

# The Forest Grove Express

Published every Wednesday at Forest Grove, Oregon.  
W. C. Benfer, Editor and Publisher.

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## NOTES AND COMMENTS

### All Is Well in America

Colonel George Harvey hurries home from London to tell us that "next to the kaiser," President Wilson is "the most unpopular governmental head in the world." It appears that "there is no feeling against Americans but there is a real bitterness against the present administration," and we are all expected to be very low in our minds because the policy of the American government does not command the approval of London.

It would not be difficult for President Wilson to be popular in London. Indeed, he could easily be more popular there than any member of the British government. If he would simply let the British foreign office dictate the foreign policy of the United States government, the thing would be done. London does not ask us to come into the war. It would be satisfied to take charge of our diplomacy.

By a similar process the president could win a vast popularity in Berlin or in Paris.

Americans who are much more concerned about their social status in England or in Germany or in France, than about the welfare of the United States are much disturbed because the president has persistently put America first. Abroad they devote much of their time to inciting foreign dissatisfaction with the United States government. At home they abuse the president and pose as the only people sensitive about the national honor.

But in the meantime Woodrow Wilson is president of the United States. If he lives he will remain president of the United States until March 4, 1917. And while he remains president of the United States the foreign policy of the United States will be directed from Washington, D. C.—not from London or Berlin or Paris.

To one who knows the history of the American people, all this sniveling snobbery over foreign disapproval of the United States government need not be taken so seriously. We went through a similar period of foolishness in 1793 when Washington proclaimed neutrality in the war between England and France. In comparison with the abuse that pro-British and pro-Americans heaped upon George Washington at that time, current criticism of President Wilson at its worst is most flattering. Even Lincoln

was never smeared with such vituperation as the frenzied partisans of the British and the French plastered over Washington, who roundly cursed the day that he ever became president, but who held the country firmly to the wise and sane course that he had charted.

What Europe thinks of the United States may be important. But what we think of Europe is far more important. Europe is always in a state of either hating us or despising us. Occasionally a surface friendship is professed for the United States when our interests happen to run parallel to the interests of some European country or we are patronizingly permitted to do them favors; but there is no love for us there, never has been and probably never will be. Nor is there any particular reason why there should be.

At the present time the cause for hatred is of infinite proportions. Blundering European statesmanship has plunged civilization in the greatest war of all history. American statesmanship has thus far succeeded in keeping us out of it without yielding any of our rights under international law. The belligerents are bleeding themselves to death. Future generations will be burdened with a load of debt that already staggers the human imagination. We are not bleeding to death. We are rich and prosperous, and we are likely to be the commanding nation of the world after the European powers have exhausted themselves in a war brought on by third-rate diplomacy. Naturally, feeling runs strongly against a government that thinks more about the welfare of the United States than it thinks about the interests of the countries that are at war.

In the circumstances we are unable to mingle our tears with those of Colonel Harvey or to lament the president's unpopularity in London. We should as soon think of lamenting his unpopularity with the Kaiser. The Declaration of Independence has never been repealed.—New York World.

The Express isn't the largest paper in Oregon, but, for its age, it is as big as any of them.

"I came in to tell you that I made a sale Saturday through my ad in the Express" said H. J. Walrath, dealer in electrical ap-

pliances, Monday. "The lady reminded me that she saw my ad in the Express," he continued.

The recent cold snap has made business for the plumbers, even if the rest of us must foot the bills.

The care with which the people of Forest Grove have been feeding the robins and other birds while the snow covers the ground indicates that these people think of other than self.

The editor of the Express is pleased at the great number of people who have congratulated him on the excellence of the paper issued last week. These kind words cost nothing, but they go a long way in cheering a man when he has made an effort to make good. Thanks, friends.

Portland now produces statistics to prove it has the lowest death rate of any large city in the United States. And, as an additional inducement to get people to come here to live, the Oregonian reports that the birth rate for 1915 was almost doubled over 1914. 'Rah for Portland!

