The Athena Press

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F. B. Boyd, Publisher

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ATHENA, OREGON, MARCH 15, 1918

WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?

There can be no No Man's Land in America during this war. There can be no twilight zone. There can be no neutrality.

There is a clear division line, and you are on one side or the other. You are either for the United States or you are for the kaiser. If you are not for America, you are against America.

The American boys over on the west front are being gassed whenever the Huns can gas them, are being bayonetted whenever the Huns can bayonet them, are being shot down whenever the Huns can shoot them down. If you are not a backer of these American boys you are a backer of the Huns. You can not be for both. You can not be impartial. You cannot be neutral. You cannot hide behind a thin veil of so-called disinterestedness.

Once this was Europe's war. But the Hun thought he could starve England with the divers. He knew unrestricted diver frightfulness would force America into the war. But he thought he could starve England and then put France out before America could get there. Then he expected to deal with America alone, humiliate her, fight her to her knees and compel her to pay a huge war indemnity.

The Hun made Europe's war our war. Every day the news comes of dead Americans over there. They are our dead. The wounded are our wounded. The missing are our missing.

You must take sides. You must choose between America and the Hun, the Hun who brought all this frightfulness upon the world.

You must back every war activity, back your country, back the boys over yonder, back the flag.

You cannot be a non-partisan now. If your heart beats true, you are a partisan, a Democratic partisan, or a Republican partisan, but an American partisan, and an American partisan until the last gun is fired.—Portland Journal.

It is not a question of whether the price of substitutes is higher than the price of flour—no matter what the cost, they must be eaten and the flour must be saved. Those who do not help willingly are to be compelled to help. It is not an idle threat, and the sooner the people realize that the government means just what it says the easier it will be for everybody. Don't quarrel with your merchant when he insists upon selling cornmeal or other substitutes with wheat flour; he has been told to do it and he will be prosecuted if he fails to obey instructions. Don't grumble and find fault; you are only being asked to share your loaf with men who are offering up their lives at the front. Fall into line with other loyal citizens, and thank God that the sacrifice demanded of you is no heavier than the small matter of changing your diet—especially when it is all the better for your digestion.

There is no fixed price on flax, barley or other cereals and big crops of those other grains might mean very much lower prices, but no matter how large the crop of wheat, the price is known now. There can be no losses due to glutted markets or delayed transportation. The only uncertain conditions in connection with growing wheat this year are conditions over which man has no control and those conditions will affect the growing of other crops the same as wheat. In these uncertain war times it will be much better to stand on a sure thing than to take any speculative venture.

A Liberty Loan button is a badge of honor. Rightfully obtained it marks the wearer as one who has performed a distinct, definite service to the country. Iron crosses to German soldiers, and diamond orders exchanged between Turkish and German sovereigns may be but the honors of atrocity. But a Liberty Loan button, simple as it is, signifies a patriotic duty done and is an insignia of honor.

Many appeals have been made to the American farmer in the recent past to increase production in different lines, but the most urgent need at present from the farms is a record breaking wheat crop. A bountiful supply of wheat is necessary to win this war quickly. The farmers of this nation are in the battle line when they are in their wheat fields just as surely as are our soldiers when they are in the trenches in France.

About the meanest act the Weston Kernel ever did was to yoke the Bulldogger ed. up with the kaiser and leave him there. And to our knowledge, the scabbiest trick the Bulldogger ed. ever perpetrated, was to plant skunk cabbage on the Kernel's grave.

The Churches.

The Christian Church.

The Bible school will begin promptly at 10 a. m. with Geo. R. Gerking at the helm Let every one be on time. "Jesus Teaching by Parables" is the topic. The morning sermon topic will be "Pep." The evening topic "Moral Masonry." These should be sufficient to call you to the colors without further orders. The invitation is for volunteers; nobody drafted. It is worth while to come without pressure. The music will be good, the preaching as good as the minister can deliver, and the fellowship is fine. If you read this, we will expect you. Midweek meeting and chorus rehearsal Wednesday evening. You are cordially invited and welcome to all these services.

D. Errett, Minister.

Baptist Church Notes.

The Sunday school at 10 a. m., is growing. The prayer meeting is taking on new life. The study of the first epistle to Timothy is arousing interest. The morning themes concerning the overcomer, are meeting with approval, and the popular evening services with addresses on the plan of salvation are well attended and full of encouragement Morning topic next Sunday, "The Victor's Life-Secret;" the Peoples service at 7:30, topic: "The Effects of Salvation." Special music. The Sunshine Choir will give a special song at the morning service. All welcome. Strangers will have a warm reception. Come.

