

THE AURORA OBSERVER

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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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I pledge allegiance to my flag and the republic for which it stands, one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice to all.

THE GERMAN INVASION

The University of Oregon "News" Bulletin sends out a lot of dribble on the possibility of a German invasion of the Pacific Coast which it credits to the pen of Lieutenant Colonel John Leader, now the head of the department of military science at the University. The Bulletin says that Colonel Leader is the highest ranking British officer engaged in instruction in the United States, and was for some time a member of the intelligence force of Great Britain. He has been a soldier of twenty-three years, is a veteran of the Boer war and for two years commanded a regiment on the western front. But for this voucher, we might suppose that he were some "rookie" with a bad case of "nerves". Just "listen" to the Colonel.

"It would be the simplest matter in the world for the Germans to land a force of men on the coast somewhere south of Seattle, take the country by surprise, and cause infinite damage before compelled to surrender. Simultaneously with the landing of the German troops railroad tunnels would be blown up, telegraph and telephone wires cut, to shut off communication with the out side world. There are 400,000 German subjects in the South American countries and these men could be called at a moment's notice. Tramp steamers could slip out of various ports and these men could all be picked up, equipped and started for the north. There are many Germans in Mexico. What is to prevent them from marching against Los Angeles? The main idea of such attempts would be a strategic one. It would prevent the United States from sending troops to France. The Boche would, of course, select a time when Camp Lewis is filled with green men. It is my belief that if internal troubles in Germany continue, he may try to pull off something of this kind to divert attention as well as to create a sentiment in the United States in favor of keeping troops at home."

Such a wild scheme is impossible at the present time for the reason that the ships to transport 400,000 men from South America cannot be secured. It would require at least 1200 ships for this purpose while there are not a dozen tramp steamers on the Pacific Coast and not one in the hands of any nation favorable to the German cause. Neither is there any possible way to arm, equip or feed even 10 per cent of any such body of men.

Again the number of seaports from which Germans can leave South America is limited to less than a dozen. Valparaiso, Iquique, Valdivia, Antofagasta, Taltal, and Arica in Chile; Callao and Trujillo in Peru; Guayaquil and Esmeraldas in Ecuador; and Buenaventura in Columbia. All these countries are friendly to the United States and the allies and pledged by treaty to preserve neutrality. At least 35,000 men would have to assemble at each of these seaports in order to carry out the plan. Some of these ports are only small towns where big gatherings of foreigners would be at once heralded to the ends of the earth, and our government would be at once warned by our consuls in those ports. It would require months and months to transport 400,000 from South America even if the Germans there had two hundred ships available. When there are none, the thing is simply impossible.

The Oregon climate, the Eugene environment, or the spirit of the time and place must be responsible for the English Colonel's outburst. At least that is the most charitable view to take.

Judge Bushey told the Salem Statesman not long ago that he would not run again for county judge. He said he would retire to his little farm where he could, without working overtime, make a comfortable living. But does anyone believe that Judge Bushey can EARN \$1800 a year (the salary paid the county judge) on that little farm—or any where else? The history of his whole period in office reveals the lack of constructive ideas of any value to the county. As an obstructionist all will admit his ability. Ten years of this crawfish progress ought to satisfy even Marion county "mossbackism."

While Uncle Sam is posting up the ledger for 1917 a pleasant smile will cross his face when he turns to the page marked "county agents." Each one of them is worth money to Uncle Sam. Each one is helping hundreds of farmers. And 1917 was the big year for extending the work. Complete figures are not yet out but frequent reports in the news from different parts of the country make it plain that the experimental leaven is working. Before long the county without an agent is going to be regarded as distinctly out of date.—Rural Weekly.

The United States government has written soldier insurance amounting to about \$5,000,000,000. The average amount per soldier is \$8.468 for over half a million.

Lowell made a sad blunder, perhaps, when in his enthusiasm, he wrote that "still at the prophets' feet the nations sit." It is the soothsayer, not the prophet, who is heard nowadays, the diviner, not the divine, says the Bookman. We get our ideas too often from the old mythology and its warring deities, and as we have no power to emulate them in heaven we transfer their atmosphere and attitude to earth. Shall it not be our country's mission to do its share in solving the problem? Shall its inventiveness and spirit of enterprise be confined to mechanics and trade and not advanced to the nobler realm of ethics that shall make democracy safe for itself as the nearest duty? Universal training must not end with the manual of arms. Our young people are to be taught as well certain old-time principles for the art of life as essentials in courses of study. Obedience, reverence, self-control, self-knowledge, the power of character, the positive qualities that make for true living, are no less vital objects of instruction. These determine our country's future to a greater degree than the size of our cities, the number of our mines and mills, our financial strength or territorial growth.

The real Russia is patriotic. It longs for the return of law and order. It watches with bewilderment the present frenzy of the town, says London Daily Mail. Before long it will assert itself and will find or fashion the weapons for enforcing its will. Not all the army by any means has been ruined by the Soviet. The artillery, the Cossacks, and the cavalry have remained loyal to their country and to their officers and to their traditions throughout. A terrible winter of privation and tumult and suffering lies ahead of Russia, and the agony will be short-lived in proportion to its intensity. The forces that make for reason and national health are gathering strength, and the very viciousness of the new government will tend to work its own cure.

The airplane has wrought so many wonders that now great things by its powerful aid are soberly hoped for. The huge preparations for airplane warfare making by the United States are amply justified. The airplane is an American invention, and while there is nothing to prevent other nations utilizing it to what extent they can, it certainly is the proper thing for Americans to "go them one better," and demonstrate that this country is not a slacker when competition is in progress among the nations to do the most that can be done in war by means of the highway in the air.

