

What the Editors Say.

Officers of the Salvation Army in the United States are working up a plan to bring from England to Canada five thousand war widows, with the expectation that they will marry upon reaching there. This will be a boon to the widows but a burden to the Canadian girls.—Sheridan Sun

The operation of the tax limiting amendment adopted by the voters of Oregon is certain to effect road building in the state in a material way. This is particularly true of state aided road building, for last year's state levy was unusually low and as a result there will be a great shortage of funds this year under the six per cent limitation of increase. It is certain that the state will be able to do nothing more than match the federal good roads money, and it may not be possible even to do that.—Oregon Register.

The dyed-in-the-wool advocate of the initiative, the Corvallis Courier, mourns because less voters cast in Benton county for the tax limitation measure than were signed to the initiative petition. Sure, brother, that's what we have all been howling about. People will sign their names to any old thing, but when it comes to voting it is different, and that's why we want to place restrictions upon petition circulation that will insure the initiation only of measures which the people really want and not what one man or a handful of men may desire.—Hillsboro Independent.

Soda water and sandwiches have been advanced in price in the effect east, and now comes the report that out here on the coast sauer kraut, the delectable, appetizing, odoriferous sauer kraut, has jumped to such a price that only the man who pays an income tax can eat it any more. But among all this mad riot for the distinction of being the highest priced article, one solitary thing stands out in startling solitude with its record of immutability and that one thing is the "schooner" of beer which can still be bought wherever it is sold, for the same old jincey price of five cents.—Umpqua Valley News.

No sooner do the people vote down the proposed Normal school at Pendleton, that a request comes from the state agriculture college for an increased appropriation of \$100,000 for the construction of a new fire-proof library building. Keep your ears open now for noise like another appropriation for the university at Eugene. It was in 1912 that we enacted the millage law for the state institutions, and it was declared at that time that this law would suffice for all needs, and the legislature would not again be harassed with appeals for more money. Needs would be automatically provided for. Renewed clamor comes after three year's silence. Remember the tax limitation law just voted, and its object.—Telephone Register.

About this time of the year when the autumn chill gets into the air, it has been the custom from time immemorial to close down all the windows tight for the winter, chink up all the cracks in the house and hermetically seal up the sleeping and living rooms. At the same time the fires are started and kept going without intermission. The result of all these precautions is all sorts of winter colds and a heavy toll every year from pneumonia. If the windows were kept open and the rooms maintained at only a moderate temperature, there would be few colds and almost no pneumonia. It is a false notion that causes us to be afraid of cold air. There is nothing dangerous about it and it is infinitely to be preferred to the superheated and waste-laden air that soon fill our rooms when the windows are kept shut and the fires in full blast. Open up the windows and let the air in; it means better health and longer life.—Itemizer.

From information at hand it appears that the German people are perpetrating two outrages upon helpless conquered nations of Europe. First, the enslavement of thousands of every means of earning an existence. Nothing in modern history compares with this, unless it be the historical exile of the Arcadians of early French Canadian history, presented so touchingly in story and song. But what was a mere incident compared with this movement to exterminate a nation by robbing it of its men. Not satisfied with subjugating an innocent nation it proceeds to tax it to the verge of death and they rob it of every means of revival. The rational thing for every able bodied Belgian to do now is to join the allies. And the American people would be more than justified in remonstrating against such unparalleled savagery of the customs of civilized warfare. The second offense is the proposition to establish the kingdom of Poland with a German ruler, after which the condition is advanced that to enjoy this forced independence, the prostrate Polish government must organize and maintain an army in support of the central allies. If the Poles decline they lose their freedom. If they accept the terms and the German allies lose out as everyone in Europe now believes they must, the Polish hope for nationalization will surely fail, as they cannot expect the Russians to establish them as a nation if they now establish themselves with the Germans. It is crooked business all through and deserves the condemnation of civilized people everywhere.—Mt. Scott Herald.

What the Farmer Did. A city man recently visited his "country cousin." The man from the city, wishing to explain the joys of metropolitan life, said: "We have certainly been having fun the last few days. Thursday we autoed to the country club and golfed until dark, then trooped back to town and danced until morning." The country cousin was not to be stumped in the least, so began telling

of some of the pleasures of the simple life: "We have had pretty good times here too. One day we bugged out to Uncle Ned's and went out on the back lot, where we baseballled all that afternoon. In the evening we sneaked up in the attic and poked until morning."

A sturdy old farmer who was listening, not to be outdone, took up the conversation at this point and said: "I was having some fun about that time myself. I muled to the cornfield and gee-hawed until sundown. Then I sipped until dark and piped until 9 o'clock, after which I bedsteaded until the clock fiveed, after which I breakfasted until it was time to go muling again."—Banks Herald.

Dollar A Horse-Power. About \$1,000,000 can be raised by Oregon for the improvement of its permanent state highways by increasing the auto license fees to a dollar a horse-power. The little machine would pay \$12 to \$20 a year, the price of a tire; the larger cars from \$25 to \$75. Every machine would save the amount of the increased fee every time it made a trip over any long stretch of rough road made smooth with license fee money.

Can any auto owner save tire expense and repair expense any better than by having rough roads made smooth? Isn't the rough road the main cause of the high cost of auto running? Isn't the paved road the best expense saver to the auto owner? And isn't the auto owner the main beneficiary of the paved highway? When he can save money by paying a higher license fee why shouldn't he favor the increase?

If the increase of auto license fees is only a small one, it will be necessary for the state to bond itself to get the good roads we need.

We can save bonding by having a high license fee for our autos, and get a magnificent system of roads for dear old Oregon while we are yet alive to use them.—Oregon Voter.

