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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, NOV. 26, 1916.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

While America was engrossed with a Presidential campaign and election, events of moment were occurring in the countries at war. New issues, new hopes were raised; new campaigns were begun, new movements presaged, to which scant consideration was given in the newspaper columns because of the importance of more intimate affairs. While none of the events in the war zone or in the countries engaged assure an early peace, some of them may count for much in determining the final overthrow of one force or the other. To recount them may not be amiss, that we may again take up with intelligence the thread of a great world history now in the making:

In England the food supply has become a serious problem. Retail prices of foodstuffs in a year advanced an average of 27 per cent. They have increased 78 per cent over prices before the war. On November 15, in the House of Commons, Walter Runciman, President of the Board of Trade, stated that the time had arrived when the government must regard the question of food supplies as a war problem.

The political situation in Ireland continues to be of much concern to the British government. Martial law, the resurrection of many of the old political methods of Ireland's past, together with the threat to apply the compulsory service act, which now is enforced only in England, Wales and Scotland, have thoroughly irritated the country. Ireland still has 160,000 men fit for military service who have not enlisted. To her other troubles are added a short and bad potato harvest, accompanied by a stiff rise in prices.

On August 27 Roumania entered the great war on the side of the entente. Today Roumania's military situation is a critical one. Apparently the central powers were well prepared for the swift campaign that followed. Von Mackensen, at the head of a mixed force of Bulgarian, German, Austrian and Turkish troops, swiftly swept back the Roumanians and Russians in the Dobrudja, capturing in turn the fortresses of Turtukai and Silistria. After a slight check he followed with the capture of Roumania's chief sea port, Constanza, and seized the railroad line extending from that city to the Danube.

Roumania began the war by invading the Hungarian province of Transylvania, only to be defeated and thrown back through the Carpathian passes, which are, for the most part, now in the hands of the central powers.

Russian troops have been poured into Roumania and seem to have checked the Teuton rush in the north, but in Western Wallachia the Roumanians are in retreat and in great danger from Austro-German forces that threaten to envelope them from the south. The Roumanian city of Craiova has fallen, thus cutting the Orsova-Bucharest railway line.

Winter weather has now settled down in most of the war zones. The great battles that have been in progress for months on the Russian and French fronts have been brought almost to a standstill.

The great Russian offensive that swept the Austrians off their feet in July had practically spent its force by mid-September. Today the Russians have retaken the whole of Bukowina and are well into the Carpathians. In front of Lemberg the Russian drive was halted by new German and Turkish troops.

The great combined French and British drive on the western German lines has for several weeks shown signs of exhaustion, only to flare up spasmodically when the weather and artillery conditions are favorable. As the Somme front stands today, the British are some three miles from Bapaume and the French in the outskirts of Peronne, two villages, respectively, nine and eight miles from the old battle line.

After four months of steady fighting, which has been highly destructive of life, comparatively small gain has been made. The British alone report a loss of more than 400,000 up to November 1.

On October 25 the French, by a brilliant surprise attack, recaptured the heights, including the ruined fort of Douaumont, just east of Verdun. This offensive resulted in the Germans also abandoning the fort of Vaux on November 3, thus delivering up positions to the French that had taken several months to win at heavy cost.

German submarines continue to take heavy toll from British and neutral shipping. Berlin asserts that 180 ships were sunk in the month of September. The destruction continues with undiminished vigor. The destruction of Norwegian ships has caused that country to adopt a vigorous policy against German submarines in the waters of Norway. This action has seriously strained the relations between the two countries.

In Germany a tremendous internal campaign is being carried on by the political forces supporting Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, on the one side, and by the followers of Von Tirpitz on the other. The German people have great faith in their submarines and believe that an unrestricted policy would result in the defeat of England. Public opinion, therefore, especially of the masses, supports Von Tirpitz' policy of "sink-on-sight" regardless of neutral opinion. This radical policy for submarines is combated by the German Chancellor, who, with the Kaiser, realizes that such methods would be sure to involve Germany with the United States.

Efforts to bring Canada's "Over Seas Force" to a half million men have to date fallen short by approximately 100,000 men. Enlistments have decreased steadily from 29,212 in February of this year to 5999 in October. The French Canadian province of Quebec is less inclined than are the English-speaking provinces to send men to France and has supplies fewer than 20,000 of Canada's quota of 400,000 now in service.

