# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 1918.

## SPREADING KULTUR.

The systematic and far-reaching nature of German plans for the dissemination of kultur throughout the world are only beginning to be appreciated. It is not, as some have supposed, of spontaneous growth. The work of organizing people of German descent in foreign countries into separate units has been carried on actively ever since 1890 by several societies within the German empire, and it also has had the direct support of the German government. Appropriations for the aid of German schools in other lands, because of their recognized political, and even military, value, have been made regularly by the Reichstag. These appropriations at the time the war broke out amounted to 1,000,000 marks a year. Subscriptions by private citizens of Germany, however, have been even larger. A list of such benefactions, ranging from 5000 to 350,000 marks, has recently come into possession of the American authorities.

Americans are indebted to the research of Professor Earl B. Sperry, of the department of history of Syracuse University, for new enlightenment on the subject. The scheme to dominate the world was based upon the organization of Germans into distinct national groups, wherever they might be found, and it gave first recognition to schools as a factor in the preservation of unity. It has only recently come to light that there were 5240 such schools in foreign lands, of which 491 were in the United States. The number does not include those in the German-speaking region of Austria. Measures to Germanize Bohemia by stern suppression of Czech culture are not taken into account. The list of 5240 schools embraces only those employing the indirect, as contrasted with the suppressive, method. There are, for example, 600 of them in Brazil. Hardly a country in the world has escaped. One such school in New Zealand has received official German support.

The most interesting revelation of all is contained in the citation of the so-called "Delbrueck law," enacted by the German government in 1913, which provides that a German immigrant about to be inducted into a foreign citizenship may receive from a German Consul the privilege of retaining his German citizenship after he is vested with that of his adopted country. Of this law Professor Sperry says:

> He (the German immigrant) is thus to have a double citizenship, owing two states the allegiance and duties which every citizen should give to one alone. The law can have but one purpose—so to hold the allegiance of the immigrant that in case a conflict of interest occurs he will assist Germany rather than his adopted country. The German government thus endeavors to prevent its citizens from becoming loyal and honorable citizens of the countries which give them freedom and prosperity.

Testimony as to the purpose of the entire system is abundant in the writings of Germans themselves. Thus a contributor to one of several periodicals devoted to the task of creating an all-German nation, in an article on "German Schools in Foreign Lands," says that "we are concerned chiefly with the national and cultural aims of the German school abroad," and adds that "the German school, along with the German orphans' home, the German church and the German press is the most essential factor in the attainment of this goal." Another writer says that the aim of these schools should be not only to perpetuate German nationality among the children of German immigrants, but "should impart German kultur to the children of other nationalities also." In an appeal for funds for the maintenance of these schools, another writer declares that "work done in the interest of the German school abroad is a noble service rendered to the German nation, for one of the most effective means of perpetuating Germanism in foreign countries is the school."

German appreciation of the utilitarian value of the school is a historical fact. Germany has been a pioneer in public education. As to the ethical side, one will draw his own conclusions from the typical utterance which Professor Sperry quotes from "Das Grossere Deutschland," declaring that "the reproach often brought against the German-American that as soon as he goes to America he becomes an American citizen is unjustified," and adding:

> For if he does not become an American citizen he has no vote at the election; no influence of any kind in the Nation's political affairs. He is permitted, however, and can and ought in heart, thought and nature to remain a German.

This, then, is the German view as expressed in Germany; and the official character of the propaganda conducted through the schools is well established. It is not to be denied that many thousands of citizens of German descent are loyal, but it is not these who have been active in the work of preventing assimilation of immigrants into one nationality—the American. Undoubtedly, there is no place in any country for those who advocate disruption. We know that there can be no divided allegiance. We see the evil of "Delbrueck laws." And we observe that a new test of loyalty is necessary. Advocates of "education" which has as its aim the creation of schism and disruption are enemies of the country against which their insidious propaganda is directed.

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The hearing before the House military committee at Washington recently on the Edmonds bill, providing for the formation of a pharmaceutical corps in the Army, is the culmination of a long fight by American pharmacists to win recognition corresponding to that accorded to the profession in several of the armies of Europe and of Japan. The bill would confer the rank of Major upon the commander of the corps, and would provide a number of Captains and Lieutenants. Opponents of the measure take the ground that dispensing in the field is so much a matter of "counting tablets" and measuring ready-made remedies that the same skill is not required as in civil life. Advocates, however, point to the great number of duties that could be performed by skilled pharmacists, such as supervision of medical purchases, making of analytical tests and first-aid work as indicating a way in which the time of physicians could be saved for strictly medical and surgical lines. Threatened shortage of man power in the Medical Corps has given the pharmacists an added argument which is being presented for all it is worth before Congress.

