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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1917.

TRUE ECONOMY AND FALSE.

In warning the people of the United States against ill-advised economy, Howard E. Coffin, of the advisory commission of the National Council of Defense, is mainly right, but it is to be regretted that he does not make clearer the distinction between true economy and false. He is on solid ground in calling attention to the mistaken policy of states and municipalities of stopping roadbuilding and other civic improvements, but he is sadly mistaken if he means to imply that it is the time for indiscriminate private spending. In this respect we are in danger of finding ourselves in precisely the position of England at the beginning of the war, when lords and ladies and others in the fortunate possession of funds conceived it to be their patriotic duty to buy lavishly of anything and everything, in a fatuous endeavor to "keep business running as usual." The British have learned their lesson. We ought to profit by it.

It is highly important, as Mr. Coffin has pointed out, that there shall be as little dislocation of business as may be, but it would have been well if he had explained that this applies in particular to works of permanent value and not in any sense to fripperies and dispensables. If consumption merely for the purpose of creating more work for more workers were sound economics, war, the greatest consumer of them all, would be an economic blessing—which it is not. Needless style changes, wasteful expenditures for luxuries, and gluttony "make business" only in the most restricted sense. In their bearing upon the Nation's capacity, they are waste, and nothing else can be made of them.

Public enterprises of enduring character are in another class. They may well be utilized as a sort of governor for the industrial machine. They furnish avenues for employment of men whose affairs have been disarranged by the inevitable readjustment of other enterprises. In the construction of a permanent public work, nothing is consumed in the sense that it is destroyed. Roadbuilding, irrigation and every other necessary public undertaking ought to be continued where possible. They are distinctly productive where wisely planned. Every argument in favor of good roads is as valid now as it ever was, and if we build now we shall enjoy the benefits of them all the more when peace is restored. It is useful work, and the fact that it is not imperative argues in its favor. If conceivably we shall need all our workers in other employment, we shall not suffer irretrievably; while so long as labor for the purpose is available, we shall hereafter enjoy a dollar's worth of benefit for every dollar thus expended.

It is difficult to understand, upon his brief statement alone, the objections of Mr. Coffin to what he loosely terms the "hoarding of food supplies." People have been taught—and wisely—that there is no better form of thrift than the storage of food in time of plenty against the season when it is naturally scarce. The housewife is urged constantly to can vegetables and fruit when they are cheap, to preserve a Winter's supply of eggs during the season when the hens are laying bustly, and to fill her cellar bins with potatoes at harvest time. Private food hoarding will adjust itself. We are more likely to do too little of it than too much. No family is unpatriotic that takes ser ible precautions. Those who lay in their supplies early in the season will not be competitors to drive prices up later on. This is as true of one staple as it is of another. Buying in quantity, where food is so cared for that there is no spoilage, is just plain, everyday common sense.

The speculator who "hoards" food for the purpose of trading on the necessities of his fellows, to the extent of making inordinate profit, is in another class. He is the middleman who has given the whole class an unfavorable reputation. We shall see less of him, if the patriotic spirit of the Nation is fully aroused. If he contents himself with a reasonable margin, he will be doing a real service in an emergency in which service counts. Food hoarding is far better than food spoilage. There is no good reason why we should not so far as possible lay in our Winter supplies in the Summer and Fall.

There is no getting away from the fact that we are going to experience a readjustment of our internal economy. Taking a million or more men into our Army and Navy would compel a drastic change, even if there were no added question of supplying them. It will not hurt business in the long run if we curtail our use of those things that we do not need and that when consumed are gone forever. If we have an aggregate surplus as a result, we can sensibly expend it for enduring enterprises, to the benefit of all concerned. France recognized this principle when, despite the war, it completed the great Rhone tunnel enterprise at Marseilles, and Germany did the same in keeping numerous public undertakings under headway. But all the belligerents have found that private and personal economies were not only advisable but absolutely necessary. All wasteful expenditures have been wholly eliminated.