As indicated by the casualty lists published in the Canadian newspapers, a large percentage of Canadian soldiers state their home address to be in England and Scotland.

After many months of idleness, the large entente army based in Saloniki has, by an extended flanking movement, forced the Bulgarians to evacuate the Macedonian city of Monastir. This army, under the French General, Sarrail, is composed of troops brought up from the four quarters of the earth. In addition to European troops from England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France, Italy, Portugal and Russia are a motley array of Serbian, Albanian, Montenegrin and Greek volunteers from the Balkans; Sikhs and Ghurkas from India; Turkos and Senegalese from the French colonies in Africa; Annamite soldiers from French Cochin-China and the native Maori and white soldiers of New Zealand and Australia. The failure of this army, estimated in some quarters to number 700,000 men, to move sooner to release the pressure on Roumania is to some extent due to the activity of German and Austrian submarines in attacking the ships carrying supplies to its base at Saloniki.

Political changes in Japan, due in part to Japan's relations with China and to issues of the European war, finally culminated in the resignation of Premier Okuma on October 4. The new ministry, headed by Count Terauchi, whose career as director of the Military Academy, Minister of War and as Field Marshal of the Japanese army, stamps him as a soldier, is expected to adopt a policy of firmness in Japan's policy toward China.

The Australian conscription has been voted down by a very large majority. This result is, in some quarters, blamed on the attitude of the Irish voters.

In Belgium the German government has begun a systematic rounding up of able-bodied men and is sending them to Germany. From allied sources comes the claim that these men are to relieve German workmen for service in the army. Military observers see in this move a possible withdrawal of German troops from Belgium. Germany would not leave the able-bodied Belgians behind to be enlisted in the entente armies.

The Italian troops are still engaged in an almost hopeless struggle with the troops of Austria-Hungary in the mountains east of Gorizia. The advance on Trieste consequently proceeds slowly.

A revolution has occurred in Greece and the Greek navy and part of the army have been taken over by the entente powers. The mass of the Greek people, however, still support the King in his policy of keeping out of the war.

That the conditions in the warring nations are rapidly becoming unbearable seems to bring the conviction that peace is nearer than developments on the fronts would indicate. Only in England and France is the determination most pronounced for continuation of the struggle, and even in these countries the conviction is dawning that no military decision is possible that will crush the central powers.

Roumania's fate hangs in the balance. Should the result go against the entente allies, Russia's position is a dangerous one.

The cry for peace throughout the whole world is more pronounced than ever and seems to be making an impression.

DALY'S PERSONAL FRANCHISE.

The license or franchise under which certain jitneys are permitted to operate in Portland has been granted under one of the most astounding assumptions of autocratic power ever witnessed, even in the days when the city was under machine rule.

The word "franchise" is used advisedly, for it is a fair construction of the terms under which the jitneys are now conducting their business that those terms do constitute a franchise. Moreover, it is a franchise attempted to be granted by one member of the City Commission in violation of the charter provisions that no franchise shall be granted except by ordinance or without compensation to the city.

The jitneys are operating under a zone system and thereby fraudulently pose as taxicabs. The zone system adopted by the Chauffeurs' Union has been formally approved by Commissioner Daly. Incidentally, it was Commissioner Daly who presented and had adopted an ordinance prohibiting the operation of jitneys except under franchise.

The zone system is depicted on a card or leaf which, it is the assertion of the jitney union's officers, has been copyrighted. No driver of an automobile or taxicab or jitney can post or utilize the zone card unless he first acquires membership in the jitney union. Under copyright laws he cannot even approximate it with intent to circumvent the copyright. Under city law he cannot operate under a zone system without posting a card depicting the zones. He cannot operate a straight jitney without a formal franchise.

The zone system approved by Commissioner Daly is thus not a standard zone system open to application by any or all jitneys or taxicabs. It is a special right or privilege granted to a definitely formed organization to operate over certain indicated streets in Portland as a common carrier. Call them taxicabs, taxi-jits or jitneys, their privilege still constitutes a franchise.

