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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, APR. 21, 1915.

THE TEST AWAITING THE NATION.

President Wilson says truly that when the world's affairs come to a climax with the close of the war "the test will come, not only of the nations engaged in the present colossal struggle, but for us particularly." The United States is in the best position to bring the nations together in peace conference, not only because this is the greatest neutral Nation and has no direct concern in the issues of the war, but because its population is drawn from all the nations now at war. The Nation, therefore, has within itself the strongest influence in favor of impartial friendship to all the belligerents, for any leaning to one side would draw forth protests from those Americans whose racial affiliations incline them to the other side.

The test will surely come to this country and will surely be severe, for there has not been in a century a war the ending of which involved so many conflicting interests. One nation may base its demand for the adoption of a certain boundary on the plea of nationality of the population concerned, while another may object on the plea that historically the disputed territory belongs to it and that strategically the boundary should follow a certain river or mountain range. The highest diplomatic skill will be needed to reconcile such a conflict. If the people of any territory should be called upon to vote as to which nation they will join, a neutral nation may be asked to conduct the election. The choice may fall on the United States, and Americans may be required to hold the balance even in a keen racial contest having its roots in the remote past.

A demand may be made for neutralization of the Kiel Canal and for destruction of all fortifications. It may be met with a demand for like treatment of all narrow connecting waterways, both natural and artificial. That would strike at control of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles by either Russia or Turkey, control of the Straits of Gibraltar by Great Britain and control of the Panama Canal by the United States. Vital American interests would then be concerned, and our representatives at the peace conference would be no longer mediators, but would become active partisans. If the allies were victors and were therefore in a position to dictate terms, they might retort that they demanded the Kiel Canal simply as spoils of war, not to establish a general principle. If they were to win their point, the necessity of fortifying straits and canals would be emphasized and we should be impelled to make our canal bristle with guns.

The task of keeping peace between friends may prove as arduous as that of restoring peace between foes. Should Germany and her allies win, the absorption of Belgium and of a large part of France and Poland in the German empire would doubtless ensue; the annexation of Serbia, Montenegro and Albania to Austria, restoration of Egypt with the Suez Canal to Turkey, German control over Persia and German acquisition of many French and British colonies in America and Africa would be demanded. In the case of a Teutonic victory, satisfaction of these demands would probably be effected with less friction than would be division of the spoils among the allies, should they prove victorious. If Italy should join the allies she would demand almost the entire east coast of the Adriatic, which Serbia and Greece wish to divide between them. Italy would wish to exclude Serbia from the coast, regarding that nation as a mere outpost of Russia. The greatest scramble would come about in the division of Turkey and Africa. Each of the allies would claim a large share of the former, while Britain and France would wish to divide between them the German colonies on the dark continent.

American mediators would have imposed upon them the task of reconciling conflicting claims in the interest of not only immediate but permanent peace, also of national interests, and above all with due regard to American interests. The proper performance of this task will bring into play talents equal to those of Talleyrand, Metternich and Castlereagh at the congress of Vienna; or of Bismarck and Disraeli at the congress of Berlin; of Jay, John Adams and Franklin in making the treaty of Paris after the Revolutionary War; of John Quincy Adams and J. A. Bayard in making the treaty of Ghent; or of Cavour in procuring the liberation of Italy. The men who shall successfully perform this great work will go down in history among the greatest Americans.

In order that the United States may well perform its seemingly predestined part as a mediator in ending the world's greatest war, it is incumbent upon both the Government and all the people of this country to act with the greatest circumspection while the war is in progress. Any strong suspicion of partiality, even though unfounded, might wreck the work of our diplomats, however able and unbiased they might be. It is inevitable that, while the passions of the belligerents are at fever heat, such suspicion should arise and find expression, first on one side, then on the other; but, if it have no just cause, it will soon be allayed when peace negotiations begin. That this Nation may do its part worthily in the service of the world, it is imperative that no just cause of offense be given.

One law says women may hunt and fish without license and another says nobody shall do so unless licensed. The Attorney-General will interpret the intent of the lawmakers, and it is likely the fair sex will get the privilege. Gallantry probably was the reason for the exemption, although why is a wonder in this state of equal rights, unless the mover of the bill feared some families would go hungry if the wife could not catch a mess for dinner.

THE FRANK DECISION.

