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ATHENA, OREGON, JAN. 17 1919

Pendleton complains that it gets no credit for its record made in the great Fourth Liberty Loan Bond drive, when she came over the top with a total subscription of \$1,321,700. Athena can well appreciate Pendleton's feelings in the matter for this town has a well defined hankering for a little credit that is due her, too. Athena ambled through with a quota of \$188,000 as against Weston with \$15,000 and Helix with \$43,000, totaling \$77,000. The aggregate of the three quotas being \$265,000 would indicate that the district embraced, as a whole, was not over-rated, for in each instance the quotas were over-subscribed; but that quota apportionments are out of joint and need fixing, is self-evident for in this instance Athena was called upon to raise approximately two and one-half times more than Weston and Helix combined.

The "Y" in its war work appears to be coming in for a general panning, but it would appear to be good policy to await the arrival of the boys from over there, and get the verdict from first hand. On their evidence alone depends the rise or fall of a great institution that catered to the nation for funds, that it might alleviate the discomforts and moral laxity attendant on soldier life. If the Y. M. C. A. in war work was a faithful custodian of the nation's charity and confidence, it will have nothing to fear; if not, it will suffer the consequences it deserves.

It will take more rainfall and some snow to insure a supply of water in Athena's gravity system, sufficient for domestic needs next summer. Athena is not the only town by any means in Eastern Oregon's inland empire which is seriously threatened with insufficiency of water for municipal plants. With few exceptions, the towns of Eastern Oregon have to depend upon pumping systems in absence of abnormal winter precipitation.

Portland sees the futility of trying to stamp out the flu by closing theaters and public places, and leaving homes open without quarantine restrictions. Portland papers are calling for a strict quarantine measure, supported by rigid enforcement.

Judging by the dividend recently declared by the Swift packing company, one may infer that the packing interests are able to take care of themselves without the aid of federal regulation.

We hear the Salt Lake base ball club has been jilted by McCreedie; which is equivalent to saying that Walter can't do anything now, without Portland.

If we pricked through the pachydermic cuticle of Weston's old pickled skeezicks, we are sorry, but glad of it.

The United States navy emerges from the war just as it went in, with colors flying, only more so.

The hog market isn't the only place where the law of supply and demand and the price are strangers.

Russian misfortune has served its useful purpose in showing the world precisely what "bolshivism" means.

A celebration is expected that will make "gay Paree" wonder whether it ever knew before what real gaiety is.

In spite of all kinds of publicity talent in all sections, Paris continues to be the best advertised town on the map.

Song is going up, its manufacturers say, just at the time when a general clean-up is begun throughout the world.

The whittling of time brings in its revenge. The invincibility of the German army and navy is now a scrap of paper.

Germany's efforts to make a market for toys would indicate some important time that might have been devoted to war gardening.

Now it seems that German efficiency was only a bluff.

Look at the cost in mere money, if you think war pays.

And now for the making of war histories, world without end.

Powdered sugar is on the market again, probably in lump form as usual.

This war cost the world two hundred billion and its education has just begun.

With the disappearance of highballs how are golfers to play the nineteenth hole?

Some of the peace news is almost as exciting as the war reports used to be.

When the troops return we shall hear just how some of the socks we knitted fit.

The government might at least send the ball players home in time to open the season.

The baseball fan wants to know if this League of Nations will agree to a world series.

The thrift learned by compulsion in war times should not give way to extravagance in peace.

More of the mighty have fallen. The flu is no longer even a minor topic of conversation.

Belgium occupies a comparatively small space on the map, but will take a big place in history.

Sitting on thrones is becoming more and more certainly a nonessential industry.

Why not make the kaiser foreman of a Hun chain gang to repair ravaged Belgium?

Having licked Germany, it may be that eventually we can conquer H. C. L. in America.

At the same time it is much better to print news you do not have to explain next day.

The food controller says we can have two spoonfuls of sugar for our tea now. Sweet of him.

Rug beaters have raised prices. The bug in the rug seems bound to remain snug for a long time.