Furthermore, it is a valuable privilege. The city of Long Beach, Cal., as will have been observed by those who read an article published in The Oregonian yesterday, has disposed of a jitney franchise covering certain streets for $6600 and the owner of the franchise expresses a desire to acquire and pay for a franchise over other streets. Here the jitneys pay nothing, except a small license fee.

Mr. Daly, of course, has no power or authority to present a grant of pecuniary value to his jitney friends. But that he should attempt to do so is a distinct violation of trust, if this be a fair construction of the zone system he has inaugurated. And we think it is. This special and advantageous privilege granted favored drivers of for-hire cars should be promptly overturned by the Council.

SEND THEM HOME.

According to various Thanksgiving-day proclamations, ante-election assertions, post-election jubilations and public congratulations, we are at peace with all the world.

Yet an Oregon battery and an Oregon cavalry troop, composed of civilians, have been doing military service along the Mexican border for five months.

Whatever may be the oath of a member of the militia, whatever may be the terms of the enlistment law, the spirit of the system does not contemplate withdrawal from civilian life for permanent police or military duty of National Guardsmen in time of peace.

The National Guardsmen have not adopted militarism as a profession or a means of subsistence. Their main interest and responsibilities are in civil life, in the support of themselves and their families. They have offered themselves to the state and Government, merely for incidental military service in time of peace and to severance from civil life and duties only in time of war.

The United States has a permanent military establishment composed of men who have entered it with military service solely in view. It is outrageous that this establishment is not sufficiently strong to protect our boundaries from a country with which we are at peace. Either we are at war or the Nation is disgracefully inefficient in military preparedness.

Government inefficiency is killing the National Guard as a reserve force. Sequestration in desert military camps of two Oregon Guard organizations for five months of watchful waiting is sufficient warning to civilians of what they may expect if they respond to the call for National Guard service. No wonder that officers are resigning and that there is difficulty in reorganizing.

There is a reason aside from that incident to fairness and good faith why the Oregon battery and troop should be sent home.

AWAY YONDER IN FIJI.

Theodore Roosevelt is 58 years old (born October 27, 1858); but he has not seen everything, though he has been a traveler, a hunter, a naturalist, a historian and a statesman. He saw life on the American frontier in its roughest days, and he explored both Africa and South America after he retired from the Presidency. Now it is announced that he is to start next February for Hawaii, Samoa, and the Fiji Islands. The best has been saved for the last—or perhaps only the latest. For Fiji will afford the Colonel a new and thrilling experience.

The casual reader will be surprised to know that the Fiji Islands number 250. They are beautiful and fertile. But that is not the reason, we venture to guess, Colonel Roosevelt is going there. It is to see and mingle with a people having the amazing history and practices of the original and only Fijians. For example, take this extract from the article on Fiji in the Encyclopedia Britannica:

> The Fijians were formerly notorious for cannibalism. The Fijian's chief table luxury was human flesh, euphemistically called by him "long pig," and to satisfy his appetite he would sacrifice even friends and relatives. The Fijians combined with this greedness savage and merciless natures. Human sacrifices were of daily occurrence. On a chief's death, wives and slaves were buried alive with him. When building a chief's house, a slave was buried alive in the hole dug for each foundation post. At the launching of a war-canoe, living men were tied hand and foot between two plantain stems, making a human ladder over which the vessel was pushed into the water.

Enough to excite the interest of a historian, such as Colonel Roosevelt. We shall look for a mighty interesting report on the fatted ease to which the Fijians have now degenerated.

WANTED—MEN FOR THE NAVY.

The candid statement of Admiral McGowan as to the present condition of enlistment in the United States Navy, and disclosure of the fact that it will hardly be possible to recruit a full personnel for a year or two, if it is accomplished then, indicates a condition of affairs that calls for the attention of the most practical of men. Clearly it is no task for a theorist.

