

The Sentinel

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

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OFFICE, NORTH END OF B STREET
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The weather now is receiving nothing but compliments, though everyone is ready to agree that more rain is to be desired.

The Oregon soldiers who have gone into training at Fort Riley, Kansas, complain that it is somewhat warm there with the thermometer at 103 degrees. It is liable to be 110 degrees, though, before August is over.

The movement to clear this country of spies and their I. W. W. hirelings has not been undertaken a bit too soon. We have a right to demand that no man shall be permitted to live in this country who is engaged in acts of disloyalty.

Something very nearly akin to white slavery is reported to have been prevailing for some time in the vicinity of this city. The grand jury didn't consider the testimony specific enough to warrant an indictment but there is trouble brewing for the guilty.

The Knights of Pythias figure that they can save \$3,000 by holding their state gathering at Portland this year instead of on Coos Bay as had been intended. They say that amount will go a long way in relieving the necessities of the families of absent "Sammys" among their members.

No one ever thought of calling American soldiers "Sammys" until General Pershing's command had embarked for Europe. Now everybody is using the term, and when the draft is made those who bear the fateful numbers will at once be greeted with the question, "Going to be a Sammy, eh?"

In view of the free service which the government is asking of the newspapers—and which they are giving in full measure—the proposition to impose a special tax on the net earnings of newspapers, with no corresponding tax on other lines of business and other professions, seems to us especially ungrateful.

Though they may not realize it, probably the real reason so many senators at Washington are fighting the provision of the food conservation bill that puts whiskey on the toboggan is that they don't want to do without booze themselves. Lots of great men are actuated by motives as small as that in their public acts.

Speaking of the infernal malignity of the Kaiser's spies in this country, the Washington Times quotes Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, as saying: "Hang the German spies without ceremony." The paper also says that Senator Chamberlain declared he had no doubt that spies in the departments in Washington are constantly sending information to Berlin.

Let us imagine, says the Independent, a man in a Woodburn church handing around a contribution basket. He is getting along nicely until a man puts in a handful of silver dollars, when the basket slips from his fingers and there is a crash on the floor. It demonstrates that anyone handing such a basket around does not expect much weight and, therefore, does not keep a firm grasp on the basket to meet any eventuality.

Everybody interested in mines will want a copy of the December issue of "The Mineral Resources of Oregon," just published. It makes a bulky pamphlet of 306 pages containing an alphabetical list of the mining properties of the state and a description of the mining districts, and contains such an amount of information in regard to Oregon's mines and minerals

as has never been brought together before, making it a complete handbook.

The president of a large whiskey distillery in Illinois says that in view of the war legislation forbidding the use of foodstuffs of any kind for making spirituous liquors he is going out of the business. He also says that 2,000 saloons will go out of business in the city of Chicago alone in a short time. Red liquor is liable to go out of use here as suddenly as vodka did in Russia when the war began three years ago—and everybody will be better off for it.

Speaking about the sort of weather we are enjoying here now recalls an expression we heard on our first visit to Oregon ten years ago this fall. In Portland we met a lady who had moved out from our own town in Kansas six months before. "I don't know how the rest of the year will be," she remarked, "but the first six months has been paradise." Certainly it has never entered into the heart of this scribe to imagine anything finer than these July days in the Pacific northwest.

In a recent letter to the editor of the Sentinel Senator McNary says: "I enjoy the work except the delays in enacting emergency legislation caused by long discussions which are too often apart from the subject under discussion. This condition is difficult to remedy, and yet it appears a wasteful sacrifice of the people who are demanding and are in need of remedial legislation."

The Sentinel has at times voiced a similar criticism of the dilatoriness of congress at a time when quick action has been imperatively demanded.

Last Monday at Fargo, North Dakota, Federal Judge Charles F. Anderson decided that carrying liquor for personal use from one state to another which is dry violates the interstate commerce law. The decision is the first of the kind to be rendered in the United States and affects 23 states which are now "bone dry." The verdict was rendered in the case of two lumber jacks from Minnesota who had carried a quart of whiskey into North Dakota.

This decision, if sustained by the higher courts, will leave only one way to carry liquor into a dry state legally—and that is internally.

IT IS A MATTER OF NERVES.

