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No Danger in Clothes if the Mind Is Right.

The Eugene Register, which is ably edited by a man who knows humanity very well, heads an editorial, "Girls Will Be Girls," and then he argues the present condition of the growing girl in the following very sensible manner:
"A recent speaker whose remarks found a place on many front pages laid great stress upon the immodest dress of the young girl of today as a prime cause of juvenile delinquency. "We daughters of old-fashioned mothers knew very little of the present causes of delinquency. We dressed differently," said she.
"Here is good reason to deplore the extreme dress in which some of the young girls of today indulge, it is true, and possibly the speaker could back her lamentations with facts and figures. Still, much can be said in favor of modern feminine dress as any physician or physical culture expert will testify. Between the smart short skirt as opposed to the long, street-sweeping one of the former generation the choice is plain. The girl of today, uncorrected or corrected so lightly that every muscle moves with healthy freedom, is surely more sensibly clad than the girl of yesterday who went locked up in steel. The modern blouse, open at throat, permits the free circulation of the blood in a way impossible to the days of high-boned collars and stiff-necked dresses and when these blouses came in headaches went out.
"To be strictly honest, girls of the late lamented past dressed as they did because it was the style. Times and styles have changed, but girls have not changed so very much. The girl of today wants just what girls have always wanted—to look pretty and stylish. In this desire good girl and delinquent share alike.
"The immodestly dressed girl needs not an old-fashioned mother, but a good one—not one who will deny her the right to her modernity, but who will teach her how to adapt it wisely to her use. No live girl could be interested in old-fashioned, stodgy clothes; but miracles can be accomplished by making a girl understand that her favorite movie actress affects simple, modest styles for the street.
"Delinquency and moral soundness depend not upon fashions, but upon ideals, and the successful parent or social service worker is the one who can present ideals which are within the comprehension of the young, and of a sort to arouse their interest."

The New Year—Great as It Is.

The apocalyptic bits of the entire world will have to be taken off to the old year. He did more things to this old earth, and did them faster, than any of his late lamented predecessors. He has also given us a champagne thirst for excitement and then taken our war away and left us with a beer pocket book.
Never did the world stand on tip-toe to meet a coming year as it does for this one. The world seethes with possibilities. There may be a nice, family peace in store with a major league to be set up, or there may be the biggest war yet.
There is possible an international adjustment which will advance the brotherhood of man by generations, and there is equal possibility for the most colossal display of greed the world has ever seen.
At the beginning of last year who

could have dreamed that this year would find America expecting her boys home? Here they are, coming by the thousands, and the old year, blessed because it saw the end of the war, will have to share honors with the new with the promise of happy hearts united.
The past four years have been devoted to breaking history. This year to see the making of it. There is need for a strain, for a pause, for the staying of unconstructive criticism.
The world must be about its Father's business of healing, teaching, building up, and has no time for the violent or the merely fault-finding.
Rich with possibilities for the individual as for the nation, the new year beckons us and we must follow. Our curiosity may be all awake, but while we watch developments we must do our share in believing them to completion.

Our Banking Resources Are Very Powerful.

The latest report of the Federal controller of the currency gives an impressive picture of the prosperity of the American people. The figures cover only the national banks, whose combined resources are less than those of the state banks and trust companies. They show that on November 1, the date of the last call, the resources of these banks amounted to almost \$26,000,000,000.
This is \$1,777,000,000 more than the banks' resources on August 31, showing an astonishing rate of gain through the fall months. The deposits during that last-month interval increased \$1,165,000,000. This, too, at a time when the people were making heavy payments on Liberty bonds.
During the present year, it is stated, there has only been one national bank failure in the country, a small institution in California.
There has been a larger growth in the last five years than in the preceding twenty-five years, and our own war demands have not stopped the accumulation. The gains are distributed pretty uniformly over the country.
The total banking power represented may be imagined from the following comparison: The resources of the national banks of the United States now exceed the combined resources of all the national banks of Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland and Japan.
And this is nothing to the financial power we may wield after a few years of constructive peace.

George Chamberlain Is Not Only Fearless, but Right.

The attack on the war department by Senator Chamberlain is only a forerunner of what is to come. The open attack on pacifism which built up President Wilson's early attitude in the late war is right and proper and Senator Chamberlain will have the country with him again as he had it before when he dared transgress the sanctity of the Democratic party and tell the truth.
Unpreparedness is not only a thing we always have contended with, but it is apparent that we as a nation learn nothing from experience. As the senator says: "We were unprepared to enter the war; we are now unprepared to bring our boys home."
Yes, and we are unprepared in caring for them when we get them home and we are unprepared in getting to them and their dependents their last meagre pay as a soldier.
But what could be expected with a war secretary such as Baker? President Wilson has the shortcoming of never letting a man go when once he hooks up with him. In this instance we have had Secretary Baker, whose ignorance and stupidity has cost this country both in life and in treasure.
It is decidedly refreshing to know that an Oregon senator has the courage to speak what he knows to be the truth. And we dare say that those whom he has attacked will have a much harder time convincing the people they were right, now that the hush has been taken out of people's mouths. During the other Chamberlain attack it was almost a jail sentence for anyone to speak his belief. But there has been an election since then and the leaders of the Democratic party found out fast when they stood with the people of this nation.

Decidedly the Proper Thing to Establish.

