

Polk County Observer

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BY H. W. BRUNE

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THE FOOD PROBLEM.

The food troubles in this country are not caused by any dearth of supplies. While the crop returns of last season were somewhat below the average, there is no claim or pretense that the reserve supplies are nearing the point of exhaustion, thus to account for the abnormally high prices now being charged for staple edibles.

The real cause of the trouble seems to lie in the problem of transportation and distribution, with another factor to be taken into consideration—the tendency of many dealers to fall back on the "war" argument as an excuse for pushing prices to unwarranted high levels. In this they are aided by the very fact that transportation companies have seriously fallen down in the performance of their duty—public service—the companies, in turn, falling back on the same excuse of war exigencies and an unforeseen blockade of freight traffic.

The situation, however, has reached a point of seriousness which calls for immediate relief, and efforts to solve the problem are being concentrated from many angles. The government itself is preparing to take a hand in the matter, and it may take drastic steps to relieve the food shortage in population centers and to deal with any illegal conspiracy to unduly advance prices.

PROVIDES HOME FOR LEPERS.

At Tremeloou, Belgium, 75 years ago, Joseph De Veuster, better known as Father Damien, was born. He was educated for a business career, but when he was eighteen years old he entered holy orders, and fifteen years later, in October, 1863, went to Honolulu as a missionary in the stead of his brother. In 1864 he was ordained a priest, and during the nine years that followed he was frequently struck in his parochial work with the pitiful condition of the Hawaiian lepers.

Leprosy is a contagious, infectious disease, which is believed to be directly communicable from one person to another person. It is believed to be caused by a microscopic vegetable parasite shaped somewhat like a small curved stick. This bacillus was discovered by Hansen in 1874. In man the disease appears in several different forms, attacking almost any organ in the body, destroying any or all of the senses, and finally producing death.

It is not definitely known just how the leprosy bacillus enters the body. It may be through wounds of the skin or the lining membrane of the nose and throat, and possibly it may be taken into the body with food. It is pretty definitely proven that no particular article of diet, such as fish, causes the disease. It has been thought that some insect may act as the agent which transfers the germs from sick people to well people. This is not proven.

Whatever the exact mechanism in the transference of the leprosy bacillus, practical evidence shows that the disease is spread mainly by direct contact, and is most prevalent where people are dirty and overcrowded. There is no evidence that leprosy is hereditary.

Practical experience has shown that

segregation is the only practicable means of controlling the disease. A bill appropriating \$250,000 for the purpose of establishing a national home for lepers passed the house of representatives on May 4, 1916, and was passed by the senate on January 25, 1917. This provides a national institution for the care and treatment of the unfortunates afflicted with this gruesome disease and solves the problem of preventing its spread in the United States.

THAT "DEBT OF HONOR"

The payment of \$15,000,000 to the government of Colombia, to settle the old dispute over compensation for Panama canal rights, is being urged on congress on the ground that this is a "debt of honor." President Wilson has used his influence in favor of the pending bill to compensate Colombia in the amount specified, and others have been even more active in their efforts to induce congress to make the proposed appropriation.

At a matter of fact Colombia has no legal claim against this government, and her moral claim is fully as flimsy, as the records show. The trouble started when a ring of selfish and mercenary politicians at Bogota conspired to "hold up" this government for an outrageous sum in payment of Panama canal privileges, threatening to prevent this nation from undertaking the great improvement unless it tamely submitted to being robbed.

Fortunately, the present indications are that congress will adjourn without taking action on the measure to recompense Colombia. Other matters of larger importance are crowding, and the Colombian bill, together with many others, will have to go over for lack of time. Doubtless the proposal will be revived, however, when the new congress convenes and a fresh effort made to "settle" with Colombia.

Perhaps the American government will yet reach the point where it pays its president and other public officials in potatoes.

At the present rate it looks as if a man's wealth soon may be measured by the number of potatoes he possesses.

OTHERS' OPINIONS

Recruiting. Whatever the merits or demerits of our present military system, this nation owes a vote of thanks to its recruiting officers. Whether they can get the men needed when we begin forming the reserve is doubtful in the extreme, but up to date their success is remarkable.

They have gone out into the open labor market, and gained recruits when every industry is clamoring for more workers. The ranks of the cavalry have been filled a little beyond the number authorized by congress. The artillery, engineers and medical corps are nearly full. The infantry is 10,000 short of the increase authorized, but has till June 30 to make good, and expects to do so. Under the circumstances, this is a remarkable record.

