

## Editorial Page of Home and Farm Magazine Section

Timely, Pertinent Comment Upon Men and Affairs, Following the Trend of World News;  
Suggestions of Interest to Readers; Hints Along Lines of Progressive Farm Thought.

### TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers in this locality who wish to fully cover all sections of Oregon and Washington and a portion of Idaho will apply to local publishers for rates.

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### TO READERS.

Readers are requested to send letters and articles for publication to The Editor, Oregon - Washington - Idaho Farmer, Oregonian Building, Portland, Oregon.

Discussions on questions and problems that bear directly on the agricultural, livestock and poultry interests of the Northwest, and on the uplift and comfort of the farm home always are welcomed. No letters treating of religion, politics or the European war are solicited, for the Oregon-Washington-Idaho Farmer proclaims neutrality on these matters.

Comparatively brief contributions are preferred to long ones. Send us also photographs of your livestock and farm scenes that you think would be of general interest. We wish to make this magazine of value to you. Help us to do it.

### BUY IT NOW.

**BUY IT NOW.** That is the slogan of a National campaign, unique in character and far-reaching in results as it affects the general prosperity of the country, which has been inaugurated for the purpose of inducing purchases of goods now which must, of necessity, be bought in the Spring months.

The campaign is general in its requests and is directed to every one. Especial attention, however, is being directed to the purchase of heavy merchandise, such as farm machinery, building materials and other things which are usually bought during the Spring.

By buying now that which must be bought later, general business activity will be materially increased and everyone will feel the beneficial effects. Jobbing houses will be working under full force and factories will be working full time with full help. In this way many men who are now out of work will be given employment and many families who are in need of the actual necessities of life will be provided for.

The campaign does not suggest indiscriminate or unnecessary buying. But it does suggest economic buying and insists upon buying now things that must be bought later.

The campaign should meet with especial favor from the farmers of the United States. Government statistics, just issued, show that the farmers are more prosperous today than they have ever been—the 1914 output from farms exceeded that of last year by more than \$83,000,000—and that while the farmers are showing a goodly margin of profit the merchant and manufacturer are having a hard time making ends meet. They will buy many things in the Spring, but if they will buy them now, factories will be running full blast and they can do a service to humanity.

With a general buying of necessary merchandise, business conditions would materially improve, unsettled conditions would be lessened and confidence would be restored much sooner than under present conditions.

### PEACE IN AMERICAN WATERS.

**T**HE proposal of South American governments that naval warfare in the Old World shall not extend to the new, or, if it does, shall be excluded from specified zones where the ships of all nations can sail on their errands in peace, is an extension of the Monroe doctrine that is well worth considering. Whether an exception would be made of the coasts of colonies be-

longing to a belligerent is not clearly specified. But that is a detail that can easily be arranged.

While the proposition is said to be favored by Great Britain, it hardly seems likely that it would be accepted as international law unless it is backed by the demand of most of the leading nations of the New World. Where, as at present, there are ten belligerents, the refusal of one or more to accept such a rule might defeat the whole project. But if Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and the United States jointly conveyed to Europe the intelligence that naval battles are not to be fought within New World waters, Europe would have to pay attention to it.

Such a rule would permit European commerce to come to this hemisphere and trade peacefully while here. On returning to Europe it must accept the hazards of the war there. But commerce between American countries could go on without the surveillance of European commerce destroyers, and would no doubt be greatly extended.

Why should American waters be made the hunting ground for the cruisers of Europe? It certainly seems that the proposition of stopping it by the united action of American governments is well worth careful consideration.

### EDUCATIONAL BASIS OF FARMING.

**F**ARMING in this day and age is based upon education, and education not only in agricultural but in social and economic lines. Read what Profitable Farming in a recent editorial, has to say along this line:

"There was a time when farming was considered largely a matter of physical force. When the land was young and in its primeval richness, there was not much attention given to the studies of conservation—of either soil, or crops or feed stuff. With land of a value of only one-tenth to one-third its present value, with a single farm animal considered of no great importance, with labor a simple matter and of but an inconsequential expense—such important elements now necessary in this intensified age, of such crying needs and requirements—it's different now, much different.

"Farming has not been considered as a business until within the last two decades, and it is only and really within the last decade that we have begun to feel the imperative necessity for a greater admixture of brain work.

"It is only within the last two or three sessions of the National Congress that appropriations of any extent could be secured for any but just ordinary work. Now we have not only greatly enlarged appropriations for properly carrying on of the various forms of research work, and solving of the vital problems, but a multitude of such—which we not many years ago thought quite beyond necessity. This is also likewise true of the appropriations and research work of the various state departments of today.

"Many of the state agricultural colleges are carrying on, in behalf of their own commonwealth, agricultural extension work and of much greater magnitude than like work formerly carried on by the Federal department. It has also been found that much of the work carried on by a single state department could only be made adequately successful when these various units of endeavor, or when the work of the various states, could be more closely co-related and more effect-

ively co-operative, and here the Federal Government has again extended in domain of influence and its financial assistance by doing both general and joint work with the various states in many of these pursuits.

"The more recent Lever bill, in which the Federal Government joins with all the states in co-operative agricultural extension work, is a most distinct sample of the very latest of such co-relation, and the practical nature of this work insures, to our mind, such unusual good returns for the expenditure that it will doubtless lead to further National and state co-operation—more extensions into other lines, and accomplishing or resulting in first aid to many problems which are now becoming serious in American farm life.

"A survey of the present rural social atmosphere will compare favorably in progress with that of city life, and in mechanical progress and improvement in product will far exceed in percentage of increase that of city life.

"It is also encouraging that the increase of social corruption has not been so great as in the city environment.

"As without doubt much of the increase of crime in the city life may be directly or indirectly contributed to by the high cost of living and the difficulty of obtaining same, it is a broad, wholesome view that all increased crop production will revert in benefits quite as much to the improvement of the city life as to that of the rural.

"We may also be well impressed with the beneficial change in city-bred hearts and minds—who do not now look upon a farmer and his folks in the same apathy that was so common and derisive not so many years ago.

"Just as the child who gets his regular voluntary and liberal allowance from the parent is not so realizing of his dependence of city folks upon our agricultural basis of living.

"Now, however, that we are searching for products rather than our products searching for a market, we are becoming immeasurably closer together and into a more common social atmosphere, and of a more general appreciative interest in each other."

### THE WILD AND WOOLLY.

**"H**E leaves for the frontier, the thick of the fight where evil is firmly entrenched," said the bishop of Ohio in a sermon at the consecration of Dean Sumner, of Chicago, as bishop of Oregon.

The gentleman evidently believes Oregon is a very tough state, devoted chiefly to Indian fighting, cattle-stealing and the game of poker. He does not know there are fewer illiterates in Oregon than in any other state of the Union. He does not know Oregon was the first state to enact a minimum wage law for women, that we pay widow's pensions, invented initiative and referendum, blazed the direct primary trail and that the people in November voted against the saloons by some 30,000 majority.

Before he delivers any further sermons about the "frontier" and the "thick of the fight" the bishop of Ohio should buckle on a six-shooter, take a chew of tobacco and come take a look at this land of evil.—East Oregonian, Pendleton.

We should like to add by way of further comment that if the bishop were to equip himself as suggested and come to Oregon, Washington and Idaho and make a careful investigation, he would find that the laws of these three states are several years in advance of those in the territory where he happens to sojourn at present. He would also find that the standard of education is higher, that law enforcement is a known quantity and that the moral standing of the people in general is far higher than in his "neck o' the woods."