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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, AUG. 29, 1918.

WHAT LABEL?

The humorous Mr. Brown, country lawyer, may not expect to be taken seriously when he sends up a plea to The Oregonian to inform him of the prevailing party styles so that he may keep his political clothes on straight. The Oregonian is not much for style, but it has had a large acquaintance with those who were more anxious to be successful than to be right, thus assuming the dominant mode. Is that why our Glendale friend joined the Progressives? It can hardly be so, for anyone with half an eye might have foreseen their failure. Probably he was fired with a mighty zeal to reform politics and renovate the country, and he joined the hosts of Armageddon. They didn't get there, or anywhere much; but they tried.

The Oregonian is just now little concerned about party labels; but it is mightily concerned about results, through party. We have not abandoned party in the war—though "politics is adjourned," theoretically—but the whole Nation has abandoned party for party's sake. So far as party is a means to an end, it is all right; so far as party subordinates the National aims to its own interests, it is all wrong.

Let us particularize: If our Glendale inquirer, or any citizen, finds that a Republican Senator, or Representative, in Congress has supported the cause of America in the war, and that he has responded to every reasonable call upon him to get behind the Democratic Administration, in its measures to win the war, he should cast his vote for that Senator or Representative, if he is a candidate for re-election.

If it is learned, or fairly believed, that the substitution of a Democrat, for either Senator or Representative, will the more effectively contribute to the result—winning the war—desired by every loyal citizen, let him vote for the Democrat.

If Glendale, or any citizen, is impressed with the service rendered to the state by a Republican Governor who has shown fidelity, intelligence, courage, and the spirit of personal and political sacrifice in all war causes, let him remember that the contribution to the general National welfare in the present crisis by such a public official may be important and even vital; and let him ignore smaller considerations and forget minor mistakes, and vote to retain such a Governor in office.

If he is convinced that his Democratic opponent will serve the one supreme interest with greater zeal, sincerity and singleness of purpose, and with greater benefit to the Nation, let him not hesitate to support the Democrat.

So with the whole list of party candidates. If they have done well, and if they have responded to the great test of loyalty, keep them in. If any one of them does not measure up to your standards, do not hesitate to put him out, no matter to what party he belongs. But be sure that your judgment is controlled wholly by public and not by partisan considerations. It is well enough to be suspicious of any candidate who has flirted with the Non-Partisan League, for example, and who has been quite busy in trying to secure for it a footing in Oregon. It may be well, too, to give scant heed to the lip-service of any one who may have sought to identify himself with Robert La Follette and President Wilson at the same time, and who by his career has shown that he thinks the chief uses of the people are to give him a fat office.

The Republican party is marking time. It has not been dissolved or adjourned by the war, and no call for its retirement from the field, even temporarily, would be valid, unless the Democratic party should also leave. It has, however, been deemed politic and wise to maintain party forms and practices during the war. But it has not been shown that Republican party success is essential to final victory in the war, and no appeal can be made for any candidate for the mere reason that he is a Republican. On the other hand, any pretense that a Democrat, or any other party would serve his country better for the reason that he is a Democrat is wrong, and is not anywhere to be seriously made. There is no war party, except the party of the whole American people.

Perhaps the worried Glendale citizen may think that The Oregonian has not told him how to get his party garb on straight. The only garment today that fits any American citizen is the vesture of loyalty and duty; and it is incidental and immaterial whether he gets it from Republican or Democratic sources. But it is right enough that he should continue to patronize those costumers who have served him satisfactorily.

Another evidence of Berlin's capacity for miscalculation is found in the promise of India to raise a huge army this year as a further contribution to the man power of the allies. German statesmen had counted with confidence on rebellion in India to embarrass their enemies, but these hopes have been utterly shattered by events. India furnished 440,000 soldiers in 1917, half a billion dollars and 1,353,000 tons of wheat, as well as vast quantities of other material. The work of the Indian troops in Mesopotamia, in Palestine and East Africa has been an important factor in shaping the destiny of those countries; it has been a controlling factor in crushing the Turks, and has prevented the interruption of traffic through the Suez Canal. India promises to take an increasing part in the war. Its vigor shows no diminution.

NOT A SOLUTION.

