FOLKS "BACK EAST" TO HEAR OF OREGON

Letter Writing Week to be Set By Chamber of Commerce.

Have you any relatives or any friends in that far away region generally described somewhat indefinitely and inadequately as "back East?"

Of course you have.

What do they know about Tillamook?

Probably not much.

Why don't you let them know something about it?

Will you join in a campaign of united effort, along with the other people in Tillamook, to bring Tillamook to the attention to the remainder of the country?

This letter question soon will be asked by the Portland Chamber of Commerce.

In a form to fit each particular community of the state it will be asked by the people of all Oregon by their respective commercial organizations.

Affirmmative Answer Wanted.

It will be asked of the students of all the schools, the colleges and universities and nothing but an affirmative answer will be permitted.

So that this idea of informing the folks "back East" of the particular attractions of Portland and of Oregon may be thoroughly impressed upon every resident of the state the Chamber of Commerce has decided to set aside a "letter-writing week."

The name suggests the object. During this one week—probably the third week in January—you are expected to write to all your friends and your relatives and tell them of the superior attractions of Oregon—her attractions for the tourist, particularly and for the prospective settler incidentally.

Meanwhile, the Chamber of Commerce urged, try to think up all the nice things you can about your city and state. Try to enumerate the advantages of visiting here—if visiting here. If the climate appeals to you as something worth mentioning—that is, favorably—why note it down and when "letter-writing week" rolls round, tell your Eastern acquaintances about it.

The same applies to the scenery.

Letter Forms Prepared.

If you are a good letter writer you can compose a communication of your own, sufficiently appealing, no doubt, to attract some of your folks out here next summer.

That is the idea, anyway, of this letter-writing campaign.

If you are not so handy at writing letters, why some of the accomplished young men of letters around the headquarters of the Chamber of Commerce will supply blank forms that you can follow. These same young men are working on various form letters to fit almost every kind of situation.

They will prepare a letter to be sent to business acquaintances, only. It will be quite formal, but somewhat cheery in tone and cordial enough to make the man who receives it understand that the writer really is sincere about asking him to come out and give this country the "once over."

Then there will be a set of letters, altogether different, to be sent to your boyhood or girlhood chums. They will contain blissful reminders of some of the intimate incidents of early young manhood, and contrast them with the peculiar activities of the Northwestern country in such a way that the friend of your youth will want to take the next train for Oregon.

Folks Back Home to be Told Facts.

The expert letter writers will not attempt, of course, to supply you with words for letters to your immediate families, but they will deal out an abundance of facts and information that you can use to fill in with when you write to the folks at home.

Meanwhile they want everyone to get busy and think of all the persons with whom you are on writing terms—even those to whom you never have written, for that matter. When you think of them note down their names and addresses. Then you will be in shape to do your share of the good work during the established letter-writing period.

This letter-writing idea has been under consideration by the Chamber officials for the last two or three weeks, and the more they considered it the more the plan appealed to them as a good, sensible, practicable way of bringing Oregon to the public attention.

Strong Committee Appointed.

The whole scheme was turned over to the publicity and conventions bureau, which proposed to labor with it until it is carried to a successful and glorious conclusion. J. C. Ainsworth, chairman of the bureau, appointed the following committee to handle the details of the work: Julius L. Meier, chairman; Frank C. Riggs and Frank E. Smith.

This, apparently, is a committee of many novel, original and effective notions of its own.

Another sort of "reunion" of the future will be the "Veterans of the Oscar II."

Can a cocked hat hold two eminent personages at the same time? We shall see next year.

"King Peter escapes on horseback" That's a headline and a suggestion to King George to practice up.

If America is ever invaded by the Teutons, it may be expected the first bomb will fall on the New York Herald.

President Wilson says we are now in partnership with the Latin-American countries; and two or three cases of "wicked partner" are to be looked out for.

Henry Ford might have bought pictures and tapestries with his millions, but why be a millionaire if you can't be original?

