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Athletic Nations Develop Strength.

The nation which plays strongly, which is given to athletic sports, is the nation of general virility, according to an article recently published in a leading magazine. According to this article one reason why England rose so swiftly to the demands of war was that her people were never really soft, because they are a nation of sportsmen. Similarly it took less time to whip the American forces into shape because we are an athletic, baseball-playing nation. Germany went down to defeat because she had neither the physical nor moral resiliency which clean sport gives. Ancient Rome and Greece and some of the eastern nations are cited as examples of peoples once strong whose decline, moral and political, was coincident with their abandonment of interest in gymnastic and athletic sports.

The proposition is sane and reasonable, and it carries its own lesson. Any nation which hopes to keep itself strong for its work, be that work upon the battlefield or be it the tenuous struggle of civic life, must keep itself strong by play, by sport, by gymnastic games and athletic contests. Playing itself to militancy should appeal to any people.

The Peak of Pessimism Is Passing.

The American people are not yet out of the woods, but conditions certainly are improving. Even while habitual pessimists still croak, events move onward in an optimistic fashion that tends to discredit all dark prophecies.

The railroads, after a record of deficits that seemed destined to be endless, actually made a little profit in July, and are thought to have made more in August.

Prices have really started downward. There is no mistaking the fact. Whether you explain it by the crops coming to market, or by the government's drive against profiteering, or by the increase of production, or the growth of thrift, or the lessening of exports, or all of these together, the fact is incontrovertible. Prices are going down, and many experts, including one of the big packers, say they are going to keep on going down.

Meanwhile stocks are going up. The stock market is nearly always a good barometer of business conditions. This means national confidence.

Building, so long delayed, is going ahead, all over the country, at a rapid and accelerating pace. This, too, means widespread confidence.

Labor organizations, on the whole, are acting with admirable patience and patriotism.

Nearly everybody who wants a job has one.

The peak of prices and the peak of pessimism seems to be passing.

Reckless Spending Say the Credit Men.

The National Association of Retail Credit Men, to whom all accounts are open, all buyers know, says that the American public is "buying mad." Never since the beginnings of the organization have so many accounts been overchecked and underpaid.

It is not for lack of money that people suffer, but for lack of sense in spending it, say these Sherlocks of the ledger. "Men who a year ago wore overalls and the women who wore cotton dresses, now want silk shirts and satin gowns."

face them honest, and in providing for the winter buy in accordance with an honest estimate of family finances. Then, in the face of the credit men and of the country's own self-interest, he may stand firm of the stigma of extravagant buying and unpaid bills.

State Treasurer Hoff has been saying little since his election, but he has been attending to business very meticulously. There are no spotlight news stories coming out of the treasurer's office, but occasionally there does come a story on the state's business which makes every sane citizen feel a strong friendship for the man of Swedish ancestry who is handling the state's funds. He has increased the amount the state receives for interest, devoted deeply into the inheritance tax and his every move has been to look after the state's finances in a way that is gratifying to the taxpayers. Mr. Hoff has been in public life for many years, and while he has been successful in other offices, he has the job now that he is especially fitted for.

The National Council of Defense has issued a circular calling the "Analysis of the High Cost of Living Problem" in which that eminent body reviews and reviews, and reviews, so that the reader when he gets through can have but one conclusion, and that is he must spend less money. Russell Sage used to say it was easy to get rich, all that was necessary was to buy when things were low and sell when they were high, and the National Council of Defense sends forth about as much information on reducing the cost of living in its pamphlet.

Even in the Mormon church there is a difference of opinion over the league of nations. Senator Smart is against it, as he says, because the Book of Mormon declares there can be no universal peace before the second coming of the Lord, but the president of the Mormon church and his leading associates, and the Deseret News, the leading Mormon organ, are for it. Under these conditions, what is a good Mormon to do?

The school board has issued the course of study for the La Grande schools for 1914-1920. It is a course filled with beneficial work for the young, and if the child will apply himself the results from the La Grande schools are guaranteed. The teaching force this year is excellent and it appears that the schools will start under extraordinary good conditions.

Every new positive expedition into Mexico, with the revelations it brings, cools the ardor of a lot of folks who used to want to annex that temperamental neighbor. Awful country, awful climate, awful people!

The new remedy for Italy prescribed by his country's doctor, greater production and less consumption. The same formula has been offered the American people, but it sounds too simple—they want something elaborate.

An instructor in the New York College of Pharmacy says that Cleopatra was a druggist. Maybe so—and the law is right when she mixed her own little lick in them.

State News

M. N. Foghty has been appointed receiver of the Yale Land Office for the next four year term, by the president. Mr. Foghty's re-appointment follows four years of service in handling the public lands and moneys of the Yale office.

Sixty tons of high quality peaches were grown on 12 acres of rejuvenated run-down orchards of A. C. Joy, president of the Jackson county farm bureau, two miles east of Ashland, this year. The estimated value of the crop at 4 cents a pound is \$4800.

Word has just been received here of the promotion of W. E. Finzer, for 12 years adjutant-general of the state of Oregon, from the rank of major to that of lieutenant-colonel. The colonel is now in Washington, D. C. His promotion was granted upon the recommendation of General Le Jeune of the marine corps.

The Banks Fair committee has arranged elaborate details for the "Banks Hog and Dairy Show," October 10 and 11. Tractor demonstrations will be a big feature with the farmers each day. Exhibitions of some of Oregon's finest hogs and dairy herds will draw from all surrounding country. This is to be the first annual show of this character for Washington county.