Cigarette smoking used to be regarded as a bad habit. But that was in the old days, before the war.

What else could one expect of a nation that latches its women beside the oxen to pull the plows on its farms?

The profiteers would like you a great deal better if you wouldn't squeal so loud when they jab the gaff into you.

The Americans' nonsense is now about as appalling to kaiserism as the crown prince's idea of war as great fun.

It will help a great deal if all the infant nations that are now about to start out in life will choose agreeable names.

Next Fourth of July is most appropriately suggested as a day for the celebration of a world-wide safety and sanity.

Even if the public does take to airplanes in place of automobiles, it will be pleasant to have good roads to fly over.

If the government does assume the control of news print it is to be hoped it will also undertake to control its own publications.

That this is to be a mild, open winter, according to weather prophets, is the silver lining to the cloud of the news that coal is going up.

For some reason there is a strange silence on the part of the critics who were claiming not long ago that the war would last ten more years.

War conditions in Europe have brought anarchists and other criminals to the fore. They must be put down if they have to be shot down.

It would be poetic justice if the ex-kaiser and his six husky sons could be formed into a street gang to help repair some of the devastated Belgian cities.

We have advanced so far and so fast with our collective and individual efficiency that a man can't offer an explanation any more without being called an expert.

Having produced the greatest peace of all, Americans must now produce in added quantity all of life's necessities, including contentment founded on reason and justice.

The way a little girl will hug a ten-cent doll and forget the ten-dollar one makes a man wonder whether his wife ever had the same disregard for the price tags on things.

When the custodian of alien property sets out to sell the property he has seized, it is to be hoped he will see to it that it is so well sold that it can never be regained by Germans.

FORESAW RAPACITY OF HUNS

Many Years Ago Charles Dickens Looked Into the Future With Vision Remarkably Prophetic.

There is something almost uncanny about the accuracy with which Charles Dickens foresaw the Hun and his aims as we know them today. Not long ago there was quoted part of Dickens' reply to an invitation to become a member of a peace society that a number of persons were endeavoring to form in 1851. The words written then by the great English author are worth repeating:

"Look out toward Austria! look out toward Germany," he counseled. "Do you see nothing there?" "I tell you that it is because there are the wild beasts of the forest . . . because I would not be soldier ridden, nor have other men so, because I dread and hate the miseries and tyranny of war, that I am not for the disarming of England, nor can I be a member of your peace society."

Every reader of "Little Dorrit" will remember the landlady of the "Break of Day Inn" of Chalon. Words of this French character of his have a peculiarly prophetic ring. Here they are:

"And I tell you this my friend . . . That there are people whom it is necessary to detest without compromise. That there are people who must be dealt with as enemies of the human race. That there are people who have no human heart, and who must be crushed like savage beasts, and cleared out of the way."

CLAIMS CENTURY-OLD FUND

Chilean Government Asks Return of Unexpended Portion of Indemnity Paid in 1821.

The fall bench of the Massachusetts supreme court has been called upon to determine the ownership of a fund nearly a century old, which is claimed by the commonwealth of Massachusetts on one hand and the Chilean government on the other.

In 1821 an American ship returning from China to Boston was seized by Chilean revolutionists and its cargo confiscated. When normal conditions prevailed in Chile the United States demanded indemnity and Chile paid \$70,400.

William H. Gardner of Brookline, Mass., was selected to distribute the money among those entitled to it. He executed the trust except as to two Chinese—known only as Paqua and Moqua, merchants—and Thomas Furber of Boston. Mr. Gardner failed to locate these persons or their representatives. When he died the trust was transmitted to his son, and upon the latter's death to the grandson and great-grandson, Robert H. Gardner and Robert H. Gardner, Jr., who are now its custodians.

The present holders of the fund have searched through the records of the state department, through the American consular service at Canton, China, and through various other sources, for the heirs of Paqua, Moqua and Thomas Furber, without success.

