

LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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

Cheap Labor Is the Poorest Labor.

"If cheap labor meant prosperity, then China and India would be the most prosperous nations of the world. But cheap labor means just the opposite of prosperity, means it both to the laborer and to the man who hires him," so says J. Sidney Cates in the Country Gentleman in a discourse on cotton in the south.

It is the delusion of a profit in cheap labor as compared with high-priced labor which has given our cities their ugly slums, their breeding places of crime, bolshevism, tuberculosis and other plagues, moral, physical and economic.

There are ten times the misery to be found in this section. The only profit on cheap labor is temporary. In the long run even the employer loses by it, and the community is always a loser.

The chain is never stronger than its weakest link. When they are people in the community trying to live on a wage which is not a decent living wage, there is a weak link, a drag upon themselves and upon all the other workers in the community.

The occasional weakling has to be carried by the community in some form or other. But city slums are a habit. So are bedraggled, miserable lazars. They are largely due to hazy thinking, and it is time that hazy thinking should cease.

There Is Plenty of Sugar to Go Round.

Though the sugar supply, according to dealers, has been a little tight lately, there is plenty in sight. The season's production is estimated at the respectable total of over 2,216,000,000 pounds, or 147,000,000 pounds more than the average for the last few years.

Would Declare Press a Public Utility.

William J. Bryan suggests that "some day all news will be issued through government channels, and will have the approval of the proper authorities before it is printed."

can institutions and expose the American attitude toward public affairs, it is freedom of the press.

American newspapers have their faults, as editors know only too well. But generally speaking, these faults are the "defects of their virtues" — they merely represent the over-long of things which are in themselves not suitable to be sacrificed.

This fact was so clearly recognized during the war that there was no censorship imposed on the American press, in the European sense. What ever censorship existed was voluntary.

The government itself did undertake to guide the newspapers by issuing, during the war, a publication giving an official version of the Washington news.

New Use Found for the X-Ray.

A new use has been discovered for the X-Ray. Henceforth all bombs discovered by the police will be X-rayed to determine whether they contain any mark or device which might be of use in giving a clue to the sender of the deadly missile.

Persons who receive suspicious looking packages are urged to turn them over to the authorities at once, without opening them, in order that they may be investigated by this modern method.

SOURCE OF NORTH-WEST WATER SUPPLY

More than a million people of Oregon, Washington, and Alaska drink water from Forest Reserves. Eighty-seven cities and towns of Oregon, Washington, and Alaska derive the water supply for their municipal water works from the National Forests of the North Pacific District.

The larger towns of the District using National Forest water are Portland, Eugene, Oregon City, Roseburg, Albany, Medford, Ashland, Baker, La Grande, The Dalles, and Bend, Oregon; Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, Walla Walla, Yakima, Wenatchee, Aberdeen, Port Angeles, Ellensburg, and Roslyn, Washington; and Anchorage, Cordova, Ketchikan, and Petersburg, Alaska.

The Forest Service cooperates with the towns in protecting their watersheds from fire and trespass, and every effort is made to keep the water free from any sort of contamination. Formal cooperative agreements between the Secretary of Agriculture and the city officials are in effect providing for this protection of the watersheds of Tacoma and Walla Walla in Washington, and Oregon City, The Dalles, Duffur, Wallowa, Baker, and Toledo in Oregon.

PROPOSES MEASURE TO AID IN LESSENING COST OF LIVING

WASHINGTON, July 30—As a means of lowering living costs, Representative Emerson, Republican, of Ohio, introduced a resolution Monday proposing repeal of all taxes and import duties on sugar and foodstuffs and the removal of the war tax on freight charges paid for the transportation of food.

ARMY COLLEGE OPENED.

NEW YORK, July 30—Among the soldier pupils at Camp Dix army college which opened yesterday, is Major H. C. Hille, commander of the regiment, who will take the course in motor mechanics, one of the most popular subjects in the curriculum. A large number of enlisted men and officers have registered in the new school. The equipment has been donated by the Knights of Columbus.

NORTHERN PEOPLE VICTIMS OF FLU

JUNEAU, Alaska, June 25—(By Mail)—Two hundred children, ranging in age from ten days to twelve years, have been made orphans by the influenza epidemic in Umanak, Umanak, and vicinity, according to a dispatch received by the governor's office from the U. S. health department.

The canneries of the Bristol Bay district are caring for the orphans temporarily, but need for permanent provision for the children was pointed out by the commander of the Marine detachment.

GOOD WORK WAS DONE AT JUAREZ

WASHINGTON, July 30—Official detailed reports on the recent punitive expedition into Juarez to drive out Villa troops, when the battle there, the untold lives of Americans in Juarez, give special praise to the work of both the artillery and the cavalry.

It is said that some of the achievements of the second battalion of the 82nd field artillery under command of Lieutenant Colonel H. L. Newbold were as spectacular as any in the great war when the small nature of the engagement is taken into consideration.

The reports say Colonel Newbold had his men and guns in so closely behind the skirmish line that they were ready to fire before the infantry had made contact, and the instant the command to fire was given, the sharpshooters began sweeping the fence corners and grand stand of the race track, where the Villa troops were, exactly on the target.

Colonel Newbold's batteries got off sixty-four rounds with such speed and accuracy that observers report the action like a performance of the prize gun teams in France which made new records with the French 75's.

