

The Oregonian

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Portland, Sunday, Sept. 23, 1917.

MR. GERARD'S GREAT WORK

When the break in relations with Germany finally came, many Americans still cherished the pacific delusions born of our remoteness from Europe and its quarrels...

James W. Gerard has opened their eyes. With all the authority of his name, he has shown us that the United States in Germany, who has been at the center of German government through two and a half years of war...

The picture which Mr. Gerard spreads before our eyes is hideous. It reveals the German government as a monster to combat which every American who loves not only his country but his fellow man should nerve his arm and apply his powers of intellect...

The cold deliberation with which Germany and her tool, Austria, began the war has been laid bare by Mr. Gerard. The autograph telegram from the Kaiser to President Wilson which he published for the first time founds the German cause on a mass of falsehoods...

While Fuel Director Garfield urges us to save 10 per cent of our present fuel consumption by cutting five degrees from the customary winter temperatures of our houses, Congress maintains an embargo on the use of 35,000,000 horsepower of waterpower, which would dispense with the use of 250,000,000 tons of coal a year...

The war is shown to have followed long preparation, not only by making Germany an armed nation but by training the minds of the German people in militarism. With cunning people in the ruling class played on the ruling class played on that fear of invasion which had been "bred in the marrow of their souls by centuries of distant wars...

Almost from the beginning intrigue was directed toward America. In February, 1915, an attempt was made to use one of our citizens for the purpose of dividing the allies, when that failed, submarine war began. When this country exercised its undoubted right to sell munitions to whatever nation was able to buy...

states, but Congress plans to vote another \$7,000,000,000 for the war, pass the war tax bill and go home, leaving in its pigeonhole the bill which would save \$1,250,000,000 a year instead of spending it or taking it in the form of taxes. Congress should stay on the job until it has passed this bill in defiance of the handful of cranks who have blocked action...

GRABBING BULLETS. The following comes to us from the Pull Mall Gazette, via the Curtis Flyleaf. The latter aeronautic publication puts a derisive headline over it: Flying low over the German lines a British aviator was seen in the midst of a struggle with a bullet.

"It Must Be Very Hot in London" is the headline, but the Flyleaf fails to disclose any practical reason for denoting the incident "hot air." Fantastic as it appears, it would be possible to grab a bullet that had been shot straight upward from a gun if one were at the exact point at which the bullet began its descent.

Being fully informed of the evil designs of Germany, we need to take good heed of Mr. Gerard's warnings. They are full of common sense, even at this stage of the war. He has warned us that her military and naval power is still unbroken; that she cannot be starved, though she may suffer privation; that there is no real danger of a general peace through revolution...

When we are confronted with such a power, aiming at our destruction as an independent Nation and controlled by men so unscrupulous that no treaty can bind them, we should take heed of what Mr. Gerard tells us of the nature of the German government, that we may not be lured into what Mr. Lloyd George has well termed a "bad peace, which goes staggering on from one war to another."

There can be no sure peace with Germany so long as the military power continues and is in the hands of such a government. We must turn a deaf ear to all appeals for peace until that power is destroyed or until we can deal with a government which is controlled by, and speaks the truth for, the people.

"Don't waste; save," is daily dinned in the ears of the American people by the radio and the movies. President Wilson writes appeals to the people about it, and Food Administrator Hoover enlists the housewives in the noble cause. We are short of labor and short of food, short of fuel and short of money. Mr. Cleggus could relieve all these shortages at one stroke by passing two bills.

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machinery are not an attraction. They offer a good bait for the insipid part of general education and cultural knowledge, and as such deserve sincere consideration. But there are others than the boy to be impressed with the value of schooling. It does not strongly appeal to a youngster of 14 to tell him that if he quits school at that age he will earn \$28.53 a month, whereas if he remains in school until he is 18 he will probably be able to earn \$48.

WOMEN AS SURGEONS. The question of the special fitness of women for surgery is left open in the announcement of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, which is the medical school of Columbia University, that after 1918 years as a man's institution it will accept women students. The step indicates an important change in the attitude of the people toward restriction of women's field of endeavor.

GROW WOOL ON THE FARM. Not the least serious of the famines which have been caused by the war is that of wool. It is estimated by the National Sheep and Wool Bureau that the world clip this year will be 230,000,000 pounds, against demand for 750,000,000 pounds. The clip of the British colonies is practically absorbed by the British army and by the European allies, the war has cut off any other market.

