

THE COQUILLE HERALD

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P. C. LEVAR, LESSEE AND EDITOR
ROY M. AVERY, BUSINESS MANAGER

Devoted to the material and social upbuilding of the Coquille Valley particularly and of Coos County generally.

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WAR AT LAST

As this is written, it seems that war with Germany is inevitable if not yet an actual fact. Having kept us out of war so long, President Wilson has found himself in a position where he has no choice consistent with national honor. So much silly slop is written and uttered about "national honor" that we use the expression with diffidence. At the same time, the actual thing has an existence, and when a nation has unequivocally and justifiably made the declaration, that in a certain contingency she will do certain things, if that contingency arise she is obliged to do what she has agreed or threatened to do. In this case, we served upon Germany solemn notice that we would not stand for certain methods of submarine warfare and if she persisted in using those methods we would sever diplomatic relations. Germany has now declared that she is about to use those methods, and this has left us no alternative but to sever relations. This, in brief, was the situation which has forced from President Wilson the action which he has been trying to honorably avoid. Whether he was right last March, when he placed this country on record in such a way may be open to question, but we believe that the great majority will endorse his action. It held Germany in check and has undoubtedly saved the lives of thousands of non-combatants. We believe also that his recent action, even though it bring us into actual war, will meet the approval of the overwhelming majority of our citizens, and that we will all stand shoulder to shoulder in his support.

Let those who thirst for the blood of their fellow-humans rejoice, if they like, that we are to engage in the carnival of blood-letting. The Herald does not feel that way. We would far rather see the European barbarians fight it out amongst themselves. We would far rather see the United States retain the right to be called a "Christian nation"—and no believer in war ought to call himself a Christian, for he shows beyond question or cavil that he does NOT fully believe in the teachings of Him whom he professes to serve.

MERELY THE EDITOR'S OPINION

One more opinion we would like to express before the war temperature rises to fever pitch. We do not expect many of our gentle readers to agree with us, but we are not using this 12-point type for the purpose of tickling the majority. The settled opinion of this light-weight country editor is that when the President demanded that Germany relinquish the advantage given her by her submarines, and placed this demand in terms that obliged him to sever diplomatic relations, he was in wrong. When we talk about "civilized warfare" and "international law" we are talking a lot of nonsense. When we hold up our hands in pretended horror because non-combatants must suffer in war times we are either rank hypocrites or we are weak in the upper story. "War is hell," said General Sherman, and he knew what he was talking about. When he made his famous march to the sea, laying waste a strip of country some sixty miles wide, he made war on non-combatants, destroyed their property, their food and even their clothing. Yet we of the North justify him fully. It was an act of war. When a city is besieged, the person who would argue that kind-hearted people of peaceful climes should be allowed to send in supplies of food and clothing for the women and children would be laughed out of court, and the Altrurian who would persist in driving toward the gates of the city with a load of bread would be shot down—with the acquiescence of the "civilized" world. We see no difference between a siege by land and a siege by sea, and a blockade is only a siege with a nautical name. The Kaiser proposes to besiege a little group of islands known as Great Britain, and is equipped to make his siege effective. By the use of the school of submarines he has been building, he can cork England up so effectually that her children will be crying for bread in a very short time. Now comes the United States and demands that he forego the advantages given by his forethought, his brains and his infinitely more efficient methods. He must not use his submarines, to make his blockade effective, and he must not kill any "non-combatants," even though they be carrying supplies to the beleaguered islands. Especially, he must not hurt any Americans, even though they have deliberately placed themselves in the position of blockade-runners and be entitled to no more consideration than our English "cousins" who ran our Southern blockade in the early sixties, bringing supplies to the Confederates and taking away their cotton. That the president's action is endorsed by all Germany's enemies, and that he will be backed up by the people of this country, does not change the ethics of the thing—if ethics can be considered in relation to war—but we are in wrong, just the same.

CAN WE LEARN?

About the time of the Spanish war it was discovered that the germs of yellow fever, which was proving more fatal than Spanish bullets to our soldier boys in Cuba,

To You, Civilization

By Rory O'Moore

Here's to you, Civilization,
A toast of blood we will drink,
May you meet the realization
Of the depths to which you sink.