The difficulties of keeping firemen on their jobs are to be solved by the creation of more jobs for firemen, and trusting to luck to find firemen for the jobs. The other day it was said that the present fire organization was fifteen men short. Now we are to have the two-platoon system, and the call is out for ninety recruits, between the ages of 18 and 36. Thus the city becomes a direct competitor with the Government in its call for men for war industry. It is said that the shortage is a million men throughout the country.

The firemen now get $100 per month. We shall expect soon to hear that the wage is inadequate. We suspect that it is. The fireman with a family to support has no advantage over men in other employments. The shipyards are open to him if he is capable, as to others.

It is the duty of Government, as with non-essential business, to get along with the fewest possible men. The fire department is no exception. Why could not the wages have been raised, and housing conditions improved, and an effort made to get along with a system which has served for many years?

OUR EDUCATION IN WAR.

Passage by both branches of Congress of the draft bill extending the age to eighteen to forty-five is practical proof of the speed with which the American people are being educated up to the necessities of war. Only two years ago men who proposed conscription were denounced as militarists in the same class with the Kaiser. Within six weeks after our declaration of war the principle was accepted but Congress balked at extending it to men under 21 or over 31. After sixteen months of war Congress has adopted, almost without opposition, the age limits customary with other warring nations for many years.

Our education has proceeded much faster than that of the British people, doubtless because we have had their experience and example to spur us on. Though the war was at their doors, they held out against conscription for twenty-one months and they yielded after they had enlisted about five million volunteers. They have now extended it to men of fifty-five. Two of their self-governing dominions also have adopted it.

The most determined opposition was offered to conscription of young men of eighteen by men who fondly called them "our boys."

Yet history proves that the bulk of armies is composed of just such boys. In the Civil War 2,151,798 of the Union soldiers were twenty-one years old or under, and of this number 1,151,438 were eighteen or under and 844,801 were sixteen or under. It has been the boys who saved the Union and who fought the great battles of earlier wars. No man proposes to extend the age below eighteen, but it will be mainly the boys in the heyday of youth who will win this war.

THE OUTLOOK IMPROVING.

With the Germans not only shorn of their power to resume the offensive but also harassed in their efforts to withdraw in orderly fashion to lines of their own choosing, the outlook is steadily improving from the point of view of the United States and the allies. The Germans have now passed the zenith of their man power. Their new recruits, obtainable from the classes which this year will attain military age, are estimated at a maximum of 600,000 and may be somewhat fewer than that, and to offset these accessions Great Britain, France and Italy may be counted on confidently for at least an equal number. This leaves the additions to the American forces as "pure velvet." General March has said that for the next seven months we shall send men over at the rate of 250,000 a month, and that "later on the movement will be larger."

These calculations do not take any account of the element of material, in which we are only beginning to get our stride, or of morale, which is distinctly on our side. The retiring Huns are showing diminishing tenacity at many points. The number of prisoners taken recently does not justify calling their retreat a "rout," but it may approach that. The Huns have not yet learned what is in store for them. A captured Colonel only the other day confessed that he believed there were only 50,000 American troops in the field. He knows better now and shortly the entire German army and the German nation will know better, too. It is not hard to conjecture the effect the truth will have upon them.

These facts justify confidence, but overconfidence is as much a mistake as it ever was. The enemy has not yet been beaten to the point of yielding, and it will require further smashing blows to drive realization in upon him. These must be delivered with all our power. There must not be the slightest relaxation of effort, of men, of material, of every essential of war. The Hun is on the run, but he must be kept on the run.

The map is full of encouragement for us, and news from enemy countries justifies the belief that they are "cracking," but we still must go on delivering blow upon blow. It is more important today than it ever has been that we should maintain our own determination at the highest pitch.

PROPAGANDA AGAINST THE ENEMY.

The time is ripe for the allies to carry on extensive propaganda in enemy countries. The people of those countries are groaning under the burdens and privations which their rulers compel them to bear. Those of Austria are ready to revolt, lacking only the means to do so without exposing themselves to fruitless slaughter. Those of Germany are beginning to realize that they have been deceived into belief that submarine war was successful and that American troops had not arrived, and could not arrive, in France. They have begun to realize that they are being beaten, and that defeat will become more decisive as the American host grows.

