

# FALLS CITY NEWS

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## LITERACY TEST SUSPENDED

The so-called "literacy" test has been one of the weapons of the labor monopolist in shutting common labor out of the country.

This bill passed Congress over President Wilson's veto, shutting out 20 to 30 per cent of alien emigrants when we needed them most. Now the Labor Commission sees the light and surrenders the "literacy" test to allow Mexican farm labor to come in.

They may help save the crops in the border states but "must not engage in the performance of labor in connection with other industries." If they do a day's work in a mine, a saw mill sugar beet factory, cannery or any factory they will be arrested.

But will any Mexican come? It is well known that Mexicans are leaving the border states as fast as they can. But the recog-

inition that a labor famine confronts the farmers is a step in the right direction. Unless the "literacy" embargo and other exclusion laws are suspended a food famine will follow a labor famine.—The Manufacturer.

The Manufacturer, while posing as a friend to the laboring class, would deprive them of the only protection against the importation of cheap labor. The literacy test is fought by great corporations. Like the referendum and recall, the literacy test and exclusion act are the only means the laboring man and the small property owners have for protecting themselves against unscrupulous politicians and speculators. It is possible there may be a shortage of labor, yet not to the extent of causing a famine. Food exports say there is an abundance and to spare. While

it is the duty of this nation to feed as many of other countries as possible, it does not signify that we shall abrogate or suspend the only decent laws we have ever had for the protection of the American laborer that the great corporation may grow rich off importing a vagabond class.

Food Controller Hoover says there is not now nor has there been any food shortage and the high prices are not due to such scarcity or probable shortage. This may be reassuring, but it is just as hard for the fellow who is forced to pay the price as if it were a real "yard wide all wool" shortage.

It is now reported that there will be a draft of 625,000 men on the first call instead of 500,000 as was first given out. Army officers are said to want 825,000.

President Wilson has sent a message to the new Russian government setting forth the aims of this country in the war. The message was secret. It would not be a bad idea for the people of this country to have a clear, comprehensive statement of our war policy. "A world's democracy" is just a little ambiguous and might be misconstrued, like the old darkey who said, "No Suh, boss, Ise doan' want no world dimacracy fo' me; Texas dimacracy bad 'nouf."

## SHE HAD HER REVENGE.

A Dramatic Incident of One of the Civil Wars in Mexico.

In the civil war in Mexico, which resulted in the downfall of Diaz, a sensational incident took place—the seizure of Colonel Chiapas by an avenger. At the beginning of the insurrection Chiapas had command for the government of the Sonora district, and he quickly became known for his severity. Among those who suffered was a rich resident named Talamantes, who, with his two sons, was arrested on the charge of sympathizing with the insurgents.

After a brief hearing the three were condemned to death. Mme. Talamantes pleaded with Chiapas for the life of her husband and sons, offering everything they possessed, but the colonel replied to her entreaties only with sneers, refused her request, had the three men taken to the grounds of their own hacienda, forced Mme. Talamantes to remain within hearing of the shots and had them executed.

The widow changed from a retiring, undemonstrative woman to a vigorous avenger. Having ample financial resources, she first offered \$20,000 to any one who would deliver Chiapas alive into her hands. Then she organized a troop of armed men, put herself at its head and joined the insurgents. Soon the Talamantes became one of the strongest and most effective forces among the rebels. Her avowed purpose was to capture Chiapas.

When the federals evacuated Agua Prieta the widow ambushed a detachment led by Chiapas, who in the fight was wounded and delivered to her. Within two hours of his capture she compelled him to dig his own grave. He stood at its edge, and she personally gave the command to fire to her twelve troopers who faced him.—London Family Herald.