One beneficial result of our occupation of the Philippines has been the invention, as the result of researches by the Director of Health, of a new material for the construction of houses for the poorer people. This is composed of sand, cement, ipa, or the husks of rice, and bamboo for reinforcement. Model houses are being built at a cost of $250 each, to replace the present highly inflammable nipa structures. They have an estimated life of 25 years, as compared with ten years for nipa houses, and are much more sanitary. Losses by fires in the highly combustible nipa houses in the past have been a great burden on the people. The new composition, which in all probability never would have been developed except for the unselfish efforts of an American, has better fire-resisting qualities than a house built of hardwood and roofed with iron. It is also insect-proof and in other ways marks a new epoch in housing conditions for the Filipinos.

PRESIDENT APPROVES FESTIVAL.

A number of sincere persons have written to The Oregonian protesting against repetition of the Rose Festival this year. It is argued that a Festival is unseemly levity in war time and that the money devoted to the event could be used to better purpose in aiding Red Cross or other military auxiliary work.

The Rose Festival management is not without a decent respect for proprieties. It has been determined to give the Festival patriotic coloring. Even so, steps were not taken until a telegram had been sent to President Wilson asking his approval, in view of the National crisis, of the association's purpose and suggesting that he touch a button at Washington opening the Festival.

Following is a copy of President Wilson's reply:

THE WHITE HOUSE, Washington, D. C., 6:08 P. M., April 9, 1917.—E. E. Larimore, President Rose Festival Association, Portland, Oregon: Replying to your telegram, the President authorizes me to say that he thinks your idea about this matter is an excellent one. He will be glad, if you wish it, to touch the button. J. P. TUMULTY, Secretary to the President.

The Rose Festival has certain constructive qualities. It promotes rose culture, and rose culture promotes health, and health promotes military efficiency. It is a season of gayety, it is true, but we are not yet in sackcloth and ashes. The people have not given up less practical amusements. We have yet to hear of a dance, or a card party, or a boxing bout, or a baseball game called off on account of the war. They should not be except within reason. Diversion is a necessary safety valve in time of stress.

As for its economic feature, let us bear in mind that the money expended remains at home. It merely changes hands. It goes into the pockets of those who in due time will be called upon to bear their proportionate share of war's financial burdens and aids them to meet those obligations.

The President's expressed approval ought to quiet well-meaning but misguided opposition.

ALL ARE LIABLE TO SERVE.

President Wilson's letter to Representative Helvering cuts the ground from beneath the feet of those who oppose the selective draft for the Army and Navy. He shows that provision is already made in the Army bill for enlistment of more than the 500,000 volunteers they wish to take before resorting to the draft, but that the voluntary system takes men into the Army and Navy who would better be left at home, and whom the selective draft would leave at home.

He assumes to be known to the anti-draft party a fact which they ignore—that the Constitution recognizes the draft as a means of obtaining as many men as are needed for National defense, and of taking the particular men who can best be spared for that service. His plan is not universal military service in the sense of compelling every able-bodied man to bear arms, but it is universal National service in the sense of placing each man where he can render the best service—either on a warship, in the Army, in the factory, on the farm, on a railroad, or in other non-combatant service. Universal liability to service already exists, and the President simply desires authority to place men where they are most needed.

Conscription or draft means selection of the men who are to bear arms. Universal service directs what service each man shall perform. This is distinct from universal training, under which all men would be trained for the fighting force, though only a fraction of them might actually be taken for the Army or Navy by conscription or draft.

The point which the President impresses on Congress is that this war is an emergency in which all must serve the Nation, and that in opposing the Army Staff bill advocates of the voluntary system place obstacles in the way of all doing the best service. They are blinded by prejudice against a name to the necessity of the case.

SUBSIDIZED HIGHER EDUCATION.

Dr. Marion Leroy Burton, new president of the University of Minnesota, said in an address to the Legislature of his state recently that he dreamed of the day when every boy and girl in the state who desired a university education could have it "in spite of financial circumstances." The extent to which he would go in giving financial aid to ambitious students he did not reveal. Doubtless it would include some precautionary measure for separating the sheep from the goats and of preventing the unworthy from reaping the bounty of the state. We want no more exotically educated university graduates than we now have, of course. But it is seriously to be questioned whether under present conditions there are many ambitious young men or young women, bent on obtaining higher education, who do not reach the goal of their desires.

