



The Western World

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CAN THIS BE TRUE!

Under the caption "Worse Than a German Spy," the Coquille Sentinel has the following:

"A patriotic and well-informed Coquille lady who was one of the Bandon excursionists on the Fourth tells us of hearing a young woman of that city brazenly advocating the German side in the present war and taking the position that the United States is all wrong and the Kaiser and his pirates are all right. And the most incredible thing about this display of treason is that the woman who was guilty holds a position in the public schools of that city. While we have heard of German apologists and emissaries in other positions of trust in this country we had no idea that in our own county any of them were employed where they could instill into the unfolding minds of our boys and girls feelings of respect and admiration for our enemies and of hatred and contempt for their own country and its cause. We should tolerate the perfidy, the depravity and the savagery of the German propaganda least of all in what should be our nurseries of patriotism where

devotion to our flag and all it stands for ought to be indicated first of all."

Western World has not the slightest suspicion of any local teacher openly declaring herself on the side of Germany in the war, nor even being in sympathy with the German cause. However, the accusation made by the Coquille party is a grave one and is, in a measure, a reflection upon the loyalty of the whole community. If there is a possibility that a member of our school force is guilty of such gross disloyalty it is the duty of the school authorities to find her out and promptly dismiss her.

The people of this country would never allow a lesson of hate to be taught the young, as is being done in Germany at the present time, yet it would be a sorry mistake to allow a lesson of love for our enemies and contempt for our own government. What surer method of implanting the seeds of treason in the minds of the young could be adopted than to allow a person with such sentiments to have charge of the schoolroom.

WHY NOT OIL-BOUND MACADAM?

After graveling the Bandon-Curry road a coat of asphaltum-base crude oil, making an oil-bound macadam, would assure splendid success without a very large investment. At least such is the conclusion of one who has noted results of similar work in California.

An example of what the four miles of Bandon-Curry road will be like in a few years if the dressing is left in the usual state, is easily seen on Ocean Drive. That street was improved only three years ago, being at the time an excellent example of a crushed rock road. During the past three years the street has seen considerable auto traffic and is beginning to show ruts and thin spots in places; and worst of all, every time an auto comes along the property along the windward side receives a veritable deluge of fine rock dust. The discussion calls to mind a somewhat similar condition on First street where the planking was put down new only a few years ago. At that time had the street been given a dressing of asphaltum oil, or better still, had the individual boards been dipped in a vat of hot oil before being laid, the street would at the present time after three or more years of traffic, show but little wear. As it is, the planking is becoming very rough and in many places is practically worn out. And doubtless

FIGURES INDICATE THAT WAR WILL END DURING YEAR 1917

Among the favorite appeals to the superstitious temper of war-time, none is apt to be more unique than the prophetic combinations of dates and other significant figures with which the outcome or end of the conflict is variously pointed. Every war of modern times has produced such essays at mystical and symbolic arithmetic, and the present struggle is no exception. One of the most startling of these appears to have an American origin; at least it has been perfected by the Pittsburg Gazette. We herewith submit it to our readers as an example of clever mathematical juggling that may well mislead the superstitious:

President Wilson was born in 1856; took office in 1913; was in office 4 years; has lived 61 years; total 3834.

King of England was born in 1865; ascended throne in 1910; has reigned 7 years; has lived 52 years; total 3834.

President of France was born in 1858; took office in 1913; has been in office 4 years; has lived 59 years; total 3834.

King of Italy was born in 1869; ascended throne in 1900; has reigned 17 years; has lived 48 years; total 3834.

four or five hundred dollars worth of California crude asphaltum-base oil would have saved both Ocean Drive and First street for many more years.

KEEP UP THIS ROAD

The Marshfield-Coquille road being closed because of the construction work under way, there is more auto traffic this summer over the Seven Devils route to Coos Bay than over any road in the county. For this reason it would seem advisable to keep the road in as good condition as possible. Some of the spots along the grades will soon need attention as the sand is being worked up until it is difficult for some autos to get through.

To the casual observer it looks as if a great deal of security could also be afforded the traveling public by doing a little work on some of the many sharp curves. Making them a foot or two wider would make a world of difference to a big car, yet the cost in most cases would be comparatively small. Too, clearing away some of the brush in places would afford a better view and lessen the possibility of collisions.

