

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
BY H. W. YOUNG.

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FRANCE'S GREAT WEAKNESS.

The following from the Literary Digest shows how race suicide has weakened France. The facts stated should be read with profound interest and solicitude in our own country which has recently manifested tendencies towards growing weak in the same way.

In 1800 there were 26 million Frenchmen in a Europe numbering 98 millions. In 1900 there were 38 millions in a total of 843 millions. In other words, France's contribution to the population of Europe had sunk in a century from 26 per cent to 11 per cent. This striking statement was made by Paul Deschanel, President of the French Chamber of Deputies, in an address before a committee of ladies in charge of the new Infantine Protectories of France. We translate a report from the Revue Bleue (Paris). Mr. Deschanel reminds his hearers that in the forty-four years between France's two wars with Germany, the population of her enemy had increased by 25 millions, while France had added a meager three millions to her own. Up to 1850 France, he says, was the largest nation in Europe. She occupies now the sixth or seventh rank. At the end of the present century she will hardly number 20,000,000. He goes on:

"And now I must touch the most vital, the most delicate question: Is the French woman ready to change her ante-bellum views on maternity? The French nation was committing suicide; the declaration of war recalled us to our senses. Will we show as much courage and self-devotion in our homes as we showed in the trenches?"

With this question the President of the Chamber of Deputies yielded the floor to Prof. George-Raphael Levy, one of the most eminent of French economists. Professor Levy startled his audience with the declaration that the war would have been at an end long ago if France had had on August 1, 1914, a population of 65 or 70 millions, as she would have had if her birthrate had kept pace with that of Germany since 1870, when both nations were numerically about equal. He went on, as quoted in the Revue Bleue:

"Do you know that in 1910 we had only an excess of life over death of seven souls in 10,000 inhabitants, or, in other words, that we remained stationary, while in that same year our arch-enemy gained 700,000 or 800,000?"

"Our infant mortality is enormous. Every year 86,000 babies under one year of age, 30,000 of them in the first month of their lives, are lost. Child hygiene, alas! is one of our weakest points, and we fell this defect with double bitterness now, in view of the fact that the majority of the poor little victims came to the world while their fathers were shedding their blood in the trenches.

"Fortunately, our maternity hospitals were reorganized shortly after the outbreak of the war. Red tape was flung to the winds and every mother-to-be is being received with open arms and cared for with tenderness, if necessary, for thirteen to fourteen months after the birth of the baby. A new law forbids the mother to leave her baby before the end of the first month.

BETTER STICK TO SCHOOL.

Every young man eligible for admission to University or college can serve his country best in the present crisis by making every effort to continue his education, according to word from Secretary of War Baker, brought home to Oregon by President P. L. Campbell, of the University of Oregon, who went east to confer with the Council of National Defense.

It is the young man's first duty to keep his head, refuse to yield to undue excitement or disorganization, and to make every possible effort to prepare himself for more efficient service later. The administration is looking for a long war, President Campbell declares, and the Washington officials fear a shortage of trained and educated men for the army, navy, commerce, transportation, and industry before the trouble is over.

The government has drawn hundreds if not thousands of young men from the universities this year for all

sorts of expert services regarding a background of general education. It is going to need hundreds more next year. This supply is already in sight, but there is a danger of shortage in 1918, 1920 and 1921 if the University undergraduates and the boys who are now graduating from high school lose their heads, and overlook their own best chance for advancement which is through thorough education.

The prospects are that it will be easier this year than ever before for a young man to earn his way through the university, according to President Campbell. "Jobs" are plentiful and pay unusually good, he says, and he believes this condition will continue through next year toward making it easier for the young man who is working his own way.

The same line of thought may be applied to our own city high school with equal or even greater force. If the graduates from our high schools and some of the undergraduates in our universities and colleges drop their studies now and plunge directly into the currents of business or seek the red fields of carnage, that is draining the educational steam near its source; but when the pupils in the different classes of our high schools think they must rush out into the world only half baked so far as a proper preparation for their life work is concerned, that is drying up the stream at its source. Then the lower reaches of that river of culture will become a series of mud flats and the work of the future will find our young people unprepared and inefficient. So boys, and girls, too, of the high school, stick to the work of developing and training your intellects for a time and do not muddle and mess your whole future life by neglecting preparedness now.

