

The Oregonian

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Portland, Wednesday, July 25, 1917.

THE WAY CLEAR TO BUILD SHIPS.

President Wilson's settlement of the wrangle about shipbuilding is the most encouraging event that has happened since war was declared, in the eyes of those millions of citizens whose sole desire is that all energy be concentrated on getting on with the war.

There is no time to waste on quarrels between men of no super-eminent ability who are engaged in a task which has been hitherto by the world-beat autocrat. Nor is there time to waste in reconciling the radically conflicting ideas of such men as to what should be done and as to their respective authority in doing it.

General Goethals has proved unfit to manage the emergency of the war. He is a man of no special knowledge of ships. His life has been spent chiefly in improving rivers and harbors as an Army engineer.

He insisted on being, and assumed that he was to be, the "boss" of the shipbuilding program. It is full of such phrases as "I shall," "I will," and "My plans."

Mr. Hurley is one of Chicago's big business men, was the strong man of the Federal Trade Commission while he was its chairman, and his efficiency methods prevent Admiral Capps from carrying out the plan from his Navy Department Bureau to the shipbuilding business.

At last we are in a fair way to get shipbuilding without stop motion—ships of either steel or wood, and the labor and construction facilities become available. The entire capacity of the country for the work, not only developed but latent, should be put in service.

It is fervently to be hoped that the President will display similar firmness in ending obstructive jangles at other points in our war preparations. In his opposition to the division of Mr. Hoover's authority over food with two other men, the President has set a committee on conduct of the war, which would be nothing but a body to nag at the executive officers—he has the support of the House against the Senate.

In one respect the United States is in advance of Canada in its war preparation. Government action in forbidding purchase of mares for cavalry mounts has caused our neighbors north of the border to wish they had thought of a similar measure before for a shortage of horses for farm work is already foreseen, and this would have been prevented in considerable measure by such conservation of breeding stock as we now propose.

Canada is on the verge of beginning a serious campaign to atone for its mistake, and in addition to this would army purchase regulations will import from England a number of draft sires, which will be disposed of to associations of horse breeders on favorable terms.

A PATRIOTIC DUTY.

The average citizen—which is the public—concedes the right of labor to organize. The average employer also concedes the right of labor to organize, but the average employer not infrequently insists on having a voice in the method of organization.

The average citizen and the average employer alike believe in arbitration of labor differences; and the average employer also is for arbitration, though his method is often to ask for far more than he expects to get, in the belief that he will thus get about what he ought to have.

Now in Seattle the spectacle is presented of the workmen asking for arbitration, and the employer apparently standing against it. The street-car company there, through its manager, bluntly declares it will not recognize the union organized by the carmen.

The men make a formal offer to arbitrate. They will submit all questions to arbitration except that a condition precedent is named in the requirement that certain discharged men be reinstated. The men were dismissed because they joined the union. It would seem that the men had not suggested an impossible, or even an unreasonable, stipulation.

In the present situation the position of the company is unjustifiable. The greatest question before the American people today—employer and employee, all citizens, all classes—is the preservation of the republic.

Immediately following overthrow of commission government in Denver, the number of city employees, reductions in the number of city employees. The incident led to the hasty conclusion in some quarters that it was always necessary to change the form of government in order to obtain reforms.

It is a good proposition to organize ten or more regiments of American infantry for service abroad. As decidedly irregular cavalry, they will put the Hun on the run.

Germany and Austria are said to be planning an economic union to follow the war. Economy and economy are what they will need for 20 years while paying the debt.

War is costing Great Britain \$45,000,000 a day and the bill will be sent to Berlin for collection.

Wilson's war way of settling an affair is to multiply the number of men and work out beautifully.

By this time the owners of backyard gardens will be divided into two classes. There are those whose enthusiasm has waned, and those who have not.

For his good looks. President Wilson has selected a most handsome person to be Ambassador to Japan, if the veracity of current newspaper photographs is of any account.

The name of the new diplomat is Roland S. Morris, and he hails from Philadelphia. The available record has it that he "is a lawyer, 44 years old, and was for several years democratic state chairman and one of the Pennsylvania leaders who stood steadfastly for President Wilson at the Baltimore convention."

It might be supposed that the President had sought to reward his loyal friend because of political service; but Baltimore is five years in the background of past events and the chairmanship must have preceded the incumbency of Vance McCormick. There are many democratic chairmen in states which voted for Wilson in 1912 and 1916 who have not been given distinguished diplomatic posts.

