

ENGLAND IS A FRIEND TO AMERICA DECLARES MR. CHARLES E. KING

Hot Lake, March 20, 1919. Editor, La Grande Observer.

Dear Sir: In your editorial of March 17th entitled "Why should England be feared?" you said more in that half column than I have seen in many metropolitan newspapers and magazines...

Mr. Editor, I herein state, affirm and re-affirm that there is no hatred in England or in the hearts and minds of Englishmen against this country or against American citizens...

In the days of '76 when this country was in its embryonic stage, passing through the pains of birth to emerge into the full light of the world as the land of the brave and the free...

You do well to put your editorial to ask your readers to study the appeals of freedom of the great William Pitt and Thomas Burke.

Compare those champions of liberty of that day with any of the best of today and believe me, the men of '76" lost nothing by comparison.

I remember, distinctly, that our school history books taught us "George Washington was the father of his country and headed the rebellion against the tyrannical Hanoverian King George."

I never knew a boy at school, who as he became older in his studies, had not set his mind on "someday I'm going to America," and when, as often occurred in the city I lived in when a boy, any American boy who came over to England on a visit...

It was always with feelings of deep regret we said goodbye to them but always with the emotion that "we'd come over to Yankee land some day to see you."

To my knowledge this feeling has not diminished with the years and none and today there is a bigger and warmer place for Americans in the big hearts of the English people.

told the commander of the German fleet to "fire now and be damned to you." Well, each night just after that occurrence, the late Charles Godfrey, a great vocalist sang a song entitled "Is the English speaking race against the world?"

Today these two great English speaking commonwealths, the United States of America, and England, are drawing to themselves, the other democracies of the world as a magnet attracts iron filings...

"Why should England be feared?" Some senators in Washington raised a cry the other day that the conference at Paris had made their charter out and had made it so that America's great Monroe doctrine was placed in jeopardy.

"It is not for outsiders to take sides in the American party controversy, but one of the points made from this side of the Atlantic. Friends of liberty and peace in Europe are grateful for America's assistance in winning the war...

"Once more in Canning's words we have to call in the new world to redress the balance of the old. Canning was the first believer of the Monroe doctrine and now we are acting in the spirit of his old maxim: 'There is less foundation for suspicion so frequently expressed in America that her adhesion to the league will endanger that doctrine.'"

"Let the covenant be rewritten and cleared in better language, which could easily be done by a drafting committee. Above all, let it be made clear the league makes no infringement upon national sovereignty with any others. The new league will not be a parliament in which the majority rules."

"This will be done, don't doubt it; the amendment will be added to the covenant. Now, sir, if I have not already trespassed on your good nature too much, allow me to note that much has been said and written on England's 'Mastery of the sea,' and on this matter I should have been dumb, but for the fact that one of your correspondents, Corporal Shelton has aired his grievances on several occasions since he returned from Europe. 'Tis easy to see he has no love for England or Englishmen and really I don't doubt him if he practiced in England what he preaches here."

He complains that the fuel feed-

ing the ideas of an Englishman is his ego," then goes on to state in the next sentence (and this of course without anything egotistical on his part) that he grants that certain people are "in harmony with the humanitarian and idealistic views as beautifully expressed in words and lived by the American people."

Mr. Editor, I believe Corporal Shelton is just consumed by the exuberance of his own verbosity. Corporal Shelton doesn't like England being mistress of the seas. Well, thanks to the British fleet being what it was, and is, and thanks to its being ready at a moment's notice, and able to proceed, with its almost countless details, to previously worked out, and planned stations, the German navy was rendered powerless to carry out its program of ruthless murder on the high seas.

Surely Corporal Shelton is well posted enough to know that had the British fleet been inferior to that of Germany, then, before Christmas, 1914, New York, Philadelphia and Boston would have shared the fate of Louvain, Liege and Rheims.

I have had many nephews and nieces, English and American, fighting in Europe in both army and navy, some right from the first week of the war. One went through Jutland sea fight and afterwards was wounded in the Zebruggen raid, and I care not whether I be rated egotist or not. I admit I am as heroic, and neither of them twenty years old a year ago.

If Corporal Shelton's experience had been placed more with men like these in the trenches, instead of being "up in the air" most of his time in Europe, I mean England, I rather fancy he would have had a different tale to tell at the Tradesmen's Tuesday luncheons. I have never yet heard Englishmen as a body speak or seen where they have written disparagingly or their comrades in arms or civilian American acquaintances, yet I have, more than once, seen vituperative articles in certain sections of the American press, probably paid for by German money, anent Englishmen.

Meanwhile, it is sufficient for us, ourselves, to know that our lack of retaliation is due to our inherent good manners, and our cultivated qualities act in restraint of natural resentment. Perhaps it is difficult for Corporal Shelton to realize the connection between English national pride and good manners, for he cannot evidently understand the one thing because he does not understand the other.

Just let me quote for Corporal Shelton's benefit I hope, the last message of Vice Admiral Rodmann and his officers and men to Admiral Beatty when the 6th Battleship Squadron was leaving the grand fleet for Adhrica and back. The last message, flashed, through the wireless from one flagship to the other was the following:

"Your friendly and brotherly signal of God-speed is deeply appreciated by the officers and men of your Sixth Battle Squadron. We will never forget the hospitality, which has made us feel a part of your big family, and we intend to maintain that relation for all time. We all hope to serve under your command."

