Morning Oregonian

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"MUTUAL CONCESSIONS."

The Oregonian prints elsewhere the strong, timely and very admirable resolutions adopted by the New York Chamber of Commerce demanding ratification of peace and declaring that "some form of international covenant" is a "moral necessity." It should and must be attained through "mutual concessions by both the president and the senate."

The New York Chamber reflects unquestionably the prevailing sentiment of the country. It is to be noted that no attempt is made to fix the blame for failure of the treaty. The Chamber is concerned about the condition in which the country and the world find themselves, and is interested in remedies, not recriminations. It calls for "mutual concessions."

This does not mean that the senate should make concessions, and the president none, but it means that both the president and the senate should by conference, by compromise, by adjustment, by give and take, reach a meeting of minds that will solve the tremendous problems of national welfare and world peace.

President Wilson has said that he has nothing to offer the senate in the way of conciliation or concession. Senator Lodge has responded with similar contemptuous and cynical indifference that it is up to the president and not the senate. All this is deplorable; more, it is tragic. It must be changed and the deadlock terminated.

There should be a way to make the voice of the country heard both at the White House and in the halls of congress. The people are for "mutual concession." Only the president and Senator Lodge are not. But they must learn that it is too great a matter for the play of pride or the satisfaction of revenge.

DEMOCRACY REAPS ITS HARVEST.

Such a shock was given to the democratic party by the elections in Massachusetts, Maryland, Kentucky and New York city and by the congressional by-election in Oklahoma that every subsequent move of the administration must be construed as an effort of the party to recover itself. In that light President Wilson's message should be read.

Democracy is reaping the crop from what it has sown. It yielded to union labor so often that in Massachusetts it was finally driven to choose between law and order and the right of the police to mutiny. It chose the latter, which means anarchy, and was utterly routed. The national administration was forced to choose between the right of the coal miners to strike and the right of the people to fuel. It chose the latter, but it bungled its case, was defied by the miners and has incurred the enmity of its former most stalwart supporters, Samuel Gompers, the labor federation and the railroad brotherhoods. It is in a predicament, and the president is seeking a way out in the peace overtures which he has made to the miners' leaders.

To the president himself is due the unfavorable light in which his party stands with regard to the league of nations. He pursued his ideal of America's duty to the world without regard to this country's duty to itself, though the two are quite reconcilable, and he undertook to realize that ideal without insuring in advance the aid of the senate, though its approval was essential to completion of his work. He made opportunity for his opponents to arouse the spirit of Americanism by insisting that, while this nation should enter the league, reservations to the covenant should guard its particular interests. He thus became the champion of a new internationalism as opposed to an Americanism careful to sacrifice no national rights to its duty to other nations. Public opinion spoke in the democratic platform of Massachusetts and in the Oklahoma and Kentucky elections.

The president has placed his party in an equally equivocal position with regard to radicals and revolutionists. He now attempts a firm stand against them, and sets Attorney-General Palmer on their trail, but he finds progress obstructed by such men as Howe, Densmore, Bullitt, Herron and the swarm of other philosophical anarchists, parlor bolshevists and college socialists whom he has appointed to office, and by the encouragement which his entire policy has given to radicals. The wide dissemination of bolshevism in this and other countries can be traced to his refusal in the summer of 1918 to join the allies in effective intervention against the bolshevist-German plan to destroy Russia and to his moves for peace with the reds. He is now driven to fight an evil of his own creation. If he persists, he stands to lose his radical friends without winning the confidence of the great body of Americans which has consistently opposed them.

His recommendations of a budget system, of tax reform and economy, of legislation in behalf of the veterans, of protection to key industries, of promotion of foreign trade present issues which the republicans have already made their own by introducing bills now pending in congress. His attempt to place upon his opponents responsibility for failure to pass laws against profiteering cannot succeed in view of the fact that his insistence on the league covenant without change has blocked legislation of all kinds, and of the general opinion that the strikes and disturbances have their origin in his past policies and are the main cause of high prices.

The democratic party has lost public confidence because its recent policy on the subjects now uppermost in the public mind has proved unsound, and because its eleventh-hour stand for the law and the public interest is accompanied by movements to retain the support of those elements which that stand requires it to force into submission to law. The party is judged, not by the position which it now assumes, but by the record of its six years in undisputed control of the government. The evils which it now professes to combat are seen to flow from that record, and it cannot escape an adverse verdict.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

The Spokane Spokesman-Review has information that the so-called "triple alliance" of the state of Washington has been defined by National Master Wilson of the Grange as a political organization, and the Washington state executive committee has issued a statement setting forth the duty of members of that order toward the three-headed arrangement. It says:

> No member of the grange is violating his obligation by becoming a member of the triple alliance or of any other political organization that seeks to accomplish its objects by the use of the ballot. On the other hand, any member of the grange who does not desire to become a member of the triple alliance should not be characterized as "being out of harmony with the grange spirit," as some of the alliance organizers and officials have apparently sought to do. On the contrary, he is strictly in harmony with the grange spirit and is exercising his prerogatives as a citizen.

