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

Codification of the States' Child Labor Laws.

In seventeen states of the union commissions are preparing to codify their child welfare laws. It is hoped that the laws may be unified and harmonized, making it possible to enforce them and paving the way for the passing of additional laws, protecting the child.

This is only a step, but it is taken in the right direction. There are still too many states that are doing practically nothing to conserve health and education for the child. And in the states where such welfare laws have been passed, they are frequently confusing and contradictory. They have been passed at different times with no attention to uniformity or coordination.

The Kentucky laws are an example of such confusion. That state has one law providing that all normal children between and including the ages of 7 and 12 shall attend school regularly throughout the school term unless taught at home. There is another law forbidding the employment of children under 14 years of age. The 12-year-old child, therefore, is left unprotected. He cannot work, but he need not attend school. So far as the state is concerned, apparently he is free to run the streets.

The Texas laws are in a similar muddle. There is a mother's pension law supposed to enable children of needy parents to remain in school up to the age of 15. But the labor law issues working papers at 14, thus thwarting the honest working of the pension law. In New York state a boy may become an itinerant bootblack at any age, though he cannot be an established bootblack under 14. He may peddle papers at 12, but can peddle no other line under 16.

While the very laws designed to protect the child are so at variance it is little wonder that the selfish and grasping employer should exploit childhood to the limit. Uniform and enlightened state laws will help to clarify public understanding of the situation and its needs. Enlightened public opinion will hasten the day of uniform interstate or national laws.

Making Good Loss of Sailors on the San Diego

There will be tales of the sea to suit the imagination of everybody, when the full story of the war is printed. And the claims coming from sea disasters will be among the most difficult to settle, for the sea does strange things. Among the interesting questions now before congress is the decision as to what course should be pursued with regard to \$100,000 worth of Liberty bonds lost by the men of the United States cruiser San Diego when that vessel was sunk off Fire Island while engaged in convoy duty.

There is no provision of law authorizing the issue of duplicates in lieu of lost coupon bonds, and unless congress makes some provision these officers and sailors will lose the money they have invested in the cause of liberty. They agreed to take the bonds through a San Francisco bank, and payment was taken from their savings. Then ensued a year of wandering, and it was not possible to deliver the bonds to the men until the San Diego entered New York harbor twelve months later. Convoy duty is exacting, and the men performed it so faithfully that not one attempted to go ashore to de-

posit his bonds. Nor could they be mailed safely, for the ship had no registration service. For six months the bonds were carried on board ship, and then came the thief in the night. A submarine or a floating mine got the San Diego. Now she wants \$100,000. How she wants \$100,000, and the rest lost all their belongings including the bonds.

Now, unless congress comes to the rescue, it will have cost these men \$100,000 for serving their country in her time of need. Of course the necessary legislation will prevent such a catastrophe, but it should come soon. There is too much talk right now about what the nation owes its soldiers, and too little concrete evidence of its intention to pay.

Stigma of Laziness Not Deserved.

The American army mule has been mentioned in the British war records, and honorably mentioned, too. His staying powers, his courage, his plodding performance of duty though starved at with shot and shell, have all been commented upon.

There is an epidemic of awards for faithful service, as there should be, for this war has been characterized not by single conspicuous acts of bravery but by thousands of them. We honor our soldiers, our sailors, our officers, our privates, our civilians, our boy scouts, our airplanes, our guns, our horses—for heaven's sake, why not our mules? Why not give these sturdy defenders of their country's honor a decoration and a title worthy of the service they have performed? A leather medal, any, neatly stamped with a design of a lifted hind leg and hoof, and embellished with the motto, "nobody shall pass," might be appropriate.

The mule has been derided too long. He is considered the acme of stubbornness, yet he shares that quality with the bravest men in the world, for at what point does courage become stubborn determination? Ask the Belgians, the French, our own marines of Chateau Thierry. The peace conference is to right many an ancient wrong. Perhaps it will rescue the noble mule from the stigma of that ignoble motto, "Hee, Haw," which loads him with undeserved derision, and bring him into his own, where all the grateful nations shall point to him with pride, and cry "He Hauled!"

Heroic Deeds Not All From Across the Water.

"There were twenty-five persons on the car, and with one possible exception all of those injured will recover," says a dispatch about an interurban trolley accident in an Ohio town. "The possible exception is Wilbert Lewis, motorman, who was seriously burned about the face, shoulders and arms." Spreading rails, it seems, were to blame for the plunging of this heavy car twenty feet from a bridge over a creek. Pillings along the bridge caught the car before it went completely into the water, but the front part was submerged. "The motorman, who was both shocked and burned, revolved when he fell into the icy water. He broke the glass door of the vestibule with his fist and got out. He then walked along the side of the car, ripping the screaming from the windows. He pulled four passengers to safety through the windows before he lost consciousness again."

Not all the stories of heroism come from the fields of France. If Wilbert Lewis dies of burns, exposure, shock and almost superhuman strain, he will have lost his life for his fellow-men just as truly as the boys in khaki have done.

