

EDITORIAL SECTION

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VAWTER CRAWFORD, Proprietor. ARTHUR R. CRAWFORD, Editor.

OFFICIAL PAPER FOR MORROW COUNTY.



Thursday, July 26, 1917.

HOW ORVILLE WRIGHT WOULD END THE WAR. *

To see Orville Wright's name connected with any discussion of the way to end the war means, of course, that what follows will be about airplanes.

Mr. Wright presents the airplane situation on the battle front practically as it has been presented by military authorities that are engaged with it as a war factor. With all nerves strained on both sides there is slight superiority with the entente allies. The smashing preponderance is what is needed, and the United States is to supply that.

The eminent American inventor is quite sure that this country will do with the airplane precisely that which it is expected to do. We have the industrial machinery; we have the mechanical genius and efficiency; we have the constructive and executive capacity, the money, the patriotism, the public spirit—all things that are requisite to fill the European war order for airplanes and men to fight them. Moreover, as Mr. Wright specifically states, "we are bringing over to this country foreign motors which have stood up against the rigors of war usage" to be duplicated in American plants; and American plants in his opinion will be able, upon these models, possibly with an improvement upon them, to meet the full demand for battle planes.

It is, however, the Wright optimism with reference to concrete results, when American made and American manned war planes get fully into action, that commands attention. We have this statement: "There seems no reason to doubt that in a year hence we will have sent abroad thousands of fighting airplanes that will be better than anything yet produced." And then we have this: "At present the difference between five years and more of war and an early victory for the allies is 10,000 airplanes."

Is the prospect too rosy—the cut too short? Is this last summary of the situation but the dream of an inventor? Orville Wright is an inventor who is also a very practical man; and more than that he is predicting in another way what the battle experts have predicted if Uncle Sam does his part in air fighting as expeditiously as he can.—Portland Telegram.

TWO DOLLAR WHEAT MEANS PROSPERITY ON FARM.

In all probability the house will agree to the senate's government guarantee that the farmer will be paid not less than \$2 a bushel for wheat. The market may carry the price yet higher, but our grain growers now have practical assurance that the price will not be less.

With that guarantee the farmers of the Inland Empire can face the misfortune of a light crop with easy hearts. A field that runs 15 bushels will bring them not less than \$30 an acre; and even the low yield of five bushels at \$2 would be better than one of 20 bushels of 50-cent wheat, as the cost of harvesting, sacking, threshing, hauling and warehousing the lighter product would be reduced all along the line.

In normal times, with wheat selling at 60 or 70 cents, a light crop would be a severe misfortune to the Inland Empire; but \$2 wheat or better will mean large, new wealth for this region and continued prosperity on the farm. It means that our farmers will go on buying automobiles and increasing their bank accounts.—Spokesman-Review.

Property owners will be taking good care of their own interests if they will give the city council a true view of their position on street paving at this time. If the sentiment is strong enough in favor, the election will undoubtedly be held. If too much opposition is apparent, the matter will be dropped for the present. For the convenience of the property owners of Heppner, The Gazette-Times is running a coupon this week. It is desired that every property owner fill out this coupon and mail it at once to Mayor Notson. It has been decided that this method will solve the situation as it now confronts city officials. Fill out the coupon at once, sign your name, and send it in.

There is a lamentable apathy on the part of many Heppner property owners regarding the street paving. All that the city council has ever asked in this matter is the real expression of the property owners. It would be a useless expense to all tax payers if the city council went ahead and arranged for a special election and then have the proposed measure voted down.

GERMAN DOCTRINE OF TODAY IS WRONG.

The appalling conflict which has been drenching the world with blood is not a mere fight of one of more peoples against one or more other peoples, is the opinion of Otto T. Kahn, a New York business man who has given the war and war conditions considerable study.

According to Mr. Kahn it goes deeper. It sharply divides the soul and conscience of the world. It transcends vastly the bounds of racial allegiance. It is ethically fundamental. In determining one's attitude towards it, the time has gone by—if it ever was—when race and blood and inherited affiliations were permitted to count.

Mr. Kahn said, in his remarkable speech "The War and Business," before the Merchants Association of New York, on Friday, June 1, 1917: "A century and a half ago Americans of English birth rose to free this country from the oppression of the rulers of England. Today Americans of German birth are called upon to rise, together with their fellow-citizens of all races, to free not only this country but the whole world from the oppression of the rulers of Germany, an oppression far less capable of being endured and of far graver portent.

