

What the Editors Say.

If Nelson, the victor of Trafalgar had lived in these days, he would have been discharged as physically unfit, for he had only one eye, one arm and was a chronic invalid. But he was "some fighter."—Oregonian.

Undaunted by the high cost of living the crop of marriages blossoms in greater abundance than ever. That is the incomparable optimism of youth. The two living as cheaply as one is a clever little hoax of cupid.—Sheridan Sun.

Senator Stone of Missouri, denies that he is a pro-German sympathizer which leaves him in the equally contemptible position of merely dropping monkey-wrenches into the national machinery at every opportunity.—Oregon Register.

With a fixed price of \$2.20 a bushel for wheat there will be no worry on the part of the farmer to make both ends meet—but the consumer may have some difficulty in pulling his ends together before winter is over.—Umpqua Valley News.

President Wilson has decided to fix the price of coal at \$2 per ton for bituminous or soft coal at most of the mines, with a slightly higher or lower price for different localities, conditions and ease of operation, and a provision that the jobbers shall not receive more than fifteen cents for handling. The price is nearly double that of 1914.—Telephone Register.

McMinnville is to have a "grocery." M. E. Hendricks is to open one in the quarters made vacant by the firm of Laughlin & Sitton going out of business. The News-Reporter informs its readers that a "grocery" is a grocery store where you carry home the things you buy and pay at the door as you leave.—Newberg Enterprise.

Tax the rich before the poor are taxed for this war. The eyes of the voters are upon the members of Congress. If they do not pursue a straight course they will be defeated at the polls. There is no doubt of this. It is the duty of every paper of Oregon to publish the records of the Oregon Senators and representatives at Washington.—Woodburn Independent.

The war tax on whisky will bring in \$100,000,000 less than it would have brought if congress hadn't fooled around so long with it. Apparently about 10,000,000 gallons of whisky will be withdrawn from bond before the tax becomes operative. And the money the nation needs for war expenses goes into the pockets of the whisky interests.—Umpqua Valley News.

The man who can bring a hog to town and sell the porker at \$20 per hundred and with the money turn around and buy his winter's supply of coal is not the man who has the real kick coming. The one who has a roar coming is the laboring and toiling man caught between the crush of all advanced prices without opportunity to increase his income. Isn't that so?—News Times.

The newspapers could do themselves and their community a real service by resolving to refuse to print any of the free dope sent out and then sticking to the resolution. The government doesn't ask the railroads to transport supplies free of charge, nor the soldiers to work for nothing, nor the shipbuilders to build ships gratis, nor the munition manufacturers to donate their powder and shells. If it did they would be laughed at and scorned. The president and the cabinet officers and congress are still drawing their salaries and when they decline to take them for patriotic reasons then it will be time for the newspapers to give away their only commodity, which is advertising space.—Corvallis Gazette.

With all authorities agreeing that there can be no slump in dairy products for a long time to come it would be well for those planning to dispose of their herds this fall to reconsider the decision. It is true that feed is scarce and high, but this condition can be better met in this district than in others less favored and the man with cows in Washington county will be in a much better position to reap future benefits than those elsewhere. As a matter of fact a producing cow represents much more than its selling price deposited in a bank, and it is certain that if it is sold this year it will require more than the money received plus the cost of the feed to buy it back next spring.—Independent.

General Pershing's cabled admonition to the American people, to be patient and not expect him to rush the American forces recklessly to the firing line, will be well received by all thoughtful citizens. "It is impossible," he reminds us, "to create a vast fighting machine merely by the wave of a hand." Or, as Clemenceau forcefully phrased it in a similar message to the American public, a modern army can not be improvised. History abounds in solemn warnings of the folly of untimely attack by unprepared or imperfectly prepared armies. Probably more wars have been lost from that error than from any other blunder, a fact thoroughly known to the Prussian leaders, and General Pershing well says that to put an inadequate, insufficiently supplied force into actual combat would merely be making a mistake which the Germans unquestionably have hoped and expected the United States would make. Our work is well cut out before us. This year we are to exert all our resources to the task of providing food for the allies, of putting our stupendous credit behind them, and of building up a great fighting force that will hit the German line next year and hit it hard and

decisively.—Spokesman Review.

