

What the Editors Say.

The world is just beginning to realize how far it is to Berlin. Likewise, the kaiser is learning that it is a long, long way from his domicile to London, Paris, and some other cities he would like to enter.—Itemizer.

Cheer up. The flap-jacks are assured for another winter. A 20,000,000 bushel buckwheat crop is the latest forecast for the United States. This is an increase of 8,000,000 bushels over the 1916 crop.—Itemizer.

"The Turks can go to hell!" Billy Sunday told his Los Angeles audience. The general impression in Christian countries is that they not only can but do. If the Turks don't go there the place might as well be abolished.—Telephone Register.

The man who has a roar coming these days, is the laboring man caught between the crush of all advanced prices without opportunity to increase his income. Yet, he is most patient and has displayed the most loyal patriotism.—News Reporter.

The price of hay made its purchase prohibitive so she was in town looking for baled straw. None was to be had. So she sacrificed the family cow because there was no feed for its winter maintenance. That night the sky was illuminated by burning straw stacks. "Wilful waste makes woeful want." So it is always.—Sheridan Sun.

Argentina, Sweden and Russia are supplying the daily world events with Germany in the near background. Events are shaping for the entrance of more nations in the struggle. What a cleanup of old secret scores the world is getting, with the blood of thousands of innocent people to wash out the blots of perfidy.—Williamina Times.

Editors are not exempt from being drafted, because it is a matter of common knowledge that everybody knows how to run a newspaper and it would be easy to get a substitute. It's different with joy-riding, for instance, because only out of a million can run an automobile 60 miles an hour and live.—Seaside Signal.

It is hinted that Mr. Edison is perfecting an invention that will make war so deadly that nations can't afford to indulge in it. It is a device for hurling bolts of electricity with such frightful effect that whole armies will be annihilated almost instantly. This would beat a submarine destroyer "all holler."—Telephone Register.

Some of the pro-German supporters in this country should put on the soft pedal in the attacks they are making on the president and administration. With the unscrupulous intrigues of the kaiser and his satellites being uncovered every day, patience is about to cease. This is a free country all right, but freedom does not mean that you can stab your neighbor in the back, seize his property and murder his family, just because you are strong enough to do it.—News Times.

Whether concrete paving on highway makes a bit depends largely upon the intelligence with which it is maintained in condition. In Wayne County, Michigan, and Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, the county commissioners keep crews of men on the concrete highways from early spring to late fall, filling cracks and holes with a tar mixture. The result is that those two counties have roads in fine condition, while concrete pavements originally just as good have gone to pieces elsewhere, just from neglect. Witness the condition of many miles of concrete pavement in Portland and Oregon. It is to be hoped that the new concrete roads laid in Oregon will not be suffered to deteriorate when their preservation in good condition is such a simple inexpensive matter.—Oregon Voter.

Worried school boards that have never been sure of their teachers until the ones engaged have actually appeared and begun work will welcome the announcement of State Superintendent Churchill that he will revoke the certificate of any teacher who resigns within thirty days of the beginning or during a term except for unavoidable cause. Of course all teachers are not unscrupulous and when they sign a contract they expect to keep it, no matter what develops, but too many regard the contract as a temporary expedient to be repudiated if a better opening presents itself, and apparently care little for the predicament in which a school board is placed by their breach of confidence. The practice has indeed become so common that these contracts have come to be regarded as a one-sided affair which held the board but could not hold the teacher, but Mr. Churchill's rule insures that they will not be entered into lightly and when once made will be kept.—Hillsboro Independent.

A Portland paper, commenting on the high price of fodder and the fact that many dairy cows are being sold for beef, adds: "The quality of milk delivered in the city has been reduced materially owing to the fact that the dairymen are not feeding the sort of food that makes rich milk. They are substituting cheaper foods. There has been a noticeable decrease in the amount of butter fat and other solids in samples of milk gathered by the milk inspectors lately, even from the better grade of dairymen." Nothing has been more firmly established by experiments conducted by the department of agriculture than the fact that save for a very slight variation for a day or two, a change of feed never changes the quality of the cow's milk. The same cow always gives the same quality of milk, except that the age of the animal makes some difference. A shortage of one or more of the needed ingredients in the feed causes a reduction in quantity, but not in quality.—Oregon Register.

