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Our flag means all our fathers meant in the Declaration of Independence; it means all the Constitution of our people, meaning for Justice, Liberty and Happiness, meant.

A MESSAGE

THERE is a message to the world in the reports of a German revolt in Brazil. The statement is that in three Brazilian states the authority of the government is resisted by armed subjects of the kaiser. The latest statement is that refugees were pouring into Uruguay, with reports of fighting between German rebels and government forces.

There can be little doubt that the revolt is inspired by Berlin. It is the identical plan employed everywhere by the kaiser's government. Secret agents operating with money supplied from Berlin swarm in every nation, friendly or otherwise.

In Brazil, the sovereignty of the nation is defied. Rebellion is raised directly against the authority set up by the Brazilian people. It is a direct challenge by the Prussian autocracy of the right of the Brazilian people to govern themselves in their own country.

Doubtless the arms used by those in revolt in Brazil were secretly supplied by the kaiser. It is a fact that would naturally attract the policy of insurrection, intrigue and trouble making carried on by the Prussian military clique all over the world. It is of kind with machinations in the United States in which munition plants were blown up, bombs placed on food ships departing from American ports and the destruction of property by explosives.

Conviction of the kaiser's secret agents in the courts are proof of all these things and proof that the treasonable operations were financed by money from Berlin and with the full knowledge and cooperation of men high in the diplomatic service of the kaiser in this country.

The Prussianizing of parts of the western hemisphere, particularly in South America, has long been the dream of William. It is the natural course he would take to strengthen his autocracy at home. It is a course that would obviously increase the power of the ruling Prussian dynasty over the German people and federated states by enabling it to point to the increasing glory of the empire.

Maintenance of his throne and extension of the dominion of autocracy is the natural and essential purpose of Wilhelm. Every inroad on autocracy anywhere is a menace to his policy. Every extension of autocratic power is a new pillar of support under his throne and a new foundation stone under the structure of his military government.

That was the end sought by Wilhelm when he refused to arbitrate with the czar the controversy that precipitated this war. The revolt in Brazil is a revelation of how far reaching were his plans. The growing unrest over similar influences in other South American republics shows that Brazil is not the only nation that was included in the scheme of building up autocracy on the western hemisphere.

We are now seeing with what forethought the Washington government was moving in its policy of cooperation and concord with all pan-America.

In answer to an inquiry, it can be stated that both Germany and Austria-Hungary supplied munitions, explosives, gunpowder, weapons for war purposes, cartridges, percussion caps, arms exclusive of small arms, separate parts of arms, and all kinds of war material to Great Britain in the years 1899, 1900 and 1902, or during the Boer war. A statement giving the amounts of such shipments was made public early in the war in an appendix to Secretary Lansing's note in reply to the

Austrian note objecting to American exports of arms and ammunition to the allies.

Of course it is to be taken for granted that the sweet girl graduates of Jefferson high school took into account the high cost of shoes when they placed the \$6 limit on the cost of their graduation outfits.

PORTLAND SHIPBUILDING

GENERAL GOETHALS has sent assurances to Oregon shipbuilders that they will be given government construction contracts up to the maximum of their ability to guarantee delivery. Apparently the extent of the orders will be limited only by the capacity of the yards and the labor supply.

Here, then, is opportunity such as seldom comes to a community, to build up an industry, an occasion when business comes of its own necessity and volition to lay the groundwork for the future expanse of a new enterprise.

Whether Oregon's share of the work shall be large or small will depend, in large part, upon coordination of resources and cooperation of effort by all concerned.

Henry Ford made a great success of his business because he standardized it. He evolved uniformity of production and harmony in assembling his product from the cap on the radiator to the last bolt on the axle. There was no lost motion or waste effort from foundry to office.

The 3500 ton boats to be constructed for the government are to be the Fords of the sea. There is no reason why the builders of the Columbia and Willamette-rivers could not build them on the same intensive scale as the Fords of the land. It would require definite organization and understanding between shipyard and mill and cooperation between builder and buyer. But it would speed up production, increase output, and what is more than all else, when the stress of government work was over it would leave a highly trained, organized and veteran industry that would put Portland on the map as a leading shipbuilding center of the world.

Goethals as its general manager and the great drive that is being made under it proves that the shipping board created by the ship purchase act was a remarkable piece of legislation enacted for an extraordinary time.

A Petrograd dispatch conveys the news that German gunners are loading shells with copies of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's reichstag address and shooting them into the Russian lines. It would seem almost as inhuman to shoot a man with a Prussian diplomat's speech as to wound him with a speech as sound as his.