No man is ever nominated for president in the town he lives in; so Big Bill Thompson's last hope must be

FREE TRADE GOSSIP.

Some Interesting Paragraphs Culled From Leading Newspapers.

The fear of free-trade is the beginning of wisdom.

The present free trade Congress will soon be sized with attacks of tax.

Adequate defense, by all means, and let it begin with proper protection for home industries.

Changing its title from bonds to increased taxes doesn't make the added burden on the free trade ruined citizen any easier to bear.

With our free trade Congress threatening to levy a heavy tax on tobacco to raise the revenues necessary to tide us over the few remaining days of free trade farce, the last hopes of smoking the pipe of peace vanish into thin air.

The Underwood free trade advocates admit the failure of their law, but say it would work satisfactorily under peaceful conditions. Unfortunately for the burden-bearers of economic government, Free trade legislation has ever proved itself a disturber of industrial peace.

When the war is over not only will foreign orders drop, but under the existing tariff duties we are certain to suffer an influx of cheap foreign made goods that will drive American manufacturers out of the American market. There must be a change of policy if there is to be permanent prosperity.

The only invasion this country need fear from foreign lands is the invasion of goods made by the 10 cents a day wage earners over there. The only preparedness the country can have for such an invasion must come through a protective tariff. Anyone who seriously disputes this statement either ignorantly or wilfully misrepresents.

At the dinner which he gave in the White House to members of the Democratic National Committee, President Wilson asked whether any one present could suggest any campaign argument other than the tariff which the Democratic opposition could advance, and those about the table shook their heads. "The only issue the Republicans have is the tariff," said President Wilson. "Nobody knows at this time what sort of a tariff measure must be framed to meet changing conditions resulting from the war." Protectionists in the Senate have accepted the challenge of Presiden Wilson, and the tariff will be made the big issue of 1916. Protectionists will tell the President what kind of a tariff should be made.

On the direct issue of protection vs free trade, could it be brought to a vote to-day, is there any reason to believe that the American people would repudiate the former and accept the latter, that they would vote for direct taxes in preference to meeting the expenses of the government very largely through the levying of an impost on foreign-made goods? Yet Mr. Wilson will not listen to any proposal for the revision upward of the duties fixed in the Wilson-Underwood tariff act. Direct taxation is the only proper method of replenishing the treasury, as he sees it. His proposition has had a cool reception, judging from the press comment. The levying of new and unheard of taxes in time of peace is something the American people find it difficult to swallow.

"It is evident that the movement for a non-partisan tariff commission is to rough seas. For one thing, various powerful industries that desire protection do not want just enough but all they can get by party favor or otherwise".—Chicago News.

Just enough protection is all that any industrial producer wants, asks for, or expects. More than just enough would be of no possible advantage. Just enough to hold the American market against the competition of cheap foreign labor; no more, no less. Then the law of competition, and not the tariff, will keep prices down to a reasonable margin of profit. Has the News forgotten at one time the tariff on wire nails was 4 cents a pound and at that very time the domestic price of wire nails was 3½ cents a pound? Four cents a pound was more than enough, but no producer of wire nails could take advantage of it. Competition at home settled the question of prices, as it always has done and always will do under a protective tariff.

Candidates and Issues.

The Literary Digest has completed a poll of Republican editors, senators and representatives of the country on the man and the issue in 1916. Over 700 replies were received to the questions propounded. Of this number 249 declared in favor of Root, 152 for Justice Hughes, 144 for Sherman, 108 for Borah, 77 for Cummings, 58 for Fairbanks and 53 for Weeks. There were also 51 who favored Taft and 47 for Roosevelt. Sixteen votes were cast for Johnson of California. Many of those who responded favored more than one of the candidates, which explains the fact that the total of the votes exceeds the number of replies. Such an inquiry as this is interesting as an indication of tendencies, but it is not conclusive evidence of popular feeling, nor is it supposed to be. It is yet too early in the campaign for the formation of definite opinions as to candidates, and many of the people who now favor one will be favoring another in a few months. So many considerations must enter into the selection of a candidate for president that it is better to have an open mind until qualifications and conditions have been carefully and intelligently analytered. At this moment, however, it is not too much to say that Root and Hughes are first in the minds of the greater number of people who are

