

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JAN. 24, 1918. NO POLITICAL MOTIVES.

A correspondent whose letter is published in another column ignores practically every important fact bearing upon the controversy between President Wilson and Senator Chamberlain, also the attitude of The Oregonian throughout the war, when he asserts that "some people do not like the President's direct war."

The Oregonian's statement that the war cabinet and director of munitions bills were reported to the House by the Senate is a pure fabrication.

The bills in question would not take away from the President the direction of the war. Neither the Senate committee nor any other person in his senses proposes that, nor could it be done.

The implication that The Oregonian's opposition to the war is prompted by political opposition to Mr. Wilson displays willful forgetfulness or total ignorance of this newspaper's attitude toward Mr. Wilson.

No person who has followed the course of Mr. Chamberlain during the last three and a half years can find evidence that, in disagreeing with the President on the war bills he is the tool of anybody.

Let there be no mistake. If this war is to be won for the United States before March 4, 1921, it must be won by Mr. Wilson; nobody can take the job out of his hands.

An example of what can be done for " Hooverism " is found in the report of what is known as the " Hoover Commission " on the maintenance of way department of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Regulation of solicitation of funds for various war charities will entail no restriction of desirable ones, and will protect the public against imposture and downright fraud.

are reflected also larger interest in agriculture which has been stimulated by giving easy access to the land to men who were prepared to take advantage of it.

RIGHT OR WRONG? The controversy between President Wilson and Senator Chamberlain is to be deplored.

Police Captain Harms is no diplomat. He appears to have given no very gentle thought to the feelings either of his associates or of his victims.

The lives and welfare of thousands—hundreds of thousands—of American soldiers have a direct and vital relation to the Presidential decision to retain Secretary Baker at the head of the War Department.

No newspaper is free from the constant menace of damage suits for libel growing out of complaints by aggrieved individuals that they have been hurt through false charges of misconduct or by erroneous reports of fact.

It is a common assumption, of course, that slander or libel must be proved by the person who makes the charge.

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The change proposed by the President would be a great improvement on the present wasteful system, but it would be only a step toward that budget system which has been adopted by every other civilized nation.

It explains violation of pledges to practice economy and to combine appropriation committees, which have figured in the platforms of both leading parties.

Several examples of the evil working of this system were cited by Mr. Frear. He quoted Ford as saying in "the increase in the cost of our National Government" that "Congress habitually disclaims responsibility for the results of the methods of the budget and keeps augmenting the cost of Government."

However, when popular movements were so free from "graft," or even from overhead expenses which absorbed profits. Leaders are giving generously of their time and executive ability, and practically every dollar contributed by the public is reaching its destination.

HAARMS. Police Captain Harms is no diplomat. He appears to have given no very gentle thought to the feelings either of his associates or of his victims.

The whole scheme of river improvement is a humbug and a steal, but if you are going to steal, let us divide it out and not so on a haphazard basis.

The question whether Americans should buy their toilet in the form of gas or shoot it at the enemy as trinitrotoluene has been put squarely up to the country by the American Chemical Society.

Postmaster-General Burleson is exuberant in his boasts of having earned a surplus and is insistent that his good work with the mail service justifies a salary of \$125,000.

There has surely been enough inquiry to enable the Shipping Board to determine how many wooden ships can be put on the ways without exceeding the capacity to produce lumber, or the labor supply.

In the matter of dock, factory and elevator fires prevention is justified in that it is a matter of life and death.

There seems to be so much money in these days that postal employees can receive a million dollars lying around without danger of its being stolen.

It is high time for the death penalty for alien spies, and the term "spy" should apply to any evildoer who endangers life or property.

A coroner's jury in Idaho lived up to the ideals of that state by exonerating a wife who shot her husband to prevent a beating.

London must come to horse meat—or at least to beef to many palates, but effective as a filler.

Stars and Starmakers. Mr. Lafferty Tells How to Put Fear of God Into Kaiser and Followers.

Just thought of something. All these actresses and actors, too, who have been four-flushing about their magnificent salaries, will now find themselves in the way of having to pay war tax on it.

Also I predict a sudden rush of paste jewels to the ash can. "Thousands help dig Quincy, Ill. out of snow," says a headline.

See where a young student of theology has joined the Aviation Corps. Make your own jokes about his determination to be a sky-pilot.

"Theatrical manager is sued for girls' trunks," says another headline. Well, most of us have seen a lot of chorus girls' trunks and other things that should have been cause for legal proceedings.

Walter Gilbert says that the only result of universal suffrage for women will be just a lot more votes to count wrong.

Lora Rogers says that some one in the Alcazar Company with a penchant for statistics has figured out that in 1000 years from now the world will be absolutely devoid of fuel and the statistician asked Lora, earnestly: "What will people do?"

Miss Rogers is shaking hands with herself for refusing an offer in Eastern stock which would have landed her right in the heart of the snow storms back there.