It is further declared that when any member of the order joins a political party or combination "such action must be taken as an individual and not as a member of the Grange."

Here now is a repudiation of the triple alliance, which purports to be an association of the State Federation of Labor, of the Railwaymen's Welfare league, and "farmers' organizations."

At The Dalles, the other day, the Farmers' union, in defiance of the well-laid plans of some of its leaders, resolved against partnership with any other than farmers' organizations.

These developments are interesting as revealing the signs of the times. They should be particularly interesting to Brother Spence, grand master of the Oregon Grange, who can see and interpret a sign of the times as quickly as anybody.

ABOUT HARBORS, PRO AND CON.

San Francisco bay has been heralded so long as the greatest harbor on the Pacific coast that the request of Secretary Daniels for an appropriation to provide a channel 42 feet deep and 1500 feet wide comes as a surprise to many who have credited boasts of its perfection. Those who have had the dangers of the Columbia river bar dinned into their ears will be surprised to find Mr. Daniels complaining that the entrance to San Francisco bay is "unsatisfactory for big battleships"; that one channel "contains dangerous rocks" and that another is "not of sufficient depth" and is "tortuous."

By comparison with these entrances, that of the Columbia should commend itself to shipping men with its low water depth of 41 feet for a width of half a mile and still gaining depth, but without "dangerous rocks." How far the depth of San Francisco bay falls short of the desired 42 feet we are not informed, but the necessity of public expenditure in order to attain that depth will be news to many who have supposed that any ship of any draft could safely roam its waters.

These facts drive home the fact that nature does not make harbors complete, all ready to use. She only makes them in the rough, and leaves it to man to finish the job. Hence each harbor has some drawbacks to offset its advantages, and those of one may balance those of another. San Francisco and Puget sound each score points which the Columbia river cannot make, but the latter has the advantages of deep penetration inland, of fresh water and of a water grade from a vast territory, the traffic of which drains into Portland by a natural water grade. Neither Puget sound nor San Francisco bay has these advantages, which may easily offset those which they have.

CLIMATE AND TUBERCULOSIS.

The importance of an educational campaign to show the true relationship between climate and the cure of certain diseases, especially those of the respiratory tract, is shown by the statement of the New York state department of health that, with reference in particular to tuberculosis, "all authorities emphasize the four essentials for treatment, which can be obtained almost anywhere and everywhere, namely: Rest, food, fresh air and proper medical attendance," and that since the mental condition of the patient is important it is essential that he should be freed from the notion that the fresh air exclusively of a particular locality is necessary to his well-being. The Denver Anti-Tuberculosis Society also calls attention to the same principle in a statement in which it intimates that, however favorable the climate of Colorado may be for treatment of the malady, patients should not go there unless adequate provision has been made for their reception and care.

It is not contended that certain salubrities of climate do not offer greater comfort to sufferers in some instances, but the point to be kept in mind is that the great tuberculosis problem is an intensely local one, that it is not possible for most patients to travel to a distant place and maintain themselves there, far from home and friends, while if proper facilities are provided nearer home there is hardly any climate in which the prime essentials cannot be supplied. This is particularly true where the disease is "taken in time," which is in effect a plea for education in recognition of early symptoms. One of the encouraging by-products of the late war was the number of diagnoses made in examination of men for military service which resulted in adoption of protective measures when the disease existed but previously had gone unrecognized.

A good deal of mischief probably has been done in the past by the notion that the "fresh air" prescribed for tuberculosis victims needed to be the fresh air of Colorado, or Arizona, or some other far-off state. The harm has consisted in retardation of measures for treatment nearer home. Since the work is so largely a community undertaking, dependent in its broader aspects upon cooperation of every individual, the facts cannot be too widely known. The notion is too prevalent that the patient must be "sent away," and this blinds us also to the greater necessity for preventive as well as curative measures. Pecuniary considerations, also, often influence patients dangerously to postpone their going and to devote money to travel that might much more judiciously be expended for other necessities.

The New York health department says that "belief in the unique value of climatic treatment has been proved to be erroneous in all but exceptional cases." This would be as true if it had been written in Oregon. It is true in all the seasons of the year, but it is now called to attention by the campaign for Red Cross tuberculosis seals just drawing to a close. When the people of every state resolve to take care of their own, and stop relying on therapeutic measures that are remote in a double sense, the fight will have been more than half won.

