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"My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty."

NOT DISHEARTENING YET.

The retirement of the British forces three miles back from Arras, as reported today, need not be disheartening. No position of importance has been lost and the place receded from is said to be filled with gas and consequently can be of no more use to the enemy than to the allies.

It seems the objective now is the channel ports, but it will be noticed that a few days ago the objective was Amiens, the railroad center. They didn't reach that place, although they were in sight of it. The subjugation by the enemy of either the railroad center or the ports would be a severe loss to the allies, but these objectives—and especially Amiens—have not been reached as yet and the shifting of objectives shows as much as anything else that there is no pre-established point beyond that of trying to crush the British line by superiority of numbers.

In this connection there is another noticeable thing and that is that Field Marshal Haig's reports are always conservative and never misleading as to the actual situation and conditions. By reason of that fact we have news from the front occasionally that has a tinge of gloom, which is to be expected. There is nothing in the report today beyond what might reasonably be expected to take place.

A WAR OF ATTRITION.

Major Matthews, the Canadian officer, said in his address last night that no one could undertake to say how long the war will last. It may be in a year and it may be three years; it depends mostly on how many Germans are killed and how fast they are killed. That is probably about the size of the situation. As far as triumphing over

the German militarists is concerned, it is simply a process of wearing them out. The luckless German subject, who is of military capacity, regardless of his age, is in a place where he can do nothing else than march toward the slaughter pen. And the Kaiser and his butchering partners will keep them going as long as there is one left that is able to move.

With the military ideal that might makes right, all is staked on the outcome as far as the German objective is concerned.

But it is not possible to conceive that the German soldiers, as evidenced in the reported mutiny of yesterday, can have the heart in their bloody work that is felt by those who are in this conflict for the disenfranchisement of the power of might—the German military power.

The allies are facing the onslaught of two and a quarter millions, the largest army that ever made the earth tremble with its tread. The odds in force of numbers are in favor of the enemy, but the conflict must go on by stages and degrees if no other way, until the enemy, regardless of size and numbers, is crushed into the dust.

WHAT THEN?

What conception of patriotic duty can men have who strike when employed on work necessary to war, as have the carpenters in the Hampton Roads district? By the agreement which has been made between employers and workmen at the National labor conference, they are assured of fair wages, hours and terms generally. What more do they want? asks a writer in a metropolitan paper, and he says, what more do they expect to get if, through their conduct and that of others who are apt to follow their example, Germany should win? They already receive wages far exceeding those of their craft in any other country, and they have the eight-hour day.

When the Germans captured the Russian city of Dvinsk, an Associated Press dispatch says, they "enforced compulsory labor for twelve hours a day to skilled workmen, the highest wages paid being three rubles. . . . The value of a ruble is now about 10 cents." If Germany should win the war, American industry would soon fall under German domination, and German wages for German hours of labor would soon prevail. How would the carpenters who now receive \$5 and more for eight hours like to work twelve hours for 20 cents?

When short-sighted selfishness leads men to such folly it is in effect treason. The only effective way of dealing with it is that proposed by the Norfolk county draft board—to place in class 1 of the draft register all men qualified for military service who are found in the ranks of the strikers, when other men are dying by the thousands to preserve their liberty, for they should be made to fight. Strict inquiry should also be made to determine whether the instigators of the strike are not in the service of the enemy. If that should be

found the fact they should pay the penalty of treason. The time for half measures is long past.

Wrestlers Are In Training

Both Jack O'Neill and Ted Theye are making especial effort to be in the best of condition for their match at Rex Hall on April 24. Each man has the highest regard for the ability and prowess of the other and no stone will be left unturned in their preparation for the contest.

O'Neill is following his usual training stunts, consisting of a regular course of training with light apparatus at home, which has proven its effectiveness so often in preparation for his many contests, and is wrestling regularly with Pat Foley, who O'Neill admits will soon be the legitimate contender for the heavyweight honors.