## PEACE AND LIGHT.

And God said, let there be light, and there was light.

No doubt in His gracious time Omnipotence will again speak; and there will be peace. But it will be no peace, if right shall not triumph and wrong forever be cast into outer darkness. There are those of little faith who think that the right and justice are, after all, mere words, and only might can endure. If that is so, a bad cause has just as good an opportunity to survive as a good cause. It is not true. It is a thought which violates all the solemn promises and sacred prophecies of Divinity; and it runs counter to every instinct of our common humanity. So we know better, indeed.

But it is not always easy, when one sees the steady progress of Brute Force, to keep an unwavering faith. Surely, it is not a part of the Divine plan that the world be given over to the wild beasts of Kultur. Atrocity, murder, spoliation, cruelty and barbarism are words which belong in the devil's lexicon. They have been adopted by Germany as its very own. Why God suffers the devil to live is a part of the Great Mystery. But so it is. Just now his masquerade is as the German Kaiser.

On this Easter day we shall hear much about peace, but nothing now about peace without victory or peace without honor. The world knows that there can be no peace until Kultur is slain in its citadels. There is a world where there are peace and good will among men; and we are enjoined to seek it as the greatest human aspiration. It is not an impious thought that there can be no good will toward madmen. It may not be necessary to hate the Kaiser and his minions, but it is necessary to rid the world of them. Let us have peace, indeed, but a German peace—never!

> God give us peace! Not such as lulls to sleep,
> But sword on thigh, and brow with purpose knit!
> And let our ship of state to harbor sweep,
> Her ports all up, her battle lanterns lit
> And her leashed thunders gathering for their leap.

## IS IT CONSTITUTIONAL?

It will not make much practical difference in the long run, but the day's leeway given the courts on the new standard time carries with it an unjust reflection upon the intelligence and understanding of some very worthy citizen. The profound reason given for this exception in behalf of the Multnomah County courts is that the lawyers, jurors and witnesses may neglect to set their watches and clocks ahead the first day. They will come trailing along after the common herd twenty-four hours later.

In making serious protest against this outrageous reflection upon a class of citizens, we are thinking only of the jurors and witnesses. They are from the common people, and have just as much right to be considered in full possession of their faculties as the shipyard workers, streetcar men, lettercarriers, clerks, stenographers, schoolteachers, bankers and grocers. Why blame the necessity upon them when everybody knows it is the lawyers alone who are considered?

No self-respecting judge or lawyer will be guilty of setting his watch ahead this morning. That would indicate to the public that he is given to snap judgments. One who is true to the ethics of his profession will not act in this weighty matter until he has satisfied himself positively that it is constitutional.

It is perfectly all right to give the courts another day in which to satisfy themselves on the legalities of beginning business an hour earlier, but let it now be definitely admitted by the courts that it is on account of the judges and lawyers, not the jurors and witnesses. Let the courts give justice in this matter, if in nothing else.

## POISONING WITH TNT.

An insidious disease growing out of munition manufacture has become known as TNT poisoning, which is discussed in a report to the Bureau of Labor Statistics by Archie Rice, who has been connected with the industry in this country and has studied reports from British factories. From past experience he estimates that in the manufacture of the 78,000,000 rounds of cannon ammunition ordered by the United States there will be from 7000 to 17,000 cases of this disease, and that from 135 to 475 of them will be fatal. The large number is ascribed to the frequency with which workpeople change their jobs, each job being filled by from two to thirty persons in a year.

The risk might, according to Mr. Rice, be reduced 80 to 90 per cent "with reasonable and very inexpensive precautions and with proper medical supervision." The subject was discussed at the convention of the American Public Health Association last October, and at a later conference between health officials and munition makers to consider a health and hygienic code for munition factories, the munition men voted down a clause proposed by the health men. They argued that workers should not be told of the danger lest they be made apprehensive, and that memoranda to be used in self-protection and as a guide to physicians in treating them should not be given, because they might become the bases for damage suits. As an alternative they proposed that all the doctors in the country be educated in diagnosis and cure of the disease, which would take years, during which there would be many victims. How successful have been the precautions proposed is indicated by the statement that the prediction of 17,000 cases and 475 deaths is based on the experience of one American factory in seven and a half months before they were adopted, while that of 7000 cases and 135 deaths is based on the entire twenty months of operation.

