

Oregon Journal

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SPREAD THE NEWS

THE War Stamp is not merely the little man's game. It is the big man's game, too. It is a means of raising war billions. It will support regiments of wounded. It will arm, munition and feed division upon division of American fighters. You can't call that a little man's game and a little man's game only.

The War Stamp may be the final influence to win the war. Lloyd George says the last \$500,000,000 may win the war. The American War Stamp under the present quota is to raise four times \$500,000,000.

The more money we use in fighting, the less man power we shall have to supply. Autotrucks, tanks, machine guns, shells, industrial plants, shipyards and every conceivable kind of machine and device are the main things in winning this war. The more of them we provide, the fewer men it will take, and that is why your country asks for money and more money and then more money. These weapons and machinery of war will go over for money; and the more money the more machinery of war will go over for American boys to use in fighting.

That is why you are asked to buy War Stamps.

Every stamp bought is a blow struck for America.

Every stamp bought is a blow struck for freedom and peace all over the earth.

Every stamp bought is a body blow dealt the kaiser and kaiserism.

Every stamp bought is a blow struck for the safety of American soldiers and sailors.

One stamp bought may save the life of some neighbor's son. A hundred dollars' worth of stamps may save the lives of a dozen or a score of Americans.

Buy stamps, buy stamps, buy stamps.

several more. "No fireworks until the war is won" is an attractive motto.

HIS DEFY

RESIDENT CARLTON ought to be removed by the directors from his position as head of the Western Union Telegraph company. If the directors are in sympathy with his policy, they should be removed by the stockholders.

President Carlton has caused the officials and employees of the Western Union to violate the laws of the United States. He has caused them to accept telegrams to be transmitted by wire, and dishonestly attempted to send them, not by telegraph, but by messengers. This is a violation of the statutes of the United States.

President Carlton has defied the recommendations of the War Wage Adjustment board, of which former President Taft and Frank Walsh are leading members. He has defied the request of President Wilson in which the Western Union chief was urged to accept the Taft-Walsh recommendations. Though engaged in the public business of carrying on communication between distant places, by wire, he is handling it as a private business and handling it in a manner that is in contempt of all authority and in violation of law.

All this has been done by President Carlton in order to prevent the operators in his company from organizing. He assumes the high and autocratic prerogative of controlling their private acts to the extent of declaring that they cannot become members of operators' unions. His company has by use of detectives, spies and spotters so beaten down wages that operators are paid no more now than when the cost of living was less than one half the present cost.

Men of such purposes should not be permitted to be in control of a great public utility at any time, especially in time of an unprecedented world wide war. After discharging operators because they joined unions, he set up the specious plea that telegrams were sent by messenger instead of by wire on account of the pressure of business.

The whole thing is pusillanimous. So huge a public utility should not be in such unworthy hands.

Some of our contemporaries are straining their brains in an effort to account for the growing habit of profane swearing among clergymen. As an example of this lapse the Indianapolis News quotes with tears the remark of a neighboring minister that he is fond of "Quakers who fight like hell." We see no mystery in the matter. Clergymen, like women, find a fearful joy in wartime swearing because normally the indulgence is forbidden them. It is like stolen fruit.

LENINE AND THE KAISER

THERE is a story in the day's news that Lenine plans to call in the Germans rather than see Russia join hands with the allies. It is probably true.

Lenine and his colleague Trotsky have the psychology of medieval theologians. They care more for their abstract theories than for human welfare. If mankind cannot be saved from its sorrows by the method they have laid down they are resolved that it shall not be saved at all.

Better the murderous autocracy of the Huns than freedom unless freedom comes from the divinely inspired Bolsheviks. So Lenine seems to argue.

To counterbalance this dark report there are two items of a brighter aspect. The first is that the Russian people are deserting the Bolsheviks and turning to the allies for counsel, and, perhaps, for help. The other item is that Siberia has cut loose from the Lenine insanity and is organizing to fight German penetration.

There is ground for believing that Siberia is a more modern and progressive country than Europe and Russia. The people are pioneers and appear to have much pioneer energy and love of liberty. If they have parted company with Lenine it speaks well for their good judgment.

The aphs plague of Oregon's gardens and fields seems to have its use after all. The Indian berry voice warning that the myriad bugs are a portent of an awful

winter, which warning is said to have boosted the sales of cordwood more than the pleadings of the fuel administration. The farmer, however, is not so much interested in what they portend as in what will kill them.

THE JUGO-SLAVS

WE ARE at war with the House of Hapsburg. The Jugo-Slavs are "subjects" of that despotic house. Hence, technically, the Jugo-Slavs are alien enemies of the United States. But here as in many other instances technically does not coincide with truth.

