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PAY WITH LIBERTY BONDS

Elsewhere in this issue of The Observer will be found a report of the city manager to the commission at the meeting last evening in which Manager Curvey very properly suggests as follows:

In view of the fact that many of our citizens have purchased Liberty bonds, believing it their patriotic duty to do so, but who at the same time are in arrears on improvement assessments, I would suggest that the city instruct the recorder to accept Liberty bonds in lieu of cash in payment of improvement assessments. I do not believe that there is any legal difficulty to be encountered by this action and I do believe it would result in lessening the burden upon many of our citizens. We could apply Beaver Creek sinking fund for this purpose.

The wisdom and good judgment displayed in this suggestion at once will appeal to every citizen who wishes to pay what he owes the city and at the same time support his country in this time of war. A Liberty bond is another form of money. There is no way of denying it. At present it does not circulate as legal tender, but it is sure to do so after the next issue is floated. In other words, if one wants to buy an article for fifty dollars and produces a Liberty bond of that denomination it is very likely the bond will be accepted as money.

Why should not the city accept the bonds? We can see no good reason. There may be technical reasons, but the public mind is now in such a liquid state that technicalities are waived.

It seems to the Observer that Manager Curvey has produced the correct and proper solution of a municipal problem.

GERMANY'S NEW OFFENSIVE

When Shakespeare put into the mouth of one of his famous characters the word "Methinks he doth protest too much" it is not likely that he singled out any one individual for ridicule—rather did his phrase fit the character of a type of publicist that prevailed even in the era of the immortal bard. But the type has persisted and has made itself especially obnoxious since the greatest war in history became an accomplished fact, and while every nation is more or less burdened with this type of publicist, he has reached the zenith of his fame in Germany, and thanks to the submarine cable and wireless—undreamed of in Shakespeare's day—the scope of his influence is now extended to every quarter of the globe.

Thus we have been reminded for many weeks of "the coming German offensive on the western front." "A certain high officer"—a well known but at the same time mysterious individual that is continually breaking into the newspapers in militarist nations—has asserted and re-asserted until he must be tired of reiterating the story—that Germany is about to launch a violent offensive against the allies, an offensive which some of the Tinton newspapers ever will and the war with an overwhelming victory for the Central Powers. And to further what is apparently deemed to be an illusion, the same "high officer" has now invited the representatives of certain "neutral" newspapers to witness the opening stages of this over-headed offensive, and he will probably supply the worthy gentlemen of the press with nice explanatory stories, thus giving them every opportunity to confine themselves entirely to pleasure while on their visit to the German lines on the western front.

But there are "high officers" on the other side of No Man's Land who have come to the conclusion that there isn't going to be any great German offensive on the western front—at least, not with the Germans as aggressors; in fact, these officers assert that the German announcements are being circulated in the vain hope of fostering a spirit of nervousness and doubt among both officers and men of the allied army, and thus hinder the conclusion of the plans which the allies are now laying for their offensive. This is, according to allied officers, just camouflage of an extremely thin nature, that may deceive the German people, but is certainly very transparent to the allies.

To those not versed in actual conditions at the front it does not appear to be good strategy for a general staff to warn the enemy of an impending offensive, but it may be another example of the idiosyncrasies of "kultur" as applied to tactics. Some of those nervous individuals who are prone to work themselves into hysteria over the most far-fetched rumor, point to the rare occasions—such as the fall of Warsaw—when events foreshadowed by the German general staff have worked out in accordance with schedule, and nearly succeed in per-

suading themselves that the offensive is already on.

However, all true Americans will place implicit confidence in their own general staff, and accept, as 100 per cent value, its statement that the allies are not only fully prepared for any offensive the Germans may launch, but have how sufficient reserves to deliver a counter offensive of such magnitude to outbalance the strategy of the Potsdam militarists.

ALL BANKS DEPLETED

Every day the fact comes closer and closer home that the banks in all sections are being depleted on account of the demands of the war. La Grande is sure to lose very shortly several first class railroad men who will go to France. No many of the farmers' boys and others of the acceptable age have already responded that the thinning of the ranks is plainly noticeable. And not only the young men but many of the younger women are also going. Before long our local civil life will be made up almost exclusively of those who are too young or those who are too old to go to war.

Maybe the big German drive will go into the deferred class along with the Paris dinner scheduled for the third week in the summer of 1914.

A sense of patriotism may supply some of the zeal in the work of homegardening, but the call of the soil becomes more and more insupportable through the end of a hot battle on a hot day.

The estate of the late James Stillman, of New York, is valued at a hundred million dollars. Ninety-nine of those millions and a few odd hundred thousands ought to go toward the subsidizing of the Hun, and then the severity of the loss of a great financier would redound to his country's gain.

FRIENDLY CHAT

About Men, Events and Things in General that Affect the Welfare of Oregon and Oregonians.

By Bruce Dennis.
 How does Chamberlain stand at Washington since the recent troubles?