Civilization, was ever more barren
Word coined or uttered on this mundane sphere?
Religion and Law, and are these your deities,
That fill woman's eyes with the bitter, salt tears
By civilized slaughter of husband and brother,
By carnage, destruction, devastation of life?
Take back your culture, your creed and your teaching;
Give me to live free from legalized strife.
You spend the long decades to build up traditions,
Vast systems of commerce, extend routes of trade;
You talk arbitration and world federation;
Then cast them aside and resort to the blade.
You raise your traditions in dust to the ground,
And sever your treaties; adopt codes of hate—
Your muttering conscience soothed into sleeping,
By placing the blame on the shoulders of fate.
Will not the grief of the millions of mothers,
Whose hearts are as empty as you? lofty boast,
Because of the monster you fostered and sanctioned,
Drink to your health, and in vengeance, this toast:

Here's to you, Civilization,
And the promise you falsely gave,
A toast with the blood of our offspring,
Here o'er their needless grave.

were carried by a mosquito. Did our government accept this as one of the mysterious dispensations of Providence and content itself with providing means of sending more soldiers to fill up the gaps caused by yellow fever? Well, not so you would notice it. War on and protection against the mosquitos was inaugurated. Compare this with our course in the matter of naval warfare. For quite a number of years the possibility of building boats that would operate under water has been recognized, and the submarine has been an existing fact. It was fully conceded that a torpedo from one little submarine would sink the biggest warship afloat and that the superdreadnaught could no more protect itself against the submarine than the soldier could protect himself against the mosquito. Yet we have gone on building and planning and appropriating money for superdreadnaughts, the only use of which in time of peace is to form long processions and carry handsomely uniformed officers before the enthusiastic and admiring gaze of the people who are paying the bill, and which are of no more use in time of war than the marble ship which old Tsi Ann caused to be built in a lake back of the palace with a part of the \$50,000,000 which China had appropriated for a navy. In fact, the old empress' ship had its advantages, for it could not be sunk, and it could not be expected to do anything; while our ships are liable to be expected to do something in time of war and yet cannot poke their noses outside of the harbor without imminent danger of being sunk before they pass the three-mile limit, by some insignificant little submarine which they can't even see. Has Germany followed any such chuckle-headed course? Again, not so you would notice it. If the United States is to learn anything about the art or science of efficient warfare, she must look to the country against which she is about to fight and not to her allies.

On account of the mixture of nationalities in this country, there will be a greater call for coolness and consideration of others, in the event of war with Germany than is the case anywhere in the world. In our population there is a very large percentage of those of German blood. It is safe to say that those of no other nationality stand higher as citizens. They are in all walks of life, from the day laborer to the statesman, and none have a better record. Just what their position will be when this country is at war with Germany the Herald will not pretend to say, but it is not to be expected that they will be glad to see the United States added to the forces that are straining every nerve to crush the Fatherland. Their position will be a difficult one at best. Within the sphere of its influence, the Herald will urge that their feelings, even their love for the Fatherland, be respected.

Amortization of Farm Loans

(By Frank R. Wilson of the Federal Farm Loan Bureau.)

One of the features of the Federal Farm Loan act which makes a strong appeal to farmers is that it compels them gradually to retire their indebtedness through a long or short period of years.

This process is called amortization. Under it the interest and principal are paid off in equal annual or semi-annual installments throughout the period of the loan so that at the end of the term of the mortgage the borrower is out of debt.

All loans under the Farm Loan act are made under the amortization or installment plan. Since the borrower begins paying off his debt the first year after he gets it, and because a long time loan is best suited to farmers, borrowers under this act are permitted to execute mortgages to run from five to forty years at their option.

Permission is given to pay all of the loan or any part of it on any interest paying date after the mortgage has run five years. Borrowers are not permitted to pay off within the first five years, because the money which they

have borrowed has been procured by the bank through the sale of its bonds, and bonds cannot be sold for a shorter period than five years.

To give the prospective borrower an exact idea of the size of annual payments required to wipe out a mortgage in a given period, tables have been prepared. The following table shows the amount of the annual payment required to extinguish in the period indicated a \$1000 loan, bearing interest at 5, 5 1/2 and 6 per cent:

| Years | 5 per cent | 5 1/2 per cent | 6 per cent |
|-------|------------|----------------|------------|
| 10 | \$129.50 | \$132.67 | \$135.87 |
| 15 | 96.34 | 99.63 | 102.96 |
| 20 | 80.24 | 83.63 | 87.18 |
| 25 | 70.95 | 74.55 | 78.23 |
| 30 | 65.65 | 68.81 | 72.65 |
| 35 | 61.07 | 64.97 | 68.97 |
| 40 | 58.23 | 62.32 | 66.46 |

The use of the borrowed money is limited to the following purposes: To purchase land or additional land; to pay off existing indebtedness; to purchase livestock or to make any productive improvements such as clearing, fences, drainage, buildings and machinery.