Startling Revelation About the Draft Law.

General Young's illuminating statement in yesterday's Spokesman-Review affords a startling revelation of the inadequacy of the present draft law for sustained warfare with the Teutonic powers.

We registered 9,600,000 men, and the magnitude of these numbers may lull the country into a false sense of sufficiency. But General Young reminds us that only approximately 2,000,000 will qualify for military service. The remaining 7,600,000 will be exempted on one ground or another.

The government is now making the first draft of 687,000 and is preparing for a second draft of probably the same number. When these two drafts have been made there will remain of the available 2,000,000 but 626,000 men in reserve.

Bue experience shows, as we are further reminded, that three men are required in reserve for each man on the firing line. We should have in reserve three times 1,734,000 men—4,122,000 instead of 626,000.

How shall they be provided? By amending the draft law, in the judgment of this eminent authority of the regular army, so as to require registration in 1918 of all men (not previously registered) of the ages of 19 to 31, inclusive.

On June 5, 1918, there would be three classes—19, 20 and 21 years of age—affected by the amendment. These three classes would total 3,000,000 but exemptions would be of much lower percentage in these ages than in the other classes. General Young estimates that out of the 3,000,000 the government would secure within 4 per cent of the number that will be secured from the present registration of 9,600,000.

General Young shows from the records of the war department that in the civil war an overwhelming majority of the men in the Union armies were 21 years and under when they enlisted, "exactly that class which has been omitted by the present draft law." The official figures are 2,159,798 men in the Union armies of 21 years and under, as against \$618,511 of 22 years and over.

In conclusion General Young forcibly says that the logic of these facts and figures "points with unerring accuracy to universal military training as the fundamental principle of a permanent continuing military policy."

Not many months ago a great many people thought Mr. Bryan was right when he said preparedness was not needed, for if the United States should ever be attacked a million men would spring to arms in a day. Now that the nation has been aroused from its false sense of security by the terrific lessons of the world war, it comprehends the truth and force of General Young's axiom, "the potentiality of a nation is feared by no prepared adversary. It is the actual power it can exert at a given moment that compels, through fear, respect for its sovereignty."

The Kaiser's Telegram.

Mr. Gerard has done at least one service by the publication of the kaiser's telegram to President Wilson. He has brought it home again to the German people that they have really been without self government. And the comments of the liberal German press upon the kaiser's indiscretion of 1914, as now revealed, are surprisingly outspoken and bitter. At first, the official organ of the government stated that it was in a position to affirm that no such message had ever been sent by the kaiser. But before the ink was dry on that statement came the printing of the authentic text of the telegram in Washington. The point was sure to be made in Germany, as it has been with emphasis, that this meddling of the kaiser in foreign relations was a distinct violation of the pledge which he made to the reichstag when Prince Bulow was chancellor and threatened to resign unless William II would agree to keep his hands off the conduct of foreign affairs. And it is not only the kaiser who now comes in for severe arraignment in the German press. Chancellor Michaelis and the new foreign secretary are sharply taken to task for having shuffled and misrepresented in the matter of the kaiser's telegram. The whole has been one more disagreeable disclosure of one-man power in Germany.—The Nation.

Are You a Liability?

Commerce and Finance.

It is not unusual for men that are careless, improvident or unsuccessful to say that the world owes them a living. Such men usually are a liability instead of an asset to the world.

An actuary of high rank declares a man is a burden to society or is likely to become one, unless he has, free and clear of all obligations:

At the age of 25	\$228
At the age of 30	534
At the age of 35	942
At the age of 40	1404
At the age of 45	1974
At the age of 50	2676
At the age of 55	3570
At the age of 60	4764
At the age of 65	6000

If you accept these figures you may determine whether you are a human asset or a liability.

