

The Oregonian

Entered at Portland (Oregon) Postoffice as second-class matter... Subscription Rates—Invariably in advance...

had mere worlds as the limits of their abilities. Representatives Sinnott and McArthur secured committee adoption of a provision in the land-grant bill...

Britain by stopping food imports in an interview with the correspondent of the New York World in December, 1914. The German cruiser Eitel Friedrich sank the American ship Frye with her cargo of wheat in January, 1915.

marketable shape. Other cities make garbage a source of revenue by erecting reduction plants and making fertilizer and other useful products.

would be a tedious process. Not only because of lack of equipment, but because of shortage of qualified instructors. After the first million had finally been trained the problem would become more simple.

Government shell factory would be in supplying the Army and Navy. But the folly of the Administration does not stop there.

Glams Through the Mist By Dean Collins. THE EASTER BONNET. The flowers that bloom in the Spring, tra-la, tra-la, Are feeble and colorless quite, Compared to the wonderful things, tra-la, tra-la.

THE SHAKESPEARE TERCENTENARY.

Shakespeare's tercentenary falls upon the world at a fortunate hour. Not in the sense that the world is enjoying a fortunate hour, for civilization has known nothing of the sort for two years; but fortunate in that the occasion brings to a dismal world a brief antidote against the insidious toxins bred by Mars and adds a small measure of relief to the heavy port of mortal mind and soul.

The tercentenary of no other mortal could arouse such active interest. The achievements and attainments of no other mortal have been so widely read and quoted. They have been the subject of libraries of books written in appreciation, occasionally in criticism.

His tercentenary, falling today, has stimulated popular interest in the greatest of poets for weeks past, and the influence of the public opinion to produce lasting impressions upon the world's culture. Millions of the thick Shakespearean volumes are being hauled from their reposing places in dusty libraries and read or reread. Widely scattered appreciations and critiques are directing attention to new delights which are to be discovered in each new reading of the immortal works even by those who have read Shakespeare's best.

The delicias of Shakespeare are inexhaustible. His writings do not weary or grow old. They meet every taste, no matter how profound or delicate. The innermost secrets of human nature are laid bare in his writings. He may condense volumes in a single line or he may consume a page in saying nothing, yet saying it so exquisitely that the centuries quote these same words.

An Englishman by birth, Shakespeare was the world's poet by conquest. His works are universal and Berlin has paid as fond tribute in years gone by as London. It would be interesting to know the reactions of today of the German scholars, for in Germany Shakespeare has been accorded the serious consideration in translation and erudite textual criticism that in this country is reserved for Wagner.

Shakespeare's mind has been likened to a highly sensitive film which through the lens of his eye, acquired an accurate picture for reproduction. But that was the least of his virtues. He saw not merely the external form, but the innermost recesses of the nature which was an open book. To see a man was to know him, whether that man came within the sphere of his own race and his own experiences or not.

NOISY DIVERSION.

The striking feature of the situation is that from the Democratic press of Oregon has not come one word of criticism of the policy of Democratic administration which the Republican Representatives from Oregon were forced to combat. On the other hand, there have been reams of criticism of Governor Withycombe for not whipping the Representatives into line.

Everybody in Oregon is for a fair division of the land-grant proceeds. The members of Congress know that. They required no telegrams, or resolutions, or advice. They went to work on their own initiative and, in a concession in view of the influence of two departments which were against them, Doubtless they appreciated Governor Withycombe's telegram of confidence in them more than they would have appreciated urgings to perform a plain duty.

Is there a single Democratic newspaper in Oregon which will now give credit where credit is due to the Oregon Representatives for the consideration so far shown Oregon? Is there one that will place the responsibility for Oregon's not obtaining a full 40-40 share where it belongs—upon the Democratic Administration? Of course not. The assault upon Governor Withycombe was to divert attention from the sources of injustice toward Oregon that exist in Democratic Washington.

SWATTING THE OIL MAGNATE.

Oil magnates must be ill with dark foreboding as they hear reports from Long Island of the daily joyrides of the late Louis Enrich. It is not Enrich spins about the country without ever contributing a penny to the local oil depots. His runabout is propelled by a greenish fluid which, he says, costs him a cent and a quarter a gallon. When he needs power he visits the town drugstore, secures a few simple chemicals and mixes them with water. The product serves the same purpose as gasoline, giving the same power and the same mileage per gallon.

