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The River Rhine As a Barrier.

The Allies, as everybody knows, are proceeding to occupy all the German territory west of the Rhine. This occupation, provided by the armistice terms, is generally regarded as a temporary expedient, to insure the carrying out by Germany of the peace terms imposed. It has been assumed by most Americans that with the exception of Alsace and Lorraine, which are to revert definitely to France, those provinces will eventually be returned to Germany.

An article written by the French war critic, Gen. Malletier, puts a different light on the matter.

"Let it be properly understood in America," he says, "that the barrier of the Rhine must be established for the security of France and of the lands on the west of the Atlantic against Germany. All our misfortunes, all the sorrows of the war, came about because Prussia, as mistress of the German people, established herself on the west bank of the Rhine and was able to concentrate a formidable army, created in a spirit of aggression and conquest, in the Rhine provinces and in Alsace-Lorraine."

"There must be no German soldiers on the left bank of the Rhine." This, along with the establishment of Rhine bridge-heads in possession of the Allies, is not only "the fundamental clause of the armistice," he says, but "it will be confirmed in the peace terms."

The precise fate of that region, he admits, is not yet determined. But he appeals to all the Allies "not to lose sight of the fact that the Rhine must remain the military barrier between Western and Central Europe."

There is ample warrant in history for such a view, from ancient times down to the present. Caesar was obliged to drive the Germans back of the Rhine and keep them there, to make France safe from aggression. Over and over again, since Caesar's day, a new wave of barbarism has swept across the Rhine and required huge effort and sacrifice to beat it back. Now the Allies must find means to hold the Rhine as a permanent barrier.

It is possible, then, that the big wedge of territory running to the north of Alsace-Lorraine, with the Rhine on the east and Lorraine, Luxembourg and Holland on the west, will be held and administered by the Allies, or erected into a neutral state under the protection of a League of Nations. With the Rhine as a German barrier instead of a "German river," the world will have less to fear from the Hun.

What Await Mr. Hoover's Report.

Germany wanted to send a delegation to Washington to explain how much she needed food. Our government very properly refused to receive

any such emissaries, knowing that they would abuse their mission by the spreading of crooked propaganda in this country. Instead, Herbert Hoover is going to Europe to look into the food question in general. As part of his tour of inquiry, he will go to Germany and see with his own eyes how matters stand.

If the Huns can convince that hard-headed American from Missouri that they need victuals more than the nations outside their borders whom they have so shamefully starved these four years, we'll take his word for it, and see what can be done about it.

Meanwhile, we feed Germany's innocent victims first.

The Forthcoming German Whine.

Nothing could be more natural than the attempt of the German people through one means and another, to side-step the responsibility of the war. The next "German whine" will be that the older order of things has been put away in Germany and that the newly formed governments are in no way responsible for what has happened. It will be with the European allies to determine what is to be done. There can be no remuneration or reparation for the material damage inflicted on Belgium and Northern France unless somebody pays it. There is no known means of getting this pay except from those who were a part of the German empire when the damage was done. But the methods of collection will no doubt be complicated. There is no way to recognize the new political divisions for the purposes of levying an assessment to pay a war indemnity. Each subdivision will endeavor to get out of its proportion, anyway, and will pay only through compulsion.

It is a job that is in the hands principally of Belgium, England, France and Italy, since the United States asks no indemnities.

The war is not ended and the German responsibility is not liquidated until reparation is made as far as possible. In fact, while the armistice is now in effect, the trouble is nowhere near settled.

Chester, Pa., grants negro women daily pay days.

Lorain, O., is building 240 new houses for shipbuilders.

Baltimore, Md., is to have a school for blinded soldiers.

Chicago saloons are forbidden to sell liquor by the bottle.

Philadelphia is taking steps to check tuberculosis among negroes.

Kewanee, Ill., sounds a whistle every noon as a call to victory prayers.

We Can Outfit the Whole Family Correctly

—Winter styles and weights in form fitting fabrics for men, women and children—Soft worsted Fabrics that do not scratch—Cotton fabrics of fine quality—silk and wool—cotton and wool mixtures that combine warmth light weight.

—A correct size for every one—tall, thin, short or stout—Always at as low and often lower prices than you will find elsewhere.

Knit Sweaters, Jackets and Vests

suits. This season, the demand is greater than ever and—There was a time when Sweaters were just sweaters, but today there is a definite style in sweaters as in coats or we have provided a splendid variety in all the different sorts.

Men's Sweaters \$2.50 to \$12.50 Children's Sweaters \$1.75 to \$4.00 Women's Sweaters \$2.00 to \$12.00

Store Closes
Saturday
8:30 P. M.

N. K. West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

Store Closes
Saturday
8:30 P. M.

MUNSING WEAR



FROM COMMERCE REPORTS

There is a growing demand for brick-making machinery in South America.

The great majority of all buildings in Uruguay are constructed of brick with a cement plaster finish.

Motor boating for pleasure has been prohibited in Denmark, probably until the close of the war, on account of the shortage of gasoline.

