

The Oregonian

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Portland, Tuesday, Oct. 17, 1916.

WHO KEPT US OUT OF WAR?

The Democratic slogan, "Wilson kept us out of war," conveys the inference that the American people were rushing headlong into war when President Wilson halted them. It implies that some other nation was at least willing to fight the United States and that this Nation was ready to meet it at least half way when the President brought the people to their senses. It implies that he, and no other man, could prevent war.

It takes two to make a war as well as any other kind of quarrel. The United States could not have gone into war unless both it and some other nation had been willing. It is well known that the United States desired peace with all nations. We were not rushing into war; we were not even perceptibly moving in that direction. If Germany desired war or was rushing into war with us?

Some may reply: "Germany." Undoubtedly our most serious diplomatic controversy with any of the European belligerents has been with Germany, but what reason have we for believing that that country would have provoked us to the extreme of joining its powerful league of enemies? In such a situation Germany could have had no motive except to gain a military advantage. Germany's purpose naturally would be to inflict the greatest possible damage on its enemies without suffering greater injury by incurring fresh enemies. The United States was the neutral source of the supply of munitions, food, clothing, many raw materials and money for the allies. Germany's object was to prevent these supplies from reaching the allies and to go to the extreme of cruelty in that direction. If Germany crossed that limit, the United States would join the allies and aid them with unstinted supplies of all materials they needed, and finally, if the war lasted long enough for the United States to train and equip its own armies, also with men. This help might come also at a stage when victory would rest with the party which could put fresh armies in the field.

The Kaiser and his military staff are not so foolish as to array such a force against them. It would many times outweigh the utmost damage they could do by the most ruthless submarine warfare. War is the most coldly calculating science. It counts the cost to human lives and expenditure of material. It would say that overstepping the limit of safety was not worth the cost.

The question then was: "What was the limit of safety in dealing with the United States?" The answer arrived at a conclusion on that point is that it is necessary to consider the character, temperament and opinions of the rulers and of the people, also the military and naval forces and the resources at their disposal. Germany saw in President Wilson a man who had backed down to Britain in the Canal controversy, who had seized Vera Cruz and scuttled, who had expressed sentiments of extreme pacifism and nervous horror of war. It saw in Secretary of State Lansing a man who had outdone his chief in extremes of pacifism, who had boasted that there should be no war while he held office and who denounced any addition to the nation's defenses as militarism. It saw a Nation which in sympathy according to racial affinity and stricken with horror at the war. It saw a dominant party of like mind with its two chiefs. A demand for preparedness had arisen, but had gained no great volume of support. Every neutral in Europe was mobilizing its army, the United States added not a man, a gun or a ship beyond those provided before war began, and the President denied the need of any addition.

That would be the German analysis of the position of the United States in February, 1915, when the submarine war was proclaimed. Germany could not find the surface of the sea, but could do damage to the new war vessel provided it was not held to the rules devised for surface vessels. The Falaba was sunk on March 28, 1915, with one chance American life lost. A protest was made. The inference was that "strict-accountability" note was mere words, and the Lusitania was sunk. Mr. Wilson sent another threatening note, but made no move to increase his forces. German contingencies, and the Bryan's continued pledge that no force would be exerted. Therefore Germany humored Mr. Wilson by writing letters, but continued to sink ships, finding that it had not passed the limit of safety.

But during 1915 the preparedness movement seized the whole Nation and in December was taken up by the President. At the same time he became firmer in his demand for removal of the Lusitania affair. He insisted that the warning resolution be rejected by Congress and he succeeded. When the Sussex was torpedoed and he threatened to sever diplomatic relations with Germany was convinced by the temper of people and Congress and by the defense bills then under consideration that there was force behind his words, that the limit of safety had been passed, and that it was necessary to draw back in order to keep us out of war.

Then who kept us out of war? Not President Wilson, but Kaiser William. He was resolved from the first to keep us out of war. He thought he was resolved also to use his forces to the utmost consistent with not drawing us into war. So long as his methods seemed unlikely to draw us in, he did not change them. When there was danger of our drawing us in, he resolved to change them. Had the President done in the Spring of 1915 that which he did in the Spring of 1916 there is good reason to believe that the Kaiser

would have done a year earlier that which he did finally to keep us out of war.

