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CLYDE T. ECKER, Editor.

With the coming of another Christmas, we are approaching an era of peace on earth, good will toward men. While the great world war is over, there are revolutions and rebellions in many countries and it will be many months before order is restored and staple governments formed. All things considered this should be a merry Christmas. Light is dawning and dark clouds of sorrow and despair brought on by the jealousies, the greed and brute ambitions of men are drifting away.

When W. J. Bryan was Secretary of State he negotiated and successfully arranged treaties with a dozen or more nations for the arbitration of all questions of dispute. He was ridiculed at the time and has been ridiculed since for so doing. Now it is just beginning to dawn in the minds of the world that these same treaties will come mighty handy as a basis or a stepping stone to a permanent world peace. Mr. Bryan was only following his custom of being too premature with his ideas and issues. He travels from five to fifteen years ahead of the world; if he had kept back with the crowd he would have been president.

JELLY, JUICES AND JAM

BONNIE'S DEAD FOR KEEPS
(Osborne Village Deacon.)

You have a long, sad wait coming to you, my friends, if you imagine that bevo will ever put life back into "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean."

THIS TIME MAUD RAKED THE JUDGE
(By Tennyson J. Daft.)

Maud Muller was a farmerette. While she was making hay

The judge, for reasons now unknown, once chanced to pass that way.

He made a smart remark, of course, whereat Maud answered "Fudge!"

And then instead of raking hay, she deftly raked the judge.

WRITE THIS CORRECTLY FROM DICTATION
(Tit-Bits.)

As Hugh Hughes was hewing a yule log from a yew tree, a man dressed in clothes of a dark hue, came up to Hugh and said, "Have you seen my ewes?" "If you will wait until I hew this yew to use in my fireplace, I will go with you anywhere in Europe to look for your ewes," said Hugh.

Confidential advice to old maids: Stick 'round under the mistletoe all day. It's a slim chance but take it.

Andy used to buy the biggest plug for the money



'till one day Barney gave him a chew of Real Gravely.

It was an hour or more before Andy said anything. "How much longer does this Gravely hold its good taste?" he says. "Two or three little squares last me all morning," an-

swers Barney. "This class of tobacco lasts so much longer it costs no more to chew it than ordinary plug costs."

It goes further—that's why you can get the good taste of this class of tobacco without extra cost.

PEYTON BRAND
Real Gravely Chewing Plug
each piece packed in a pouch
P. U. GRAVELY, TOBACCO CO., DANVILLE, VA.

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KEEPING HOME FIRES BURNING UNTIL THE SOLDIER RETURNS

The Red Cross has for years been associated with hospitals, doctors, soldiers, sailors, battles, disasters; but it is only within the last few months that those who do not come under any of these classes have come to realize the importance of the assistance rendered by the Red Cross.

Soldiers and sailors must be encouraged to "carry on." Their morale must be upheld. The sailor or soldier who is worrying about the welfare of his family is not able to put his mind on the business before him. For this reason the Home Service Section of the American Red Cross has been organized, and to the folks at home it means neighborliness, counsel and aid—the nation's assurance to the enlisted man that his family shall suffer for no essential thing that is within its power to give.

In practically every large city of the United States there is already a class for training the workers of the Home Service section, so that they may be able to efficiently deal with the very real problems that are before them. It is not the policy of the section to force upon families the aid of the Red Cross nor to burden them with interference. No family should be approached unless some member of the family or some person capable of speaking for them has asked for the service. Because it is the desire of the Committee on Civilian Relief, under whose direction this work comes, to keep the service of the bureau strictly confidential, the wearing of any uniform by the Home Service workers has been discouraged. They call simply as friends and try to call immediately when requested.