Although the people will be reluctant to question the justice of a decision by the United States Supreme Court, doubt will persist that Leo M. Frank had a fair trial, and the belief will still prevail that, had all the circumstances of the trial been presented at the several appeals, the final decision would have been different. This belief will find support in the dissenting opinions of Justices Holmes and Hughes.

When a prisoner has been condemned to die under such circumstances, it is desirable that the executive step in to save the law from the risk of committing an irreparable wrong. Were Frank's sentence to be commuted to imprisonment, opportunity would remain to undo the wrong, at least in part, in case new evidence should be produced. Public opinion would revolt against the execution of a man on evidence which had been so seriously questioned and afetr a trial accompanied by such violence that two judges of the highest court entertain serious doubts whether the prisoner was not condemned by lynch law. To execute a man under such circumstances would injure, not vindicate, the majesty of the law.

ANOTHER ANTI-TIPPING LAW.

Is that university bureau of legislative research still in operation in Wisconsin? If so it is not researching every place where researching is good, or else its advice is sometimes ignored by the Legislature. The lower House has passed a bill which makes it a misdemeanor to give a tip, receive a tip or retain an employe who accepts a tip.

The State of Washington once experimented with similar legislation and the record of the law's failure ought to be available in a state so well equipped against mistakes as Wisconsin. Tipping went on just the same in Washington and two years ago the law was repealed as uselessly occupying space in the statutes.

The tip is given by one willing to give and accepted by one willing to receive. It is hard to imagine a waiter or porter who would be so offended by offer of a fee for his attentions that he would file a complaint.

Witnesses to the exchange of a tip so weakly feel that they are injured by the gift that they will not report the infraction of the law. The misdemeanor is so lacking in immorality that the authorities will not send out "spotters" to catch tipper or tippee. Probably if an arrest were made court or jury would not convict.

In short, determined public sentiment is not back of the law. If it were the law would not be needed, for the public has ample means outside of the law to end the practice and to do it with much less trouble than that incident to appearance in court as a complaining witness.

RAMBLES OF A DEFECTIVE IMAGINATION.

The Portland newspaper apostle of water-front reservation, water-power reservation, land reservation, forest reservation and denial generally to the present generation of use of all natural resources says:

> A former Oregon Legislature memorialized Congress to bring the forfeiture suit. It was on the request of that Legislature and other representations from Oregon, that Congress ordered the forfeiture suit brought. Did that former Legislature, or does the late Legislature represent the true sentiment in Oregon?

On the contrary the Legislature that memorialized Congress concerning the Oregon & California Railroad land grant did not ask for a forfeiture suit. It asked for a law or resolution that would compel the company to comply with the conditions of the grant on pain of forfeiture or some other sufficient penalty. The memorial is printed on page 517 of the session laws of 1907. It reads:

> Your memorialist most respectfully asks that the Congress of the United States be and is hereby requested to enact such laws and take such steps by resolution, or otherwise, as may be necessary to compel said railroad company to comply with the conditions of the grant, and to enact and declare some sufficient penalty for noncompliance therewith by way of forfeiture of the grant, or otherwise, as in the wisdom of Congress may seem best.

The 1915 Legislature instructed the Attorney-General to intervene in a law suit not requested by the 1907 Legislature in an effort to protect Oregon's interests. Those interests are approximately $500,000 a year in taxes and the right of public settlement on the land, as opposed to reservation by either Government or railroad.

The imagination of the apostle of reservation is exceeding the speed limit. It makes the astounding assertion that the railroad surreptitiously put through the resolution instructing the Attorney-General to act and then so carefully concealed its adoption from the Attorney-General that he discovered it only by accident. Will not someone draw a diagram or explain slowly and carefully in words of one syllable to the excited apostle that if railroad influences had been behind the passage of the resolution railroad interests would undoubtedly have sent the news of its adoption to the Attorney-General at the earliest possible moment?

THE MOULIN ROUGE.

The Moulin Rouge which burned down the other day was one of the less respectable attractions of Paris. It was much patronized by foreigners who wished to experience the delights of wickedness without incurring the rebukes of staid friends at home. Americans in particular were great frequenters of the Moulin Rouge in order that they might dilate more convincingly upon the horrors of vice on returning home. Few from this country, if we may believe their stories, visited the resort with other than a purely moral and uplifting motive. Their purpose was to learn in suffering what they taught in homilies to the young.

