

The Oregonian

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which is now seriously threatened by the sacrifice of the best medium-weight horses for war. Race betting having been almost abolished, some other incentive must be found for the breeding of fast horses will become a lost art.

NO STRINGS? Discussion of the terms and conditions that might be incorporated in a new law authorizing the Port of Portland to issue bonds for shipbuilding purposes is purely academic.

Adoption of that law for the present awaits a special session of the Legislature. The last legislature authorized the Port to bond itself, upon approval of a majority of the voters of the port, for approximately \$1,000,000 to finance shipbuilding and ship operating.

We have no idea that the Governor will call the special session, and so we will discuss the question of the proposed law in purely academic. Yet it is just as well to point out that Mr. Nottingham, who writes a letter today on the subject, is mistaken in the notion that the state is largely indebted in the way to which Portland may incur indebtedness.

Portland holds one-third of the tax-paying property of the state. Everything done which calls for payment of taxes for the benefit of the three thirds is based on the ability of all property to bear its just proportion of the cost. Clearly it is to the interest of the two-thirds to see that the one-third is not so heavily obligated that state-wide taxes are raised to such a point that the constitution now and always has limited county indebtedness, and for no other reason that we know of except that it is essential to the welfare of the whole state that no portion of it should be able to escape through extravagance and profligacy.

It is difficult to say offhand why there should be a limit to the punishment of a man who drives a motor automobile while drunk. A New York judge recently set an excellent example by sending such an offender to jail for a year and fining him \$500. Portland is more lenient, but perhaps a more lenient policy is not what is needed to stamp out the practice ought to be inflicted.

There is a graphic saying that gasoline and booze do not mix. The truth of it is not limited to its chemical sense. The driver with even a moderate quantity of intoxicant under his skin is a menace to innocent and sober people, pedestrians as well as other motorists. There may be some question whether an arbitrary speed limit is always desirable, it being recognized that careful driver going thirty miles an hour in the open may be safer than a reckless one doing his ten miles in a crowd, but there is no room for doubt that the hand that is shaken by liquor has no business on the steering wheel.

THE KAISER IN THE SELLER. The Chicago Board of Education has voted to "eliminate gradually" a eulogy of Kaiser Wilhelm which for some years has been part of the spelling book used by the children of the grammar schools. There is to be no eulogy of the Kaiser in the spelling book. Appeal to the board to do so, the page has been discontinued. Authority has been granted to the superintendent of schools to bow the Kaiser out, inch by inch, and close the door behind him gently.

Still, when one reads the passage that has aroused protest, and considers it in comparison with the eulogy recently disclosed, one is inclined to wonder why some ruthlessness would not be permissible. The spelling lesson for the eighth grade includes an example for distasteful, entitled, "The Kaiser in the Making." In which it is recorded that Wilhelm when yet a young prince attending school, refused to accept an advantage over his fellow students offered him by a professor who wished to curry favor. "One may unhesitatingly say," the lesson concludes, "that the young Kaiser's action has the root of a fine character in him, possesses that chivalrous sense of fair play which is the nearest thing to a religion that may be looked for at that age, hates meanness and favoritism, and will whenever possible expose them. There is in him a fundamental bent toward what is clean, manly and aboveboard."

There are no eulogies of other rulers in the spelling; not even one of the President of the United States. But it is now realized that man, manly and aboveboard" is making it rather strong in describing an Emperor who has not only condoned, but is believed to have counseled, many of the outrages that have distinguished his reign. What shall be said, for example, of the "manliness" of the drowning of the women and children of the Lusitania, or the killing by Zeppelins of school children and patients in hospitals in London, or the shooting of Edith Cavell—to mention only a few incidents in this class? What about the "clean" sport of poisoning wells, defiling sanctuaries, and the capture and desecrating of the "Aboveboard" story? How far "aboveboard" was the spy system in vogue in the United States, and how far "aboveboard" was the plot that sought to array Japan and Mexico against us, and how far "aboveboard" was the conspiracy which sought to cripple industrial plants in the United States at a time when we were not at war with Germany and when the German Ambassador, though secretly plotting against us, was under the protection of our Government and laws? Still, until the matter has been eliminated by degrees, Chicago children are

to go on reading that the Kaiser possesses "that chivalrous sense of fair play which is the nearest thing to a religion," and so forth.

We may well pray to be spared from extremes of chauvinism, such as changing the names of streets and towns that are of German origin; but one need not be a jingo to desire that such a lesson as that contained in the Chicago textbook be eliminated, not by degrees, but without delay. But there is one reflection that gives some satisfaction, and that is that not even Mayor Thompson will be able to convince the average pupil of eighth grade intelligence that the Kaiser is living up to his promise of being "clean, manly and aboveboard." The offending text, meanwhile, stands as a warning that cities, like Chicago, which have a rule against naming a school for any living person ought to extend the principle to cover the extravagant eulogy at least of the foreign rulers mentioned in their textbooks.