The formula is held secret by Enrich pending negotiations with the Government. He wants Uncle Sam to give him a substantial award for the discovery. Enrich claims to have the formula out of his possession. The only other alternative is to sell the secret to the oil interests, and this he is unwilling to do because of the large amount of money he has made by dealing with oil magnates as to another invention. It is said he cannot secure patents covering the mixing of a few simple chemicals. Nor can he expect to manufacture the new formula at large. Voluntary disclosure would betray his secret immediately.

If Enrich's discovery is all he claims for it, all that tests with his own runabout appear to indicate, immense changes in the transportation world may be brought about. While it would be a knockout blow to the oil interests, it would be a boon of the first magnitude to the industrial world. What right has Mr. Enrich to assume that any Americans are traveling for pleasure in Europe while that continent is aflame with war? Thousands of Americans have gone to Europe on errands of mercy to the warring nations, or to be near relatives who are actively engaged in the struggle. Are they to be stigmatized as "careless, reckless, selfish, inconsiderate"? Some have gone on business, for profit, as Mr. Jones expresses it. The property of the United States largely depends upon commerce, which frequently requires American citizens to travel abroad. Are American citizens to abandon their business to other nations, or to be in our own borders, lest some lawless nation against which our own Government is unwilling to protect them; should kill them at sea?

THE TYPIST'S SERENADE.

Not a few credulous scientific agriculturists have accepted the theory that cows give more milk and better milk, that chickens lay more eggs and better eggs, if production is accelerated by music. The scientific agriculturists have accepted the theory that cows give more milk and better milk, that chickens lay more eggs and better eggs, if production is accelerated by music.

At a conference of academics and high school teachers at the University of Chicago it was contended that music is a great benefit in teaching stenography. The underlying psychological principles were not explained at the conference, but the suggestion was accepted, and it now remains for the board of education to provide the necessary pianolas, phonographs or orchestras. The stimulating effect of music is too well known to require elucidation. It spurs the weariest soldier to fresh effort, cheers the struggling athlete to superhuman exertion and thrills the populace from heel to head on appropriate occasions. Now it is to quicken the nimble fingers of the stenographer.

Once this new principle in teaching has been established, employers will be compelled to conduct themselves accordingly. A stenographer who has been trained by music cannot be expected to operate without it. It is more than a doped horse can do itself justice in the race without its accelerator. But the employer need not be dismayed. It takes no lengthy reflection to convince one that a music-driven stenographer is an innovation of economic as well as esthetic value. The number of notes and beats in a given air can be made to correspond with the volume of copying or extending assigned. In keeping time to the music, the stenographer cannot lag and should she pause in her work to write a note to Clarence the whole office would miss the serenade and start inquiry as to the reason.

SENIATOR JONES OFF ON A TANGENT.

Senator Jones of Washington, who has hitherto been esteemed a fairly level-headed, loyal American, growing out of his own mind, has been so far from destroying that reputation. In a long speech to the Senate he denounced those Americans who travel on armed belligerent ships in the war zone as "careless, reckless, selfish, inconsiderate." Americans, he said, lacking in patriotism as to be unwilling to refrain from gratifying their desires for pleasure or profit that their country may have peace. He referred to the writer of a letter upholding that right as "not patriotic enough to be willing to waive the exercise of a doubtful right to travel on armed belligerent ships that his country may continue in peace."

What right has Mr. Jones to assume that any Americans are traveling for pleasure in Europe while that continent is aflame with war? Thousands of Americans have gone to Europe on errands of mercy to the warring nations, or to be near relatives who are actively engaged in the struggle. Are they to be stigmatized as "careless, reckless, selfish, inconsiderate"? Some have gone on business, for profit, as Mr. Jones expresses it. The property of the United States largely depends upon commerce, which frequently requires American citizens to travel abroad. Are American citizens to abandon their business to other nations, or to be in our own borders, lest some lawless nation against which our own Government is unwilling to protect them; should kill them at sea?

All of these people at whom Mr. Jones sneers were lawfully exercising a right secured to them by the United States Constitution and by international law. The American Government exists to protect the American people in the exercise of such rights. As well as at home, the protection thus afforded is of the very essence of nationality. Does Mr. Jones wish the United States Government to proclaim that anybody, anywhere, may kill an American citizen with impunity? That is the impression which seems to prevail in Mexico. Does he wish to make it worldwide? In that case, thousands will renounce their allegiance to the United States, will seek refuge under the flag of nations which will protect and, if necessary, fight for their citizens. They will not care longer to remain under a Government which does nothing for them except to collect taxes and tell them of nothing which will get it into trouble.

POTATO GROWING.