The Moulin Rouge was of late years sustained largely by the contributions of these truth-seeking foreigners. The Parisians themselves cared little for its stupid attractions. The dancing was rowdyish, the music tough and the female inmates far from angelic in their appearance. It was tolerated because it "put money in circulation." Americans and other foreigners who visited the place supposed in their simplicity that they were seeing the genuine life of gay Paris and therefore parted with their dollars complacently.

The establishment that burned down not long ago was not the original Moulin Rouge of the old exposition days in 1889. That resort, which was opened to fish for the money of visitors from all parts of the earth, speedily gained a reputation for sin which was fairly well deserved. Travelers flocked to it and its shady renown became world-wide, but it passed out of existence and was succeeded by a rather weak imitation which took the name of Moulin Rouge but not much more. It was a flashy humbug not genuine even in its viciousness, but it sufficed to trick American visitors to Paris out of their money and therefore served its purpose.

The Moulin Rouge, or "the Red Windmill," was never any credit to Paris and its loss will not be mourned except by gawky sons of millionaires who have to seek some other outlet for their superfluous cash.

FACTS AGAINST CHARGE.

Senator Chamberlain's charge that railroad influence was behind the attack on the last two river and harbor bills hardly holds water in view of the fact that this fight was made largely by Senator Burton, of Ohio, a man whose known integrity places him about suspicion. Furthermore, in fighting these two bills, Senator Burton attacked not the appropriations for waterways that actually offer water competition, or give promise of developing such competition; he fought items which were plain graft—appropriations for streams that have no commerce, and that can build up no commerce worth the name, and in the main, streams that, if made navigable, would not compete with the railroads to any appreciable extent.

Further evidence that the railroads were not backing the river and harbor filibuster was the absence of criticism of any one of the appropriations for the Northwest. The Columbia River, for which millions have been appropriated, is decidedly a competitor of the railroads, and its improvement was designed to force a reduction in freight rates. No other single item in the river and harbor bill so directly affected railroad rates as the Columbia River appropriation, taken as a whole, and yet that item was at no time assailed or criticised.

The Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers, which are the greatest interior waterways, compete decidedly with numerous railroads, and yet the appropriations for those rivers were not criticised or opposed. It was the appropriations for the unknown and unheard-of streams, mainly in the Southern states, that drew the fire of the opponents of the pork-barrel bill, each and every item attacked was criticised on merit alone, and the ground for the attack was cited in detail in every instance.

THE UNHYGIENIC CHAUTAUQUA SALUTE.

There is something to be said in behalf of the Chautauqua salute. It is picturesque and the vigorous waving of a thousand handkerchiefs sets the air of an assembly room in wholesome agitation. It is a recent verdict of medical men that still air is far more deadly than air moving under a gentle impulsion such as would be imparted by a flock of waving handkerchiefs. No applause could be more agreeable to a speaker or dancer or performing dog than the Chautauqua salute. It is noiseless, emphatic and prolonged.

Almost any person can wave a handkerchief longer than he is willing to clap his hands and to that extent the Chautauqua method of applause is more satisfying than the one in ordinary vulgar use. It enables an attraction to see his glory in visible form while it lasts. The handkerchief salute was introduced at the very origin of the Chautauqua movement and as far as we know nobody ever had a word to say against it until Dr. Brown, of Paterson, N. J., lifted up his raucous voice and warned the world that it sheds abroad plague and pestilence.

Each waving handkerchief bears millions of germs which are shaken off in the process of the salute. Some of them are the advance heralds of tuberculosis, some of pneumonia, some of diphtheria. Freed from the meshes of the handkerchiefs, they betake themselves to the bodies of the audience and there begin their fatal work. The more enthusiastic the applause the more deadly it is likely to be, because the handkerchiefs then wave longer and harder and consequently release a great many more germs. For this reason Mr. Bryan, who is always rapturously saluted at Chautauquas, must be held accountable for many more pestilences than a less popular attraction would.

Dr. Brown insists with true medical arrogance that the Chautauqua salute must be abandoned. We value human life as highly as he possibly can, but we do not approve of this harsh edict. We favor some compromise. Indeed, we can suggest one which might work well. At any rate, it is worth trying. Let the Chautauquans continue to wave their applause, but enact a regulation that every handkerchief shall be fresh from the wash.