BUILDING SHIPS BY THE MILE.

As indicating what the British are doing to replace the ships the Germans have sent to the bottom, the following from an article by Jeffrey Farnol in the Outlook is interesting. The stream along which these ships are building is probably the Clyde.

"Slowly we steamed down the river, a drab, unlovely waterway, but a wonderful river none the less, whose banks seem with workers where ships are building; ships by the mile, by the league, ships of all shapes and of all sizes, ships of all sorts and for many different purposes. Here are great cargo boats growing hour by hour with liners great and small; here I saw mile on mile of battle-ships, cruisers, destroyers, and submarines of strange design, with torpedo-boats of uncanny shape, tramp steamers, wind-jammers, squat colliers, and squatter tugs—these last the ugliest craft that ever wallowed in water. Mine-layers were here with mine-sweepers and hospital ships—a heterogeneous collection of well-nigh every kind of ship that floats.

"Some lay finished and ready for launching; others, just begun, were only a sketch, a hint of what soon would be a ship.

"On our right were ships, on our left were ships and more ships, a long perspective—ships by the million tons until my eyes grew weary of ships and I went below.

"Truly a wonderful river this, surely in its way the most wonderful river eyes may see; a sight I shall never forget, a sight I shall always associate with the stalwart figure of the captain and the white hair and venerable form of the Master Builder as they stood side by side to wave adieu."

In the same article there comes a story told by a lieutenant of the Navy told on the deck of the "Warpite," a British ship the Germans said they sunk in the battle of Jutland, which shows just the way in which our English cousins always have had and always will have the Germans on the run when it comes to a finish:

"The strange thing about the Hun," said my companion as we mounted upward again, "is that he is so amazingly accurate with his big guns. As we steamed into range he registered direct hits time after time, and his misses were so close the spray was flying all over us. Yes, Fritz is wonderfully accurate, but"—here my companion paused to flick some dust from his braided cuff—"but when we began to knock him about a bit it was funny, how it rattled him—quite funny, you know. His shots got wider and wider, until they were falling pretty well a mile wide—very funny!" and the lieutenant smiled dreamily.

"Fritz will shoot magnificently if you only won't shoot back. But really I don't blame him for thinking he'd sunk us. You see, there were six of 'em potting away at us at one time—couldn't see for spray—"

The Southern Pacific company is distributing another edition of "Oregon Outdoors," picturing and describing the magnificent mountain, river, lake and coast scenery reached by its lines, with especial emphasis on the

hunting and fishing resorts. It's a peach to send to your friends in the middle west who probably have never realized the sort of Switzerland, Riviera and Brittany, with brand new attractions thrown in, that Oregon offers.

IT'S SENATOR McNARY NOW.

The appointment of former Supreme Court Judge C. L. McNary, of Salem, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Harry Labe, is being well received by the press generally. Senator McNary's statement on the eve of his departure for Washington a couple of days ago commends him to us, and if he sticks to that text we have no doubt he will make a faithful and efficient representative of the people of Oregon. In the first place he announces that he is a progressive and not a standpatter. That is, we feel sure, what an overwhelming majority of the people of Oregon want. Next he says that he will work for national prohibition and woman suffrage. In that he will also stand with the great majority at home. Finally, and this counts for more than aught else just now, he pledges himself.

"To support the National Administration in every legitimate effort it may employ in ending the war to the credit of America, and in bringing about a lasting and honorable peace to all nations involved and to co-operate with any movement that has for its purpose the suppression of gambling and speculation in the necessities of life, to the end that the consuming public shall pay a fair profit to the producer only."

Today we are utilizing only about seventy-three per cent of the food content of our wheat—and we are clamoring for the farmers to plant more wheat. Suppose we shift the load pedal to the milling end of the problem. Suppose our flouring establishments begin to use the whole of the wheat and increase the output of flour by more than one-third.—Gold Beach Reporter.

The election laws of Oregon now make a thick pamphlet of about 200 pages. Thanks to Secretary of State Ben W. Olcott, The Sentinel has an unabridged edition which is at the service of any interested reader. He also furnishes us the senate and house calendars for the 1917 session which give the legislative history of every law enacted at the last session of the legislature.