In no instance is a visitor permitted to pry into the secrets of the family. Help is always ready, and the call usually comes from the man in the service himself. Through the workers in the camp or at the front he learns that his family may be assisted, and if he does not hear regularly or encouragingly he is quite apt to talk over with the Red Cross man or woman the affairs of his home when he learns of the friendly interest, and thus send local workers to his family. The school teachers also are often the informants, for they know through the children of the needs at home and are glad to see the family's problems solved.

TURN THE BOYS' THOUGHTS HOMEWARD, SAYS FOSDICK, ASKING CO-OPERATION

Washington.—(Special).—Just before leaving for France to superintend the demobilization activities of those organizations which recently took part in the United War Work Campaign, Raymond B. Fosdick, Chairman of the Commission on Training Camp Activities, was interviewed with regard to the present situation of our overseas forces.

"The problem presented by the gradual demobilization of more than two million men three thousand miles from home is one which will tax all our social resources," said Mr. Fosdick. "It is above all a morale problem, and it must be faced as such, with the full co-operation of families and friends here in this country, if it is to be solved successfully. Every one who has a son, a brother, must help.

"While the war was on our boys were fully occupied; they were still filled with the spirit of adventure, looking forward rather than back. Now, however, the fighting is at an end. They are going to remain, most of them, many months doing work which will be neither exciting nor particularly interesting. They will get lonesome, bored and terribly homesick.

"The \$170,000,000 raised in the recent United War Work drive is to be used precisely to bridge over this period by providing recreation and amusement. But no amount of mere money expended in such a way will be enough. What these boys really want is not diversion, but human interest and sympathy. These things expressed in letters from home will warm their hearts and create a home atmosphere around them, even while they are absent from the family circle.

"Such letters may be a very necessary sheet anchor to windward in the case of some boys. The thought of some one waiting for them, counting on them, will more than anything else, make them hold back and think twice before plunging into situations which might mean harm and unhappiness for them.

"We have raised the cleanest army in the world. We have kept it clean. We hope to bring it back as clean and strong as it was when it left us. But while we believe our soldiers will stand the present test—the hardest of all in some ways—as bravely and successfully as they have stood every other test of their manhood and endurance, it is our duty to give them all the help we can.

"This, as I have said, can best be rendered by means of letters which will begin now, at once, not only to satisfy their home longings, but to turn their thoughts from tasks already accomplished in the long years of life ahead of them."

HOME FOLKS MUST HELP.

Washington.—(Special).—The War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities has hit upon an important and entirely new idea in the "Letters-from-home" plan just announced.

Pull the boys through the most trying

period of their service by writing the right kind of letters, letters full of the home feeling, the mother feeling. This appeal is made to mothers, fathers, sisters and sweethearts by the War Department. It is hoped that millions of inspiring letters will be written the week of December 15, designated as "Letters-from-home" week. Pulpit and press are co-operating to make a great success of the plan.

Suggestion for Mother's Letter.

So, you're sending your home to me at last. Through all these months of waiting and longing I've been wearing a star for you and holding my head high and thinking wonderful thoughts about you. I've watched you through ocean mists and dreamed anxious dreams. Yes, and cried a little, too, but not when people could see.

And now you're coming home. Oh, it seems too good to be true. I've just read your letters again. They say so much more than you ever thought when you were writing them. Just happenings—that's all most of the things you wrote about were to you. But to me they said you were facing the biggest thing in life, facing it bravely, as I should want my son to face it. You were offering your body and your soul for a thing bigger than you or me or America.

When I wrote to you I tried to write cheerful, encouraging letters, because I did not want you to go into battle feeling that I was holding you back from the big sacrifice. It's only now, when the fighting is over, that I can let down a little and be just your mother, just the woman who loves you better than anything else in the world and is so glad to know you're coming back to her that she doesn't care who sees her cry.

Perhaps for some of the boys who have stood with you so finely through these trials the fighting is not yet all over. The fighting I mean is that between a man and himself, and for many of them this will be the hardest battle of all. During the long days and evenings of waiting before they can start for home thoughts will creep into their minds which will be hard to resist. There will be times after all these months of action when the longing for change and for the companionship of women may lead them into associations which will spoil their homecoming and cause them shame and humiliation, and even perhaps make them unfit to receive the love that awaits them here.

