

COOS BAY TIMES

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Official Paper of Coos County

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"NOT PEACE, BUT A SWORD."

SOME highly optimistic folks think the time is ripe for nations not mixed up in the European war to take some steps toward bringing about peace. If this could be accomplished, it of course should be done, but instead of peace being in sight, or the countries ready for it, just the other condition prevails.

Dispatches a few days ago telling of Portugal giving her war minister the right to declare war against Germany shows the feeling there.

Italy's prime minister has made the equivocal statement that "Italy will remain neutral as long as circumstances permit." Now comes a story from Serbia that some fifteen Russian regiments had arrived at Radnivat, Serbia, to assist in her defense. This indicates that Roumania has allowed the Russians to violate her neutrality and that she has made a bargain with Russia under which she will join the allies for a generous slice of Austria when the war is over and the carving of that country begins.

If Roumania gets in, it is almost a certainty that the other Balkan states will also throw their aid to the Allies. This will force Italy to take part, and against Germany and Austria, as she also wants a slice of Austrian territory.

Over and above all, this action by Roumania and Portugal indicates the ideas of those states as to who will win, as they are not anxious to get in on the losing side.—Exchange.

EARLY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

THE "Shop Now" campaign initiated by the Consumers' League of Ohio has a two-fold motive. Early Christmas shopping always gives the purchaser an advantage. This year business conditions imperatively require early buying.

This is a moment of the greatest dislocation of American industry by the European war. This is the period when merchants long for customers and manufacturers yearn for orders, and when employees dread dismissal.

Shopping now will not only enable purchasers to select with care and calmness, to remember everyone, and in every way get complete satisfaction in the Christmas buying. It will also give to all the consciousness that they are diminishing the area of charity by keeping people at work at a time of the most urgent need for employment.

There is economy, not extravagance in buying as early as possible. Since the supply of Christmas things, which has come largely from Germany, Belgium and France, is entirely cut off, prices must rapidly rise as the stocks on hand in this country become exhausted.

"It's the early bird that gets the worm," and it's the early buyer that gets the bargain, particularly this year.

WITH THE TEA AND THE TOAST

GOOD EVENING.

There is no better ballast for keeping the mind steady on its keel and saving it from all risk of crankiness than business.—James Russell Lowell.

A QUESTION.

(Written for The Times.)
Oh, answer who can the question I'm asking:
Which of the two has more right to survive?

The lowly brown lizard—his life spent in basking—
Or the hard-working bee in his overflowing hive?

Oh, which of the three finds more joy in living—
The miser who hoards all his ill-gotten wealth:
The man with a little—free-hearted and giving—
Or a prince with a million and broken in health?

Which of the two feels more keen the disaster,
The hard soldiers who met their defeat,
Or their head with the proud name of leader
Who, seeing no chance, sounds the call to retreat?

—Alden C. Baker

Check will often gain a point that argument would lose.

It's a wise fool who knows when to keep his mouth shut.

There is considerable difference between these heavy rains and a talking woman. In time the rain will let up.

It bothers some Coos Bay girls more to get rid of unwelcome beaux than a bad complexion.

Frogs are the only ones that croak when it rains.

Imitate the anvil—take the hard knocks without murmuring.

Our idea of a martyr is a man who tries to keep the water out of his cellar nowadays.

Anyway, peace is worth fighting for.

Even Solomon couldn't size up a woman's thoughts by her sighs.

Most women seem to be good because they are different from men.

Although a fool and his money may be easily separated, they are hard to find!

Wine and women get credit for making a fool of many a man who was born that way.

If a young man's cake is "dough," he can easily find a girl who is willing to take the cake.

Women no longer wear aprons, hence the husbands who were tied to the strings have also disappeared.

Perhaps the bill collector has as much respect for you as he has for some others on his calling list.

Many a candidate who imagines the eyes of the whole world are upon him, isn't even known outside his own precinct.

All the world loves a lover when he doesn't do his spooning in public. If he does that the world feels more like kicking than loving him.

A woman's idea of a flatterer is a man who tells her there are not enough words in the English language to describe her many charms.

The manner in which foreign diplomats in the United States address themselves to the plain people indicates that the world has learned that in this country the people rule.

TERMINALS NEAR COMPLETION.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 3.—Work on the mammoth Great Northern and Northern Pacific terminals at Warrenton-Astoria are approaching completion. The finishing touches are now being placed on the main building which will be used as a passenger and freight depot, rain sheds erected and walks built for passengers. The big North Bank dredge is now lying idle alongside the wharf, having completed its work in filling in the huge tide flats surrounding the property. Operation of the big passenger steamers between Astoria and San Francisco will begin about March 15, 1915.