To be sure, our recruiting officers have something to offer prospective soldiers. The law attached to that. Men can go up from the ranks now more readily than ever before, and they are doing it in scores. West Point furnishes only a fraction of the officers needed; the rest must be appointed from civil life or be brought up from the ranks, and these are given the preference. There are first

lieutenants in the army now who were sergeants less than a year ago. Then there is a chance for men who make good to be sent to "the Point," and if anyone can learn the soldier's trade in that time, he may be furloughed to the reserve at the end of a year.

But these advantages would count for little if they were not exploited by as keen an advertising campaign as ever was conducted for private gain. The young officers in charge of this work can not be enamored of it. Like all men who have given thought to the matter, they believe that military service should be a matter of duty, not of personal whim.

Lawless Blow at the Welfare of All the Farmers.

The threat to sink American and other ships bearing farm produce and other merchandise is a blow at the rights and welfare of all the farmers of the United States. So long as ships dare not sail, and so long as they lie idle at the wharves, the railroads refuse to haul wheat to tide water, giving the reasonable explanation that further shipments from the interior to the seaboard would increase the prevailing congestion and tie up thousands of freight cars at a time when the country is already suffering from a shortage of rolling stock.

Fortunately for the farmer, the surplus from the last harvest is pretty well sold and moved across the Atlantic. But another crop is coming on and it is the part of wisdom to look to the future. In round numbers, the United States had a billion-bushel wheat crop in 1915. The 1916 crop fell to 600,000,000 bushels. The average for the two years was large, but Europe was an eager bidder, and by distributing the marketing over the two years we sold the surplus at excellent prices.

The 1917 wheat crop may be another billion-bushel wheat yield, but even if it should be only an average crop, the price will be governed by foreign buying. If lawless warfare upon the high seas should be allowed to prevent the shipment of the surplus, the whole crop would hang over the home market and the farmers would have to sell at ruinous prices. A similar embargo would apply to other cereals, fruits, live stock, to the metals of the Inland Empire and the fisheries of Puget sound and the Columbia river.

If our people are clear-eyed, straight-thinking and courageous, they will insist that the government at Washington stand up for American rights and the prosperity of the American people.—Oregon Farmer.

Mrs. B. Toner's Spring and Summer Millinery Opening, Saturday, March 3rd. 1-17

For Fire and automobile insurance see Chas. Gregory, city hall. 32-4f

SUMMONS

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County. V. C. Mead, Plaintiff, vs. Eva Newbrecht, Defendant. To Eva Newbrecht, Defendant above named: In the name of the State of Oregon you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled court on or before Monday, the 5th day of March, 1917, and if you fail to so appear and answer, for want thereof, plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in his complaint, to-wit:

For a decree absolutely barring and foreclosing the said Eva Newbrecht, her heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, of all right, title and interest, legal or equitable, in, to or upon the real property, or any part thereof, described as follows: Tract No. 92 Broadmead, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the John Eads D. L. C. in Township 6 South of Range 5 West in Polk County, Oregon, running thence east 661.25 feet to a point, which point is the Northwest corner of the land to be described; thence East 660 feet; thence south 330 feet; thence West 660 feet; thence North 330 feet to the point of beginning, containing 5 acres of land, reserving however for road purposes an easement in a strip of land 20 feet wide off the North and West sides of said tract; also lot numbered Twelve (12) in Block numbered Ten (10) in the Town of Broadmead, according to the recorded plat thereof, said above described property being situated in Polk County, State of Oregon, unless said Eva Newbrecht shall, on or before a day certain to be fixed by the above entitled court, pay in cash to the plaintiff the sum of \$760.00, together with plaintiff's costs and disbursements herein, and further for a decree declaring that on failure of said Eva Newbrecht to pay said sum within the time limited by the court said Eva Newbrecht, her heirs, execu-

tors, administrators and assigns shall be absolutely barred and foreclosed of all right, title and interest, legal and equitable, in, to or upon the above described real property, and every part thereof, and that the sums heretofore paid by the defendant on the contract described in plaintiff's complaint be decreed to be in lieu of rent of said premises, and all right, title and interest of the said defendant in said payments, or any thereof, be barred and foreclosed, and for such other and further relief as to the Court may seem meet and equitable.