It doesn't look a bit good to us to see the U. S. Senate cut off the proposed taxes on excess profits and big incomes and then try to make up for them by putting more taxes on tea, coffee, sugar and other articles used by the people who are not rich. We hope to see the House stand pat on the original provisions of the war tax bill.

That our war is going to be a short and not a bloody one appears to be indicated by a recent list of births in this section in which girls preponderated at the rate of two to one. By the time they are in high school, though, they will be astonished to learn there was ever a time when women could not vote.

Liberty Loan Bonds.

Why "Liberty Loan?"

The \$5,000,000 bond issue of this year is named "The Liberty Loan of 1917" because it is to be a loan from a free people to be used in freeing the world.

It is the loan of a liberty-loving people to be devoted to the establishment of liberty in Europe and on the high seas.

It is the loan of the great democracy of the New World to redress the wrongs and support the cause of the democracy of the Old.

Beginning May 1, the charge for car storage at the Gardner & Larsen Garage will be \$3 per month, 25 cents for a single night.

UNCEASING MISERY.

Some Coquille Kidney Sufferers Get Little Rest or Comfort.

There is little sleep, little rest, little peace for many a sufferer from kidney trouble. Life is one continual round of pain. You can't rest at night when there's kidney backache. You suffer twinges and "stabs" of pain, annoying urinary disorders, lameness and nervousness. You can't be comfortable at work with darting pains and blinding dizzy spells. Neglect these ailments and serious troubles may follow. Begin using Doan's Kidney Pills at the first sign of disorder. Thousands have testified to their merit. Coquille readers will find convincing proof or merit in the following testimony:

D. C. Hubbard, retired farmer, 640 Sixth St., Cottage Grove, Ore., says: "I have used Doan's Kidney Pills off and on for the past ten years. Whenever I noticed that my kidneys were not acting properly, I have used Doan's Kidney Pills and they soon put them in good working order. I have always said it is Doan's Kidney Pills that are responsible for my permanent good health."

Price 50c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Hubbard uses. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

Send the Sentinel to eastern friends.

FRUIT NOT A LUXURY.

Should Be Classified as Farm Product by Government.

Leaders identified with the fruit industry in the Northwest are very much worried concerning the influence of the war on the fruit industry. There is a possibility that the Government may classify fruits as a luxury and not as a staple food product. If this is done it will mean that the labor used in the production, handling and harvesting of fruit, in the warehouses, packing houses, cold storage plants, etc., will be subject to military conscription. Already the supply of men for work in the orchards is short. Also if the Government should make this ruling it will mean that it would be harder than ever to get cars; that fruit men will have to give way for other products and stand and see their fruit spoil. There is also the bare possibility that zones may be established. This will mean that the fruit produced in certain districts can be shipped only to certain zones. With the box fruit trade of the Pacific Coast this would be working a tremendous hardship because our markets are widely scattered. It would force a very large tonnage of fruit in regions where perhaps it could not be consumed.

There is a possibility that the Government will fix a minimum price for farm products. If this is done it should apply to fruits as well as to other foods. If it does not the fruit grower will have to pay the high wages, taxes, etc., and have no assurance that he will secure a good market for his product, which would be an unfair discrimination.

The Fruit Growers' Agency, Inc., of Walls Walls, Washington, which is the agency established by the United States Department of Agriculture, recently had a meeting and as a result telegrams were sent to all members of Congress representing the states of Oregon, Washington, Montana and Idaho. Telegrams were also sent to the International Apple Shippers' Association, Western Fruit Jobbers, and the California Fruit Exchange.

The members of the Agency realize that if the fruit should be discriminated against it will simply mean ruin to thousands of people. Fruit is a valuable food. Many people simply look upon certain staples like wheat and meat as necessary food, and deprive their diet of the value of fruits. But on the other hand, thousands of men and women have dropped meat from their daily diet and are beneficially using fruits and nuts instead. Many others are including a larger and larger proportion of fruits in their diet; physicians are encouraging the use of more fruits. They contain very valuable acids, extracts and fibers and are rich in sugars. Some of the fruits are very rich in oils.

Fruit and nut growers should write at once to their representatives and senators urging that no action be taken which would jeopardize the fruit and nut industries of the Pacific Coast which is destined to become one of the greatest industries of the entire United States.—C. L. Lewis, Chief Div. Horticulture, Oregon Agriculture College, Corvallis, Oregon.

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