You, dearest boy, are just as human as your comrades, and feelings like these may come to you too. I don't ask you to crush them. They are natural, and they only prove that war has failed to dry up the well spring of your emotions. I ask you only to recognize them when they come and to control them with the fine strength you have gained while fighting for the ideals and principles of America. Just remember that many joyous years of life are ahead of you and that the risk of spoiling them and the love that will fill them is too tremendous to run for a short hour of seeming pleasure.

Many of the boys who will come home with you have no mothers to write to them. Some of them may think that no one cares what they do. But somebody does care. America cares. And the girls they will marry

children are necessary the Home Service is ready to assist, to secure proper care for the children needing it and to ease the mind of the mother.

Milk for Sick Babies.

Everywhere in the war zone there are sick babies and babies needing milk. The American Red Cross is establishing milk stations, and the babies of Italian soldiers are beginning to thrive already under the competent care of the nurses, some of whom were Infant Welfare nurses in our own country before going overseas. At

Children of the Crusade

By JEANNE JUDSON.

Frightened and pitiful, they walk apart,
Through the familiar village street, grown strange,
Hand clasped in hand, they hear weird echoes start
From ruined homes. Fear dumbs each small, child heart.

No tears rain down like dew to ease their woe;
Horror has dried the wells from which they sprang,
Like wee crusaders of the long ago,
Their phantom banners in the breezes blow.

If one should call out "Follow!" they would run,
Grime of the highway on their tiny feet,
Headless alike of dust and blazing sun,
Forget, as dreams, the horrors that were done.

None calls; weary they rest within the shade,
The ruined church, where once they learned to pray,
Long years before the war had come, and laid
Their homes in ruins, made their hearts afraid.

Before the Holy Mother low they bow,
Perhaps she hears and soon will bring them aid,
It must be she whose voice is calling now,
For see the cross is shining on her brow!

The light around her head, a nimbus gleams,
A Red Cross worker, not from Heaven, they know,
Yet Mary heard and sent her here it seems,
To lead them home to shelter and to dreams.

some day care. And, oh, the difference it will make in their lives if they will just remember that there is always somebody, always!

Help them to come home clean and fine. Don't let them spoil everything now. They have been so splendid. If you think this letter will help them give it to them. If they have no mothers let me be their mother until they have come back and taken the high places that await them here. Tell them to write to me. How I should treasure their letters!

And, of course, you will write to me. Just say that you understand—that you know why I have written this letter. Then I can wait months—yes, even years—knowing that you will come home to me as fine and clean as you were when I sent you away to camp so long ago. MOTHELI.

PURPOSES OF FOOD ADMINISTRATION THE DAY OF ITS BEGINNING.

The hopes of the Food Administration are threefold: So to guide the trade in fundamental food commodities as to eliminate vicious speculation, extortion and wasteful practices and to stabilize prices in essential staples.—Herbert Hoover, August 10, 1917.

SEVEN LOAVES OF BREAD FOR EVERY PERSON IN U. S. SAVED FROM WASTE

Farmers and Threshermen Patriotically Respond to Call of Food Administration.

From information received by the U. S. Food Administration from the principal grain growing states, it is now possible to announce with fair accuracy the amount of wheat saved last harvest by improved methods of handling. According to official calculations, efforts toward cleaner threshing saved fully 16,000,000 bushels of wheat with corresponding savings of other small grain harvested and threshed in a similar manner. In addition, other states, though unable to furnish figures, reported greatly reduced harvest losses.

The figure for wheat alone is equivalent to seven one-pound loaves of bread for every person in the United States and represents food that formerly was either an absolute loss or was recovered to only a slight extent by poultry and livestock. While opportunities in this branch of conservation were large, the quantity of grain recovered surpasses early expectations. It is noteworthy also that results were secured principally through voluntary co-operation.

