

The REGISTER'S EDITORIAL and FEATURE Page

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"BEASTLY WORK"

It was a German who was speaking to Englishmen, at Central Hall in London. A German of parts was he, General Von Schoonaich, described as the idol of the German militarist press during the world war. And this, as reported in a dispatch to the Baltimore Sun is what he said:

"I owe explanations of how I came to be a changed man. For 37 years I was a soldier with all my heart. I made my first step toward pacifism during the war. Formerly soldiers' work was deemed chivalrous. Perhaps it was in the old days, when one gallant knight fought another.

"But what has modern technique made of this once chivalrous occupation? In modern war one man with a big engine stands about 10 miles behind the front and kills with his engine perhaps hundreds of thousands of soldiers behind the enemy's front. He never sees these killed soldiers and all he knows about them is that they are men with wives and children, just like himself.

"Victory now is not a matter of bravery, but of the one who has the best gun. The only man who makes a good business of this new warfare is the manufacturer of its engines. They are very expensive and the wives and children of the killed soldiers must pay for them. This is not chivalrous—it is beastly work.

"My second step as a pacifist was made after the war. I read in a newspaper that during the war Lloyd George said that after it was over every Englishman would be happier and richer than ever before. That is the idea which all statesmen in all wars have had, but I ask you English people—you have won the war, but are you happier? Are you richer?"

There were cries of "No! No! We are worse off," and the general concluded:

"How does the economic condition of the world look today, nine years after this stupid war? We have in the world millions of idle workers and thousands of idle factories. Victors and those who have lost the war have been damaged alike."

The soldier's trade has become what this soldier terms it—"beastly work." It is impersonal, mechanical, dirty. It strikes as much at women and children as at men, as when the Germans sank the Lusitania and the British enforced the starvation blockade. Whatever that was picturesque, chivalrous, inspiring, it may once have had it has lost. Men, however devoted, however dauntless, however admirable, become only its cannon fodder. Poison gas and stink bombs have replaced the manly sword as its fitting emblem.

And to victor and vanquished the result is the same—incalculable and irretrievable loss, with no compensating gain.

War stands pilloried today as the supreme human folly, the supreme human sin. And pilloried along with it, in the eyes of multitudes of good men and women, are the despised "pacifists," whose sole fault is that they are seeking to banish war from civilized society.

"Tis a mad world, my masters."

JURY REFORM

We do manage to inch ahead every now and then. At last, after years and years of talk, a definite effort is going to be made to reform the obvious defects of the American jury system.

Up to the present everybody, pretty nearly, has agreed in liberally criticizing the jury system, but nobody ever had the initiative to do something about it. Now, however, Senator Norris of Nebraska and Senator Walsh of Montana announce that they propose to step in where timider statesmen have feared to tread. They don't know just yet precisely what they are going to propose in the way of jury reform, but it is going to be something aimed at substituting intelligent juries for the juries of dumb bells in important criminal trials.

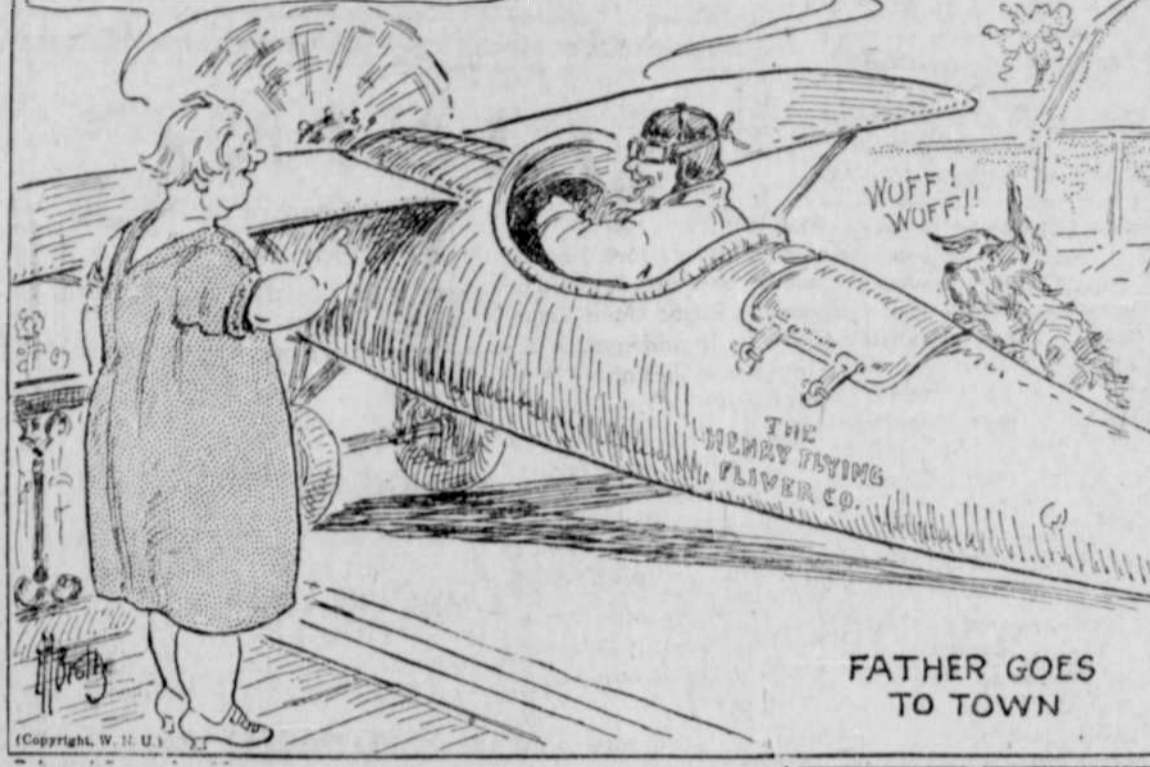
What the two senators will propose will apply, necessarily, only to juries in federal courts. But if they succeed in bringing about a reform that is found to be workable it may in time percolate through to our state courts.