GIVE THE PEOPLE THE TRUTH.

Carolyn Wilson's indictment of the English people for unwillingness to tell and hear the unvarnished truth about the war does not apply to all of them, but it should have gone further. The British government is primarily to blame, for it has prevented the whole truth from reaching the people. Not until months after the event did the real story of the defeat and retreat from Mons come out. When the British lose a position or a trench, the fact is either suppressed or glossed over, but every gain, however slight, is made public. The consequence is that the people are deluded into the belief that their army is meeting with uninterrupted success and that when Kitchener's new army takes the field it will sweep all before it. The censor has been more frank about naval losses, but the sinking of the great battleship Audacious has not yet been officially admitted.

Though many British newspapers have been guilty of suppressing unpalatable truths in the manner described by Miss Wilson, some of the greatest and most influential among them have continually striven to impress upon their readers the fact that Germany is united, determined and confident and is very far from starvation. These newspapers have aimed to convince the people that victory can be won only by continued strenuous exertion of all the nation's resources in men and material. They have vainly called upon the government to relax the censorship to the extent of letting the people know about reverses as well as successes and about the cause of these reverses, but they have appealed to deaf ears.

The stupid censor has furnished the British workman with a stinging retort to reproaches about his slackness in manufacturing munitions and building ships. This retort was tersely put by J. H. Thomas, M. P., a member of the Labor party and a leader of the railroad men, when he said in a speech:

> The rigid press censorship is responsible for the workers not fully understanding exactly what is taking place at the front. We hear of a trench being retaken, but we have never heard of its having been lost, and I am perfectly certain that it would be much better to treat the British people as men and not as children, and thereby to bring home to the workers their individual and moral responsibility.

One bulletin admitting that the British army had suffered a repulse or had been unable to follow up an advantage because of a shortage of ammunition would do more to speed up the workmen in producing ammunition than would dozens of fervid speeches by Mr. Lloyd-George.

We in the United States are not interested in this matter except as it bears on the general subject of the freedom of the press. There is a growing disposition on the part of our own Government to make public only such news as, in the opinion of our officials, is "good for the people," as though the people were children. Were the growing practice in Washington permitted to become firmly established, the officials would give out for publication only such information as they considered good for themselves. We should then be reduced to the condition of what Bismarck called the reptile press, which is dependent for its news on official bulletins and which must lick the hand that feeds it—in other words, must speak only praise of the Administration. Destruction of liberty of the press is the first step to supremacy of a despot or an oligarchy; a free press is the strongest bulwark of democracy. So it will be found, both in the United States and in England.

Mary Garrett's bequest to President Thomas, of Bryn Mawr, is not hampered with any conditions. Miss Thomas may spend the ten millions for gum and chocolates if she likes, but the chances are that she will spend it to enlarge women's educational opportunities. Mary Garrett trusted implicitly in her friend's good sense, and we may believe that her confidence will not be betrayed.

The reproach that women cannot fight will lose its point when the new French regiment organized by Madame Arnaud goes to the front. The members are all women and the Queen of Belgium may become its honorary commander. Women's part in war has always been to egg the men on. It will furnish a pleasing variety to see them fight on their own account.

It may surprise many to learn that sentiment favorable to woman suffrage is increasing in Georgia. The South as a whole is a stronghold of the antis. Its medieval traditions and backward economic state do not encourage the progress of women, but Georgia may take the lead toward better things. That state has always been ahead of its neighbors.

Junkmen are a necessity in a city, but the ways of some are obnoxious. The habits of individuals of entering back yards and carrying off articles of value, if undetected, border on petty larceny. An ordinance to regulate the dealers who buy the stuff is a move in the right line and the Council should lose little time in adopting it.

Tent caterpillars, the enemies of fruit trees, are uncommonly plentiful this Spring. They dwell in tents which they rebuild in a new pasture when they have stripped a branch of its foliage. Spray is only partially effective against them. The tent with its wriggling insects should be cut off and burned.

Commission men are not to be regulated by the Railroad Commission because the Supreme Court finds a technicality in the law passed two years ago, which is very convenient for the merchants. The merits of the law are not discussed.

If what Enver Pasha says be true, the greatest difficulty in Turkey's way is that she did not begin to rejuvenate soon enough. Had she done so, she might have prevented the Balkan wars and consequently the present war.