These are the psychological conditions which make propaganda successful. Having discovered that their own governments have deceived them, the peoples of the central empires will now be disposed to believe their enemies. All the subject peoples of Austria will rejoice to learn that the allied armies are coming to liberate them. The suffering masses of Germany will learn that the allies have no desire to dismember the empire or to place any German people under a foreign yoke. They will learn that, far from making war in defense of the Fatherland, their rulers deliberately made war to enslave other nations and to rivet their own chains tighter.

Pamphlets conveying this information have already been circulated in the central empires by the British minister of propaganda, and many have been dropped over Vienna from an airplane by Gabrielle d' Annunzio, the Italian poet. Such bombs may prove more effective in breaking the enemy morale than those which kill, maim and destroy. The latter might have the same effect as the bombs dropped from Zeppelins in England and France, which only stiffened the people's backs and stimulated recruiting. They would corroborate the stories of ruthless vengeance by the allies which the imperial governments would doubtless circulate in order to move the people to continued resistance. Real bombs might well be used against munition works, troops and defenses, but paper bombs may do better work by opening the minds of the people.

ENLIST AND GO TO COLLEGE.

It has taken a war to bring out the importance of scientific knowledge and skill in every undertaking worth while in the present state of society, but it should not be concluded that these are important only in war. The constructive problems of peace will demand education in even greater degree. It is for this reason, as much as for the reason that the country now needs trained men to wage war, that the new provision for the education of youths in the Students' Army Training Corps deserves the thoughtful consideration of every young man between the ages of 18 and 21.

The colleges are already responding to the emergency, and their courses of study will be adapted to military needs, but it need not be feared that these will lead to a growth of militarism. It is a peculiar fact that war, which is highly destructive, also calls for constructive ability of high order. It needs engineers, and builders, and chemists, and experts in transportation, and organizers and craftsmen of nearly every sort. These will not be wasted when the war is over, for they will have been educated in the fundamentals of industries which are constructive. Better than that, they will have been disciplined and trained to think.

The college vacation question seems to have settled itself. Soldiers do not have long Summer vacations; they go right on working as long as there is work to be done and an enemy to be vanquished. This new army of young men, in view of their serious purpose, will follow the example of other soldiers. It will be a period of hard work, of intensive education, for them, but they will be all the better for it. This statement by Secretary Lane's special committee on higher education and industry is much to the point:

> The people of the United States should recognize that the maintenance of the war strength of the Nation in its full power demands the utmost efforts of all existing, well-organized and adequately equipped colleges, universities and technical schools. This means ever-increasing and more devoted bodies of students, as well as faculties. . . . Young people having the requisite qualifications should heed this urgent call of their country, and apply themselves diligently and in increasing numbers to the task of preparing for the highest service of which they are capable.

The colleges already are doing their part. It has been put squarely up to prospective students to do theirs. It is an amazing opportunity which is now presented to young men—of being paid for educating themselves in branches that will heighten their usefulness all the rest of their lives.

SHORTAGE OF LABOR FOR WAR.

War industries are estimated by the Department of Labor to be a million short of the required number of workmen needed for full operation. With a greatly increased demand for war purposes, pig iron production is at the lowest point in three years, and the same statement is true of steel and copper, while coal production so far this year is 20,000,000 tons below bedrock requirements of the very kind used in war industries. This is true of other basic industries and we on the Pacific Coast know well that it is true of the shipyards.

In order to meet this situation in part, the Government has asked all employers to hire workmen through the United States Employment Service, in the hope that employers may thus be prevented from bidding against each other and that workmen may not waste time in travel from place to place. But this plan only tends to keep men on their jobs, not to continuous work on those jobs, nor does it help much to make good the shortage. A kind of labor census has been taken, on the strength of which the Government has assumed that there is a surplus in some places, and has transferred it to other places. On this assumption several thousand men have been transferred from Portland, where there is a decided shortage in shipyards, to other cities, and the same course has been taken elsewhere. In some instances the result has been to aggravate a shortage of labor already existing at one place and a shortage of housing at another place. It would be infinitely better to employ men at the war industries of the city where they now are than to uproot them and waste some of their time in travel, house-hunting and settling down in a new place.