There is a rather strange contradiction between the showing made by the Navy that the opportunities afforded by the service compare favorably with many of those that industrial life offers to a young man, and the statement by Admiral McGowan that the high cost of living is one of the chief influences tending to keep down this same recruiting. One would be inclined to believe that the high cost of living would operate to attract men into a life in which the Government did the worrying on that score, and the explanation that men in the Navy find it next to impossible to support dependents left ashore is only partly satisfactory. For if the same young man were, on land, a clerk or a mechanic, as has been pointed out by an analyst in the Scientific American, he would pay for board of the same quality the Navy furnishes, together with sleeping quarters, not much less than $6 a week. It is figured that his carfare and luncheons would amount to another $3 and his clothing to perhaps $1.50 more. The Navy supplies some other facilities, in the way of amusements, and so forth, that seem to bring the total value up to what would be about $50 a month ashore. This, it is pointed out, is for a young man who may still lack two or three years of coming of age.

The young seaman assigned to his first rating aboard ship receives $26.40 a month. This makes his total emoluments equal to about $75 a month in civil life. But he is eligible to promotion. As a third-class petty officer he would receive $33 a month, in addition to board, quarters and amusements; as a petty officer of the second class, $38.50; in the first class, $44 a month. These positions are reasonably within the reach of any striving young man.

With special qualifications the chances are correspondingly larger. As a chief petty officer, he would receive $77 a month, which with his fixed emoluments would be equivalent to about $125 a month in civil life. But there are in addition certain inducements for re-enlistment. If he re-enlists within four months of his discharge he receives a bounty of four months' pay. Furthermore, his pay is increased by $1.50 a month in recognition of his honorable discharge, and also by $5.50 for his first re-enlistment and by $3.30 a month for each subsequent re-enlistment. For each good-conduct medal or good-conduct bar he receives another 82 cents a month. These credits would mean that he would receive the equivalent on his first re-enlistment as a seaman of $35.60 a month instead of $26.40, and if he had attained one of the higher grades his pay would be increased in proportion.

These figures take account only of the relatively lower grades and the early enlistments. Progress may be rapid, if the young man is ambitious; it is steady, if he is only faithful. The way to become a warrant officer is open to him. His future there will be assured, with pay ranging from $1500 to $2400 a year, with the benefit of retirement on three-quarters pay at the age of 62. The promise that he will be taken care of in his old age is a substantial factor, in comparison with the advantages of life ashore, but one that is not readily estimated in dollars and cents.

It would seem that it would take a pretty good job in industrial life to compete with the Navy on the merely financial side. Yet the fact remains that young men do not enlist in sufficient numbers, even from the ranks of the unskilled, who do not often receive even the minimum equivalent of $75 a month, with a life job and retirement pay in view. If there are other conditions that make men shun the Navy, they should be made known. If there are misconceptions, these should be cleared away. Admiral McGowan says that those who know the Navy life love it. He points to average re-enlistments of 85 per cent of the qualified men as proof, and this would seem to make out his case. It is not lack of re-enlistments that perplexes the higher officials; the Navy is growing fast and more new hands are wanted. Getting them promises to be as serious as any of the mechanical and scientific problems connected with the building up of this important arm of our National defense.

HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ.

It was a strange trick of fate that took Henryk Sienkiewicz from Poland at the beginning, seemingly, of another historic epoch in that unhappy country's history. Through a long lifetime—for he was 74 when he died the other day—he had given voice to the aspirations of his people, he had placed them before the world as no other writer ever had done, and he had accompanied this by no effort to gloss over the truth. Restless, his own political ideas, like those of so many Poles, having advanced hardly beyond the brain of him who held them, ardent when the subject of liberty was mentioned, yet impractical as to the means of obtaining it, he was the embodiment of the spirit of all Poland. Essentially he lacked talent for what we in America would call "practical politics." When he so aptly described in his "Bez Dogmatu" ("Without Dogma") as the "fatal Slavic unproductivity" was exhibited in himself when some forty years ago he joined the actress, Madame Modjeska, and her husband, Count Bozenta, in their attempt to establish in Southern California a colony in which oppressed Poles should find a haven of refuge. The scheme was typically Polish in its idealism and also its lack of those fundamental elements necessary for its physical existence. It was predestined to failure, but perhaps, for the world, it was as well. Thus was Modjeska given back to the stage and Sienkiewicz to the world of letters, in which from that date, some four years after the beginning of the experiment, the great novelist shone with brighter and brighter luster.

