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

UNCERTAINTY PREVAILS.

Germany was replied. She says she will do what President Wilson has asked of her. She is worn out and apparently seeks shelter from the hail of shell and shrapnel which is being showered upon her retreating forces.

Wilson has received the reply. It seems to suit him, yet there is an uncertainty. All America stands vibrating today with the same uncertainty. Germany cannot be trusted. Is she really ready to quit or is she trying to save her face? Does she see a chance to use Wilson's fourteen pre-requisites as a bridge she can walk over to save her forces from utter ruin and to save her country from being torn by war?

Is the streak of yellow presenting itself in the Hun and is he grabbing at Wilson and the United States to save him now that he is on the defensive and losing at every turn?

Will the Allies be satisfied to quit this war without taking a piece out of Germany's heart, after the way that country has acted?

All these questions and a thousand more are running through the minds of all. All eyes are turned upon our leader, President Wilson. Let us hope his decision will be guided by what later will prove to be right, but that he will not be too lenient with the outlaw nation that has brought on this world catastrophe.

IF GERMANY GIVES UP?

All signs indicate that Germany, worn out by more than 50 months of warfare, out-fought, out-generalled, and outwitted in diplomacy, is ready for an early surrender—is ready for surrender on any terms which the allies may dictate.

This, of course, is the thing for which our allies have been fighting for more than four years, says the Boise Statesman today. This is the consummation for which the American people have been hoping, preparing and fighting for the last year and a half.

And yet, now that Germany seems ready to accept our terms, the general feeling is one of disappointment, for if the present diplomatic overtures actually lead to peace Germany will have been spared knowing the horrors of war on her own territory.

What the American and allied peoples have been hoping for is a triumphant victory and a lasting peace, but they wanted that victory and that peace to come only after allied armies had invaded Germany's borders. They wanted the war carried home to German soil. There is an almost universal feeling that justice will not have been done, no matter how stern the peace terms may be, if Germany,

as a country, comes unscathed from the war.

It is possible, of course, that England, France, Italy and Belgium will reject Germany's present proposals even if President Wilson determines to forward them to our allies. Or they may add to the president's 14 peace terms other terms of their own which the Germans will not at present, be willing to accept. In that event the war will go on, and there is no doubt but that if it does go on it will be carried to German soil at no very distant date.

All signs, however, point to the fact that Germany is going to stop fighting, no matter what the peace terms may be. In fact several German generals and diplomats have already publicly declared that Germany will "throw up her hands" rather than risk a military invasion. If Germany stops fighting the allies, too, will have to stop, and impose such terms as they see fit. War can not be carried on by civilized nations against another nation or group of nations which has ceased all resistance.

But if Germany wants peace at any price one of the terms upon which the United States and the allies should insist should be a military occupation of German and Austrian forts and cities, and allied control of the railroads of the central powers until such time as the Teutonic armies have been entirely disbanded, and every term of the peace treaty carried out in full.

And even at that the allied peoples will feel that Germany is "getting off too easy."

OVER THE NORTHWEST

North Bend, Ore: John M. Scott, general passenger agent of the Southern Pacific system, conferred with representative business men of North Bend and Marshfield at a luncheon here today relative to the establishment of a night train service between Coos Bay points and Portland. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Scott announced that an effort would be made to provide a schedule more adequately to serve the needs of Coos Bay territory, but he could give no assurance as to what the schedule would be until details were worked out. He thought, however, that arrangements could be made for a train to leave Portland about midnight and arrive here at about 2 a. m. and continue through to Powers, returning to North Bend about noon and arriving in Portland about 10 p. m.

Washington: Representative Slinnott and Hon. J. N. Toul today had a conference with the Capital issues committee regarding the Warm Springs irrigation district bond issue and the committee expressed its willingness to reconsider the case if facts can be presented showing that drought conditions make it desirable to supply work for farmers and their teams. Mr. Slinnott has telegraphed for further facts on this point.

The Medford irrigation district bond election resulted in 145 votes for or to 120 votes against bonds in the sum of \$1,500,000 for prosecution of the work on Butte Creek project to cover 20,000 acres of the best farm land in the heart of the valley.