There is only one place where the million men can be found to fill the gap; that is in non-essential industries, which afford broad scope for transfer. The New York Tribune estimates that there are now forty million male and female wage-earners, that half of these are engaged in the essential work of producing and distributing food and fuel, and that not more than five million out of the other twenty million are directly engaged in war industry. Here is a wide field in which to work. A large proportion of those fifteen millions are employed in non-essential, some in literally wasteful, industries. Elevator men, dancing teachers, billiard and pool-room men, floorwalkers, lawyers, real estate men, chauffeurs, salesmen, both traveling and stationary, could be replaced by women or by men above the draft age. Industries producing luxuries could reduce their output and consequently their force, for they are wasteful in more than one way. Candy manufacturers, for example, employ men in making a luxury which wastes much of our scanty supply of sugar, wastes labor and tempts people to waste money which would be better invested in liberty bonds or saving stamps. Patriotism dictates that every person dispense with luxuries in clothes, food, furniture and travel, whether by train or automobile, and apply the money saved to war uses. This practice can be made compulsory on the unwilling by reducing the supply through withdrawal of much of the labor thus wastefully engaged. In this manner and by taxation the Government can reach the luxurious slacker.

The new draft law furnishes means by which these things can be done automatically. Provost Marshal-General Crowder estimates the number of men between 32 and 45 at 10,028,973 and in arriving at the small residue of 601,236 effectives he deducts 7,734,482 married men, or more than three-fourths of the whole number. There may be grounds of dependency on which many of these married men should stay at home, but these are not grounds for their continuing a non-essential occupation. The Government might fairly say to all who have no dependents and to some who have: "You must transfer your energies to some industry essential to the war or you must fight." Some of these men may be so employed that their removal would injure large interests, but their places could be taken by men above 45, who may be short-winded and soft-muscled but whose brains are in good working order. Others could be replaced by women, to the advantage of both the Nation and the women.

War demands mobilization of the entire man power and much of the woman power of the Nation for its effective prosecution. All of this power should be at the disposal of the Government for such use contributing to the war as it decides. Giving of direct orders to each one that he shall do so and so is too slow, costly and complex a task. Each should think it out for himself and act accordingly; then the Government would have to deal only with the slacker residue, powerfully aided by public opinion. The work-or-fight clause has been construed too narrowly as affecting manual workers, of whom less than three millions are members of the Labor Federation. It applies to all, from preachers, professors, bank presidents and corporation managers all the way down through the social and business scale. It applies to every able-bodied woman, not only those with no home duties but the housewives, that they manage their houses and influence their husbands from the war viewpoint. We have only begun to think and act as a war-making people. We shall end the labor shortage and begin winning with speed when its effect on the war guides our every act.

The estimate by the Food Administration that three-fourths of all the burlap imported into the United States is used by farmers in shipping agricultural products or in buying necessary supplies gives especial point to the warning that great economy be observed in the use of bags. When sacks were selling at 6 or 7 cents apiece, dealers found it impracticable to advertise for and gather second-hand stock, but the present price, about four times that which prevailed before the war, and decreased imports of material warrant extreme conservation. New burlap imported by the United States cost about $150,000,000 a year, at least two-thirds of which is ultimately paid by the farmers themselves, and naturally is either taken from their profits or added to the cost of food to the consumer. Saving burlap not only adds to the farmer's profits, but also lessens the strain upon shipping now employed in the trade from India, which is needed for strictly war purposes.

Now that the season of Fall fairs is at hand, a word of advice to managers is not out of place. Let the games of chance be eliminated and extend the legitimate amusements. People go to be entertained, not to be "stung."

American farmers borrowed four hundred millions from insurance companies in the last three years, but the usual order of foreclosure was stayed by the high prices they got for their products.

Lists of casualties are heavy and almost everybody finds the name of relative, friend or acquaintance in them. This is one of the melancholy phases of being in a great war.

Now watch the haughty Spaniard get his back up and intern the German refugees. Under the cloud of defeat the Kaiser will learn how many friends he really has.

Evidently the Mexicans insist on proof that the Gringoes can lick them. They are not satisfied with proof that we can lick the Germans, even if it should reach them.

That young schoolma'am over in Washington who worked as section hand during vacation will have muscle with which to enforce order this Winter.

Mr. Gompers is in England and labor over there will believe when he tells them it is better to work than strike during perilous times.

What the circus people call the "she note" is coming back in the new form of Federal Reserve two-dollar bill, with the "hoodoo" off.

Eugene has an example of patriotism which is worthy of imitation by greater cities but it fairly represents the sentiment of Oregon.