The communication from J. N. Hoffman, published in last week's Express, was to have been signed by James F. McGill before publication, but, through an oversight, that gentleman forgot to attach his name. He came to the Express office for that purpose after the article had been printed.

Whenever the writer reads an editorial berating President Wilson for not declaring war on Germany, England or some other nation, he is led to wonder how many of these carping editors are ready to shoulder a Krag or Springfield and go to war or to send their sons. It's easy to talk war, but it takes bravery to withstand the sneers of critics and remain cool, especially when other nations are trying to embroil America. The editorial, from the New York World, published on this page, is a masterly analysis of past and present conditions.

The editor of the Express, as a new member of the Willamette Valley Editorial association, desires to thank the members of the Forest Grove Commercial club for the courtesy shown the members of the association last Saturday. It is these little courtesies that make people feel like coming again. The writer enjoyed the meeting very much and cannot understand how any of the members could remain away. In the writer's opinion, the meetings should be held at least four times a year, and every member should attend.

#### Parental Responsibility

Fifty per cent of the girls taken into Chicago's morals court since its opening in 1913 have been returned to their homes. Similar reports come from other cities.

This condition indicates a pronounced change in public opinion. A Puritan tradition is in revolution.

Up to this generation, virtuous parents turned their erring daughters from their doors, thus wrathfully denying their own responsibility for the girls' conduct.

Now we know that when a daughter becomes a nuisance or a menace to society, the parents are usually to blame. We know that they have no right to make society responsible for their mistakes.—Portland News.

Hancock & Wiles carry Life, Accident & Fire Insurance. 1-tf

## Can I Induce You to Buy Now?

Notwithstanding the advance in the prices of Leather, I have cut the price of my Men's \$3.75 shoes to \$3.20; \$4.00 shoes to \$3.40; the \$6.00 hightop shoes to \$4.75; the J. Miller \$5.00 shoes to \$4.50; Women's \$3.00 gunmetal button shoes to \$2.10. You will pay \$6.50 for some of the above shoes in 6 months from today. I need the money now. The J. Miller shoes are made of the finest selected calf and are made by expert shoe makers. They are the best wearing shoes on the market. Please call and see the Boys' shoes that I am selling from \$2.25 to \$3.00. I have them in the English style, Button and Lace.

L. A. FLETCHER, Forest Grove, Ore.

## E. G. HOEFER

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SUITS MADE TO ORDER FROM \$20 to \$60. Perfect fit  
Guaranteed. CLEANING, PRESSING AND ALTERING  
SOUTH MAIN STREET FOREST GROVE



There's No Place Like Home

YOUR HOME IS IN THIS TOWN

If you are asked you will declare that you're

STRONG FOR THE HOME.

ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS.

Patronize the local merchant

READ THE HOME PAPER

## The Express Phone is 821

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Originator of Penny Change System in Forest Grove. One Order will convince you. Phone 692, FOREST GROVE, ORE.

## Keep Your Money

AT HOME

spend it in Forest Grove, and you have a very good chance of seeing it again; you may even handle it again. Even if you never see it again, some of your neighbors will get it and use it to build up Forest Grove and Washington county. No matter whether you need groceries, clothing, shoes, automobiles or

## Job Printing

this advice is worth considering, for many a town has been promoted to the city class by the patriotism of its citizens in refusing to send away for things they could get at home.

## THE EXPRESS

plant is fully equipped for all classes of job printing, printers of taste and judgement are employed and you can get almost any kind of stationery the most exacting fancy might crave. Come and see.

Or, if you think you have some reason for not patronizing the Express, take your work to the other local office. Either will do more for Forest Grove than some printing concern outside the city or county.

WE'RE IN THE HOFFMAN BUILDING

West of the New I. O. O. F. Block

Phone 821

Forest Grove, Oregon



## Money Makes the Mare Go

MONEY WILL MAKE THIS TOWN GO. Circulate your currency here. It will make our merchants successful. It will boom the town.

IT WILL HELP YOU

Civic pride is a splendid thing.

Display It by Reading the Home Paper and Patronizing Home Trade

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Mr. an thatcher.