliott. This is the greatest loss in timber by fire since 1910 when the loss totaled \$1,640,997. The fire season last year was the most hazardous since weather records have been established in Oregon, says the forester in the report, and he declares that, had it not been for effective fire fighting work the loss would have been much greater.

During the Lenten season St. Peter's auxiliary to the Red Cross will meet every Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. Fred Gaskill. All members are urged to be present.

Portland, March 1.—Daily reports of Thrift Stamp and War Savings Stamps activities received at the office of Jesse A. Curry, state distributor, indicate that sales in Oregon are "going up" steadily. The state's total is piling along toward the million and a quarter mark. Marion county is leading in sales outside of Multnomah county. Marion's total is \$39,032.48. Washington county is next with \$32,464.26, and Linx is third with \$32,461.04. The total in Multnomah county to date is \$455,891.67.

Read The Observer Classified ads.

KEEP LOOKING YOUNG

It's Easy—If You Know Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets. The secret of keeping young is to feel young—to do this you must watch your liver and bowels—there's no need of having a sallow complexion—dark rings under your eyes—pimples—a bilious look in your face—dull eyes with no sparkle. Your doctor will tell you ninety per cent of all sickness comes from inactive bowels and liver.

Dr. Edwards, a well-known physician in Ohio, perfected a vegetable compound mixed with olive oil to act on the liver and bowels, which he gave to his patients for years. Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets, the substitute for calomel, are gentle in their action yet always effective. They bring about that exuberance of spirit, that natural buoyancy which should be enjoyed by everyone, by toning up the liver and clearing the system of impurities. You will know Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets by their olive color. 10c and 25c per box. All druggists.

Advertisement for McKibbin hats featuring a portrait of a man in a hat and text: 'A good head deserves a good hat. \$3.50 and \$4.00. THE GOLDEN RULE CO.'

Union-Wallowa County News

Joseph High School Annual. After much discussion it was decided that Joseph high school would again put out its annual known as the "Jo-Hi." The school board are back of it as are the business men of the town and the thing promises to prosper. All the staff were not chosen when this was written but those who are now known are Miss Emma Shanafelt, editor; Jean Paten, assistant editor; Guy Morelock, business manager; and Lester Estes, assistant business manager.

Hilgard. Several children in the local school are buying Thrift Stamps and filling their books to get "baby bonds." Fred Taal made a trip to La Grande Wednesday. Nathan Bard, who left Hilgard last week for Mare Island, California, stopped in Portland long enough to take his third physical examination. He passed O. K. and proceeded to the training camp where he intends entering the radio department if he can pass the final examination.

Orchestra Pleases Large Crowd. In their second appearance in Joseph the Hallowell ten-piece orchestra, featuring J. H. Wentzell, of Chicago, pleased a large and appreciative audience at the Opera House last Friday night. Besides the classical numbers there were patriotic and popular songs as well as the solo work which was especially fine. Mr. Wentzell, a nationally famed baritone made a big bit with all present by his pleasing manners and fine voice. Of the orchestra numbers the "American Fantasy" and "The Stars and Stripes Forever," were the best liked while the harp solo received the most applause of the instrumental solo work.

On Saturday evening a dance was given as well as after the Friday night's concert and large crowds were in attendance at both affairs. But this was not all as several numbers were given at the M. E. church on Sunday morning and a sacred concert at the hall in the evening. Both were well liked and we surely hope that they will come again.

Red Cross Has New Chairman. Mrs. H. E. Dawson, vice chairman of the Joseph Red Cross, has taken charge of affairs in the Joseph Auxiliary Chapter during the absence of Mrs. F. H. Gaultke, the chairman, who is in the East on an extended visit. Mrs. Albert Mount has been appointed as the head of the surgical dressings department while the sewing will be in charge of Mrs. L. E. Caviness and Mrs. A. H. Rudd. The sewing days are changed to Mondays and Tuesdays, leaving Wednesdays to do any necessary finishing in order that the Thursday morning rush may be eliminated. The rest of the week, including surgical dressings.

Because of some trouble in registration the worker's names will no longer be published but we trust that the Joseph branch will do just as much for the boys "over there" as they have in the past, and it is urged that every Joseph lady will devote several afternoons each week to this great work of helping the

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You Can't Beat It Anywhere. Loops are turned at the factory in each end of every line wire of Page Fence, and every roll of fence contains a bunch of small coils by the use of which two rolls of fence are joined together in the same manner as you would place two keys on a ring at the same time, thus joining your fence together quickly and securely.

Page Fence is the only fence having this method of splicing and this feature alone has won it many friends and buyers, as it is easy to see the direct advantage the Page Splice has over the other methods of splicing the single wires by hand at each end of a roll of fence.

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See the New Liberty Glasses as Adopted by the United States Government. We Carry Them. Our Glasses Are Correctly Fitted. We Grind and Surface Our Own Lenses. Broken Lenses Duplicated Same Day. J. H. Peare & Son Optometrists. Phone 37.

Advertisement for The Mammoth Grocery, 1211 Adams Avenue, C. R. Simkins, Prop. Fresh Vegetables for Saturday. List includes Hothouse Lettuce, Celery, Sweet Potatoes, Head Lettuce, Parsnips, Onions, Cauliflower, Carrots, Tomatoes, Brussel Sprouts, Cabbage, Green Onions, Spinach. Your Patronage Solicited. PHONE MAIN 82.

Large advertisement for 'Try the Want Ad Way' with text: 'Small Matters too Big to Neglect and Important Matters That Cause Constant Worry Taken Care of By Observer Classified.' Includes instructions for farmers and details about classified advertising.