

Daily Democrat

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THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1919.

**WHERE IS LINN?**

The opening of the Victory Liberty Loan campaign is but little more than a week away. Nearly every county in Oregon has its chairman and organization. Some are prepared to go over the top the first day.

But where is Linn? No chairman has been appointed. No organization is at hand. Nothing has been done that the newspapers of the county have not done. Former managers have declined to serve. The war is over and others do not want the thankless job. It's a bigger task this time than ever before and no one wants to undertake it. Possibly through fear of 'falling down.'

But it has to be done. Our boys paid the price. They did their part and we must do ours and finish paying the debt in money as others completed their task by paying the price in life and limb. Are we going to be slackers? The greatest test of patriotism is now at hand. It was easy to subscribe or to work for the loan while we were actively engaged in war, while there were plaudits for good work along every line and fear of exposure for not doing our full part.

But it is different now.

There is not so much danger from any standpoint. Aside from the real benefit to be derived from buying the bonds as an investment it is going to take real patriotism and courage to come through to the limit.

But in the meantime the loan slumbers in this county and nothing has been done. Won't some good man please step forward and take the job? The war is not over and will not be over until the job has been fully completed and we have paid in full for all of our contracts.

AMERICAN COLONIES

There is an alternative to Philippine independence, of which little has been said. The islands might be admitted to statehood. That would be just as much a fulfillment of American pledges and an application of the 'self-determination' principle as turning them loose to shift for themselves.

Such action, however, would presuppose a desire for statehood on the part of the Filipinos, and there is little indication of any sentiment for it among them.

It is doubtful, too, whether statehood would work very well in this case. The Philippines are too far away and too different in nature to fit into the Union properly. We have got along well with our national federation because our states form one compact mass and the people are, with negligible exceptions, one race speaking the same language and having the same ideals and institutions. States banded together have to legislate for each other. The Filipinos would be poorly qualified to vote intelligently on American questions, and the Americans would be just as poorly qualified to vote on Philippine questions. The islanders have made the most rapid progress toward self-sufficiency since they were given their own congress. It is just as well for the two peoples to keep their hands off each other's affairs.

With Porto Rico and Hawaii the situation is somewhat different. Both of these 'possessions' are near our mainland, and both have a considerable and increasing proportion of American settlers. The natives, too, probably average somewhat higher than the Filipinos, who are intelli-

gent and capable at the top with a stratum of savages at the bottom.

There is no talk of giving independence to Porto Rico and Hawaii, and apparently no occasion for it, since the natives do not ask for it and the United States is glad to keep the islands. It is quite possible, therefore, that we shall admit them to statehood eventually. Indeed, it is probably inevitable, if we keep them, because no American citizen wants to continue indefinitely governing any subject people or denying anybody under the American flag any civic right that he himself possesses.

A FOREST IN SWEDEN

Many years ago the townspeople of Orson, Sweden, started a systematic practice of planting trees. The trees were not only planted, but faithfully cared for. Now Orson is tax-free so far as the individual citizens are concerned, for the village sells enough lumber every year to pay all the taxes, run the local railways, schools and libraries and telephone systems and have a balance in the town treasury besides.

A comparison of this forestry method with the United States way, which largely consists of progressive destruction without progressive reforestation, should bring a blush to American cheeks.

But it is not too late to follow in the footsteps of Orson. The federal government already has great forest projects, and if state and local governments will cooperate some of the wealth so foolishly wasted in years gone by can still be ours.

The owner of a small tract of woodland should look at his woodlot again and with a more wholesome respect. The man who owns waste land available for tree planting should so use it. For the United States, region by region, from the departed white-pine splendor of Maine to the fast-vanishing yellow pine of the South and the great forests of the Pacific slope, is rapidly and unnecessarily approaching the state when, lumber-wise, she must learn the worth of a thing by the

want of it.

PRESERVING OUR CEMETERIES

The Saratoga chapter of the D. A. R. has under consideration a plan for restoring the neglected cemeteries in Saratoga county where Revolutionary heroes lie buried.

It is well worth while that such historic spots should be carefully preserved. But the work could, with good reason, be made more extensive, and taken up by other organizations besides the D. A. R.; for almost every community has its neglected burying ground, a pitiful, lonely place, a sad commentary on the fleeting character of earthly interest.

Right in the heart of one town which boasts of its progressiveness a little forsaken cemetery, ancient and teeming with historic interest, is fallen to ruins. Weeds and grass run over the graves, headstones crumble and fall, but no one heeds. Sentiment aside, the place is an eyesore.

The period of the Revolution and of the Civil War are not all of history. Each decade makes history as it flies. Each burying-ground holds within its arms some history-maker.

Both for their historic value in years to come, and for the sake of decency and loving human kindness as well, all our cemeteries should be faithfully preserved.

There is at least one church in Albany that believes in paying adequate compensation to its minister. At the annual meeting last night an increase in salary was voted, bringing the total sum up to about \$2,500, including manse, etc. Other churches could well afford to follow the example. A minister of the gospel spends years in school and college, he must be cultured and a scholar. He must keep up in his profession and buy books and equipment, and what he buys must be the latest and best, all of which cost money. He must support his family and make a good personal appearance.

But what can the average minister do on \$1,200 a year,

or anything like that amount? Many stenographers with a year's training get that much and more. Many laborers without much education or preliminary training get that much. Why expect so much of a clergyman? It is true that their lives are dedicated to holy work, but the public should not take advantage of their Christianity and continue to make them partial objects of charity. The preaching profession is fast being put on a more businesslike basis, but the time for its full realization is not yet.

Wages have gone up, but salaries remain about the same. And the preacher stands at the head of the column on failure to receive an adequate increase to meet the rising costs of living.

VICTORY DANCE

Don't miss the Victory Dance at the armory Saturday night, April 12th, given by the United Spanish War Veterans. Music by Albany Orchestra. Admission 50c. Ladies free.

7a12*

ENTERTAINMENT

And Lunch at the Christian Church for Members and Friends. Come early. Thursday evening 8 o'clock. No admission at the door.

9a10

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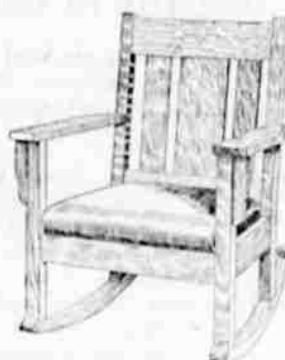
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