

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1915.

THE NEW SECRETARY OF STATE

The general approval with which the appointment of Robert Lansing as Secretary of State has been received by both parties at Washington will no doubt represent the sentiment of the country at large.

The selection of Mr. Lansing the President has proved such a confession unnecessary. The new Secretary of State had been employed in a field which has kept him clear of partisan controversies.

The appointment of Mr. Bryan, while a political necessity to Mr. Wilson, was a democratic error. He had condemned the foreign policy of preceding Administrations at almost every point and had dragged it into the forefront of political controversy.

Mr. Lansing's appointment was dictated by considerations strongly contrasting with those which caused the choice of Mr. Bryan.

Since the Civil War the Democratic party has given the Nation, in Bayard and Olney, two Secretaries of State who were worthy of the best traditions of the office.

A HINT TO BE CAUTIOUS. Recent decisions in anti-trust suits give the Government a broad hint to temper its policy with moderation and caution.

simple possession, without exercise, of monopolistic power renders a combination illegal we shall learn the result. Then we shall learn whether the Sherman law is to be materially weakened by court decision, and, with it, the Clayton law, which is built upon it and would fall with it.

The suggestion of the novelist and economist, H. G. Wells, for a fleet of 2000 aeroplanes to attack the Krupp works in Germany sounds fantastic, but it may not be.

The Zeppelin has not done all it was said it would do, but the aeroplane has done more. The air raids, either with aeroplanes or aeroplanes, have not wrought much damage, but their moral effect has been marked.

The railroad land grant, disposal of which now awaits act of Congress, is peculiarly ill adapted to become a part of the National forests.

So long as the grant remains closed to the public, it will be the full use and development of the alternate sections not within the grant be held back.

To throw the lands into a reserve would mean the practical inclusion of taxes on the reserve itself.

All the water powers in the area would be automatically withdrawn from use; taxes on the reserve itself would be obliterated and taxes on the alternate sections would not increase.

There is no more important issue faced by Oregon today than the need to unite on a definite programme for disposition of the grant to actual settlers and for presenting that programme to Congress.

One of the New York high school teachers has published some startling opinions about English. He prefers newspapers and magazines to books for school reading because, as he says, "they are alive."

It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and the war in Europe is registering its effect not only on the fighting country in the Coeur d'Alene of Idaho never so active, we are told by T. H. Brewer, a banker of Spokane.

There was a blind faith in Fate or Fortune. Suddenly the European war was precipitated less than a year ago and the copper, lead, zinc and kindred markets awoke with a start.

In matters of comparatively small consequence the Forest Service seems almost ready to recognize the ordinary fundamental principles that govern investments.

In 1915 Congress passed an act permitting occupancy of National forest lands for Summer homes, hotels, stores and the like.

Therefore revocable permits will be issued only to those who erect expensive structures, but, continues the circular, "where prospective permittees contemplate the erection of structures involving expenditures at a considerable amount, they should be given the right to occupy for a definite period under the new law if they so desire."

The Zeppelin is just a strong consideration among investors in power plants as it is among investors in Summer homes and hotels.

After Mr. Lloyd George has secured his volunteer army of workmen for the British munition factories, after he has secured compulsory arbitration for roads, and before the limitation of profits, he will still have to deal with the men who work four days a week and drink for the other three days.

Dr. Victor C. Vaughn's assurance that the average length of life in the United States has been increased ten years since 1880 makes cheerful reading.

Thomas A. Edison is fairly buried under a shower of university degrees these days. No doubt he values them highly, but he is not likely to give the same of his struggle for recognition and success the universities gave him the cold shoulder.

Most of the commanders in the European war are elderly men. The German general staff, for example, General French is 62 and Admiral Jellicoe 56.

The largest item in the living expenses of an ordinary family is the cost of meat, which might be omitted without ill consequences.

Perhaps the reason Pacific University students come to the front in their activity in turning up something to do, rather than await the coming of a job, is that the motor-cyclists "hit her up" on the outside streets.