"Remember, this life is nothing!" was the message his Pan Michael sent to the wife who had been at his side through the years of his fighting, as he laid his final plans for the supreme sacrifice. This is a curious bit of fatalism that runs through his work, that characterized his own life, that accounts, perhaps, in large measure for the failure of all the courage and self-sacrifice of the Polish people to gain the reward that they would seem to have earned. Exalted ideas, noble aspirations, talent and mentality there were among their leaders, without the necessary final spark of ability to organize along practical lines. Just as the California colony actually reached the land before it discovered that it could not hope to prosper without hewers of wood and drawers of water, so Poland has taken preliminary steps enough to have set a world free from bondage, but never has been able to pluck a ripe fruit for itself at harvest time. Sienkiewicz wrote an amazing number of strong novels and more than one short story that has been compared with the best work of Bourget; he labored with mind and heart and hand to lift up his people; he spent a fortune in works of philanthropy; but Poland is today the same unhappy land it ever was.

Americans know Henryk Sienkiewicz best as the author of "Quo Vadis?" partly because this appeared at a fortunate period in book publishing in the United States and partly because it treated a topic with which we seemed to be more familiar than we were with the "local struggles" of Poland. Yet it is seriously to be questioned that it was his best work, while "Children of the Soil," which also had a vogue in the United States, was not to be compared for strength and vividness with the great trilogy, "With Fire and Sword," "The Deluge" and "Pan Michael." The wars of the seventeenth century, which was an especially troubled period for Europe, furnish the theme of all three books. The novels of the trilogy describe the Poland that stood on the outpost between the forces of Christianity and those of the Tartar and the Turk, which may explain the popularity that "Quo Vadis?" attained also in Poland; for "Quo Vadis?" depicted the conflict between Christianity and Paganism—the dawning of a new day before the effulgence of the old had faded away. "The Deluge" tells of the war with the Swedes and "Pan Michael" deals with border warfare and the Tartar invasion. There is nothing more vivid in romance than the final scene at the funeral of "Pan Michael," with its prayer, "O Lord, they will turn the churches into mosques and chant the koran in places where till this time the gospel has been chanted." Then comes the entry into the church of John Sobieski, followed by his iron-shod escort of cavalry, and his kneeling at the catafalque of Pan Michael. This was the Sobieski who later turned back the Turkish invaders at Vienna—and still, centuries later, Poland is not reunited and Poland is not free.

It is not always easy, or even profitable, to compare great writers with one another. It is conceivable, though, that if Sienkiewicz had written in English upon themes familiar to Englishmen, he would have fired them with enthusiasm as did Scott; as a writer of historical novels he compares in some minor respects with Louisa Muhlbach, but it is extremely difficult to think of him as a German, or as winning popularity as a German author. We have no one in our own country with whom to compare his work. His writings upon the whole have a healthier tone than those of Tolstoy. Above all things, he excelled in his interpretation of the character of his own people. To read him extensively is to know Poland as intimately as it is given the people of an entirely different mold to know it; but there must remain, after all is said and done, a striking sense of the difference between the people of Poland and those of any other country in the world.

Death could not have come at a more inopportune time for his countrymen. Sienkiewicz was engaged recently in efforts to get help to them, surrounded as they are on all sides by belligerents and conflicting interests. He had succeeded in rallying the people to a marked degree and almost had put hope into them. With Paderewski, he had been able because of his world-wide training to introduce an approach to occidental directness into their methods of work. His last message received in the United States had been an appeal to the Red Cross, in which he said that the birth rate in Poland had dropped to 100 for every 240 deaths, that a terrible malady had appeared in the country, the symptoms of which were preceded by blindness, and that fatalities were being increased by cholera and typhoid, which were almost exterminating the population. And then seemed to appear before Poland what Paderewski has called the mirage of national autonomy, which was to some a hope, to others a portent of darker days to follow, and which will need every possible atom of intelligence and patriotism and character to meet. It is known to comparatively few that he was the recipient in 1905 of the Nobel prize for the "most important work of idealistic tendency." Through all his writings he appealed to the noblest impulses, and to the end he was the bearer of the oriflamme of Polish nationalism.

AMERICAN INDUSTRY PUT SECOND.