D. E. Baker, Pastor.

Methodist Episcopal Church.

Remember the Passion Week services March 24 to 30. Plan your time to attend every evening, services promptly at 7:30.

Sunday school 10 a. m. A lively contest is now in progress. The boys' class jumped to first place last Sunday. Subject "Messages of The Christ." Morning topic, "Every Man For Himself." Remember Armfield's great patriotic lecture, "God's Call for American Boys," April 21. The lecture is addressed primarily to parents who have boys in France or on the way; but every one will be welcome.

W. S. Gleiser.

Check Stamps.

Idaho stamps every check with rubber stamp: "Consider what part of this check should go to purchase W. S. S."

—W S S—

Multnomah county assessor H. E. Reed is stamping all material leaving his office: "Stamp out the war with War Savings Stamps."

—W S S—

Mail carriers are selling thrift stamps. A carrier not more more than 300 miles from Atnena uses a picture of his wife and baby as his clinching argument for the sale of W. S. S.

—W S S—

Every lick helps to stick the kaiser, Everybody buy stickers and we'll lick the kaiser.

—W S S—

I thank you good people for your licks on the stickers. Did you buy a thrift stamp today? Yours for W. S. S.

W. S. G.

DAY OF NATIVITY UNKNOWN

World Has Only Tradition to Rely Upon as to Date of the Birth of Christ.

The traditional 25th of December as the date of the birth of the Savior has no historical authority beyond the fourth century, when the Christmas festival was introduced first in Rome (A. D 360), on the basis of several Roman festivals (the Saturnalia, Sigillaria, Juvenalia, Brumalia, or Dies natalis Invicti Solis), which were held in the latter part of December, in commemoration of the golden age of liberty and equality, and in honor of the sun, who in the winter solstice is, as it were, born anew, and begins his conquering march. The only indication of the season of Christ's birth is the fact that the shepherds were watching their flocks in the field at the time (Luke 11:8), and this fact points to any other season rather than winter, and is, therefore, not favorable to the traditional date. Besides, the ancient tradition is of no account here, as it varied down to the fourth century. Clement of Alexandria relates that some regarded the 25th, Pachon (I. e., May 20), others the 24th or 25th, Pharmuthi (April 19 or 20), as the day of Nativity.

As to modern research, the only point on which divines generally agree is that Christ was not born on Christmas day, while numerous learned authorities put the birth on almost every date of the year.

HILL PUZZLE TO GEOLOGISTS

Stone Columns on Eminence Near Pachuca, in Mexico, Out of Keeping With Other Formations.

A very remarkable geological freak in Mexico is a mountain situated near Pachuca which presents the appearance at a distance of being covered with spikes. The sides of the mountain are closely studded with stone columns or palisades. These columns are five to twelve feet long and as large round as an average man's body. It is a remarkable uplift of nature which has the appearance, however, of being the handiwork of human beings. One side of the mountain is almost perpendicular and the stone columns protrude from the surface at right angles, forming an impressive picture.

Pachuca is one of the most noted mining districts in Mexico, and it is said by geologists that this remarkable spiked mountain is out of keeping with the remainder of the formation of the mineralized region. The stone is as hard as flint and has withstood the elements of ages. The spikes form a natural battlement that makes the mountain appear from a distance like an ancient fort. The mines of the Pachuca district are situated not far from this wonderful freak of nature, but the formation encountered in their respective underground workings is of an entirely different kind from that of the palisade.

How Tornado Originates.

The tornado of the Western plains is identical in formation with the sandwhirl. The sun beats fiercely on a limited area—say ten square miles of barren prairie—and as a result the air next the earth becomes very hot, perhaps 120 degrees, and the mass is constantly increasing in volume. Above the warm air is a stratum perhaps 20 degrees colder.

By and by a passageway is made, the hot air begins to ascend and the cold upper air, pressing downward, forces the lighter air through a channel thus formed. It begins to whirl, it increases in velocity, a surface current forces it along, and the tornado starts on its destructive journey.

The terrific cyclone originates in much the same way, only differing in extent. The most violent cyclones originate in tropical latitudes, in the Atlantic ocean, to the north and east of West Indian islands and in the Pacific, in the China sea and in the neighborhood of the Philippine islands.

The reason they are so destructive is because they are carried such great distances by extraneous influences.

Swift Iceboat.

A strange winged sled has made its appearance on the smooth ice of Lake Placid in northern New York. Conditions being favorable for speed, it often sweeps along at a mile-a-minute clip, its tail gliding and its nose lifted in the air. Except for the fact that it doesn't fly, it might be described as a flying ice-boat. It consists essentially of a light frame supporting a monoplane and a 30 horse power motor with aerial propeller connected.