In conclusion, Mr. Editor let me thank you for your courtesy in allowing me to "say my little piece," and to thank Corporal Shelton for having given me the cause, or at least the initiative to place before your readers one Englishman's views, whilst at the same time agreeing (wonderful you will say) with the Corporal that one swallow does not make a summer.

May God's blessing ever rest on this fair land of America and on the mother country, dear old England. Yours faithfully, CHAS. E. KING.

DEATHS EXCEED BIRTHS IN ENGLAND AND WALES LONDON, March 20.—For the first time since the establishment of the system of registration, deaths exceed births in England and Wales in the last quarter of 1918, according to the report of the registrar-general, published Tuesday. In the last quarter of 1918 the births were 161,773 and the deaths 241,218. The deaths exceeded those for the preceding quarter by 12,965.

HE'S WATCHING YOU.



HOLD ON TO UNCLE SAM'S INSURANCE

As the men are coming home from camp and battle field, the problem of life insurance is a vital one to each of them, and to the families of each.

The following letter deserves frequent republication, and is worthy of careful perusal by soldiers and sailors and by the dependents and advisors of soldiers and sailors.

To the soldiers and sailors of America: Approximately 4,000,000 officers and men of the army and navy are now insured with the United States government for a grand total of almost thirty-seven billion dollars.

For your protection Uncle Sam has established the greatest life insurance company in the world—a company as mighty, as generous and as democratic as the United States government itself.

This privilege of continuing your government insurance is a valuable right given to you as part of the compensation for your heroic and triumphant services. If you permit the insurance to lapse, you lose that right, and you will never be able to regain it.

Light is the great need. Burning of Electric Plant at Omsk Causes Great Hardship. OMSK, Siberia, March 21.—Find the necessities of life for the people is one of the great problems of All-Russian government, having its headquarters here.

The loss of Samara has proved a great blow in this respect for through Samara from the rich petroleum districts of the Caucasus, came the Omsk supply of petroleum, oil and fats. The lack of oil for the wheels of the railway cars is a very serious matter in connection with the situation at present, already difficult on account of general disorganization. Candles cost eight rubles a piece and are difficult to find.

Light is essential in the dead of winter here because night begins at 4 o'clock in the afternoon and continues until 8 o'clock in the morning. The absence of light in the streets at night leads to frequent robberies and occasionally to more serious incidents. It is unsafe to go out at night alone, especially in dark, unfrequented thoroughfares.

PLAN BIG AIRSHIPS

British Order Dirigibles 800 Feet Long, Carrying 80 Tons. LONDON, March 21.—After successful trials of new British dirigibles of the rigid type of construction, the government, according to the Mail, has ordered the building of two enormous airships. Each will be 800 feet in length and will have a capacity of 3,000,000 cubic feet.

During the first years of the work of the board, this work of adjudication was the primary work, and the work of the board therefore began to be considered by many people as having to do entirely with the adjudication of water rights.

First, Neighborhood quarrels are done away with. A water fight is transferred from neighbors to a prop-

Water Adjudication For Oregon Progresses Under La Grande Man As Superintendent

(By George Cochran, State Water Superintendent.)

The work of the state water board of Oregon is closely allied to the development and progress of Eastern Oregon to a more direct degree than any other board in the state. There are approximately one million acres of irrigated land in Eastern Oregon. During the ten years that the board had been in existence the water rights upon thirty-two streams have been adjudicated, approximating 625,000 acres of land.

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Second, Records of the use of water are kept, and any water user is not afraid to turn water down to someone else for fear of losing his right, and water titles thereby become more stable and permanent.

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osition of the water user presenting his rights to the water master, who is the constituted authority for the distribution of water.

Second, Records of the use of water are kept, and any water user is not afraid to turn water down to someone else for fear of losing his right, and water titles thereby become more stable and permanent.

Third, A system of distribution is inaugurated in place of the old chaotic plan of "grab water as you please," so that the water supply goes further, produces better crops, and the water users improve their system of irrigation so as to obviate the evils of too much water and sour land.

Fourth, The last beneficial result of which I will speak is that the record kept by the water master enables the purchaser of a farm to ascertain just the extent of the water right which exists upon a certain piece of land.

The results of our system of adjudication of water rights and the distribution of water has been specifically demonstrated in numerous cases. Under one stream, where litigation had been carried on for ten years or more prior to the board adjudication, the distribution of water by the board has resulted in a harmonious neighborhood with an increase of irrigated land of about 50 per cent, with the same water supply.

Under another stream, prior to the board adjudication some of the land on the stream was irrigated once each year and some of it once every two or three years. When the water master proceeded to distribute the water over the land upon that stream, all the land theretofore irrigated was irrigated from once to three time per

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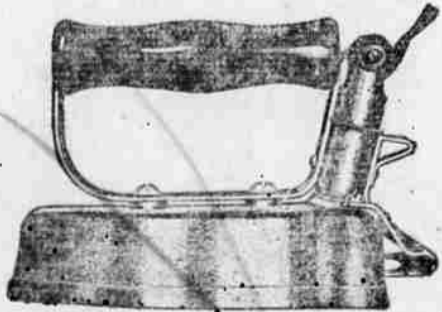
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