

LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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

Private Peat On Receiving the Soldier.

Everyone who heard Private Peat in his lecture at the Chautauque park last night will agree that there was good solid substance to whatever he said. His few remarks about the returned soldier's problem in getting back to his former footing in civil life made aside from his main address, will be endorsed by every clear thinking individual.

It is the truth that the men who stayed home to carry on the work here while the other fellows went to France became wonderfully more efficient than they had ever been. They had to become so. And the women, many of them, who took the places of those who had gone to fight, made excellent records in their work—the same work which the soldier had performed before. That was the duty of the stay-at-homes—to put more into their jobs, for the work that had to be done was far greater than what they had done before and there were fewer of them to do it. Putting more into their work, it is natural that they got more out of it. An increased pay, ability and promotion they reaped the benefit.

Private Peat effectively contrasted the soldier's case. He worked even harder in the service than did the man or the woman who filled his job at home. But commercially his years of service were a loss, from the standpoint of finances and the standardized his sense of initiative; it placed him where no personal responsibility lay upon him. And coming home, the soldier finds he is expected to go back into his old job and compete on a basis of efficiency and ability along with the man or woman whom the urgency of the duty of the work at home has placed far ahead of him in the commercial or industrial game. The writer knew a Canadian soldier

who saw this coming as soon as he reached France in the early days of the war. He was a law student brilliant and who was sure ahead of him. He had not been in the service six months when he wrote to his mother saying, "I know, mother, that I shall be any good when I get out of here. The army kills all initiative and eventually all desire to think for oneself." Since then he has spent nearly three years in German prisons. He has returned to Canada and there are the usual conditions like him, who will not return to their former positions, particularly if they were students. They do not know what they want to do. There are many men in the same way in the United States, only they are so few in comparison to the population of this country that their individual cases are not before us. That is why Private Peat has grounds to say that we forget too soon.

Employers have forgotten. The bank cashier was fired because he slipped out of his cage for an instant for a hurried puff at a cigarette which he had found such a soothing influence to tortured nerves during the dark days in France. Whether he was a machine in the army or not, he is expected to be a machine in many respects such as this in the great industrial army at home—and yet he must so far overstep the machine's influence of every life as to have the power of initiative and purpose to enable him to keep pace in the commercial race with the man who has been through the soldier's absence almost unparalleled opportunity for development of those qualities.

Americans should ask themselves carefully whether they are already forgetting. The Canadian government gives the soldier a minimum period of one year to readjust himself to civil life, and pays him during the readjustment period at the same rate he was paid in the army. But the American soldier does not get that assistance from his government. The people, it seems, must in reality be the government in this case and make up in consideration to the soldier, properly directed assistance and patience what he has lost—to the small extent that is possible—what he has lost during the war.

The other alternative to that, says Private Peat, is Bolshevism. The soldier returns from France with certain ideals that he did not take there with him. This is part of the little bit of good that results from the war. He does not return a Bolshevik, but the treatment he receives in too many cases immediately he does his civil job and starts to hunt work is enough to make him a Bolshevik. This is quite plainly America's big problem just now. It is true that industry is absorbing the soldier, but upon the consideration he receives in his new work depends the question of whether or not the next few months will see the United States—and Canada, too—a nation of ultra radicals.

The Balance Swinging the Other Way.

New York City reports that in many lines of employment there are already more jobs calling for men than men to fill the jobs. It is the same in many other cities. In the country, as everybody knows, the farmers are clamoring for help.

The tide has turned. In fact, it can hardly be said that the industrial tide

has been at low ebb at all since the abnormal war demand related. At its best, the labor situation has been only a little below normal in the winter and spring. Now, evidence accumulates on all sides that unemployment is rapidly increasing.

The soldiers, whose return was looked forward to with so many misgivings, have been absorbed without much trouble. Nearly all the men who are in earnest about wanting jobs have them, or can get them easily enough. The unemployed, as a rule, are those who scorn the work offered them, in a quest for something better than they have ever had before.

The New York employment committee for soldiers and sailors, like most other organizations of the sort, foresees an impending scarcity of labor, and is advising employers to take on men while they have a chance, whether they have any immediate use for them or not.

"Take them and train them against future needs," urges the committee. "You'll need them soon enough." It is good advice for employers everywhere. It presupposes, however, that the man who but a blind man doubts any longer that the United States is on the verge of a period of unexampled business activity.

There is the money, and there is the market. There are more good workmen here than anywhere else in the world. The only possible limitation in sight is that even these millions of energetic and intelligent workmen will not suffice to meet the demand.

BORAH WOULD HAVE PRESIDENT OFFER LETTER TO SENATE

(By Associated Press to The Observer) WASHINGTON, July 10.—Senator Borah, of Idaho, introduced a resolution today asking the President to send to the senate a copy of a letter which is declared to have been written by General Bliss on behalf of himself, Secretary Lansing and Henry White in protest against the peace conference decision regarding Shantung.

CITY MANAGER MAKES REPORT

La Grande, Oregon, July 9, 1919. To the Honorable Commission, City of La Grande, Oregon. Gentlemen: I have to report for the week ending July 5. From the Treasurer's office:

Table with financial data: Receipts—Water rents \$1145.14, Improvement District Int. 597.50, Imp. Dist. Interest 166.89, Licenses 10.00, Electrical permits 1.00, Building permits 1.00, Rents 30.00, Penalty 11.07, Advertising 2.00, Recorder's turnover 355.00. Total \$2326.11. Disbursements—Int. Imp. Bonds \$ 133.92, Library fund 164.57, Park fund 117.58.

