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## Former Kaiser as an Accuser.

There is nothing especially new in ex-Kaiser Wilhelm's accusations against Bethmann-Hollweg and others as having caused the war. Such statements, naturally not provable and not to be taken now at the mere word of a monarch forsworn, have often been made in his behalf. What is new is the pitiful spectacle he presents in the character of state's witness.

So lately the War Lord, the serene Most High, the mighty wielder of the Mailed Fist, now a fugitive to save his wretched life, he turns to an outraged world mourning its millions dead, and whines, "They made me do it!" He peaches on his pals; he "come through" with a confession. It will need to be checked up with the facts, but it is an interesting, possibly a valuable clue.

Out of Germany, Bethmann-Hollweg is regarded as a statesman somewhat more sane than the 1914 German average, who feebly tried to make headway against militarism. At him the Kaiser points his finger; he and von Jagow "against my will made me go to Norway." The chancellor said to him, "Your Majesty must take this voyage in order to maintain peace." But the war-detesting emperor "learned from Norwegian newspapers" what was happening and "returned of his own accord," he tells the faithful Dr. Wediger, to a Fatherland hopelessly committed by Russia's sins to battle.

A king can do no wrong. It is always the minister. Even an ex-king and Kaiser who was willing to be responsible for blood-stained success may play the familiar trick once more and plead irresponsibility for a charnel house of failure. But what a contemptible figure, before Germany and before the world, is Wilhelm as Accuser!

## Stockmen on Right Track.

It is the happy privilege of The Observer to publish now and then news of what Union county stockmen have done and are still doing to improve their breeds. That the county as a district is making great advances in improved breeding of stock is shown in many ways, and the showing that is the most substantial to the individual breeder is the good prices that have been received for animals of high pedigree. As a rule, all the stock exhibits that go from Union county to outside shows come away with a good record for awards. All indicate that the continuous efforts to produce better stock is being accompanied by good results.

There have been palmers published as to the advantage of good stock. The fact that the keeping cost is no greater than that required for maintaining the scrub kind, and the comparison in what infinitely better results are obtained and all similar matters showing up the advantages.

## SHE KEPT THEM ON THE JOB



What come to the stockmen who are on the job. It is possible that under the impetus of strong competition, animals of royal degree sometimes sell for more than they are worth, but this does not change the general results. While the improvements that have been made in this line are matters for local pride to all, whether engaged in raising stock or in some other occupation, it should be also an indication that a country is prosperous in about the same proportion that it excels other localities in its class and character of its live stock. And "general prosperity" is something in which all have a share.

## Details of Argonne Advances

An apparent paradox of the war situation as it affects America has been the recent swellings of the day-by-day casualty lists, even while the armistice, now entering its fourth week, was getting into its full swing. This is explained, of course, by the fact that the official lists are at least a month behind the events. We still are hearing from the last few vital actions of the fighting period.

Another matter of the battlefield returns is less simple of explanation. On November 23, General March, chief of staff, gave out at Washington figures showing a casualty total of 236,117, including 69,106 deaths, while on December 1 these totals were further enlarged to 262,903 and 85,478 respectively. This leaves nearly 300,000 names yet to be reported.

Leaving aside insufficient theories as to censorship and the inconclusiveness of hospital rolls, there is room for one explanatory suggestion. It is offered not as an alarmist proposition; under the circumstances, the figures being out, it can hardly add to the anxieties of any home over here. The conditions afford reasonable grounds to the proposition that behind the daily reports simply of "short advances" by our army in the Argonne region in October and November lay the details of the bitterest conflict of the war, perhaps of one of the greatest battles in all time.

Some day soon we shall know the whole truth about that last fight. Some day history may set the Argonne battle at the peak of America's first adventures in a world crusade for freedom.

Secretary Daniels, notifying the navy about the doing of Nov. 11, said it was the greatest day since the Declaration of Independence. That point is controversial; that would go with the U. S. to Grant continued, in the Democratic mind, to give number and power, it would seem.

## ARKANSAS THOMAS CATS.

The average man is so stubborn that he would rather break his neck than bow his head.

You will never make a hit with a middle-aged woman by telling her that she is well preserved.

Always remember that opportunity and chance fortune are the only knockers who ever made a hit.

Isn't it funny how honest and upright a man feels when the other fellow gets caught and he doesn't.