Theye is teaching the members of the La Grande Wrestling club, and with the exercise he gets as a boiler-maker at the O.W. shops, he is as "tough as nails."

THE FORUM

OPPOSES PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

LA GRANDE, April 16, 1918.—Editor Observer: If I could write like you or talk like Pierce, believe me some people would read and hear things that are not to their liking. I am opposed to spending public money for public improvements that we can get along without until this cruel war is over. Is it necessary that we spend so much money for a grand coliseum on our state fair grounds this year? Is there an exhibitor unprofitable enough not to put up with what we have for another year or two? Is there a citizen unprofitable enough not to take the little bumps he gets on the roads for another year or two? Our boys over there are taking the bumps in large doses; can not we take them in small doses? State bonds selling below par and at a higher rate of interest than Liberty Bonds is not the right thing at this time. We hear so much about the shortage of labor, why take it away from where it is needed most? The farmer is asked to cut on wheat, but raise more wheat and more meat. Somebody tell me where the labor is coming from to do this. Where is the money coming from to help the farmer plant and harvest his crops this year? The banks must be near their limit in financing the buying of Liberty Bonds and more must come. When the boys come home there may be an over-supply of labor, and this is the time to show your patriotism by giving them employment. I have one boy in France and another one headed that way, and I want to see my boys and all other boys backed by every dollar and every grain of wheat in America. My opinion is not worth anything, but it is my guess that this war is just fairly started, and before it is over we may be compelled to take our bumps in much larger doses than we care to.

E. J. CONRAD.

Pretty stationery in boxes and in pound packages at reasonable prices. Just the kind you need at Silverthorn's Family Drug store—15th and 4-2-14.

INDIANS GOOD FOR SECOND PLACE IF BAGBY JOINS CLUB.



Pitcher Bob Groom.

Guy Morton does to be one of the hopes of the Cleveland Indians this year. Guy's arm is in the best shape since his great season in 1915. Bob Groom, the Washington and St. Louis veteran is a good balance wheel for the pitching staff. If Bagby, who is a good fielder, signs up the Indians ought to be good for second place.

RED CROSS News and Notes.

AMERICA NEEDS NURSES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 16.—Miss Jane Deiano, chairman of the national committee on nursing, gave out the following statement at the national headquarters of the American Red Cross recently: "Nurses, and more nurses, if America is to win the war, is the cry of the nation to her women today. There are at present about 7000 nurses in active service, and the first contingent of the American army is scarcely in the field. Men are being called to the colors by the hundreds of thousands. And whether they will be protected and cared for when sick and wounded depends on whether American women are willing to make the same sacrifice their brothers are making. Failing in this they will have done incalculable harm to the efficiency and morale of our brave soldiers."

"That the women are not responding today to the call as they should, is not that they are slackers, or unwilling to serve, but because they do not realize the vital need of the country for their services."

"Over 500,000 men are in training in the American cantonments today. In a few months there will be a million. Though the American army is known as the strongest, healthiest in the world, there must in the nature of things be some sickness. In order that the sick may be properly cared for and the well protected, we must provide a system of hospitals, with doctors, nurses and equipment equal to that of our largest cities; for these cantonments are, as a rule, far away from any usual facilities for caring for the sick."

"About 2000 women have to date been assigned to active duty in cantonment hospitals and several hundred more to the Navy Nurse Corps. Women are also working in the sanitary zones about the cantonments. As new armies are called many thousands more will be needed for this work."

"Outside of actual work in the armies there is a tremendous responsibility upon nurses today to aid in the protection of public health. With the new problems incident to war, taken in addition to the fact that so many nurses have already been called for military service, the problem becomes acute. It cannot be satisfactorily solved unless thousands of women will come forward, both to meet the new needs and to take the places of those who have gone."

"In the bitter struggle of the past three years our allies have strained every resource to the breaking point, and we must be ready to gradually take upon our shoulders the burden of caring for their sick and wounded as well as our own."