There were 407 business failures in Holland during the first six months of 1918, compared with 456 during the same period last year.

Great Britain is taking steps to establish its dye industry upon a firm basis within a reasonable time after the cessation of hostilities.

Canada's total trade for the first four months of 1918 suffered a loss of \$198,812,079 over the corresponding period last year, the figures being \$702,748,065 and \$901,560,144 respectively.

WORDS OF WISE MEN

Novelties please less than they impress.—Dickens.

Passions are likened best to floods and streams. The shallow murmur, but the deep are dumb.—Raleigh.

I have lived to know that the secret of happiness is never to allow your energies to become stagnant.—Adam Clarke.

Every man has some peculiar trial of thought which he falls back upon when alone. This, to a great degree, molds the man.—Dugald Stewart.

The Man Who Knows.

No one knows better how some great task intrusted to some one else ought to be done than a man of no practical experience of his own.—Ohio State Journal.

Don't miss this one. Thanksgiving dance at Rex hall, Nov. 28, Thursday, given by the Home Guard band. 11-25-18

Line of new gold and silver lace hats on sale at Miss Walling's Millinery behind Silverthorn's Drug Store.

You will be interested in knowing that Columbia Oleomargarine is superior in food value, as well as cheaper than butter. Drop in at J. J. Snodgrass grocery for a demonstration made by a lady from the factory. If you like butter, you will like Oleomargarine. Call from 2 to 6 o'clock and be convinced. 11-25-18

Come and enjoy the dance, Thanksgiving night at Rex hall, given by the Home Guard band. You will have a good time. 11-25-18

"CAN I BE CURED?"

How often have you heard that sad cry from the victims of disease? Perhaps the disorder has gone too far for help, but oftener it is just in its first stages and the pains and aches are only nature's first cries for help. Do not despair. Find out the cause and give nature all the help you can and she will repay you with health. Look after the kidneys. The kidneys are the most overworked organs of the human body, and when they fail in their work of filtering and throwing off the poison that constantly accumulates in the system, everything goes wrong. GOLD MEDAL Harlem Oil Capsules will give almost immediate relief from kidney and bladder troubles and their kindred ailments. They will free your body from pain in short order. But be sure to get GOLD MEDAL. Look for the name on every box. In three sizes, sealed packages. Money refunded if they do not help you.—Adv.

WELCOME TO MY NEW OFFICE

I have just completed moving all my abstract records and office equipment into the building one door south of the Observer office where I shall be pleased to meet all my friends and business clients. Still have money to loan, make abstracts from complete set of records, write your insurance and do a general office business. Call in and see me at my new office, 1708 Sixth street. 11-19-18. J. R. OLLIVER.

How a Salesman Suffered

R. J. Porter, Sterling, Col. writes: "For six months I suffered with a painful weak back. As a traveling salesman, I had to stoop frequently to pick up my grip, which I grew to dread as the pain when I straightened up was awful. Numerous remedies failed to reach my case. I was induced to try Foley Kidney Pills. Relief was immediate. Say, they are great! Any one afflicted as I was should try a bottle or two of Foley Kidney Pills." Good for pain in the back, rheumatic pains, aching joints, sore muscles. Sold everywhere.

Don't you want to buy a nice kodak for Christmas? If you do, you will make no mistake in dropping into Silverthorn's and selecting the kind you want. By the way their work in enlarging pictures is most satisfactory and their charges are moderate. Their work on printing and developing of films will please you.

Silverthorn's
FAMILY DRUG STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON.

A Saving Without Sacrifice

DEMONSTRATION

Of

Columbia Oleomargarine

and NUT MARGARINE

Demonstration at Snodgrass Grocery Monday and Tuesday, 2:00 to 6:00 P. M.
City Grocery and Bakery Wednesday and Thursday

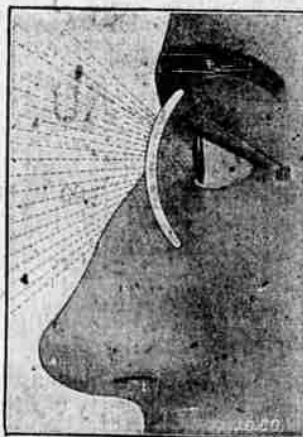
YOUR EYES

are breadwinners. Master minds and willing hands are no good without them. They are the only avenues to enjoyment and education, improvement and success. Can you afford to neglect them?

Our optical department is equipped with the most scientific instruments to insure correctly fitted glasses.

We invite you to come and inspect this Department.

We surface and grind our own Lenses.



EYES TESTED

J. H. Peare & Son

La Grande's Leading Jewelers and Optometrists

Keep Your Pledge

—You have only 30 days longer within which to buy the War Savings Stamps you pledged yourself to buy before the end of the year. Union County must purchase \$60,000 more to make her quota. **BUY NOW!**

La Grande National Bank

Member Federal Reserve System

Designated Depository of the United States Government