We have compulsory education in the lower grades upon the well-founded principle that in the beginning of his career the youngster does not know so well what is good for him and for the state as do the people as a whole. But we have left a suitable margin for individual effort and choice. At a certain point we leave the youth to his own devices. He has presumably learned to read and write and the way to inform himself upon matters of public moment has been opened to him. To that end we have even adopted the practice in many places of assisting him with free books and sometimes with free meals. If he wants more education he usually manages to get it. The universities are filled with boys and girls who are "working their way through" and are all the better for it. They are better students nine times out of ten than pampered sons and daughters who live high on remittances from home.

Not many of the leaders of our industrial or educational or political life were born with proverbial silver spoons in their mouths. A vast number of them won their university degrees by hard work, attended by not a little self-denial. If the way was difficult in places, it was nevertheless good discipline. It was an important factor in building character. Those who made their own way are not heard complaining about their lack of opportunity.

We can easily go too far in smoothing the pathway of the determined student. Those who will profit by it most do not need state aid. The way is wide open. Results have proved it. We need a good many things more than we need subsidized higher education.

WORK FOR POETS.

We have two favorite ways of expressing enthusiasm. One is by parading, the other by writing poetry. Many more persons parade than write poetry in times like these, but not many more parade than try to write.

Both customs are productive, in a way. Parading just now creates additional enthusiasm, which, inasmuch as we seldom parade twice for the same reason, finds its vent in the recruiting offices or in some active service for the country. Patriotic poetry also enhances enthusiasm which may help recruiting and mobilization of resources to an extent, but quite often merely inspires more poetry.

We have got the parade spirit out of our system but the poets are still singing. Somebody may produce a National air or immortal verse in the present trial, but if either one appears it will have a thought in it.

A point we wish to make is that a great deal of energy is going to waste in preparation of "Hurrah, boys! Hurrah!" stuff—jingles that are just jingles. Poetry is found elsewhere than in words. It greets the eye in the steady motions of the householder spading the back yard, and there is a sweet rhythm in the scritch, scritch of the garden hoe. Let's have more poetry of motion and less of words. Then the verse editor may be able to dig himself out of the office and famine will soon cease to menace.

GERMAN POLICY HOSTILE.

In fighting German autocracy, the United States is fighting for the law of humanity at sea, which Prussian militarism has undertaken to set aside; it is fighting for democracy and National right; but it is fighting also for the cardinal principle of American foreign policy, and with it for the independence of this and the other American republics. Plain intimations have come from Berlin that Germany would months ago have abandoned all conquests in Belgium, France and Russia and would have agreed to a free Poland under Russian suzerainty, if Britain would have abandoned support of the Monroe Doctrine and would have left Germany free to exploit not only Turkey but all of Latin America and to fight it out alone with the United States.

By fighting Germany now, this country has enlisted the aid of the democratic nations of Europe in defeating these designs and has avoided the necessity of fighting at some later time to defeat them, at a time, too, when, if Germany emerged from the present war strong and still dominated by Prussianism, we should have had to fight not only unaided by European nations but possibly with them against us. Once more at a critical point in our history fortune has favored us with powerful allies in preserving our vital interests.

Enmity of the Pan-Germans to the United States dates much farther back than the submarine controversy; it even antedates the Spanish War. It may be said to go as far back as 1868, when the United States, Germany and Great Britain became rivals for control of Samoa. That controversy continued until 1899, when it was ended by division of the islands between the United States and Germany. In 1889 and 1899 it almost caused a German-American war. When Andrew D. White went to Berlin as Ambassador for the second time in 1897, he found unfriendliness widely prevalent; all but two newspapers of importance were "more or less hostile, and some bitterly so." Prince Henry gave evidence of this feeling at a banquet at Hongkong early in 1898 by offering a deliberate insult to the United States, which Admiral Dewey and all his officers resented by leaving the table.