IS AMERICA WORTH PRESERVING?

From the rusty scraepap of the 17th Democratic National platform The Oregonian rescues this gem of reounding bluff and bluster.

The constitutional rights of American citizens should protect them on our borders and go with them throughout the world; and every American citizen, residing or having property in any foreign country is entitled to and must be given the full protection of the United States Government, both for himself and his property.

Let some of the Democratic orators now hot-footing over the state in the late Democratic National platform concern itself with their own country, present or prospective, devote a few minutes to the above well-nigh forgotten declaration.

Let us hear from them if American lives and American rights have been protected and safeguarded in Mexico. If not, why not?

If they are not to be held safe under the American flag, how does the President intend to achieve the Greatly-esteemed about which he talks so eloquently?

If America is to have no foreign investments or interests, how is America to maintain itself as a Nation?

If it is desirable to have such investments and interests, how is it to be done?

How can American labor be employed and American products sold and American profits secured without foreign trade?

Can Americans live by itself and for itself alone?

FOR A NEW NORMAL SCHOOL.

A well-organized and well-supported movement is under way to establish a state normal school at Pendleton. It has the approval of educators prominent in the service of the state and of the leading educational organizations and institutional work in all parts of Oregon.

It is impossible to deny the force of the argument for properly trained teachers in the schools of the state. It has been shown that the equipment at Monmouth is quite inadequate to meet the demands upon it; and it is likewise true enough that a great area of Oregon is but poorly served by a single institution. That is not at all to say that the present Normal School, which has proved its worth. The condition is responsible. Western Oregon gets 50 per cent of Monmouth's graduates, while Eastern Oregon gets but 5 per cent.

What has happened in Oregon there was a vigorous and successful protest against the Normal School combine, and it led to abolishment of them all, with later restoration of a single school. The basis of attack on the combine was mainly their political methods. The educational machine in Oregon was a powerful factor in its legislation and politics; and it had to be broken. It was broken. Now the old method of barter and trade for school appropriation, corrupting and demoralizing every Legislature, is gone, and a millage tax—such institution having its own resources and having no embarrassing or entangling alliances with any other—is provided for the Normal School, Agricultural College and Normal School.

The old days and the old ways are gone; and it is up to the people of Oregon to determine whether they can and will respond to a genuine and intelligent demand for adequate facilities in the training of teachers.

"INTERESTS" AND HUGHES.

The Oregonian says: "None knew better than the old guard that the interests need to be protected from Mr. Hughes." Against the assertion that the Oregonian is noted that these same "interests" are being protected from him, why this unanimity?—Salem Capital-Journal.

A strange feature of the partisan organ is that Mr. Hughes is not credited him with alliances which his entire public record shows he has had and will not make.

The "interests" are not solidly backing Mr. Hughes. Witness the support of the Oregonian by President Lovett, Secretary of the Union Pacific and the Underwood, of the Erie. It may be supposed that the railroads are representative of "interests."

Or is the reference to Boss Murphy, the Oregonian's chief, and his political organization? There are no "interests" in Tammany, and there are signs that Tammany has established satisfactory communication with the White House. What else do recent manifestations of preparedness interest in jobs for Tammany mean?

Or perhaps it is the "gas" interest which is meant? Roger Sullivan, the gas magnate of Chicago, who follows politics as an avocation, is for Wilson. So is Robert E. Ryan, the streetcar millionaire. And there are many more.

If "business" is for Hughes, is not Wilson also for business? He says so. He has said it recently many times. He has cooed and bled to business and calmed its fears, or tried to calm them, and in many instances elicited its co-operation and friendship—by words—and has done nothing for business and done much to harm it.

There is no sign against President Wilson because it has no confidence in his Administration and does not know for two days running where he stands.

be a boon to Venezuela, and perhaps it might work out to the advantage of the new arrivals. The South American country is rich in natural resources and, so far as its soil is concerned, it could feed a goodly part of the world. Its need has been an industrious citizenship. The present population of mixed Latin and Indian is temperamentally better fitted for revolution than for continuity of effort in the direction of domestic development.

The Poles have proved in the United States that they are willing to work hard to attain an end, and their docile is not one of their vices. But the question whether the native Venezuelans will take kindly to them after they have become prosperous and whether the Russian government will concern itself with their welfare after they have cut loose from the mother country are questions that only the future can determine.