The tide of prosperity among the missions as well as in worldly affairs seems to rise and fall with the ebb and flow of the farmers' prosperity. Timely rain in Oregon may aid the conversion of a heathen in Africa.

A speaker at a local church the other night predicted one power to rule Europe when the war is over, and if two Emperors and one King hear of it the response will be that he is a wise prophet.

Great Britain is waking up, if the plan outlined in news from Vancouver be true. A land attack on the Kiel Canal will lead to the most stupendous slaughter the world has known. Somebody is having a dream up north.

If Nebuchadnezzar could see what is now going on in his former empire, he would turn green with envy and disgust at his own inefficiency as a slaughterer. He would then resume eating grass.

Prohibition in England will not affect beer consumption. The workman will get his favorite beverage; but ardent spirits may go. This will affect the Oregon hop crop to its advantage.

It was cruel to deny Colonel Roosevelt the pleasure of fighting the battle of San Juan Hill over again. He would have enjoyed it, whether his audience did or not.

The commander of the Swiss army fears somebody will violate the neutrality of that country. Why worry? With a running start, one could hop over.

If General von der Goltz really wishes to gain the loyal support of the Turkish army, he should change his name to Abdul Something Pasha.

A ten-year bond for maintenance of the hard-surface roads was one of the considerations that brought the big majority vote.

Rather than buy one car for use of the City Commissioners, why not get one for each and put signs on them?

It is Kitchener's move. Germany is simply holding what she has. May will be along in a few weeks.

If Italy sits on the fence much longer she will need a cushion for her physical comfort.

The stampede of squatters to Alaska townsites furnishes an opportunity to the movie man.

In other words, Senator Borah would eat the plum if it dropped into his mouth.

The Salt Lake ballplayers brought their batting averages with them.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of April 21, 1865.

The different loyal papers that are published in this state have been discussing the propriety of calling an extra session of the Legislature for the purpose, among other things, of ratifying the amendment proposed by the last Congress to the Constitution of the United States, providing for the abolition of slavery. Several papers have strongly advocated such a session, that the action of Oregon may be promptly taken in the matter and the voice of this state given in the affirmative and its moral force be added to strengthen the most important measure that ever was presented to the American people.

By passengers just down from Walla Walla we learn that a terrible tragedy was enacted there on Tuesday of this week. Many known thieves seem to have Wintered there and as they disappeared in the Spring the best horses of the settlers seem to have disappeared with them. A vigilance committee had to be organized and we learn two two men were seen hanging by the roadside as the stage passed from Walla Walla to Wallula and the passengers say that 15 men in all are known to have been lynched thereabouts.

The Portland Gold and Silver Tunnel Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of $2,000,000. The incorporators are H. W. Corbett, S. G. Reed and T. J. Carter.

Captain John Mullan, while in the city a few days ago, laid upon our table a book prepared by him, being a guide to the miner and traveler en route to Oregon, Washington Territory, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado via the Missouri and Columbia rivers.

Captain Leon White returned from British Columbia by the steamer George S. Wright yesterday. We learn that he was not as successful as desirable in the project of securing right to navigate the Upper Columbia—the British preferring to let the country develop itself—but he will go on with his enterprise and build the steamer commenced at the Little Dalles, near Colville.

IT IS FRAME FOR DIVINE PICTURE

Mr. Lancaster Thankful He Could Help Build Great River Highway.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—My work here is ended. There is a time and place for every man to act his part in life's drama and build according to his ideals. When the centuries were young, God shaped these great mountains round about us and lifted up those mighty domes into a region of perpetual snow. He fashioned the Gorge of the Columbia, shaped the course of the broad river and caused the crystal streams, both small and great, to leap down from the crags and sing their never-ending songs of joy.

Then He planted a garden. Men came and built a beautiful city close by this wonderland. To some he gave great wealth—to every man his talent; and when the time had come for men to break down the mountain barriers, construct a great highway of commerce, and utilize the beautiful (which is "as useful as the useful"), He set them to the task and gave to each his place. The work of constructing this great highway is nearing completion, all working plans are finished.

I am deeply grateful to the people of Portland and Multnomah County who have given me their confidence and support and I am thankful to God for His goodness in permitting me to have had a part in building this broad thoroughfare as a frame to the beautiful picture which He created.