There is much land in Oregon and Washington suited to the growing of potatoes and many land owners are yearly making a good profit doing so. On the other hand, other land owners in the same or contiguous neighborhoods say there is no money to be made in potato growing. The trouble is not with the land, the climate or other inherent conditions, but with these growers themselves. They do not pay enough attention to crop rotation. They plant here and there, as they fancy, and perhaps plant the same land to potatoes year after year, perhaps without any fertilization. Or maybe they use for seed the culls that are fitted only for hog feed and then at harvesting time wonder why their potatoes got smaller and more unshapely each year.

For a 2-cent stamp these growers could send to their agricultural college or to the Secretary of Agriculture at Washington and get directions as to the preparation of the soil, rotation, seed selection, cultivation, digging, grading and storing. The 2-cent investment would return a dividend and a good one. But the greatest of all drawbacks is lack of cooperation with the neighbors. Those who grow potatoes are always obtaining the best varieties for their land and market, and thus are able to invite the attention of car-load buyers. When the buyer seeks the producer a price is always obtained that is better than when the producer has to go begging to the buyer.

Perhaps the grading is as big a factor as any other in potato marketing. Take, say, three sacks of potatoes, as they are, just as they are dug, dumped in little and big, fork-blemished and unshapely. Then take the same potatoes, throw away a bushel of them, or feed them to the hogs, and sack the others according to size. They will sell at the counter for three full sacks offered the other way.

WHAT CHANCE IS THERE FOR SAFETY?

Congress proposes and the President is said to approve a bill appropriating \$11,000,000 for a Government armor-plate plant. By erecting this plant the Government would duplicate the production of armor-plate plants in which over \$20,000,000 has been invested at the request of Secretary of the Navy Herbert, made nineteen years ago. The reason given for the proposed Government plant was that the manufacturers have grossly overcharged the Government. One of these manufacturers, the Bethlehem Steel Company, says that its investment of \$7,000,000 in an armor-plate plant yielded gross receipts of \$18,993,200 a year, while the same investment in a steel rolling mill would have yielded profits of \$1,400,000 a year. Existing plants have a capacity of 25,000 tons a year, while the armor estimates for the next five years are only 24,000 tons a year.

The owners of these plants, according to the Bethlehem Company's announcement, will supply armor plate at what they call "the Government price" itself shall name as fair. A Government plant could probably not be completed within the five years allotted for the naval increase programme, for Admiral Strauss told the Senate that it would take a year ago he estimated three years as the time required to complete a plant and that "undoubtedly now the time would have to be increased and the cost would have to be increased, if the demand for armor plate for material to remain as at present." Then what need is there for a new plant?

We need not rely on the opinion of either an interested manufacturer or of an American naval officer in forming an estimate as to the needs of Government munition manufacture. We have the opinion of Sydney Brooks, an Englishman, who gives us the experience of his own country. In writing to the New York Sun, he stated that he had visited the Government arsenals, it could not have maintained 50,000 men in France. It has encouraged government plants, but, he says, "we found in August, 1914, that we had not encouraged them enough and that the war has taught Great Britain 'that governmental arsenals are totally insufficient to provide for national defense and that the country with the largest number of individual plants engaged in turning out the paraphernalia of war is the country best fitted to rise to an emergency.'" He warns us that, if we restrict private manufacture, we shall one day pay a frightful price for it. While he encourages private manufacture, "no matter what profits they may make out of the industry, the Nation will find it a cheap investment."

SOLEMN THOUGHT.

Short skirts are in the fashion; And they will wax shorter, too; And then what will the dabbler; But bow-legged maiden do?

THE SHORTEST POEM.

"E. H. C." of Salem, approximates the shortest poem, all right, when he sends in the following, the title of which seems to be "Love's Young Dream," so far as we can gather from the context of the poem, which is thus: Tee.

THE BLUFF OF THE CITY DIRECTORY.

Wherefore talk about the vast expense and effort involved in getting out the city directory? For we have looked it over and we find that the compiler has put but two dollars in it, although he may insist, with reason, that he has used three bones in getting it up.

AS TO THOSE NAMES.

When Richard and his sweetheart go To walk, and leave mama alone; When they'll return they let her know, She always urges Dick to phone.

TOURISTS' Pronouncing Gauceter.

A foreign foe would ne'er invade A Delightful town like Estacada. Potatoes grow with many an eye In gardens down by Clatskanie.

THE SNOWS OF YESTERYEAR.

What once became of the Merry Widow lid, and the hair-dress that went under it? Speaking of symbols for the Pacifics, J. H. M. writes suggesting that the ostrich be added to the collection, saying "the only sand you can find about an ostrich is the sand it hides its head in when it hates to see a scrap coming."

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