The Best Advertisement
 The best advertisement any merchant can have is a satisfied customer. No greater recommendation can be given an article than the following by E. J. Millhorn, Proprietor, Galt Drug Store, Gresham, Ore. "We have sold Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for years and have always found that it gives perfect satisfaction."
 —Adv.

Vegetables From the Dr. Phy Garden

The Evening Observer stands as a referee, judge or umpire, which ever title may apply, to settle and determine the wager recently laid between J. J. Carr and Dr. Phy relative to raising vegetables and cereals on the land surrounding the Hot Lake Sanatorium.

Our verdict is that Mr. Carr loses, and we might as well state our position—to use the latest law expression—that we have seen with our own eyes and eaten of the fine vegetables raised by Dr. Phy at Hot Lake no ever were served on a table in the Grande Ronde valley. That is saying something, for the Grande Ronde is a producer of everything needed by mankind, and its productions are of the best quality. We realize all of this when we stoutly assert and affirm—and if needs be we will swear—that Hot Lake vegetables are far above the average and in fact are first-class products.

Dependancy
 Sufferers from indigestion are apt to become discouraged and feel that complete recovery is not to be hoped for. No one could make a greater mistake. Hundreds have been permanently cured by taking Chamberlain's Tablets and can now eat and drink the things they crave. Those tablets strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its function naturally. If you have not tried them do so at once.—Adv.

A WANTED Ad will do it.

hosted did the conversation show that a wager of some proportion was laid. The gardens were planted and given a reasonable amount of care. At that time the Observer shared Mr. Carr's belief and we have chided Dr. Phy through these columns about his dry land farming, even going so far as to offer assistance.

There is an old-time relation between fixity of purpose and perseverance; there is also a habit on the part of some to turn their back on what is called precedent there is a belief in the minds of a few that because a thing has never been done is no good reason why it cannot be done. Dr. Phy belongs to that few. He has demonstrated it many times, and now he comes forward with a demonstration that could not be questioned by any human having eyes to see, or possessing the sense of taste. His vegetables are fit to enter the state fair exhibits and he has won out in the garden line as he has out in many other lines.

To convince the Observer that he had actually produced vegetable worth while he forwarded to the writer during the past week an exhibit that was a gem and contained more than sufficient for generous samples of corn, carrots, cucumbers, onions, beans, tomatoes, potatoes, cabbage, strawberries and pumpkins. With the exhibit he sent the following letter which is very appropriate:

"LOOKS JUST LIKE NEW"
 Vulcanizing, like cobbling, depends for its success upon the skill of the operator, not upon the materials used. A poor shoemaker and a bungling vulcanizer can spoil good materials. We absolutely guarantee first class work and will turn out a vulcanized tire "just like new." We have never yet spoiled a "shoe."
A. E. KELLY & STRONG
 1306 JEFFERSON AVE. IN BOHNENKAMP BUILDING

Ignition Parts Brushes
 We have just received a full and complete stock of Ignition Parts and Brushes for all makes of cars.
 Don't wait to order—call for immediate delivery, at
Hilton's Garage

Ladies' Coats
 We have a very fine assortment of Ladies' Fall and Winter Coats. It will pay you to see them.
WHY PAY MORE?
Christie's Variety Store

Ladies' Coats
 We have a very fine assortment of Ladies' Fall and Winter Coats. It will pay you to see them.
WHY PAY MORE?
Christie's Variety Store
 OBSERVER ADVERTISING will bring results.

"From the looks of some of Doc. Phy's crops (Joe Carr does not always lose when he bets.) Referring no doubt to a wager on the land at Hot Lake, and following that I could grow anything on the land at Hot Lake, and following, no doubt, an established policy to encourage citizens to till the land with greater zeal.

That you may have personal further knowledge of the results of my efforts, this terribly dry year with only the loamiest soil that had been condemned by universal opinion, I am sending you a small box of vegetables, which are in season now, grown on the useless (?) land

and without water. It may interest you to know also that all of our guests and employes have been fed on vegetables in season from our garden during the whole year and aside from this we have been selling to wholesale produce orders quite a considerable surplus beyond our daily needs. I planted a small plot of sunflowers forilage and I think have the best yield of anyone in the galaxy. I will not expatiate further but when another year comes, if all goes well, I shall show you a real truck garden.

Very sincerely yours,
W. T. PHY.

School Opens

With the opening of school, we find each mother busy outfitting the boy and girl for the winter. Remember to carry everything for the BOY and GIRL and we invite your inspection and comparison of prices, quality considered.

The value-giving policy, which is the biggest asset in this business, has never been better shown than in our present full stock of

Black Cat REINFORCED HOSIERY.
For Boys and Girls

Reinforced at toe and heel and with triple knee, this is the play stocking supreme. Snug fit, guaranteed fast colors, accurate sizes and moderate price are other reasons why we recommend them.

Play Proof Triple Reinforced Knees!
KAYNEE
 SHIRTS, WAISTS AND UNDERTOGS.
 —For the school boy. The kind of quality a school boy needs in his shirts or waists. The colors are guaranteed fast, and you may be assured anything with the KAYNEE trade mark on it will give the utmost of satisfaction and wear.
McCoy West & Co.
 The home of Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes.

Millinery
 Our Fall line of Ladies' and Misses' hats have arrived. Our prices are always right.
 "Why Pay More?"
Christie's Variety Store

HARRIS FURNITURE CO.
 NEW AND SECOND HAND
Furniture, Carpets, Rugs, Etc.
 "GOOD FURNITURE FOR LESS"
 405 FIFTH STREET PHONE RED 3171