The Red Cross kitchen, which will serve foods suitable for sick people, is the best thing in a local way that has been projected for some time.
At the present moment several families in La Grande need such food. They are not too poor to buy it if it were obtainable, but it is not. This wave of sickness has found little so-called help. Nurses are in a desperate all the time and it is impossible to get help, who should care and attend to the sick and afflicted.
The Red Cross will find it has undertaken a wonderfully important mission that will be very necessary

who has become a member of the institution prouder of the fact.
The work overseas was simply wonderful, the home life, for the soldier is excellent, and the canteen is praised by everyone, just as it should be.
But the man and wife who have become ill and know that their children are not receiving the proper food and rejoice inwardly to hear that the work has started whereby a telephone order will bring to their doors the much needed food.
Mrs. E. P. Magman has consented to take charge of the kitchen and her ability is so well known to need commendation. She will see that things are properly prepared and no doubt the work will be omitted.
La Grande can on this New Year's day give thanks for many blessings, the least of which is not the Red Cross by any means.

ARKANSAS "THOMAS SCATS"

J. E. Cross says he has been advised to "believe only half he hears," but he doesn't know which half.
A South Hot Springs woman is so jealous she makes her husband leave his false teeth at home when he goes out at night.
The Germans are forced to wear paper underwear and eat mulligatawny soup—Memphis Commercial-Appeal. Well, this is their war.
Notice! Anyone bringing in three paid-up subscriptions to the Thomas Cat one year will get a free ride out to the cemetery and back.
In a Hot Springs restaurant the other day three of the patrons knocked the coffee, but we don't believe we ever heard a complaint on tea.
How should one address that new woman judge the president has appointed in Washington—"your honor," "your honor," or "your honor-ette"?
To Beware Fluzze: If you are a "jealous woman," why employ a "private detective?" You can imagine as much in a minute as he can discover in a year.
There are not many divorcees in the homes in which mother spends more time over the cook book than she does over "The Passionate Pups" or some other best seller.
Cheer up! Maybe if you had Jawm Doe Rockefeller's millions and his stomach you would be glad to be poor again and be equipped with the old reliable hash digester you now possess.
When a married woman congratulates a bride, she says: "I hope you will be as happy as I am." A married woman always makes a bold front and hopes no one will suspect the real truth.
In the Snytown circuit court the other day old John Ruddy, who was up for a divorce case, was asked by the judge what he wanted. John replied that "some six months ago he embarked on the sea of matrimony and now wishes he had missed the boat."

NEW READINGS

A sealed cellar makes a warm house.
It's a short lane that hears no gossip.
Truth is not stranger than good fiction.
Second thoughts are best, but not second-hand thoughts.
The proverb about the pen being mightier than the sword is temporarily cramped.

STATISTICAL NOTES

New York has more than 670,000 registered women voters.
United States in 1917 used 5,100 tons of peat in stock foods.
United States last year produced 1,216,816 pounds of sheet mica.
Pennsylvania railroad now employs 9,534 women to replace men.
Observer advertising will bring results.

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Finest grade, every sack guaranteed.
Delivered to your home.
Phone us your order--Red 1781
Clyde L. Kiddle

FORUM

WANTS CLEANER ALLEYS
Editor Observer: Please allow me to space your columns, in regard to the clean and quarantined. I think it is a good thing something to stamp out the dreaded disease. But if the city officials would enforce the law and see that the town was kept cleaner, especially the alleys, this would be a wise idea as well.
A READER.

NEW YEAR'S POEM
The following poem was sent to The Observer by one of its readers:
All alone in my chamber tonight
I watch the night take his flight;
The moments pass and leave no mark;
For with the year what hopes are dying?

Strange thoughts are flitting through my brain,
They crowd my head--it can't contain
Them all at once--and so I'll write
And ease them ere they take their flight.

The infant year came to my arms
Regaling me with winning charms,
I thought I saw such pleasures there--
For me it surely brought no care.

With eagle speed time passed away,
The unfigured year gained strength each day
And passed with time; and now I hear
The echoes of another year.

'Tis gone, and as it passed it sent
Forth mystic hands which straight
"Way went
Into the garden of my heart
And from it ere he would depart.

Hope's fairest flowers be rooted out,
Uplifted the soil, and subtle doubt
Crept in and scattered there the seed
Of discontent, that bitter weed.

I cast it out--it sprang afresh--
I mourned the weakness of my flesh,
And knew not what to do, when lo!
'Twas whelped: "The Gard'ner will know."

'Twas true. On Him my hopes were stayed,
I owned my weakness; asked His aid.
He heard, and "flowers of peace He sent
To take the place of discontent.

Now rests no care within my breast
Save how to please the Gard'ner best,
He hears for me my every woe,
And none save Him my sorrows know.

Well, Knowledge Is Power,
Jimmie had been to the dentist to a tooth pulled. A few days later friend of the family, a man whose ad presented an extremely barefoot appearance, called at Jimmie's home. Jimmie squinted around a white of finally asked: "Mister Brown, did hurt much when ya gotcher hair pulled?"

3 DAYS MORE
Buy your War Savings Stamps according to your pledge. It is a patriotic duty and a binding obligation.

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Designated Depository of the United States Government

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Telephone orders carefully selected and promptly delivered
Annual Clearance Sale
Starts Saturday, January 4, Ends Jan. 31
Every Article in the store at Clearance Prices

BOOMING FRENCH WAR LOAN
Two shutters at the entrance of the Tuleries gardens have been protected by sand bags since last winter. Now they have another coat of some thousands of captured German helmets to stimulate the French war loan.



Cause of Roar of Waterfalls.
The roar of a waterfall is produced almost entirely by the bursting of millions of air bubbles.

NOTICE TO WATER USERS
Owing to the cold weather and other conditions incident to winter weather it is not practicable to read all water meters during the winter months, but as the supply of water at Beaver Creek is limited, it is therefore hereby notified that all water used in excess of the minimum

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