Hope for World in Declaration of German Chancellor. Germany desires peace. The masses began to crave peace earnestly when it became evident that the seapower of England and the manpower of France and Russia could neither be broken down or worn out. The militarists and the government have withstood the popular desire, taking hope upon success at Verdun, but as this hope has failed the government from time to time during the last half year has said things and permitted things to be done or said by others, which indicate to trained observers that it is feeling around for some way to escape from inevitable defeat.

The latest evidence is supplied by the chancellor. He has recently uttered the momentous and possibly eventful declaration that Germany is ready to join a league of nations which would keep would-be disturbers of world peace in check. Emperor William must have known what Bethmann-Hollweg was to say to the reichstag, and it follows that the chancellor's avowal was not disapproved by the emperor. The fact gives meaning and value to public statement.

Chancellor Hollweg confessed that if the world realizes the woe and waste and wickedness of war, then will ring out a demand for peaceful understandings which will effect all in human power to prevent this catastrophe of civilization. This confession by the supreme authority in Germany relegates the Bernhards, Reventlows, Tirpitzes and Treitschkes to the rear. It is an abandonment of German counteraction a decade or so ago against steps taken at the Hague or effects made toward such steps for the substitution or arbitration for war as the means of adjusting international quarrels. It shows that even in Germany "civilization does get forward—sometimes upon a powder-cart." There is hope for the world and for its peace and welfare when such words of wisdom are uttered in Germany.

The Country Editor. The editor in a rural town is sure an uncrowned king; he has the big majority on admiration's string, for 'tis believed the knowledge box inside his brany brain holds everything on God's green earth and on the seas between. When information is desired the knowledge-seeking men in eagerness hotfoot it to the editorial den and place implicit confidence in him; his answer goes as hard-boiled, solid, gospel truth, because they know he knows. Sometimes he writes the sermon for the village dominion when that good shepherd's weary brain is sadly out of key, and o'er spellbinding trains of thought his weary back will hump at so much per for candidates to fire off on the stump. At public meetings he is called to occupy the chair, a parliamentarian is he, and on the square. With rare exceptions he is not a patron of the bank, is never overweighted with mazuma in his flank, but always finds the needed coin to meet his monthly bills and treat the hearts of backroom help to monetary thrills. A genuine automobile but few can climb aboard, but quite a goodly number feel they can afford a Ford, and oft beside "our better half" ye editor is seen disturbing dust on country roads aboard the swift machine. Here's to the country editor; more power to his pen; may good subscribers often drift into his littered den and pat him 'tween the shoulder blades and quince up the jough, and when he quints the earth go where 'tilligents never go. James Barton Adams.

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WILL HURT ROAD WORK. New Tax Limitation Hinders Highway Improvement.

Now that the people of Oregon have voted the six per cent limitation law, it becomes apparent that a great deal of proposed good road work will have to be abandoned. Under this law the state highway commission is prohibited from levying a rate which will raise more than six per cent over the total road taxes of last year.

Two years ago the road levy fixed raised more than was needed and in consequence a lower levy was made last year. And now that the six per cent limit is on, this tax body is in a quandary as to what road improvements can be made this year. The highway commission wants to meet the federal offer, and go 50-50 on a number of important highways this coming year, and it wants to please a number of counties by aiding them in good road building, but it also will have to take into account its decreased exchequer. And it now begins to look as if many communities will see their hopes of good roads smashed.

One of the highways of prime importance on which it was thought a great deal of work would be done next year, but which seems doomed to wait awhile now, is the road from the Willamina valley to Tillamook by way of Dolph and the Little Nestucca. It has been expected that the state highway commission would give this road state aid to the amount of \$15,000. But when A. G. Beals of Tillamook, appointed by the county court to confer with the commission, came to Salem this week the commission refused to officially promise the expected amount. Mr. Beals told the commission that Tillamook county expected to raise that amount if the state would pledge equal aid. He said the county court must have the pledge or it could not put the \$15,000 item in its budget this year. The members of the commission explained to Mr. Beals that they had consistently refused all similar requests from many counties for varying amounts as they did not yet know whether the state would be financially able to fulfill the promises if they made them. The commission members stated that they favored the Little Nestucca route to the coast and assured Mr. Beals that in the event the state could aid Tillamook county every effort would be made to do so. Governor Withycombe has also stated that he anticipated changes in the entire road plan of the state which would further deter him from promising any aid.

Mr. Beals appointment was made by the county court of Tillamook county following a mass meeting of the people in the county who favored the Little Nestucca route from Yamhill county to the coast. And Tillamook's turn-down by the commission is only a slight intimation of the forced stand it will have to take in turning its back on good roads work for the coming year.—Polk County Observer.

BEAVER. Miss Agnes Swartz has been absent from school for two and one half days on account of sickness. Abe Bays has come home from Pacific City to spend the winter. Sixty-two dollars in cash and plenty of labor have been given by the people of this district for a playshed. The play shed will be commenced in a few days. W. J. Gilbert, who has been in Portland on business for a couple of weeks returned home on Thursday, bringing with him his wife, who went out Saturday. A few of the people have been grading off the bank in front of the church making it look a great deal better. W. N. Bays also took the fever and leveled the bank off in front of his lot. On Saturday the electric lights were in use in Beaver. Beaver looks very bright and so do most of the people. Fred Gilbert and his father have moved to Beaver, where they will spend the winter. Jennie Curl, who has been in the hospital for some time, is improving rapidly. She left the hospital Wednesday. Otis Curl came very near losing his life last Thursday by falling off a horse, but escaped with a fractured nose.

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