This hostility assumed more definite form at the outbreak of the Spanish War, when Germany and Austria attempted to form a European coalition to forbid war with Spain. That scheme was foiled by the positive refusal of Great Britain to join in it, but Thayer in his "Life of John Hay" quotes the Kaiser as having said: "If I had only had a fleet, I would have taken Uncle Sam by the scruff of the neck." The same disposition was shown at Manila, where Germany sent a squadron of five vessels, stronger than that of Dewey. This squadron followed the American ships in every move they made in preparing for the bombardment of the city and gave every sign of an intent to oppose the attack. The British squadron took up a position between the Americans and Germans, such that the latter could not fire without hitting the British ships. Admiral von Diederich then drew off and soon afterward three of his ships disappeared. One of them had earlier threatened to shell the Philippine insurgents who were preparing to attack Isla Grande in Subig Bay, but withdrew when Dewey sent two of his ships with instructions to drive off the Germans and take the Spanish position.

More evidence of a clash between German designs and American policy came in 1903, when Germany, Great Britain and Italy blockaded Venezuela. Occupation of Venezuelan territory was contemplated by Germany, but President Roosevelt prevented it by threatening to send Admiral Dewey to the scene with the Atlantic fleet. Again in 1914, the month before the war began, Germany proposed joint control of the Haitien customs, but President Wilson firmly rejected the scheme and, when revolution disturbed that republic in 1915, occupied it and took it under an American protectorate. In 1902 the United States arranged with Denmark for the purchase of the Danish West Indies for $5,000,000, but German intrigue caused the Danish Parliament to reject the treaty, and the purchase was recently completed for five times that sum under a new treaty.

Germany did her utmost by secret means to prevent the United States from obtaining the Panama Canal concession, and German agents instigated the Colombian Congress to reject the Hay-Herran treaty in 1903. The efforts to get possession of territory in Venezuela or Haiti were designed to get a foothold within striking distance of the Canal, while the intrigue in Denmark seems to have been inspired by a hope to secure the Danish islands for Germany. According to World's Work, Secretary Hay about the same time learned that the Kaiser was negotiating for the purchase of two harbors in Lower California.

In all of these unfriendly moves Germany was trying to put in effect a policy which the Kaiser expressed with great frankness to a party of French people on his yacht Hohenzollern in July, 1901. He described American interference in European affairs as a menace against which Europe should combine, and he suggested to France that the United States should be isolated for the purpose of testing the Monroe Doctrine, but France refused to listen. It was as much to carry out hostile designs against the United States as to war on Britain that he built the second largest navy in the world.

William II has been carrying out and enlarging upon the policy of "realpolitik" which had been followed by Bismarck, founded on the theory that Germany's mission is to organize the world on the lines of German efficiency and to make all nations contribute to the greatness and wealth of Germany. To this end Prince Henry made a tour of the United States, ostensibly to restore the good feeling which had been weakened by the Manila incident, but actually to promote Pan-Germanism and to unite German-Americans into a force which would control American policy in the interest of Germany. To the same end strong ties have been maintained with the 500,000 Germans in Southern Brazil, and every German settlement abroad has been used as an outpost of the empire, and German merchants have been made consuls of other nations. The aim has been to do much more than realize Naumann's idea of Mittel Europa as a great German federation stretching from the North Sea to the Persian Gulf and including not only Germany but Austria, the Balkan states and Turkey; it was to humble the United States and to make the entire American hemisphere an appanage of the German empire.

As hope of realizing this dream has grown fainter and has given place to fear of utter defeat, the dislike which arose from national rivalry has given place to bitter hatred. Failure to win the quick victory on which the Kaiser and his junker advisers staked all is ascribed to American food and munitions poured into Britain and France and to American restrictions on U-boat war. The sentiment of Germany toward the United States months before the final barred-zone proclamation is thus described by Herbert Bayard Swope in his book, "Inside the German Empire":

> Throughout Germany today the hatred for America is bitter and deep. It is palpable and weighs you down. All the resentment, all the blind fury Germany once reserved for England alone have been expanded to include us, and have been accentuated in the expansion.

When we are fighting a country which is controlled by men harboring ambitions so destructive to our National peace and safety and nourishing such bitter sentiments toward us, it would be suicidal folly for the United States to make a half-hearted war. Not until the Hohenzollerns and all who entertain their ideas of conquest, all who practice their inhuman methods, have been driven from power, can we relent. Our duty to democracy and the future peace of the world demand this, but even though they did not, our own security would demand it. If submarine war were to starve Britain into submission and were to give victory to Germany, we should be compelled to fight alone against a superior navy and a larger, victorious, veteran army. Our best hope of defeating the sinister, world-embracing designs of the Prussian oligarchy is to keep the allies supplied with all the sinews of war until and after our own Army is ready. If they should fall, a more terrible war would await us.

