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CLYDE T. ECKER, Editor.

On the West Front, the boys are hitting the Huns where they are.

These are the days in Oregon when there are no others like them anywhere.

The military experts of the Allies are getting much valuable advice from the graduates.

It having been definitely decided that sauer kraut is Dutch and not German, will somebody please pass the beans.

Ben Olcott lost no prestige or influence by his defeat for the governorship. His day is not gone, he still has it coming.

Maybe Uncle Sam et al won't be able to get the boys out of the trenches by Christmas, but they're doing their durndest.

The newspapers give what they have to sell to the government for nothing. No other vendor in the land does the same.

Oregon first in many things is last in one thing. No other state in the Union has a penitentiary like it. Back in 1850 they had 'em.

Judging from the biscuits now baked with substitutes by experienced hands, we extend condolences in advance to all the June bridegrooms.

Mr. Simpson's candidacy has proved something. We'll have the obsolete Mr. Hawley in congress for two more years and then we'll have Mr. Simpson.

It is apt to say that Linn county people were "thunder struck" to have a lightning and thunder cloud invade their domain and rip and tear so promiscuously.

The Associated Press has apologized to Senator La Follette for misquoting him in his famous St. Paul speech—the speech that caused sundry citizens of the country to "resolve" him out of the senate.

Painless Parker is advertising for an idea. Painless had an idea several years ago and it has put him where he doesn't have to eat the substitutes if he is unpatriotic enough to feed them to the chickens, pig or cow.

To use a pretty much worn phrase, the governorship race this fall is going to be "some hoss race." Walter Pierce is able, clean, one hundred per cent progressive, a good campaigner and speaker. Its a fifty-fifty chance that he will beat the "hoss" doctor.

If C. S. Jackson of the Portland Journal and commander in chief of the war stamp army in Oregon owns The Polk County Post, the Benton County Courier, the Clackamas County Banner and two or three other twice-a-week newspapers in the state as it is repeatedly rumored, we are going to buy an extra big bunch of the stamps and charge them to "office expense."

THE GREAT ECLIPSE ON JUNE 8

Not Until 2017 Will There Be Another Opportunity to Observe a Similar Manifestation of Astronomical Activity.

(By William A. Luby, professor of astronomy, Polytechnic Institute.)

On Saturday, June 8, the moon will begin to pass between the sun and the earth. The moon's shadow will touch the earth first at a point in the Pacific Ocean, south of Japan. It will travel northeastward until it is about five hundred miles south of Alaska, then its course will be south eastward. The moving shadow will have traversed about two-thirds of its path when it reaches the mouth of the Columbia River. About two hundred miles off the Florida coast, the eclipse will end at sunset.

The Twentieth Century Limited may, under favorable conditions, reach a speed of sixty-six miles an hour. The eclipse shadow reaches that rate a minute. Even in this scientific age, the approach of the shadow seen from a high point, inspires awe. And back in the dim beginnings of Babylonian and Egyptian astronomy when learned men first discovered how to predict the coming of eclipses, it is easy to imagine the power over peasant and potentate of those who could invoke the terrifying darkness, seemingly at will.

The eclipse is total only in a narrow strip, but it will be partial over the whole United States. Even in Augusta, Maine, 58 per cent of the sun's disk will be covered by the moon.

Not for ninety-nine years—in 2017—will a similar opportunity come to the United States. American astronomers have been looking forward to 1918 for years, intending to take full advantage of the opportunity that means much to science.

For whatever validity our claims to precedence may be in other lines, in astronomy we are now, and have been for some time, indisputably in first place.

But the terrible tragedy of Europe interferes. How? Of what use is an astronomer in the brutal business of war? The answer is simple. An astronomer is usually a mathematician. Nearly always he is well enough trained to know thoroughly the mathematics on which navigation is based. More than that, the science of navigation owes a tremendous debt to astronomy, the latter science must determine several years in advance the daily positions—the celestial latitude and longitude—of the sun and the principal stars for both hemispheres. These facts are necessary to determine the position of a ship in any of the various seas of the world. Hence, navigators for the tremendous fleet which the United States is now building must be provided and many schools for the instruction in navigation of officers for the emergency fleet have been organized. Providing for this training is part of the work of the shipping board.