CAUGHT IN HIS OWN NET.

President Carranza's answer to the latest of the many notes from Secretary Lansing appears to set up a legally impregnable defense of the refusal to take charges against Mr. Jenkins out of the hands of the Mexican courts. It is contended that he suffers no hardship since he has been released on bail, though a man out on bail cannot be considered strictly a free man. From the fact that bail was given without his knowledge and consent by a man named Hansen, who had intimate relations with the Carranza government, there is reason to suspect that the bail money came out of the Mexican treasury, if any was deposited, and that the entire transaction was fictitious, designed to put Carranza in the correct position to write the note.

If the Mexican government were such as the United States could trust to leave the courts independent of executive dictation, there would be no excuse for making a case which is in the hands of the courts a subject for diplomatic negotiation. By recognizing the Carranza government, President Wilson conceded that it has that character, when any man with the least knowledge of how things are done in Mexico knows that it has not. Carranza's whole defense is founded on this false premise, but Mr. Wilson has debarred himself from declaring it false and thus has laid the foundation for a plausible answer. He can tear down that foundation only by severing relations on the ground that the Carranza government does not fulfill the requirements of civilized nations. That would be an admission of error which he is loath to make, hence he may sit impotent while the Jenkins case is played out.

The president is entangled in a net of his own weaving. He might have escaped with comparative ease, though with some loss of prestige, prior to his recognition of Carranza. Since then his only way of escape has been to cut the net by admitting that he erred then and has erred ever since. Pride and stubbornness will not permit this.

BAKER, PROTECTOR OF THE REDS.

While Attorney-General Palmer has been arresting and sending to prison preachers of revolution, Secretary of War Baker has been turning loose others of the same kind. Baker makes work for Palmer. He is the protector, the shield and defender of the reds, for when they get into the clutches of the army he sets them free.

A typical but particularly notorious case is that of Allan S. Broms of Minnesota and the department of Minnesota of the American Legion has taken it in hand with a view to bringing the whole influence of the legion to bear in putting Broms where he belongs and exposing the disloyalty of Baker. Broms was convicted at Camp Dodge, Iowa, on March 7, 1918, as a conscientious objector and sentenced to 20 years in the Fort Leavenworth prison, to dishonorable discharge and to forfeiture of all pay. In affirming the sentence, Adjutant-General Crowder said:

> Short of army mutiny nothing more inimical to military discipline can be imagined than conduct such as displayed by the accused in this case. From the transcript of his statement, contained in the record, it is plain that he is not only an educated man, but possessed of an energetic and forceful power of presentation and endowed with faculties calculated to give him more than an ordinary influence over his hearers and render him conspicuously successful in the work of proselyting in which it is not unreasonable to infer he has been engaged. A man such as this allowed at large is incalculably more dangerous than an enemy spy.

That description fully justifies the Minnesota legion's statement that Broms is a slacker and communist leader, but on March 11, 1919, his sentence was reduced to three years, and on March 18, through a mistake at the barracks, Broms was given a certificate of dishonorable discharge and released. In a memorandum to F. P. Keppel, third assistant secretary of war, dated May 14, of which the legion publishes a facsimile, General J. T. Kerr cited these facts, said that Broms was in Minneapolis on April 11, and continued:

> The release of this man was without authority. The commandant desires him returned to custody.
>
> The judge advocate-general is of opinion that Broms can be legally taken into custody and returned to the United States disciplinary barracks, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to serve the unexpired portion of his sentence to confinement as remitted.
>
> The clemency board is of opinion that the maximum remission justified by a careful review of the proceedings of the G. C. M. was given in this case. In justice to other prisoners serving similar sentences I am of opinion that Broms should be returned to the United States disciplinary barracks to complete his sentence of confinement as remitted.
>
> It is proposed to direct the commandant, United States disciplinary barracks, to send an officer and one man to Minneapolis, Minnesota, to rearrest Broms and take him to the United States disciplinary barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.
>
> It is recommended that you give approval to this action.

Only three days later, on May 17, Mr. Keppel returned the memorandum with the following endorsement signed by himself:

> By personal direction of the secretary of war, disapproved, in view of the fact that the prisoner is in legal possession of a discharge certificate and has been released from confinement.

Copies of this correspondence are being sent by the Minnesota department to all other departments with the following suggestion:

> The American Legion must now choose between standing up for the boys who served faithfully and honorably under Pershing in France and laying down to the proteges of the secretary of war who "served" at Leavenworth.