Absolutely confident of the armies driving the German hordes from their soil, says New York Herald, the people of France are now beginning the gigantic task of restoration and are also preparing to meet the exigencies by which they will be confronted when peace is declared. Now that the rehabilitation has been outlined it has been discovered that one of the greatest social problems the country will have to deal with after the war is the industrial status of women.

The first number drawn for Hall's selective service included two Americans, two Japanese, one Filipino and one Portuguese. Truly, this is a great country, especially in its ability to evolve patriotism from its capacity as a melting pot.

Two thousand Red Cross nurses have been sent abroad and a number enrolled estimated to be sufficient for an army of 1,500,000 men. No one can say that the women of the country are not doing their bit.

Austria may declare war on the United States, it is said, in consequence of our aid to Italy. It will be but a poor bluff when Austria had to send out SOS calls to keep herself from being swamped by the Italian drive.

NOTICE TO VOTERS

The registration books are now open and voters not already registered should apply for registration in order that they may be qualified to vote at the primary election, May 17, 1918. Voters who have not voted during the past two years, or who have changed their residence to a new precinct must register again.

Voters living outside incorporated cities and towns, are required to give the range, township and section where they live. Naturalized citizens must exhibit their papers. Registrar's office at the Aurora Observer Office.

Mrs. C. S. Wescott,

Many people are not aware that the United States Food Administration act provides the "person who wilfully hoards any necessities shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not exceeding \$5,000 or be imprisoned for not more than two years, or both. Necessities shall be deemed hoarded when either held, contracted for, or arranged for by any person in a quantity in excess of his reasonable requirements for use and consumption for himself and dependents for a reasonable time."

NEED BIG HERDS

Europe's Meat Supply Must Come From America.

Warring Nations Have Depleted Live Stock at Enormous Rate, Even Killing Dairy Cattle For Food.

American stock breeders are being asked to conserve their flocks and herds in order to meet Europe's tremendous demands for meats during the war and probably for many years afterward.

The United States food administration reports that American stock raisers have shown a disposition to co-operate with the government in increasing the nation's supply of live stock.

Germany today is probably better supplied with live stock than any other European nation. When the German armies made their big advance into France and then retreated virtually all the cattle in the invaded territory—approximately 1,800,000 head—were driven behind the German lines.

But in England—where 2,400,000 acres of pasture lands have been turned into grain fields—the cattle herds are decreasing rapidly. One of the reasons apparently is the declining maximum price scale adopted by the English as follows: For September, \$17.75 per 100 pounds; October, \$17.25; November and December, \$16.08; January, \$14.40. The effect of these prices was to drive beef animals on the market as soon as possible.

In France the number of cattle as well as the quality have shown an enormous decline during the war. Where France had 14,807,000 head of cattle in 1913, she now has only 12,341,900, a decrease of 16.6 per cent. And France is today producing only one gallon of milk compared to two and one-half gallons before the war.

Denmark and Holland have been forced to sacrifice dairy herds for beef because of the lack of necessary feed.

Close study of the European meat situation has convinced the Food Administration that the future problem of America lies largely in the production of meat producing animals and dairy products rather than in the production of cereals for export when the war will have ceased.

Wants, For Sale, Etc

LOCAL AD RATE.

A uniform and invariable charge of 5 cents per line is made for all advertising notices of every description in the news columns of this newspaper. This rate applies to for sale, for rent, lost, found, card of thanks, "want ads," and to all kinds of similar notices as well as to all notices of entertainments, fairs, socials, shows, etc. No reductions or discounts.

Hop contracts, deeds, mortgages, bills of sale, satisfaction of mortgages and similar legal blanks for sale at the Observer Office.

Marry, if lonely. For speedy marriage, try my club, very successful, best, largest in the country, established 11 years; thousand wealthy wishing to marry at once. Confidential descriptions free. Reliable Club.—Mrs. Wrubel, 782 Madison St. Oakland, California. 12-7-1917

WANTED—Goats. Call or write W. E. Frazier, Aurora, Oregon. (Aurora Mutual Phone.)

FOR SALE

Holstein Friesian bulls ready for service. Also a few calves from good producing dams. Buy them while they are young and have them grow into money.—Ernest Werner, Rt. 2.

For Sale—Feed Barley, Barred Rock eggs for hatching. Wanted—Young pigs. H. W. Watkins, R. 3. 47-11

FOR RENT—New modern house for rent cheap. All conveniences, full basement, and centrally located. Inquire of Dr. B. F. Giesy, Aurora.

FOR SALE—52 acres, 20 acres in cultivation, 10 acres slashed and sown to pasture, some good timber. \$4000, 30 per cent cash, balance mortgage at 7 per cent.—John L. Snyder, Aurora, Or. 47-31.



Washington Was Thrifty In Youth

Biographers relate that George Washington opened a bank account when he was sixteen years old. He had a job with a surveyor.

Youth is the accepted time for opening a bank account. It is never too late, however.

All great fortunes have had modest beginnings. Many men have made fortunes after middle life.

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC LINES

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The BEST Offer

The yearly Bargain Days for the Oregonian are over until next November (1918.)

The regular price of the Daily Oregonian is \$6.00 per year; the Daily and Sunday combined is \$8.00 per year, and of the Observer \$1.25 per year, but until further notice these papers will be clubbed at the following prices:

The Daily Oregonian and The Observer Both One Year \$6.25

The Daily and Sunday Oregonian and The Observer, Both one Year \$8.00

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If you use gummed labels for any purpose, ask for our new catalogue and price list. We can save you money. Aurora Observer.

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E. M. HURST

Always in the market for old Copper, Lead, Zinc, Iron, Brass, Old Newspapers and Magazines (neatly folded), second hand sacks, and junk of all kinds. AURORA OREGON