This is a question often asked by members of all parties, for George Chamberlain is in about as bad with the administration as it is possible for him to be. Those who know the President best insist that he never forgives and it is certain from the many stories from the capital that McAdoo has determined never to stand for Chamberlain for anything at any time.

In other words, when George spoke his mind he burned all bridges between himself and political favor at the White House.

A lot of us do not worry much over the apparent situation of the Oregon senator for there is a full realization that this was cannot be fought without the assistance of such men as George Chamberlain. He has fathered more legislation of military value than any other senator. He has seen farther into the future than has any of his colleagues, and our guess is the time will come and probably come often when Secretary McAdoo and the President will each be glad to consult the Oregon senator. It certainly will be no discredit to them to do so, for in stringent times such as these we need a number of Chamberlains who have specialized that is essential and who have the on much of the military program courage to set forth their views in an honorable and dignified manner just as Chamberlain has been doing.

If Chamberlain were up for reelection in Oregon this fall it is very doubtful if he would have any opposition whatever, for the people do not want to make changes where they have able men in high office during the war. In Mr. McNary's case there is a well-founded belief that he is not the man for the place; that he does not measure up to the needs of the country, hence he has strong opposition. Were he a Chamberlain in size things would probably be different, but this is no time for "boys to be sent to mill."

Harvey Wells, state insurance commissioner, went to California recently and while he was gone some reporter pulled a story about him having been offered a position in France. Harvey hastened to deny it immediately. Quite right, Harvey, be quick about the denial, for you know what happened to President Kerr relative to offers elsewhere.

When the boys begin to come home there is going to be a different complexion in officialdom in every county in Oregon. If anyone

has aspirations to hold office he had better get those aspirations quickly satisfied, for "when the boys come home" every office will be filled by a man who is a hero of the European battlefield. And that is the way it should be. The least the home folks can do is to immediately give the soldier boys preference in every public office. They are going to run this country and the country will be run correctly by them for they will have a wider grasp of affairs than any man who did not go regardless of education and former training.

ELGIN WILL HAVE IMPROVED STREETS

ELGIN, March 20.—(Special.)—J. W. Brown, a business man of Elgin returned last week from California where he spent the winter. Mrs. Brown will remain there for some time longer.

Mrs. J. H. Masterson returned from Portland last Friday when she has been with Mrs. G. H. Masterson. She states that Mr. Masterson has recovered in health considerably.

Last Saturday evening a dance was given at the Halgarth Park. The proceeds were given to the Red Cross. All enjoyed the good time and refreshments provided.

About twelve o'clock Friday night the Elgin citizens were disturbed by the fire alarm. The old livery stable on Depot street, which was run by Hunsaker was completely destroyed by fire. The building was very old and it is hoped that upon the lot it occupied there will be a more beautiful structure erected to greet the eyes of passengers on the train as they pass through Elgin.

The building of the new drug range is well under way and without a doubt will add a great deal to the appearance of Main street.

The Elgin street car will be quick in getting to work at the paving of the main street of Elgin. Several of the streets have been graded.

Superintendent A. E. Clawson made a business trip to Walla-walla county Saturday. He returned Sunday evening.

Mr. Wm. Fine was brought in Elgin last Saturday to receive medical treatment here of Dr. E. T. Kirby. Mr. Fine suffered a strain of appendix some time ago.

Max Clark Riggs and daughter Margaret arrived in Elgin Tuesday morning to attend the Red Cross benefit given by Mrs. Le Roy Stafford.

Attorney J. Dehgan returned Saturday morning from a business trip to La Grande.

This was a drive for clothes to send to the Italian children. Elgin need not fear of failing to fill her quota if people continue to be as liberal the rest of the week as they have these first two days.

Mrs. Jennie Kemp a government agent for the Food Administration gave an interesting talk before the assembly Tuesday morning. Mrs. Kemp also addressed the citizens in the High School assembly hall, Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Kemp certainly proved to be a woman of great learning and very many interesting and educational hints to the people of this warlike age.



Would You Know What Fashion Has for Easter?

To some, the conservative appeals; to others the extreme. This store is an impartial collector of the best of all styles.

You will find here, many new ideas that the foremost style creators have evolved for the fashionable women of this country—with a reflection of what Paris has decreed for the world.

Beautiful New Silk Dresses
 We feel sure we have the most beautiful line of silk dresses we have ever been able to offer you. Pretty color combinations, and plain colors. You should see them while the stock is complete. Prices from \$17.50 up.

New House Dresses and Ladies' Overalls
 Something new, something different in house dresses and aprons, awaits your inspection. Also new gingham overalls in pink and blue striped patterns.

Silk Skirts for Spring
 Silk plaids are leading in skirt fashions this season. We have a pretty selection of these plaids all ready for you to see. Make it a point to see them. 25.00 and up.