Herding sheep is an essential industry. Government needs the wool. Most men, however, would rather fight than herd sheep.

The Boy Scouts are welcome to the fun of the watermelon feast Sunday afternoon, if they go to Sunday school in the morning.

The "development battalion" will catch the man who missed the Civil War and could not get in twenty years ago.

Generally Portland tries anything once and gets along with it, which gives hope for the one-way traffic plan.

The Canadians are too busy to do anything but make prisoners of the Germans they capture.

Everybody needs to take something to develop an interest in the world's series next week.

Why not make the maximum 60 and give some fellows an excuse for leaving home?

Two boards seem a lot for the healthiest city in the land.

Patience awhile, and that interstate bridge may be made free.

With less joyriding, the East may do more war-work.

Prohibition next July! Well, who cares?

Mexico is sorry, and that is something.

Portland enjoys the visits of the Elks.

Stars and Starmakers.

By Leone Cass Baer.

Confidently I pray every morning for the custodian of alien properties to swoop down in my neighborhood and seize and intern forever the foreign decompositions played in front of my house by an organ grinder.

* * *

Seems to me that some of the requirements in this advanced draft limit are superfluous. I'd take it for granted that any married man already has had years of training under both departments of the work-or-fight law.

* * *

Wish to heaven the Government would draft that bunch of women who picket the White House and let 'em heckle the Germans a while.

* * *

Geraldine Dare has a brand new sea-sick story, which is worth passing along. An amateur navigator making his first trip across is the victim and the first day out he was in the throes of the mal-est mal de mer extant when the ship surgeon visited him in his stateroom.

"What's the matter!" was the latter's callous query.

"O-o-oh," was the only response, as the young Navy man rolled over in agony.

"Come, get up," derided the surgeon, grinning unfeelingly. "The ship's been submarined and will sink in ten minutes."

"Ten minutes?" the sick man protested feebly. Can't you make it any sooner?"

* * *

Our friend Ee van dee Marcelle is sojourning at Camp Lewis, where I'll bet his esthetic soul is being jarred to its limit with all these war goings-on. Ee van turned up in San Francisco a week ago under the pretty name of Armand, and put on a dancing ballet with four girls. The moral squad had heard of Ee van and yanked him and his ballet off the stage, sent the misguided girls home and sent Ee van to war.

* * *

When the new cast of the new Alcazar Theater is announced there will appear on the list of names "Gloria Graham." The fair Gloria is none other than Katherine Graham, society girl, who made a success in pictures and who appeared last season with the Alcazar Players. This Summer Miss Graham was visiting an aunt and in the same house party were half a dozen Katherines. "This is too much for me," said the hostess. "I'm going to change someone's name." And straightway she picked Miss Graham and formally bestowed upon her the name Gloria, and as such she will be known when she appears at the playhouse at Eleventh and Morrison streets.

* * *

Lillian Russell has received the unique distinction of a commission as Colonel of the Marine Corps. Major-General Barnett, U. S. M. C., conferred it upon the fair one. Miss Russell is the only woman holding the rank, given to her in recognition of her recruiting work for the corps.

* * *

Slated to have been married this week were Frank Fay and Lee Buchanan, who recently obtained a license for the idea in a small town near New York. Miss Buchanan was formerly in Fay's three-act.

Fay's marriage to Frances White was of the briefest duration and the divorce obtained by Miss White carried an alimony allowance. Fay reneged on the payments, but changed his mind after tarrying in Ludlow-street jail for about 12 hours.

* * *

At the Cort Theater, San Francisco, Dana Hayes and Ben M. Giroux have just produced a new musical piece, entitled "Up in the Air." The book is by Waldo O. Twitchell, and the score by Arthur Fournier. Alonzo Price has staged the piece.

Ed Flanagan, Neely Edwards and Eleanor Henry are conspicuous in the cast. Others involved are Myrtle Dingwall and Barnett Franklin. It is booked for Portland before Christmas.

* * *

Contracts have been signed by Joe Weber and Jack Lait, Chicago newspaper man, whereby Weber acquires the rights to a new musical play by Lait, entitled, tentatively, "The Minstrel Man." The piece will be produced in New York during the holidays.

Another interesting agreement entered into by the same pair requires Lait to write a comedy, called "Gus, the Bus," in which Weber is to star himself in the title role. The play is founded upon Lait's own novel. It tells of a German bus boy who escapes from Germany when the war breaks out, and afterward enlists in the United States Army.