"When Americans ask, 'How long can Germany hold out?'" says Carl Ackerman, author of "Germany, the Next Republic?" (just published by the George H. Doran company), "I reply, 'As long as the German government can satisfy the vanity and stimulate the nerves of the people, and as long as the people permit the government to do the nation's thinking.'"

Ackerman is the United Press correspondent who returned from Germany with the Gerard party after two years in Berlin, during which, according to the New York Times, he acquired what is "probably a greater knowledge of conditions in Germany and Austria than is possible by any other American except Gerard."

"How long a time that will be no one can say. It was formerly believed that whenever a nation reached the limit which Germany has reached it would crumple up. But Germany fails to crumple. Instead of breaking up, she fights harder and more desperately. Why can she do this? The answer is simple: Because the German people believe in their government and the government knows that as long as it can convince the people that it is winning the war, the people will fight."

"Germany is today in the position of a man on the verge of a nervous breakdown; in the position of a man who is undernourished, who is depressed, who is weighed down by colossal burdens, who is brooding over the loss of friends and relatives, but of a man who feels that his future health and happiness depend upon his ability to hold out until the crisis passes."

"If a physician, were called in to prescribe for such a patient, his first act would in all probability be to stimulate this man's hope, to make him believe that if he would only 'hold out,' he would pass the crisis successfully. But no physician would say that his patient could stand it for one week, a month or a year more. The doctor would have to gamble upon that man's nerves. He would have to stimulate him daily, perhaps hourly."

"So it is with the German nation. The country is on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Men and women, business men and generals, long ago lost their patience. They are undernourished. They are depressed, distressed, suffering and anxious for peace. It is as true of the Hamburg-American Line directors as it is true of the officers at the front."

"There have been more cases of nervous breakdowns among the people during the last year than at any time in Germany's history. There have been so many suicides that the news-

papers are forbidden to publish them. There have been so many losses on the battlefields that every family has been affected not once but two, three and four times. Dance halls have been closed. Cafes and hotels must stop serving meals by 11 o'clock. Theatres are presenting the most sullen plays. Rumors spread like prairie fires. One day Hindenburg is dead. Two days later he is alive again.

"But the Kaiser has studied his war psychology. He and his military know that one thing keeps the German people fighting—their hope of ultimate victory; their belief that they have won already. The Kaiser knows, too, that if the public mind is stimulated from day to day by new victories, by reports of many prisoners, of new territory gained, of enemy ships torpedoed, or by promises of reforms after the war, the public will continue fighting."

"So the Kaiser gambles from day to day with his people's nerves. For two years he has done this, and for two years he has been supported by a 12,000,000 man power army and a larger army of workers and women at home. The Kaiser believes he can gamble for a long time yet with his people."

"Just as it is impossible for a physician to say how long his patient can be stimulated without breaking down, so it is impossible for an observer in Germany to say how long it will be before the break-up comes in Germany."

AN UNREASONABLE REQUEST.

This matter of asking the newspapers for free space is in danger of being run into the ground. We have so far responded to every request made by the United States government, but the thing seems to be catching. A woman in Portland mortgaged her for \$6,000 to get money to invest for an income. Quite in accordance with the usual event she lost it. Now we are asked to solicit contributions to raise \$10,000 for her so she can pay off her mortgage and have something left to live on. It seems to us that Coquille people would do better to do something for those who are in need of help here at home than to send money to Portland in a case of this kind. And we think in any case it would be better to circulate a subscription paper among those who know the unfortunate person than to blazon her case in the newspapers. Such requests for space look to us like riding a free horse to death.

THE WAR'S GREATEST EVENT.

There will be other surprises and other wonderful things before the great war is ended—no doubt about that—but nothing else can happen that will loom so big in all future history as the rebirth of Russia, her emancipation from age long tyranny. Even if Germany should follow suit, dethrone the Kaiser and become a republic, it would be a less remarkable event and would affect fewer people. When Russian despotism fell like a house of cards the old order had changed. The eventual and inevitable overthrow of Prussian militarism and dethronement of the Kaiser will only be the end of a work whose greatest event was the transformation of the most brutal autocracy in the world into a democracy, almost in the twinkling of an eye.

A New Napoleon?

