

Mt. Scott Herald

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This paper has enlisted with the government in the cause of America for the period of the war.....

CLERGYMEN REMADE.

Announcement that the army is still in need of chaplains carries its element of surprise. One would imagine that the service would be irresistible, particularly to the young man who has just completed his studies for the ministry. There is an experience to be had in the work that cannot be duplicated elsewhere. The physician and surgeon find it so and it is just as true of the clergyman. Nowhere else can there be such constant brotherly contact between the teacher of morals and religion and his flock. Mutual reliance and understanding between minister and the male members of his congregation are in many, many instances never acquired, says Portland Oregonian. The men may admire his eloquence, his learning, his moral character and his earnestness, but when he steps down from the pulpit and attempts to talk to them of things not connected with church or gospel, they find him rapid and uninteresting. Why this is true need not be gone into here, but we think that the more successful clergymen recognize that their best work is not all done in the pulpit. And the successful clergyman is one who has, along with learning and eloquence, an agreeable approach and comradely ways.

In the early days of quartz gold mining there ran through the mills countless tons of powdered quartz carrying from 10 to 20 per cent of the original gold contents. This waste was deposited in creek bottoms or in dumps by the water which carried it from the mills, but later was worked over by more thrifty methods and yielded millions on the yellow metal. It has taken longer to recognize the value of a similar waste in coal mining, but now the hills of dust, the creek bottoms thick with black mud—nearly pure coal—are being thrifflily rescued. It has taken a war to teach us thrift, but in time the money cost of the war will be returned to us by our practice of hundreds of war-taught methods of saving.

The Pennsylvania railroad in June found places for 1,148 more women employees on its lines east of Pittsburgh. This addition makes the number of the road's women employees in non-office positions 8,354. This is remarkable progress toward feminizing the great railroad; but feminization nowadays, in view of woman's proved capacity for man's work, does not carry the old signification of the term.

Lord Northcliffe, in an article in the Petit Parisien, says: "I have lived both in Germany and the United States, and I believe that America alone could beat the Germans." And there are about 100,000,000 Americans who agree with this estimate of their fighting capacity, once they get started fairly.

The announcement that three American army corps of 250,000 each have been organized may inspire further levity in the German press, but there they are, and more Americans are arriving in a constant stream. The Von Ardennes and similar writers may falsify but they cannot change the facts.

The American sense of fair play is shown in the cable of General Pershing denying some wild tales of German cruelty said to be told over here in a returned soldier's recruiting speeches. The German command would, in the opposite case, gladly have seized on such tales for the purpose of exploitation.

We can tell by the shape of the shoes the American girls wear that it would not be practical for them to go barefooted this summer to serve their country, as the German girls are asked to do. It would be a desperate condition that would make a girl willing to show the shape of her feet after a year or so of fashionable footwear.

Exchange remarks profoundly that the way to get \$12,000,000,000 for war costs "is to tax wealth." And when you come to think of it how in Sam Hill could it be got by taxing poverty?

LUMINOUS PAINT IN WARFARE.

Many ingenious uses have been found of late for luminous paint. Watches with dials which glow in the darkness are becoming common, and only the other day an order was given for 100,000 marching compasses with luminous needles to be carried by soldiers at the front, says Boys' Life. Immense quantities of luminous cloth are used by the soldiers who go over the top. It is cut into small rectangles about ten inches long and fastened to the collar of the uniforms. The soldiers can thus recognize their own men in an indiscriminate fight in the dark. The luminous paint is also smeared on the ends of sharpened sticks which when stuck into the ground make a fairly clear beacon. Luminous tape is also used by the mile for a variety of purposes. In this way the stretcher-bearers mark the paths they are to follow. It has been found that on a dark night the luminous paint is visible for only 60 feet. A soldier can dip his hand in the paint and signal by describing letters in the air or by wig-wagging, knowing that the enemy cannot see him a hundred feet away.

Not long ago a jury in San Francisco found a man guilty of murder and recommended the death penalty. This in itself was somewhat remarkable because the death penalty appears to have gone out of fashion in most states, but a still more remarkable thing about the trial was that seven women were members of the jury, says Indianapolis News. They had a majority and could have brought a disagreement, but they readily voted for the death penalty. There has been considerable comment on this verdict, as it gave the lie to the assertion that women would not make good jurors because of their natural sympathy, sentimentalism and emotional qualities. There is ample evidence to prove that women are no more sentimental than men, especially in the trial of a case in court. It is argued also that women are no more emotional.

The crop outlook indicates a harvest of from 800,000,000 to 900,000,000 bushels of wheat. There is promise also of large harvests of this cereal in the countries of our allies. The economic situation is therefore vastly better than last year. It will be necessary, however, to make very large shipments of wheat to Europe, as National Food Administrator Herbert C. Hoover explained recently before the United States Grain corporation in New York. This is chiefly because of the greater durability of wheat over other grains. Corn, of which there will be a bountiful supply in this country, is perishable and Europeans are ignorant of the art of making corn bread.