SAMUEL C. LANCASTER,
Highway Engineer.

Teachers' Examinations.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—(1) Please tell me where you take the teachers' examinations for public schools in Clackamas and Multnomah counties. (2) Can a person take the examinations for the primary grades only? (3) Also, I would like to know if a person who takes the teachers' examinations in another state could teach in this state without taking the examinations here? (4) How much does it cost to go to normal school? (5) Does a person have to have a grammar school diploma in order to take the teachers' examinations here? Would also like to know where you take the civil service examination for women, when and where.

A STRANGER.

(1) In the offices of the County Superintendents at Portland and Oregon City.

(2) Yes.

(3) No, it is necessary to take the examination in this state.

(4) Write to the State Normal School, Monmouth, Or., for detailed information.

(5) Yes. The new law, effective in May, requires at least two years of high school work.

(6) Inquire of Postmaster Myers where and when the next civil service examination for women will be held.

Farmer Questions Pig Record.

WINLOCK, Wash., April 20.—(To the Editor.)—I noticed in The Oregonian April 15 an account of an experiment by the Agricultural College of Oregon on pigraising. It says, in part:

"Harold Peterson started with a pig 1 month and 1 week old, weight 26½ pounds."

I should like very much to find out where pigs of that kind can be obtained. He fed the pig 227 pounds of grain at the average rate of 2¾ pounds per day, which would be about 83 days, also 714 pounds of skim milk at the rate of three pounds daily. The milk would last 238 days at that rate.

The gain in weight on the pig was 123½ pounds, which is making one pound of pork on 1.7 pounds of grain, with an addition of 5.34 pounds of skim milk per pound of gain. The average daily gain was 1.6 pounds, or almost the amount of grain fed.

Now, perhaps those figures are misleading and need correction by a college expert. I obtained nearly all the education I have from the newspapers and from actual experience. The best I can do is between four and five pounds of grain or its equivalent to produce one pound of pork.

MARTIN RICKETS.

TO THE PORTLAND ROSE.

Thou fragrant flower, to whose form
Nature, the artist, has given varied hues,
Using for her palette the great arch of heaven,
Whereon the tints of rosy morn, or noonday's golden sun,
And evening's crimson glow are spread;
And with her brush, the heavenly atmosphere, dew-bedipped,
She deftly touches thy silken petals as they unfold,
And, lo! with occult art, and skill unknown to man,
She has produced thee, beauteous rose!

Then for the easel whereon thou mayst lean,
And come to thy perfection 'neath her hand,
The fertile soil she presses into use;
The lawns and curbs of Western city fair,
Her exhibition hall, upon whose walls
The soft green background of the grass close-mown,
The replicas of thy form in countless numbers rest,
That all the world may view, and homage pay to thee,
Thou perfect Portland rose!

EDITH J. PERNOT.

HOW TO REMAKE MAP OF EUROPE

Correspondent Amends Suggestions Made by Earlier Contributor.

EUGENE, Or., April 19.—(To the Editor.)—It is encouraging to notice the suggestions in a letter in The Oregonian on the war question in favor of something like a rational settlement of the same, difficult as it may be, Europe's problem, it may be said, is as old as civilization. Included are problems of race, commercial interests and religious sects.

National boundaries, while generally determined by racial affinities, are not always so, or even by all three of the factors mentioned. It frequently happens that a certain geographical position has become long established and practically necessary as a sort of vantage ground to the races or tribes inhabiting it. Each one requires so much space, also certain means of outlet, or communication for its products, or markets, or other inventive quality or peculiar mental activity.

Not only this but Europe through the diversity of its races has become accustomed to the maintenance of a system of balancing powers, some one, or lately, two groups of the largest, keeping the others practically in a sort of equilibrium. The ideal of a united government would be the best way out of the trouble or situation, if practicable, but such may not be for some time, if ever, under the conditions of the case. So it is a question of which group shall dominate, and in case of war this will require something like a substantial or decisive victory one way or other.

Those having similar interests, whether of a political or other nature, whatever the race, religion or civilization, are naturally drawn together sooner or later, as has happened in the present disturbance, and the winning group will necessarily dictate the terms of peace and the rearrangement of boundary lines. As to whether the arrangement of boundaries suggested by Mr. Du Buy would be satisfactory would be a matter of opinion. Some might differ on particulars, but I think on the whole it would be much better than present arrangements, which are manifestly unnatural in many instances and destructive of the interests of the peoples concerned from every standpoint.