The Hood River irrigation district has made application to the state irrigation securities commission to have \$107,000 in bonds certified under the state law. The purpose is to refund an outstanding issue, and reduce taxes.

Conrad P. Olson, of Portland, was appointed associate justice of the supreme court by Governor Withycombe to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Frank A. Moore.

Clearings of Portland banks for the week ending Saturday totalled \$30,519,406.53, compared with \$16,902,072.78 for the corresponding week of last year.

The plant of the Albany Fruit Juice Company, of Albany, will be used several months each year hereafter in the manufacture of jellies.

The Oregon Retail Jewelers' association has beaten every state in the union in gain in membership during the past year.

GREAT ARMY OVERSEAS.

Latest reports state that the Y. M. C. A. has more than 5,000 war workers overseas. They are operating in England, France, Italy, Russia, Africa, China, Egypt, India and with the Portuguese expeditionary forces.

D. W. Sheahan, of Enterprise is at the Foley.

A good fit for every man

There are a good many men

who have been going to tailors and paying extra high prices just because they think they're hard to fit.

These men want to economize

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Saturday
8:30 P. M.



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PRESS COMMENT

Ford's Michigan friends declare they'll "have him out of politics by Christmas." Intimating, I presume that he has been in politics.—New York Morning Telegraph.

Regarding the end of the war, an Iowa boy writes home from France that "it will take one year to whip the Huns and thirty-nine more to wind up the barbed wire."—Kansas City Star.

Probably the reason that the girl who attacked Levine was less successful than Charlotte Corday is that she could never catch the Russian Bolshevik in a bath-tub.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Martha Rebecca Pollock Stephenson was born at Little York, Illinois, September 23, 1829, and died at her home on H and First streets, October 12, at about 10 p. m., succumbing to a short illness with pneumonia. At the time of her demise she was 79 years and 29 days of age.

The deceased was united in marriage to Thomas Stephenson, January 7, 1857. To this union were born three sons and four daughters. They are Mrs. Theo. Williams, Modesto, California; Earl Stephenson, Baker; Milan Stephenson, La Grande; Thomas Stephenson, Oroville, California; Mrs. E. J. Cooper, San Francisco; Mrs. R. M. Shaw, North Powder. One daughter, Mrs. Anna M. Baker, died several years ago. Aside from these there are 16 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. In 1861, Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson

crossed the plains and settled in Oregon, coming to La Grande, where they have since resided, in 1876.

Mrs. Stephenson was an active member of the W. C. T. U., being prominent in organizing the first local and county unions. She served for a number of years as county president of the organization. She had been a member of the Methodist church for about 56 years.

Funeral services were held this afternoon from the residence, Rev. N. Sherman Hawk of the Methodist Episcopal church, officiating. The remains were interred in the Masonic cemetery.

WAR CHEST PLAN HAS THREE VIRTUES.

A few days ago The Observer cited the readers to the fact that the War Chest plan of raising war relief monies was being adopted throughout the United States in the November campaigns, in one form or another, and that the War Chest plan as adopted and recommended to the public in Union county had three specific virtues which singly or in combination made the whole plan worth while.

The first great virtue of the plan is that it stops the matter of over-subscriptions. In times like the present, we must not only conserve food but we must save pennies. This Union county has not done—on the contrary, it has been distressingly extravagant. In one year it has over-subscribed war relief funds \$35,000 (not inclusive of over-subscription in bonds). This is a sum that is almost half enough to meet the war relief needs for a year. The war chest will stop this leak and

lavish loss of dollars, for not one cent more than the county's just quota will leave it for any cause. This war may last, one, two, three or even four years more, and from now on \$35,000 will be hard to pick up. The regrettable thing is this: the sum already lost to us can't be regained, but another leak like this can be prevented. Soon the country will be drained of its surplus money and quotas will come only with difficulty. Why not conserve and store up, and pass it out in a judicious manner and with great care from month to month. The war chest will do it.

This is leak number one which the war chest will stop. There are others. Watch for them in the immediate future.

A WANT AD will do it.



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