"The woman, today, over 21, who has had at least two years' training in some recognized nurses' training school and who meets other necessary requirements, has, by enrolling for active service under the banner of the Red Cross, the privilege of performing a service which is vital to the success of American arms."

"The woman who has not had the necessary training can find her largest opportunity for service by taking it now. From the moment she enters a nurses' training school

the tremendous rehabilitation work she will be in a position to aid in which must follow in its wake."

Wallowa People Have Meeting

Red Cross Women Rescued Work—Many Children in Second Idaho Division—Soldier Boy Home On Visit—Local and Personal Notes of Interest.

WALLOWA, Oe., April 16.—(Special).—Mrs. G. M. Masterson returned last Tuesday from Portland, where she went for a slight surgical operation.

Dr. Nedro Gregory, of Joseph, was in town Wednesday on professional business.

P. F. Rohr has moved his butcher shop into the James Tulley building on Main street.

Miss Chella Pickett is in La Grande on a business trip.

Mr. Crossland, of Troy, was a business visitor Thursday.

F. T. Baker and W. A. Purdin returned from a business trip to Yakima last Tuesday.

A family dinner was served by the basketball teams of the high school last Monday evening. About 20 were present.

E. A. Seale and family made a motor trip to Joseph Sunday.

Several accompanied the Dr. Kerr party to Lostine Sunday.

The March sale of Thrift stamps conducted by the public schools, amounted to \$2487.50. Twenty-one were enrolled in the Second Rainbow division, each having sold \$50 worth of stamps. Their names are as follows: Elvin Hunter, Lillian Minnagha, Carmen Plass, Reed Cox, Leona Dexter, Lula Dexter, Virginia Hunter, Callista Miller, Kenneth Tulley, Raymond McDaniel, Margery O'Brien, Hubert Mitchell, Beatrice Pfeffer, Halbert Hall, Ethel Hendricks, Lola Johnson, Hazel Soden, Cressie Grant, Zelma Plass, Kenneth McClaren, Jack Holmes.

O. Frick is making several improvements on his business property near the school house.

Mrs. Swain and daughter, Miss Clara, of Burns, are visiting with the family of S. F. Allen. Mrs. Allen is a daughter of Mrs. Swain.

Dr. Gearhart, who recently located in Wallowa, was called to the army and left Saturday to take up his work.

C. B. Smith and wife made a trip to Minam Sunday. Mr. Smith is driving a new Overland.

The Christian Endeavor society of the Christian church gave a 10-cent social in the Mormon church last Monday evening. Quite a crowd was present and all report having a good time. A neat sum was realized, which will be used in paying for the new piano at the Christian church.

A. Olmstead, of Enterprise, attended the Dr. Kerr meeting Sunday.

Virgil Caverstone, one of Wallowa's soldier boys, came in on Sunday's train. After a few days' visit with relatives and friends he will return to Camp Lewis.

Delbert Greer and family left on Thursday for Milton, where they will make their future home. They will be greatly missed by their many friends of this community.

J. W. Womack returned Saturday from Portland, where he had been visiting for a few days. He reports work on the go at the shipyards.

Walter M. Pierce spoke to a crowded house at the Gym last Saturday night. His subject was the war situation. The Liberty Loan committee had the meeting in charge, with C. T. McDaniel as the chairman. A short musical program was rendered, consisting of a solo by Miss Randall, a solo by Mr. Kiddle and a mixed quartette. Mr. Pierce was at his best and by his eloquence brought the message of the war to the heart of everyone present.

Mrs. J. H. Minnagha and Mrs. I. B. Gregory gave a Red Cross benefit tea last Wednesday afternoon. About \$11 was the sum netted.

The ladies are again busily working at the Red Cross room, after about a month's layoff on account of being out of material.

