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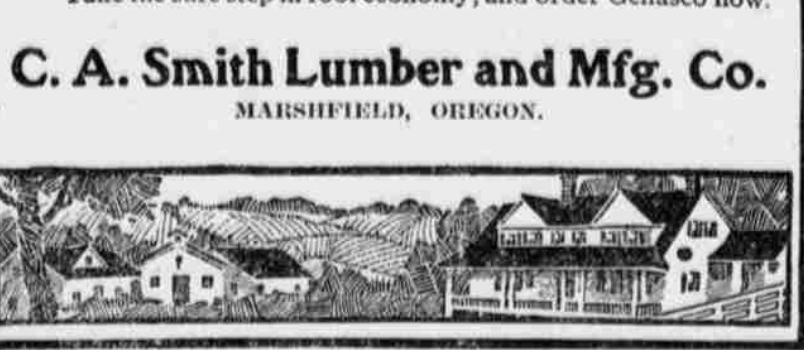


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**HELP CUT TAXES
PLEADS ROSEBURG**

Commercial Club Seeks Ear of Legislature Through City Organizations

Roseburg has taken a slap at the high cost of conducting the state and the resulting high taxes and now asks that Marshfield follow the same tactics. A copy of the resolutions passed by the Roseburg Commercial Club has been received here. Copies are being sent to every commercial body in the state and to every member of the state legislature.

Taxes for state purposes have been increased 350 per cent in the past ten years, says the resolutions, while the increase in population has been but 32 per cent. The present per capita tax is the highest per capita tax of any state in the union, a fact, according to the letter, that is a bar to the development of Oregon as well as a severe hardship on the taxpayers.

Reference is made to the state university and the agricultural college indirectly. "It is reported," read the resolutions, "that the budget appropriations for the maintenance of the state institutions is one million dollars higher than the budget which was submitted to the legislature two years ago.

Believing that a majority of the legislators have been elected on a platform of economy the Roseburg organization seeks to take advantage of this point in reducing in every way expedient and possible the high rate of taxation.

WAS ALL SHOT UP

Rivalry Between German Soldiers As to Who Is Most Wounded.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
BERLIN, Jan. 28.—There is a friendly rivalry among the wounded in the Berlin hospitals for the distinction of having been the worst shot up man in the war. One who claims 26 wounds holds the present record, but Morst Pfeiffer is envied for his remarkable combination of peril and luck.

Near Dixmude he received an order which he was to take on his bicycle to the firing line. He had to pass, on his way, a road that was exposed to a hot machine gun fire from the enemy. He was hit eight times and dropped off into a ditch at the side of the road, but succeeded nevertheless in handing his message to another soldier who carried it to its destination. One bullet had grazed his skull, another passed through the upper jaw, one through the chin, one through the bone of the right arm, and one struck his left wrist. Two others struck his helmet and his shoes. His comrades finally succeeded in rescuing him from his dangerous position, and sent him to Berlin, where he has been awarded an iron cross.

HIS SNAP.

A Country Merchant Tells His Troubles to a Reporter.

"Yes," remarked the country merchant to a newspaper reporter, "I certainly have a snap. The wholesale houses send me duns every month and draw on me at sight; but if I send a bill to a farmer he comes in swearing mad and quits trading at my store. While I am hard up for ready money, many of those who owe me are sending cash in advance to mail order houses. If I contribute money to any cause people say I am bidding for trade. If I don't they say I am a hog. Every day I am expected to dig up for everything that comes along, from a raffle ticket to a church fund, by people who say I ought to do this, because they do part of their trading here; but my friends, Montgomery-Ward or Sears-Roebuck, neither buys raffle tickets nor helps the church fund and yet gets the cash in advance, business; and if I were to circulate a subscription paper among the city wholesale houses where we trade I would get the horse laugh proper. If I sell a pair of pants, I must treat the family to candy and cigars; if I buy a load of potatoes I must do the same. Customers who are able to pay hang on to their money, while I pay ten per cent at the bank to get ready cash. I have a big business during hard times and poor crops from people who are willing to trade with me, providing I can duplicate catalogue house prices and wait until after harvest for my money. My scales weigh too heavy when I sell sugar and too light when I buy butter. I am a thief, a liar and a grafter. If I smile, I am a soft soapy hypocrite; if I don't I am a grump. Yes, this is certainly a snap." And then he looked over \$19,000 worth of book accounts, all good, and wondered how he could raise \$350 to pay a sight draft due tomorrow.

KITCHENER STILL HUMAN.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
LONDON, Jan. 28.—An instance of the human qualities of Lord Kitchener is related in Sunderland, where a soldier was sent from the front at the Government's expense to attend his dying mother.

The woman's one desire was to see her five sons, who are all in the army. Four of them were in the British training camps and obtained leaves of absence through the offices of the Salvation Army. But the mother longed to see the youngest, who was serving in Flanders. Lord Kitchener was communicated with. The lad thereupon received a seven days' furlough, with ration and expense money, and arrived in time to see his mother before she died.