DRY BUT WET.

Once more there is opportunity to marvel upon the agility with which the wet forces jump to conclusions. A kind friend has sent us a little handbill which was circulated among the attendants at a game recently played in Omaha between pennant teams of the American Association and International League. The bill repeats the following from the St. Louis Sporting News:

Manager Frank Chance, of the Los Angeles team, declared that the three trips made to Omaha and the total cost \$10,000 more than the club's share of the receipts, and Chance, as a stockholder in the club, is naturally opposed to the trip. Portland from the Coast circuit. On the Los Angeles team, Manager Frank Chance drew 1300 on Saturday, 1900 on Sunday and 150 was the daily average for the three days of the series.

The comment in display letters is this: "Portland is a prohibition city. The same thing will happen to Omaha if prohibition carries November 7, 1916."

There are minor variations of Mr. Chance in Portland would not have been in Portland against direct legislation or woman's suffrage. The unvarnished truth is that it rained during each of the three series in Portland in which only partly successful supply of Russian, which is a highly infected language, in which formal grammar consequently is important to those who desire to acquire cultivated fluency. Fortunately for prospective students, the only party successful in the supply of Russian alphabets, and the mastery of this difficult preliminary will serve to keep the students reasonably busy while grammars are being obtained.

There are two ways of committing suicide, producing like results. One is to blow down a shotgun and the other to break the last commandment. The man up in Klamath County who chose the latter plan is dead and the injured husband has satisfaction. These incidents are of frequent occurrence, but, like hanging, do not stop the offense they are intended to check. Man is man and woman is woman, while the other man is a villain.

Virgil G. Bogus, the civil engineer, was one of the builders of the West, having planned and built large parts of several transcontinental railroads. His work brought him into close association with Portland and he had a high estimate of this city's splendid position as a seaport. He was not a talker, but his few words were weighty with wisdom drawn from his long and varied career. His works are his monument.

When a railway company whose lines permeate well-settled districts reports a deficit for the year it means the people who should patronize those lines are not doing normal business. This condition can be traced to effect the year of March 1, 1914, it is a victim is not too disgusted to make the attempt.

The Oregonian says: "A Cottage Grove woman has been killed by a train. She had a hen and a half that laid an egg and a half in a day and a half it would be some." It might, in Seattle, but not in Oregon, where the hen equals the fractional fowl in the suggestion.

That Ohio man who shot an objectionable son of his daughter and committed suicide paid too high a price for having his way. He would better have allowed the women-folk to run those affairs and contented himself with "kicking" afterward.

Weariness of war is not confined to Austria; it extends through all the belligerent countries. Unless decisive success is soon won by one party, the exhausted people may end it with the cry, "What's the use?"

Difficulties in the way of buying Europe's art treasures have put a premium on those already in the United States, but the same difficulties have provided Americans with the means to pay the price.

Dr. Brounger, who drops in occasionally to knock the shackles off care, is here for a brief visit. If Dr. Brounger were not a clergyman he would come oftener and be billed extensively.

Recognition of the revolutionary government in Greece by the allies promises to place them on one side of a revolutionary war, in which they should be able to crush the King's party.

Give the credit where it belongs, to the young business and professional men who are standing by Portland and upholding her through thick and thin and fearsome days.

It's costing something to grease the griddle these days. Even tallow rises just as the season approaches for the rural denizens to grease his boots.

Hard times are the good times of the cobbler, for everybody sends the old shoes to him for repairs. We are not all cobblers, however.

same year, which is about the average number published annually. There are nearly sixty text-book publishers on the "fair list" of the union. From twelve to fifteen hundred new school-books are issued each year in the country, in the endeavor to produce and to continue to produce the truly excellent. Under the leased plate system, says Mr. Scott, incentive for the production of new text-books would cease to exist. Thousands of printers employed producing new books and circulars, booklets, catalogues and other advertising matter would be thrown out of employment. Clearly, the advantages of the employment of merely a few men locally would be swept away by the injury to the craft at large.