President Kerr, of O. A. C., and Captain Humphreys spoke to a crowded house at the high school gym on Sunday morning. These two gentlemen impressed the people that everyone should do all that he can to win the war. The program as arranged by the committee was as follows: Song, "America," audience; Invocation, Rev. Truethood; address, Dr. Kerr; song, high school glee club; address, Captain Humphreys; benediction, Rev. Truethood.

From the Training Camp to the Trenches.

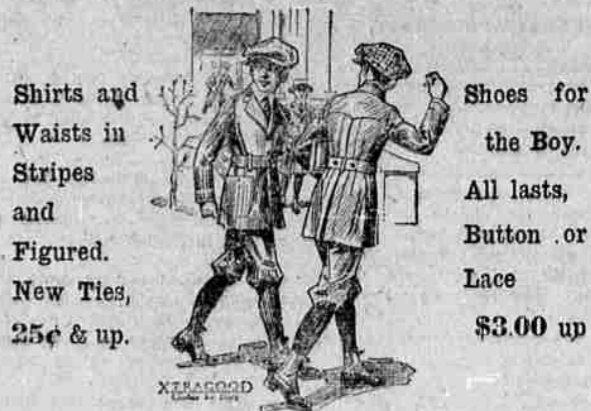
For the Freedom of the World. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. STAR

BOYS!

YOUR NEW CLOTHES

With the Spring just about here, you should think quickly about your suit, your shoes, hat and shirts, as well as your other necessities.

Drop in some time and look over our extensive line of Suits from \$5.00 to \$12.50. We'll be glad to show them to you.



Shirts and Waists in Stripes and Figured. New Ties, 25c & up. Shoes for the Boy. All lasts, Button or Lace \$3.00 up

New Hats!

Some of you have been waiting for these hats like we had before—Trench Hats, in grey, brown and green mixed. Also same style at Trench Hat without the strap across the top.

Price \$1.50

HELP LA GRANDE GO "OVER THE TOP" WITH THE THIRD LIBERTY LOAN

DO IT NOW BUY A BOND



Patriotic-military dance, Rex Hall Friday, auspices Honor Guard Girls. Admission 75 cents. 4-11-18
 Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup; Foley Kidney Pills, for pain in sides and back; rheumatism, backache, kidney and bladder ailments; and Foley Cathartic Tablets, a wholesome and thoroughly cleansing cathartic, for constipation, biliousness, headache and sluggish bowels. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

Mr. Grain Farmer:

Are you prepared to handle your grain in bulk? Do not wait until Spring and Summer when you are buried with work and worried with labor shortage, but build your granaries now.

You can buy the lumber and roofing paper for a first-class 1000 bushel portable granary for \$54.58 and it will last for years. Sacks for the same amount of grain will cost you \$125.00 and this would be a dead loss against this year's crop.

A granary of this size can be moved anywhere and can be filled directly from the thresher, doing away with high priced labor handling and sewing sacks.

The boys in the trenches need the sacks for sand bags for the protection of their very lives, and perhaps your boy is among them.

Spend your money in your own valley by buying lumber manufactured at home. When you buy sacks part of the money goes to India.

BUILD YOUR GRANARIES NOW

Be prepared by building them before the farming season opens up. Be sure to get good lumber, well seasoned, as low grade lumber will give you trouble in a few seasons. Don't use green lumber.

Save money—keep what you spend at home—prevent loss and damage from exposure to weather—leave the sacks for our boys in the trenches; help win the war by building granaries now.

Portable granaries of this type are universally used in other sections. One trip with a good team will haul the material for one granary. For particulars as well as prices on Union County lumber for all farm purposes, see

The George Palmer Lumber Co. LA GRANDE, OREGON

OIL BURNERS

Your wood is gone, the summer is here, that oil burner that you have longed for is ready to install in your Range—FREE TRAIL and guarantee cover your dollars.

Furniture Exchange

Fir and Jefferson E. J. DONOHUE Black 1211 Best Prices Paid for Used Furniture