Protection of employes' health is shown to be good business for the Government. Poisoning occurs from impregnation of the air with TNT or from spilling the stuff in filling shells. By conserving methods in making the shells already ordered, it is estimated that 4,368,000 pounds of TNT, worth $1 a pound, might be saved. But manufacturers are paid cost plus 10 per cent, and would gain nothing by this saving. Hence it seems to be up to the Government to enforce precautions similar to those adopted by the British government. While we are sacrificing the lives of our best youth in battle, no lives should be wasted avoidably in supplying them with munitions.

## RETRIBUTION.

German chickens are coming home to roost, according to recent reports from the police of the larger cities. The spirit of lawlessness, the example of which was set by the Government itself, is reflected in an amazing increase of murders, thefts and burglaries.

Train robbery by armed gangs, heretofore unheard of in that country, has been practiced and the offenders have escaped. The more able-bodied police have been sent to the front, and the older men now on duty are unable to enforce the law.

Returned soldiers in a land where every man is a soldier have been imbued with the riotous spirit that was encouraged by their officers in Belgium. Having been instigated to commit crimes out of the line of the duty of a soldier in battle, they quite naturally have not all of them returned to the peaceful frame of mind that held them before the war.

It is a problem that Germany will be obliged to work out for itself, and that is likely to prove vexing for at least a generation.

## NEWS AND PROMOTION.

Nearly every Western community owns at least one serious citizen who has a confirmed idea that no news should be sent from his town unless it is a rosy account of progress or story of the delightful climate. Whether he would be satisfied with a newspaper that printed only such news from other communities has never been fairly tested, but the chances are he would be the first to complain.

There is one such—a banker—in Montana, who is now supplying the press with a three-page defense of Montana's climate, liberally sprinkled with records and tables. The innocent text for his circular is the following dispatch, which appeared in the Chicago Tribune:

> THIRTY BELOW IN MONTANA AND MERCURY STILL FALLING
>
> Lewiston, Mont. Jan. 30.—Thirty degrees below zero was the temperature here early tonight and the forecast was for even colder weather. Similar severe cold was being experienced throughout the state.

There is no charge that the dispatch is an untruth, but he says of it:

> I believe this is the most inane, senseless impulse that could possibly seize a thoughtful newspaper man and cannot understand any newspaper office that will indulge such a thing, even though there is a 50-cent fee for the item to the editor or reporter who will put such a telegram on the wire; when it is known that people in Eastern states entertain a seriously unfair, incorrect impression regarding our weather. Is there a newspaper man who does not know that our Winters are very mild compared to other states in the same latitude, and that the occasional flashes of low temperature, always of the briefest duration, are, because of the dryness of our atmosphere, never of great moment?

Whether newspaper writers should preserve a dignified silence when there is an "occasional flash of low temperature" in Montana, or should be permitted to mention it only in connection with a detailed description of the beautiful weather that preceded it and will doubtless follow it, is not clearly set forth. But there was once a young man in the state of Washington with similar ideas who broke into the newspaper business. One day there was an explosion in a highway construction camp and several men were killed. A San Francisco newspaper wired for a long special story.

The young newspaper man filled the order as to number of words, but he said very little about the explosion, and a great deal about what the highway, when completed, would mean to the development of Whatcom County. The disastrous sequel was that the story was not printed and the young man lost his job.

There is a distinct difference between news and promotion. The fact that the exceptional constitutes much of the news is lost to sight by the home booster. If -30 degrees were the usual Winter temperature in Montana and so understood to be by the public, the Chicago newspapers would say nothing about it. And, to get back to an earlier thought, if newspapers published promotion literature only there would soon cease to be newspapers.

## MAKE NO PROFIT FOR THE ENEMY.

One of the greatest labors growing out of the war is the disposal of German property in the United States. While German subjects who have become fixed residents of this country are not molested so long as they do no hostile act, American property of Germans who remain abroad is seized by the custodian of enemy property. Much of this property is in the shape of factories, mines, land, or of stock in companies owning them, and the question arose whether this property should be administered for the benefit of its owners and the income returned with the property at the end of the war, or sold to Americans or citizens of friendly nations, the proceeds being held for the benefit of the former owners.