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serious and calls for as much deliberative thought as the other. Its success demands the same singleness of purpose and harmony of plan.

The America of April is not much different from the America of February. A little more aroused, grimmer, more resolute of purpose perhaps, it yet is the same country little changed as to condition. Food speculators may harass us, but the hand of the government can, and undoubtedly will, set them in their place. Hardship and privation may touch us, but they are the companions of war, part of the price we must pay.

To meet the full measure of our duty, it is true that we must speed up on the farm, in the factory, everywhere. But much the same necessity for this increased activity existed before the declaration of war as since. The crisis has shown us our inertia. This is cause for sorrow, not excitement. We will have no overshadowing cause for trouble if we go forward, shoulder to shoulder, and in step, with our fellows.

SARAH BERNHARDT THE time seemed to have almost come for Sarah Bernhardt to say "Now Lord, lettest thou thy servant depart in peace," but the angel passed over and she is to live, possibly until the invader has quitted the soil of France. May the light of her eye survive to see him fleeing with the hosts of victorious France at his heels.

It seems a loss to the universe that Sarah Bernhardt should die. After the creative powers have gone to the pains of making a woman so heroic in mind, so unconquerable in soul, so wondrously gifted, one is impelled to wonder why her light should be quenched. What treasures the Omnipotent must have lying in his storehouse that he can afford to let the Destroyer smite down the Bernharts and the Tolstois.

But the dark days of France seem to be lightening and when she goes now it will not be as one without hope. Her eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. It may be full daylight in the Meuse and Marne before the angel summons her.

The spring will come by Meuse and Marne. The birds be blithesome in the tree, I hear the stones to make his calm, Where many sleep as sound as he."

Would she might live to build a cairn for the soldiers whom she has loved and cheered.

Price Curbing in War Times. Portland, April 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—Will the people of Portland see the crying need of wiping out its disease breeding fifth hole, commonly known as Marquam's hole, and the city council provide playgrounds for the children of South Portland and other sections of the city in sad need of them? This, I understand, can and will be done by the city council by the adoption of an amendment which the city council, by ordinance, has placed upon the ballot to be voted on at the June election, leaving it with the citizens of the Rose City to decide whether this should be done and whether we believe in doing something for our children and our city, or whether we will go on in the old selfish way and vote against the amendment.

It seems that the city council, by placing this measure on the ballot, has put it squarely before the people of Portland to decide what they want—a city of cleanliness, a city more beautiful, a city with a civic pride, or a city containing the filthy conditions as they exist today in the Marquam hole. There are no playgrounds for the children in the different districts, except the congested streets, and a city with no civic pride.

At this is the issue placed before the people, it is for the people to choose. J. D. FINNIGAN.

The Babies. Portland, April 17.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have read your editorial entitled "Killing the Babies." I am wondering who is innocent. In the place, there are many marriages made in haste, and many babies are born. The best results cannot be expected. I believe there are a few, who love truly but have not faith to believe God can give a child to a woman who does not marry. There is a painful lack of social purity, which I believe is the greatest menace to the race. The mother who escapes from motherhood takes a guilty habit of the innocent ones are they see the light. Lack of faith in God, I believe, is at the bottom of the whole matter. Let the most responsible to the community, that his blessing be not withheld. Many of the few babies that come into the world are unwelcome, or considered an extra care, burden and expense. A selfishness exists that is abominable, could we see ourselves as God sees us. Refusing life to little ones, too lazy to work, preferring to pass the responsibility to the state with our vain, empty-headed, cold-hearted women? Trying to please a worldly minded husband, perhaps more the pity.

By study, observation and experience I have gleaned these few thoughts. A MOTHER.

That City-Paid Doctor Bill. Portland, April 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—In The Journal of April 19, 1917, you published an article in which you stated that the city should pay the doctor bill referred to was that a certain employe "took cold" at his work, and that the city should pay for his medical expenses. I have been at work for the city, with only a tent to protect me from the cold, and not eight hours a day for 13 for a day's work, and with only a kerosene stove to keep six of us warm. But, being taxpayers instead of taxpayers, not one of us has a cent to help us out of the cold, much less of having the city paid for it.

When I was a younger one of my playmates were selling their cows to stockyards and going out to the milk-producing business. Yet we have before us an Oregon country paper of March 29, 1917, which contains three advertisements from farmers who wish to buy cattle. The article urges us to use more milk, because of the nourishing qualities of milk. Considering the already increased cost of most table foods, and the fact that the price of milk is being raised in the wages of most food consumers, we would like to know how the wage-earner will be able to pay for this extra amount of milk at this increased price.