Humanity on a U-Boat.

The master of the American bark Christiane, which was sunk by a German submarine near the Azores, reports an interesting conversation with the U-Boat captain. The latter took him aboard, gave him a good meal, and incidentally explained that he "hated to sink American ships," and only did so because, with Germany and the United States at war, he couldn't help it. He added that he couldn't really believe the stories that U-boat commanders had fired on life boats, and that "so far as he was concerned, no lifeboat would ever meet such a fate."

There's food for reflection in the mere fact that American newspapers should have through this incident worth reporting in full, and that their readers received it with a thrill of interest and appreciation. Why should so simple an expression of ordinary humanity and decency attract so much attention? Such courteous behavior would have been taken as a matter of course if shown by a representative of any other navy. Can we imagine an American naval commander doing anything else than expressing his regret to the captain of a helpless merchantman that he had been obliged to sink, in obedience to orders? Or firing on a life boat full of innocent non-combatants, orders or no orders?

But coming from a U-boat commander, this expression of humane sentiment compels attention by its exceptional nature. It is so unusual for sailors of any allied or neutral nation to receive any courtesy whatever from representatives of the German navy that one kindly word or act stands out like a beacon above the general welter of ruthlessness and humanity.

It is a vivid reminder of the appalling reputation that Germany has gained at sea, and the long, hard task it will be after the war to live down that reputation. Among the world's freemasonry of marines the Germans will have no friends—not because they are Germans, but because of their ready acquiescence in the ugly work their imperial master ordered them to do.—Umpqua Valley News.

Fish Fiasco.

The rivers of Oregon abound with fish, the Food Administrator Ayer has performed a genuine service by impressing that patent fact upon the householders of Oregon. But it is quite obvious that the machinery of distribution and sale must be repaired. The food administrator twice notifies the public that good, wholesome salmon is to be had in the markets at 15 cents per pound, and he urges that it be bought freely, and put up for winter use. But when the trusting housewife, sure that everything has been arranged just as the administrator says, goes to market, she learns that she must pay 20 cents a pound for salmon of first class quality and that the 15-cent salmon is poor—which it is not.

Naturally Mr. Ayer is indignant; so is the buying public. He had evidently assumed that the proclamation of a food administrator, clothed under the law with ample power to enforce his decrees, was sufficient. He was mistaken. The fish dealers appear to think that they may fix whatever prices they please, or can get. They, too, are mistaken. These are war times, and food conservation is the great need and duty of the hour and the Government proposes to protect itself and its people through food control.

It ought to be understood by dealers and by all concerned that Mr. Ayer as food administrator has unprecedented powers. It will be a good thing if he will inform the market men that they are not free agents. It is no hardship on the fish dealers to sell salmon at 15 cents which they buy at 8 cents. Down at St. Johns the other day a market had excellent salmon on sale at 6 cents, caught by the dealer himself. Not everyone may fish for himself, or buy from such a one, but 7 cents would appear to be a pretty fair margin.

It is necessary however, that Mr. Ayer and the dealers understand one another better. If they learn from him directly, and not by general public notice, just what to do, we think they will do it. If not, the next move by the administrator is clear enough. Meanwhile, fall days are here, and the salmon are running bountiful in the Columbia, and the citizen who does not want to pay for his salmon should go fishing in the Columbia or the Sandy. If he gets nothing he can lay it to bad luck for the fish are there.—Oregonian.

Prussian Warfare a Reversion to Barbarism.

Socialists delegates to the Minneapolis conference of the American Alliance of Labor and Democracy have joined in a statement that should silence and shame those socialists who are playing the kaiser's game by keeping up an agitation for an impossible peace that would be equivalent to Prussian victory, says the Spokesman Review.