SOMEHOW we find it hard to believe that the American soldiers in France object to the soubriquet "Sammy" and are inclined to be partial to "Amexes." Now wouldn't the latter jar you? It is said to be an abbreviation of American Expedition. Somehow it does not seem to have evolved that term. It bears all the earmarks of day labor and night sweats. It has about as much spontaneity as a timetable or a hotel menu. It sounds like nothing American; it has all the fluted quality of the phonetic spelling. It was probably the joint creation of a musty professor of a musty philology and a Sioux Indian.

The American soldiers can and will take what familiar title they please. But we guess it will in the end be "Sammy." If it is anything, it has the advantage of ease, unctious and distinctiveness. No one objects to the patronymic Uncle Sam, and everyone is proud to be a son of the old gentleman.

Without intention of throwing cold water on the plan to declare the day a holiday when the men of the selective service leave for camp, that they be given a demonstration, the suggestion is made that the day before be made a holiday for the men of the selective service to take their patriotism off the ice and warm it sufficiently to allow at least one cheer per capita. Those who witnessed the departures of the Third Oregon will understand.

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The colonial government of Australia reports that of all the predisposing causes, "undue indulgence in intoxicating liquor is the most common and the most dangerous." The use of beer is more harmful than the use of whisky, because most people have sense enough to keep away from distilled liquors in hot weather, but somehow they have gotten the idea that beer is cooling.

Heat, humidity, and still air are probably larger factors than the sun's rays. The wet bulb thermometer is a better gauge of the air condition in relation to heat prostration than is the ordinary or dry bulb thermometer. Schereschewsky says that we begin to feel the effects of heat when the wet bulb thermometer passes 82. Haldane found that when the wet bulb thermometer went beyond 78 degrees continuous hard work became impracticable, and beyond 88 it is impracticable for ordinary persons to remain long, even though they are quiet.

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WE MUST NOT DECEIVE OURSELVES

Germany Will Never Be Reformed From Within, Declares Correspondent. PORTLAND, Aug. 16.—(To the Editor.)—President Wilson has said that we are not warring upon the German people, but upon the German government. Yet every German is behind that government.

German philosophers have taught this thing, making it right; that desiring to do a thing, and having the power, they have the right to do it, irrespective of laws, rules or the moral code of other peoples. Also they teach, and doubtless make themselves believe, that they are a superior race, whose province it is to rule the rest of the world.

The present generation of Germans will never be reformed from within. This doctrine prevails among them, not only in the home, but in the schools, and in the universities. They are taught that everything they do must be solely for the advancement of Germany, and that work to frustrate anything that militates against the aggrandizement of Germany. No Pan-German can be a loyal citizen of any other country.

When war broke Germany said: "Our big gun" (of which, at the time, the world was talking) "will win the war." And she has won more by intrigue, espionage and ruthless destruction than she has by the use of her big gun. The German army to combat, but German intrigue everywhere, their ambition being world conquest and the subjugation of other peoples.

If President Wilson or anyone else looks for the salvation of Germany by the people, he is mistaken. The people are being crushed by the military power they have been taught to worship, he is doomed to disappointment and every effort to bring about a change in their attitude is doomed to failure. Work will be commenced soon. Look out for the cars and the bridge.

OLD SAILOR DEFENDS SEA POETRY. Observations of Recent Celtic Inaccuracy and Half-Splitting. HOQUIAM, Wash., Aug. 15.—(To the Editor.)—I have just read your editorial on the subject of sea poetry, and it reminds me of the ditty to whom the colored woman said: "You ain't as sagacious as you think you are."

"Titan" misquotes absolutely every one of the quotations he gives us. Compare them with the originals and see. "Past" is not "at all times an abbreviation of steadfast." It can apply to speed.

In regard to the ship leaving "Old England on the lee," that is dead sea. "Titan" has an idea a vessel can sail only with the wind aft. Say the wind is blowing from the west, and the vessel may have the wind abeam, or over her quarter, and still she can make the open sea and the land still be to leeward. "Titan" says: "He speaks of wet sheets, meaning sails, but the word 'sails' is not necessarily a 'following sea.'"

"Longfellow never accused the 'Heavenly' of 'bearing and pawing.'" He said: "She shuddered and paused like a frightened steed." The colored lady's remark holds good. AN OLD SQUARE-RIGGER.

"SAMMY IS NOT DIGNIFIED NAME" Writer Suggests "Eagles" as More Appropriate for American Soldiers. BROWNSVILLE, OR., Aug. 15.—(To the Editor.)—No, it is no wonder that our soldiers in France object to the name "Sammy." "Eagles" would be dignified, more appropriate and their by-bright.

