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WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1918.

OREGON WEATHER
 Tonight cloudy, Thursday
 fair and warm. Gentle north-
 erly winds.

THE LAST BIG PUNCH

The fifth German drive may be set down as a flat failure. It has not attained any of its important objectives, and is therefore a defeat. The allies' success is almost as definite as was that of the Italians in the recent Austrian drive. The German failure, by the same token, is almost as signal as the Austrian.

There is no question of the importance attached to this drive by the German general staff. It appears to have been as ambitious and energetic a blow as any struck since Germany began this great series of offensive moves at the spring equinox. All the available power of German arms was behind that blow. The result was, less territory taken, fewer prisoners captured, less loss inflicted, than in any previous drive.

The allies have taken nearly as many prisoners as the Germans. They have lost hardly any guns. Their casualties have certainly not been greater than Germany's, and in all probability much less. Their morale has risen during the struggle while the German morale has visibly sunk.

Germany still has a lot of fight left in her, but we are safe in saying that this is her last great effort. She can never hit so hard again. She hasn't another such punch left in her.

SPRAY CONTROLS ENEMY OF MELON

As Soon as Aphid Makes Its Appearance Apply Solution of Nicotine Sulphate.

INSECT DOES HARM QUICKLY

Pest Sucks Juices of Plants, Causing Them to Wither and Die—Best Results Are Secured by Employment of Power Spray.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Severe losses by the melon aphid, or "melon louse," can be largely reduced and in many cases prevented by the use of control measures upon the first appearance of the insect. Spraying with nicotine sulphate, which so far has given the best results, and other methods of combating the pest are described in Farmers' Bulletin 914, Control of the Melon Aphid, by F. H. Chittenden, issued by the United States department of agriculture.

Next to the striped cucumber beetle the melon aphid is the most important

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cucumber insect pest and probably the most serious enemy of melons and related crops in this country. It works quickly, sucking the juices of the plants and causing them to wither and die, often before insect injury is suspected. Whole fields are destroyed in a few days.

The melon aphid has more than forty insect enemies which hold it in check in many regions much of the time, but artificial control becomes imperative when weather conditions are unfavorable to its parasites.

How to Fight the Melon Aphid.

The following directions for combating the pest are given in the bulletin:

1. Examine the melon or cucumber field in several places from time to time in order that the melon aphid may not cause serious damage before detection.

2. When the aphid is found, do not wait to find out whether it is going to increase, but begin spraying at once.

3. Be sure to use the correct formula and apply it properly and thoroughly, making frequent inspections to ascertain that the undersides of the leaves are well covered.

4. Use plenty of spray mixture—200 gallons to the acre, if necessary—and apply at high pressure, about 150 pounds if possible.

If the work is undertaken in time, the bulletin points out, and directions

plant life, is regarded as secondary in value to the nicotine sulphate solution. Where only a few plants are infested and it is possible to direct a strong stream of water upon them the aphid can be checked materially in this manner without use of other substances.

The melon aphid is partial to the cantaloupe and other melons, cucumbers, gourds, squash, pumpkins, and other cucurbits, cotton, okra, and oranges and other citrus fruits, all food plants upon which the insects feed and multiply.

Unceasing Attention to Weeds.

The weed fight is one of the standard routine operations on the farm, and it represents a large proportion of labor necessary to produce crops. No other single feature of farming requires such universal and unceasing attention as do the weeds.

FIERCE WAR OVER ELEPHANT

People of Siam and Pegu Contended for Generation to Secure Possession of the Animal.

Believing that Buddha lived again in the body of a white elephant, a devastating war was fought in the sixteenth century between Siam and Pegu for possession of the handsome animal. For a generation the struggle continued, and in it five kings came to the throne, only to die together with thousands of their subjects. A white elephant is exceedingly rare, but is simply an albino and by no means snow colored. In 1883 Barnum, not from a religious motive, brought one from Siam at a cost of \$200,000.

Frequent mention is made of elephants in the history of ancient wars. The Roman armies fled at their first appearance in their early conflicts with the Carthaginians, but by the use of torches soon learned to break up a charge of the huge beasts. Alexander encountered them in his conquest of Asia.

