

THE KRUPP MONSTER.

December: Everybody's. Every known weapon, from rifle to aeroplane, has played about the part that European army staffs have foreseen. With a single exception no nation had up its sleeve any revolutionary secret instrument of destruction. The exception was the German traction siege-howitzer, which is to the European war what the monitor was to naval warfare in our Civil War.

As you know, a ship armed with twelve-inch guns, thanks to the distance that its projectiles will carry, stands off safely out of range as it sinks a ship with six-inch guns.

While the world let its imagination play on the fearful destruction by bombs from airships, the house of Krupp was at work on the principle which makes the six-inch gun helpless against the twelve or the twelve against the sixteen. While Count Zeppelin was flying, the practical, dividend-paying Krupps kept to earth as usual. They made no pretensions to genius. They relied on the industry, energy, and merciless application to detail of their experts and grimy mechanics, without hesitation at any proposition, provided the German government could meet the expense.

There seems no limit to the size of gun that may be built. The Krupps set out simply to bring up a howitzer before the enemy's forts that would be of far heavier caliber than any he imagined. If it had to be fired from a cement foundation, then they would build a cement foundation on the spot. Most of the world's artillery officers would have been amazed at the suggestion of a movable sixteen-inch howitzer. To transport it within any reasonable length of time seemed impossible. But the Krupps, being makers of guns, did not put their monster into a single load. They constructed it in parts, to be drawn over the solid, graded roads of Europe by traction-engines, which, peculiarly enough, were of English manufacture, because the English make the best heavy traction-engines.

While armies trained to secrecy seem to have been able to keep none of their important secrets from one another, this commercial concern, with its workmen knowing only the part of the gun which they helped to make, kept the secret of the big guns. Not only that, but in some places, through their own secret service, there is good reason to believe that they had cement platforms already built under German factories or villas in Belgium.

And the Krupps wanted no assistance in manning the guns after they were built. If the German army had set out to drill artillerists for them, the French might have found out about it. These guns were purely a Krupp affair; when they were taken to war it would be by a Krupp family party.

The army tried to take Liege without waiting on the Krupps' help, and its method gratified the foresight of the defenders. It threw masses of infantry across an open space against rifle and machine-gun fire. The Germans admitted a loss of sixteen thousand as the cost of their failure, and the infantry did not make another attempt. They waited for the Krupp party to come up with their slow, cumbersome caravan of steel and shells and engineers and mechanics. Nothing glorious or warlike about Krupp party. They might have been a construction gang off to build a bridge; mere workers, without any pretension to the honor of the aristocratic Prussian military caste.

When the huge howitzers were set up, they began coughing their enormous shells at the forts. The shells penetrated like the armor-piercing shells of the navy and exploded after they were well embedded. Cement work erupted under volcanic pres-

sure, while out of range of the guns of the forts the Krupp party had only to load and fire in as safe and prosaic a manner as if they were placing dynamite charges in excavating a subway. After they had finished with Liege, they moved to Namur.

If the Japanese had had the Krupp party along, they would have taken Port Arthur in two weeks instead of two months and at a loss of ten or fifteen thousand men instead of a hundred thousand; such is the value of human life beside the power of modern industry when it turns to destruction. From Namur, the Krupp caravan, with its strong traction-engines, moved to Maubeuge and then to Antwerp.

The German infantry gained confidence from the superiority of their artillery. Iron crosses were given to the Krupps more prodigally than to the aristocratic officers of the German cavalry. Some satire in that! It shows that war is grim work, with an emphasis on work.

The Krupp party had never appeared at an imperial review; it had no military etiquette or discipline except of an industrial organization. It had been fulfilling a business contract in destruction. Another nation may know how to make those guns; it may have inexhaustible funds in its treasury and great steel works of its own, but the element of time is against it. The German siege-guns are made; the Allies' are to be made. There would be a hundred million dollars waiting for anybody who could produce a score of these guns in time for spring delivery. The Allies will need the guns in going against German fortifications in the spring campaign. But no works on earth can produce such guns inside of a year.

Not Guilty.

We have received the following letter from G. W. Tape, manager of the Hot Lake Sanatorium, in which we are accused of printing a news item to the effect that Hot Lake froze over during a recent cold snap. We publish the letter in full:

Hot Lake, Ore., Jan. 1, 1915. Editor Gazette-Times, Heppner, Oregon.

Dear Sir:—A cold weather story, absolutely untrue, has been published in nearly all leading papers of the Northwest including The Gazette-Times to the effect that Hot Lake has frozen over and the guests are skating on it.