This summons is published pursuant to the order of the Hon. Harry Belt, Judge of the above entitled Court, for six consecutive weeks prior to the 5th day of March, 1917, which order was made on the 15th day of January, 1917. The first publication of this summons is made on the 19th day of January, 1917, and the last publication thereof will be on the 2nd day of March, 1917. VEAZIE, McCOURT & VEAZIE, F.J.19-M.2 Attorneys for Plaintiff

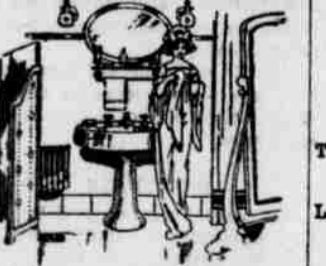
SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of an execution and order of sale duly issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County, and to me directed, on the second day of February, 1917, upon a judgment and decree of foreclosure in a certain suit, wherein Sophia Essig was plaintiff and Ira Stubblefield, Etta Stubblefield and George W. Hill were defendants, then pending in said Court, and in favor of said plaintiff and against said defendants, by which execution I am commanded to sell the property in said execution and hereinafter described to pay the sum due the plaintiff of One thousand dollars, with interest thereon at the rate of seven per cent per annum from the 8th day of November, 1914, until paid, together with costs amounting to \$44.45, and the further sum of \$100 attorney's fees, together with delinquent taxes, penalty and interest amounting to \$43.98, and accruing costs, I will on Saturday, the 10th day of March, 1917, at the hour of 1 o'clock, p. m. of said day at the front door of the County Court house in Dallas, Polk County, Oregon, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand on the day of sale all the right, title, interest and estate which said defendants or either of them had on the said 2nd day of February, 1917, and of all persons claiming under them on either of them subsequent to the 8th day of November, 1911, in, or to the said real premises mentioned and described in said execution to-wit:

Beginning at an iron pipe in the center of the County Road, 21 chains South from the Northeast corner of Lot Number One (1) of Section Five (5) in Township 8 South, Range 5 West of the Willamette Meridian in Polk County, Oregon, and running thence South 89 degrees West 12.52 chains to the East boundary line of the right of way of the Salem, Falls City & Western Railway, thence in a Southerly direction with the East boundary line of said railroad right of way to a point due west from the Southeast corner of Lot Number two (2) of said Section Five (5) thence East 12.80 chains to the Southeast corner of said Lot Two (2) and thence North 6.76 chains to the place of beginning, containing 10 acres, more or less, excepting a 30 foot strip of land conveyed to H. G. Campbell by deed recorded in Vol. 44 at Page 411, of the Deed Records of said Polk County.

Said sale being made subject to redemption in the manner provided by law. Dated at Dallas, Polk County, Oregon, this 9th day of February, 1917.

JOHN W. ORR, Sheriff of Polk County, Oregon. SIBLEY & EAKIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff. F.F.9-M9



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NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY.

Pursuant to the terms of the Will of the late Gideon Sowers, the undersigned Executor of said Will offers for sale, for cash, at private sale the following described premises belonging to said estate, to-wit:

Lot 1 in Block I, Montgomery's addition to Falls City, Polk County, State of Oregon, being store property. Lots 5, 6 and 7 in Block B, Montgomery's addition to Falls City, Polk County, State of Oregon, being residence property.

All bids to be submitted to the undersigned Executor of said Will at the office of Walter L. Tooze, Jr., at Dallas, Oregon. Bids will be received on each tract separately, and all bids submitted should state whether bid is for one or both tracts, and be accompanied by a certified check for 5 per cent of the amount offered.

All contracts of sale are made subject to the approval of the County Court. W. F. NICHOLS, Executor of the Last Will and Testament of Gideon Sowers, deceased. WALTER L. TOOZE, Jr., Attorney for Executor. A85-4f

Dr. Freeze, the Portland specialist, will continue to make regular trips to Dallas each month. Watch paper for dates. Call Gail hotel. Fourteen years' experience over 7900 cases treated.

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Professional Cards

SIBLEY & EAKIN Attorneys and Abstractors. The only reliable set of Abstracts in Polk County. Office on Court street Dallas, Oregon

DENTIST W. C. SCHAEFER Office over Fuller Pharmacy. Office hours from 9 to 12 a. m.; 1 to 5 p. m. Dallas Oregon

DENTIST M. HAYTER Dallas National Bank Building Dallas Oregon

ATTORNEY AT LAW WALTER L. TOOZE, JR. Dallas National Bank Building Dallas Oregon

ATTORNEY AT LAW OSCAR HAYTER Dallas City Bank Building Dallas Oregon

S. B. TAYLOR Civil Engineer and Surveyor Office, City Hall Phone 791 or 542, Dallas, Oregon

DR. W. L. HOLLOWAY CHIROPRACTOR Office over Staffin's Drug Store Phones: Res. 882; Office 522.

Coy Brothers Contractors and Builders. Glass, Sash, Doors, Mouldings, Prune Trays, Dutch Kitchen Work, A Specialty. Planing Mill, 315 Ash St., Dallas Phone 1574

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