As an ideal arrangement I would make some amendments to the one suggested. I would have (1) all the Balkan countries in one confederation and not divided as suggested, or federated with any other except on its own initiative, as they are of the same religion in general and practically of the same interests, viz.:

Bosnia, Servia, Bulgaria, Roumania, European Turkey, Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Greece, Dalmatia and Herzegovina.

(2) The Polish countries, including Ruthenia, should be united into one nation, as they were formerly. Bukowina should be added to Roumania and also Bessarabia, probably.

(3) Trieste, the Trentino and Istria should be joined to Italy, where they belong by language as well as racial ties.

(4) The French parts of Alsace-Lorraine should be added to France and Luxembourg to Belgium.

(5) Schleswig-Holstein or at least Schleswig should be added to Denmark, as it belongs there by racial affinity.

(6) As to Germany, it might be enlarged or more properly arranged by adding Upper or German Austria to it if the disposition of the inhabitants is so, though some think they would prefer to remain with Austria, both on account of hereditary attachment or training, this illustrating the principle that race does not always govern nationality.

(7) The suggestion of the return of the Channel Islands to France might be a good one, but the independence of Holland as well as of Belgium would have to be maintained, as they are separate races or tribes with a history to which they are attached.

(8) As to parts of Switzerland mentioned, it is a small country and should not be disjoined without the consent of the inhabitants concerned, as should be the rule where practicable.

A. G. HOVEY.

BINDER TWINE MADE IN PORTLAND

Convict Manufacture Would Compete With 20-Year-Old Institution.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—In the article appearing in The Oregonian April 19 attention is called to Frank Davey's letter entitled "Finding Work for the Unemployed." In the last paragraph it is remarked that Oregon has no factories of farming machinery or binder twine. Then please turn to page 12 under the heading "Wholesale and Manufacturing," and observe running every day throughout the year, "Rope and Binder Twine." Mr. Davey was a member of the last Legislature and has been connected with manufacturing interests for the past 20 years, and yet is not aware that a plant has been in operation in the City of Portland for the last 26 years, one-third of whose output is binder twine.

One of the sound and stable institutions of the Northwest is producing binder twine on an average of ten months out of every year. This product is distributed throughout the northwestern section of the United States and Western Canada. Millions of pounds have gone into the various farming communities, and there is probably not another activity in the city that has contributed more to the prosperity of the state and Coast than this same company.

For the benefit of the author of the article to which reference is made be it known that should the state undertake the establishment of a plant to make binder twine it would put a legitimate industry out of business and with small profit, if any, to the commonwealth. It would eliminate a payroll for a goodly number of workmen who have long been identified with this particular line, and would find difficulty in adjusting themselves to other employment. While there is no probability of such an undertaking by the state, the publication of such statements from a man whose knowledge should have weight does the manufacturing interests no good, and industries should have more consideration. It is surely an egregious blunder on the part of Mr. Davey.

D. R. YOUNG,
With the Portland Cordage Co.

"Evergreen Chestnut" Not New.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian is a statement that Rev. George F. Schoener, "the plant wizard of Brooks, Or.," reports that he has discovered growing around the base of Mount Jefferson an entirely new species of evergreen chestnut.

Father Schoener evidently has in mind the evergreen "chinquapin," of which the botanical name is castanopsis chrysophylla.

Dr. W. Van Fleet, an authority on such matters, says of this tree: "It is a very distinct plant, lying between the oak and the true chestnut. There is only one species known in the United States, but there are several others in Asia, some growing as high as 150 feet. It is a pity these golden-leaved evergreen chinquapins are not near enough alike to the true chestnut to hybridize with them, as the result would be interesting, but all previous attempts have ended in failures."

Dr. Schoener's mistake in calling attention to what he thought was a discovery, will be of benefit to Oregon if it serves to call attention to the merits of this beautiful tree. I have a small specimen growing in my own yard.

WILLIAM M. GREGORY.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of April 21, 1890.

Every day during the week past two or three large families have been at the International en route from Nebraska points to Corvallis. A large number of German immigrants also have been coming in.

Seventeen carloads of fat beef cattle passed through the city the other day, en route from Los Baros, Cal., over the Southern Pacific to Seattle.