I wonder the romancer did not add that a skater broke through the ice and scalded his feet. There is not a word of truth in the article.

There is a small pond near Hot Lake which freezes every winter, but Hot Lake itself has never yet been affected by the weather, and on the coldest day this season the steam from the surface of the lake could be seen for miles.

Will you kindly aid me in nullifying the effect of such libel on this old natural wonder of the North West.

Yours truly, G. W. TAPE, Manager.

When you are going past Gilliam & Bibebe's take a look at their store windows; there is something unusual.

We have a fine new Bungalow, a good barn and two lots in Lents, Oregon, valued at \$6000 to trade for Morrow county land. If interested come and see us. This property is not over-priced.

SMEAD & CRAWFORD.

HELP WANTED—Girl or woman for housework in small family. Permanent place. Inquire at office of the Gazette-Times.

RAMS FOR SALE—I have Lincoln and Shropshire. Both lambs and yearlings. C. A. MINOR.

More Hay in Ration Lowers Cost of MILK.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore., Jan. 5.—Hay is usually the most economical feed that can be given to dairy cows and if it is supplied in palatable form so that cows eat it more liberally, the production cost of milk is generally lowered.

"Most dairymen use too little hay and hay of too poor quality," say the dairy experts of the Agricultural College. "The reason that more is not used is generally because hay is poorly cured so that it is dry and woody, or partly spoiled so that it has a bad flavor, and cows do not eat enough of it to balance the rations properly."

"When hay is unpalatable cows will not eat more than 10 pounds each per day and this shortage must be made up by more of the expensive grains. On the other hand, good, palatable hay is eaten to the amount of about 20 pounds per day, thereby giving much better results."

"Of very choice clover or alfalfa hay carefully fed with stems and poorer parts cleaned out, a 1000-pound cow may be induced to eat as much as 40 pounds per day, when given not other feed. These amounts are frequently fed by farmers in irrigated sections, but it is considered better practice to feed a little grain unless the cows are not very good or hay is quite cheap."

PORTLAND NEWS LETTER

Portland, Ore., Jan. 5, 1915.—At the recent stock show held at the Portland Union Stockyards, a large number of Shorthorn cattle were sold at auction, individual animals bringing record-breaking prices. In commenting on this feature of the show, Manager O. M. Plummer says:

"The Shorthorn sale was very satisfactory to consignees as well as to those who secured the animals. The spreading of this good breed of cattle augurs much for the beef industry in this western country. Among some of the unusual results of the sale may be noted the following:

"Shorthorn Bull, Clifton King, owned by Frank Brown, sold to J. B. Cornett, of Sheds, for \$900, one of the highest prices paid in a western show ring for many years.

"Cow, Roan Beauty, sold for \$700. "Cow, Lilydale, sold for \$610; both were owned by Frank Brown and sold to H. G. Keyt, of Perrydale.

"Bull, Roan Victor, owned by A. D. Dunn, sold to M. R. Rose, of California, for \$600.

"Bull, Pet Minority, owned by J. B. Cornett, sold to Wm. Rettie of Fossil, Ore., for \$580."

An enterprise in Wallowa county which is now well under way is the erection of a mammoth lumber manufacturing plant and the construction of 20 miles of railroad. The grading on this railroad has been completed and several miles of steel laid. The mill will have a capacity of 100,000 feet of lumber per day and will be owned and operated by a syndicate of capitalists with headquarters at Kansas City. The mill is expected to be in operation by July 1 and it is estimated that it will take 15 years of continuous operation to exhaust the merchantable pine owned by the company.

In Portland, on February 15, 16 and 17, will be held the Ninth Annual Congress of the Oregon Retail Merchants' Association. This is one of the most important organizations in the state, having a membership of nearly 3,000, and practically every club and organization in Portland will assist in receiving and entertaining the visitors.

REMNANT SALE

We are going through our stock and throwing on the REMNANT COUNTER all odds, ends and broken lots.

We are getting ready for our Annual Inventory and are marking these remnants at a price that will go.

You will find just what you want at a small price.

We are still giving 10 per cent. off on Men's and Boy's Suits and Overcoats.

Thomson Bros.

