PAGE FOUR

THE HEPPNER HERALD, HEPPNER, OREGON

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THE HEPPNER HERALD

S. A. PATTISON, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER An Independent Newspaper

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THE SENATE AND THE RAILROAD ADMNISTRA-

TION

busterism, many otherwise conservative citizens will be in-, secrecy until we know all the facts. clined to agree with the old socialist (or was it a populist) the nose of the body politic.

The spectacle of Bob LaFollette, ultra radical, and lames Sherman, ultra conservative, patching up their difrerences and uniting their wind bags in the highly commendable work, from a partisan standpoint, of talking to death the railway appropriation bill which carried with it every meritorious measure for reconstruction and for the that fossilized body in many months, is one to make ordin-: ry people sit up and take notice.

It is not so long since rabidly patriotic senators like Sherman were clamoring for little Bob,s head on a charger because of his opposition to the declaration of war against Germany and other alleged acts of pro-Germanism and perhaps the reason they didn't fire him bodily at that time was because they cherished fond recollections of frequent times in the past when his copious gales of wind, prevailing hour after hour, saved the day for the filibusters; and they may have had sufficient vision to suspect that they might need him again. We recall an occasion several years ago when LaFollette engaged in a filibuster performance during which he sponted typhoons continuously for several days (or was it weeks) "widout stoppin' for wood or wather," and after he got through he claimed that record, not once, but many times, as to the necessity of he could have done better only that the opposition sent him a glass of poisoned lemonade which gave him pains in his fummy and brought out a cold sweat.

Many people are of the opinion that the chief reason for the recent fillibuster was a desire to embarrass the railroad administration and make it impossible for the govern ment to continue successfully in the transportation business hereby encouraging the growing sentiment in favor of government operation and control or even of full ownership of the rail lines. This must be a mistaken opinion, however, for hasn't little Bob always been strongly in favor of every thing usually called radical? Why, has he, for years been considered a pretty good socialist only when he wanted to run for office and it can't be that he still harbors that ambition.

We hear and read much these days to the effect that the government oreration of the railways during the war. has not been a success-the chief complaint being that the wages of its employees on the railroads \$636,000,000 ject the treaty. But, first, let us wait for the facts-since and that the compensation paid by the government to the we are compelled to wait .- Reconstruction. railway companies is exceedingly high as compared with _ the compensation paid by the British government to the NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS British railway companies for the use of their roads.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE

WHATEVER clse the Peace Conference may be it is not an open conference, and whatever else the Peace Treaty may be, it will not have been "openly arrived at." Thus goes glimmering the first of President Wilson's "fourteen points." 'this cannot be other than a great dis-.\$1.09 appointment to the world, and particularly to America. We are not only intensely interested in what is being done, but we are keenly alive to the significance of being deni d all but fragmentary information.

Yet, in our opinion, judgment should be suspended un-FTER the many recent brilliant exploits of the upper til the treaty is published. Judgment need not be sus-Ahouse of congress which culminated the other day pended as to those who insisted upon secrecy, but we when the body adjourned sine die in a blaze of windy filli- should not censure President Wilson for consenting to the

No sane man can doubt that the President wanted demand that the senate be abolished as a useless wart ou open sessions. That he finally consented to closed sessions is, to us, proof that, for reasons which we do not yet know, he considered it wise to yield. He could, of course have compelled full publicity by refusing to participate in secrecy. Events will have to show whether it would have been wiser to have created, at the beginning the animosities that, inevitably, would have followed.

The actual work of the Peace Conference at Paris has welfare of the returning soldiers that had been proposed in only well begun, and there will be time for the President to use his great power of coercion if it shall be necessary to [] do so.

> If it shall become necessary to wreck the conference and throw Europe into revolution, it will be better to do o after all other means of prevening an unclean peace have failed than to have taken drastic action before ascertaining whether patient and persistent striving might not have ac-

aished the desired result. At least, so it apparently seemed to the President, and in our opinion he is right.

Deprived of the information to which we are entitled, we must trust, for the present, first to the steadfastness of the President and second, to the steadiastness of Lloyd George. If we are kept in the dark as to what is going on they are not.

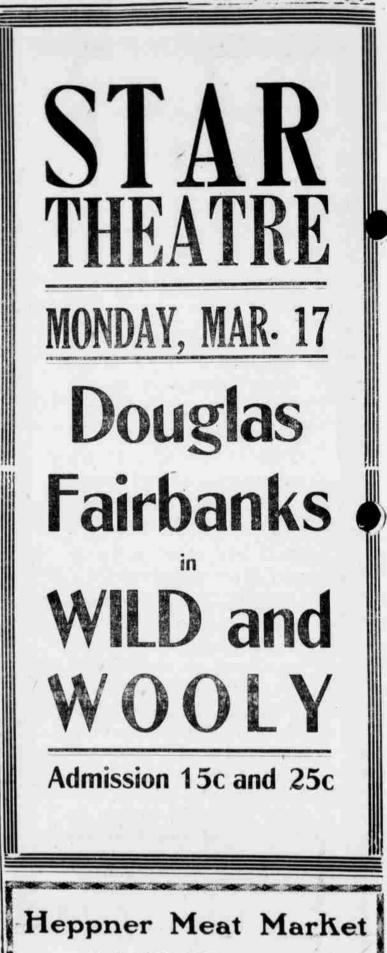
The President and the British Premier have gone on making such a peace and such a League of Nations as shall greatly reduce, if not, indeed eliminate, the possibility of luture wars.

we have the word of Lloyd George that in his opinion science has it in its power to make a war so destructive and, unless effective steps are taken now to end war, "men low living will see the last of this civiliation." Earnestness cannot go much further than that.

