

Eastern Clackamas News

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Germany's Moral Decline

In another column, there is printed a letter from an American officer at the front. In it he gives a searching analysis of the German character, as exemplified in the German "Boche."

It may seem too scathing and severe, but it must be remembered that it is written by one, who has seen with his eyes, and heard with his ears, the unspeakable cruelties and atrocities by which the boches have out-hunted the original Huns.

"How," we ask, "was this possible for a nation, which prided itself on its civilization, its Kultur, its humanity, its morality, to sink to such depths of depravity?" This will serve as an interesting problem for years to come.

The writer, attended school as a youth, two years in Germany, and he has the pleasantest recollection of that land and its peoples. He has pondered seriously over the above question, as those with whom he came in contact did not show the least sign that they could be guilty of such infamy.

The answer must be, that since his sojourn among them, a new generation has grown up, which has been seduced by false teaching and a vicious philosophy. Certainly he cannot think of any of his former respected, God-fearing, kindly German professors maintaining the principles that "might makes right," and that "the will to power," should be the guiding one of a nation to insure its superiority and effectiveness.

This decadence in the morals of the German people, is co-eval with the reign of the present Kaiser. The worst misfortune which has happened to them, in the last fifty years, was the death of Emperor Frederick William, after a brief reign of only ninety days. If he had lived, Germany would not only have been saved the present disaster, but attained such progress, distinction, and respect which would have made her the wonder of the world.

Alas, that it should be otherwise! "Ichabod" will be written as her epitaph.

It is very gratifying to the Editor to find that his maiden issue has met with warm appreciation. But he recognizes the fact, that much of this is due to its typographical appearance, for which the credit must be given to his mechanical force, John Dunseath and Miss Elna Hoygaard. He will use his best endeavors to keep the paper up to the mark. But in order to be able to accomplish this, he must have the cooperation of the community. Subscribe, advertise and boost for the News.

As there are now Marshall Foch and Marshall Haig, is there any constitutional reason why a Marshall Pershing should not be added to their number? Then there would be three of a kind, which as a sporting friend informs us, are great for making up a winning hand.

The End Of Education

An important event, one of the most important for this community, will occur next Monday, namely the opening of the school year. Our schools constitute one of our most valuable assets, and one which we should make use of to the utmost. Naturally the question suggests itself. "What is the end and purpose of education?"

Many answers may be given, but the following, found in an educational journal, is the most comprehensive: "You are an eternal thought of God, for your life He has an ideal. To prepare you for the fulfillment of that ideal, is the function which education has to perform."

This gives profound meaning and weight to education, as no arbitrary matter, but one which is naturally involved in the very development of human beings. It is part of the great scheme of the Creator in the planning of the Universe. It adds dignity and worth not only to education, but also to those engaged in that work. We cannot then do too much in the furtherance of all educational facilities, both in equipment and the teaching force.

Our forefathers were men of vision, wise master builders who laid true and broad foundations, when they provided liberally for educational endowment, our civilization is based on the idea of an intelligent and educated people. For "a government of the people, by the people and for the people," cannot be maintained on illiteracy.

Our schools and institutions of learning are then a public trust not only to maintain but fully maintain, so that the adult citizens of the future will be able intelligently to exercise their franchise, and continue unimpaired the glorious heritage of constitutional liberty and government, which has been handed down to them.

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