"Speaking as one born of German parents, I do not hesitate to state it as my deep conviction that the greatest service which men of German birth or antecedents can render to the country of their origin is to proclaim, and to stand up for those great and fine ideals and national qualities and traditions which they inherited from their ancestors, and to set their faces like flint against the monstrous doctrines and acts of a rulership which have robbed them of the Germany which they loved and in which they took just pride, the Germany which had the good will, respect and admiration of the entire world.

"I do not hesitate to state it as my solemn conviction that the more unmistakably and wholeheartedly Americans of German birth throw themselves into the struggle which this country has entered in order to rescue Germany, no less than America and the rest of the world from those sinister forces that are, in President Wilson's language, the enemy of all mankind, the better they protect and serve the repute of the old German name and the true advantage of the German people.

"Gentlemen, I measure my words. They are borne out all too emphatically by the hideous eloquence of deeds which have appalled the conscience of the civilized world. They are borne out by numberless expressions, written and spoken, of German professors employed by the State to teach its youth.

"The burden of that teaching is that might makes right, and that the German nation has been chosen to exercise morally, mentally and actually, the over-lordship of the world and must and will accomplish that task and that destiny whatever the cost in bloodshed, misery and ruin.

"The spirit of that teaching, in its intolerance, its mixture of sanctimoniousness and covetousness and its self righteous assumption of a world-improving mission, is closely akin to the spirit from which were fired the religious wars of the past through the long and dark years when Protestants and Catholics killed one another and devastated Europe.

"I speak in sorrow, for I am speaking of the country of my origin and I have not forgotten what I owe to it.

"I speak in bitter disappointment, for I am thinking of the Germany of former days, the Germany which has contributed its full share to the store of the world's imperishable assets and which, in not a few fields of human endeavor and achievement held the leading place among the nations of the earth.

"And I speak in the firm faith that, after its people shall have shaken off and made atonement for the dreadful spell which an evil fate has cast upon them, that former Germany is bound to arise again and, in due course of time, will again deserve and attain the good will and the high respect of the world and the affectionate loyalty of those of German blood in foreign lands.

"But I know that neither Germany nor this country nor the rest of the world can return to happiness and peace and fruitful labor until it shall be made manifest, bitterly and unmistakably manifest, to the rulers who bear the blood-guilt for this wanton war and to their misinformed and misguided peoples that the spirit which unchained it cannot prevail, that the hateful doctrines and methods in pursuance of which and in compliance with which it is conducted are rejected with abhorrence by the civilized world, and that the over-weening ambitions which it meant to serve can never be achieved.

"The fight for civilization which we all fondly believed had been won many years ago must be fought over again. In this sacred struggle it is now our privilege to take no mean part, and our glory to bring sacrifices."

THREE YEARS OF THE WAR

The war that began three years ago has brought us three years nearer to peace. It has done some other things:

It has brought us nearer to the time when the people of every land shall rule and be the sovereigns of the state, and not the servants of a sovereign.

It has brought the Old World to realize that the aristocracy of manhood is far better than the aristocracy of birth.

It has taught the New World that there is something higher than the making and spending of money and that service to humanity is the noblest service of all.

It has taught the whole world the bitter lessons of adversity and of the chastening hand which spares not those it loves.

In human, cruel, ruthless, sanguinary, awful in every respect as this greatest of all wars has been and must be, it will be worth its terrible toll if it shall lift up the eyes of a thoughtless, luxurious, spendthrift world "unto the hills from whence cometh our help."

In God we trust!—Leslies.

J. L. Hutchins is the new owner and editor of the Lone Independent and that paper made its first appearance under his editorial guidance last week. Mr. Hutchins appears to be a young man of ability and will undoubtedly give the people of Lone and vicinity a good paper.

Morrow county heard the call of war last week as she has never before heard it in all her history. The first call is said to be only the beginning. It will be hard for a peaceful com-

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munity such as this has always been, to become steeped in the spirits of warfare, but such a new condition is presenting itself and its appearance is looming larger every day. Every citizen will be called upon to do his full duty. This will be no time for shirkers. Waging war is an unpleasant duty, but it is a duty, which once entered upon, cannot be pursued with too much vigor, or too thoroughly done.