William F. Woodward is a good citizen and a man of reasonable mind and practical. If a list of twenty "best" citizens were to be named, his would appear in the first five. His views on employment of women are based on thorough understanding of present-day conditions of labor and business. Harm cannot result from trial of his plan; hardship may follow indirectly a too-strict observance of law good in other times.

Once more Sarah Bernhardt is demonstrating the life-giving qualities of enthusiasm and hard work. The world will watch her recovery with sympathetic interest and Americans will not give up hope of seeing her on another farewell tour.

Boxing is not a ladylike game—far from it; but it can be kept clean and it must and will be. It is a kind of sport that attracts men who care little for other diversion and managers will see that it is kept within the law.

Suppose Commissioner Holman and County Agent Hall read up on the parable of the loaves and fishes, preparatory to distributing 500 sacks of seed potatoes among applicants who want 20,000.

If the problem of other commodities could be solved as easily as counteracting the rise in price of milk, a solution would be easy; but other things cannot be watered.

General von Bissing, German Governor-General of Belgium, died of lung trouble, but that is not what superstitious Belgians would call it.

If there only were some way of storing and converting the energy of war poets we could build a battleship a day.

The hen that can lay an egg a day is becoming a fixed fact. Next will be the fowl to lay an egg and a half.

The way of the transgressor is greased. Hi Gill is on the job and the Billingsleys are in jail.

Married men whose dependents are merely technical can remain in the National Guard.

Let them hoard the food if they wish. A way of release will be made when needed.

The modern Cincinnatus will do well to stay with his plow, at least until the crop is in.

It is comforting to know the Lewis gun will be used in the country of its invention.

Another fool man has killed his divorced wife, but wisely shot himself.

The farm employment bureau also has a patriotic duty to perform.

Oregon's response with full naval quota is: "Come aboard, sir!"

Mr. Bryan is needed at Lincoln to stop that streetcar strike.

Hasn't the south wind soughed about enough this time?

The Pneumatic Brain.

By Irving Bacheller, of the Vigilantes.

The pneumatic rubber brain which has to be blown up with hot air every day, expands into madness when the air is a little too hot and imagines itself a cousin of the Lord. Then if it has an army to back it, the swelled brain kindly offers to take the Lord into partnership in the butcher business. It is a type of insanity with which the world has been familiar for ages. Most of the Roman emperors had it. William, the Godful has it. So has all that pneumatic throng of Prussian princes. It has always been hard on the plain people. Whole races have been disemboweled by it. The pneumatic brain is and always has been the deadliest foe of democracy. To a man who can imagine himself the cousin of God the life of an ordinary human being is not more important than that of a Plymouth Rock rooster. Nothing is of any importance except his plans.

The pneumatic brain is well known to us here. Certain American princes, reared in idleness and hot air, have had it. Harry Thaw had it and seems still to have it. England has deprived the brains of her princes of their pneumatic and military attachments and made them safe and harmless. Germany is ruled by a group of Harry Thaws—backed by prodigious armies. They have the world by the throat.

Is America not to do her share in shaking off these ancient enemies of democracy—these deadly vermin that infest the heavenly throne and imperil the health and comfort of the world? Is America to be a slacker and neglect its duty to its God, its own people and the whole human race? I hope not.

What we need is universal training which will develop the manhood of rich and poor and fraternize it on a basis of plain living and hard work. It will do more for America than all the colleges have done. We need a common aim that is above money, which is, indeed, the defense of the sacred, God-given aims of democracy, decency and sanity. There can be no peace for honest men while a maniac criminal has a throne and an army.

Therefore, get us ready to take our proper place in the army of the Lord, you chiefs and captains who are still lingering in the paths of ease and dalliance.