Broms was set free "by personal direction of the secretary of war" at the time when revolutionary agitation was at its height, though he had been denounced by General Crowder as "incalculably more dangerous than an enemy spy." Baker held that he was "in legal possession of a discharge certificate" and could not therefore be again imprisoned, in flat contradiction of the opinion of the judge advocate general, his legal adviser, that "the release was without authority" and that Broms "can be legally taken into custody and returned" to prison. In short, Baker strained the law and took advantage of a mistake to liberate an enemy of the government which he is sworn to defend.

When such things are done in these perilous times, there is no cause for surprise that enemies of democratic institutions are loud, active and rampant. They know that they have friends at the center of power. They are in practical control of two departments of the government, so far as arrest and punishment for treason, sedition and rebellion are concerned. When an alien revolutionist gets into the clutches of the immigration bureau, the heads of the labor department intercede, and in nine out of ten cases set him free. When a disloyal citizen falls foul of military law, Mr. Baker comes to his relief. When over 400 fake conscientious objectors were released at Leavensworth with honorable discharge, full pay and new clothes, responsibility was placed on some unnamed subordinate official of the war department, but it should rest on the head of that department. No doubt exists in the Broms case, for that man retained his freedom "by personal direction of the secretary of war."

The nation owes it to the men who served faithfully in the war to stamp the yellow brand indelibly on those who refused to serve and who spread sedition among the loyal. An honorable discharge should be a thing to be treasured by a man and his family for many generations—a badge of honor. If it is held by the unworthy, its value is diminished, for doubt is raised whether it speaks truth. When an ex-soldier's son reads of the Leavenworth slackers who bear this badge of honor, question may be raised in his mind whether his father served in France or the training camp or in the slacker's prison, to be ultimately whitewashed by a slacker secretary of war.

The poison of red radicalism does even more injury, for it has spread all through several departments of the government and paralyzes the energies of those departments whose heads are faithful in combating revolution. The department would have occupation enough in rounding up the reds with one hand and the profiteers with the other if it had the hearty co-operation of all other departments. Its task will be herculean if it must contend with the efforts of the labor and war departments to keep alien reds in the country and to keep citizen reds out of the military prisons. To make his work successful, Mr. Palmer should proceed against Mr. Baker and Mr. Densmore and all their parlor bolshevist assistants.

The navy department announces that members of the naval reserve force on the inactive list are to be organized in each district immediately for drill and instruction. Yes, we thought the secretary had swabbing the decks in mind when he spoke so warmly of the reserve in his annual report.

With slippery walks there is much in knowing how to fall. Fat people, having good buffers fore and aft, seldom are hurt. Slim ones should fold arms and look out for the head; the rest of the anatomy will care for itself. The nearer one can form into the shape of a ball, the less danger of damage.

One of the electric stores listed yesterday in its advertisement under the heading, "For Father," a waffle iron. That's the most sensible "ad." of the season. Father always has to wait and should have his own individual waffle iron.

There is a hen at the poultry show that laid 330 eggs in a year and never clucked for a day off. If people worked that way production soon would reduce the cost of existence. But hens have no sense and merely set examples.

Come to think of it, the mint julep output in the southern novels won't be affected so seriously after all. The supreme court decision doesn't prohibit the fiction hero from having a fictional drink.

Captain Lewis declares fines fail to stop traffic law violators. He is right. A jail sentence, however, if the appellate court stands for it, will do the business.

According to Carranza, the administration has written him 1556 notes. A lot of trouble would have been saved if the note writing had stopped with No. 23.

The end of the world failed to arrive, but the end of the month is coming with all disadvantages of being "broke" after this Christmas.

Ever notice how "stuff" accumulates under a bed? Give her a vacuum affair for Christmas and listen to her sing.

The cross pull of the planets must have turned the sun around, for it failed to show up on Mount Hood when due.

Today will really be the end of the world for anyone who gets his head under one of those big icicles on its way down.

Portland dentists celebrated the other night with a high jinks. Presume they did it to fill in the time.

The bundle-carrying husband indicates a good man, though that is not what he says.

Professor Porta really should let the world in on the secret of that new drink.

However, Secretary Glass has not yet broken with the President.

One week until Christmas, and you must hurry. Do it mornings.

Have you put up your ice while the putting is good?

No man ever had too many razors.

We all seem to be here.

Stars and Starmakers.

By Leone Cass Baer.