Lloyd George has also said that unless conscription is everywhere stopped, the war will have been fought in

If the world cannot trust men like Wilson and Lloyd George to make a decent peace-in the dark if there can be no light-we might as well blow out the lights and let our civilization end; for there can be no civilization without some degree of mutual trust.

We feel that President Wilson is doing the best that he can in most difficult circumstances and is, perhaps, bidthe service has deteriorated and that the railroads, in high is time for a blow, if a blow shall prove necessary. 1918, paid out aout \$900,000,000 more than they took in. It ne should deem it wise to make compromises that he We do not hear nor read so much about the other side of ought not to make-compromises that would send Amerithe story. For instance there is not much said about the can soldiers to the ends of the earth, as a matter of contintact that during the same year the government increased uous policy, to police other peoples-then let the Senate re-



H. C. ASHBAUGH, Proprietor

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When the government took over the railroads it is well known that some of the companies were in financial difficulties due to their inability to borrow any more moncy with which to run the roads and had the government All articles intended for publication not taken them over when it did many of them would have broken down as they had frequently done in the past when lication but as an evidence of good the government has been forced to take them over in the rath of the writer. form of receiverships and pull them out of the financial muddle into which they had "high-financed" themselves.

No doubt the service furnished the general public since the government took over the roads has deteriorated ing particular attention to the spellbut it is a cinch that the service rendered the government ing and legibility of names of perin the movement of troops and supplies from all over he country to the Atlantic seaboard did not deteriorate. Gentreaten who so loudly criticize the government's operation of the railways should remember that the country was at pressed. The Herald, however, bewar most all of the last year and the question of the personal convenience of travelers was secondary to the move- independent local newspaper to give ment of the troops and supplies so urgently needed in France while the question of cost was perhaps considered no more by the railway administration than it was reject all matter which he considers by any other department of the government. This writer improper or unfit for publication. can recall numerous occasions last summer when the Heppner "flyer" was from one to five hours late getting into Ione because they had to wait at the junction for the main line trains which were "laid out" somewhere to allow the passage of troop trains or freight trains laden with government supplies, - but like other travelers he always managed to get home to a late supper at some taken last Tuesday evening when a hour and like all such other patriotic citizens he quite forgot all previsioness caused by such minor inconveniences when on a certain November evening all Heppner in common with all the world outside of Germany tore loose and cheered and howled and made the welkin ring with song. and laughed and cried and hugged each other because of the wonderful words the wires brought that WE HAD WON THE WAR.

Yes, people, we won the war, and by no means the smallest item of America's part in that victory was the service rendered by the American railways under government also taken to occure instruments for operativ n.

The Herald welcomes communica-County court met in regular ses tions from subscribers and the public sion last Wednesday morning with generally touching on subjects of Judge W. T. Campbell, Commissioner George Bleakman, Sheriff E. M. general interect to the community. Shutt and Clerk J. A. Waters presmust be signed with the true name ent. of the writer not necessarily for pub-The usual gist of bills were pres-

Write only on one side of the pa per

Avoid personalities.

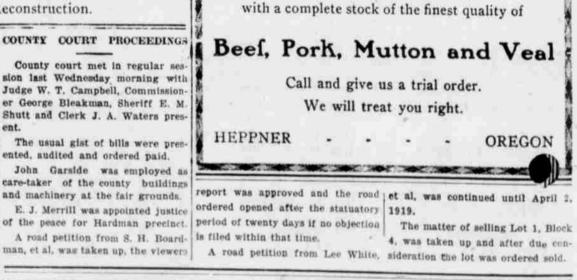
Write as legibly as possible, pay sons, places, etc.

Publishing of communications does not mean that the Herald necessarily agrees with the views exlieves that it is the province of An all sides of every question of local interest as nearly as possible.

The editor reserves the right to Anonymous articles go straight to the waste basket.

HEPPNER BAND ORGANIZED

Preliminary steps in the organisation of Heppner's new hand were number of those interested in the new musical organization met at the council chambers and perfected the Bay parliamentary organization. Cochran was elected president and Spence Crawford secretary-treasurer A committee was appointed to draft a set of rules governing the organisation and also a committee to work with the ladics of the Civic Improvement Club in perfecting arrange ments for the benefit dance to be given March 17th; Initial steps were the band

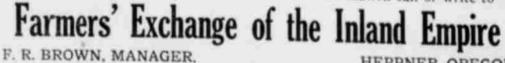


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