The latter course is favored by A. M. Palmer, the custodian, because much of the property is believed to be actually owned by the Kaiser and the junkers against whom in particular we are at war. In fact, he told a Senate committee that "we run into things that make us think that the German government has an interest in the various industries" which he is operating for German owners. As trustee for the Germans, Mr. Palmer is making enormous war profits on all kinds of manufactures, and he says:

> If I must simply sit here, holding the stock of these companies making these enormous profits out of the war, with the possibility of returning both principal and profits to the German owners at the end of the war, I am doing a tremendous favor to the German Empire, our enemy.

Further, these German investments are the very instruments of German economic penetration of this country, and their German managers have been the centers of pro-German agitation, making their business into strongholds of the enemy in our territory. A part of the necessary work of tearing out the cancerous growth which Germany has spread through the United States is to transfer this property from German to American owners, that the profits may accrue to Americans instead of accumulating for use in a new economic war upon us. The opportunity may be taken to free American industry from German control, in preparation for possible legislation to maintain its independence of foreigners in the future.

A question was raised in the Senate whether sale of American property owned by non-resident Germans would not violate the treaty of 1799, which makes special provision for protection of citizens of each country in the territory of the other in the event of war between them. But Senator Martin pointed out that this protection does not extend to American holdings of Germans who are now in Germany, saying:

> The owners of this property are not in the United States now; they are abroad and waging war on the United States, and that war has created extravagant profits which are accruing.

The treaty also stipulates that its provisions "are to be as sacredly observed as the most acknowledged articles in the law of nature and nations," but Senator Knox suggested that Germany has violated the law of nature and of nations, and that the United States might use that fact as justification for ignoring the whole treaty. Senator Martin left that point to be considered at the end of hostilities, but he held it to be inconceivable that the United States should account even for the value of German property when we took it over, "unless they come into this accounting themselves and account for the destruction they have brought about and for the havoc they have caused to the property of American citizens."

Although the value of the seized German property is estimated at a billion dollars, it is not likely that in such an accounting any balance would remain payable to Germany. When every ship and cargo sunk in defiance of international law, every munition plant and plant destroyed at the instigation of German agents, had been paid for, and when compensation had been made for the many American lives sacrificed while we were neutral, there would more probably be a balance payable to the United States.

## THE INDIANS' SIDE OF THE STORY.

As to the differences in the early days between the whites and the Indians of the Northwest, the effort seldom has been made to tell the story from the Indians' viewpoint. The old-time theory that the "only good Indian was a dead Indian," however much it may have been founded upon bitter experience with cruelty and treachery, may not have been applicable to all instances. That there were two sides to the wars of 1855-58 in what is now the state of Washington is strongly and interestingly set forth in "Ka-mi-akin, the Last Hero of the Yakimas," written by A. J. Splawn, a well-known pioneer, who spent his early boyhood in Linn County, Oregon, and was for half a century a resident of the Yakima country. The work, now published posthumously, is the first sustained attempt to show that the conflict might have been avoided if different measures had been adopted by the leaders among the whites.

The two great men of the Yakima war, says the author, were Ka-mi-akin and Governor Stevens, of the Territory of Washington. The author describes the pioneer Governor as a "strong, forceful man, of great ability," but he charges him with mistakes which precipitated a war which might have been avoided. He is, however, also unsparing of his criticism of other white leaders. He thinks that Stevens failed to understand the Indians' desire to act only after due deliberation, and that he was unsympathetic, and forced an issue when delay would have meant permanent peace. This takes us back to the momentous council of Walla Walla, in 1851, when the principal tribes were called together. Previously there had been mutterings of war. The Indians had been storing food against the emergency. Stories had been circulated that the new Governor had come West with the avowed purpose of driving the Indians from their lands if they declined the white man's terms. There were peace-at-any-price advocates among the red men, who urged that resistance would be useless, but they had been overruled by the warriors. The Cayuses were particularly truculent. The whites had strong allies in the Nez Perces, who afterward served them so well, under the leadership of Lawyer, their celebrated chief, although his title was disputed by Looking Glass, a more celebrated Nez Perce warrior.