FEARFUL OF INCREASED TAXES

Correspondent Has Not Discovered That Autos Pay Road Bonds.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—What is the use of trying to smother the people with bonds? The man in the Grange is right as regards the bonds for roads. I believe they are afraid to call for the full amount of bonds all at once, for it would frighten the people. Why do they call for part of the amount, then when they are half done call for another issue in order to finish the enterprise?

Now the poorest people are the ones that own a small amount of property. Why do they have to skimp and save in order to pay their high taxes, for we have to stand the high cost of living the same as others, and we are not getting the rent by one-half of what we used to get? Why burden us beyond all endurance?

I believe we should take more time for this good road building. Some of the people in this state have gone crazy on good roads and the most of them don't have to skimp and deprive themselves in order to foot the bills. Let's wait till after the war is over and put all our energy towards helping our Army and Navy. We have not got time now for joyriding and I believe the most of the roads that are to be built are for that purpose, at least the one that has been built is for nothing else. I will have to work a lot overtime in order to pay my share of it. Now this is no time for words, but a time for deeds. So keep your back garden free from weeds. C. C. P.

The bond issue does not increase taxes. It is to be paid, principal and interest, out of automobile license money, which the bonding act specifically provides shall be used for that purpose. Automobile licenses have been so increased that they will pay off the bond issue and leave a surplus. The small property owner, who possesses no automobile yet cannot see an advantage for himself in having others pay for the good roads needs to brush up his business sense.

SHERIDAN PROUD OF RECRUITS

Town Contributes 60 Without Influence of Public Demonstration.

SHERIDAN, Or., April 19.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian April 16 I notice with much interest your editorial comment on "Small Town Patriotism," in which you call attention to the larger enlistment in the smaller towns and villages, over that of the larger cities.

While referring to towns that have furnished such large proportion of men according to their population, I wish to call your attention to the town of Sheridan, which, according to the census of 1910, has 1021 population, and out of which Sheridan has already added to the Army and Navy 60 of her high school boys and citizens of her town and immediate vicinity.

We are proud of all our sister towns. They have responded nobly to the Nation's call, and especially are we proud of the character and number of our own splendid young men who went at the first call, and went without a fife and drum brigade or any other patriotic demonstration. I. F. DAUGHERTY.

How to Plant Potatoes.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—To obtain the best results in raising potatoes:

(1) Should a seed potato the size of a hen's egg or smaller be planted whole or cut?

(2) If necessary to cut, should it be cut the long or short way?

(3) How close together should they be planted and what width between rows? F. W. HILL.

(1) More potatoes to the acre probably will result from planting the whole seed. (2) Either way, so long as there are well-defined eyes on each piece. (3) For most varieties, rows three feet apart and seed two feet apart in the rows.

It is well to bear in mind in future seed selection that the cull potato is not the ideal seed. The governing unit is the hill. When at harvest time a prolific hill is encountered containing a large proportion of marketable potatoes, it should be reserved for seed purposes. Small potatoes from a good hill make better seed than large potatoes from a poor hill.

We May Have to Feed Germany.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—I take the liberty of advancing a thought that I have not yet seen expressed in any public manner, though doubtless in the minds of many.

Mr. Wilson in his message to the country says in effect that we shall have to supply our allies with all the various necessities of war, but does not mention that we might also have to feed the Germanic alliance on this year's supplies.

Doubtless the German people would feel more desirous of peace if they knew that the American people were raising food, to feed them as soon as they wanted it. CHARLES BANKS.

TRAGEDIES OF VOLUNTEER PLAN

Americans Long Held and Often Routed by Inferior Forces in Early Wars.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—If the real truth about the United States' experience with the volunteer system was taught in our schools instead of the buncombe they do teach, there would be no objections to universal military service, except from cowards and German sympathizers.

How many people know that in 1776 we mustered over 89,000 men and the British had but 20,000, and during the war we employed altogether over 400,000 to Britain's 40,000, and during the eight years that the war lasted we won just two battles of consequence—Saratoga and Yorktown—and that the credit for the latter belongs to the French?

With such a preponderance of men, why did it take us eight years to gain our independence? Simply because the Briton was a trained soldier who knew his trade and the Colonials were a mob. Washington himself said that the militia were a nuisance.