The cavalry comes in for a full measure of praise for its rapid movement to cut off the main rebel body while the performance of the engineers in throwing across the Rio Grande in less than an hour, a pontoon bridge capable of bearing the heaviest equipment is reported as having set new record in that line.

The "doughboys" of the infantry of course come in for their usual share of praise which is in no way dimmed by the mention of the success of the engineers, cavalry and artillery.

COMMANDER OF THE WYOMING

SAN FRANCISCO, July 30—Captain Harley H. Christy, commander of the super-dreadnaught Wyoming, one of the "big four" of the new Pacific fleet, was commander of the Cruiser San Diego when she was sunk July 19, 1918 near Fire Island off the New York coast by striking a mine supposed set adrift by a German submarine. He has been in the navy many years and is a brother of Howard Chandler Christy, the widely known illustrator.

State News

A special session of the Oregon legislature for the purpose of ratifying the woman suffrage amendment to the national constitution is not at all without the range of possibilities. In fact, it is believed in State House circles that such a session is highly probable, and that within the not far distant future.

At a meeting of the city commissioners of Baker, last week, an ordinance was passed permitting street improvements to be carried out under the Raneroff bonding act. An election will be held to vote the bonds, which will be issued in amounts as the work is actually being done, and no bonds will be issued until needed. Bonds for the building of a natatorium will also be voted on at the same election.

E. C. Stanwood, who was serving his third time as sheriff of Columbia county, resigned to engage in business for himself, and the county court Saturday appointed H. E. LeBarre, his chief deputy, to succeed Stanwood.

Work at the Portland Flouring mills will not start until the middle of August. The mill is still grinding wheat of the 1918 crop.

The recent discovery of enormous copper veins in the Hercules mining district, about 20 miles northeast of Baker, are looked upon by old-timers as the first step toward an active mining era.

J. Denley, a farmer living near Mukwonago station, was run over near his home Saturday night by an automobile driven by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Vance, of Salem, dying a few hours later.

Whose land is yielding from 20 to 50 bushels an acre this year in the Western region. The average in the district is likely to be close to 30 bushels. One field, of 250 acres, has better than 50 bushels to the acre.

Julius H. Barnes, president of the federal grain corporation, informs Senator McNary that he cannot at present grant a permit for the exporting of flour by the Pacific International company of Portland, because that no permits have been granted for individual shippers for two years.

Osborne de Varilla, who fired the first big gun shot for America, returned to the army hospital in December, for treatment for gas, after visiting his grandmother in Grants Pass.

Cold tea has been sold in Salem from \$7.50 to \$14 a quart, and one purchaser recovered his money only after threatening with arrest the man who sold the beverage for whisky.

When E. H. Owen, a fruit raiser of Bald Butte, Hood River district, killed a berry-eating bear, the animal's mate pursued him, pinking away with 90% of his clothes before he escaped.

Governor Olcott has been invited by Governor Hart of Washington, to be the latter's guest at Washington state fair at Yakima on Governor's day, September 18.

Mrs. Charles H. Kugel, 67 of 795 Wilbur street, Salem, topped off the celebration of her fiftieth wedding anniversary Sunday evening with a flight through the air as a passenger in the plane piloted by Lieutenant Cook of that city.

Trouble in the Future. The pessimist is always anticipating new varieties of trouble. One contemporary gloomster casts his eye forward to the day when wireless telephony will be so perfect that a man will have a receiver in his hat and be managed by his wife all the time.

Many Like Him. All newspapers often have advertisements which could be rewritten advantageously. But it took a church paper to offer the most original one yet: "Wanted—A minister who has been married 22 years is very desirous of securing a change."

Cannibal Movie Fans. New Zealand Maoris, native Japanese and the cannibals of the South Sea Islands have developed a voracious appetite for the American movie stars. Their appetite, however, doesn't crave blood. They want them on the screen.

Out of Sight. If there ever was a fool-killer he must have retired from business.—Chicago News.

DISCOVER CAUSE OF CHILD BLINDNESS

WARSAW, Poland, July 15.—(Associated Press Correspondence.)—The abnormal number of children born

blind in this country during the past three years despite the fact that their parents were healthy, is due mainly to the malnutrition of mothers, according to a report issued today by the American Red Cross.

The increasing amount of blindness among children at birth was thought at first to herald the advent of some new war disease. But investigation by American experts proved that the furnished condition of the mothers reacted on the eye-sight of their infants.

GERMANS EAGER TO IMMIGRATE

PARIS, July 10.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—A warning voice on the dangers of German infiltration by devious ways comes from Luttenburg. According to the Journal of Each, of 42 petitions now before the Luxembourg Chamber for naturalization, 38 come from Prussian subjects, several of whom have been identified as having been connected, more or

less, with acts of frightfulness during the war. None of them, the Esch paper affirms, would have dreamt of changing his nationality had the Germans won.

Reports from Switzerland indicate that Germans will try to pacifically re-enter France under the guise of Swiss citizenship. According to a message from the Associated Press correspondents in Switzerland the other day, fifty-one hundred thousand Germans and Austrians are waiting on the border line between Basle and Constance for admittance into Switzerland; but the federal authorities are keeping a strict watch on those would-be immigrants.

Long Sentences. In "Les Miserables" Victor Hugo has a sentence of a hundred lines, and earlier in the book, in one of the chapters descriptive of Waterloo, there are over 50 lines without a full stop. England's record is held by the foreign enlistment act, one section of which reaches its six hundredth word.

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