* * *

A highly interesting announcement from the office of Charles Frohman, Inc., is that William Gillette is to be presented this season in "Dear Brutus," a comedy by Sir James M. Barrie, which has been running a year in London. Mr. Gillette will act the leading role in this play at the author's personal request.

The production of any new Barrie play is necessarily one of the important events of a dramatic season. It becomes doubly interesting when a talented player like William Gillette is identified with it. Once before Mr. Gillette appeared in another Barrie play, "The Admirable Crichton."

"Dear Brutus" was originally produced last September at Wyndham's Theater, London, by Gerald du Maurier, who appeared himself in it. It has been running ever since. Du Maurier, having received a commission in the British army, has now retired from the cast and H. V. Esmond is acting the principal role.

The title of the play is taken from the line in Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar":

> The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
> But in ourselves, that we are underlings.

In the course of the play Barrie, in his characteristic way, attempts to show what would happen if human beings were permitted the opportunity to live their lives over again.

* * *

Alan Brooks, who has been a successful headliner in Orpheum vaudeville for a number of seasons, has been engaged for an important comedy role in the cast which is to support Jane Cowl in Selwyn & Co.'s production of the new comedy, "Information, Please."

It Takes Skill.

Boston Transcript.

Vicar (severely)—"Ah, it's the old story, unskilled man dodging work he might get." Tramp—"Unskilled, am I? You 'ave a go at dodgin' work these days an' see if it don't take a bit o' skill."

CRISIS STILL CONFRONTS NATION

We Must Guard Against Electing Pacifists While We Are Waging War.

ILWACO, Wash., Aug. 26.—(To the Editor.)—Your editorial, "An Inglorious Pair," is timely. It is to be hoped that pacifists—or ought we to preface it with "ex"—will not be placed in future control of our Government. Yet a grave crisis confronts the American people, apparently not realized by many. As a result of the war the pacifist vote is relatively strengthened. Because of their opposition to war, not so many of them enlisted, leaving more of them at home to vote. Then, again, the woman vote—unfortunately due to temperament—is largely pacifist, as, with all due respect to the sex, it is a fact that they are swayed by sentiment more than by logical reasoning. Witness Miss Rankin on the vote for war in Congress. She cried and said: "I cannot, I cannot vote for war." It was a question of surrendering to the Germans or fight, and yet she would rather surrender than fight.

Many noble women are doing more than their bit to fight this war—now that the war has come—and yet at heart are still pacifist, and in some way still hope that pacifists will find a means by suasion, and are rather inclined mistakenly again to support men of former pacifist leaning. Even men of former pacifist views are still trying to push men forward to places of influence and trust largely because of their former pacifist views. Witness Mr. Wilson's going out of his way to nominate Mr. Ford for Senator—Mr. Ford, who by his mistaken pacifist views, through his wealth influenced more of our people so to act that the Germans truly believed that we were "too proud to fight" and is more responsible for our present war with Germany than any other man in private life. His attitude and views invited German insults and aggression and brought on the war.

It truly is to be hoped that the sense of the American people is awake to the fact of the danger of entrusting men who were so shortsighted before the war.

Now it is a historic fact that the Democratic party, as a party, is more largely pacifist, or was so, than the members of the Republican party and the votes in Congress prove it. Our present Republican party has refused to place at its head men who formerly held pacifist views, believing that they are not the men needed in the council chamber of the Nation to carry on this war. As against this wise policy stands the present Democratic policy of going out of its way to push men of former pacifist views to places of power. Surely it is apparent to lovers of our country that the interests of the Nation will be best served by placing Republicans on guard at Washington, by the election of Republican Congressmen and Senators, and that even ex-pacifists will see that it is best to vote for them, as they can best carry on the war. WALTER SEABORG.

GREEKS RESENT GENERAL CHARGE

Offer Made to Co-operate in Punishing Few Who Do Wrong.

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(To the Editor.)—Last week your valuable paper referred to Greek restaurants of this city that constituted breeding places for moral delinquency and immorality, calling particular attention to young girls employed in these restaurants and the danger resulting to them on account of such employment.