The pastor of the Thomas Cat is not able to say. He has seen all the pictures of her, and has never discovered anything on her yet.

Another reason why we send our sons to college is because when they graduate they can come home and sneer at how little we know.

About this time of year the last crop of June brides are coming down to breakfast in the morning wearing greasy kimonos and with their hair wadded into door knobs on the backs of their heads.

Yes, Maymide, ye pastor once kicked the Gordon press and the cat, but that was a long time ago, when he was devil in a little country print shop. That was before he commenced blossoming mental morning glories and writing virtue copy for the Thomas Cat. Boys usually kick the Gordon and the cat in their tadpole period before they become the whole wiggle.

## ONLY A BACHELOR WOULD

Hang the crayon portrait of Aunt Anastasia over the bad place in the living room wallpaper.

Hang a towel rack over the place where the genuine marble has peeled off the bathroom wall.

By keeping the player- piano going, you can easily overcome the banging of the faulty radiator in the living room.

Place a large Japanese umbrella up against the ceiling in the library where the radiator upstairs has leaked through.

Back the slide-board up against the place where the windowing was tilted during a chaffing-dish party given by your predecessors.

Where you have too many pictures, hang them one over the other, the pictures of your relatives on the bottom and those of your wife's relatives on top.

The temperature may be made agreeable by constant exercise with wall weights, dumb bells and rowing machines. On heatless days you can feel your landlord and yourself at the same time.

## EPICTETUS, JR.

The three German fates are: "Fateless, Hopeless and Uncharitable."

Patriotism and criticism are the two best breeders in existence.

Our war profiteers who think they are rolling in wealth are really groveling in it.

To view the real situation, study next winter for about twenty years in the life of this country.

Already says to give a country shopkeepers. Just now we are expecting that of hardware into their midst.

