

## PORTLAND'S OPPORTUNITY TO WIN IN SHIPPING NEGLECTED

Portland is building ships, many ships, but no cargo is provided for them when they are ready to sail for Europe or the Atlantic Coast as the case may be. The new ships leave Portland without cargo, and in most cases go to Seattle and take on food and war supplies. The question is frequently asked why Portland does not provide cargo for Portland-constructed ships, when the city is the natural center for food supplies.

The question of cargo gathering at Portland has been before the East Side Business Men's Club, and a committee consisting of Dr. A. M. Webster, L. M. Lepper and H. H. Newhall, made a study of conditions prevailing. The committee's report follows, in part:

"At the time this committee was appointed a rumor was abroad that newly built ships were being sent to Seattle in ballast and then loaded with cargo which had been shipped by rail from this city. Since that time early in October this rumor has been confirmed and it is generally known to those who take an interest in maritime affairs that this state of affairs exists.

"Up to the time this committee was appointed there was every evidence that the men who should be leaders in developing this port were asleep. Early in November the chairman of this committee wrote a letter to the Oregonian calling attention to the apparently dreamless sleep of our leaders and suggesting that they be aroused and that action be taken to secure for Portland the maritime commerce easily within reach. This letter was published in the Oregonian. About this time the Journal woke up and bluntly but clearly stated the situation. The Realty Board woke up about the same time and had a series of addresses on the subject of Port Development. Even the Oregonian published a very able editorial on "How to bring back commerce." All of these writers and speakers overlooked the most obvious and immediately practical step, viz., that ships built here must be sent out with cargo, not in ballast.

"Blunt as this statement is it is true. However rightly we are entitled to rate advantages over Puget Sound, we should quit waiting for a favorable rate adjustment and get busy as best we can under the present rate arrangement.

"1. It has been publicly shown in the last few weeks that the railroads are ready and willing to transfer their freight from car to ship at Portland, if Portland will see that ships are here and provide facilities for expeditiously loading and unloading.

"2. Portland's overseas commerce depends on the activity of Portland interests and we should not blame our rivals for our own inertia.

### GERMANY'S FINANCES.

From the beginning of the war economists have wondered what would be the effect on the distribution of wealth of a virtual cessation of productive industry in Europe, the sinking of capital and labor in instruments of destruction, and the loss of thousands of workers on the battlefield. Would the final enormous loss fall on the rich or the poor or on both? There can be no question that for at least three years no addition has been made to wealth in Germany, although her cities have not been subject to the destruction of war, says Hartford Times. She has been running on credit, hoping to make France pay. She has sold no goods abroad. Her income from foreign nations has been what she could steal in Antwerp and Liege. How is she coming out? The figures of the taxation office in Prussia go to show that there has been a considerable increase in large incomes and a shrinkage of small ones. There has also been a great deal of profiteering, notwithstanding the boast that there is no graft in Germany. Krupp's Steel company has profited greatly. The Daimler company has been receiving \$1,500 for motors that cost \$500. This

"3. Portland must secure ships—must provide ample terminals, coal bunkers, and ample towage facilities or we can hope for no further help from Congress.

"4. We must all pull together to secure a maritime flavor in the atmosphere of this city's business—people must become interested in and ardent for overseas-commerce.

"5. Portland tributary territory must not continue to suffer the loss due to the 15c differential on wheat or any other products. But these things cannot be done by being coyotes. The coyote sits down on his haunches and howls. That is what Portland has been doing every time we discovered that some other city was getting pie that was not passed to us.

"We have the river deep enough for all the traffic that moves through Puget Sound. The Columbia bar has gone forever like the other bars that disappeared nearly two years ago. But we have not the steamship lines that we must have.

"Everybody get out and hustle for steamship lines and all their adjuncts. Get busy, get ready, get ships. That should be Portland's slogan. That is the big thing to do next in Portland. We should have our representatives and boosters in official positions in Washington, D. C. We should have municipal ownership of the waterfront.

"In this connection, some things have already been accomplished. Notably, the shipping board has given permission to try out the new steamer Landas in the Columbia River. We hope all the steamers launched here will be tried out here, henceforth, but we should not stop at hoping. Pressure should be brought to bear on the Shipping Board to such an extent that any other course will not be thought of.

"The co-operation of the railroads in building up the port has been openly promised.

"A tug boat is to be provided by the port.

"Ships may be equipped with engines here if Portland meets the requirements.

"On November 30 the President of the Chamber of Commerce made a notable address before the Realty Board on this subject. He declared frankly that one of the greatest obstacles to port and commercial development here is the apathy and lack of unity of the people.

"We cannot hope to secure shipping lines permanently here unless we can get the whole business public into line to pull strongly all together and all the time for Portland as a seaport.

