

CROOK COUNTY JOURNAL

BY GUY LAPOLLETTE

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WE DO OUR SHARE AND MORE

Every mail brings us one or more communications from some headquarters or the chairman of some of the war committees in Portland or other points, urging us to bring before the people some phase of the war work.

In one day last week we received nine of these, and this was not an exception either.

Two were from the Red Cross, one the treasury department on liberty loan bonds, another on thrift stamps, one seeking our recommendation for a civil service appointment, four from the department of agriculture in its different branches, and in addition there was one from the ever active opponents of national prohibition, and another from an individual stating that he is a candidate for some state office and thanks us in advance for printing a half column of reasons why he should be elected to this office.

For the bulletins and letters of a more personal nature from the government departments we are thankful, and we will continue to assist in all these movements for the common good in so far as we are able.

For the letters we receive from

state headquarters of the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and Liberty Loan drives we would recommend a conservation of paper and clerical labor.

It is always an awful task to pull Portland and some of the Willamette Valley counties over the top in these matters, and if the worthy and overworked individuals at headquarters will look up the records they can easily see that Crook County is always among the first to complete the quota in the drives.

The same applies to most of the other counties east of the Cascades also, but always applies to Crook County.

The class of people who have made a success in life in this part of the state are of a pioneering nature, and such people always do their share and more just as soon as they find what their just share is.

If there are shirkers and slackers, of which we are almost immune, they are not of the pioneers, and they will be given an opportunity to reform or leave, and that promptly.

The problem of meeting with success in public undertakings here is not so great as in some other communities, Portland for example.

BUY BABY BONDS

War-savings campaigns, similar to the War-savings certificates and Thrift-Stamp campaign just launched by the Treasury Department of the United States, are proving highly satisfactory in England. There, as in the United States, the laboring classes, and their children, unable to invest in the bonds of larger denominations, do take pride and patriotic satisfaction in investing their small earnings in "Baby bonds", for they realize that they are thus helping to win the war.

Already the effects of the educational features of the propaganda are being felt. Parents and children alike are learning to save. They are lending to the government and at the same time are putting more money in the savings banks.

Basil B. Blackett, of the British treasury, in an address to the American Bankers' Association advised that the working people of small savings capacity in England, Wales and Scotland have lent their government \$400,000,000 out of sixteen months' savings.

Mr. Blackett speaking of the larger features of the campaign said:

"The war savings movement has in the first place increased savings banks deposits during the war. Still more important, it is educating

a vast new army of future clients for savings institutions after the war. Finally, it can not fail to be of enormous significance in the future state of England that one in every four of its population, at the very least, is a direct holder of government securities."

OUR ENEMIES

Although all true Americans desire peace, we must realize that in Germany we have no ordinary foe, and that the purpose of this war is to teach that country a lesson that will make it safe for mankind in the future.

No nation has ever before defied every common law, violated all its own agreements, and considered its promises and treaties as binding only on its enemies.

Poison gases were common in warfare 800 years before Christ, yet no nation has been so barbaric as to use them in modern times until Germany did so in the present war.

No nation, excepting the barbaric Turk has been so low as to murder helpless non-combatants, women and children, until the practice of Germany in the present conflict became common.

The only reason that Germany has not overrun the earth, and destroyed all that is good in it is her utter lack of power to do so. Whatever is offered to the world by Germany as peace proposals should be considered as her former treaties, binding only until it is to the advantage of Germany to break them.

Germany must be subdued, and is perhaps easier done now than later. Peace talk is an admission of weakness and we should not be deceived.

KEEPING IT OUT OF THE PAPER

Where is the editor who has not been importuned with tears to keep the name of some offender against the law out of his paper? Many there are who can also remember the threats of dire vengeance if the request to "kill" a certain story was not complied with. The average publisher does not take pleasure in parading the misfortune of some man or woman in the columns of his newspaper, but as a purveyor of the news of the day he is often called upon to print things he would much prefer not to. Here is the reply of John L. Sullivan, editor of the Evening Leader, St. Marys, O., to those who try to prevail upon him to overlook certain matters of news:

"Life would be much more pleasant to the average newspaper pub-

lisher if everybody were to walk in the straight and narrow way. One of the real painful duties of the publisher is to print the news concerning people's wrong-doings. That may appear almost incredible to the reading public, but it is a fact, just the same. It is the good that men and women do that we like to publish, and not the evil they do. Although the evil doings make more spicy reading matter and are received with more apparent relish by those who delight in the sensational side of human life, we always try to put ourself in the other fellow's place.

"There are very few days of the week when some one does not call

up and request that this, that and the other thing shall be kept out of the paper. Reference is had, of course, to matters affecting the morals of people and there is only one answer that we can give, which is: 'We cannot make fish of one and flesh of the other.' That is to signify that if we keep one offender's name out of the paper, we must keep the other offender's name out of the paper, and vice versa. Furthermore, if we kept all of their names out of the paper, the whole community would be 'on our back,' figuratively speaking, because the community is not so charitable as may seem upon the surface.

"Now, there is only one way by

which you can keep the names of offenders against the laws of the commonwealth out of the newspapers, and that is to turn their footsteps into the paths which lead to fightousness and not to the police court. Whenever a man or woman is so unfortunate as to get his or her name onto the police court blotter, the newspaper's duty to the public is to publish the facts, no matter whether the offender be high or low, rich or poor, learned or unlearned. So it is a waste of time and energy to give the editor certain lectures over the 'phone simply because he has performed a duty that is everything but pleasant to him."—Exchange.

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R. L. SCHEE, Prineville, Oregon