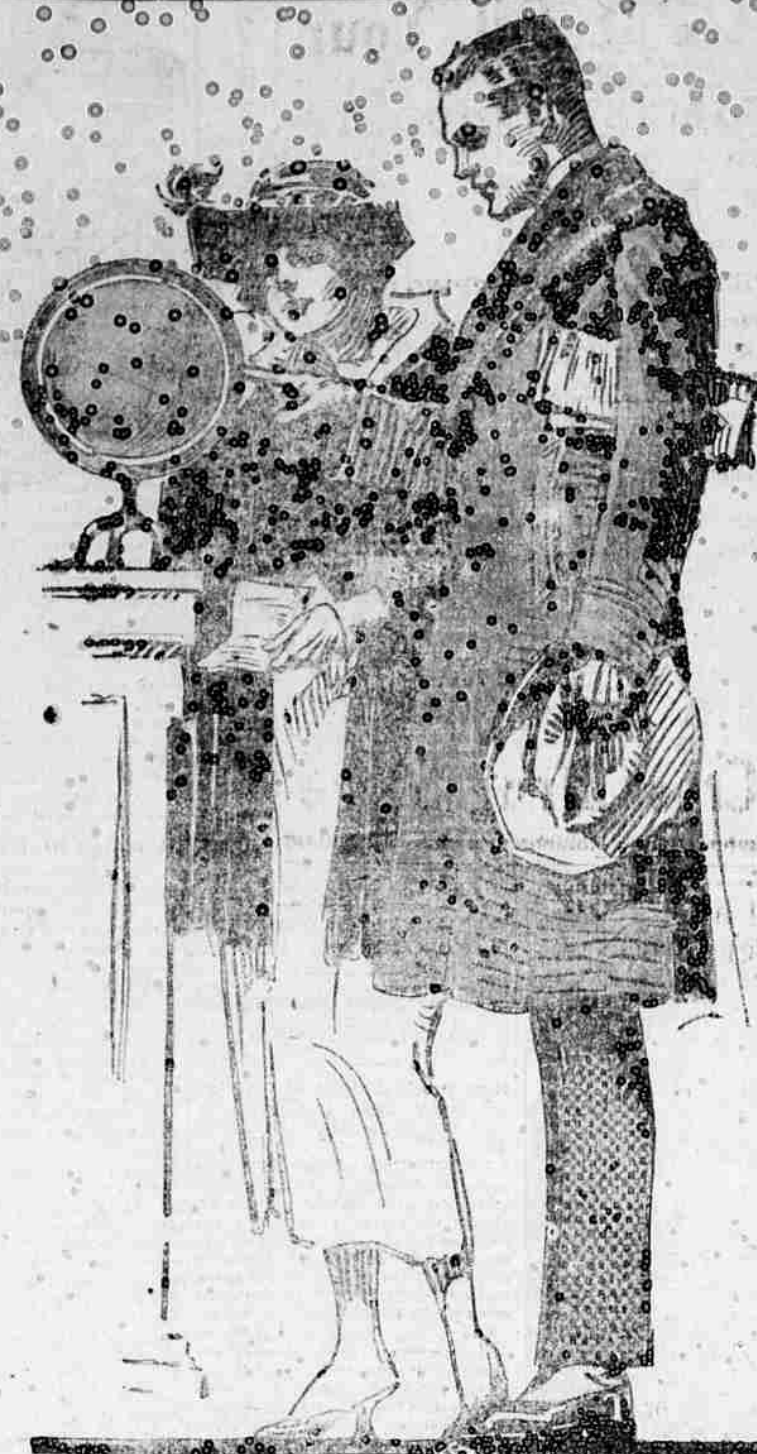
## Do Your Christmas Shopping NOW

YOU WILL FIND AT THIS STORE THE ARTICLES YOU WANT AND IN A QUALITY THAT WILL MAKE YOUR GIFT A LASTING ONE AS WELL AS A WELCOME ONE. NOW IS THE BEST TIME TO BUY—OUR CHRISTMAS STOCKS ARE HERE. WE'RE READY TO TAKE CARE OF YOU. DON'T BLOCK THE MAILS OR EXPRESS BY WAITING UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT TO SEND YOUR GIFTS. SHOP AT THIS STORE—YOU WILL FIND THE GIFTS THEY WANT AND IN THE QUALITY YOU WANT FOR THEM

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## SHORT CUTS TO KNOWLEDGE

Used matches have little or no value in Iceland.

The common sparrow will not, as a rule, attack a man unless provoked.

The inventor of pajamas died without realizing any considerable fortune from his idea.

The offense of "masquerading in female attire" is not punishable by death in the United States navy.

In Vermont, the horses outnumber the marriageable males; over in Venice it's the other way round.

Platinum has been suggested as the best material for golf balls, but nothing has as yet come of the proposal.

A Scandinavian archaeologist has proved conclusively that the Garden of Eden was not surrounded by railings.

The ordinary house fly can lift nearly eight times its own weight, but it is seldom employed for this purpose in America.

A small cork, thrust to the bottom of a bathtub full of water, will, when released, come to the surface rapidly. This can be tried at home.

## JUST JABS

Doc Brantley says that in spring weather a coat on the back will save many a coat on the tongue.

The folks over in Europe are not so much afraid of potatoes going down in April as of their not coming up in May.

The crow may be a troublesome bird, but he never gets away without cause. Too bad more people are not like crows.

Money is a superstition.

There is no kind of gold, or instrument, which will locate minerals in the earth, with any degree of certainty. Sometimes a bag of iron ore will vent the magnetic force of a compass, or an observing instrument, but there is nothing that will locate the precious metals.

## JAMES AUSTIN WILDERS



James Austin Wilders, chief scout of the Boy Scouts of America.

## Telephoning in Japan.

The editor of the Japan Times says the telephone service in Japan is utterly bad. He wonders "what job would have done had he lived in Tokyo and wanted to telephone to the specialist on bolts." He concludes with the following incident: "A lady in Karuzawa called up her house in Tokyo, left by the next train, got the call and talked to herself in Karuzawa six hours after she arrived in Tokyo. That's not a joke. It's the solemn truth."—From the East and West News.

## Put Hard Things First.

The person who puts the disagreeable duty first in order is the one who is pretty sure to succeed. The impulse which leads us to postpone anything hard and unpleasant as long as we can is something which will prove our undoing, unless we are on our guard.

A WANT AD will do it.

Optimistic Thought.  
He hath riches sufficient who hath enough to be charitable.

Observer advertising pays.



Only three weeks left within which to buy the War Savings Stamps for which you made your pledge to the Government.

Union County must purchase \$50,000 more to make her quota.

We have made a splendid war record; don't let us fall down on this.

Use War Savings Stamps for Christmas presents.

**La Grande National Bank**

Member Federal Reserve System

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