PRAYERS AND WAR

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
LONDON, Jan. 28.—Dr. William Carnegie, Canon of Westminster, announced to his parishioners on "Intercession Sunday" that he would not comply with the request that had been made of him to pray for the success of British arms. He said: "Among the things which I hold should not be prayed for—I mention it with great hesitation, but feel it to be my duty, since it is set forth in the seventh section of the authorized form—it is the triumph of our cause. We hold that our cause is righteous, but our foes are equally convinced that righteousness is on their side. God is the judge, and we pray for submission to his will, whatever be the issue."

PAY OF AVIATORS

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
BOULOGNE, Jan. 28.—The pay of aviators which heretofore has been the same as that of soldiers of similar rank in other branches of the service, has been substantially increased for the duration of the war. Qualified pilots of the rank of non-commissioned officers will now receive 80 cents a day, while corporals and privates will get 40 cents. Apprentice pilots, of whom large numbers have been recruited, are allowed half the pay of qualified men.

NEWS OF WORLD'S GREATEST WAR DAY BY DAY

FRANCE IS NOW SHORT ON COAL

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
LONDON, Jan. 28.—France is now compelled to call on England for coal which was formerly mined in the north of France. Practically all the mines in that district have either been destroyed by the German artillery or are being operated by Germans. At Lievin and Courrières the German army is carrying on extensive mining operations and producing great quantities of coal which are shipped to Belgium for the use of the German military forces.

France is no longer able to draw coal from Mons and Charleroi, which formerly supplied large quantities for exportation. Consequently the residents of Northern France are largely dependent upon English mines for coal, which has become very scarce. Frequently towns and villages near the fighting line are entirely without coal for a week. This works great hardship on hospitals sadly in need of heat for the hundreds of thousands of wounded, and the sick soldiers of the allies who are cared for in French towns.

USE BOATS FOR WAR

Seine Barges and Tugs Have to Haul Army Supplies.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
PARIS, Jan. 28.—The familiar Seine barges that brought wine up the river to Bercy, sand to Solferino, flour to St. Bernard, coal to Ivry and lumber to the St. Martin canal, have changed their vocations. Some of them have gone up toward the front to bring up the sinews of war, including 16,000 tons of coal daily.

The "gupes," those madly puffing little boats that formerly tugged heavy loads of imports from Rouen and made Paris the next thing to a seaport, are dividing their efforts between the conveying of supplies and the protection of communications with the west coast. With quick-firers and 3-inchers aboard they have constantly patrolled the Seine as far as Havre with a view to any hardy attempts by the Germans on this important route.

The "bateaux mouches," those swift and agreeable passenger boats that take you so comfortably up to Charenton and to the Bois de Vincennes or down to St. Cloud, Sevres, Suresnes and the Bois du Boulogne, in summer, are doing what they can to keep up the familiar aspects of Paris, but because of imperious military regulations they are now held up at Auteuil; there, all passengers must disembark and show that their papers are in order before proceeding further.

The thousands of canal boats that in times of peace ply along the Yser, the Lys, and the canals have followed the refugees of those regions down the line of France's interminable waterways and found a snug harbor at the Tolbiac bridge; the refugees have rejoined them there and, thanks to one of the innumerable relief committees born of the war, they have been fitted up into comfortable lodging houses; several thousand refugees from Flanders are housed, fed and even washed there, for there is a dining barge and a laundry barge as well as sleeping barges in this floating village that will be remembered as one of the most picturesque sidelights of the war.

The quays of the Seine have something of the appearance of a perpetual summer Sunday with the bookworms out of town. The books are mostly locked up in their boxes and the antiquaries spend most of their time discussing strategy instead of driving bargains for books, coins or stamps.

The flower merchant of the Quai des Fleures have nearly all moved to the neighborhood of the military cemeteries, but their neighbors, the Seine fishermen, are there, drawn by that attraction, seemingly unconnected with fish, that even war is unable to diminish.

GERMAN SOLDIERS THIRTY.

Send Money Home to Families Despite Small Earnings

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
BERLIN, Jan. 28.—That the German soldier has carried into the war his well-known habits of thrift is shown by the amount of money that he is sending home to his family. A post-office official of Dresden has recently shown in a public address that the amount of money sent home by soldiers for the Dresden postal district in November reached \$50,000. Assuming that the like ratio prevails for all the rest of Germany he estimates that the soldiers send home \$24,000,000 in November. This sum appears all the more striking when it is recalled that the pay of the German private soldier is only about twelve cents a day. The amounts sent through the postoffice are often less than \$2.50, and in not a few cases less than a dollar.

A Socialist paper commenting upon these large savings remarks: "This large sum of \$24,000,000 reflects the sobriety of the German soldier, his intrinsic decency and his straightness of character; even in the wildest turmoil of the bitterest struggle of history he does not forget the good habits of his home which he formed in times of peace. Among the laurels that our troops are winning before the enemy it is also a high title of honor that they use their petty wages economically and do not forget their families or to look forward to times of peace."