Renold Wolf, on the New York Morning Telegraph, rattles the skeleton thusly: Years ago when Charles Dillingham was a reporter for the Chicago Tribune, his assignment was to interview prominent hotel arrivals.

Josephine Victor in "Love" reads a headline and I read clear down into the middle of the story before I found that it wasn't scandal.

When Eddie Foy and his band of Foyleys played the Orpheum here Mrs. Foy was convalescent at a sanitarium in Colorado.

SCARE THEM WITH RESOLUTIONS. Mr. Lafferty Tells How to Put Fear of God Into Kaiser and Followers.

PORTLAND, Jan. 23.—(To the Editor.)—German propagandists have been in a bad way since the arms of the Kaiser have been clearly stated.

I would favor a joint resolution by Congress, to be ratified by the people through a referendum election to be held at the postoffice within 30 days thereafter.

I would recite in the resolution that the Kaiser and his responsible officers directed the sinking of the Lusitania without warning and that they are thereby committing a crime against humanity.

Of course our declaration that we will hang the Kaiser and those immediately responsible with him, if we shall be forced to sacrifice our millions of young men, would be regarded by responsible officials being hanged if we should lose.

These arch murderers never imagine that when peace shall finally come they will at once be restored to their former places as leading world characters.

Let us disillusion the cruel cowards who are doing as they see fit to do it at once. Let us send them a resolution, approved by every vote of our population, which will show to them that we are at the sacrifice of millions in the field but that every drop of blood in North America is fighting, and will fight, till victory is ours.

Auto Thieves Escape Without Paying for Damage They Have Caused. PORTLAND, Jan. 23.—(To the Editor.)—A few years ago a convicted highway robber was sent to the Oregon Penitentiary by a soft-hearted Governor.

It's Not the Time for Dainties. Advertisements of Iced Cakes by Store Is Criticized by Correspondent.

It is high time for the death penalty for alien spies, and the term "spy" should apply to any evildoer who endangers life or property.

London must come to horse meat—or at least to beef to many palates, but effective as a filler.

In Other Days. Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian January 24, 1868.

General Sherman is being impudently written history on the war. The Boston Advertiser expresses its admiration for his "ease of style," his grouping of subjects and his aptness of epithet.

The house of Ira Mayfield, on Washington street, next to the engine-house, was damaged by fire last night.

In consequence of the illness of Mr. Doland, the members of the Philharmonic Society will meet for rehearsal tonight in the basement of the Presbyterian Church.

Twenty-five Years Ago. From The Oregonian January 24, 1893. Boston Bishop Philander H. Brown, noted pulpit orator and writer, died here last night.

Macoon, Ga.—Associate Justice I. Q. C. Lemar is dead here. Prior to being appointed to the Supreme Court in 1888 he was Secretary of the Interior in Cleveland's Cabinet.

The Thurman Legion, a prominent Democratic organization, is preparing to give a grand inaugural ball.

Aubrey Botwin made his first appearance before a Portland jury last night at the Park Theater in "The Dowager" and "Sweetheart."

Paris.—M. Clemenceau was called before the Panama Canal investigation committee yesterday at his own request to answer testimony given by M. Stephens.

Terre Haute, Ind.—Hon. R. W. Thompson, ex-Secretary of the Navy and president of the American Committee of the Peace Conference, gave out an interview today in which he hotly denied that he had any knowledge of any corrupt practices in connection with the canal in this country.

Experienced Cook Is Known. Louisville Courier-Journal. "I see you have a new cook." "Yes," "Is she experienced?" "I surmise so. She started the first day by coming late, and then asking for the afternoon shift."

COMMITTEE IS NOT UNANIMOUS. Support of War Cabinet Bill Ascribed to Political Motives.

PORTLAND, Jan. 23.—(To the Editor.)—Permit me to call attention to an inaccuracy in your statement against President Wilson today concerning consideration of the war cabinet bill by the Senate military committee.

I think it will occur to a great number of the American people that President Wilson has been tried for nearly two years and has not been found wanting.

Public Market Information. GERVAIN, Or. Jan. 23.—(To the Editor.)—(1) Please advise me through this column if you can find any information concerning the public market of your city.

Pets All Right—in Their Place. PORTLAND, Jan. 23.—(To the Editor.)—I received a number of communications from ex-Governor Geer. I quite agree with him about dogs that are allowed to roam around.

Time to Prune Roses. PORTLAND, Jan. 23.—(To the Editor.)—Please state the proper time to prune roses in this climate. I am still blooming.

Oregonian Tobacco Fund. KEILSO, Wash. Jan. 22.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly tell me if you have a tobacco fund for the boys at the front. If so, I would like to contribute.

Allies' Secret Treaties. DALLAS, Or. Jan. 22.—(To the Editor.)—Please publish the secret treaties between entente allies, supposed to have been made public by the present Russian government some time ago.

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Watch the wobblers fall in behind Stone.