An example of the view taken by Secretary of Commerce Redfield of his duty toward American industry is furnished by a controversy regarding a census report on the dye business. It contained elaborate information on manufacture and import of dyes, and a copy was sent to the Exposition of Chemical Industries at New York last September. Importers of German dyes protested against the publication of certain data contained in the report, relative to quantities and prices of German goods, and Mr. Redfield withdrew it after a few days. It was published in mutilated form without the data in question. A flood of protests from manufacturers and consumers poured in on Congressmen, and Senators Lodge and Hughes tried to have the complete report published, but failed. It is now announced that Mr. Redfield will publish the suppressed facts.

The Secretary of Commerce seems to have imagined that his duty was to aid the foreign manufacturer and importer in preference to the American manufacturer and exporter. He does not realize that American industry has the first claim on his services and that the interests of importers should be subordinate to those of American manufacturers. Mr. Redfield's free-trade notions constantly interfere with his carrying out the purpose for which his department was established.

SOME SIGNIFICANT FIGURES.

Although present incomplete reports of the popular vote show that President Wilson has a plurality of 403,312 over Mr. Hughes, they also show that he carried many states by so small a margin and lost others by so wide a margin that, if the strength of the Republicans had been more evenly distributed, Mr. Hughes would have been elected by a good margin of electoral votes.

This is apparent from the following table of pluralities in states carried by Wilson by less than 20,000 plurality and of states carried by Hughes by large pluralities:

State—	Wilson Plurality.	Wilson Electoral vote.
California	3,331	13
Idaho	13,500	4
Maryland	19,438	8
Nevada	2,606	3
New Hampshire	182	4
New Mexico	1,294	3
North Dakota	1,818	5
Washington	14,000	7
Wyoming	5,619	3
Totals	61,788	50

State—	Hughes plurality.
Illinois	170,556
Iowa	63,167
Michigan	71,008
New York	107,971
Pennsylvania	184,907
Total	602,655

The Hughes plurality in the five states carried by him by a wide margin was so great that, could it have been generally distributed, those states could still have been carried by him with enough votes to spare to carry all the close Wilson states and to add 50 electoral votes to the Hughes total, thus electing him.

The moral is that it is unwise for a party to concentrate its efforts on a few states having a large population and many electoral votes to the neglect of many states having small population and few electoral votes each, but many votes in the aggregate. The lesson of 1916 has been salutary for the Republican party. Never again will it subordinate those questions in which the West is especially interested, or the Western view of questions in which all states are interested, nor will it pour out money, literature, oratory and organization on the Eastern states, while it leaves the leaders in the Western states to rely mainly on their own efforts and resources.

ACQUIRE THE GIFT OF TONGUES.

One result of the isolation of the American people is their neglect to learn foreign languages. Hearing these languages spoken only by poor immigrants, the majority of our people think them not worth bothering with. Having had few dealings with other countries which could not be transacted in English, our manufacturers and merchants have not realized the need of languages in business.

If we are going after foreign trade in earnest, we must change our attitude towards languages. Hitherto, they have not mattered much because the trade we have done has been with England or with Germany, where everybody in business speaks and writes English, or because trade has come to us unsought. But when we go out to seek trade, it will be necessary to consider the buyer's wishes and tastes. He will insist on being supplied with what he wants, not with what we wish to sell. He will demand as long credit as he has had in other countries and the same terms of delivery as other countries make. Also, he will insist on discussing business, orally or by letter, in his language, not in that of the seller. The salesman who complies with his wishes in these respects will get the business; he who writes and talks only in English will get a cold reception.

That our merchants may be provided with men capable of meeting these requirements of their foreign customers, it would be advisable that every student in the high schools learn at least one foreign language so thoroughly that he can write and converse in it with ease. The most important are French, Spanish, German, Italian and Russian. If a young man has the gift of tongues and can acquire all five, he will be qualified to do business in almost every country in the world, and his gifts will be worth a large salary to him.

The good roads movement knows no bounds. The recent Ozark Trails convention at Oklahoma City was attended by delegates from all parts of Arkansas, Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri and New Mexico, and of the eight thousand who attended it is estimated that fully a third went in automobiles. It was decided that in making a choice of routes the first factors to which consideration would be given would be distance, drainage, location above high water, grade, culverts, bridges, curved turns and availability of hard-surface material. There are many rival claimants and it was announced that whenever, in consideration of the merits of various routes, there happened to be a tie on the basis mentioned, three other factors would be considered — population, scenery and enterprise of the people. It will seem to the average man that these deserved a place nearer the head of the list; at any rate, it would be an interesting subject for debate. Population, scenery and enterprise are a mighty big trio all by themselves when it comes to a road proposition.