FRENCH LUCKY FLOWER.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
PARIS, Jan. 28.—The Muguet, (Lily-of-the-valley), the good-luck flower that the French, and particularly Parisians, wear in their button-holes on the first of May, formerly came mostly from German gardens. French gardeners are taking measures to supply the demand next year.

ENGLISH VIEW OF GERMAN

Court Holds it an Offense to Brand Man "a German."

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
LONDON, Jan. 28.—A London police court has decided that in England to call a man a German if he is not, is to abuse him and render oneself liable to prosecution. In the case before the magistrate, the prisoner had said of two men whom he met, "They are a couple of Germans." He was found guilty of "committing an act whereby a breach of the peace might have been caused," and was sentenced to pay a fine of ten shillings or spend seven days in prison.

BAN ON GERMAN HELP.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
PARIS, Jan. 28.—The touring Club of France has issued notice that its certification will be withdrawn from every hotel that does not agree in writing never again to employ German or Austrian help.

MOST DEADLY OF WEAPONS

Russians Use New Devices Against Germans Near Warsaw.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
PETROGRAD, Jan. 28.—The German army in front of Warsaw is using some new offensive machinery in its trench warfare with excellent results. Among these new weapons are some very powerful land mines, which are set at night by sappers and exploded later by electricity. So-called "torpedoes" and improved hand grenades are also used.

The torpedoes are really bombs of formidable size, which explode on contact and spread death dealing fragments of jagged iron, at the same time poisoning the air for twenty yards around with a deadly gas. These are hurled silently from a sort of ballista or catapult, which has a useful range of about 150 feet.

The hand grenades resemble in appearance a large sky rocket. A tin canister with a pointed head is fixed on a stick or handle about two feet long. The canister is filled with bullets and an explosive charge fired by contact on the pointed head. The grenade is thrown by hand, the stick serving both as a handle and as a tail which insures the pointed head striking first and exploding the contents. They are used in infantry charges during the few moments when the rifles cease firing and the bayonets are not yet within striking distance.

NICE IS GREAT HOSPITAL.

French City Now Thronged with Sick and Wounded Soldiers.

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
NICE, Jan. 28.—Notwithstanding the absence this winter of the customary throng of Germans and Austrians who come to Nice for the season, as well as hundreds of Americans, there seldom have been more people here than at present. But it is a different throng.

The big hotels are closed, as are the smart shops that used to attract the season's visitors and their money, and almost all of the gay places. The well dressed, fashionable patrons of the resort are gone; in their place have come ragged refugees from all over Europe.

The Nice known to Americans has all but vanished, and the dingy, ugly, commercial, eastern side of the city has become congested with thousands of soldiers recuperating from wounds and illness, and with other thousands of civilians who have been driven from their homes in Belgium and the Franco-Belgian frontier.

GERMAN WAR HISTORY

[By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.]
BERLIN, Jan. 28.—The German educational authorities are taking care to teach children the history of the war as fast as history is made. The Prussian Minister of Education has just sent a circular letter of instructions to the school inspectors pointing out that the hour devoted to teaching history must be devoted principally to giving pupils a clear idea of the course and development of "the Great War."

"There must be awakened in the children," says the circular, "an understanding of the serious and thrilling time in which they are living. While everything must be kept out of the schools that might implant into the hearts of the children overweening self-conceit or contempt and hatred for other people, still they should be filled with a joyous and conscious pride that they are members of a great people who are making heroic sacrifices in a just struggle against overwhelming odds."

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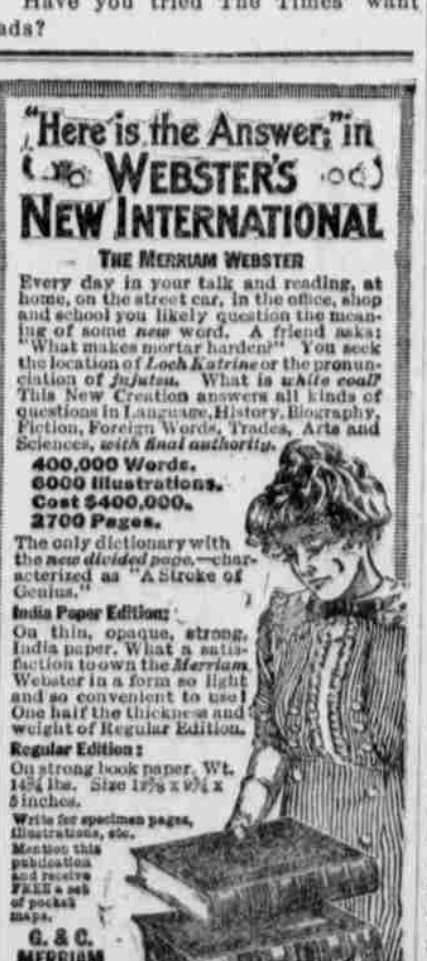
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