SENATOR C. A. BARRETT DRAFTS TAX BILL

C. A. Barrett, joint senator from Union, Umatilla and Morrow counties has drafted the tax bill which he will introduce in the senate. It changes the penalty plan somewhat and puts the tax payments into two equal installments, much as before the present law became effective. Mr. Barrett sets out in his announcement of the bill the following points contained in the new draft:

"I have prepared a tax bill which I will introduce in the senate, when the legislature meets. This bill makes the tax due in two halves, the first half May 1st, the second half November 1st. If the first half is not paid on or before May 1st interest will be charged at the rate of 8 per cent up to November 1st—on November 2nd all unpaid taxes will become delinquent and subject to an interest penalty of 1 per cent per month. The bill provides that the tax on personal property becomes a lien on the real estate (if party owns real estate.) at the time the first half is due; it provides for the treasurer as tax collector to be the collector of delinquent tax also, it provides that delinquent certificates may issue after the tax is delinquent 60 days.

"No penalty other than the interest is attached to non-payment of the first half of the tax, and provides that the tax becomes delinquent in the fall when there is ready money in the country from the harvest of our crops.

"This meets the demands of the people of Eastern Oregon and I think applies with equal force to other parts of the state. The county holds a first lien on all the taxpayer's property for the tax and there are no just grounds why the county should not deal justly with the taxpayer. I am opposed to the heavy penalty attached to delinquent tax as heretofore."

A six room house and five lots for sale, with chicken houses and out-buildings. This is a good buy. Price and terms all that could be asked for. For further particulars see Smead & Crawford.

At the request of Senator Lane, the Interior Department is taking steps to ascertain the holdings of private owners within the proposed new boundaries of Crater Lake National Park, with a view to preparing a bill for the recommended extension of the park.

A meeting of all organizations and growers interested in fruit and vegetable by-products will be held in Portland on January 25. A committee appointed at the conference held at Spokane some time ago expects to be able to make a full report on conditions throughout the Northwest.

Brown Leghorn cockerels for sale. Single comb. Good birds. W. B. TUCKER, Heppner, Ore.

Walter O. Hill went to Portland Monday to meet Mrs. Hill and the children and they returned Tuesday evening.

How Is That Cold? We carry a complete line of cough and cold remedies SLOCUM DRUG CO

FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS FUNERAL DESIGNS OUR SPECIALTY The Jewell Green Houses THE DALLES, OREGON Phone B. 2721

IRRIGON NEWS ITEMS

Theo. Parks returned from Hermiston last Wednesday morning.

Warren Corey returned from White Salmon Monday where he has been visiting with his sister, Mrs. Ben Pompella.

Miss Marie Susbauer of Corvallis has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. Peter Susbauer. She was accompanied by her smaller brother. They returned to their home Wednesday.

Mrs. George Patterson arrived from Portland Friday to join her husband, who has been here getting things ready for housekeeping. They were married at Hermiston, and have been spending a joyful honeymoon in the Valley.

A Sunday School conference was held last Sunday evening for the purpose of organizing a new Sunday School. Mr. Blackman of Milton officiated in a remarkable manner. The officers elected were: Supt., Mrs. Hibler; Secy. and Treas., Eleanor Corey; organist, Goldie Roadruck; Musical director, Mrs. Patterson; janitor, Frank Doble. The officers elected for the Young People's organized class are: president, Oscar Doble; vice president, Guy Corey; secretary, Gennie Parks; treasurer, Goldie Roadruck. Chairman of membership committee, Frank Doble, chairman of social committee, Mae Grabill, chairman of athletic committee, Oscar Corey. Teacher, Mrs. Roadruck.

An up-to-date dwelling for sale; plenty of fruit for family use; good location. Price reasonable. See Smead & Crawford.

REDFRONT

Livery & Feed Stables WILLIS STEWART, Proprietor.

First Class Livery Rigs

kept constantly on hand and can be furnished on short notice to parties desiring to drive into the interior. First class Hacks and Buggies Call around and see us. We cater to the Commercial Travelers and Camping Parties and can furnish rig and driver on short notice.

HEPPNER . . . OREGON

Stop and look at Gilliam & Bibebe's window and see if the cat is there. Also see their clock window, it shows you the time all over the world.

TEA We have made it our aim to make ours a Tea Store Such Lines as RIDGEWAY'S—Her Majesty's Blend RIDGEWAY'S—India Ceylon FOLGER'S—Hillside FOLGER'S—Shasta HILLS BROS.—Hillvilla SCHILLING'S—Best Japan DWIGHT EDWARDS—Dependable GOLDEN WEST—Japan The above lines represent the Best of the Good Ones, and are sold only in sanitary packages. A trial will convince you of their merit. PHELPS GROCERY COMPANY