PRINTED in the programmes of the Alcazar theater is a little missionary line. It is doing a lot to curb the evil abroad in the land of the theater, of rushing out before the final curtain. The habit is a fixed one with a majority of theatergoers, to begin to grope for rubbers and put them on, adjust headgear and outer wraps and be half way up the aisle before the last curtain. As soon as it is established in the plot that the heroine and hero will wed, thoughtless souls in the audience begin to make preparations to beat someone else up the aisle. Editorials by the millions have been written in protest of the folk who chatter or sing while the entertainment is going on, and about the brother pest, who races out and walks backward up the aisle in order to hear all that's going on on the stage and also be the first to reach the street. But conviction prevails that these pests do not read editorials or, having read, do not apply the remonstrance to their own shortcomings. Realizing this, the Alcazar management has caused to be inserted on every page of the programme, where every reader of the cast or reader of advertisements must see it, this line:

"Kindly remain seated until final curtain. Be considerate of others."

It is having its effect. Every programme in other theaters should copy the idea, and it should be flashed on the screen as well, and it wouldn't be a bad idea to have an announcer come out before the show and between acts and mention it again.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Walter de Leon have a new baby boy, their second son. Mrs. De Leon is known professionally as Muggins Davies. They are a San Francisco team of vaudevillians.

* * *

Grace La Rue walked off of the Alhambra stage in New York at the Monday matinee last week when the gallery "gods" started a shower of pennies in her direction. The interruption was during her fourth song, "Your Eyes." Miss La Rue did not return to finish her act.

* * *

The Denishawn dancers of 15 people, have been routed over the Pantages circuit at $1200 net, weekly. Neither Ruth St. Denis nor Ted Shawn appear in the turn, which is composed of pupils from their school in Los Angeles. The act was booked by Pantages following the recent fire at the Shawns' home.

* * *

Naming several women affinities, Korinne Carter has filed suit in Los Angeles against her husband, Charles Carter, the magician, for separate maintenance and a division of realty holdings worth $100,000.

Carter is now planning a world tour and sails for the orient this month.

* * *

Leo Ditrichstein, who has been touring in "The Marquis de Priola," is planning to appear next in "The Red Mask," the play tried out on the road last season by Winthrop Ames, with Richard Bennett in the leading part. It did not work out successfully for either of them.

The play may be renamed when Ditrichstein appears in it. Brandon Tynan will be in the cast. He is now playing the son in the Lavedan drama.

* * *

Grace George will put into rehearsal in two weeks a new play, the name and authorship of which is being withheld. It is definitely stated by the William A. Brady office that this play is not "The Widow's Mite," tried out last spring on the road.

Miss George is now touring in "Quick Work," by Sir Arthur Pinero

* * *

Preston Gibson has been commissioned to write a play for David Belasco.

* * *

Maxine Elliott will play in rehearsal December 20 a play by William J. Hurlburt called "Trimmed in Scarlet." It was produced last summer in London at the Globe, with Violet Vanbrugh in the leading role.

Previously it had toured the provinces for a year under the direction of Clifford Heatherley.

* * *

Syracusans will not see Mrs. Irene Castle Tremain of Ithaca as a witness for herself in court.

Mrs. Castle has settled in full the damage action brought against her by Angelo C. Albino, local butcher.

During the last state fair Mrs. Tremain's chauffeur, Lee Brock, brought the actress to the fair and then "borrowed" her high-powered coupe for a "joy ride." Two Syracuse girls and a Syracuse youth completed the party. The car was going faster than the law allows, according to police reports, when it struck the Albino automobile.

The terms of the settlement were not made known.

* * *

Bob McGreer left for the orient last week in advance of the Julian Eltinge show, which will sail December 23 for Manila and Japan.

The cost of moving Mr. Eltinge and his company to Manila will approximate $10,000, but it is calculated that this investment is warranted by reason of the success of the Eltinge films which have preceded him.

* * *

May Robson is playing this week in Los Angeles in "Tish," her newest comedy. She is en route here.

* * *

Elsie Janis has written her experiences "over there." Miss Janis spent almost a year with the American troops at the front and also made several short excursions to a number of British sectors.

It was Miss Janis' mission to be "merry and bright." The illustrations would indicate she obeyed orders. The book is in the form of a diary and is written in a breezy and thoroughly interesting manner.

* * *

George Arliss is considered hurt over what he says is a misquotation on his recent remarks on Louisville. Arliss was held up in the Chicago Tribune as having maligned Louisville, where he opened his present vehicle, "Jacques Duval," by calling it a "dog" town. This he did, but he says he was shocked to receive numerous letters from the Kentucky metrop, misunderstanding his intent. "The word 'dog' town in theatrical parlance means a tryout place," says Arliss. "I meant it in no uncomplimentary way. I drew $7200 in four performances in an unknown play in Louisville. Is it reasonable that I would knowingly insult such a stand?"

CALL FOR MUTUAL CONCESSIONS

Peace Imperative, If World Is to Be Saved.