question. This is indicated in the results of the Literary Digest's inquiry, and it seems to be the predominant thought of the gathering of Republicans from all parts of the country in Washington this week to attend the meeting of the national committee and the National League of Republican clubs. There were not many avowed advocates for any candidate, but the names of Root and Hughes were most often heard, and it appeared to be the conviction, even among some who expressed opposition to him, that Hughes could have the nomination if he would accept it. But this is December.

The Literary Digest gives to the Globe-Democrat the distinction of sounding the keynote of the coming campaign in declaring the supreme issue to be the tariff, which, despite many other issues, is "alone sufficient unto victory." And this view is supported by 451 out of 685 Republican editors, and echoed by a majority of the senators and representatives who expressed opinion upon the subject. The first plank in the Republican platform to be adopted in Chicago next June will demand a restoration of a protective tariff. We feel quite sure about that. Whatever else may occur between now and June to develop or modify other issues, protection will not fail to be the daminant one.—Globe Democrat.

Extending the War Tax.

The House, by a narrow majority of sixteen, has passed a resolution extending the so-called "war tax" for another year. The action was expected and even imperative, provided the Democrats are determined to follow their theories as to the proper sources of revenue and preserve in extravagant appropriations. The Democrats are poor on estimates. They estimated that the "ordinary" receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, would be $278,000,000 and that the "ordinary" expenditures would be $710,000,000. These estimates eliminated postoffice expenditures. But the ordinary receipts were only $697,910,827.58, while the ordinary disbursements were $731,399,759.11, leaving an actual deficit of $33,488,931.53 instead of an estimated surplus of $18,000,000. The excess of total disbursements was $57,442,509.75 These figures are quoted from an article by Chairman Fitzgerald of the House of Committee on appropriations.

The customs receipts for the first four months of the present fiscal year were nearly $13,000,000 less than for the corresponding month of last year. Yet the Treasury Department "estimates" $240,000,000 from customs for this year as against its estimate of $220,000,000 last year. The actual receipts from that source last year were $209,000,000. The budget provides for $170,800,000 greater expenditures for 1917 than for 1916, of which only $39,800,000 is due to extraordinary military and naval expenditures. Either a bond issue or extra taxation is necessary.

The Republicans and Progressives voted against the House resolution, not because the money was not needed, but because they felt that there were other ways of getting it. Imports for the year ending November 30 were greater in value than for any year prior to 1913. The Underwood rates stimulated importations of free articles. The Republicans would prefer increased tariff duties to special taxes on business transactions. Mr. Mann objected to a year's extension on the ground that conditions may change so as to make this form of taxation unnecessary. Mr. Cannon suggested the sale of Panama Canal bonds to reimburse the treasury for advances on a great permanent improvement. The Democrats have practically used up the $166,000,000 treasury balance the Republicans left them at the end of the fiscal year 1913. They might as well draw on past Republican savings from the current revenue. But the word "bonds" frightened every Democrat. Will the margin be narrower when the additional war tax measures come to a vote in the house?—Globe Democrat.

BIRTH RATE MUCH DECREASED BY WAR.

Great Britain Shows 77,000 Fewer Than Year Ago.