If our Nation gets into trouble, we can count on Guam. The matter-of-fact official report of the Governor contains assurance upon that point. About 100 natives come of military age each year and they take deep interest in military drills and training, the Governor says. At present the volunteer forces of the island are limited to a rifle club of twenty-two members and a company of high-school cadets, number not given. The cadets make up in enthusiasm for what they lack in stature, for they furnish their own uniforms and turn out in full numbers at every opportunity given them for drill by a sergeant of marines. The first rifle club is composed of natives, mostly clerks, and organization of a second among the native laborers is under way. Gratitude is a characteristic of the natives of Guam, and in view of all we have done for them it is good to know that we shall be able to rely on their help in time of need.

Buddhists are becoming deeply concerned over the failure of the prayers of their Christian brethren to accomplish the end of war and have decided to offer prayers on their own account, according to the translation furnished by the Manchester Guardian of a notice recently placarded on the Pagoda of the Seven Towers at Ningpo. It says: "May Buddha in his goodness cause this decree which sends so many men to their death to cease! We trust to obtain by these prayers cessation of the noise and the alarms of battle. As to those who have succumbed to their wounds on the battlefield, we hope to obtain for them a new life, by a happy transmigration, in a purified and sanctified earth." Not the least interesting phase of the whole thing is the light it sheds on the impression produced by the European war upon the minds of the people of the Far East. If it does nothing more, it will give the people of the western world a topic for serious reflection.

The high cost of living in a fashionable suburb, it seems, was the cause of the downfall of the thief who stole Mrs. Harriman's jewels. Just another case illustrating the folly of trying to keep up with the Joneses and the futility of expecting to establish real happiness on a basis of fraud.

Wife of Seattle professor, who has been called on to pay support money to her husband pending the outcome of a divorce suit, must bear in mind that new occasions bring new duties, or words to that effect, as the poet said.

Wisconsin is out for the record of having elected the fewest lawyers to the Legislature in proportion to population. Only five succeeded in getting into the newly elected assembly.

It isn't right to wish any other community bad luck, but still a town can't help feeling relieved when an I. W. W. visitation is averted by their "passing through."

Oregon Democrats should not be asked to help make up the deficit on the expense books of the National committee. They did not win anything.

It is cold comfort, at best, these days for the Roumanians to read about the success of the Serbs in getting a partial foothold in the country they once lost.

Another "harmless" inmate has killed a fellow patient. This will happen at intervals, because the deranged mind always awaits opportunity.

Gompers has an excellent machine and is re-elected. All phases considered, this action is well. A new man would "spill the beans."

It is now pretty definitely up to Mr. Carranza to decide whether there shall be co-operation or not in making the border safe.

Just now many who do not expect them are being notified of arrival by express of early Christmas presents from California.

Think of the good advertising Chicago and California are getting out of the diet squad and the belated election returns.

The bootleggers' trust ought to be called to the attention of the Department of Justice without delay.

Another comet has been discovered, but there is no room for war it predicts.

Some will find comfort in knowing California cannot go "dry" for two years.

Write to the home folks today to tell them you will be there Thursday.

Oregon rain is the real article. It is not just a wet drizzle.

We agree to leave Mexico but will watch the line.

When would you have the rains, anyway?

Old Eli got there.

Gleams Through the Mist

By Dean Collins.

EPICURUS IN CHICAGO.

The shade of Epicurus hit the pike,
pike, pike,
The pathway of the moonbeams from
the sky,
For he said: "I'm getting homesick and
I'd like, like, like
To see again the earth of days
gone by."
So he hied him like a dove
To the earth he used to love,
And he landed in Chicago like a star
And he paused and looked around,
And he said: "Where are they found—
Oh, show me where the followers of
Epicurus are!"