"It is up to every man in this club to do not merely his bit, but all he can in every way to back every move that can possibly promote overseas commerce."

is almost exactly the percentage made by the Tweed grafters.

The decision of Provost Marshal General Crowder that newspaper employees, no matter what position they occupy, are not entitled to deferred classification in the draft will make very little difference with newspaper men, for probably there is not a large newspaper office in the country which has not already representatives in the army or navy or both, says Milwaukee Wisconsin. Newspaper men as a class are not slackers and never were. Newspaper offices were among the first places in America after the New England cotton mills, to offer occupation for women outside of housework and school teaching, the reason being that at the time of the Civil war so many of the employees of the newspapers became volunteer soldiers in the Army of the Union.

The German newspapers complain that President Wilson and the American press "have adopted every conceivable means to hinder the German government and to spread propaganda in Germany." Is it strange that they should be indignant?

### TRUE FRATERNIZATION.

Ever since the beginning of the war there has been genuine sympathy and complete understanding between the French and British on the western battle front. The French and British armies have remained separate, but they have co-operated whenever possible, and the men of the two nations have fraternized whenever opportunity offered. Now there is a new spirit. Instead of giving aid to each other, the armies of the two nations have become one army. Instead of fraternizing behind the battle lines the Poilus and Tommies are fraternizing in the front line trenches amid the roaring avalanche of the Hun's bombardment, says Cleveland Plain Dealer. Not as friends, not as comrades, but actually as brothers and trenchmates the men of the two nations which two decades ago still cherished their traditional animosities are working and fighting for the salvation of the world. When the French soldiers dashed forward at Kemmel and Belleu to take their places beside the weary Englishmen the last ghost of the age-old Franco-British hostility was laid and the two great democracies came to a full realization of the unity of liberty.

Undoubtedly what was begun in the direction of farming in the backyard during the first year of this country's participation in the war will go forward with increased momentum. The United States department of agriculture estimates that the value of the product of home gardens in 1917 exceeded \$350,000,000. Against this it has been estimated that as much as \$400,000 was wasted to seeds through poor judgment. Two hundred thousand of this can be attributed to planting too thickly, \$150,000 to improper preparation of soil, and \$50,000 to lack of thought as to the time it takes a vegetable to mature. Experience teaches. The people who go in for raising their own vegetables will profit from what they have "learned by doing."

This war has done one thing: It has made farming one of the most dignified callings a man can engage in. There was a time when many looked on the cultivator of the soil as "a mere hayseed," not worthy of being considered seriously in the economics of the nation, but that day has passed. Today everybody is appealing to the farmer to come to the rescue of the nation by helping to produce something to eat so that we can win the war. The day is not far distant when the "man who makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before" will be looked up to as one of the princes of the land.

The emptiness of Germany's U-boat boasts are well evidenced by the fact that up to date she has not sunk one American transport despite her keen vigilance for such a marine triumph. Under the circumstances Uncle Sam can feel optimistic for the time is fast approaching when the submarine will no longer be considered a grave menace. We have the remedy and will apply it soon.

It is all right for our American poets to hatch out those fervid rhythmic tributes to France. France deserves everything of that kind that can be extracted from the souls of poets. But it is important not to forget to rush the fighting men, the munitions and the victuals—these being what France is needing a little more than poetry at this juncture.

America may continue to be the melting pot after the war, but she is going to see that hereafter nothing but malleable stuff goes into the melting pot. Some of our beautiful theories about being the haven for the oppressed of all nations we have found to be rot and nonsense.

The latest invention in England is potato butter, made by incorporating fourteen ounces of potato with two ounces of oleomargarine. This gives a notion of what war economy really means long before a country reaches the stage of privation.

Write to your Sammy today. It is possible that he has a choice bit of news of your neighborhood that he would be glad to exchange for something interesting concerning the progress of the war.

An American war prisoner writing home tells of the good-natured people who have captured him. Evidently the Hun censorship is strictly on the job, also Hun persuasion as first aid in letter writing.

Eggs have dropped to a point where the old team of ham and eggs might be possible if similar action occurred on the part of the other half of the sketch.

Queen Mary has used the back of an American sergeant for a writing desk. That's one perfectly fine desk that didn't have a solid mahogany top.

Judging from the advance orders the coal dealer already has to fill the man who has waited until now to buy his next winter's coal is late.