The whites had entered the council prepared to offer the confederated tribes two reservations. Because of complications arising afterward, they offered a third reservation for the Cayuses, the Umatillas and the Walla Wallas in their own country. The chieftains finally gave their consent. Ka-mi-akin held out until the last. By the treaties the Yakimas surrendered 29,000 square miles, including the entire present area of five counties in Washington and parts of two others, reserving only the Yakima reservation of less than 1,200,000 acres. The Nez Perce relinquished territory out of which was formed the large part of Whitman, Garfield, Columbia and Osotin counties in Washington, Union and Wallowa counties in Oregon, and Nez Perce County in Idaho. They retained, however, a very large reservation, the surrender of part of which in 1863 against the wishes of young Joseph led to the war of 1877. The Cayuses, Umatillas and Walla Wallas gave up territory embracing Walla Walla County in Washington, and parts of Union and Gilliam counties in Oregon. For the whole area ceded, says Mr. Splawn, the Indians were to receive about $650,000, part of which was paid in the form of annuities to chieftains and concessions in the way of houses, implements and tools.

The author does not deny the signing of the treaty by authorized representatives of the tribes, or the breaking of it afterward by the Indians. He rests his case rather upon the implication that the treaty was wrested from them under threats. It is admitted that previously, at "the most noted gathering of red men ever seen in this vast territory," the interested chiefs had agreed to mark the boundaries of the different tribes, and that each chief should claim the entire land for a reservation for his people. The circle when completed included practically all the land in Eastern Washington and a large part of the area of Eastern Oregon, leaving no lands to treat for with Governor Stevens. It was then agreed that if the Governor asked for a council it should be agreed to, but that no land should be surrendered. The spirit of war was thoroughly aroused. It was in this spirit that the tribes approached the council at Walla Walla.

It would seem that the documentary evidence strongly supported the contention of the whites. On its face it would appear that the Indians regarded the treaty as a compact made but to be broken. But Mr. Splawn pleads for an understanding of the Indians' view of the sacredness of the soil, which they regarded with superstitious reverence. Their plea for a postponement of the Walla Walla conference, to permit them to give further consideration to a question of first importance to them, he thinks was reasonable. "It was," he says, "no idle affair with them. It meant giving up their birthright, land which they believed theirs by every lawful right." He holds that the whites were carried away with the idea of obtaining signatures to documents, overlooking the "more important question whether the Indians were satisfied with the result." He suggests that it would have been wiser to permit them to depart and return for another council, devoting the interval to the removal of distrust caused by the Governor's reported words that "if they refused to sell, soldiers would be sent to wipe them off the earth." Whether he had said this or not, the Indians thoroughly believed that he had done so.

Ka-mi-akin is pictured as a man embittered by threats made against his people, but as, in his earlier years, a friend of the white settlers. It is said that he condemned the Whitman massacre and frustrated plans of the Cayuses to combine with other tribes against the soldiers sent to avenge the wanton murder of the missionaries. He advised against the war of revenge projected by the chief Pe-peu-mox-mox on the settlers of the Willamette Valley for the killing of his son, Elijah Hedding, at Redding, Cal., and a messenger was sent to Fort Vancouver to warn Dr. McLoughlin. He was a man of progressive tendencies, the first importer of cattle from the white man's country, and he showed unusual sagacity in making later purchases from the settlers to keep up his herds. It is this character which the author asks his readers to believe would have furnished the foundation for enduring peace if the council of Walla Walla had been conducted differently.

But those who have faith in the word of prophets will believe that all was foreordained that came to pass. Mr. Splawn includes in his comprehensive story a good deal of the legendry of the tribes with which he deals. He finds that Ka-mi-akin's father, known to the Yakimas as Ki-yi-yah, was a deserter from one of the tribes farther east, and that an aged medicine man of the Yakimas foretold that he would marry the daughter of the Yakima chief, that he would return to his own people, and that their son would come back to the land of his mother, where he would lead the warriors in their last stand against the hated race. Final defeat of the Indians was foretold. And so it came to pass.

## HUMILITY IN THE GARDEN.

Kipling was not a truck gardener, or even an "agriculturalist," but he sensed a large measure of the value of thorough work in the management of the home vegetable garden when he wrote:

> Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God, who made him, sees
> That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees.