Why not use it in all references to our boys in France? It is a name which has been won by the victorious Eagles of America we will know that the credit is due to the valor of our boys. "Eagles" is a name which has been won by the victorious Eagles of America we will know that the credit is due to the valor of our boys.

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In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago. From The Oregonian of August 17, 1892. Milwaukee—It was settled today that ex-Senator J. C. Spooner was to be the Republican nominee for Governor and tomorrow the convention will nominate him on the first ballot.

The complimentary testimonial given Jack Dempsey by the Pastime Athletic Club last night, in recognition of his services as manager and instructor of the club, was a great success.

The Summer Assembly of the Oregon Chautauque Association, which has been in session at Gearhart Park during the past two weeks, adjourned last Monday after a pleasant and successful session.

The cornerstone of the new St. David's Episcopal Church, on the corner of East Twelfth and Belmont streets, will be laid by Bishop Morris this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

A large delegation of San Francisco sporting men will leave on the night of the 25th to attend the three great pugilistic events at New Orleans between Sullivan and Corbett, McAuliffe and Myers and Dixon and Skelley.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian of August 17, 1867. Chicago—An Omaha dispatch says a wagon train, escorted by Major Howell with a small force, was attacked five miles from Fort Phil Kearney by 300 Indians. A desperate fight ensued, lasting three hours, in which the Indians retreated with a loss of 60 killed.

We have a letter from St. Helena, which says Colonel Hayward and W. S. Ladd have bought a controlling interest in the iron mines near the town of St. Helena. They intend to begin the work of developing the mines at no distant day.

We received a telegram from Salem yesterday, sent by a gentleman who resides here, saying: "I have seen the services from the 'Gardner' and a fixed fact. Work will be commenced soon. Look out for the cars and the bridge."

Preliminary steps have been taken to effect the sale of the Oregon City Seminary. The proceeds are to go into the endowment fund of the Willamette University.

Mr. O'Connor received at his produce store yesterday a very fine lot of tomatoes grown at The Dalles. There are very few, if any, ripe ones as yet in this section. They intend to begin the work of developing the mines at no distant day.

OTHER SECTIONS NOT INTERESTED. Argument Made That Port Indebtedness Does Not Concern U-State. PORTLAND, Aug. 16.—(To the Editor.)—Referring to your editorial, "Let It Be Made Clear," which has reference to a special session of the Legislature providing for the issuance of \$1,000,000 of bonds to be used by the Port of Portland to buy, build or lease steamships for the city, it seems to the undersigned that but little legislation is necessary.

At the last session of the Legislature an act was passed that gave the Port of Portland the right to issue \$1,000,000 of bonds for similar purpose. All that would seem to be necessary now would be to amend said act so that it would give additional power not contained in the act passed.

It is a question whether it would be best to add an emergency clause which can be fully justified making it a law at once or to pass a bill with an emergency clause permitting the people of the port affected to have the right of referendum as to the issuance of bonds. Surely the latter method would have no objection to the city of Portland issuing bonds to operate steamship lines that would benefit the whole state, when no other part of the state is obligated in any manner whatever. There could be no good reason for the state to incur any part of the cost of a law passed with an emergency clause or a law permitting those affected to have the privilege of referring the matter to the voters.

The act passed at the last Legislature gives power to the Port of Portland to call an election to vote for or against the issue of bonds for the purpose of acquiring by the port of the amount specified in the bill. The people, therefore, will have an opportunity to adopt or reject the issue of bonds for the purpose of issuing these bonds by the special session of the Legislature when the election is called to vote on the bonds to be issued.

A steamship line will benefit us and the sooner it is started the better for all. Therefore an emergency clause would be attached making it a law when signed by the Governor.

C. W. NOTTINGHAM. HELP WANTED. We cannot find a servant girl; Have advertised each day; But no matter what we pay, No matter what we pay, No matter what we pay.

The work is very easy. So I can scarcely offer. Why you should offer. To come and work for me. I want a strong girl. Not too pretty, but neat. Who can water the garden. And tend to the house.

The back door is yours. To come and go; To the front you may come. When you're cleaning, you know, Yes, answer the doorbell. And also the phone; And never leave Daddies, The doggie, alone.

You'll give him a bath, And not let him riot; The heat's so intense, He's on a low diet.

There's little to do; Good wages I pay; Am anxious and waiting. Come, do not delay. —F. B.

Knowledge of Slacker. NORTH TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 15.—(To the Editor.)—Which would be the better plan: Knowing a man who has told me on different occasions that he was born in February, 1917 (7), and now has gone to another part of the state and did not register, should I report this man or keep still? If he should be reported, to whom? —READER.