

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1918.

THE PRESIDENT AND MOONEY.

President Wilson asks Governor Stephens, of California, to extend "executive clemency" to Thomas Mooney, convicted murderer. It does not yet appear whether the president's request will be granted.

The jurors assert that the verdict was not affected by their imbibing, because it was decided on before they imbibed; yet it appears that they drank in order to remove the evidence of their imbibing.

NECESSARY HOME BUILDING.

Secretary McAdoo's elaboration of his original statement regarding the building of homes while the war continues is of a nature to win the approval of lumbermen, although it cannot be construed as warranting expectations of a building boom.

Where it is a question of building a new home simply because it would afford greater comfort, he says, "the government has no business interfering."

The purely speculative builder will find no comfort in the revised statement, but there will be no restriction upon operations made advisable for the housing of new soldiers.

It will not be difficult for the average citizen to "weigh conscientiously in his own mind" the issue presented. This is as true of many other things as it is of the building of homes.

CONCRETE CHART FOR WATERWAY.

While the Shipping Board awaits the result of the test of the concrete steamer Faith, of 190 tons dead weight, for deep-sea service, there is no reason why it should delay the building of smaller vessels of the same material for coastwise service.

WOOL Famine NEAR.

Although it is many years since the United States produced sufficient wool for its own needs, and it long has been an importer of large quantities, it is not realized by most persons that production has almost entirely ceased.

The figures show that in no year since 1887 was wool production as small in the United States as it was in 1916, the last year for which the estimate is available.

The Columbia and Willamette rivers have unequalled advantages for building concrete river craft as well as ships, and they have heavy traffic.

stocks in an Eastern port a month ago was the first intimation to many persons of the critical nature of the situation. Whether we shall find enough wool for both civilian and Army needs is a much-involved question.

The folks at home may be forced to dress in cotton and linen and other fabrics before the war is over. Doubtless they will find a way, if necessary.

A GREAT JOKE.

The levity which has greeted the indiscretion of the jurors who drank part of the evidence in a bootlegging case is indicative of a sentiment which has a wider prevalence than it should.

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THE BATTLE AND ITS RESULTS.

When news began to come that the British were being driven back by a seemingly relentless German attack along a fifty-mile front in France, the first feeling which naturally prevailed among the English people was dismay.

Cool study of what has happened shows that these fears and impressions were unfounded and sprang from superficial knowledge. There is no doubt that the British are stronger than the German army in the west.

There is no doubt that the British are stronger than the German army in the west, and that the German offensive in the west is a desperate gamble.

John M. Scott's forecast of women to train has just one discordant note—about women in the cabs. Imagine a woman engineer powdering her nose before shutting off and applying the air in an impending collision.

Everybody knew that General Wood was mentally sound. Now that he has been pronounced physically sound, he should be placed where his ability will do the most good.

That ship deal with Japan sounds like good business. The United States supplies the steel, Japan the labor and they share the ships, which would otherwise not be built for at least a year.

One Interurban system changes its schedule tomorrow, not very much but enough to discommode the man who goes somewhere once or twice a year on Sunday.

Suppose the bread card comes, what of it? If it is in the line of sacrifice, that's the least patriotism some will show.

strength while stretching that its elasticity is not exhausted. Losses have been compensated by the French, who have taken over the line south of St. Quentin, and by bringing in reserves from the immediate rear.

The state food administrations in several states have investigated the milk-producers' business, and without a single exception have agreed that producers were just in their demand and they have granted them a raise in price.

Each Company Requires 25 Recruits and Enlistments Are Urged. PORTLAND, March 29.—(To the Editor.)—Recently an order was issued to the various companies comprising the Multnomah Home Guard, to recruit their numbers from 75 to 100 men.

It is well understood that the allies have pooled large forces in a reserve army which has been placed at the disposal of the Supreme War Council. We may expect that, when the German drive has lost its momentum and has come to a halt, as it seems near doing, this fresh army will be thrown against the enemy.

Postal employees cannot lawfully strike for higher wages, but they can refuse to work in shipyards or munition factories. In the one case they put patriotism in practice, in the other case they do not only do that, but get higher wages than Enloe Sam pays.

There is good cause to credit the Sportsmen's union with the invention of long-range gun, though it may have been made at Krupp's. The Germans' chief accomplishment is pirating the ideas of foreign inventors, and then claiming the glory.

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A long-range forecast for tomorrow inclines toward "fair and warmer." Take a chance with the new bonnet.

Be sure to set the clock ahead tonight.

Industry Menaced by False Idea That Milk Producers Are Profitstealing. SCAFFOPE, Or., March 29.—(To the editor.)—The dairy business is a billion-dollar business, milk is an absolute necessity. The public has fought every raise in the price of milk since it sold for 5 cents per quart.

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