Peace Prices Making It Hard for the Mines.

No industry has been hit harder than mining in the process of readjustment to a peace basis. The bottom was literally knocked out of this industry over night. The government had been taking virtually the entire output of the mines for war purposes on the one hand and on the other hand restricting all building operations requiring use of metal products. As a result building operations were at a standstill. Hence the mines were left with production at a maximum and consumption at zero.

Prices of metal have fallen while wages have remained at war levels, and the mines have not tried to reduce them. Operators are pursuing a wise course and taking it coolly waiting for industrial activity to get its stride. It has been necessary to cut production as much as 50 per cent in most western states. Nothing has been done to mitigate labor and labor evidently understands the situation. Intelligent co-operation now—not radicalism—will save the day in the mining industry, as well as all other industries. Rivers and harbors bill will include Oregon projects falling for \$1,250,000.

JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE SUITS, OVERCOATS, RAINCOATS THIS IS NO SPECIAL PURCHASE FOR SALE PURPOSES—NO SEASON-END ACCUMULATIONS OF ODD SIZES AND LEFT-OVER STOCK. HART, SCHAFFNER & MARX SUITS AND OVERCOATS—GUARANTEED TO GIVE ABSOLUTE SATISFACTION \$25.00 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$30 \$30.00 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$24 \$35.00 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$38 \$37.50 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$30 \$40.00 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$30 \$42.50 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$34 \$45.00 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$36 \$50.00 SUITS and OVERCOATS \$40 Buy Now for your future requirements N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE MERCHANDISE DELIVERED

POINTED PARAGRAPHS

It is patent, too, that the more machine guns the American army has, the more German machine guns it will capture.

Any spirited citizen who gets into the army under the forty-five-year limit will feel as proud as a registered bullpup.

Talk about this being the age of young men—the American army won't accept as volunteers men under forty-five years.

It is evident from the German press that a lot of Germans at home don't perfectly understand the art of a victorious retreat.

In odd moments of levity it is just as well to remember that the boys over there always need tobacco. Not for politics, either.

German scientists are naturally expected to pretend that the "irreducible minimum" is as hard to understand as the "fourth dimension."

The idea is for every man who handles a tool in any essential industry to put as much into his work as does the lad who goes over the top.

Baseball is through for the duration of the war, but we may find that the baseball shortage is almost as easy to undergo as the sugar shortage.

Some of those American boys who passed physical examinations splendidly became suddenly deaf when any suggestion of retreat was made.

The differences in investigations is that some arrive at a conclusion and then assemble evidence, while others gather evidence on which to base a conclusion.

This summer was a disappointment to the man who thought that if he would furnish the ground it would be easy to hire somebody to work the garden.

War gardens doubtless made material contributions to the food supply. What prices would have been without them is a matter beyond human calculation.

A classified ad will bring results.

COL. GEORGE M. DUNN



Col. George M. Dunn, one of the "Rough Riders" in the Spanish-American war, has been made judge advocate of the Department of the North-east, succeeding Maj. Philip H. Stoll. Colonel Dunn entered the army in 1898 after graduating from Washington university the same year.

Work has been started on a seven-mile railroad, Klamath Falls to Bonanza.

Defective eye muscles cause many nervous breakdowns and poor health. See Dr. H. W. Snook, optometrist parlor, Foley hotel building.

PIANO TUNING Expert tuning and repairing. Leave orders with Mrs. R. J. Kitchen, James M. Daly, tuner. 1-22-61p

HAIR WORK Ladies' mod. in hair work done, new switches made to order. Combs made to order. 1427 Washington St. 1-13-2-13

MONEY ON CITY PROPERTY Jack Oliver has money he will loan on city property in a very easy terms. 1-11-30t

Y. M. C. A. Educational Department. Short-hand and typewriting. Day classes, 10:00 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Night classes 7:30 p. m. to 9:30 p. m.

CECIL COSPER Public Accountant. Income Tax Advisor. 614 Main St., Pendleton, Oregon.

ACQUIRING A PERFECT FIGURE



Most women who have perfect figures did not have them originally. They have acquired them. A woman gradually takes the shape of her corset as the corset produced by the most artistic designer is the right one to wear to secure a perfect figure.

MODART CORSETS Front Laced are most symmetrically and artistically designed. They are comfortable, stylish and gradually mold the figure into these beautiful lines that every woman admires and desires.

PAULINE LEDERLE

PLANNING FOR PLANTING

In planning for the planting of your crops you are very careful to put the right crops in the right place. You don't close your eyes and put any kind of old seed in any kind of old worn out soil. You get the best seed you can find and put them into the soil and have the soil in good condition—you try to get everything in shape for good results.

But how about the place you are planning to plant your dollars? There is as much difference in some banks as there are in some soils. This bank studies the needs of its customers—is a bank of personal service and a dollar deposited with us will thrive.

La Grande National Bank Member Federal Reserve System

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