

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, FEB. 2, 1918.

BACK IN THE OLD TOWN.

William E. Schimpff, member of the State Legislature from Astoria, got back to the old home town of Scranton, Pa., the other day, and quite naturally has been expounding on the wonders of Oregon to the eager and excited natives.

Mr. Schimpff's fund of veracious information was not what might have been expected of one from a thriving community in a great and growing state.

Mr. Schimpff is now heartily sick of his benevolent prohibition, according to the man from Astoria. The only effects from prohibition, he said, are a big depreciation in property values, a falling off of population and a big increase in taxation.

The city of Portland has been no longer publishes the enrollment of pupils in the public schools at the four-year level. This is one of your common boosters. This is what he told them back in Scranton, according to the Scranton Times.

Prohibition has not prevented drinking. It has made it more difficult to get drink, but when it is obtained, they will get it again. Bootlegging flourishes. The house is brought into the state by the "Tollman" liquor route.

The facts are that school enrollment has grown steadily. The prohibition law went into effect January 1, 1916. In the Spring term of the preceding year the school enrollment on the stipulating day was 28,954.

Instead of a larger police force under prohibition, the department today has 202 patrolmen, whereas it had 225 in 1915 and 1916.

It is not infrequent that some fellow who has never been much of anything at home comes out to Oregon expecting to get rich quick, fails, and goes whence he came berating the country and its people.

Perhaps Representative Schimpff figures that the way to get proper welcome for an adventurous spirit is to tell the wondering Scrantonites things they would like to hear, or perhaps the sudden change from drought to moisture has bewildered him; or perhaps he is plumb ignorant; or—joyful thought—perhaps this interview is preliminary to the important announcement that Scranton is good enough for him and that he intends to remain.

It is the latter be the case we trust that Astoria will join us in wishing Mr. Schimpff in his changed location all the success to which a stammering tongue entitles him.

Twenty-five small boys suffering from malnutrition recently gained half a pound a piece in three days as members of a war diet noonday luncheon squad in New York, and the experiment is being carried on for the benefit of the boys and as an object lesson to the country.

The boys range in ages from 8 to 12 years, and are to eat the diet for several luncheons each school day for twelve weeks. The first three luncheons were limited to 348 calories, but the limit has since been removed and the youngsters are averaging 1490 calories apiece without violating a rule of the Food Administration.

At an even greater rate than a sixth of a pound a day after they begin to "pick up."

THEIR REASONS. Oregon is so progressive in its lawmaking that it provides for the election of State Senators by the people before the constitutional amendment made that referendum effective in 1914.

When the New York World will consult the excellent almanac which it issues annually, it will discover (page 90, edition, 1917) that the seventeenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States for election of Senators by popular vote went into effect May 31, 1913.

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WHEN NURSES ARE LUXURIES.

Revised demands for trained nurses for war service indicate a way in which luxury-loving semi-invalids can do a patriotic duty. The obvious course is to release as many nurses as possible for those who really need them.

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A SUPREME TEST OF TRUTH. Between now and March 1 the American people will be subjected to a supreme test of veracity. This will be furnished by the testimony of the General Gorgas before the Senate military affairs committee.

General Gorgas—That has been considered for local taxation, at the same time the Army is to have charge of the returning sick and wounded or the Navy.

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NOT PREVENTED FORGOTTEN OF NEW STATES.

The Russian revolution started as did others, led by aristocrats like Loeff and by bourgeois like Milukoff, but they soon gave place to Kerensky, who corresponds to the Girondists of France, and he has been driven out by the Bolsheviks, who are the Jacobins of Russia.

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NEW ARMY FLAG SUGGESTED.

Old Glory Should Show at Best on Government Buildings. PORTLAND, Feb. 1.—(To the Editor.)—From time to time the writer has observed discussions in your paper suggesting that ragged and torn flags which we see on offices and public buildings should be taken down and replaced with new ones.

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IN OTHER DAYS.

Twenty-five Years Ago. From The Oregonian, February 2, 1893. Portland was visited by another snow storm last night. The snow is six inches deep on the level. River shipping is pretty much at a standstill, as large vessels cannot be towed up or down the river while there is so much ice.

WASHINGTON.—It is learned here on good authority that E. C. Wall is booked for the interior portfolio.

A farewell reception was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. William McElharris last night at English Hall on Mississippi avenue by members of the Mississippi Avenue Congregational Church. Mr. and Mrs. McElharris will remove in a few days to their farm near Salem.

James P. Moffett, of this city, who spent eight months in Hawaii in 1911 has thrown some interesting sidelights in an interview accorded The Oregonian and published today.

The United States Personal Abstract Company was incorporated yesterday for \$250,000. J. B. Marks, J. D. Dorsey and C. B. Yondell. The object of the company is to furnish "characters." Everybody who wants a recommendation can apply to the company, which will make a research and provide an abstract embodying his standing with former employers, personal history and standing in the community, and an estimate of his worth and ability.

A Sadder Budweiser Boy. There once was a man With a wonderful plan Of making the world all his own. This man, Kaiser Bill, Started in 1913, and he's Just training the boys at home.

When this job was done He built his own submarine. None like it was ever seen before, And a nice submarine That could not be seen, And then looked around for a war.

He saw one day How he was at play. He built his own submarine. It grew and it grew. Till he thought it would do. Then old Kaiser Bill let it out.

The war ran away On a summer day— For impleteness nothing could match it. It made such a fuss, That it roused even us, And then Kaiser Bill couldn't catch it.

Then we entered the race; We now set the pace. And when the U. S. starts to score I know that the Kaiser Will be sadder 'n' wiser.