"Cleans" Crowd of Cash. Vacuum glennig money from street crowds was the striking scheme employed in one of the large cities some weeks ago for the benefit of the Red Cross, says Popular Science Magazine.

A suction pipe was held over the heads of persons congregated on the sidewalk, and contributions solicited by a leather-lunged seaman who shouted through a megaphone. Crisp dollar bills and worn greenbacks, it mattered not which, were drawn in by strong suction force when inserted in the nozzle of the tube.

The novelty of the plan attracted passers-by and drew forth many donations.

Bandages Now Made Quickly.

A recent invention which has not been marketed as yet, but is reported to be a great success, is an electric roller for use in making the much-needed five-yard rolls of bandages. This new device is not only a great time and labor saver, but requires little practice to learn to operate. The rollers operated by hand, as they have been heretofore, require skill and training to operate them successfully, and the work is strenuous. By rolling electrically the operator is able to keep both hands on the bandage, while in hand operation one hand guides the roll or bandage and the other operates the rollers.

Swamp a War Garden.

Too old to be taken into the service, George Hoy, a Japanese resident of Juneau, Alaska, has turned a mosquito swamp into a patriotic garden that has become the admiration of the city.

Radishes in this unique garden send their green tops upward to form the word "Liberty," and near by is formed a bell.

To one side a cross blooms in red sweet peas, while tiny walks, wriggly fences and rocks with flowers wandering over them add to the attractions of the place.

Cost of Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet fever, measles and diphtheria cost the people of Chicago \$7,562,142 during the course of the year. This huge bill represents so much paid out as the price of carelessness and indifference, for much if not all of this disease might have been prevented by precautions, moralized the Journal of the American Medical Association, urging the dollars and cents value of disease prevention.

TO ADD STRENGTH TO COTTON

Is Something for Which the World Has Been Looking.

There is probably no service which subjects cotton fabric to so severe a test as that it has to endure in an automobile tire, says Scientific American. The fabric serves as a reinforcement for the rubber. It is designed to withstand an enormous tensile strength in all directions, imposed by steady pressure of air within the tire, and must also withstand the sudden shocks due to the passage of the wheel over obstructions. At the same time it must be perfectly flexible; for it is flexed constantly as the wheel runs over the ground. The fabric cannot have its strength increased merely by using heavier threads, for this would interfere with its flexibility. It has occurred to an inventor, William G. Trautvetter of Paterson, N. J., that a fabric might be designed in which, in addition to the regular warp and filling diagonal reinforcing threads might be incorporated. And, starting out with this idea, he has designed a machine which will actually weave such a fabric. Anyone accustomed to handling looms or familiar with the operation of these machines will realize how revolutionary must be a mechanism which will put bias threads into a woven fabric.

Madagascar Graphite. Production of graphite on the island of Madagascar in 1917 was estimated at 35,000 tons, and exports amounted to 27,838. Shipments to England totaled 15,506, and those to France 17,322 tons. While direct shipments to the United States have not been permitted, it is understood from consular reports that 8,000 tons reached this country from Marseilles in 1917, and a considerable quantity has also been shipped from that port during the present year, principally through a consortium of French firms which, up until now, has controlled the bulk of the output of Madagascar graphite other than that shipped to England. Inasmuch as the French firms belonging to this consortium are represented in Madagascar, it is not unlikely that they will endeavor to control such graphite as may be shipped to the United States direct from the island when restrictions are removed, while it would appear that various independent producers are endeavoring to form direct connections with the American importers.

Fireproof Celluloid. Great interest has been aroused by the announcement that a professor in one of the Japanese universities had invented a successful incombustible substitute for celluloid, to be manufactured from soya bean cake. The new product has been given the trade name of "Sutolite," derived from the name of the inventor, Prof. S. Sato, and a company for its manufacture has been started with a capital of 2,000,000 yen (\$1,000,000). Sutolite is described as a galalith made of the glue of soya bean, coagulated by formalin. Nevertheless, "a good time was had by all." And after peace the historians will resume the war!

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