As an American citizen of Greek birth I protest against these damnable accusations of my countrymen. I do not know how true the charge is that one or more of my countrymen may be engaged in the abominable practice charged, but it is almost inconceivable that some 320 families of Greek origin in this city should be made to suffer because one or more of them are such rascals.

It may be of some interest to you to know that 311 of our Greek boys have enlisted and are now fighting for democracy, shoulder to shoulder with American soldiers, and the parents and relatives of this same 311 must bear the humiliation of the wholesale condemnation of Greeks.

It is unfortunately true that among people of my nationality are those of depraved minds, but probably no more than among other peoples. I doubt very much that there are any number of Greeks of the immoral bent charged. Indeed, the Greeks of this city are convinced that the story is almost wholly untrue. But whether true or not, I desire to make this proposal to anyone deeply interested in right conduct, viz: That we, the citizens or aliens of Greek birth, will appoint a committee of responsible people to assist the police or any city or other authority to apprehend such wrongdoers and assist to prosecute and eventually properly to punish them.

But let criminals be made to answer for their crimes and let not a whole class be made to suffer for the crimes of some. THEODORE DIMITEY,
President Hellenic Commercial League.

KEEPING HIS PARTY ON STRAIGHT

Anxious Inquiry of Ex-Progressive as to His Status.

GLENDALE, Or., Aug. 27.—(To the Editor.)—I need a little advice right now on my political condition. The main thing that bothers me is—"where am I at?" Being a Progressive, I am at a loss to know whether to wear a Republican head and Democratic tail, or a Democratic head and Republican tail. I am willing to wear the outfit either way if I only could know what the prevailing style would be this Fall.

If I wear a Republican head and Democratic tail, I can gallop along with the good old bunch. If we win out, all right; but if the Democrats win out, I can only stammer around and claim that my head was on the wrong end. If I wear a Democratic head and a Republican tail, I will be in a position to write Chamberlain a few letters telling him what to do at Washington, claim that Wilson is a fourth cousin of mine, and shout pro-German at any one who even mentions politics, and, if we win out, I will be right in line for something good; but if the Republicans win out, I would have to hedge around and say, "Oh, well, there's no politics any more. We are all Americans, and we're in this war to win."

I am a little country lawyer of about one-and-one-half horse-power, and I tell you this is a vital thing to me and it is very necessary that I get the proper political clothes on and headed in the right direction. You are up there where the lights are shining, and, while you are not any too bright yourself, you ought to be able to give me a few pointers on how the thing is going to shape up. Trusting that I may hear from you soon with any inside dope you may have leeched out of the big jacks in the game, I am anxiously yours, OLIVER S. BROWN.

Censoring of Mail to Soldiers.

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly let me know whether soldiers' mail that goes overseas is censored. Is it allowed to write in the German language? SUBSCRIBER.

The Pastoffice Department has the right to censor all mail leaving the United States. Just what proportion is actually censored has never been disclosed. There is nothing to prevent the writing and forwarding of messages in the German language.

Work Is Contrasted.

Washington (D. C.) Star.

"It kind o' riles a man dat prides hisself on seein' how much work he kin do," said Uncle Eben, "to hear some man braggin' cause he doesn't have to do no work at all."

In Other Days.

Twenty-Five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian, August 29, 1893.

The new firm of F. Waterhouse & Co., of Seattle, will operate a line of steamships between Portland, Puget Sound and British Columbia ports beginning next week.

Jean J., the brown mare valued at $4000 by her owner, E. G. Johnson, of Seattle, dropped dead at the Irvington Park races yesterday.

The Wilson bill, repealing the silver-purchase clause of the Sherman act, passed the House yesterday without an amendment. The majority in favor of the bill was beyond all expectations of its friends.

Discouraging news concerning the Peary expedition comes from Labrador.

Fifty Years Ago.

From The Oregonian, August 29, 1868.

The fact that the soldiers in 1861 gave 121,041 votes for Abraham Lincoln, and only 35,050 for McClellan, may give some idea of how the soldiers will be likely to vote this year.

General Buchanan's order assuming command of the Department of Louisiana gives no direction for any concentration of troops in that state, and it is understood there will be none made, but on the contrary, they will be placed at points where trouble is anticipated.

The annual announcement of the Baltimore University has just appeared. It announces that its professors are not only Southern born, but served in the southern army and openly and unblushingly asks for support almost on that ground alone. It dwells on the eminent services rendered by the professors in the "lost cause."