LOCATE IN CALIFORNIA.

Editor Coos Bay Times: I am now at home here. We are all well and like it here fine. We are entirely surrounded by orange groves, lemon, grape fruit, grapes, olives and figs. Mr. Alderton is manager and buyer of a grocery department and I clerk in the same store in the dry goods department.

I wish to extend many thanks to all those who so willingly and liberally donated towards the library table and bookcase for the Baptist Ladies' Aid room of North Bend. I will long remember your pleasant aid in the committee work. I must say I was well pleased with the results which was \$13.28. The furniture was bought and paid for on October 30, 1914, in the presence of Mrs. Evans, assistant committee worker and president of our aid. It was placed in the Aid room on the same date. We celebrated the dedication of the same on November 2, 1914, it being my birthday, and as I was going away there were three occasions to celebrate, two of which were quite a surprise to me. After we had all met in our Aid room as usual, I was requested by the secretary to go and bring them a guest, and of course orders were obeyed, and on my return I found the Aid room all changed and decorated. Two tables were filled with dainty goodies. Then we were called to surround the tables and each one found their place. Then I was presented with a lovely silver spoon as a remembrance of the Baptist Ladies' Aid of North Bend, Ore. The afternoon was enjoyed by all, especially when the delicious lunch was served. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas.
MRS. E. H. ALBERTON,
Diablos, Calif.

NAVAL WAR PROBLEMS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 1.—While American navy officers have watched with critical eyes the deadly work of torpedoes fired from submarines and of contact mines in the European war, nothing has developed as yet which indicates any radical change in battleship construction to offer greater defense against under water attacks.

The problems presented are not new. They have been studied by naval constructors of every power since the Russian-Japanese War, when many fine ships fell victims to mines and torpedoes. Proposals of many sorts have been discussed. Some have been adopted; but the theory of warship building still clings to concentration of offensive power in terms of larger guns, bigger and swifter ships and wider cruising radius, even at the expense of defensive armor.

The heavy losses sustained by the British navy by submarine attacks has brought up for renewed discussion the subject of armoring the bottoms of warcraft. Recent issues of English service journals have noted a plan to cover the entire bottom of a battleship with four inches of armor plating. It was urged that the experiment be tried with an old ship which should be subjected to actual test with the explosion against her hull of the most powerful modern torpedoes. The ship also would be driven into contact mines of various types to determine their effect, it was said.

American naval experts believe there is little doubt of the result. They say four inches of armor would resist any known torpedo or mine successfully. To equip a ship in that way, however, the enormous weight of the armor would require a reduction in weight elsewhere and the only way it could be accomplished would be to reduce the size and number of guns, the thickness of surface armor, the weight of engines and coal capacity and because of this last, the size of the ships themselves. With armored bottoms battleships would become slow, heavy vessels of small cruising radius and their usefulness as instruments with which to strike swift terrible blows at distant points before word of their coming had gone out, would vanish. Cruisers and swift merchant vessels would take care to keep only out of range of their guns. The terrific power of the modern dreadnaught would be a thing of the past.

It is not impossible, however, that some degree of protection for the bottoms of battle craft will be considered in future. Heretofore constructors have relied almost wholly upon increasing numbers of watertight compartments to keep torpedoed ships afloat. The loss of the British battleship Audacious, one of the most modern fighting machines in the world, has shed new light on the subject. Details of that disaster are lacking, but many believe the Audacious ran into a mine which sent her to the bottom. Her compartments kept her afloat until her crew was rescued; but one by one they gave way under the increasing pressure of the water and finally she went down.

Navy officers are unwilling as yet to predict what effect on naval construction that will have. They say it is a question of balance between offense and defense in battleship construction and the old axiom that the greatest defense lies in the highest capacity for offensive work still holds good. It appears certain, however, that in planning new ships, the subject of armored bottom, or at least partial armor for the midships section of the bottom, will be carefully weighed.

SWEDEN GETS BUSY.

Plans Many New Warships to Strengthen Navy.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 2.—The new defense act has provided for a big increase of strength of the Swedish navy. It is expected that two semi-dreadnaughts, especially designed for use in Swedish waters, will soon be constructed. Sweden's twelve new destroyers of a larger type than heretofore designed, will have a speed of thirty-nine knots, and will all be turbine boats. About twenty submarines will be built as soon as possible. The government is to build the smaller craft, but probably the big vessels will be constructed at private shipyards.

NOTICE.

The monthly meeting of the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce will be held in its office at 8 o'clock Friday evening, Dec. 4th. It is our desire that all members become active workers and attend our monthly meetings.
JOHN W. MOTLEY, Sec.

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