Buying Smokes for Soldiers.

There is a pretty strong suspicion that the tobacco trust has pinned its greedy merchandising schemes onto the sentiment that has swept the country favoring every aid and comfort that can be supplied the American soldier. "Patriotic tobacco trust tobacco" has been advanced in price but by the aid of public spirited citizens throughout the country, the tire American supply can likely be unloaded onto the soldiers and sailors to such an extent that those who go to France will not need to par-

chase the European article.

A Little Slice o' Life.

My wife, poor wretch, as Sam Pepys Would have said, has been doing Red cross.

Work during the humid spell, And has been so red and cross that we Have been having war at home as well As abroad.

She is an integral part of Eighteen "movements" which have Been organized in the Past two weeks, and when I mentioned the fact that there Have been no feet in my socks for Quite a spell and that Darning had become a lost Art about our shack she hinted That if I joined the army I would Have

Whole socks the year round There is no use in arguing With a woman, You are whipped Before you fire a shot.

—R. K. Moulton in New York Mail.

The Traitor.

By Berton Braley.

He hangs out a flag from his home and his office, He always stands up at "The Star Spangled Banner." In talks and discussions he rails at the Prussians And handles the kaiser in a virulent manner; He always is present at loyalty meetings, And up on the platform he pays for a seat, (The price doesn't matter, his profits are fatter, Since war gave him a chance for cornering wheat.)

He talks with emotion of "brave soldier laddies" Or "noble young jockies who sail on the foam," Then shoots up the price on potatoes and rice, And other things needed abroad and at home;

He praises brave mothers who give their sons freely, Then soaks these same mothers for clothing and food, But if you cry "traitor" this smooth speculator Will think you are one of a lunatic brood.

Yet Benedict Arnold was only a piker Compared to the man who, amid all the strife, Will seize on the chances to force huge advances In things that a nation depends on for life; He did his foul work in the war of secession, He poisoned our boys in the conflict with Spain— High up on the gibbet we ought to exhibit This traitor who holds up a nation for gain!

Smile a Little.

Mrs. Nexdor: "Professor Adagio called at our house yesterday and my daughter played the piano for him. He just raved over her playing."

Winks: "What did Jones die of?" Blinks: "Overwork—earning money enough to pay for the operation that saved his life."

"Did you tell your husband everything?" "No; he won't listen to me for more than three or four hours at a stretch."

"And so you are a large family," asked the caller. "Yes," replied the eldest son, "There are ten of us boys, and we each have a sister."

"Good Gracious! Then there are twenty of you?" "Oh, no. Only eleven."

"Ma, won't yer let me have some cake now?" "Didn't Oi tell ye Oi wouldn't give it to ye at all if ye didn't kape still?" "Yes, but—" "Wel, the longer you kape still the sooner ye'll get it, moind that."

"So you confess that unfortunate young man was carried to the pump, and there drenched with water? Now, Mr. Fresh, what part did you take in this disagreeable affair?" Undergraduate, (meekly) "The left leg, sir."

"Uncle Peter Bates was a local celebrity who kept the tavern at Randolph, Vermont, in the old staging days. One morning after breakfast, as a stranger was about to depart without paying his bill, Uncle Peter walked up to him and blandly said: "Mister, if you should lose your pocket book between here and Mantpelier, remember you didn't take it out here."

My wife is planning a little canning, The house is all upset, There's no use denying that she is buying The greatest outfit yet. She has me hopping and daily shopping. The start I'd gladly see. For all this planning about her canning, Is jarring me.

"It's such a god world he? Then tell me this." "Well?" "Why isn't the pearl found in the oyster with the regularity that marks the appearance of the fly in the ointment?"

It is very nice to think That the world is full of meat and drink. One fact, however, makes us sigh, The fact that prices are so high.

"It's such a good world, eh? Then fided the sweet young thing at the boarding house." "Well, I'd hardly go that far," replied the grouchy boarder, "but I will say that you have darned little."

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