The truth that the text-book question from the viewpoint of the educator is concerned first with the welfare of the young student is recognized in the plain statement that "the best books are those which are obtained through competitive publishers." These are the words of the typographical union president, addressed to union printers throughout the country. He does not "quarrel with state authority," but state authority already has been punctured, and his declaration that the widest range of selection, through competitive publishers, further disposes of it. Unnecessary re-setting of type falls to the ground of its own economic weight. Clearly the best interests of the schools demand the widest range of selection, the best obtainable, in the home state or elsewhere, regardless of any minor considerations.

There is another opportunity for home industry in the production of Russian grammars in the United States. The University of Washington, having established a class in Russian through the benefaction of Samuel Hill, has found it necessary to send to England for elementary text-books, and it is not certain that the books can be obtained there. Other universities, including that at Berkeley, have been similarly disappointed. The so-called "conversational" method of imparting the language is only partly successful in the supply of Russian, which is a highly infected language, in which formal grammar consequently is important to those who desire to acquire cultivated fluency. Fortunately for prospective students, the only party successful in the supply of Russian alphabets, and the mastery of this difficult preliminary will serve to keep the students reasonably busy while grammars are being obtained.

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Many who think they cannot afford turkey Thanksgiving day will have another thought coming the day after election.

Is this campaign to pass without a few speeches by State Senator Kelsh on the most essential topic?

Honorable Emerinus Versteeg, warhorse of fifty years, is preparing for the worst.

Glean Through the Mist

By Dean Collins. N. NITTS ON NON-INTERVENTION. Scarcely Nitts, he whose sage conversation Was looked on with awe by all Punkin-dorf Station, Suspended a moment his quid's mastication, Sat, sunk for a minute in deep meditation. Then on non-intervention he made dissertation. "I see by the papers them Dimmycrats have bid 'em their work in the Mexican trouble, Admittin' themselves to be wonderful for Their keepin' the country plumb, clean out of war, Which 'minds me how Constable Scroggin, they say, Disposed of the fight of the Brigades one day.

"Now Theophile Briggs and his wife, son and daughter, They never was peaceful the way that they'd order, And livin' right next to the Constable, too, He could hardly look over the things they might do. And it used to jest worry him night and day, the night, The way them there Brigades would set up and fight.

"His wife and the neighbors they thought it a sin, But still didn't feel that they'd order bust in, Till Briggs and his wife got to throwin' things round, Plum over the fence onto neighborin' ground, And annoyin' the neighbors until they says: 'Here, It's up to 'you, Constable, to interfere'."

"But Constable Scroggin he answers 'em: 'I Is better that I should observe 'em a bit; And when I determine who is, on the square, The head of the family, I start workin' there.'"

"That may be all right," Mrs. Scroggin, says she, "But what of that stick that flew wide and hit me?"

"Then Scroggin reminds Briggs that he's Constable, And Briggs says: 'Go on! You're a blanky-blank fool!'"

"Oh, am I?" says Scroggin, "Am I fer a fact? I'm comin' right over and make you retract." And he opened the gate just to give 'em a fright, And made like here's comin' right in there to fight.

"And then he came back and Briggs' young son sez: 'I'll fix that there guy if he don't let us be!'"

"And so he came into the yard on the run, And blacks both the eyes of the Constable's son; And Scroggin climbs over Briggs' fence, then, he did, To catch and to paddle that impudent kid."

"And Briggs grabs a club and says he'll assist, And he slams at the kid—but hit Scroggin's wrist, And then sez: 'You better beat it, old man, While I run my family the best way I can.'"

"And Scroggin goes back and he gits him a gun, And he calls out his dog and his other grooved son, And they comes to the fence and they glares at Briggs there, And 'low they are goin' to lick him fer fair; And Briggs apologizes and homeward they goes, And Briggs' young son puts his thumb to his nose, And they started agin' rowin' round all the while, Disturbin' the neighbors fer more'n a mile."

"And Briggs he says: 'Scroggin's a fool, I've a mind To lick him, as I kin with one hand behind; And he picks up a rock and he heaves it and it throws, And hits Mrs. Scroggin right square on the nose, And Punkindorf Station was wonderin' too, Jest what, in the crisis, that Scroggin would do."