The elephant looks stupid and his brain is small for his size, only as large as a man's, but it is highly developed, and few animals are more intelligent. They are used as beasts of burden in India, where they are regarded with superstitious awe by their drivers.

Positive Not Negative.

Be one thing or the other. Don't be a dummy for life to hang theories upon. Be a real person, with likes and dislikes, with interests and activities, with something that is positive. Be pleasant, not merely not unpleasant; be sweet, not merely not disagreeable; be good to look upon, as far as in your power; be well informed, as far as possible. But whatever you are, be that thing to the utmost. Give to those who are around you your very best and unconsciously they will give their very best to you. Try it and see.

Cleaning the Money.

A "money laundry" is to be installed in the Minneapolis federal reserve bank as a part of the conservation policy of the times. From \$9,000,000 to \$10,000,000 in torn and dirty federal reserve bank notes is now chopped up annually and returned. It is proposed to save a large proportion of this residue by the chemical cleaning process that will be installed.

PROSPERITY BUILT ON VICE

Portuguese City of Macao Has Long Been Known as the Monte Carlo of the Orient.

Macao is said to be the most prosperous bit of Portuguese territory in the world. It is the famous "Monte Carlo of the Orient," where gambling and a considerable opium traffic have their headquarters. Both these vices are ones to which the Chinese are particularly addicted, and Macao has become a great resort for the wealthier Chinese natives.

It lies on a sandy peninsula, half way on the trip between Hongkong and Canton. The Portuguese acquired it in the olden time when they were the most daring explorers and traders in the world. Their descendants live there still, but they have mingled and intermarried with the Chinese until what amounts to a new race has been produced in the native-born Portuguese colony in Macao.

Macao is a prosperous city, as most capitals of the god of chance are wont to be. Various gambling games are played, but the favorite is fan-tan, over which the Chinaman can develop an apparently disproportionate amount of excitement. In fan-tan, a number of coins or counters are hidden under a bowl, and the players bet on how many will be left when the bowl has been counted off in fours. Simplicity can go no farther, but it is possible to lose as much money over this primitive form of gambling as over the most complicated variety known to the West.

Chinese are the greatest gamblers in the world. They will bet on anything from the weather to the weight of a horse, whether they can afford to lose or not. A wealthy Chinese merchant will win and lose fortunes with an air of philosophic nonchalance, while the poorest coolie will drop a week's pay in ten minutes without permitting the impressive gravity of his countenance to be marred by anything more than a pained frown.

Seashells Instead of Glass.

One curious thing noted by Americans in the Philippines was the use by natives of seashells in lieu of window glass. There is a bivalve mollusk, native to the waters of that part of the world, which has a shell seven or eight inches in diameter, so thin as to be transparent. It is plentiful and costs nothing. Glass is expensive.

TAKILMA

Ray Cooke, who has been in Washington on mining business has returned to Takilma after several months absence.

Mrs. Bert Caldwell has moved to Takilma, where she is employed as cook at the Shadinger chrome mine.

Robert George and sister, Mrs. Leslie Bailey were in Grants Pass on Tuesday, where they went to bring home Roy George, of California, for the benefit of his health. Mrs. George, who has been with her son during his illness accompanied him home.

Mrs. Myrtle Barnes and Mrs. Nelson, of Portland, are visiting with Mrs. Barnes' parents Mr. and Mrs. Shadinger.

The Red Cross dance at Takilma on Saturday night was a decided

success, about \$45 being cleared. A feature of the evening was the raffling of a quilt made by Mrs. James Hogue, of Kerby. This quilt had been raffled off and won by a Kerby citizen who presented it to the Red Cross to be raffled off again. James Hogue held the lucky number.

First American Newspaper. The first American newspaper was the "Publick Occurrences," the first number of which appeared in Boston September 25, 1690. The publisher and editor was Benjamin Harris of anabaptist and antimonarchical tendencies. Owing to a charge brought by him against Louis XIV his paper was suppressed by the governor of the colony. Harris was afterwards made official printer of the colony.

Butter Wrappers printed to comply with the law at the Courier.

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