The object of amortization is to enable a farmer to turn a mortgage into an investment. When he can borrow at a less rate than it yields him he is

able to pay off his indebtedness out of the profits of his investment. A long time loan enables him to use his money judiciously so that it will contribute to increased value of his land and its increased producing power.

Heretofore farmers have not been able to borrow for long periods. This discourages investment in livestock and for many other purposes because the returns are slow. Short term loans made a speculator out of a farmer.

So the Farm Loan act in addition to providing a way for the farmer to borrow to the limit of safety, induces him to put his borrowed money to productive uses and provides a way for him to get out of debt from the profits of the investment.

Thus the Farm Loan act places within reach of the farmer the means to help himself and stimulates his business initiative. The long time loan with its small annual payments puts a quietus on the terror of mortgage foreclosure.

Next installment will explain the character of investments provided under the Farm Loan act.

East Fork Items

(Herald's Special C. C. News Service)

Last week Earl Endicott went to Veta, near Eugene, to attend the funeral of his brother-in-law Albert May. Mark Brown drove the auto stage for him.

It is reported that Ernest A. Krewson and Zilphia J. Benham were married Feb. 1 at the home of the bride's parents in Brewster valley.

In a recent number of the Christian Endeavor World there is a good story on school book graft. Since the Oregon school book commission has been in existence and the throttle grip of the American Book Co. pried loose, the piece made on the side from school books has not been of the fattening quantity. There are other things in the school line that are unloaded at a long price. That graft story is an eye-opener. Something like two years ago a man was taking orders for a set of books that was supposed to be a storehouse of knowledge for children, and he had recommends from "educators" and "near educators" extolling the wonders of the books. When you read those "testimonials" carefully you didn't see any evidence that any of those fellows had paid a bean for their books.

Undoubtedly there are a whole lot of people who know that there ought to be a flat school tax throughout the counties; that the school district tax where there is a large assessment roll and a small population is the same species of humbug as the old road district tax. As far as the school funds are concerned the county treasurer's office should have handled them, not the district clerks.

Forest Notes

A rapid method of kiln-drying eastern hemlock has been developed at the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, whereby shiplap can be dried green from the saw to shipping

PLANTING TIME IS NEAR AT HAND

We have just received a large assortment of bulk garden seeds, and invite you to call and look over the line.

Are you going to plant Sweet Peas?

We have them assorted colors in bulk; also Tall Nasturtiums. A full line of package garden and flower seeds.

Fancy Onion Sets, 3 lbs. 25c

Grass Seeds and Seed Grains American Wonder and Early Rose Seed Potatoes

All Outside Seed

Busy Corner Grocery

Phone 691 and 541 Front and C Streets Coquille, Ore.

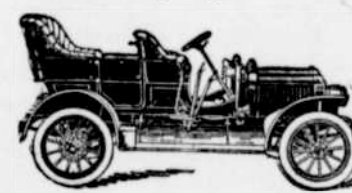
Dry Shiplap, Finish, Flooring and Rustic

WISCONSIN SILOS

Several Lots of Lumber at Special Prices

H. E. JOHNSON

Roseburg-Myrtle Point Auto Stage Line



Leave Myrtle Point 7:40 a. m. Roseburg 6 a. m.

6 hours Running Time

Connecting with Coquille Auto Lines

J. L. Laird

Myrtle Point

The Telephone Directory

Will go to press February 10th. It has the largest circulation of any advertising medium in Southwestern Oregon. It is always at hand for reference and an advertisement once seen may always be referred to. The telephone subscribers are able to buy the goods you will advertise. Orders for new telephone and listings in the directory should be done at once.

Coos and Curry Telephone Co.

weight in forty-eight hours. By this method two-inch plank can be dried to shipping weight in six to eight days.

It is estimated that four-fifths of the water available for irrigation and domestic use in the State of Oregon comes from the timber clad slopes of the National Forests. The average acre of National Forest land in the State sends to the streams sixteen times as much water as does the average acre of land outside the Forest boundaries.

Chamberlain's Tablets

These tablets are intended especially for disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. If you are troubled with heartburn, indigestion or constipation they will do you good.

Agitator to Start Again

According to reports, F. B. Cameron has plans most completed for starting up his Agitator very soon. He has secured the Bandon Recorder linotype on a payment of \$500 cash and installments. The cash was raised by ten men signing a joint note, we are told, and several North Bend men are on the note. He has made arrangements with the Marshfield Record for a press formerly used in printing that paper. He is dealing with Geo. Witte for the old Gordon building opposite the Loggie hall, and will soon be ready to start up business.—Harbor.