Ravages of the war on Great Britain's peaceful civilian population sums up 77,000 fewer babies and more than 50,000 additional deaths as compared with the peaceful year of 1913, according to statistics available today. Seventeen thousand fewer babies than in 1913 have been born in the county of London alone. In Greater London, which includes contiguous suburbs, there is a birth decrease of 25,000 within the year while 15,000 more civilians than normally have died. London's outer ring, which includes cities not properly termed suburbs, has had 8,000 fewer infants and 5,000 more deaths than in 1913. Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, Dublin, Edinburgh, and Glasgow also are affected. In addition to the babies unborn, the United Kingdom's frightful infant mortality indirectly due to the war, is mounting Public effects have been instituted to combat the latter condition, but the fall in the birth rate is regarded as an evil directly attributable to the general devastating influence of war. The excess of civilian mortality is ascribed by medical authorities to the excitement of the war and resultant resumption, cerebral hemorrage and heart disease, principally the latter, superinduced by worry and shock. The majority of civilian war victims are persons more than 50 years of age. Four hundred such deaths occurred in London during the single week ending November 20. Figures on the birth and morality rates in Berlin, the next greatest European war city, show that the German capital is losing civilians at the rate of 400 a week. The birth rate is more than 400 less a week than normally. Hamburg, Cologne, Breslau and oth-

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natural death far in excess of the birth rate. Vienna reports indicate that the Austrian capital is losing 400 citizens a week, either through death or non-existant maternity. Birth in Paris are about 390 a week as against 800 normally. The weekly civilian death rate has not been officially computed. What all belligerent nations and cities have suffered in civilian citizenship losses proportionately, out of the estimated 9,000,000 military casualities of the world war to date, can be accurately estimated only after peace is declared.

Masons and Stars Install Officers for Insuing Year.

On Monday evening Dec. 27th, St. John's Day, the Masonic and Star Lodges of this city met and celebrated the occasion by a joint installation of the Royal Arch, Blue Lodge Masons, and Star Lodge officers for the ensuing year.

The Royal Arch officers, the first to be installed, were installed by Companion H. T. Botts assisted by Marshal Walline and were as follows:

H. P., H. T. Botts; King, John Leland Henderson; Scribe, Ray Walls; Capt. of H., E. J. Claussen; Prin Soj., E. M. Condit; Secy., Carl Haberlach; Treas., C. I. Clough; Third Vail A. A. Pennington; Second, A. H. Gaylord; First, J. E. Reedy.

The following Blue Lodge officers were then installed by R. T. Boals assisted by Marshal Walline:

W. M., E. J. Claussen; S. W., Frank Heyd; J. W., F. R. Cardiff; Treas., Irvie Keldson; Secy., A. H. Gaylord; S. D., John Keldson; J. D., H. A. Williams; S. S., A. A. Pennington; J. S. Morris Schnal; Tyler, M. V. Stillwell.

After the Installation of the Blue Lodge officers, Installing officer Mrs. Carl Haberlach assisted by Marshal Mrs. C. I. Clough installed the officers of the Star Lodge. The work was carried out in full form, the above mentioned ladies carrying it out in a manner very credible to themselves.

Following is the list of Star officers: W. M., Theresa Gaylord; W. P., A. H. Gaylord; Asso. M., Mrs. R. T. Boals; Con., Ethel Gaylord; Asso. Con., Mrs. Albert Plank; Chap., Mrs. U. G. Jackson; Marshal, Mrs. John Groat; Organist, Mrs. D. L. Shrode; Ada, Mrs. Kathryn Franklin; Ruth, Mrs Zella Condit; Esther, Mrs. Louise Reichers; Martha, Pearl Coates; Electa, Mrs. Thad Robison; Secy., Mrs. Linna Hill; Tres., E. J. Claussen; Warden, Mrs. J. E. Reedy; Sentinel, U. G. Jackson.

After the installation services the company sat down to a fine banquet and the evening was spent in different amusements.

O.I.C.

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Pastor Russell says every man makes his own hell; the idea is not new; and that's not the kind of hell Billy Sunday does business with.

One explanation of the statement of the mayor of Detrbit made in New York that though there are 40,000 automobiles in Detroit nobody is run over, is that everybody rides in automobiles and there is nobody left to run over.

What has become of the old-fashioned freak tales of yesteryear about dum dum bullets?

Our diplomatic representatives to some of the smaller European states now have to keep their trunks packed and get their laundry bundle back within twenty-four hours.

O. A. C.

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