Perhaps not half, since the wheel hoe was invented to save the backs of men, but still a good part of the work of keeping the rows free from weeds and in a proper state of cultivation can be well done in no other way than by humbly getting down on the ground and getting right at the root of things. The home gardener who this year expects to accomplish definite results without some backache is destined to be disappointed. For the time to kill a weed is when it is a tiny affair, hardly distinguishable from the plant it is desired to preserve, and no tool has been invented which will distinguish between friend and foe, when a man is standing. The better the start of the vegetable, the better its prospects for survival later, and the more neglect it will bear, once it has established itself.

Onions and carrots are examples of crops that require a great deal of hand-work under most favorable conditions. Those who expect to cultivate all their crops standing up will do well not to plant these vegetables, or parsnips and others like them. They should confine their attention to cabbages and potatoes.

But the injunction is not meant to be discouraging. By all means there should be more home gardens this year than ever. The Nation needs them and its very life may depend upon them. The slogan, "A garden for every family," adopted by some cities, is a good one to bear in mind. And the pleasant Spring days now in prospect are an invitation to every individual with even a tiny bit of spare land to busy himself with putting in the crop. The planning period is over and now is the time to plant.

## OREGON SHIPYARDS MAKE GOOD.

Decision of the Shipping Board to contract for as many wooden ships as will keep Oregon yards busy through this year is the more welcome because it is a tardy tribute to the capacity of Oregon to provide a large share of that bridge of ships by which our Army is crossing the Atlantic Ocean. After doing its utmost to get ships from other coasts, even to the extent of sending Pacific Coast timber thither, the Board admits that it must rely very largely on this Coast, because the Pacific Coast has delivered the goods. When six hulls go into the water in one week at Portland alone, when a Portland yard beats the record by launching a steel ship sixty-one days after the keel was laid, when the best previous record of sixty-four days was held by a Seattle yard and when a Columbia River yard challenges an Eastern yard to a match in speed and quality at turning out wooden ships, then the Board is "shown."

The Pacific Coast has an advantage in building steel ships, which goes far to offset the cost of hauling material from the East. While zero weather probably caused loss of half the working days in three Winter months on the Atlantic Coast, work continued with slight interruption in the open sheds of the Pacific Coast yards. Thus the mild climate of this Coast must have a large part in enabling the builders to make their record with the Westgrove. This saving in time involves a saving of money which may equal, if it does not exceed, the freight on material.

Since Oregon has made good, its capacity should be fully used. It could complete two vessels of wood or steel every working day, or about 600 a year, but it has contracts for only 168. The prospect now held out, that more vessels will be ordered by the Shipping Board, and that any capacity which the Government does not need will be released to private owners, is welcome. There need be no apprehension lest by so doing the Board will permit delay of its own programme, for there is a wide margin of material and labor available. All obstacles to the great project of the Du Ponts should be removed, for its vessels will render as efficient war service in bringing nitrates and other explosive material from Chile as will the Government ships in carrying supplies to France.

If other yards were permitted to take private contracts, their vessels would help the general purpose by carrying to Australia the lumber which now swamps the mills and hinders their production of ship timbers, and by bringing back the wheat which is in danger of rotting on the ground. They could relieve the railroads by carrying flour and oil to Europe and wool to the Atlantic Coast. Additions to the merchant fleet are as effective counter strokes to the submarine as additions to the transport fleet, for they make good losses in the world's total tonnage.

In order that Oregon may advance her interests as a state, and in order that the submarine may be beaten, shipbuilding should be speeded up in this district, not only by the employer, but the workman. The war on the sea is two-fold—by the Navy in destroying submarines, and by the shipbuilder in turning out more vessels to replace those which have been sunk. The man who drives rivets in a ship is fighting the Kaiser as effectively as the man who fires a gun on a destroyer. By the same rule, the man who limits the number of rivets he drives in a day or otherwise loafs on the job is not merely a slacker, but a traitor, for he helps the enemy by obstructing work essential to victory.

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Discovery, made in Philadelphia art circles, that there are no inherent "atmospheric difficulties" in the painting of attractive American landscapes, would have been made long ago if it had not been for the tendency of the public to look to the old world for its guidance in all matters artistic. The Public Ledger looks upon the award of a prize by the Academy of Fine Arts to a painting by an American, upon an American subject, as "an inspiring reminder that the public has discovered what the more sensitive have known for years." It may also indicate a more general awakening on the part of Americans to the value of all things American, and to birth of an American spirit, free from boxerism, which will see that there are beauties at home as well as in foreign countries. The notion that there was something peculiarly concealing about American air had remarkable vitality, considering the instable character of the foundation upon which it rested.