The shade of Epicurus heard a laugh,
laugh, laugh,
A snicker and a giggle and a roar;
And he saw a stranger almost bent in
half, half, half
With laughing till his very sides
were sore.
"Epicurus," said the wight,
"All your teachings may be right,
And the folks would gladly your disciples be,
But the world has moved, you know,
Since two thousand years ago,
And you'll find that your disciples
now are studying with me."

The shade of Epicurus gave a frown,
frown, frown.
"Who are you, then?" in accents unforgiving.
"Oh, I'm the guy who owns the blooming town, town, town—
My card, sir! I'm the High Old Cost
of Living.
In the days so long gone by,
Well you taught them living high,
And the Epicurean idea made other
idols fall.
Eat, drink and do be merry
Was a pleasant doctrine, very—
But now you'll find them doggons
glad to eat and drink at all."

The shade of Epicurus rubbed his head,
head, head,
The shade of Epicurus knit his brow.
And to the grinning stranger, then he
said, said, said:
"It may be true, but it seems strange
somehow.
I taught to eat and drink
And be merry, and I think
That the plan I gave my pupils was
quite nice.
But there's one thing pretty sure,
If you'd be an Epicure,
What you will need in the first place
is the price!"

CHORIC DANCE.

(By the diet squad. To the tune of "The Funeral March of Marionette," or any other tune that seems to fit.)

Stewed pears and griddle cakes and
coff-fee,
That is a breakfast that pleases me.
I love to seize its calories
And store them up in my sys-tem!
If one don't think about ham and eggs,
And draws his belt in just two more
pegs,
Forgetting, yes, the sausages—
He'll never know that he missed 'em.
Whoop! I just found an extra bun!
Oh whoop! I may find another one!
'S a long time till lunch,
So all of the bunch
Had better clean up the platters.
Whoop! I'm certain the food I ate
Has added certainly to my weight.
When food prices leap,
We've gotta live cheap—
And nothing else ever mat-ters.

Beef, rice and carrots and ginger-
bread!
How thin at lunch is the butter spread!
Oh how we ache for T-bone steak,
While following out this di-et!
Our health we may by this stunt improve,
But where, O where is the grub we
love?
It well may be that o'er the sea,
The food-censors cause a ri-yot.

Whoop! That guy stole a pea from me!
He swiped a crumb and he'd swipe my
tea,
For the hunger he had
Is driving him mad,
Though science may try to save him.
You'll admit it, that forty cents
To eat a day is a light expense,
So let each one smile,
And add up the while,
The calories that they gave him.

EPILOQUE.

The shade of Epicurus rubbed his head,
head, head,
And up the air he skidded toward the
moon.
"Eat, drink and do be merry, for you're
dead, dead, dead,"
He snorted as he heard the doleful
tune.
With the cost of living high,
Before you start to try
To follow Epicurus' bold advice,
And become an Epicure,
You had better first make sure
If, for the round of merriment, you
really have the price.

* * *

The Groaning Table.

"The table that 'groans' with Thanksgiving delicacies this season," remarked the High Cost of Living, shooting another egg into the refrigerator, "won't have a thing on the guy that has to put up for the big feed."

* * *

Dry Stuff.

To the Editor—We have been following you in your topical rhymes for some time and immediately after the recent election we were apprehensive that you weren't going to come through with the dry-bone salutations. However, we noticed them just a few days ago, but were somewhat disappointed inasmuch as you haven't opened that column for a general, free-for-all bone-dry "pome" contest. Come on; don't be selfish. Anticipating your favor we are inclosing our contribution. Yours resp.,

ORR O. SMITH.

Dear Orr—We gotcher pome. Lack of space at this time delays its use. We are willing to take up your idea, provided we can hear from someone on the other side of the question. If it is to be a free-for-all bone dry "pome" contest, let's hear from the jubilators as well as the lamentators. And by the way, Orr, the pomes ought to be held down to 20 lines, so's to give the others a chance. Yours resp.,

THE EDITOR.

Part of the Treatment.

Maritime Medical News.

Patient (to pretty nurse)—Will you be my wife when I recover?

Pretty Nurse—Certainly.

Patient—Then you will love me?

Pretty Nurse—Oh, no; that's merely a part of the treatment. I must keep my patients cheerful. I promised this morning to run away with a married man who has lost both of his legs.