Then the mathematical problems in artillery work are by no means all solved. One American astronomer who is usually able in mathematics has been for some time at the school at Fort Sill working on the problems of long range shooting. So all over the country these astronomers are continuing their work for the government and leaving to the few the observation of the coming eclipse. For these reasons Harvard, Columbia, Princeton, the University of Illinois and many other schools will have no eclipse expedition. Of course many of the astronomers engaged in war work could obtain leaves of absence for a few days to observe the eclipse. But to take full advantage of the short time of totality, means the transportation and assemblage of telescopic, spectroscopic, photographic and photometric equipment to a good location. It means a corps of trained assistants and careful rehearsals to use properly the precious seconds. And a careful survey of meteorological conditions of a place is always made before a site is selected. Even then a cloudy day may ruin months, or even years, of preparation. Nevertheless, many eclipse expeditions have been planned. Some of the more important of these and their locations are: The Lick Observatory, Goldendale, Wash.; the Mount Wilson and the Yerkes, Green River, Wyo.; the Smithsonian, Lakin, Kan., and that of the United States Naval Observatory at Baker, Oregon. The University of Colorado will merely stay at home.

Science today has three problems which may be studied to advantage during a total eclipse. These are the search for the planet or planets between Mercury and the Sun, the study of the corona and the making of observations which later may prove the truth or falsity of the Einstein doctrine of relativity.

Mercury is the nearest planet to the Sun. Its computed place in the heavens is always slightly in ad-

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vance of the observed places. This fact, has puzzled astronomers for many years. Its motion does not appear to be governed precisely by the law of gravitation. Yet, the seeming error could be explained in accordance with Newton's law if other planets existed between Mercury and the Sun. The time of a total eclipse is especially favorable to the search for such planets, if they exist. Up to date none has been found.

It is only at the time when the moon covers the Sun that what is called the corona, is visible. The corona is an envelope of pearly light, surrounding the Sun and extending out a great distance beyond the dark disk of the moon, with streamers reaching at times a length of three-fourths of a million miles. No means of observing the corona, except at the times of an eclipse, has yet been devised. It is known that the character of the streamers is intimately connected with sunspot phenomena, but the nature of the connection is not yet clear. Years of sunspot maxima and minima—that is years when many or when few sunspots appear—occur at about eleven years intervals, though no reason is known for this regularity. Photographs of the corona, taken in a year of sunspot maxima, have very different characteristics from those taken in a year of sunspot minima. We have excellent photographs of the corona taken in 1900 and other years, near a sunspot minimum. This eclipse offers the opportunity of obtaining photographs of the corona near a year of sunspot maxima. Science hopes by comparison of the two types of photographs, to throw light on the nature of the corona and on that of sunspots.

The other reason for the scientific importance of this eclipse lies in theories out on the frontiers of science. What is the ultimate nature of matter? Everyone knows what weight is. Mass is a technical term less well understood, but we may think of it as closely related to weight and proportional to it. Now, one of the most startling conclusions of the Twentieth Century is that an electric charge, placed upon a body, increases its mass and consequently both its mass and its weight. This suggests the possibility that in its ultimate elements, matter is of an electrical nature. If this becomes an established fact, a consequence of it would be that Newton's law of gravitation would require a slight modification. Einstein's doctrine of relativity asserts that the force of gravitation between two bodies depends for one thing on whether they are at rest or in motion. Newton's statement of the law of gravitation asserts that whether two bodies are at rest or in motion in no way affects the force of gravitation between them. Among other things the eclipse will possibly furnish an opportunity of testing whether the statement of Newton's law of gravitation must be modified as indicated by Einstein.

Oregon Prison is a School of Vice.

(Portland Telegram.)

Pronouncing the Oregon penitentiary a school for criminals and degenerates instead of a reformatory, Charles Murphy, warden for the institution, said today that he would ask the next legislature for funds for the establishment of segregation quarters for confirmed criminals and prisoners addicted to vice. He further declared he would ask for a modern cell system, giving as a reason that it is impossible to prevent escapes under present conditions.