The news that Russia has again pledged her allegiance to her allies, for a moment is overshadowed by the achievements in leadership of Minister of War A. F. Kerenky, who seems to have stepped out of Tolstoy's vision to lead his fellow countrymen. Judging from the dispatches, the Russian people, with their idealism and their mysticism, appear to be deeply moved by that strange figure of a man who has been thrown to the top by the revolution. It is small wonder that they see in Kerenky the fulfillment of prophecy. Tolstoy's words describing the new Napoleon were:

"In that year I see all Europe in flames and bleeding. I hear the lamentations of huge battlefields. But about the year 1915 the strange figure from the north—a new Napoleon—enters the stage of the bloody drama. He is a man of little military training, a writer or journalist, but in his grip most of Europe will remain until 1925."

The thing which seems to have fired the imagination of the Slav nation is that Kerenky, a man of little or no military training, leaped over the parapet at the head of the troops and led the assault against the German trenches. They recall that it was Kerenky, a lawyer, almost unknown, who as minister of justice after the dethronement of the czar opened the Siberian prisons. They recall that it was Kerenky who fired the people with his matchless eloquence and who pointed the straight, sure way to freedom.

It does not matter so much whether one refuses to believe in prophecy or inspired vision. If the Russian people see in Kerenky the "strange figure of the north—a new Napoleon"—their devoted service easily can make

him all that Tolstoy predicted. If Kerenky sees in himself the fulfillment of the prophecy and aspires to lofty leadership, who can now say that he may not attain it? Certainly no man has greater aspiration than the studious lawyer who at the moment is the real leader of 180,000,000 people.

The overcautious person will say that it is too early to determine if Kerenky possesses the quality of leadership to inspire the devotion which his followers gave to Napoleon or whether he has the vision and the skill to guide his people to permanent freedom. This much is certain—if there is coming a new Napoleon from the north, it appears that Minister of War Kerenky possesses some of the specifications of that genius—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

ABOUT THE LIQUOR TAXES.

In 1916 the Federal Government received revenue from revenue taxes on alcoholic beverages of \$159,000,000 from distilled spirits and \$89,000,000 from fermented liquors, making less than one-quarter of a billion altogether. This is less than 10 per cent of the subscriptions to the liberty loan, and less than 5 per cent of the per annum wartime Federal expenditures—possibly less than 2 per cent; while the part derived from fermented is less than 2 per cent of the annual cost of the Federal Government and perhaps less than 1 per cent. These taxes are, of course, paid not by the industry, but by the consumer as a part of the two and one-quarter billions (\$2,225,000,000), he pays in the retail price of liquors leaving two billions (\$2,000,000,000) additional cost which the Government does not get and which is worse than wasted, for the nation. It is what we pay to liquor dealers and producers for narcotizing us. Now that physiologists, and also the American Medical Association (on June 11th inst.) condemn alcoholic beverages we are justified in saying that the nation loses two billions worth of energy in their production. Under prohibition the same two and one-quarter billions would be spent on non-alcoholic drinks and other things. That is, the nation's labor and capital, now so wasted, would be transferred into channels truly productive. The Government could then get the same quarter of a billion from the same people and still leave, as it were, two billions in their pockets. There would be that value produced in additional food, munitions, clothing, etc. Besides this transfer of productive energy there would also be an increase of productive energy. Experiments show that two to four glasses of beer a day will impair the work done in type-setting by 8 per cent, increase the time required for heavy mountain marches 23 per cent, and accuracy in shooting under severe army tests 30 per cent.

A STITCH IN TIME.

Coquille People Should Not Neglect Their Kidneys. No kidney trouble is unimportant. Don't overlook the slightest backache or urinary irregularity. Nature may be warning you of approaching dropsy, gravel or Bright's disease. Kidney disease is seldom fatal if treated in time, but neglect may pave the way. Don't neglect a lame or aching back another day. Don't ignore dizzy spells, irregular or discolored urine, headaches, weariness or depression. If you feel you need kidney help begin using the reliable, time-tried remedy, Doan's Kidney Pills. For 50 years, Doan's have been found effective. Endorsed by grateful people. William A. Lewis, 837 Miller St., Roseburg, Ore., says: "I have been troubled more or less by my kidneys ever since the Civil War. I often had pains across my kidneys and at times I could hardly straighten up. My kidneys also acted irregularly. Whenever I have had this trouble I have used Doan's Kidney Pills and a box or two always fixes me up in fine shape." Price 50c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Lewis had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

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BEFORE BILLY POSTER GETS THROUGH, A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE WILL BE GETTING PARTICULAR TOO