That a motorcycle is lying in a hospital with a crushed skull as result of an automobile accident is not held to be a disgrace by people who see the motor-cyclists "hit her up" on the outside streets.

If the recollection of that big lunch at Hermiston lives in the memories of other kind of lunch, Oregon will surely get a square deal when the irrigation pie is cut.

Mexican military chiefs are defiant, while the Mexican people cry for food. Who is to have been the American consideration—the plunderers or the plundered?

Mr. Shoemaker wanted to be game warden and he is. With Mr. Brown as chief deputy, the game business seems to be spilling some good newspaper men.

With an active volcano in the north, an expedition in the center and an earthquake in the south, California is surely a busy state.

Lloyd George will put fear into the hearts of workers in England's munition factories, and it is time.

German-Americans are barred from Southern California is ready to forget it until that section of the earth has another shake.

Lemberg, for whose possession the mightiest trial of strength of the war has resulted in an Austro-German victory, has under Austrian overlordship been the stronghold of Polish nationalism.

Before the outbreak of the present war there was no city of Lemberg's size in Europe upon whose streets one could see the people of so many different nationalities.

Commercially and industrially, as well as politically and educationally, it is the most important city in Galicia.

Besides being the seat of the chief Catholic organizations and of the government of the crownland, Lemberg is an important religious center, the seat of three archbishops.

Karlruhe, the name of the south German city, has been attacked by a squadron of French aeroplanes, might be anglicized as "Charles' peace of mind."

The sky-bombarded city is the capital of the Grand Duchy of Baden, a commercially, educationally and socially high rank among the cities of the empire.

Slougher is Overdrawn. PORTLAND, June 24.—(To the Editor.)—A statement has recently been published in the Oregonian, that a prominent educator and peace propagandist of this city, who has recently visited Europe, that "the average life of a man in this country is only five days; of a man, 21 days."

It is not a very rapid or accurate statement, but it would appear that if the average life of a man in the contending armies is only 21 days, and the conflict and loss of life averages 21 days each day, then the entire armies or an equal number of men must be killed off every 42 days.

It must be evident to any one who stops to reason that the quoted statement is very erroneous, and the question that very naturally comes to my mind is, what proportion of similar statements have the same foundation in fact?

Perhaps the "higher mathematics" discovered since I went to school can explain this rule of averages.

Questions in Civil Government. PORTLAND, June 23.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please answer through The Oregonian: What are the amendments to the Constitution?

2. State the steps necessary in making a treaty between this country and another.

3. How is the President elected? 4. How is the Vice President elected? 5. How is the Speaker of the House elected?

It would be far more profitable to a person desiring the information indicated in the foregoing to spend an hour or two of study in the Public Library, where a reference department is maintained for that purpose.

Kramer acted as his own attorney and got the customary result.

Even the Bryan men wore flags for Wilson yesterday.

The Pioneers had all their own way.

European War Primer

By National Geographical Society. Lemberg, for whose possession the mightiest trial of strength of the war has resulted in an Austro-German victory, has under Austrian overlordship been the stronghold of Polish nationalism.

Military Preparation is Wise

Mrs. Dunway Advocates Means to Defeat Country's Season. PORTLAND, June 24.—(To the Editor.)—I am being importuned, almost daily, by women from many parts of the Union, urging me to inaugurate, or at least lead, a peace movement among the enfranchised women of this country.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian, June 25, 1890. Every member of the Chamber of Commerce should attend the meeting tonight and register his protest against the imperfect census enumeration. It secures the census population of this city will be underestimated from 8000 to 12,000.

At a meeting of the Presbyterian Alliance yesterday at Ladd & Tilton Bank a building committee consisting of Messrs. Thomas Boyd, Rev. Warren H. London, J. Thorburn, and L. M. Parham was appointed to superintend the erection of the Presbyterian Church building on the corner of Third and Commercial streets.