

East Oregonian

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CHER AMI

O little pigeon, Cher Ami the brave
 And fearless, dear to memory thou art,
 Whose outstretched pinions were the means to save
 The lost and starving, Thine a noble part,
 For bleeding from grave wounds, thy beating heart
 Though faint and feeble in its feathered breast
 Was strong in courage, just, as at the start,
 Sweet bird of rescue, Cher Ami the best,
 Long shall we praise thy venture and its quest.
 —Katherine Miller Gunn.

LOSING A STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE

ONE of the most pressing subjects on the Pacific coast these days is that pertaining to Japanese immigration. It is a matter concerning which people are beginning to feel keenly because Japanese are entering some sections entirely too fast and threaten to drive out the white population. Our federal government has always dealt gingerly with the subject because it carries possibilities of war with Japan. Roosevelt treated the issue delicately, likewise Taft and so has Wilson. World conditions doubtlessly called for such discretion.

Had the peace treaty been ratified with Article 10 of the league covenant intact the problem would have been solved as far as America is concerned. Under the covenant each nation would have the right to decide its immigration needs for itself. Also the members of the league would be pledged to help defend a member nation against an aggressor. Therefore we could have stopped Japanese immigration and Japan would have been powerless to oppose without bringing down the wrath of the white nations upon her.

Without the treaty and the league of nations, including article 10, we are not so fortunately situated. We can legislate against Japanese immigration, of course, but we run into possibilities of trouble not merely with Japan alone but with prospective Jap allies. It is known Germany has long sought an alignment with Japan and Russia also might be brought into such a fray. Then there is always the Anglo-Japanese alliance to consider, for it remains if the league of nations fails.

When Senator Lodge and his followers refused to ratify the peace treaty they muzzed up our chance of satisfactorily settling the Jap question. If you do not like the influx of Japanese, put the blame where it belongs.

"BREATH OF DEATH"

A GRIM, but fascinating, feature of the display at the American Mining Congress derives from the war. It is the gas and chemical warfare exhibit. Gas guns, gas cartridges, gas cannon—the whole catalogue of malevolent instruments devised for the tortuous destruction of men at the behest of war. Appropriate, indeed, is its sinister label, "Breath of Death."

Extensive as it is, the exhibit does not reveal all the murderous secrets of the laboratory. The United States, as we have all been informed, had many devices in process or close to completion, far deadlier than any that had been used, when the war abruptly ended. The genius of the other nations was engaged, of course, in the same ghoulish task. Their accomplishments are not known, but they all shout out the prophecy of the more dreadful wars of the future unless the League of Nations intervenes to reduce the probability of war and sternly to define the character and extent of arms.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The bolsheviks frankly admit they do not favor majority rule because they know they would lose out. The rest of us frankly admit a bolshevik is a criminal, prospective or actual, and belongs in jail.

The feelings of the Multnomah county grand jury on the subject of a scaffold are shared by a very large number of people in this region. Bandits and I. W. W. are becoming a bit too numerous.

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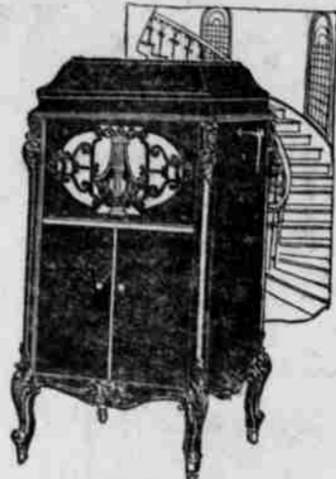
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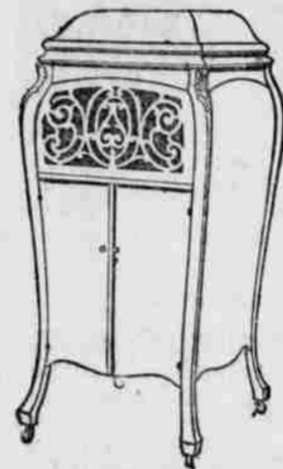
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ABOUT THE STARS

Mars (Continued).

The late Percival Lowell after many years of intensive research, declared that there are canals upon Mars running in straight lines for a distance of two thousand miles or more. His declaration has never been proven, neither has it been disproven.

It was only after repeated efforts and many failures that the Panama canal was built. Herculean efforts connecting two oceans forty miles apart. Should our rivers cease to flow and our oceans go dry could we dig a canal, say, from Alaska to Southern California for a purpose of water supply? In the case of Mars, however, the sea did not evaporate in a day nor the atmosphere disappear like a puff of smoke. The process was doubtless very slow, continuing for many thousands of years. From generation to generation problems may have been studied and after many failures may have been finally solved. There are also other features in regard to Mars that would make in her favor. In the first place the density of the planet is only 71 per cent of that of the earth, and the force of gravity on its surface is only 28 per cent thereby operating to the advantage of such undertakings as canal building. The material to be moved would be 23 per cent lighter on the average than earthly material.

Owing to the low force of gravity an average size man if transported from the earth to Mars would weigh only about 54 pounds. This fact has led at least one eminent astronomer to suggest that the people of that planet may be much larger than those of the earth in order to maintain the relative proportions. If this is so all their animal kingdom as well as their machinery and appliances of all kinds would be in like proportion, which would go far towards lightening a gigantic project of this kind.

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