### UNUSED WATER POWER.

If half the energy that has been put into fighting over the terra on which the water powers in the public domain of this country should be developed had been devoted to developing these water powers, the country would now be getting great benefit from them. While the quarrel about how these water powers are to be utilized has been going on vigorously and often venomously, the water powers have been going to waste and the country's need of them has been increasing every day, says Duluth Herald. They are going to waste today, and yet the nation's war work could be enormously expedited if it had the advantage of this cheap power now running uselessly away. These water powers should be developed as speedily as possible. That does not mean that they should be thrown wide open to profiteers, as we did with the coal and oil and mineral and timber wealth of the country, to our bitter cost. That should never happen again. These water powers should never be altered from public possession and public control. They should be leased on terms that will offer capital the incentive needed to arouse its interest, but that will leave rates, service and profits under government control in the public interest. Congress ought, early in this session, to enact a water power development law that will, while fully preserving the public interest, offer ample returns to private capital that is willing to enlist in the public service at fair pay.

There is a happy medium between no work at all for women on the farm and the heavy, exhausting labor for which many American women are not fit. We have not developed here the stolidity and solidity of physique that are often found among the peasant womanhood of Europe. At this time American women long to be patriotically useful instead of socially futile. Therefore the question of employment on the farms in the ordinary work of men is one that increasingly concerns them. Most of them would willingly go further, and undertake even such arduous labor as that of following the plow; but certainly it would not be good for them. There are public institutions in this state where the outdoor work is done by the women, except the plowing. More of them will come to such labor as time passes and the war more generally engages the male farmhands.

Finding that they have been outplayed at their own game of poison gas the Germans are now trying, under cover of neutral mediation, to induce all the fighting nations to discontinue its use. If the allies refuse the Huns will try to put upon them the onus of this violation of all laws of civilized warfare, which they themselves are willing to give up only because they are getting too strong a dose of their own medicine.

Sometimes a man will tell you he hates a liar above all other creatures in the world. Then you tell him that you think he is by long odds the wisest citizen of the town and the most useful. He will not only love you, but he will begin to wonder why he had never before noticed what a discerning person you are.

If by the time a man is sixty years old he has tamed himself to the point where he can get along with a personal pronoun less than fourteen hands high, we suppose he is doing pretty well in this day when a man who is willing to walk down town unaccompanied by a brass band is considered modest.

An American visiting some United States troops in France recently was mystified by the signature of one who added F. A. H. to his name. However, the young soldier explained that these letters stand for "First Americans Here." These initials in themselves are decoration enough for any man.

According to statistics of the federal trade commission men's straw hats should be cheaper this year than for some time. It might be well to paste this in your hat and watch it as another prediction destined to go wrong.

The remarks of Attorney General Gregory concerning an exaggerated impression of alien enemy activities may have been intended to check the over-zealousness of people who neglect regular work to be amateur detectives.

It is said a button famine is threatened. Come to think of it, not half of the buttons are used to button anything with. Just so we have the buttonholes for the accommodation of the pests it will be all right.

The German people have lost 5,000,000 sons since their emperor plunged them into war, says an exchange. They still have the kaiser's six sons to comfort them in their grief.

If the American soldiers choose to be called "Buddies" rather than Sammys or something else, that is what they will be called.

## U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE HOW TO CAN PLUMS

Select sound, uniform plums. Prick each with needle to prevent bursting. Pack as firmly into jars as possible without crushing. Fill jar with hot sirup made by boiling five pounds and eight ounces of sugar and one gallon of water for five minutes, and straining. (Plain boiling water or honey may be used instead of sugar sirup.) Partially seal jars; boil (process) quarts for 15 minutes. Remove, seal air-tight and, when cold, test for leaks. Store in a cool, dark, dry place.—United States Department of Agriculture.

The suggestion to round up the idlers, loafers and sissies and draft them in the army is not acceptable. It is a serious war the country is engaged in, and it takes real men to fight it.

Children should be seen and not heard, according to the old saw, but patriotic parents will be careful that their young hopefuls are neither seen nor heard romping over the war garden.

What has become of the old-fashioned pacifist who used to worry because the British navy was preventing us from sending milk to those "starving German babies?"

A cable from Paris says the French admire the Yankee troops. If they admire our boys as much as we admire the French then the Yankees will have to wear their gas masks to keep off the masculine kisses.

A Prussian member of the reichstag says that America will be forced to pay 100,000,000,000 marks indemnity. Those Prussians should wait until they collect it before they start spending any of that coin.

The newspapers are full of advice on how to keep well. What some of the slackers trying to evade conscription would like to know is how to keep sick.

So far as that is concerned, the rule is that the man who gives his sons for his country gives his money, too. It is the old coin-compressor without sons or patriotism who clutches his stuff as if he expected to be buried with it.

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## 'OLD GLORY' FLIES ON GERMAN SOIL



Here is an American commander in Alsace accompanying a French general in his review of a Yankee contingent billeted in a town where the trench line in the Vosges has invaded territory under the German flag when the war began.

Fourth Liberty Loan bonds will help remove the Boche from Alsace and Lorraine as well as from ravished Belgium.