

THE INDEPENDENCE MONITOR

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CLYDE T. ECKER, Editor
NINA B. ECKER, Associate

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Independence, Oregon, Friday, January 11, 1918

The Independence Monitor insists that Bryan was merely ahead of his time and intimates that all that he advocated will come to pass in due course of time. As we remember it each time Bryan made his three trials for the presidency he had a paramount issue. In 1896 it was free silver; in 1900 it was anti-imperialism and in 1908 it was enforced insurance of bank deposits; no one of which was ever adopted.—Monmouth Herald.

The Monitor did not "intimate" what the Herald says it did. During the course of an editorial concerning a matter of which Bryan was not the subject we incidentally mentioned that all the principles advocated by Bryan in 1896 except bimetallism had been adopted by the American people which is true. Nothing was said about what he advocated at another time.

Deposits are indirectly guaranteed by national and state control of banks and today a number of states have bank guarantee laws.

The Insurance Federation of Oregon is to fight the "Non-Partisan League menace." When the League comes to Oregon if it ever does and beholds the character of the forces marshaled to oppose it heavy artillery may be left in the rear and pop guns used. Meanwhile, the people of Oregon are more concerned about the unfair insurance laws of the state.

Many patriotic folks have placed the charges of "treason" and "pro-Hun" against the famous Mr. Roosevelt for his constant fault finding with the conduct of the war. While believing that Roosevelt is just as loyal an American as the most of us, one cannot help but smile broadly for it is a matter of history that whenever the hero of Oyster Bay goes on a rampage and works himself into a frenzy he spurts verbal charges of "traitor" and "Hun" in every direction. Getting a few doses of his own medicine will never cure but it supplies some amusement for the onlooker.

COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

COMMUNITY ITEMS

Lela and Lula McComas, who spent a week of their vacation with their parents at Wierich, returned to their school in Albany Saturday.

Art Elkins moved his family to Salem last week where he has work.

Arthur Hale and family and Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Franklin spent Sunday at the F. L. Grounds home.

C. P. Wells and wife have moved to Salem for the winter to be near Mr. Wells' doctor.

Ed Harman, wife and daughter Blanche, spent Sunday in Suver at the Emil Gobat home.

Glady Reynolds and Alfred Loy returned to O. A. C. after spending the holidays with home folks.

Alma and Clifford Wells came home Saturday from Eastern Oregon where they spent the holidays with relatives and friends.

Ernest Moe returned to his home in McMinnville after visiting his mother who is very low at this writing.

Norman Tyler and W. J. Simmons transacted business in Independence Saturday.

Newt Prather and wife and

Jim Prather of Corvallis, transacted business in Salem Wednesday.

The Red Cross auxiliary has so far 80 members during the holiday drive and have done nearly 800 pieces of Red Cross work.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Lichty were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Chown.

Russians Wrecked Railroads.

The gauge of the Russian railroads is about one foot wider than that of the German railroads. Hence the Russians during their retreat after the battle of Tannenberg believed that the Germans would be unable to use their narrower gauge locomotives and cars on the Russian lines. The Germans, however, moved one of the rails a foot inside its former position. At the same time, they rutted the track for Russian use by sawing off the ties just outside the shifted rails. The Russians came back, and on their next retreat exploded a cartridge at each rail joint, smashing the joint and bending in the abutting rail ends so that cars could not pass. This involved for the Germans the huge task of bringing up new steel and relaying the entire track. The job was completed.

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TRICKSTERS DUPE ENGLISH RAILROADS

Show-Your-Ticket System Fails to Balk Crafty Brighton Travelers.

British railroad officials have had so many cases of passengers beating their way since the railroads were taken over by the government that the railroad executive instituted a rule that every passenger, whether commuter or otherwise, should produce his ticket on all occasions when passing the barrier. This action presented a great deal of legal business and stopped practically all fare jumping. Persons failing to produce their tickets had to pay whether they were the owners of a ticket or not, and the courts have maintained the action of the railroads even when the ticket had been produced in court. This system has up to the last few weeks worked satisfactorily, but the exodus of the foreign element from London to Brighton to avoid air-raid dangers has uncovered a system by which it could be beaten.

The London and Brighton railroad has a system by which it issues platform tickets to passengers wishing to see their friends off by train at a charge of two cents, and these charges being applicable to both the London and Brighton stations, the refugees from London have been working a scheme of buying a platform ticket, getting into the train and having a friend meet them on the platform of the station of their destination with a platform ticket bought at that end of the line.

In this way they have been traveling 50 miles by train for a total expenditure of four cents for platform tickets, while the single fare works out at \$1.50.

To cope with this evasion of fare the railroad company has now instituted a ticket collection at a station en route and the local court funds have been increased by an enormous sum in fines, penalties averaging \$10 being inflicted in all cases coming before the court.

KNIT IN WORKHOUSE

Many Men Sent There Are Forced to Labor.

Fourscore men are sitting in a long white-plastered room, working as many of them never expected to work. On their broad striped black-and-white knees each man holds some unaccustomed instrument. They are in the Stark county workhouse at Canton, O. Among the men in stripes are chicken thieves, wife deserters, habitual drunks, carriers of concealed weapons, assaulters and batterers of their fellow men (and women), and many other sorts of petty criminals. All of them are busy.

