

The Oregonian

Entered at Portland (Oregon) Postoffice as Second-class matter, July 16, 1881. Postage paid at Portland, Oregon. (By Mail.) Daily, Sunday included, one year \$10.00; six months \$6.00; three months \$3.50; one month \$1.25.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, DEC. 28, 1916.

THE SPENDERS. A ten-line news dispatch from Washington the other day contained the pleasing information that President Wilson was seriously considering the distressed financial condition of the government and proposing to address a message to Congress on the subject. It is high time.

A singular and inexplicable phase of the late election was that no consideration was given by the electorate to the Democratic party's gross, palpable and undeniable violation of its pledges of economy. The record of shameful and inexorable extravagance made by the Sixty-fourth Congress in ordinary times, was miserably deservedly led to the overwhelming defeat of the party responsible for it.

THE UNRESPONSIVE WEST. Mrs. Gertrude Atherton prints her complaint that she has had little or no response from people in the West for her appeal for funds for the wounded soldiers and sailors. She accuses them of selfishness, indifference and stupidity because they have not responded to her generous plea for their grateful enterprises.

TEACHINGS OF THE ELECTION. Official returns on the Presidential election dispose of some false conclusions which were drawn from the earlier returns. Mr. Hughes polled 943,011 more votes than were cast in 1912 for Mr. Taft and Colonel Roosevelt combined, an increase of 12.4 per cent.

WHICH THE MORE HONEST SEX? Recent investigations designed to throw light on the question whether men or women are the more honest were found to be inconclusive. Cleveland Mr. Hughes, acting under commission from Mr. Hughes, recently published a report that a little more than three-fifths of both sexes are honest according to the terms of the test given, and that while thirty-three women out of forty returned a dollar sent to them, presumably "by mistake," only thirty-one men did the same thing.

Adding together the vote for the two leading candidates in each state, we find that 126,440 voters in Alabama cast the same number of electoral votes as 158,628 in Minnesota. Georgia has fourteen electoral votes for

137,056 actual voters, while California has only thirteen for 282,805. Assume that 400,000 votes in California were cast by women, a man's vote in Georgia still has three times as much weight as in the Golden State. Wisconsin with only thirteen electoral votes and no women voters cast 414,368, and Iowa with the same number cast 502,148, or two and a half times as many as Georgia.

THE DANUBE'S PLACE IN THE WAR. Marshal von Mackensen's army has in a short distance farther to go to win for the central powers control of the entire course of the River Danube, and with it an outlet on the Black Sea. Capture of the bridgehead at Machin would lead to an attack on Braila, which is at the base of navigation for sea-going vessels, then on Galatz, at the bend where the river turns east to flow through several channels which penetrate the swamps forming the delta. At Galatz the Teutons would be close to the Russo-German frontier, which follows the most northerly of these channels, known as the Kilia mouth, to the sea.

TRAVEL ABROAD AND AT HOME. No more will the cheap "personally conducted" tour be a feature of travel in Europe after the war is over, in the opinion of those who have studied the outlook. Increase in the cost of labor, the prime necessity for employment of the survivors of the conflict in creative work and in making the cities of the old world to boot.

Calling a Doctor. An old wife writes: "Please write some advice to women along the line of health and endurance. A young man on a fair salary told me that in his first two years he was married his doctor's bills amounted to nearly \$3000. Nothing more serious than the usual baby et al. Women say, 'I can't stand illness, as you know, only needs taking it' for a few hours. Then it is all over, without medical attendance and bills. Something ought to be done to lift the burden of needless expense from the shoulders of young husbands.

Suffrage for the Dead. "Let the dead heroes speak," is the slogan of a new political movement that is gaining headway in France. It is a proposal for the reform of the suffrage system of a country hard hit by war, applicable in particular to the regions that have been virtually deserted by their fighting men.

Efficiency Purpose of Preparedness. WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 27.—(To the Editor.)—Referring to your editorial, "New Army System Imperative," I fully agree with you in all that you have written on this subject, but why do you wind up with "compulsory arriere performed at the best of an imperial master for purposes of conquest?"

How to Keep Well. By Dr. W. A. Evans. Questions pertinent to hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, if matters of general interest, will be answered in this column. Where space will not permit or the subject is not suitable, better will be personally answered, subject to proper limitations and where stamped addressed envelopes are enclosed in the case of individuals. Requests for such services cannot be answered. (Copyright, 1916, by Dr. W. A. Evans. Printed by arrangement with the Chicago Tribune.)

no doubt, among those who failed to return the money at all. There are men and women who are indolent, and others who procrastinate, and others who make light of little things—a dollar is a small matter to some—among these there are many who are conscientious, and many who are not.

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future to become, if not more ungrateful, "at least more coldly disposed" toward the just appeal of a mere woman, unless that woman should be armed with the ballot of her soldier-husband, or brother or son. In this matter the suitable, better will be personally answered, subject to proper limitations and where stamped addressed envelopes are enclosed in the case of individuals.

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CITY IS IGNORANT OF COUNTRY. Cost of Raising Poultry Not Understood by Those on Outside. HILLSBORO, Or., Dec. 24.—(To the Editor.)—While the egg boycott proved a failure, it emphasized the fact that there is much ignorance about the question we used to debate in schoolhouse lyceums as to which was the greener—a country person in the city or a city person in the country.

TREATMENT OF INFECTED WOUNDS. ONE good thing that has come from the European war is a method of treating suppurating wounds. The proof is positive that suppurating wounds should be treated by this method and no other.

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Black Sea Isle of Serpents. LESS than 30 miles east of Sullina, the only important Black Sea port remaining in the possession of Roumania since Field Marshal von Mackensen captured Constantina, is the Island of Serpents, around which cling many fantastic legends of fascinating interest as well as several historical episodes which at one time threatened to become of international moment.

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