Alien enemies in the eye of the law the Jugo-Slavs may be. In fact they are our friends. In their native land on the eastern shore of the Adriatic the Jugo-Slavs stand ready to rise in rebellion against the Hapsburgs. Here in the United States they are eager to enlist in our armies to fight the tyrant.

Technical law forbids them to enlist because they are alien enemies. Some of our best friends are thus made our technical enemies by a law which is unable to exercise discrimination.

The Hitchcock amendment to the army bill relieves our Jugo-Slav resident friends of the alien enemy disability. It welcomes them to the battalions of liberty. It arms them against the Hapsburg despots. The president favors the Hitchcock amendment. Common sense urges its passage. When brave men long to fight for freedom we must not permit technicalities to chain their hands.

Oakland, California, has a ninety-five year old "office boy" working for the president of the traction company, which would seem to lend verity to the California contention that the Bear state is the land of perpetual youth.

STATE PAVING CONTRACTS

A TEST of the sincerity of the complaint made by certain paving interests that there has not been a free and fair competition in the matter of state road paving contracts will be afforded June 25, when the state highway commission is to open proposals for paving the Pacific highway between Salem and Aurora. This is a cooperative project in which the state and federal government equally share. While the work is to be done by the state the federal government is to exercise a definite degree of supervision. Bids will be received on all types of pavement.

A condition which distinguishes the letting of this contract from previous awards is that the contractor will not be required to guarantee workmanship or materials or to give a maintenance bond. In other words, the state highway commission has withdrawn from its previous policy of requiring guarantees of workmanship and maintenance in deference to the federal regulations, which are based on the theory that a contractor should not be required to give these guarantees in view of the fact that the work is to be done not on his own specifications but on those drafted by the awarding authority.

It is further held that it is up to the state or government to secure competent workmanship through its inspectors, and also durability by the proper selection of materials.

In previous lettings of the state highway department it has been noted that with one exception only one type of pavement has figured in the bids. This has been the bitulith type, a patented article. The reason assigned for not submitting bids on other types has been that the guarantees of durability precluded competition. The removal of this requirement will give an opportunity to fairly judge the assertions that the state has been paying an undue profit for pavement.

It is to be expected that the bids will be much higher than those of last year owing to the increased cost of labor and material. As evidence this cost of the cement concrete pavement now being laid by the state highway department near Sheridan in Yamhill county is running in the neighborhood of \$1.80 cents per square yard.

In judging what should be the proper price to be paid for pavement it is unfair to compare the cost of one particular job with another, for the reason that condi-

tions are not always the same. Local factors which enter into the cost vary to greater or less extent. There is the question of the amount of yardage, it costing as much to set up and operate a plant for a small job as for a large one, the distance the material is to be hauled, interest on the money invested, depreciation, engineering, superintending, delays from various causes and general overhead expense.

Many claims advanced by those interested in some particular type of pavement and its promotion are based only on the cost of material and labor, excluding other elements which should be taken into account. To fairly make a comparison of pavement in Multnomah county with its cost in some other county where the haul is greater, or to compare costs in Oregon with those in California or Washington is, therefore, impossible unless allowance is made for all local conditions.

Another important factor to be considered in paving is the comparison of initial cost with durability. The ten year guarantee imposed by Multnomah county may have added to the original cost of the pavement and shut out certain competition but there is no question of its economy in the end. The requirement of a guarantee leads to honest workmanship through the pride which the honest contractor has in his work. It shuts out the dishonest contractor and insures the public value for its money.

The taking over of the estate of the late Adolphus Busch, the brewer, by the United States under the alien property law is not such a radical step when you stop to consider the hundreds of thousands of American citizens who bought the bricks that built the brewery.

PATRIOTISM'S NEW BULWARK--THRIFT

From the Boston Globe (June 7)

Today there begins in Massachusetts a three weeks' campaign to encourage the purchase of War Savings Stamps here, to obtain 1,000,000 pledges by men, women and children for the regular purchase of these stamps during the 1918 campaign.

Massachusetts in per capita stamp sales from thirty-seventh in the list of states to a rank more in keeping with our resources and our traditions.

Although the War Savings Stamp has been on sale since last December, there is still a great deal of misunderstanding about them. Many people feel that they are only a "small change" sort of affair, all very well to catch children's pennies, but not worthy of the attention of adults. Others ridicule the suggestion that \$5 investments can help a government that is spending tens of millions every day.

War Savings Stamps are not merely a sort of governmental tin bank for children. The response of the children has been much more general than that of the adults. The stamps have been designed equally for those elders, they are an investment for everybody's extra dollars, and they offer peculiar advantages which no other investments possess.

War Savings Stamps have been called the little brothers of the Liberty bonds. The epigram is partly true