## Chaucer's Face in a Stone.

In the geological branch of the British museum the visitor is shown a wonderful specimen of natural imitation in a small "ribbon jasper." This stone, the material of which is not unlike that of other banded agates, has upon its surface a perfect miniature portrait of the poet Chaucer. Every detail is startlingly correct. There are the white face, the pointing lips, the broad, low forehead and even the whites of the slightly upturned eyes. The attendants say that it is utterly impossible to convince even some of the educated visitors that it is not an artificial production.

## The Color of Gold.

Gold is not always the "golden yellow" of the poets, but under certain conditions may appear orange, reddish green or even purple. Addition of copper as an alloy to make the metal hard enough for commercial purposes gives the gold an orange or even red appearance. Silver makes it a pale yellow. If it is beaten into very thin gold leaf it transmits a green light. But if very finely divided gold is suspended in a liquid by precipitation from a solution it appears to be purple. So you cannot always judge gold by its color.—American Boy.

## He Was Not Lost.

A certain person, giving his testimony in meeting, said, "I know what religion is by a painful experience of ten years." He was like one of New York city's early clergymen, who was sure that when he died he would go straight to perdition. A clerical friend said to him, "What is the first thing you will do when you get among the lost?" He replied, "I will immediately proceed to organize a prayer meeting."—Christian Herald.

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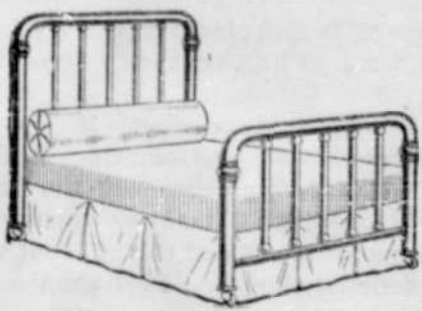
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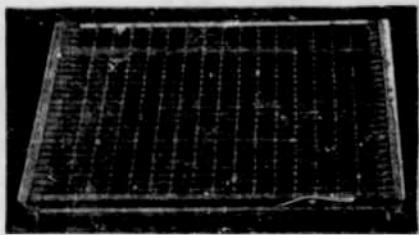
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## NEWSPAPERS CENSORED

The Committee on Public Information, appointed by President Wilson to formulate rules to govern newspapers, have sent out to the newspapers of the country, pamphlets containing such rules as was deemed necessary for the good of the nation.

The rules are not unreasonable and are no more than have been already observed by the papers of this country generally. They define that which might be of benefit to an alien enemy, such as incoming and outgoing ships; movement or contemplated movement of troops or matters relative to the activities of the military, all of which has been observed.

The Committee particularly emphasize the fact that there will be no effort made to shield dishonors or incompetent officials from criticism, so if any were obsessed with the idea that, during the war, he will be immune, or that he might get even with an enemy by turning him up for a frank, if not complimentary arraignment of faults, is liable to meet with a bitter disappointment.

While President Wilson was addressing the Confederate Veterans at a reunion Tuesday they gave the "Rebel yell."

The total registration of Polk County last Tuesday was 1176. It was estimated that it would be 1750. There were 72 aliens and 7 alien enemies.

A bill has been introduced that would expatriate those who fled to escape military service.

## More Exactly Stated.

Jamie, having come into the possession of considerable wealth through the death of relatives, was thus addressed by one of the neighbors:

"Aye, Jamie, it was a guid thing for you that your rich freens waur born afore ye."

"Weel," said Jamie, "I'm nae sae sure aboot that, but it was a guid thing that they deed afore me."—London Tit-Bits.

## Reluctant to Give Up.

"Lend me \$10, old man. I'm a little short."

"That won't help you any. You'll be just as short after getting the money."

"Nonsense, old chap! How do you make that out?"

"Why, after giving you the \$10 I don't expect to see you any longer."

## Why She Couldn't.

The elder Booth, the tragedian, had a broken nose. A woman friend once remarked to him, "I like your acting very much, Mr. Booth, but to be perfectly frank with you I can't get over your nose!"

"No wonder, madam," replied Booth; "the bridge is gone."