It took so profound an impression as that furnished by the Fall-Sinclair criminal prosecution to shock even these eminent statesmen into action. They have undoubtedly been aware, like the rest of us, of the farce enacted over and over

A Prospective

NOW PA, DON'T FORGET TO DROP THOSE FRESH EGGS OFF TO MRS. HUBBARD'S AND CARRIE WANTS A LIP STICK AND YOU MIGHT STOP AND GET BILLIE'S SHOES - AND - - -

ALL RIGHT MA, YOU BETTER PUT THE COFFEE ON SO IT WILL BE HOT BY THE TIME I GET BACK.



FATHER GOES TO TOWN

again in selecting juries for important service. It wasn't until they saw it in a court held down to accepting 'or service only men who knew nothing about the infamous Teapot Dome scandal that they were moved to do something more than talk.

Of course this reform hasn't been accomplished yet. There are two somewhat perverse houses of congress and an executive to be reckoned with and Senator Norris hasn't been any to successful in getting his reform proposals adopted. Still a start is being made and that is something.

CHESTERFIELDS OF THE HIGHWAYS

Had you noticed that the old world is fast improving in politeness and in spirit of accommodation and good fellowship? If asked whence it comes, right off the reel, we would say the oil stations, where the attendants are the souls of courtesy, kindness and condescension.

It is said that some of the big concerns school their employees in the art of making themselves agreeable. Anyway, they are a nice class of people with whom to do business and we take off our hats.

So altogether: Hats off to oil filling attendants! May they continue to spread the cement of fellowship, relief and good cheer!

PRAISE FOR TEACHERS

The other day a lady told us of visiting a school room, just before the holidays and she declared that it was "beautifully decorated," adding, "you should have seen it."

We wonder how many parents in Ashland have visited the schools during the past three months, and whether, or not, they appreciate the efforts being made by the teachers in this country. While on the subject we are moved to say that criticism is seldom deserved by the modern school teacher.

Those who are charged with educating our young are usually impressed with their responsibility and try to do the best they can under the circumstances. Very often, they go to much trouble in order to give the pupils pleasure. As a rule they have too many pupils to teach, rather poor equipment and lack the serious cooperation of parents, which means a great help to them.

Under the circumstances the average school teacher does very well, and deserves the thanks of the community, as well as those of the parents immediately concerned.

CAN YOU—DO YOU—READ?

The average citizen of Ashland does not take advantage of this wonderful age of printing. There is hardly a subject, frivolous or serious, about which one cannot find excellent books extremely reasonably priced, yet most of us read only a few each year.

Each family in this county would be better off if it made a practice of buying not less than one good book every month and reading it. There are well written stories, excellent popular treatment of the sciences fine biographies and discussions and reminiscences without end. By exercising a little judgment the average citizen could add wonderfully to his knowledge and at the same time greatly enjoy the process.

Many a man, in telling a joke acts the part.

OREGON

Or a Romance and Adventure in and of the West

By DAVID MARK

216 Central Ave., Ashland, Oregon

Where there were cities that had a Commissioner-manager form, the board of commissioners were ex-officio Precinct Labor Commissioners. The Legislature also created a State Commissioner of Finance as a municipal official to act as an accessory official to the Department of industry and commerce. A state having such powers, duties and rights and obligations is sure to be and is a blessing to his parents the people. We are very proud of our Oregon.

"Excuse me your honor," broke in the irrepressible but interested Molly. "But how or can he protect the fool from his foolishness?" quired Molly. A tired look came into the Chief Justice eyes as he replied "In a state where forced exploitation is impossible, because of the economic freedom, a fool may not be saved from his foolishness but the innocent and generous are protected from the cunning and crafty." "And that is a lot broke in Judge C. In a social order as we have described, Paternalism is displaced by fraternalism. Industrialism will displace politics. A person could loose his money and other valuables by theft, gambling or otherwise, but he or she could not lose their inalienable right to work, without exploitation, the amendment I have been talking about wrought a great change. Instead of the constitution providing for on-

ly three departments as before the amendment, it provided for four. It was this provision that did the trick. The last vestige of the ancient paganism or Babylonian iniquity i. e. the divine right of the exploiter, was blotted out. The Court upon inquiring into the provision of the Constitution did not find that it was the legal right of the government of Oregon to use his police powers to enforce exploitation upon the workers and to protect the exploiter and profiteer from those whom they legally robbed. Instead the Court discerned by the same means. That it was the duty of Oregon to use all of his powers to secure employment for the work people and to protect them from exploitation and profiteering.

There being no politics selfish interests in the form of a privilege class could not find any politicians to join with them and adopt Oregon thereby taking him from his parents. Hence, there was no adoption.

By the amendment the last of the evils handed down by and through the Courts acceptance of the English Common law as American Jurisprudence and by court precedents was removed. Society had by this amendment done through amendment for politics what she had done in the first quarter of the century for the saloon and did it the same way.

HUNT "PHANTOM" STABBER

Bridgeport, Conn.—The recent stabbing of Mrs. Estelle Haupler by the "phantom" stabber has caused the city officials and citizens to rise up in arms. The "Phantom" has attacked twenty-five young women from twelve years of age to twenty-six in the last three years and has succeeded in escaping detection and capture. The police department, detectives and the fire department are joining in the search.

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