The war of 1812 demonstrated still more clearly the inefficiency of untrained men. The British had 17,000 regulars and we used during the war something over 500,000, yet we won no battles except that of New Orleans and that was fought after peace had been declared.

July 4, 1814, a British fleet carrying 3000 men prepared to attack our capital. The Governors of the different states had been ordered to hold ready for immediate service a force of 93,500 men. We had this force on paper. August 24 the patriots sprang to arms, every darned one of them, except 88,000. The battle of Bladensburg was fought the British using 1500 regulars against our mob of 5000, and after we had lost eight killed and 11 wounded the Americans beat it and left the Capitol to be burned by the British.

Does any one think that our men were not equally as brave as the British? No, but they had no training, organization or equipment.

Are we to depend on the same kind of an Army today? Give the boys a chance and don't send them out to slaughter. However, if we are to have Baker as Secretary of War and Daniels at the head of the Navy, it doesn't make much difference how many men we have, in fact the fewer the better, for the problems that will confront the Administration in the next few months are not alone beyond their grasp, but beyond their comprehension.

This country has need of all its resourcefulness, as well as its resources, and the best men, irrespective of party, must be used. C. L. ELLIOTT.

MORE PRIDE THAN PATRIOTISM

Mother Thinks School Authorities Menaced Health of Parading Children.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—I have had four children in school at different times and have always had the highest respect for the Portland public school system, but today my confidence has been badly shaken. I hope I am patriotic, I have always thought so; I know I would not hesitate at any sacrifice if I thought it would benefit my country.

I have no criticism to offer concerning the women of mature judgment who wish to show their patriotism by marching through the streets in a pouring rain, but I do wish to protest against young girls being allowed to do this.

When my young daughter goes to high school I trust her to the care of the principal and teachers. Yesterday the young girls of Lincoln High were allowed before marching to stand three hours, bare headed, with only sweaters for wraps. Truly they were not compelled to do this, but they were expected to make a good showing for the school, and what girl wants to be called a quitter?

Why did I not forbid my daughter to march? Because I did not dream of the principal allowing them to go in the rain. My daughter came home at 6 o'clock, drenched to the skin, chilled through and hysterical from fatigue.

If I had allowed her to dance half the night and sent her to school unfit for the next day's work the school would call me to account. Have I not the same privilege? Why can't we have an assistant principal, a woman, who can regulate these things? AN INDIGNANT MOTHER.

Monaco, Seat of Paganism.

Pathfinder.

Monaco, the famous little principality on the shore of the Mediterranean, was overrun by Moors during the middle ages and held by them as a seat of paganism for more than 200 years. Grimaldi, a Genoese captain, finally driving them out and winning leadership in the little nation as his reward.

The Boaster.

By James Barton Adams.

When rumors of war were first heard in the land and patriot eyes were aglow with light of devotion to Old Glory and the red blood grew warm in its flow, he often unlimbered his jaw and turned loose in the height of belligerent moods how he at the first call to arms would produce the highest grade patriot goods. He'd rush to the colors, grasp rifle in hand, and breast the full force of the storm of desperate warfare on sea or on land; face slaughter in any old form. His valiant ancestors clear down to the roots of his patriot family tree were fighters from war-headt noggins to boots, were heroes in war history. It ran in the blood in a generous flood and, if war clouds should blanket the sun, he'd be one of the first loyalists to make good by attaching himself to a gun. The gathering war cloud has now put a crimp in oft acclaimed patriot pluck, he goes about town with a cane and a limp and damns his abominable luck. The rheumatix hit him a terrible swat, his liver is all out o' whack, his muscles seem tied in a double bowknot and he's wearing a pain in his back; his eyesight's so bad that he never could aim a gun in the face of the foe, and, though he with patriot fire is aflame, he's not in condition to go, and all of his neighbors who long have endured the boasts he so volubly aired well know the darned slacker can never be cured till the news comes that peace is declared. The boasters who prate of their courage to men who'll lend them the use of their ears will shy like a horse at an elephant when the smoke of the battle appears, but the earnest-faced, quiet young fellows who pause and consider the price to be paid, then loyally offer their lives to the cause are the stuff of which fighters are made.

THE AMERICAN FLAG.