So far this season there has been no serious accident on the route, which is remarkable because of the great number of cars passing at all hours of the day and night. However, several have gone "over the grade" and at least one person has sustained fractured ribs.

BUSINESS VERSUS POLITICS

It is still an open question whether the American people care more about politics than they do about business and industries, says the Pacific Coast Manufacturer. Partisan politics appeals to many people, and a few make money out of it, but the multitude must depend on payrolls and business under any administration.

Whether one man is elected to an office or another is not of as much consequence to the average citizen as the founding of a new industry or building of a new railroad. Radical advocates of collectivism or individualism are willing to sacrifice all else to carry their particular theory into effect, but prosperity depends on use of both systems. Public ownership and private capital are not antagonistic, only when used to destroy each other, and then the loss falls on the whole community and hinders progress.

The one-idea theorist on any line believes his nostrum will cure all the troubles of city, state or nation, but he is not a safe person to follow in any direction. Industry, payrolls, investments, improvements still mean a chance for the average man to succeed in life, while political activity enriches few and taxes everybody.

THE SPIRIT OF SAFETY

We have heard and read considerable of the spirit of safety, but it is very probable that all have not caught its real meaning and significance.

Why is this activity making a place for itself which ranks all others? Because it is a common basis of thought and purpose. It is inspiring men to do things for their fellowmen and their families, to render an unselfish service and to recognize man-value in its full measure.

"Help the other fellow." That is the spirit of safety, and in the end it spells success. It brings out the best there is in every man, and strikes at the very source of poverty and misery, of oppression and gloom. It is a spirit that draws all men together by a common bond. It is reflected in the daily work and home life of every man who is endeavoring to be guided by this spirit of safety. It shows itself in more efficient work and better working conditions; in happier faces and more cheerful surroundings; in brighter homes and more contented wives and mothers,

King of Belgium was born in 1875; ascended throne in 1909; has reigned 8 years; has lived 42 years; total 3834.

Emperor of Japan was born in 1879; ascended throne in 1912; has reigned 5 years; has lived 38 years; total 3834.

King of Serbia was born in 1844; ascended throne in 1903; has reigned 14 years; has lived 73 years; total 3834.

King of Montenegro was born in 1841; ascended throne in 1910; has reigned 7 years; has lived 76 years; total 3834.

King of Roumania was born in 1865; took office in 1914; has reigned 3 years; has lived 52 years; total 3834.

It might seem that the equal sum thus yielded, by adding the principal statistics about the presidents and monarchs engaged in the war against the Central Powers, was startling enough. But the wonder is heightened when we are told that this sum must be divided because two hemispheres are represented by these rulers, and that one-half of 3834 is 1917! The prediction based upon these figures may be anticipated. It is that the war will come to an end during the present year.

because of the assurance of the safety of husbands and sons; in better fed, better clad and better educated children.

Heed, then the spirit of safety. Be careful of yourself; thoughtful and considerate of your fellow men; kind and provident in your home. In these things lie the greatest achievements of right purpose and true success. —The Gas Industry magazine.

The hoodlum idea that a rough-house is necessary in order to have a good time at a dance is still being entertained by a number of young men in this community. Recently they disgraced a dance at Prosper by their ungentlemanly manners and on the Fourth the act was repeated at Upper Two Mile. There are a lot of decent people who enjoy attending these dances. They are not necessarily prudish, yet they deplore the thought that a bunch of rough-necks should be allowed to bring disrepute to an otherwise respectable social affair.

An I. W. W. at Bisbee, Arizona, where a strike is on among the copper miners, the other day in a public speech said that there would be no wheat crops in the United States this year unless the demands of the miners were met. With the increasing disturbances caused by this organization and the enormity of their threats it behooves the government to stand prepared to meet conditions at home which may prove a serious handicap to the progress of war plans. The American people are tolerant, but there is a limit to everything.

Old King Alcohol got a severe jolt in the ribs Saturday when the Senate put whiskey on the black list. While it is only for the period of the war it is a safe bet that Colonel Bourbon is a dead soldier, for once the people find out how well they can get along without him, they'll never call him back. National prohibition is the proper method of handling the booze question. When Uncle Sam clamps down the lid there'll be a scarcity of bootleggers.

There is still evidence that the Kaiser has a few trusted agents close to official circles in Washington. It was only the superiority of American gunners that prevented disaster to some of Pershing's troops. Someone is due to face the firing squad.

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