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The Ukranians, in prohibiting the use of the Russian language, are only turning the tables on their former oppressors. There was a time when Russian scholars seriously contended that Ukranian had no right to survive. But in the end it will depend on the use that is made of it whether it will justify itself.

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Senator Williams said what millions of Americans are thinking when he declared that Senator La Follette should be expelled. That remark may smoke out the committee which has done nothing with the expulsion movement since Congress met four months ago.

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Spring has done well thus far, but the test will come when the prunes are in bloom. The temptation to wash the pollen from the blossoms is usually too strong for Jupiter Pluvius to resist.

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The I. W. W. are not so keen about sabotage when it is applied in the form of tar and feathers by the indignant citizens of communities they formerly thought they could terrorize.

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The position of the Umatilla farmers is that they are willing to pay good wages and guarantee fair treatment to competent hands, but that "sundowners" need not apply.

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It is understood that Boston is just awakening to the fact that the Brownings which are expected to do so much for the success of our men in France are not Robert and Elizabeth.

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Once more we are reminded that one never hears anything about the Russian navy except when there is a mutiny or one of its ships has been sunk.

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The time will come when the hungry Austrians will refuse to be satisfied with empty promises of grain from the Ukraine.

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The world is beginning to hope that the Kaiser spoke the truth when he said that the "decisive moment of the war" had arrived.

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Every egg not consumed on Easter can be put away, with proper precautions against deterioration, for use next Winter.

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The fate of Russia will discourage any other nation from entering into negotiations with Germany for a separate peace.

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The Crown Princes of Prussia and Bavaria are said to be fighting on the western front—safely in the rear, of course.

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Of course, for the first few days we shall not neglect to make a mental reservation as to the real time it is.

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Incidentally, the price of lumber ought to be a sufficient check on any riotousness in building operations.

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The Germans who are stirring up the Kurds are in danger of having the whey knocked out of them.

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General Wood is fit physically to go abroad, and only politics will keep him at home.

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It takes an Easter parade to show how far out of date the sunbonnet is.

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Why wouldn't the open-face pie be a good scheme as a wheat conserver?

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The householder patriot will be known by the garden he keeps.

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**FREE SERVICE AND INFORMATION.**

The Oregonian has established a bureau of information and service at Washington City for the benefit of its readers. No charge is made for a reply to any question relating to Governmental affairs or for procuring any available Government publication. For reply send 2-cent stamp. Address Frederic J. Haskin, director Oregonian Information Bureau, Washington, D. C. Do NOT write to The Oregonian at Portland.

## The Peripterous.

Peripterous—A Structure Having Rows of Columns on All Sides.—Dictionary.

(Synopsis of preceding synopses.)
The Oregonian, a great morning newspaper, employs a distinguished literary architect to construct a peripterous.
He does it. It has rows of columns on east, west, north and south.
The Peripterous becomes a Free Auditorium for the expression of incompetent, irrelevent and immaterial opinion, new verse and anecdotes.

### HOW HAPPY HOME WAS BROKEN UP

**Skull-Spring Crossbones.**

"Speaking of the eternal triangle," remarked old man Withers to the habitues of the Skullspring Emporium the other night, "did you ever hear of the pathetic case of Colonel Charlie Marble?

"Colonel Marble, along about Christmas, 1915 went up to the Portland to find out whether it was really the intention to impose an iniquitous prohibition law upon a liberty-loving people.

"This pains-taking investigation naturally took him into a good many of the prominent resorts and interfered seriously with his meal hours. Along about midnight he began to feel the pangs of hunger. The thing he most desired was old-fashioned stewed chicken.

"In the course of his inquiries he had made the engaging acquaintance of an individual whose sole name seemed to be Gloomy Gus.

"Gloomy Gus was doubtful about old-fashioned stewed chicken. He held to the unalterable belief that no real chef could cook stewed chicken so that it tasted like anything except something else.

"At the first grill Gloomy Gus inquired of the waiter if they had a real chef.

"'Yes, sir,' was the reply, 'right from the Waldorf-Astoria.'

"So they took a couple of drinks and let it go at that.

"At the next grill they made the same inquiry.