"Practically every penitentiary in the United States now has segregation quarters, and until such quarters are provided for the Oregon penitentiary it will remain a breeding place for crime and degeneracy," said Warden Murphy. "After a thorough investigation of the penitentiary a commission appointed in

1916 by Governor Withycombe condemned the institution and recommended the construction of a new prison. A measure was initiated making an appropriation for a new prison, but it was defeated because the people did not understand the intolerable conditions existing at the present prison. Habitual criminals and degenerates under present conditions mingle and associate with first offenders with the result that unless a first offender is a man of strong character, he either leaves the institution schooled in crime or a victim of degeneracy.

"Repeatedly first offenders come to me and ask for protection from other prisoners, and I am unable to give them protection, because of the lack of segregation quarters. Had the people the slightest idea of the prevalence of degeneracy at the state prison they would not have hesitated to grant relief by the passage of the law establishing a modern prison. Most of the first offenders sentenced to the penitentiary, in my judgment, could be reformed and converted into good citizens, but this is impossible without segregation quarters.

"What is needed is a new penitentiary. Funds for a new institution would not be available, however, under the six per cent tax limitation amendment. The only course left open is to ask the legislature for funds to remodel the present prison and this I intend to do.

"The commission that made a survey of the prison denominated the cell sink and soil pot system a disgrace to the state and recommended that there be substituted for it modern and sanitary plumbing facilities and the legislature should also come to the rescue of the institution in this respect.

"The administration building was erected in 1871, and there have been no changes or improvements to speak of since. To escape from the prison is easy, and it is surprising that there are so few escapes. The cell bars are of iron, easily bent, and yield easily to a hack saw. The walls are of brick, and with a case knife a prisoner can cut his way thru the wall to liberty in an hour. What is needed is reinforced steel concrete cells, and until they are provided escapes will continue to be frequent. Provision for such a cell system should be made by the legislature.

"A medical department was also recommended by the commission that made the investigation of the penitentiary, and until one is established criminals cannot be treated intelligently. Most of the state prisons today are provided with medical departments, and prisoners before being incarcerated in the prison proper are confined upon their arrival for a week or two in the receiving hospital. The medical department should have a resident physician and a properly equipped medical and psychological laboratory. If possible the next legislature should supply the institution with such a department."

Referring to the honor system, Warden Murphy said it had proved a success. Half of the population is now employed daily outside the prison without armed guards, he said.

Poor Little June Bride

(Kansas City Star.)

The 1918 June bride who is inexperienced in cooking will face conditions entirely new to June brides.

It is almost certain that it will be up to her to learn to cook. But she can't consult mother and grandmother's cook books for recipes that will help her in the difficulties most girls experience in their first days of housekeeping, for these cherished books are full of recipes for delicious dishes that call for unlimited quantities of white flour, real butter, sugar without stint, to say nothing of steaks, chops, poultry and eggs.

Why, grandmother was saying only the other day that at the June wedding of the June bride's mother the salad served at the reception that followed was made of the white meat from half a dozen turkeys and there were sixty egg whites in the bride's cakes, to say nothing of those used in the fruit cake in which were dozens of pounds of nuts, raisins and candied fruit.

But maybe the June bride will find it easier to use the food substitutes recommended by the government than does her mother, for she can start in from the first and learn to cook easily with substitutes. She will find soy bean and potato flour will hold no more terrors for her than any other ingredient would to an untried cook. And if the cake is sad and the biscuits heavy, it is only what any bride might serve a bridegroom in any year when wheat substitutes were unknown.

And probably in the honeymoon days the restriction on sugar will pass unnoticed. The 1918 bride will accumulate such a collection of recipes as no bride before ever had. There will be soy bean biscuits, lima bean roll, peanut loaf, rice flour angel food, oatmeal muffins and corn flour pancakes, with the correct number of calories in each. There will be rice a la king, eggless, butterless and milkless cake.

The June bride's hope chest may contain linen, but unless it is already filled, the breakfast cloth and sometimes the cloth for dinner will very likely be of mercerized cotton or Japanese crepe.

And there will be fewer Oriental rugs given her as presents, for none are received at the big shops. And if she is a sensible little bride she will not feel badly if her wedding ring is a simple gold band, for platinum is very scarce and very expensive and the cost of a ring made of it would buy any amount of thrift stamps.

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