From the Recorder's office: Licenses issued, stry 2, building permits 2, fines received \$112.00; warrants issued \$2710.67. From the Police Department, six arrests for the week and \$102.00 in fines imposed. The arrests were, for having liquor in possession 2, for traffic violations 4. From the Fire Department, five calls, all on the 4th of July. Four of the calls were for grass fires and one probably caused by defective wiring. The only material loss was at Seventh and Washington avenue on the brick building. This loss is considerable but probably covered by the insurance of \$2000 on the building and \$1500 on furniture. The fire the past week emphasize the necessity for getting rid of weeds and grass in streets and alleys and on vacant property before the dry season is on. The street superintendent has published notice that weeds must be removed by property owners, as required by city ordinance but it is apparent that many drastic measures are necessary as many places have not been cleared.

The past week has been an unusually busy one owing to the preparations for the Fourth of July celebration. The streets were cleared of rock and sprinkled so far as possible, particularly those leading to the fair grounds and park. Water was installed at the fair grounds for the use of the public and at the park for use. I have prepared a budget statement covering the past six months and submit same herewith. I submit also statement of the Beaver Creek Pipe Line Sinking fund. The bonds issued for this improvement are optional for redemption after the 10th of August this year. It will be seen from this statement that there is now in this fund about \$24,000.00, cash and securities. Of this amount some \$62,000.00 is available for redemption of C. C. T. L. bonds. The remainder is in improvement and government bonds which it probably will not be advisable to convert into cash at this time. I would recommend that C. C. T. L. bonds be redeemed to the amount of \$62,000.00. The records show that the Beaver Creek pipe line sinking fund has earned by investment up to this time about \$14,000.00. The treasurer has on hand considerable funds belonging to the improvement fund. Bonds have been called for this amount and although the time for which they were issued has passed, the bonds have not been received for payment. The in-

SALE OF DRESSES 20% off SATURDAY. A Money Saving Sale. A wonderful saving in Men's and Ladies Ready-to-wear for ONE DAY ONLY. The stocks during the next month must be greatly reduced, in order to make room for the new Fall stocks which begin to arrive during August. Every garment offered in this sale was included in our new Spring stocks of high grade clothing and ladies ready-to-wear. We invite your inspection, whether you buy or not. USE YOUR CREDIT—We solicit responsible charge accounts. FREE DELIVERY SERVICE.

One Day Sale of Hart Schaffner & Marx. CLOTHES—Every Suit in our entire stock of high grade Men's Clothing included in this sale. Every suit guaranteed by Hart Schaffner & Marx just the same as if you paid regular price for it. There are many different fabrics, in Greens, Browns, Greys and Mixtures; also an extensive line of Blue Serges. Considering the cost of your clothes now, you should take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to get one of these Hart Schaffner & Marx Suits at a reduction of 20% Saturday.

PUMPS \$1.98. Still a few left, in sizes 2-1/2 to 4-1/2, patent or key, excellent values, if you have a small font. STILL AT \$1.98. MEN'S SUITS, \$9.00. A special lot of odd suits in a regular old-time sale. These are mostly small sizes, up to the 38. Your choice Saturday at \$9.00. LADIES' SILK HOSE, 69c. Still a limited number pairs of Silk Hose left at this price; all first grade, full length, in black only. Regular \$1.25 hose, now at 69c.

NK West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE.

Hard Work Needed. If the power is so hard work is not about it is the best possible substitute for it. Things do not turn up in this world unless somebody turns them up. —James A. Garfield.

AVERAGE CROP IS LOOKED FOR. (Continued from Page 1) was considerably reduced by frost in July and June in elevated districts. The second crop of alfalfa will soon be ready to cut in southern Oregon. The lower returns are drying rapidly and in some localities feed is scarce. High prices are good. Pasturage in the western counties is excellent. Stock is doing well in most sections but in a few places is beginning to show the effect of short feed. Early potatoes are being marketed in increasing quantities. Dry con-

siderable areas in central Oregon that have need of such a remedy. What about those chaps and sun-burn, cracked lips, pimples on your face, chapped hands? You will find camphoratum will be the best for such troubles and it costs only 25c a jar at 7-7-21.

Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy. This medicine always wins the good opinion of the best of those who use it. Try it when you

Is Your Earning Capacity Greater Now Than Ever Before? If so, set aside a part of your earnings each month against the time when it will be less— Start a bank account and build on it— There are many good opportunities for investments that pay if you have something to invest— We offer you the services of this bank and will be glad to give you information and advice on any matter upon which we are informed. Do not hesitate to call on us.

LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK Capital and Surplus, \$240,000.00 MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

STAR THEATRE SATURDAY—SUNDAY. An Amazing Story of the Divorce Traffic. "Alimony" is a picture the whole family can see with profit and pleasure with pleasure. And a Two-Act Comedy. BURNS AND STEVENS.

THE BEST FLOUR—will, under ordinary conditions, make the best cake. If you want to get the results that the best flour get, order a bag of THE BEST FLOUR. You can never use any other flour after that. La Grande Milling Co.