Mr. Morris has had no previous diplomatic experience and he is being sent as America's Ambassador to a nation which is full of political and sensitive of slights. It is a critical period in the world's affairs and a delicate time in the relations between America and Japan.

There is almost a famine of rabbit fur among American hat manufacturers. Australia is their principal source of supply, but the government of that country now fosters the hat industry and gives its own manufacturers the preference in sales of furs which it buys from trappers.

A lighted cigarette, falling from the mouth of a drunken logger, started a fire that destroyed a hotel at Bend. Bend is a "dry" city in a "dry" county of a "dry" state. Where did the man get the liquor?

There is an opportunity for some enterprising American newspaper publisher to take the American Trench News in France. It would have a large circulation in the United States.

The Kaiser says that the United States will not invade the war, but he must admit that the decision is likely to be influenced to some degree by the steps we are about to take.

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Questions pertinent to hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, if matters of general interest, will be answered in this column. Where space will permit or the subject is especially important, letters will be personally answered, subject to proper limitations and where stamped addressed envelopes are used.

Two typhoid lessons. In April seven cases of typhoid fever were reported from one house in Brooklyn. The health department found that there were two families in this house, one on the first and one on the second floor.

The kinder trend of reminiscence, particularly as it concerns authors, is one of the hopeful signs of the day. This was shown recently in the distinction made between the two writers of Algeron Charles Swinburne were edited by their compiler, as compared with the ruthless invasion of the privacy of Stevenson, Carlyle and others in former times.

The relative poverty of the former Czar of Russia has been exposed by application made in his behalf for a grant from the provisional government to help pay his living expenses. Nicholas Romanoff, the private citizen, has a scant \$500,000 that he can call his own, while his wife has \$550,000 in securities but is not expected to have her husband's money.

It is possible that scarcely probable. The probability is that nothing but operation will improve his condition.

Either or both. Mrs. A. writes: "A man of 43, height 5 feet 10 inches, weighs about 180, chews tobacco excessively, also smokes; weak regular pulse, no regular appetite, low vitality, puffed something like limbs severely during sleep, complains of insomnia, cannot walk fast for even a short distance without puffing; has occasional short attacks which begin with burning in pit of stomach; was obliged at one time to stop chewing by order of physician. Is there serious trouble?"

Old-fashioned Remedy. C. A. G. writes: "What is good medicine for a person a little run down? I have been told that the old-fashioned remedy, sulphur and molasses, is very good. How is this prepared?"

Motorist visits ship plant. Portland Man Drives to Seattle, Where He Is Impressed by Activity. PORTLAND, July 24.—(To the Editor.)—My wife and I have just returned from a trip in our auto to Seattle.

German aviators who seek to find the American camp can wait a bit, then watch our smoke.

With an army of a million in France, the Kaiser can get the number by calling for it.

Prospective war brides have a few more days of grace.

How to Keep Well.

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The Kaiser Dreams a Dream.

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In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago. From The Oregonian of July 25, 1892. John J. Monaghan, superintendent of the Gen. mill, located three miles from Wallace, Idaho, has removed with his family to this city. Owing to the late unpleasantness in the Gen. mill mine, he found it advisable to leave the country temporarily.

The new electric cars manufactured out of the old one-horse streetcars are very fine. They will be used on the East Side, west of the City & Suburban street.

Chicago—The President has nominated Horace Greeley as Minister to Austria, but the single objection by Tippecanoe of Nebraska carried it over under the rule to the next session of Congress. Tipton would not consent to confirm a man who went ball for Jeff Davis.

Paris—Admiral Farragut has arrived and has received the most cordial attention on all sides. A large number of American ladies and gentlemen gave him a cordial welcome.

Strategy From the Trenches. Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph. A tired Tommy, burdened with about five tons of equipment, climbed wearily into a bus on a London railway terminus. There were no vacant seats and no one offered the weary man a seat. He was dead tired and had a headache. He flashed from his haversack a small bomb.

The Fighting Race. By Joseph L. C. Clarke. (A Popular Spanish-American War Poem.) "Read out the names" and Burke sat back. And Kelly dropped his head, while Shea—they call him Scholar—

Wherever there's Kellys there's trouble, said Burke. "Wherever fighting's the game, Or a piece of danger in grown man's hand, Said Kelly, 'you'll find my name.'"

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