Resolutions Adopted by New York Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber of commerce of the state of New York, in common with the business men of the whole nation, believes that as a people we are now confronted in the world of morals and in the world of trade with a crisis similar to that which we faced on the 6th of April, 1917. We then realized suddenly that we had wellnigh waited too long, and for 19 months after that date the question of what the results of our delinquency might be hung in the balance.

On the 11th of November, 1918, came victory. We again felt, as we had not for some time surely felt, that we had a right to have pride in our descent from the men who fashioned our constitution in 1787 and preserved it in 1865.

Victory not only restored our self-respect; it also brought duties and opportunities. Our declaration that we sought none of the usual spoils of war, no territory, no indemnities, placed us in a position of moral leadership. We fought not alone to preserve our self-respect and to defend free institutions, but to end war. In harmony with the unselfish motives that moved us we were as a people insistent in our demands that a postbellum programme should be adopted by the free nations of the world that would make a repetition of the horrors of 1914-1918 impossible. The peace delegates at Versailles undertook to meet this demand.

When we made the demand it is probable that few of us fully realized what that demand involved. It necessarily involved some sacrifice of long-cherished precedents and practices. It involved at least the establishment of a council of free nations with such power of moral and economic suasion, with such machinery for the adjudication of international disputes, as would surely lessen the probability of war. The Versailles treaty sought, even though its machinery may well seem to some of us as lacking in perfection, to achieve these ends.

The senate of the United States, faced with the specific provisions of a compact which demanded some departure from the well-settled practices of the government, hesitated, debated, delayed. And finally, to the grave concern and even alarm of the country at large, not only was the treaty rejected, but no compromise treaty was left for discussion. This has created what we have called a crisis in morals and trade. As a consequence of this unhappy condition we are losing moral leadership; the legitimate commerce which victory assured us is slipping away. The prosperity of America's export trade is largely dependent upon the extension of credits to our customers abroad. But pending a condition of peace and the establishment of a known basis for the continuance of international trade, no adequate credit plans can possibly be established. The alarm of the whole world of business over this protracted delay is evidenced by the continued and wholly unprecedented fall in the rates of exchange—a fall almost as detrimental for us as exporters, as it is for the unfortunate peoples of Europe who are unable to buy from us food and materials which they so sorely need.

It is not the duty of this body to place the responsibility for this condition. Rather our problem lies in the circumstances in which we find ourselves and in the practical measures that ought to be taken to solve the problem.

Whatever the moral or trade effect of that fact may be, the treaty as presented cannot command the votes necessary to its ratification, but the situation thus created is intolerable Unless the parties to the controversy make concessions we shall soon stand before the world self-indicted as governmentally incompetent.

To drop the treaty and seek a direct and separate peace with Germany would not only imperil American business interests, but would be a base abandonment of our allies and of our own principles. **The only alternative is mutual concession by both the president and the senate.**

We want peace. We want it speedily; but we want an honorable peace. Many parts of Europe are in desperate plight. A peace in which we wrap ourselves in the robes of isolation and self-interest would be as dishonorable as further delay would have been our decision to enter the war on April 6, 1917; therefore, be it

Resolved, That some form of international covenant which seeks to prevent war is a moral necessity;

That the differences between the president and the senate should be composed without delay by such mutual concessions regarding reservations as may be necessary in the treaty to secure ratification.

DEATH IS THE GREATER PENALTY

Criminals Themselves Would So Decide, if It Rested With Them.

PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—(To the Editor.)—In the discussion of the question whether death or life imprisonment is the greater punishment for the crime of murder, suppose we agree that no person who has not been actually confronted with the necessity of deciding the matter in his own case is in any degree competent to give an opinion.

If the decision were left to the criminal after conviction nobody will doubt that 99 per cent of them would choose life imprisonment. All other self-appointed judges are from the very nature of the case incompetent. Even the ex-convict whose letter appeared in The Oregonian the other day must admit that if he had been convicted of murder in the first degree he would have preferred life imprisonment to hanging.

The way to settle this question is to accept what we know would be the decision of the convicted criminals themselves. They are not the kind of men to say: "Give us liberty or give us death." T. T. GEER.

The English Were There.

New York Evening Post.

At the anniversary of the battle of Yorktown, William M. Evarts remembered that there were English guests present, and after paying tribute to the French, he turned to the former, jocosely asking: "What would that occasion have amounted to, either in the fact or the celebration of it, if the English had not been there?" He then went on to express the American admiration for Queen Victoria and to declare that "the relations of blood and history make England and us one, as we always shall be."

Those Who Come and Go.