No conservation measure of the Food Administration, it is declared, has received more wholehearted support than that pledged and rendered by farmers and threshermen toward reducing grain waste at its source.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

Freewater is suffering from an epidemic of typhoid fever.

Cove farmers are plowing by night as well as by day in the endeavor to get their fall plowing finished.

A grain-grading school was held for three days at Dufur for the benefit of the grain growers of Wasco county.

A fund of several hundred dollars for the aid of the new Czechoslovak republic has been raised in Linn county.

With exhibits far superior in quality to those of any previous show, the annual Western Oregon Corn Show was held in Eugene last week.

At a special school election, the taxpayers of St. Helens voted to build a new school house and to incur a bonded indebtedness of \$25,000 for that purpose.

The emergency board has created deficiency appropriations for the next legislature to take care of amounting to \$552,385, according to figures compiled by Secretary Olcott.

Spanish influenza has passed under the list of quarantinable diseases in Oregon as the result of action taken by the state board of health at its annual meeting, held in Salem.

The state convention of the Christian Endeavor society will be held in Albany in February. It is expected that about 800 delegates from all sections of the state will attend.

A shipment of 29,857 pounds of tow has been made by the board of control to a packing company at Philadelphia, the tow being from flax grown at the prison, and it commands a price of 25 cents a pound, or \$7964 for the shipment.

Children in the McAlpin school, several miles east of Salem, protested when their teacher pasted a picture of the ex-kaiser alongside that of President Wilson on the wall of the school-room, and as a result of the protest she resigned.

Without the slightest congestion in the movement of the Hood river valley apple crop of this year, a tonnage of almost 1100 carloads has been moved to points of distribution, with a more noticeable celerity than in the past seven years.

An eight-day open season for Chinese pheasants in Umatilla county will be sought by representatives of the Umatilla County Fish and Game club at a meeting in Portland this week. Shooters want at least two Sundays open on this game.

Prevalence of Spanish influenza in many parts of the state led the executive committee of the Oregon State Teachers' association to postpone indefinitely the general sessions of the convention set for Portland, December 26, 27 and 28.

C. A. Mofey, a rancher, age 40, shot and killed Alfred Schaefer, a neighbor, in a field near Schaefer's home, 40 miles from Heppner. Mofey then drove to Lexington and surrendered to a deputy sheriff. He said Schaefer had invaded his home.

To avoid the possibility of having to restore the influenza ban on public gatherings in Eugene, Mayor C. O. Peterson ordered that all cases of the disease must be quarantined and prohibited the holding of public or private dances until further notice.

Production of cheese handled by the Coos and Curry Counties Cheese association for this year up to November totaled 1,626,750 pounds, for which \$395,039.57 was paid to the dairymen. With two months remaining of the year the total production will probably exceed \$500,000.

U. S. Grant, of Dallas, one of the most prominent Angora goat breeders in the Pacific northwest, was re-elected president of the National Mohair Growers' association, in annual session at Phoenix, Ariz. Mr. Grant has held the presidency of the association for several years.

Out of 54,462 cases disposed of by the state industrial accident commission from July 1, 1914, to November 30, 1918, there were but 22 appeals by workmen from the decisions of the commission, or an average of one appeal in 2475 cases, according to a statement issued by the commission.

Damages to the amount of \$18,204.84 were awarded the government against Willard N. Jones by a jury in the federal court at Portland. The government sued to recover \$133,000, contending that the defendant had defrauded the government of timber claims to that value back in 1901.

Men who have attended the officers' training camps at the University of Oregon under the supervision of Colonel John Leader, late of the Royal Irish Rifles of the British army, will instruct the high school students of the state in military tactics and evolutions, according to announcement of Colonel Leader. Approximately 30 high schools have made arrangements for military training under this plan.