Miners Live Long.

It is an extraordinary fact that even when deaths from accident are included, the rate of mortality among miners of Great Britain is materially lower than that among any other big class of labor, except agriculturists, and appreciably lower than the average rate of mortality among males. This fact was discovered by Doctor Tatham, while acting as superintendent of statistics in the office of the registrar general. Doctor Tatham points out that while the risk of fatal accidents among the coal miners is much greater than among other males generally, their risk of death by disease is much lower, being 16.6 per cent less than all occupied males, and 23.2 per cent less than that of all males. While coal miners appear to suffer more than the average mortality from bronchitis, they show marked immunity from consumption, their mortality from that disease being less than half the average. From diseases of the nervous system their mortality is 18 per cent lower; heart disease, 10 per cent lower, and from disease of the liver, 10 per cent lower than among all males.

A Good Position.

Number of young men and women wanted to prepare for telegraph and station service caused by unusual drafting of men for the Signal Corps. Positions paying from $75 to $90 per month. Write Telegraph Dept. room 218 Railway Exchange Bldg. Portland, Oreg.—Adv.

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Umatilla County.

Mae Moeser, Plaintiff,

vs.

William H. Moeser, Defendant.

To William H. Moeser, Defendant above named:

In the name of the State of Oregon: you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitle court and cause on or before Saturday, the 16th day of March, 1918; and you will take notice that if you fail to appear and answer said complaint or otherwise plead thereto by said time the plaintiff for want thereof will apply to the Court for the relief prayed for in her complaint to-wit, for a decree of the Court forever dissolving the bonds of matrimony now and heretofore existing between plaintiff and defendant and for other equitable relief.

This summons is published pursuant to an order made and filed herein by Honorable Gilbert W. Phelps, Judge of the above entitled Court, on the 26th day of January, 1918. The first publication of this summons will be made on Friday, the 1st day of February 1918, and the last publication on Friday, the 15h day of March, 1918 and will be published for six consecutive weeks in the Athena Press newspaper published at Athena, Oregon.

Dated this 26th day of January, 1918.

Will M. Peterson,
Atto ey for Plaintiff,
Postoffice address, Pendleton, Oregon

No. 4516. REPORT OF THE CONDITION

of the First National Bank, at Athena, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business on Mar. 4th, 1918.

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discount	$553 941 28	
Total loans	553 941 28	553 941 28
U. S. bonds deposited to secure circulation (par value)	12 500 00	
U S bonds and certificates of indebtedness owned and unpl'gd	50 000 00	62 500 00
Liberty Loan Bonds, unpledged 3 1-2 per cent and 4 per cent,	5 900 00	5 900 00
Bonds other than U S Bonds to secure postal savings deposits	970 00	
Securities other than U S Bonds (not including stocks) owned unpledged	4 780 15	
Total bonds, securities, etc		5 750 15
Stock of Federal Reserve Bank (50 per cent of subscription)		3 000 00
Value of banking house	$ 9 000	
Equity in banking house		9 000 00
Furniture and fixtures		1 000 00
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank		64 389 75
Cash in vault and net amounts due from national banks		247 378 79
Net amounts due from banks and bankers, and trust companies other than included in Items 13, 14, and 15		1 965 22
Total of Item 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18	249 344 01	
Checks on banks outside city or town of reporting bank and other cash items		72 79
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer		625 00
War Savings Certificates and Thrift Stamps actually owned		13 80
Total		$ 955 536 78

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in		$ 50 000 00
Surplus fund		50 000 00
Undivided profits	$ 7 975 33	
Less current expenses, interest, and taxes paid	2 621 64	5 353 69
Amount reserved for taxes accrued		1 332 32
Circulating notes outstanding		12 500 00
Net amouts due to National Banks		2 280 56
Total of Items 32 and 33	2 280 56	
Individual deposits subject to check		496 931 10
Cert's of deposit due in less than 30 days (other than money borrowed		334 639 20
Cashier's checks outstanding		313 65
Dividends unpaid		760 00
Other demand deposits		951 00
Total of time deposits [other than bank deposits] subject to reserve, Items 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 40 and 41	$833 594 95	
Postal Savings deposits		475 26
Total of time deposits subject to Reserve,	$475 26	
Total		$ 955 536 78

State of Oregon, County of Umatilla, ss:—I, F. S. Legrow, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

F. S. LeGrow, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of March, 1918.

B. B. RICHARDS. Notary Public for Oregon. My commission expires Mar. 5, 1921.

Correct—Attest:

W. B. Shaffer,
R. T. Cannon,
M. L. Watts, Directors.