VETERAN VOICES HIS GRATITUDE

Portland Most Hospitable of Cities in Entertaining Boys of '61 to '65.

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(To the Editor.)—I am one of those whom Portland has entertained so royally and I do not feel like leaving your beautiful city without thanking you for your hospitality to the men of '61 to '65. I have never attended an encampment where more has been done to accommodate those who attended. I never have seen accommodations anywhere that have equaled those given by Portland, and I feel it my duty to say a little something to let the people know how we appreciate your kindness.

I was taken prisoner at Winchester, Va., and was taken to Richmond and put in Libby prison. When I was exchanged and got back to my regiment I made a vow that I never would surrender again. I have lived so many years only to have to surrender. Two ladies, one Mrs. C. T. Kamm, the other Mrs. S. E. Purvine, came into the Multnomah Hotel and demanded an unconditional surrender. I held up my hands and surrendered without firing a shot. They marched me out of the hotel. There stood a big automobile. They ordered me to get in, which I did without a protest. They took me out on the Columbia River Highway and I was not a prisoner very long till all my fears were banished, for it was the most delightful trip I ever made. The scenery is beyond description and all of the old veterans that I talked with were more than delighted with the trip.

I must not forget also to thank the people in general. I also have a very warm feeling for the police force. I saw one take an old G. A. R. veteran, lead him to an auto and send him out for a ride. Then came the Boy Scouts. All of them took deep interest in the welfare of the old boys; also our young soldier boys who are in training here waiting to go to the front. Last, but not least, are those sweet little girls who worked so hard. Doubtless there are others whom I might mention. Good old Portland! May she prosper forever.
B. F. McCUTCHEN.
Company F, Eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 13th Army Corps.

Statue of Citizen Born in Germany.

GARDINER, Or., Aug. 26.—(To the Editor.)—I was born and reared in Germany. Left there just at military age. Came here, got my papers rightly, sailed as mate on the coast here for years, am willing to "do my bit" any place, but I don't want to go back and fight my relations. I am close on 45. What can I do? H. R.

If you are chosen under the new draft law, you will not be entitled to exemption merely because you were born in Germany and have relatives in the German army. Having enjoyed the full benefits of American citizenship, you will be expected to do full duty as an American. Major C. C. Cresson, judge-advocate of the 13th Division, has declared that if men persist in such claims for exemption, he will recommend that the commanders of the units to which they are assigned take action to have them interned. It is probable also that you would lose your citizenship. The Nation now demands full loyalty and service from all to whom it has extended protection as citizens in the past.

Outline of Western Battle Front.

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(To the Editor.)—Please print a list of names on the present battle front from the North Sea south through Belgium and France at intervals of a few miles, so that a person can plat the line on the map. J. E. BUTLER.

The battle line is changng from day to day, but on August 28 it approximately extended through the following points: Beginning at Westends, on the coast, to St. Pierre, just east of Ramscapelle, just west of Dixmude, to Pilken, about four miles east of Ypres, a little west of Hollebeke, a little north of Bailleul, to Estaires, Locon, Givenchy, Lens, Vimy, Remy, Beugny, Bapaume, Maricourt, Omiecourt, Gruny, Roigloise, near to Noyon (the French are on three sides of this town), Mancamp, Crecy, Chavigny, Vailly, Bazoches, Fismes, St. Thierry, Prunay, Massiges, Bourville, Forges, Beaumont, Haudiomont, Maizeray, St. Mihiel, Cheminot, along the boundary of Lorraine to Mazerulles, Embermenil, Badonvillier, Hurbache, Lasseux, Fraizer, across the boundary to Stoss Wir, thence to Petterhausen on the Swiss frontier.

Rejected Man Has No Claim.

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(To the Editor.)—I was in the draft, passed the examination, was sent to Camp Lewis and rejected. I settled up my business affairs here before leaving. My insurance policy would not carry me through the war and I lost more than $100. Can anything be done to reimburse me? M. T.

You have no claim for reimbursement. The situation seems to involve an individual hardship, which is part of the fortunes of war and the price of citizenship. A good many individuals have borne heavier losses than you report without making a fuss over it.

The Car Is Waiting.

Life.

"Have you got a second-hand car, as good as new, for about one-quarter what a new car would cost?" "Yes'm, we've got just the one you want. It's being towed in now."