"And Scroggin come down, with no sign of a stick, and he hit back to the Republican camp. Mr. Adams tells us that he believes that if Mr. Wilson is re-elected, he will send him the Mexican problem. As Mr. Wilson has been trying to solve that problem during the last three years, and conditions in Mexico are not better, and he is doing worse than when he undertook the job, the people will take little stock in the pretensions of Mr. Adams, and elect Charles E. Hughes President."

Hospitals in Roseburg. ASTORIA, OR., Oct. 14.—(To the Editor.)—I have another song which I have predicated for the use of the pacific teachers who object to the military references in our patriotic poetry.

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SPOILS AND SECRECY.

Before his election President Wilson was Secretary-President of the Civil Service Reform League and pledged himself to "pliable public affairs." He was elected on a platform declaring that "the law pertaining to the civil service should be rigidly and rigidly enforced to the end that merit and ability should be the standard of appointment and promotion."

President Wilson approved bills excepting employees of the Income Tax Bureau, the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Farm Loan Board and of United States Marshals and Internal Revenue collectors from the civil service law.

He approved of the action of Solicitor-General Burleson in asking the Senate to consent to place Democrats in fourth-class postoffices. The Civil Service Commission refused to give the Civil Service Bureau access to its records on this subject, and the President approved its action.

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In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago. From the Oregonian of Oct. 17, 1891. Chicago, Oct. 16.—The Stars and Stripes, it was decided today are to wave above the ground during the world's fair, from an American tower that will out-Eiffel Paris. The builder is to be Andrew Carnegie, of Pittsburgh.

San Francisco, Oct. 16.—The quarters of the Pacific Athletic Club in the new Wigwam building were crowded tonight on the occasion of the benefit tendered Jack Dempsey, the well-known pugilist, by his San Francisco admirers. Fully 2500 people were present, including many of the most prominent sporting men of the Coast.

Guy Stryker returned from Mt. St. Helens last night and related an exciting adventure with a bear. He was up the mountain taking in the scenery when he spotted a bear as big as a house. He had nothing but a gun loaded with bird-shot and a few heels and went down the mountain. He returned with a rifle, but the bear was gone.

More men have been sent the past week to work in the Myrtle Creek placers. One hundred and eighty men are now employed there and the payroll this month will amount to over \$5000.

Dallas City is plucky. It has been swept by fire four times, and each time the people have come to the front with energy and confidence in the spirit of their town. Destructive as the last conflagration was, the people have not lost heart, and are determined to rebuild the town on a grander scale than ever.

Half a Century Ago. From the Oregonian of Oct. 17, 1866. New York, Oct. 14.—Portland files to October 14 contain the following: At a banquet in honor of the cable, a message was received from the Queen which conferred a knighthood upon a number of the cable promoters. The Queen says her reason for not conferring distinctions upon the cable promoters upon Cyrus W. Field was an apprehension that it might encroach upon the province of his own government.

Salem, Oct. 15.—The fair opened here this morning with prospects much fairer than the opening day last year. The attendance of visitors is very fair.

We learn from John O'Donnell, who is down from Colville, that quite an excitement existed in the city of Colville and the Big Bend country. Nearly the whole population of Colville stampeded for the new diggings.

The steamer Montana reports that when off Cape Blanco great numbers of porpoises were met. The sea was running high and a large number of very large whales were blowing. Yet they went tumbling on, undismayed by the war of the elements. The school of whales, about 100 in number. What next? We wait and wonder.

We learn that on yesterday a company was organized in this city for the purpose of building such boats and other necessary means of transportation. The company will be called the Oregon & Montana Transportation Company.

Responsibility for Temporary Appointment to Municipal Judgeship. PORTLAND, Oct. 16.—(To the Editor.)—I read with amazement in The Sunday Oregonian the published letter of ex-Municipal Judge Tazwell addressed to the Mayor, requesting the appointment of Max G. Cohen to serve during the former's absence from the city. In view of the circumstances, I am surprised that the Mayor should have appointed Cohen to serve during the former's absence from the city. I am sure that the Mayor would have been glad to have appointed someone else.

While it is true that Mr. Lincoln, whose memory I revere, and I am by no means here worshiper, was not nominally a Democrat, it is equally true that he was a man for the people, and I venture the assertion that if he were living today he would stand with the solidly with the people of Mr. Wilson and his friends rather than with those of his opponents and traducers.

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