

E. G. HARLAN
EDITOR

EDITORIAL SECTION

L. K. HARLAN
MANAGER

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THE EFFICACY OF THOSE PRAYERS

One irreverent man writes that since the American people had their day of prayer the fighting in Europe has become fiercer, including the fierce bombardment of Antwerp and the dropping of more bombs on other cities. He wants to know whether God has turned down all the petitions of the 4th of October.

But this critic may be mistaken, most prayer has an effect on the individual who does the praying, more than it has on those for whom prayers are offered. This is especially true in time of war. No one who prayed on October 4th, expected a divine intervention to stop the cruel war and it was not in that faith that men and women prayed. But they did expect that we ourselves would be placed in a better mental attitude and even physical position to promote peace in Europe. No one who prayed pretended to know the mind of God in such matters, nor was any one so presumptuous as to believe that he could influence the mind of God. To men it is sufficient if they influence their own minds and get them in the right attitude toward the infinite, which no man understands and which no man can comprehend.

The potency of prayer has confounded men of no faith through all the ages, from a time long before the Christian era was proclaimed, but the world still persists in the habit of praying and we find this habit manifested among all races upon the earth, even the most savage. That it should have its highest exemplification among the Christian peoples is natural enough, for Christianity, whatever else may be said for it, is the flower of all religious systems that have been known among men. Our own opinion is that we know so little about prayer or about God's way among men that we can hardly set ourselves up as critics and it is always safe not to pass judgment on the religious convictions of others, whatever those convictions may be for their faith may give them insights and visions that the rest know not of. There are more things than are dreamed of in our philosophies. We have not yet touched the mysteries of the infinite universe in which we live. We cannot by any possibility reduce it to a mere physical basis, for physical things will not account for all that we know already, and there is so much more that we do not yet know.

When a man is very young in doubt, or very old in sin, he is apt to think that he has disposed of all the manifestations of faith as "childish notions" and "superstitions of the masses," as one writer accuses President Wilson for setting apart a day for prayer for peace, but as men grow older and think more and wonder more they become less certain that they know that all such things are wrong—although they may not know what is right.

Whichever way the election went Morrow County was sure to have a good sound set of officials.

SOME LOSSES IN ANCIENT WARS

We may be appalled by the death lists of the present war, but the losses are as nothing compared with earlier and longer wars. In the thirty years' war in Germany, that country is recorded as having lost 10,000,000 of its population, for the war was a desolation. During the eighty years that Holland fought the Spanish power, under William the Silent and his successors, fully one-fourth of the population were killed or starved, and history records that in one year in Holland the Spaniards quartered or burned 50,000 men, women and children in their efforts to intimidate those who had the audacity to resist Spanish dictation and when the Dutch were urged to surrender a town and were taunted with the statement that soon they would be starving, they replied that before they would surrender the men would cut off their left arms and eat them, that they might have strength in their right arms with which to fight the Spanish inquisitors.

That is the way wars were fought in the olden times and compared with what men suffered then the present sufferings are still merely summer picnic parties. What men have imposed on themselves through wars, through efforts to destroy each other and to rule each other, passes all understanding—and we are still trying to learn that we should love each other and hold good will toward all men. Are we going to learn it now, finally and forever? We doubt it. But let us not live as those who are without hope.

Mighty few ballots were thrown out by the judges of election in Morrow County. We have a more intelligent class of people than some some enemies of the Australian Ballot system would have us believe.

THE PAY OF ENTERTAINERS AND INSTRUCTORS

We are told that Mr. Evers, the ball player, cleared up more money this year than all the ministers of the gospel in Morrow and several other Oregon Counties put together were paid in salaries. And yet the men who pay their money to see the ball player may complain about the expensiveness of building and running churches, we are so inconsistent in this world. The father of several boys stated the other day that it was somewhat hard to help his boys decide upon careers for themselves. What to do is a great problem for those about to start out. This father thought that if one of his boys could learn a new trick, if nothing more than standing on his head in some different way he would be able to make more money than any one of the intellectual professions or skilled trades. The world is paying more for those who can amuse it than it is paying for anything else. A man who wants to make money can do it by inventing some way of making others laugh. It does not matter how the laugh is made, just so it is made.

But we are probably not much changed after all. It has been more or less that way in all ages. At the present time we are simply doing more exploiting of such men, just as we exploit everything else. And as far as preaching is concerned, "Billy" Sunday can still compare with the best baseball player of the age, or baseball magnate even. Sunday can match piles with any of them at the end of any year. Turning the trick, after all, consists largely in being able to do something better than any one else can do it, that is what men pay for.

As a certain gentleman remarked after election, no matter whether Oregon is "wet" or "dry" from a beverage standpoint, as long as the "wet" and "dry" seasons relating to moisture are favorable than the people of this state are insured of prosperity. With wheat selling for over one dollar a bushel and with the vicious eight-hour law defeated, Morrow County ranchers and citizens can look forward to possibly even better times in the next few years than they have enjoyed in the past few years. Then, too, those warring soldiers of Europe must be clothed as well as fed and Morrow County woolgrowers need have no fear of a drop in prices. Indeed, it is an ill wind that blows nobody some good.

One man writes us that he had a grandmother who was Holland-Dutch, a grandfather who was English Puritan, on his father's side, his grandmother came from Alsace, mixed French and German and his grandfather from Switzerland, pure German. Now he wants us to tell him what he is in America and what side he ought to be on in Europe. We would call him a "pure" and "typical" American, with all the very best elements of European blood in his own veins. As to his European sympathies, we would advise him to choose his Holland-Dutch grandmother, for she was, undoubtedly one of the best women in the world and remain neutral as the Dutch now are in Holland.

The Irish in America are generally plain in their statements that they are glad the United States is keeping out of the war. Not so with the Irish in the old country. The last enlistment included some 25,000 Irish with 8,000 of them from Dublin and its districts. Redmond, the Irish leader, has made some of the hottest speeches of the war.

The wars involve exactly 847,000,000 of people, which is some more than half of the people now living on the earth. Out of 847 millions, it is believed a million will not be seriously missed in the world as a whole, but it is different in the family circles—there even one son will be missed.

The American correspondents who are in Germany are all German in sentiments and those who are in France are quite as French as the French themselves. Environment seems to affect even moral judgments.

A local nurseryman has been shipping flowers, grown in the open air, from Heppner in large quantities the past few days. Only a short time ago a rancher sent us some ripe strawberries. A Heppner man has ripe loganberries growing today in his yard.

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE
Located in South Heppner and in order to dispose of same in the next two weeks I am offering same at a remarkably low price. House has six rooms with bath, sleeping porch, surrounded by fruit trees and berry bushes. Fenced in chicken yard. Inquire of the owner, C. T. Humphries, or Herald office.

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There is a good restaurant in Heppner for sale. Located on Main Street and doing a first class business. It is well equipped with everything necessary to do the business. Clean and neat in every particular. There are some household effects which will go in the sale, all new and useable articles. The right man can take this place and make money, as it is a money maker now and you know what it is to buy a business paying well. Just drop a line to the owner or better yet, stop in and talk it over with him. He is desirous of making a change.

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