"'Our chef has just come from the Waldorf-Astoria,' was the word. So there was nothing to do but drink again.

"The third place also had a Waldorf-Astoria chef, and Colonel Marble began to get interested in coincidences. His marvel grew when the fourth grill turned out to have a chef from the same New York hotel.

"At the 11th grill they were still finding Waldorf-Astoria chefs and no old-fashioned stewed chicken. Gloomy Gus was shedding tears. By that time they were near the water front and Gloomy Gus proposed that for the moment they give up the hunt for old-fashioned stewed chicken and visit the captain of a Chilean bark that was loading lumber.

"The captain of the bark was hospitable and proposed a Chilean nightcap. Colonel Marble says that all he remembers about its flavor was that it distinctly reminded him of the time he idly ate a juniper berry.

"After the second nightcap a terrible storm arose. The ship swayed and rocked and, as the two investigators started down the gangplank, a sudden lurch threw Colonel Marble into the river.

"He was rescued by the harbor patrol and interviewed by a reporter.

"When, in the course of time, the stage brought out our Portland paper, we read that Colonel Marble, distinguished citizen of Skullspring, had fallen into the stream while chicken hunting in the metropolis. The article was villainously embellished with a drawing of an elderly gentleman ogling a female.

"'That's why Mrs. Marble hasn't let the Colonel come into the house since 1916.'"

### In Pursuit of Tripe.

The Pacifist Board of Sciences has gone tripe fishing. A detailed report as to the habits of this peculiar fish may therefore be expected within a short time.

Until Wednesday the Pacifist Board of Scientists was not aware that tripe inhabited Pacific Coast waters. On that day the sharp eye of Prof. Undity, of the board, detected this item in a Portland evening newspaper:

> Yesterday Mrs. Spencer demonstrated the cooking and preparation of oysters to a large crowd of Portland women. She began with a pint of oysters and three pints of tripe. After taking the fish through various degrees of cleaning, scraping, arranging, the magic of the cook was well illustrated in presenting the women present with a dainty concoction that savored so highly of the oysters that the tripe could not be distinguished.

All inquiries, promptly made, failed to reveal whence came this denizen of the deep. Moreover, no tripe could be found in the exclusive fish markets of the city. Nor could any of the stores handling fishing tackle say what sort of bait should be used.

But the Pacifist Board of Scientists has resources of its own. The board is positive that it will be able to bring back several tripe from its fishing excursion and will then promptly study and classify them for the particular benefit of newspaper writers in need of brain food.

### Another Fascinating Mystery.

Unfortunately, owing to the absence from the city of the Pacific Pacifist Board of Scientists, no solution of the fascinating and complicated problem submitted below can immediately be given. Without any doubt, however, it will detract much from the interest in the forthcoming total eclipse of the sun:

PORTLAND, March 28.—(To the Architect.)—I'm worried and puzzled.

"Next Sunday morning (Easter) we move our clocks and watches ahead one hour.

"How many hours long will Easter Sunday be—23, 24 or 25?

"By moving our watches ahead an hour, we naturally are stealing one hour's actual time from the day. Hence, Easter Sunday will be only 23 hours long.

"But the solar day will still have 24 hours' length, for moving our clocks or watches one way or the other will have no effect on the phenomena of nature. Hence, Easter will be 24 hours long.

"But, again, if we move our timepieces ahead an hour, we certainly have added one hour of apparently elapsed time to the day, so, of course, Easter Sunday will be 25 hours long.

"As I said before, I'm flabbergasted.

"BILL STRANDBORG."

### Down With 15-Cent Shine.

Senator Gluten is delivering a series of lectures on "The 15-Cent Shine and the Return to Wooden Shoes." Senator Gluten spoke at the Fairview schoolhouse Wednesday and at Oak Grove Thursday.

The charge is made by Senator Gluten that the week-end increase in the price of shoe shines is the result of a conspiracy between the bootblacking trust and the Greek letter fraternities. The only way to combat this imposition, in his opinion, is for everybody to wear shoes that do not have to be polished. He also advocates abolishment of the minimum wage board because that body has taken no steps to correct the great wrong.

Senator Gluten declares that it is the God-given privilege of the honest farmer, when he comes to town, to be able to sit in an easy chair and have someone else black his boots for a change. Anything that interferes with the privileges of the farmers strikes at the heart of Senator Gluten.