It is announced that tailors intend to stop making "cuffs" on trousers. The practice possibly arose from the fact that so many fashionable young men insisted upon rolling up their trousers when it was raining in London. Trousers cuffs are merely for ornamentation, and we men might as well stop trying to be sarcastic about ornamentation by the lovelier sex.

The government warns against the slaughter of heifers and cows, if we are to avoid a meat famine for a hundred years to come. Save the cows, boys. Kill the bulls. Conditions throughout the world indicate that the bulls are about to overrun the earth. Every country has a surplus. Reduce it.

M. Stephane Lanzaque denies the story that French aviators were permitted to attend the funeral of Guynemer within the German lines; and his authority is the French government. No such thing ever happened or is likely to happen in this most bitter of all wars.

What is now called the antiloafing law is nothing more than the old vagabondage law with a wider application. Formerly only poor men were prosecuted in this fashion. Now the rich vagrants will have to account for themselves.

There won't be any more "German silver." Its trade name has been changed to "nickel silver." So, if you've been refusing to use any such articles on account of patriotism, you can get 'em out again.

The Germans fight as if they are in earnest. So with the French and English. The United States will have to fight that way, too, or the war will be lost. And the great majority are not fighting that way yet.

The American lists cited for bravery abroad are increasing. We have cause to be proud of our boys abroad, and in turn, they should be made proud of the way we are backing them up at home.

Judging by reports from the battle front, an engineer is a man who wields a shovel or a machine gun with equal facility.

Tobacco rationing would have no terrors for the man who "only smokes one cigar after meals"—if he really does.

DEMAND FOR NEW COINS.

Whether or not congress will decrease the issuance of coins of new denominations will depend, no doubt, upon whether it is convinced that these additions will add to the convenience of the public or promote thrift, says Portland Oregonian. The proposed six-cent piece, for example, would result in the saving of some time now consumed in making change in the purchase of articles, which formerly were sold for a nickel and lately have advanced 20 per cent. It is a curious circumstance that as money becomes more plentiful the fraction of the cent increases in importance. This is due to the advance in prices, which has resulted in greater care in buying. There is not so much to be said for the revival of the old two-cent piece. The pennies we now use seem to be equal to the demands upon them, but their coinage ought at least to be increased. Among the coins formerly in circulation which have gone out of use is the 20-cent piece. It performed no definite mission, and it caused much confusion by being mistaken for a quarter-dollar. It is not proposed to revive it now, for it accomplishes nothing which cannot be performed by two dimes. The six-cent piece and the eighth of a dollar are upon a slightly different plane.

Germany probably will be a horseless country after the war, for the stock of horses has been decimated, partly by military operations and partly for food purposes. It is generally admitted that motorcar transportation will be at least as important as the railroads of the country in the future, and it is interesting to note how the fuel problem is to be coped with. It is no secret that German capitalists are ready to grasp control of the great Caucasian oil fields of Russia, and there is hardly a doubt that this will be one of the first things they will attempt as soon as they get the opportunity. Oil is not the only Russian product which they aim at cornering but such plans as these explain the eagerness of the empire's business class to conclude a separate peace with Russia, no longer to be feared in a military war.

The striking increase in the number of incomes over \$250,000 from 1914 to 1916 shows the justice of war-profits and graduated income taxes. The four classes from \$3,000 to \$15,000, including the great majority of all taxable incomes, decreased in 1915. Next year all classes increased in number by a total of 100,000; and the total income increase of those below \$15,000 was just about equal to the total of increases above \$250,000. Present figures may show a like tendency in 1917.

It is to be hoped that that Italian professor is right in his claims to have discovered a definite treatment for tuberculosis. This war is doing a good deal to undo what had been gained in the effort to combat this disease—except so far as knowledge is concerned—and there will be need for all the curative agencies which can be summoned for control and eradication.

Neither age, condition nor sex seems to be a bar to war activities in some shape or form. Slackers in either military, social or industrial circles, are the exceptions that prove the rule. Everybody is willing and anxious to do his or her bit in the individual effort to mobilize the immense resources of the country in every direction.

The government has contracted with Chinese shipbuilding companies to construct four 10,000-ton cargo-carriers for this country, with eight others to follow. In executing these orders China may get the shipbuilding habit for herself and begin what would be a profitable development of her own commerce.

Americans detailed to the rear to work have been borrowing uniforms from Australian soldiers and going into the thick of the fight. The German generals, convinced with the kaiser that the Americans wouldn't fight, might take notice that deserting to the front is a peculiarly American military fault.

So the government is going to spend something like \$150,000,000 more than it was asked to spend to put in shape the railroads it took over. More and more it becomes evident that it was a good thing for the railroads that the government decided to run them.

Another trouble about war is that it develops a gouging propensity that makes no distinction between the friend and the enemy, except that the friends are gouged more persistently on account of their superior accessibility.

Doctor Hirschberg says the food should be chewed until it is as soft and sweet as molasses. Undertake to do that at our boarding house and the boarders would clean the table before you had masticated the first mouthful, doc.

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