"Say, bo," inquires Shifty Sam Smith, as he handles one of his bone needles as though he were harpooning a fish, "ow in the 'ell do y' kni?"

"Ask me sumptin' easy, like crackin' a crib, or friskin' a rube or some other light work," replies Alabama Gus. "Wot I want to know is, does the Constitution of these here United States say a man can be sentenced to embroidery work if he only puts a man to sleep and cops his roll?"

"Their time might just as well be spent in knitting for the government as in any other way," Superintendent Boyer said. "They cannot fight for their country, but they can knit."

GIRL STEALS LONG RIDE

Travels All the Way From Birmingham, Ala., to Chicago.

Ethelyn McCord, nineteen years of age, "Countess of the Road," has arrived in Chicago from Birmingham, Ala., in an express car. She said she had worked as a newspaper reporter on Gadsden and Birmingham, Ala., papers and was looking for newspaper work in Chicago.

Miss McCord managed to keep her presence unknown until 42 miles out, when she simply "had to laugh" at a funny story one of the messengers related. When she told them how far she had "got away with it" they took her to the dining car for refreshments. She said she had been very thirsty, but not especially hungry and had slept little because the floor was too hard.

SUBSTITUTE FOR COTTON

Denver Man Finds Use for Common Wild Flower.

A wild flower, grown in practically all sections of the country, will be the means of supplying munitions manufacturers with sufficient "gun-cotton" to keep Uncle Sam and his allies well equipped with fighting materials, according to Charles Gourd, a Denver inventor, and Beau Brummels need have no fear of a shortage in raw material for the making of men's clothing.

Gourd says he has discovered that the wild flower known to youths all over the land as "cat-tails" has a bulb containing nearly a pint of silklite floss that can be substituted for gun-cotton in the manufacture of ammunition, thus allowing the entire cotton crop to be used in the manufacture of clothing.

She Has 187 Descendants.
Mrs. M. A. West, eighty-six years old, of Salt Lake City, became great-grandmother to her one-hundred and eighty-seventh descendant, when her grandson, A. Denny, Jr., became the father of a bouncing baby boy. The baby and mother are reported doing well.

SACRIFICES OF ARMY DOCTOR

Home Practice and Other Advantages Relinquished to Serve Country During the War.

One-fifth of the total number of physicians in the United States will have to enroll for military duty if this war continues for another year, observes Leslie's Weekly. All but a small percentage of them must enroll voluntarily. All but a small percentage of them have families to support and these and others are wholly dependent on the income of the head of the house for this support. The physician from 35 to 45 years of age, the age of greatest usefulness for military service, is at that critical period of his professional and financial development that two years of forced absence is liable to affect disastrously his whole career.

The change means, if there is no independent income, sacrificing of insurance, lapsing of the mortgage, withdrawing of children from school, a complete change of method of living, and great risk of returning after the war with a lucrative practice divided among the stay-at-homes. A law has recently been introduced in the senate by Senator Owen which provides an increased rank for medical officers of the reserve corps, that will in some way meet the financial burden of the volunteer doctor and will furnish him a rank equal to the dignity of his civil position.

Measuring Time.

The refinements of modern time-keeping are illustrated in an investigation recently carried out by F. D. Urie, under the direction of the United States naval observatory, to determine the "lag" between the Arlington and Great Lakes time signals, both of which are received by wire from the naval observatory and converted automatically into wireless signals. Between Washington and the Great Lakes station there are 800 miles of telegraph wire, involving several make-circuit relays. The lag between the two radio stations was found by a series of tests to average 0.085 second, with a probable error of 0.002 second, says the Scientific American.

Lafayette Flying Corps.

Considerable confusion exists in the minds of many persons about the difference between the Lafayette Escadrille and the Lafayette Flying corps.

This famous aeronautic body was the Section d'Aviation of the Legion Etrangere in the early days of the war. To mark the number of Americans who were sharing the dangers and victories the name was changed to the Franco-American Flying corps. But as the United States was not then at war with Germany complaint was made that this was a breach of neutrality.

To avoid giving offense the name was changed to the Lafayette Flying corps, which is the present official designation.

Fewer Horses.

Despite the growth in population and increased areas under cultivation, the horse population of Los Angeles county, California, is now less than one-half as much as in 1900. The automobiles and motortrucks have increased from 6 to 79,146. The 47,000 horses in the county in 1900 were valued at \$5,000,000. In 1910 the drop in number was to 31,000 and in the ensuing six years to 20,000. The present automobile valuation is nearly \$100,000,000. Excellent road conditions are considered largely responsible for the above figures.

Americans Train in Italy.

Near a small town in Italy a handful of Americans are training for aviation service.

The Giornale d'Italia says they already have acquired a practical knowledge of piloting and that they have given proof of their perfect discipline and seriousness of purpose. Their instructors have expressed the greatest satisfaction with their work.

The inhabitants of the town came out in crowds on their arrival to welcome the allies who had crossed the ocean from the country to which so many Italians had emigrated. They displayed the greatest curiosity in watching the Americans in their leisure hours playing tennis and baseball, which are unknown in that part of Italy.



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