

THE INDEPENDENCE MONITOR

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published Weekly at Independence, Polk County, Oregon, on Friday.

Entered as Second Class Matter August 1, 1912 at the Post Office at Independence, Polk County, Oregon, Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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

Subscription Rates: One Year \$1.00 Strictly in Advance
ADVERTISING RATES: 15c. per inch for one insertion, 12 1/2c. for two or more insertions, 10c. on monthly contracts. Readers, 5 and 10c. per line

Independence, Oregon, Friday, January 18, 1918



MAE MARSH
Goldwyn Pictures

This popular screen star appears as leading lady in "Sunshine Alley" which comes to the Isis next week, Wednesday and Thursday nights.

HOW MATCH FIGURES IN WAR

Scarcity of Brimstone-Headed Sticks
Results in Special Controller Being Named in England.

No commodity has had more adventures than the match. The announcement of the appointment of a special controller all to itself is a fitting climax to a checked history, says the Manchester Guardian. In the memory of our grandparents the cumbersome "Promethians" that sought to displace flint and steel were a high-priced luxury impossible to the poor.

In the memory of our fathers Henry George, for one, condemned the match as one of the articles that were "too cheap." He had in mind, of course, the sweating and the poisoning of workers that for too long went to the making of cheap matches.

Yet the popular insistence on cheap matches turned out of office a British chancellor of the exchequer and earned an immortal epigram; and the superiority of the matches that can normally be bought in this country over the flimsy, lifeless, expensive stuff sold across the channel under government control has given the free-trader one of his most homely and incontestable arguments. The British match must now suffer control.

Such matches as there are will be fairly apportioned at fixed prices. We do not doubt that there will be enough to go round, for, faced with a famine in some districts and with loose matches at 30 for a penny in others, people have already begun to make that economy in consumption which, with no greater sacrifice than a little care, might easily save a half of the matches burned.

MAY USE CONVICTS TO MAKE WAR SUPPLIES

Georgia Senator Has Proposition to Equip Federal Prisons for Munitions Work.

Great Britain and Canada have already employed convict labor to manufacture war supplies. And now Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia proposes that the same thing be done in this country.

His idea is to equip federal prisons with necessary manufacturing machinery and utilize the prisoners to turn out the finished product. Other non-convict prisoners may participate.

The introduction of the prison labor bill is the result of co-operation of the American Federation of Labor, the department of labor, the committee on prisons and prison labor. "It," so a statement says, "marks the taking of a

new trench in the fight against the exploitation of the prisoner and free labor, in addition to freeing his labor for war work."

At its last session congress appropriated money for shops at Atlanta, Fort Leavenworth and McNeill Island penitentiaries. This development was approved by the officers of the American Federation of Labor, which is now pressing the nation-wide extension of the state-use system. If this is done, the federal government can increase the nation's productivity, economize for insufficient labor power and benefit the prisoner and the free working-man.

The bill authorizes the secretary of war and the secretary of the navy to employ military prisoners in the manufacture of war supplies and in the construction of military roads. Army prisoners are already used on road work within National army cantonments. The bill would make possible their use on roads leading to the cantonments.

In many instances the lack of good road connections with the railroads and main highways makes transportation of food and supplies a matter of considerable difficulty in bad weather.

SMALL, BUT A SCRAPPER

Major Bishop Has Been in 110 Air Battles.

Major W. A. Bishop is only twenty-three years old and five feet five inches tall, but—

He has been in 110 air battles in France, shot down 37 Hun airplanes, battled single-handed with four enemy airplanes simultaneously, wrecked three of them, and has been wounded only once.

For which accomplishments he now wears the Victoria cross, Distinguished Service order and the British Military cross. He was in action only five months.

Now he is at the United States Aviation school near Dayton, teaching aerial gunnery to American air cadets.

BRITISH SCULPTORS WORK

Aid in Manufacture of Splints for Wounded Soldiers.

Several prominent British sculptors are among the voluntary workers at a new war factory just opened in London to provide special splints and similar devices for injured soldiers.

The splints are made chiefly of waterproofed papier mache from plaster casts taken from the patients themselves and are light as air and perfectly fitting as compared with the old wood and leather splints.

In the surgical department voluntary women workers under the guidance of professional band makers will turn out bandages and metal reinforced boots for convalescents.

An Invitation to Tea

by SADIE O. COTT

Wilhelmina was her name, and she was called Billie for short. Her name was not the only thing about her that resembled a boy. She was often to sports, rode on horseback astride before other girls got as far as divided skirts, her own costume being a pair of baggy breeches. She was the best chauffeur in the county and ran her own machine without regard to speed limits.

Her older sister, Amelia, was her opposite. Amelia was dignified and was never known to do anything that was not eminently proper. She was engaged to a young lawyer, Ralph Perkins, whose clerical bearing marked him rather for a clergyman than an attorney. Amelia's father, Mr. Rowley, was somewhat opposed to the match because of Perkins' want of fortune, but he had no idea of forbidding it.

Among Billie's idiosyncrasies was a love for practical jokes. This was her greatest real fault. Practical jokes are a burden on society, and the only thing that kept Billie popular in spite of this propensity was that she was in every other respect fascinating.

"Papa," she said one morning, "I have come to a knowledge of something that will pain you very much."

"What is it, sweetheart?"