Relations With Austria. GAMA'S, Wash., Jan. 31.—(To the Editor.)—To describe a war you kindly explain the following: A claim that the United States declared war on Austria some time ago. It says not, but that broke off relations with Austria. A claim that the severing of relations means the same as declaring war, as a state of war exists. Who is right? CONSTANT READER.

The United States broke off diplomatic relations with Austria at the same time as war was declared on Germany, but that does not mean that war on Austria until December 7, 1917. Severance of relations is not the same thing as declaration of war. It means that a state of war exists at each other's capitals and therefore have no official intercourse. Nations have frequently broken off relations with other nations for years, but have not fired a shot at each other.

Real Estate and Income Tax. PORTLAND, Feb. 1.—(To the Editor.)—In regard to the income tax, if a person has a piece of property and sells it and puts the purchase price on interest, would the purchase price or the interest be considered the income? SUBSCRIBER.

If you realized any profit from the sale of your property you must include the amount of that profit as a part of your income for the year in which the property was actually sold. If the proceeds from the sale of the property are loaned at interest, the amount of money paid in interest on the loan becomes a part of your income and must be included in your income tax statement to the Government.

Almond Instead of Pecan. PORTLAND, Feb. 1.—(To the Editor.)—I am a member of the N. S. G. of William Burke, 778 Northrup street, mentioned the other day as a pecan, is, in fact, a so-called almond, probably the Ne Plus Ultra variety. M. C. GEORGE.

Registrant Once Rejected. EUGENE, Or., Jan. 31.—(To the Editor.)—I am drafted in a company in Montana. My order number is 257. I was called for examination and was exempted for physical reasons, but I was put in class "B" section "A." When may I expect to be called again? 1. I have to help support my mother, but made no claim on that account. If an drafted and given a part of my wages for her support, will the Government give a like amount? 2. In what part of the Army do they put persons who are not able to do full military duty? 3. Can a drafted man get transferred from infantry or artillery to quartermasters corps now? SUBSCRIBER.

You may expect to be called for physical examination any day. You can probably be transferred to the medical examining board nearest you by applying to your local board as soon as you receive your notice.

The Government will make an additional allowance of \$10 to your mother, provided that that sum added to the allotment from your pay does not exceed the sum you have been contributing to her support.

It will depend on his civil vocation and his physical condition. It is not certain that he will be called to any service.

The soldier has no personal choice. The military authorities can transfer him if they find it advisable.

Alloys in Draft. LEAVENWORTH, Wash., Jan. 30.—(To the Editor.)—I was discharged in the Navy. Now I am in the Army. I am a citizen. Could I be exempted? I was discharged in Bremerton when the war broke out for not being a citizen. My country, Switzerland, is not at war. JOE PANCY.

If you mean that it is apparent that you have first naturalization papers, or in filling out your questionnaire, you have signed waiver of any exemption on the ground of alienage. A native of a neutral country is not subject to draft unless he has become a naturalized citizen of the U. S. or has filed declaration of intention to become a citizen.

AT THE HOUSEBOAT ON THE STYX.

Back again with the good old "Houseboat on the Styx," in a new series to appear in The Sunday Oregonian, are those immortals to whom John Kendrick Bangs lent the sparkle of his whimsical wit and philosophy. In the first number, issued tomorrow, the Gehenna Gazette interviews the Kaiser. Captain Kidd's comments on modern affairs, Attila's renunciation of palship with the latter-day Hun, invite laughter—and reflection.

THE AUTOMOBILE SECTION.—Heralding the Automobile, Truck and Tractor Show, a special section appears in the Sunday issue, devoted solely to a complete exposition of the automobile world and its progress, with valuable sidelights on the industry in Portland and the Pacific Northwest.

LETTERS FROM CAMP AND TRENCH.—In the Sunday issue, just as they came from the boys who have gone "to make the world safe for democracy," appears a page of letters. They are more than letters—these bits of comment that are to become history. They portray life at sea, in the trenches, in the great training camps—and they breathe a courageous faith and cheerful optimism.

STEP RIGHT IN, DWIG!—If any comic creator is equal to the contract of bringing back those boyhood comrades, Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, up to date that artist is Clare Victor Dwiggins, by a rising vote. Dwig's latest essay in the funnies is the delineation of Huck and Tom. They are with us tomorrow—tonic ticklers for children and grown-ups—to spend a prolonged and hilarious vacation among the comics.

OUR COAL AS WAR ASSET.—How long will America's coal supply last, with the transports steaming out over the blue in long lines, with the hunting destroyers, the gruff, gray battleships, demanding unlimited provender as they search the seas, with every factory tolling for the great cause? "Four thousand years, at our present rate of consumption," is the answer of Frank G. Carpenter. Read his special article tomorrow.

HAVE YOU HAD YOUR FOOT MODELED?—One lesson the war has brought home to American women, through the knowledge that men must march if victory is gained. That lesson is the essential need for good feet. It has sounded taps for the small-shoe fad and ushered in an era of common-sense in feminine footwear. And the girls are having their feet modeled. Read it.

SCORES OF FINE FEATURES.—In Sunday dress The Oregonian is not abashed amid the bon ton of the news-dress. Its features are equal, in many instances superior, to the finest magazine articles. These at random from the offering tomorrow: "Among Us Mortals," crayon sketches by W. E. Hill, famous illustrator; "Who Is Number One?" the mystery serial by Anna Katherine Green; War Photographs, taken abroad; Fashions, Books, Drama, Church, Society—a dozen others.

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