To be snappy and smiling and give service when you have trouble at home is a trying task, but Gene Trueman, head bellman at the Benson, is getting by. Here is what happened in the Trueman home: Yesterday morning, along about the hour of matins, the water tank in the kitchen decided to go on a rampage. The metal split from top to bottom of the tank and the imprisoned water, tired of its confinement, decided to live its own wild life. The water gushed up against the plaster, the break being on the side next to the wall. The pressure of the water dissolved the plaster in a jiffy, leaving the laths bare. While Mr. Trueman was trying to turn the cut-off on his service pipe, the young hydraulic, working like a giant in a mining claim, proceeded to eat away the plaster in the adjoining room and by the time the flow was stopped two rooms were wrecked, water-soaked and ruined. Nothwithstanding this, Mr. Trueman had to appear smiling and unruffled on his watch at the hotel.

"I traveled three days on ski trying to catch a chinook—the wind I mean, not the fish — and when I caught one at Lake Chelan, it got to Portland ahead of me, "announced J. W. Van Wee, at the Benson. "So I think I am entitled to a lot of credit. It's easy for an Indian to catch a chinook, but it's hard for a white man to do it." Mr. Van Wee, who is about six feet 12 inches, and built on the lines of one of his own skis, has been going around the theatrical circuit of the northwest looking after their scenery, which he makes in Portland. "There are theaters springing up all over," said he. "This season I have handled work for 32 houses, and it will probably surprise most people to learn that the theatrical business is spreading so fast. There are combination houses being opened in towns that formerly had only a motion picture place."

It's getting to be a habit for the snow on the roof of the Hotel Portland to strafe automobiles. An avalanche from the roof flattened a car parked on Morrison street and yesterday as a flivver was snorting along with the cylinders hitting now and then, a gob of slush slid off the roof of the hotel and hit the roof of the tin contie. The indignant driver and his passenger stormed into the hotel and demanded damages for the damaged top.

Health officers swarmed at the Hotel Portland yesterday from many parts of the state. Among those registered were Dr. R. O. Loggan, of Philomath; Dr. B. H. McCallon of Dallas; Dr. S. M. Kerron of Eugene; Dr. W. H. Dale of Harrisburg, and Dr. A. A. Soule of Klamath Falls. The health officers are here to compare notes and take general stock of the situation as in their yearly wont.

W. S. (Billie) McSwain is at the Hotel Portland. This is the first time Mr. McSwain has visited Portland since he was one of the bodyguards for President Wilson. Mr. McSwain was detailed to accompany east the body of the newspaper correspondent, member of the president's party, who was killed near Gresham. Although Seattle is his headquarters, Mr. McSwain is well known in Portland, as he was in the United States marshal's office here for many years.

E. Carlson, who registered from Butte, Mont., but is said to represent Skinner & Eddy of Seattle was in the Portland shipyard district yesterday looking over boats with a view, it is reported, of buying a flock or two. He was accompanied by John L. Hubbard, in charge of inspection for the shipping board. Mr. Carlson departed for Seattle last night. He was at the Hotel Portland.

B. W. DeBusk of the University of Oregon, who has been registered at the Seward, checked out for Eugene last evening. He has been in the city was a witness in a libel case, Dr. De Busk being a specialist in psychological lines and knows old John W. Psychoanalysis by his first name. Incidentally he is also interested in the child welfare commission.

Charles Duffy of the Eastern & Western Lumber company has returned home from a trip to Utah. "It was only 40 degrees below when I was heading for home," he explains, "and the cold was so intense that the steam pipes in the train were frozen and even the locomotive froze. I was like making the trip in a refrigerator car."

Among the many butter and cheese enthusiasts who are in the city attending a meeting of the craft—or professions—is V. D. Chappell of Corvallis. Mr. Chappell is an authority on the subject and, it is said, can tell one make of cheese from another with his eyes shut.

"If this weather doesn't improve," threatened J. H. Long at the Hotel Washington. "I'm going back to a country where they have a good climate. I mean Juneau, Alaska." Mr. Long, accompanied by his wife, has arrived in Portland for the annual visit between seasons. Mr. Long is a canneryman.

T. A. McCann of the executive department of the Hicks-Shevlin mill at Bend, is at the Hotel Portland with his wife. The mill had to close down for a short time during the storm but resumed operations this week.

Wallowa, in Wallowa county, on Wallowa river, will have to worry along without the spiritual guidance of Rev. John M. Paxton for a few days. With his wife, the clergyman is at the Seward.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Shaw of Walla Walla are at the Multnomah on their way to California. Mr. Shaw recently sold out his wheat interests in the Inland Empire.

Louis H. Irving, who helps mould public opinion at Madras, via printers' ink, is at the Perkins.

To attend the poultry show, W. C. Conner of Salem is in the city and is registered at the Hotel Washington.