"Amelia is very untruthful. She is going to disregard your wishes respecting Ralph Perkins. She's going to marry him despite your objections to the match."

"She doesn't need to do that. I have never refused my consent to it."

"Nevertheless she's going to do it. This afternoon Ralph is coming to take her to ride in his new car. They're going to stop at St. James' rectory and be married."

"You don't mean it?"

"Yes, I do. Now, I have a scheme that should make the affair a very pleasant one. Let's you and I and mamma follow them in my car and be present at the ceremony."

That same afternoon Perkins and Amelia started on their ride. They had no intention of being married, but they were intending to take afternoon tea with Mrs. Hardesty, the wife of the rector of St. James' church, having received an invitation to that effect. True, the invitation had been forged by Billie, but the lovers didn't know that and so it didn't deter them.

A second car containing Mr. and Mrs. Rowley and Billie left the house shortly after the couple's departure and kept them in sight until they reached the rectory. The lovers were admitted by a maid, and since they came by invitation, went in without asking for Mrs. Hardesty. The lady was not at home. Mr. Hardesty was in the study and on being told that Perkins and Miss Rowley had called went in to see what he could do for them.

He had scarcely entered the room when there was a ring at the doorbell and the balance of the Rowley family entered.

There was surprise all round. "Amelia," said her father, "you have been very much in error in supposing that it was necessary for you to marry despite my consent. I am ready to give you away and have provided your dowry."

"Father," cried the astonished girl, "I didn't come here to be married. I came on invitation of Mrs. Hardesty to take afternoon tea."

At this Mr. Hardesty took an interest in the proceedings. He said there must be some mistake, since his wife had gone out and would not be back till dinner time.

"Well," drawled Billie, "since you're here, why not get married and have done with it?"

Mr. Rowley, well knowing Billie's propensity for practical joking, looked at her searchingly. She looked very innocent, but did not deceive him. He insisted between giving her a severe reprimand and helping her through with her scheme.

Mrs. Rowley looked much perturbed and arose to go. She was not convinced that Amelia was not deceiving them.

"There seems to have been some mistake," said Mr. Rowley, "but since we are all here, ready for a wedding if you two—referring to the lovers—choose to get speeded, I have no objection. This episode is bound to be known and will excite much talk. If it is given out that the wedding was expected by the family, it will be passed off with no special comment. If, on the contrary, it becomes known that it is the ridiculous affair it is we will all be the laughing stock of the town."

"I agree with Mr. Rowley," said Perkins. "I think we had better have it over with now and here. A formal wedding would be a bore to me."

"But it wouldn't be a bore to me," mused Amelia.

"I have a house ready for you," put in Mr. Rowley, "and I have brought the rest of your dowry," producing a check for \$10,000.

The groom, Mr. Rowley and Billie all surrounded Amelia and in time brought her round to immediate nuptials. The ceremony was performed, and the wedding party drove to the house Mr. Rowley had provided for his daughter. It was a grateful surprise to her, since she had believed that, her father being opposed to her marriage with Perkins, she would get nothing from him.

"I wonder," said Billie, "how came that invitation to afternoon tea?"

Her father cast a reproving glance at her.

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 its 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 300 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 0.0085 second, with a probable error of 0.0002 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 vicissitudes 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 79,145. 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.

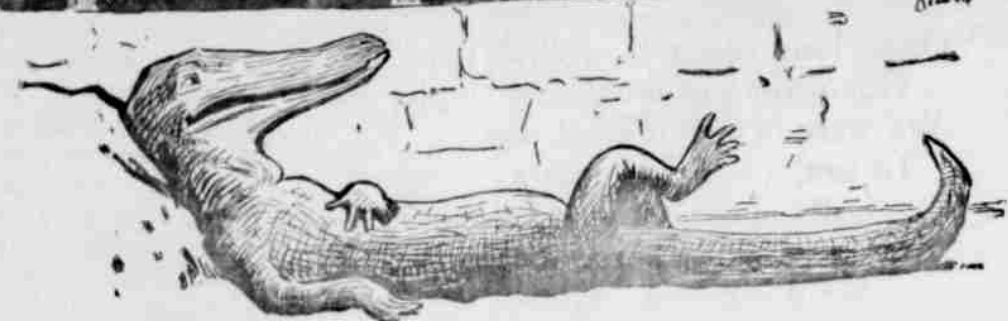
Near a small town in Italy a handful of Americans are training for aviation services.

The Giannini 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.



LOOK AT THE GRIN ON HIM! BUT I'LL STAY ON THIS SIDE OF THE WALL WHILE YOU READ THE GOOD NEWS ON THAT BILLBOARD.



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Expect New Comet.

A spectacle in the sidereal heavens of surpassing brilliancy may be expected the coming spring if the predictions of cometary observers are verified. Not since the great comet of 1858, which aroused a vast deal of interest, has an appearance in the sky appeared what is confidently expected for 1918. The return of Halley's comet in 1910, which had anxiously been awaited, did not come up to what had been predicted and expected, and since 1882 there has not been any cometary brilliancy seen. The new comet is described as a gigantic comet, outshining in size and brilliancy all those seen in modern times. It will be a thing of glory in the northern sky throughout the spring, as it sweeps across the heavens, reaching its perihelion in April. It is now speeding toward the sun at an approximate rate of 3,500,000 miles a day.

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