QUITTING SCHOOL. The most striking feature of a partial survey of the public schools of Fort Dodge, Ia., is a statistical reply to giving up school in the minds of many boys and many parents: "Does it pay to stay in school?" The report is written by Edward T. Snively, supervisor of manual training in the Fort Dodge schools, and it is a most interesting and suggestive cultural study of Iowa. The purpose of the survey, as outlined in the report, was to discover:

SOME REPUTATIONS IN DANGER. Publication of the message from Von Bernstorff to the German Ambassador asking for money to influence Congress against war proves what every observant man believed—that German pressure was brought to bear in order to induce members to act in the interest of Germany and not of the United States.

It will be observed from the foregoing that the average boy who leaves school while in the seventh grade does not after having been at work six years earn as much as the average boy earns in the first year of employment after having remained in school until the eleventh grade.

MAXIM GORKY'S PEOPLE. How difficult are the paths that the Russian people must tread before they attain any measure of freedom worth while can be appreciated by one who has had a glimpse of the almost complete lack of education among the masses, and who realizes that education is essential as the foundation of liberty; that without it liberty would degenerate into mere license and become anarchy, which is not freedom at all.

Here, as in other places, it was certainly revealing to see my side. Whenever a visitor to the shop went away without making a purchase, the most offensive epithet would be applied to the offender, such as "pig of a woman!" and other expressions of contempt.

RESULTS OF ONE MISTAKE. The wheat surplus which the United States will have available for export to Europe this year is estimated at 220,000,000 bushels, that of Canada at 150,000,000, leaving from 130,000,000 to 150,000,000 bushels to be obtained from other countries.

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Yet who in the United States four years ago would have dared to predict anything but a bright future for Serbia in a world war and cause the American people to economize in eating bread? We know now that the

time he was employed as a pupil in the shop of an ikon painter in Nijni Novgorod. "The people of the district in which the shop was situated lived a strange life full of stupid, puerile and always malicious adventures."

One could see hope if it were only a matter of stupidity, or of childishness, which could be accounted for easily enough, but the malice will make it all the harder for Russia to and itself. If, as Gorky indicates, it is a characteristic of the proletariat, it is likely to consider it a mean argument to keep him where he does not want to stay.

There is a fine opportunity here for the Oregon farmer. If the slashings were cleared off stump land, many sheep might be grazed there in the evergreen fields of the Willamette Valley and the Coast counties.

Another American city has solved the problem of what to do with a brewery by making one over into a cocoa and chocolate factory. New Orleans capitalists have seen the opportunity to add to the list of new American industries and further reduce our imports of finished materials after the war.

There is a world of meaning in President Wilson's exclamation to the wheat-growers: "I have only twenty-four hours a day." A man who is conducting a great war must pass on endless questions, yet many persons would pass many more matters up to him, and a forty-eight-hour day would be none too long for him.

It is so natural to associate a Chinaman with the kitchen, the Celestial drafted from Vancouver makes haste to assert he cannot cook and wants to fight. He must be given his chance.

A woman up Aberdeen way seeks a decree because her husband works sixteen hours a day. As that leaves but eight for sleep and recreation, she has a grievance.

There's a great stretch of baseball between Johnny McGraw and Connie Mack this year.

It is perfectly proper to put the blame on the cow. All she can do is kick.

General Bliss heads the Army, and that's what the Army will have.

The \$18 hog makes the pork chop much of a chip.

Breathes there a school child so young, in Freedom's land, that doesn't know what a periscope is, or cannot describe to you with great degree of accuracy, the most important weapon that our 20th century war has developed—the submarine?

Yet it is only the latest editions of dictionaries in which you may find the word "periscope" described as the eye of the undersea boat. In the sense in which it is used at the head of this column it is as old as the departed civilization of which the Parthenon and the Acropolis are pathetic reminders.

Collier's last week has a picture on its front cover that calls to mind a story by H. G. Wells, published many years ago in the Strand Magazine, London, entitled "The Land Ironclads." As Jules Verne's "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" forecasted the submarine, so did Mr. Wells describe with fair accuracy the ironclad tanks that now terrify German trenches.

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