Your Summer Dresses
 are requiring lots of thought just now. Come in and see the pretty spring dress fabrics. Voiles, pongees, Nakata silk, Palma Beach fabrics, in plain and figured patterns. Also pretty silks and silk poplins.

Children's Coats
 Follow the Styles of Their Elder Sisters
 "Most sensible season ever known for the youngsters," say the fashion writers. Particularly interesting coats in silk poplins, plaids and checks, with pretty collars. \$6.00 to \$12.50.



News Notes From Alice

ALICE, March 20.—(Special.)—Mrs. W. H. Oliver and children arrived at the home of M. F. Van Housen for a visit Friday evening. Cousins Pugh and Childers of La Grande had charge of the evening's services Sunday evening. Sunday evening the Epworth League visited the Imbler League. Saturday night the following people enjoyed themselves at a party at the home of Mrs. Walter Matshew: Mrs. Ruby Ledbetter, Eva

Ledbetter, Margaret and Mary Taylor, Florence Thompson and Jimmy Van Housen, Messrs. Clev's Webb, Reed Taylor, Wm. Ledbetter and Lewis Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Speckhart and daughter Bertha, and Paul Kanautz spent Sunday with Mrs. and Mrs. Elmer Speckhart. Mrs. Chas. Playle, Men. Earl Robinson and daughter, Peggy Robinson and Ray Fuller, all of La Grande, took dinner at the home of C. E. Van Housen Sunday.

The following program was given by the High School Literary Society Friday:

America—Audience.
 High School Paper—Ruth Johnson.
 Vocal Solo—Fanny Van Housen.
 Reading—Minnie Watkins.
 Dialogue—Primary Grades.
 Vocal Solo—Miss Ruth Winters.
 Dialogue—High School Girls.
 Star Spangled Banner—Audience.

TRY DISTRICT JUDGE ON SERIOUS CHARGE

(By United Press)
 HELENA, Mont., March 20.—Sitting as a court of impeachment, the senate of the Montana state legisla-

ture convened today to determine the truth of charges of disloyalty and malfeasance made against Charles L. Crum of Forsyth, judge of the 15th District by the house of representatives. Members of the house named a board of managers to prosecute the charges against Crum, and witnesses for both sides are streaming in from Rosebud and Musselshell counties.

Articles of impeachment were adopted by the lower house at the special war session last month after over one hundred affidavits were submitted by Governor Sam Stewart and the Rosebud County Committee of One Hundred. These supported charges made by the committee that Crum had made statements disloyal to the government; had criticized the president; had declared the draft law unconstitutional, and sought to condone the Lusitania sinking.

It is also charged that Crum, when here as a character witness for a Rosebud man charged with treasonable utterances, pointed a gun at a federal attorney.

Partners when in La Grande should see the Portable grain bin at Child's Auto Livery. Leave name and solicitor will call later in the evening. 3-6-17.

Face Preparations that find Feminine Favor

Every woman is interested in toilet preparations which will promote a healthy skin and a pretty face.

A. D. S. Face Cream will cleanse and soothe the skin. It is the best cream for sunburn and windburn. If used before exposure it will prevent sunburn. If used afterwards it will take out the sting and give immediate relief. It has a delicate and subtle perfume that is refreshing.

Armond's Face Powder is so fine and impalpable that it cannot be seen. It gives a smooth velvety feeling and appearance to the skin. It takes off the shine. Delightfully perfumed. Three shades—flesh, white and pink.

This interesting line also includes a Massage Cream, Lotion, Vanishing Cream, Toilet Water and other articles which are needed for Missy's toilet.

LA GRANDE PHARMACY

Adolph Newlin, Mgr.
 Quick Delivery Phone Main 40
 La Grande, Oregon

A Checking Account

Have you a checking account?
 Every year there comes up some item of expense on which you have no check.
 Every once in a while you are called on to show proof that a certain bill or account is paid.
 Almost every day someone loses change out of his pocket or loses his purse.
 Very frequently money is taken from people's houses.
 All this can be averted by carrying a bank account with us, and using your check book for reference—because your money is in a safe place.

Don't Forget to Make Your Income Tax Return Before April 1

Member Federal Reserve System
La Grande National Bank
 LA GRANDE, OREGON

THE SPIRIT OF HOME MAKING IS ENCOURAGED AND FEATURED IN THIS STORE

Durability, service, comfort—are as much a part of our merchandise as is the spirit of intelligent cooperation a vital part of our sales force. Our guarantee covers your dollars.

Furniture Exchange

Best Prices Paid for Used Furniture

THE HOTEL JENNINGS

DO YOU want to save all you can to buy W. S. Stamps? If so, stop at the Jennings Hotel at Joseph, as it has now changed hands and is a first class hotel. We are now equipped to solicit your patronage. It is well heated, with no extra charge.
 Headquarters for Lake Wallawa Tourists and Commercial Men. Auto Bus Meets All Trains. Autos for Hire. Office, Joseph-Enterprise Auto Bus Line, Handling Passengers and Baggage