The stone foundation of R. Perkins' six-story hotel at Washington and Fifth streets is about completed.

C. F. Adams, formerly cashier of the First National Bank at Colfax, but lately of New York, is at the Portland. It is understood that he is to have charge of the Portland Trust & Security Company's bank, soon to be opened here.

Fred Buffum, of Buffum & Pendleton, left for Portland this evening accompanied by his wife. They have been in California two or three weeks on their bridal trip.

Oregon City—The school assessor has just completed his assessment of the Oregon City School District and finds a total valuation of $1,200,000 on his books as compared with $600,000 last year.

The Northern Pacific lumber mills are running and are employing 275 men. They are shipping a lot of timber for railroad work East.

COMPOUND ANTECEDENT AND 'HIS'

"His or Her" Smacks of Pedantry—Use of "Cousin" Referring to English.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.) — In a short editorial in your paper recently, beginning with "Who would be a press censor?" you say, "That is where the American newspaper man or woman gets ahead of his English cousin."

Is that sentence English? If you write "man or woman" must you not write "his or her?" Would it not be much better to write "newspaper man gets ahead of his English cousin?" Thus including all men and all women who are in the newspaper business.

About two years ago you published an editorial on that very subject, in which you said that in these days it is correct to speak of chairman, newspaper man, medical man, actor, author and use the pronoun his only even when speaking of women. I have often wondered how many different races of people there are in this world, all of whom are alien and foreign to the English people, who are yet cousins of the English. For many years I have read passages wherein the Americans have spoken of themselves as cousins of the English. Since the present European war began I have many times read where the Germans have written of the English as "our cousins." Could you tell me if there are any other races of people in this world that are cousins of the English, and if so how many and what they are?

For my part I am not able to see it in any other light than that the Americans and the Germans are, each of them, as much alien and foreign to the English people as are the Chinese.

T. J.

In a sentence like that to which our correspondent refers the pronoun "his" is correctly used to denote both sexes. The rule that a pronoun must agree with its antecedent in gender has exceptions. When a compound antecedent includes both sexes the pronoun must, by English usage, be masculine. It is not necessary in such cases to write "his or her." Indeed such a practice smacks very offensively of pedantry.

Our contributor is in error when he says that the Americans and Germans are as much alien to the English as to the Chinese. Both Americans and Germans are closely akin to the English. The Germans are particularly near to them since the original stock in England was Saxon, Danish and so on. This, of course, omits reference to the Celts who preceded all of them. The English were the original settlers of our Atlantic states in most instances and we all speak the English language, or try to. It is therefore very far from the truth to say that we are as alien to them as to the Chinese.

"TWO KISSES."

If ever thou art asked for a kiss, my friend,
Don't hesitate; but be sure to comprehend
That a kiss may be asked and craved from you,
Of a kind giving shelter, and with rest imbue
Certain emotions our tongue dare not speak,
But happily stilled by just such a kiss on the cheek.

That other kiss, the rapturous kiss,
Of delirious joy and unspeakable bliss,
When heart against heart in a passionate fold,
No vision of rapture—outside of those arms bold
Can see, or crave for aught but that breast—
The fountain of joy, the haven of rest.
Such exquisite delight comes not on request
And more often entails a life-long quest.

ANNA GOLDEN.

When Only Taxpayers Vote.

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 20.—(To the Editor.)—The Legislature of Washington has submitted to the people to be voted on at the next election a constitutional amendment providing that only taxpayers shall vote on bond issues. In case all the property is in the husband's name, would his wife have the right to vote?

C. P. BUSH.

Community interest in property upon which taxes are paid would entitle the wife to vote at a bond election, under the terms of the proposed Washington amendment. The legal presumption in each case would be that the wife had a community interest in property standing in her husband's name; this presumption might be destroyed, however, by proof that the property was the separate property of the husband, in which event the wife probably would not be entitled to vote.

Endorse It For Deposit

Mr. Retailer, if the manufacturer were to send you a check you would pretty quickly endorse it for deposit in your bank account.

Why don't you do the same when the manufacturer sends you business by advertising in this newspaper?

That business is more valuable than cash because it may mean permanent customers.

Put this business to the credit of your bank account by co-operating with the manufacturer's advertising.

Show the goods, push them, let people know you have them.

Then both you and the manufacturer will reap a profit.