When Freedom, from her mountain height,
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there!
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldric of the skies,
And striped its pure celestial white
With streakings of the morning light;
Then, from his mansion in the sun,
She called her eagle-bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land.

Flag of the brave! thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph high!
When speaks the signal trumpet tone,
And the long line comes gleaming on,
Ere yet the life-blood, warm and wet,
Has dimmed the glistening bayonet,
Each soldier's eye shall brightly turn
To where thy sky-born glories burn,
And, as his springing steps advance,
Catch war and vengeance from the glance.

Flag of the free heart's hope and home,
By angel hands to valor given,
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in heaven.
Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathes the foe but falls before us,
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us?

—Joseph Rodman Drake.

Germany's Munition Exports.

PORTLAND, April 20.—(To the Editor.)—A correspondent from Weston, Or., signing D. B., asked me to give, through The Oregonian, my source of authority for stating that Germany furnished Great Britain with munitions during the Boer War. In answer I will say, a special from Washington, D. C., dated August 15, says:

"An appendix to Secretary Lansing's reply to the Austrian note objecting to American exports of arms and ammunition to the allies gives the figures of exports of arms and ammunition by Germany and Austria-Hungary to Great Britain during the four years of 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, in the Boer War. The exact amount of all arms and munitions and their character during these years are given in reply." ISAAC PEART.

True Support Given.

PORTLAND, Or., April 20.—(To the Editor.)—I am and was a "Wilson Republican" and many times during Wilson's first term and in his last campaign did I feel that you were extremely unfair and sometimes almost treasonable.

But since war has been declared you have by your editorials made me admire your course, for I sincerely think that you are giving the President and the flag sincerer loyalty and truer support than any other city paper and than some Democratic papers that I read.

I certainly take off my hat to you and say, honor to you. JUST A COMMON MAN.

Memorable Features of Portland's Great Patriotic Parade Pictured —in—

The Sunday Oregonian

Seven solid columns of fine photography, comprising a number of views of persons and incidents in the Patriotic Parade, when 20,000 patriots, of all ages and nationalities, marched as enthusiasts for America united. Captain W. H. Hardy, who sailed to Japan with Commodore Perry; Joe Hardy, newsboy, optimist against odds; the musket that blazed at Lexington, and rank on rank of marching patriots—these, and more, in a pictorial page that should be preserved as a historical document.

BIG MACHINERY OF DEFENSE—A plainly told tale, unhampered by technicality, of the arms and devices of defensive warfare to be utilized by the United States. New coast guns, portable forts on wheels, battleplanes and other military safeguards, with a glance at the naval and military means of effective preparation.

HERBERT KAUFMAN'S WEEKLY PAGE—Clear and high as a bugle at morning is Kaufman's convincing and stirring appeal "To a German-American," appearing on his page in the Sunday issue. Read it, whoever you may be, for no saner, more righteous conception of Americanism has ever passed through a linotype to the printed page.

MOUNT M'KINLEY NATIONAL PARK—Frank G. Carpepter, special Alaskan correspondent to The Sunday Oregonian, writes of this region of natural wonders, where rear the highest of North American peaks. Plentifully illustrated with photographs, and told in the swift, easy narrative style that has brought Mr. Carpenter to high favoritism with thousands of readers.

OLD POEMS POUR IN—A worried man is the Old Poems editor. Try as he may, he cannot keep pace and space with the persistent influx of olden ballads and verses, which readers of The Sunday Oregonian want him to publish. But he does the best he can, and seven columns of ancient favorite poesy appear each seventh day. The one you spoke at school, ever and ever so long ago, may be there this week. Look.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES—In Portland tomorrow many ministers will devote a part of the service to the doctrine of "kindness to animals," in recognition of Humane Sunday. Announcements of all services, with other items of interest, appear in the Sunday issue. Read Rev. W. G. Eliot's sermon on National unity of spirit.

PATRIA—"Peace on the Border," 12th episode of the speedy serial by Louis Joseph Vance, proves aught but peaceful for poor Patria, last of the fighting Channings. Appearing in the Sunday issue and shown in photoplay at local theaters.

All the News of All the World.

THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN—Five Cents.