In the same issue of The Journal we read a report from San Francisco declaring: "There is no shortage of foods that are usually carried in cold storage and there is no necessity for higher prices of these foods." There is no reasonable excuse for getting alarmed or for boosting in prices, according to provision men."

Neither do we believe that there is an artificial shortage for a Portland concern to boost the price of milk at the spring of the year. While it is a worthy thing to show patriotism by parade, Portland could find many practical ways of showing patriotism and doing good to the country and fellow-man. To our idea, any form of graft to make money at these times, at the expense of the consumer, is cowardly and unworthy. The consumer who works for wages is called a free choice patriot, if he tries to make the best of things by close economy. There is as great opportunity for the produce dealer to show patriotism by resisting the fine gesture of free choice patriotism, as there is for the consumer. Must coercion be applied to cheapen his devotion?

Resides, there are those who will do this war and those who resisted it to the utmost. There are those to whom compulsion to serve in war is equivalent to compulsion to commit murder. There are those who would rather die in the enemy's ranks and who must experience the ghastly misgivings of a fratricidal or parietal enterprise. There are those who refuse to raise their hands to make unscrupulous anyone who refuses to stupefy himself with shibboleths, if finally one is forced to accept the principle of conscription, because of voluntary methods of filling the armies are still more evil.

Does volunteering imply the absence of coercion? In every war we have ever fought, the ranks have been filled in large part by men who have been subjected to some kind of compulsion. The men who volunteer to conscription whose next of kin are in the enemy's ranks and who must experience the ghastly misgivings of a fratricidal or parietal enterprise. There are those who refuse to raise their hands to make unscrupulous anyone who refuses to stupefy himself with shibboleths, if finally one is forced to accept the principle of conscription, because of voluntary methods of filling the armies are still more evil.

The volunteering principle rests for its effectiveness upon an unreasoning form of coercion that selects the best, the most responsible to the community, for the risk of extinction. This is not all the mischief it would

growth of other plants—at this very time of abundant pasturage we hear the cry from our consolidated milk concern that the price of milk must be raised because of advanced cost of food for cows. We know that milk-producing cows require other foods than grass, but we also know that advanced cost of food lowers the cost of milk production, and all milk and butter consumers know that Oregon cows are thoroughly enjoying grass at this season, as we can tell by the fact that the price of milk is the most expensive butter and cream. We cannot credit the statement as true that, after having passed the winter months, when cows really require a great amount of ground feeds, it is necessary that the price of milk be raised at this time.

The article states that, because of the conditions of high cost of feed, farmstays are selling their cows to stockyards and going out to the milk-producing business. Yet we have before us an Oregon country paper of March 29, 1917, which contains three advertisements from farmers who wish to buy cattle. The article urges us to use more milk, because of the nourishing qualities of milk. Considering the already increased cost of most table foods, and the fact that the price of milk is being raised in the wages of most food consumers, we would like to know how the wage-earner will be able to pay for this extra amount of milk at this increased price.

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PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE The Hindenburg life is still busy. Did you praise this for a fair day, this morning? Be it ever so humble, there's no garden truck like home garden truck. It is good to know that the food supply is to be revised by its friends. And it is good to know that the most expensive butter and cream. We cannot credit the statement as true that, after having passed the winter months, when cows really require a great amount of ground feeds, it is necessary that the price of milk be raised at this time.

The article states that, because of the conditions of high cost of feed, farmstays are selling their cows to stockyards and going out to the milk-producing business. Yet we have before us an Oregon country paper of March 29, 1917, which contains three advertisements from farmers who wish to buy cattle. The article urges us to use more milk, because of the nourishing qualities of milk. Considering the already increased cost of most table foods, and the fact that the price of milk is being raised in the wages of most food consumers, we would like to know how the wage-earner will be able to pay for this extra amount of milk at this increased price.

In the same issue of The Journal we read a report from San Francisco declaring: "There is no shortage of foods that are usually carried in cold storage and there is no necessity for higher prices of these foods." There is no reasonable excuse for getting alarmed or for boosting in prices, according to provision men."

Neither do we believe that there is an artificial shortage for a Portland concern to boost the price of milk at the spring of the year. While it is a worthy thing to show patriotism by parade, Portland could find many practical ways of showing patriotism and doing good to the country and fellow-man. To our idea, any form of graft to make money at these times, at the expense of the consumer, is cowardly and unworthy. The consumer who works for wages is called a free choice patriot, if he tries to make the best of things by close economy. There is as great opportunity for the produce dealer to show patriotism by resisting the fine gesture of free choice patriotism, as there is for the consumer. Must coercion be applied to cheapen his devotion?

Resides