The whole case is stated irrefutably in these two brief paragraphs: "German autocracy, with its feudalistic moves; German junkerdom, German plutocracy—in short, German militarism—constitutes the last citadel of the world's dark, reactionary forces."

"We are convinced that the war in which the United States is now engaged is as just a war as was ever waged by a liberty-loving people against ruthless aggression and oppressive tyranny."

The issue could not be more vivid and clear. Twentieth century progress freedom and enlightenment are fighting medieval doctrines of the divine right of kings. The Prussian tyranny is worse than medieval rule, for medieval warfare bore the redeeming flowers of chivalry and knightly tenderness. It was considerate of childhood, womanhood and age. It protected the weak and succored the ill. It gave kindly quarter to a worsted foe. It spared churches, cathedrals

and shrines. Princes who fought their knightly oaths were held in execration, and occasional knights who transgressed the laws of chivalry became outcasts and outlaws.

Prussian warfare is a reversion to barbarism and savagery. It seeks victory through terrorism on land and sea. It tears up treaties, betrays the privileges of its diplomats at neutral capitals, and proclaims itself above international law.

Socialists with hearts and vision see the truth and are fired with righteous resolution to lift their lances against the monstrous evil of Prussian intolerance, cruelty and crime.

Government Purchase of Wheat.

The government through the \$50,000,000 United States grain corporation of the national food administration, entered the wheat market and the theory of government control had its first actual tryout.

The government is buying only on warehouse receipts, and no contract will be made for future delivery.

Some minor details still remain to be worked out, but they are not of sufficient moment to interfere with the operation of the system. These have to do with the methods of procedure, as, for instance, the corporation is not yet declared to charge the 1 per cent for handling as a matter of price on each transaction, or to simply add the 1 per cent to the monthly statement to customers.

A retail baker was recently quoted as having said that the farmers would hold out for a higher price for their wheat. As government control does not begin until the wheat reaches the elevators or terminals, there is nothing to prevent the producer from holding out his individual harvest, but this will be neither feasible or profitable. It was pointed out by an official connected with the corporation that in the first place an individual holding would not affect the supply, and in the second place that, as congress fixed next year's prices on the basis of \$2 wheat, there would be no chance of risking the loss by deterioration to meet a condition that would exclude greater profit.

The control of the food administration over prices begins in the elevators and ends with the sale of flour at a 25-cent-a-barrel profit by the millers. If bread prices are not lowered and the bakers seek to keep the increased profit that will obtain between the lowered milling prices and the present high retail prices, then the food administration will step in, but until that condition arises the corporation will not interfere.

The food law allows millers to keep only a thirty-day stock on hand, a measure to prevent hoarding, and the corporation has not made public an agreement that may have been reached as to the proportionate allotment to the various mills. These allotments are being carefully worked out between Mr. Barnes and James Bell, chairman of the central millers' committee.

The arrangement between the corporation and the mills of the United States began on September 10, but it was in order to furnish a stable basis to the thousands of country elevators and other buyers who are in doubt as to the value of their purchases when delivered at the terminals that the corporation began the making of purchases by the various zone agencies.

Price of Potatoes May Possible be 60 Cents.

While the new crop of potatoes is now worth about two cents per pound the commission men say the chances are good for a decided drop in prices as soon as general digging begins and the big potato states can average up their crops.

The Idaho crop is a bumper one and Colorado and Minnesota both heavy growers of potatoes report excellent conditions. All of which may possibly mean that the price here as an opener may be something like 50 or 60 cents.

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Are You Looking Old?

Old age come quick enough without inviting it. Some look old at forty. That is because they neglect the liver and bowels. Keep your bowels regular and your liver healthy and you will not only feel younger but look younger. When troubled with constipation or biliousness take Chamberlain's Tablets. They are intended especially for these ailments and are excellent. Easy to take and most agreeable in effect. For sale by Lamar's Drug Store.

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