Mrs. Grant Pirtle, whose husband is a hotelman of Albany, is registered at the Seward.

G. Stubblefield, a fruit grower from Lake creek, in Jackson county, is at the Multnomah.

From Shanghai, China, came Mrs. Carl Crow to the Hotel Portland yesterday.

Mrs. E. King, manager of the hotel at Centralia, is among the recent arrivals at the Seward.

Questions Suggested by the Cold.

PORTLAND, Dec. 13.—(To the Editor.)—(1) What is the freezing point of mercury?

(2) How are temperatures lower than that recorded?

(3) If the water is shut off outside the house does water remain in the coils of the heating stove?

(4) Is it dangerous to build a fire in the stove containing coils when the water is shut off, the water in the pipes not being frozen? READER.

(1) Forty degrees below zero, Fahrenheit.

(2) By alcohol thermometers.

(3) Not if inside faucets are opened.

(4) No.

More Truth Than Poetry.

By James J. Montague.

THE WORST IS YET TO COME.

How oft the illusions we cherished
Have vanished, no more to return;
Our visions—how oft they have perished
As life became bitter and stern.
The friend we implicitly trusted
To teach us Fame's glittering trail
How often he finishes, busted,
In jail.

The barber who boosts for the tonic
He keeps on the paper-clad shelf,
You note, with a grimace sardonic,
Is bald as a grapefruit himself.
The doctor who hastes to assure you
As wisely he looks at your tongue,
That he is the lad who can cure you,
Dies young.

The dentist who prunes your incisors
And pans, with a guttural groan,
Your earlier dental advisers,
Has hardly three teeth of his own.
And, now and then, even the preacher
Who says that to smoke is not right,
Elopes with a Sunday school teacher
That night.

The rainbows you sought for are scattered
Like mists in the glance of the sun.
The hopes that you harbored are shattered,
Your dreams fade away one by one.
The future you view with misgiving
Writ large on your grief-laden brow,
And yet you keep right along living
Somehow!

* * *

Finnegan Theatricals.

With the police and ministers after the New York girl shows it's a steady case of off again on again.

* * *

Let Us Hope for the Worst.

Mexican bandits have got Villa now and America trusts that every bandit will do his duty.

* * *

But There's Nothing Else.

It isn't going to help the Christmas plum pudding much when we have to use kerosene to light it up.

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"Education" and "Culture."

By Grace E. Hall.

How one ponders o'er the question
Which is often brought to mind,
Who are really educated, 'mong the thousands that we find?
Who may claim the noble finish that
real culture ever lends?
Count them up and view the number
of acquaintances and friends.
Make a mental calculation of the
value of each trait,
That an "educated" person should correctly estimate;
There's a chance that you'll discover
things you never grasped before,
If you study folks that pass you by
in grill and home and store.

It is not an unknown circumstance
for persons college-bred,
To make a sorry spectacle when
seated at a "spread";
To even have no inkling of a manner
dignified,
When guests assemble 'round the
board at which they may preside;
And I know a college woman who
can talk of wondrous books,
'Till you'd think her educated—if you
couldn't see her looks!
But with finger-nails in mourning,
and her hair a taggy mess,
You just somehow lose your love of
lore in viewing her distress!

She has advantages of school, for
which so many yearn,
But there are all too many things
that she has failed to learn;
She'd be a clown in many a sphere—
by all would thus be rated,
And yet she lifts a scornful nose at
those less "educated";
There is a fact that's oft ignored—
that culture's not "acquired,"
Nor gained in passing through a
course, with mind by books inspired;
For grounded deep within each man,
no matter what he's taught,
Is natural culture or its lack—he IS,
or he is NOT!

In Other Days.

Twenty-Five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of December 18, 1894.

NEW YORK.—A dispatch received here says that first and second Japanese armies are now marching direct on Tien Tsin.

Weldon B. Heyburn of Osburn, Idaho, who has been in Washington, D. C., as counsel in a mining case, was in Portland yesterday and stated that he will probably be a candidate for United States senator.

The annual meeting of the State Teachers' association will be held in this city Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week.

A six-inch column of water from the standpipe at reservoir No. 2, near the base of Mount Tabor, was spurting into the air 110 feet last Sunday and attracted much attention.

Fifty Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of December 18, 1869.

Washington.—The president sent to the senate for confirmation appointments of Wilson Shaffer of Illinois to be governor of Utah and Benjamin F. Potts of Illinois to be governor of Montana.

Baltimore.—L. Phillips, late postmaster at Cambridge, Md., was sentenced to six months in jail and fined $34,000 for embezzlement.

E. L. Dole has 18 pipes which he manufactured from fine potter's clay, a