

The Ontario Argus

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THE AFTERMATH.

Election is over, and while this is written, (Wednesday afternoon) the national results so far as the Senate is concerned are still in doubt, with each of the great parties claiming victory. The House of Representatives, however, seems to be Republican by a safe margin, the total Republican vote in that body being 219, with several contests still in doubt.

Oregon again went Republican electing United States Senators, Congressmen, as well as the State ticket complete by large majorities.

In the County the Democratic party has its measures of victory. E. H. Test was returned a winner by a large majority over Judge McKnight.

It is also apparent that the voters declined to fall for C. M. Crandall's appeal for democratic votes, while his attempts to back into the race after his defeat in the primary was substantially repudiated. That is sufficient.

Even tho the Senate may not be won by the Republicans it is apparent the President's appeal for a Democratic congress served to send many voters to the polls that otherwise might have remained at home. Whether his message was the big factor in the result is a matter on which opinions differ.

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MONUMENTS FOR THE HEROES

Already a movement has been started for the erection of monuments for the brave men living and dead who have and are still fighting to make the world a safe place in which free men and women can live. No marble or granite pillars will suffice to record their imperishable valor, or fittingly mark the honor in which they are held by their fellow citizens. That honor must be held sacred within the hearts of all the people and recorded in the histories to be taught the children of the present and of the future generations.

But beside this, plans are being formed and discussed in Eastern cities for the erection in every city and hamlet of the land, civic buildings of appropriate designs to commemorate the sacrifices of the men of that community to freedom's cause. These buildings are called: "Liberty Buildings", and the suggestions concerning them in the following editorial in "The American City" is worthy of consideration in every community:

"The war has speeded human progress in many ways. Let it establish yet another precedent. Let our memorials of this conflict be structures which shall help the living while commemorating the dead. Let us begin in every community the making of plans for neighborhood houses, to be known as Liberty Buildings, in honor of our fellow townsmen who shall have served upon the land or sea or in air in this war against tyranny.

"Some day the strife will end in victory to which men from our own community shall have contributed. When that day comes let us all be ready in every municipality, with our money pledged, or perhaps already paid in Liberty Bonds; with our building plans completed; with an option on the site—if not already donated by the public-spirited owner; and with an organization already formed to administer the new community home when built.

"Let us plan our Liberty Building on no niggardly scale. The war has shown that the American people will give lavishly for a great cause. Let us determine the needs of our own community and plan accordingly, including such facilities for recreation, culture, fellowship and public service as a practical idealism may suggest. If we live in a large city, several such buildings may be needed; if in a village, one will suffice.

"Let the erection of these Liberty Buildings be begun at such time as may best help to tide over, in some measure, the period of readjustment when our returning soldiers or our industrial workers shall be in need of employment. And finally, in planning, financing and administration, let us make every possible use of existing commercial and civic bodies, and of the many war service organizations which have been the medium of patriotic effort in these days

of strife. For if, when the war shall end, we of America can turn to constructive works of peace our new spirit and energy of public service, we shall have achieved Liberty and Democracy indeed."

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THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

Peace has not been declared, nor does any man know when that great event will be consummated, but one can see in the elimination of Bulgaria, Turkey and Austria, the dissolution of the central powers and their effective continuation of the struggle.

But even if a ray of hope is manifested this is not the time to abate in the slightest any of the work that is being done to hasten the end. The armies of the allies are still fighting; the government has called out for more than a quarter million additional men for November alone. The battle is still on.

There are those who see in the elimination of her allies greater strength for Germany proper. They argue that their removal from the struggle is to her like the casting off of ballast from a sinking ship. They point out that in every campaign, in which Bulgaria, Turkey or Austria took a major part, Germany it was who supplied the needed men and leaders to make them successful. That, therefore, with the necessity of furnishing men in the near East and in Italy to aid the Austrians removed, she will be able to concentrate her power at home for a defensive fight. Such a fight, within compacted areas she will be able to continue the struggle for years.

Of course such an argument is one-sided. While Germany is withdrawing within her borders, the allies too will be concentrating against her. They too will have no need for scattering their armies over the face of Europe. The manpower they can now assemble on the Western front, and on the reconstructed Eastern front, will more than overwhelm the Kaiser and his fast disintegrating war machine.

Germany will no longer secure grain and oil from Rumania, the coal and iron fields of France and Belgium will cease to contribute essential materials for munitions, and Germany will be surrounded by an iron ring she cannot break.

The elements that America has thrown into the struggle have been decisive. Through four long years our allies have battled the German beast while he retained his strength and was at the zenith of his power. That power is waning now, and it needs but the continued exercise of the pressure of all the allied nations to break it completely.

The morale of the allied armies is higher today than ever before. It has been kept there by the continued and never faltering assistance of the men and women at home thru the seven great war organizations. This week and next we are called to make possible the continuance of their efforts. Let that response be wholehearted and complete. Our giving is but little compared with what the men are doing, and that little should be performed promptly and without stint.

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WHY THE DIFFERENCE?

The Boise Capital News in a recent issue printed a Washington dispatch to the effect that the government is contemplating the reclamation of all the irrigable land in Idaho on both sides of the Snake river from Mountain Home West and Northwest embracing practically one million acres.

There is justice and good common sense in the government's effort to thus provide for the soldiers who are fighting for democracy, but does it not seem strange to Oregonians that one never hears from Washington reports of similar projects in this state? Here too we have millions of acres of government land capable of raising immense crops when irrigated, in a climate that is as favorable as that of any section of the West.

Somehow, the Oregon thru the sale of government lands, contributed millions to the reclamation fund, more than has been returned to it, the discrimination continues, and other states are benefiting at Oregon's expense. Why this is true ought to be explained. Oregonians would like to know.

Someday, after all the other states have their available projects on the way toward completion perhaps Oregon will receive recognition. In the meantime those who look for the development of the West and of the Snake river valley in particular can rejoice that the big Idaho project is to get started. If the reclamation service will continue far enough down both sides of the Snake river, perhaps, just perhaps, the Owyhee project might be included and a portion of Oregon will be benefited thereby.



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