

WITH THE EDITORS

Discuss Questions of Interest to People.

A pastor sold his church in order to collect \$40 back salary. Members of a church who would make it necessary for their pastor to go to such extremes to collect what he had earned twice over, probably had very little use for the building anyway.—The Sentinel.

A Topeka pastor has gone on record as refusing to close his church on prayer meeting night to please the fuel administration. He says the other churches may do as they want to, but that his church shall never close on prayer meeting night. He says, "Better to save souls than to save coal." This man lets his religion zeal get away with his good sense. The Lord will hear prayer in a man's own home or on the street. Then too, what's the matter with cottage prayer meetings.—Telephone Register.

A year ago the cry was raise all the potatoes, beans and other vegetables you can. The government's high and lower representatives urged the people to go in, and produce. The people responded nobly, and today we notice farmers, in some localities, are trying hard to find a market for their crops. It would seem almost a matter of criminal negligence on the part of the men of the business world, to permit any of that crop to go to waste. It can and should be moved to where it is needed.—Williamina Times.

There is likely to be a funny mixup when the ballots of the May primary are counted, for the attorney general has ruled that two senatorial vacancies are to be filled—the unexpired term of Senator Lane, which ends in March, 1919, and the new term which begins on that date. You can never tell the results until the ballots are counted, and suppose for the sake of illustration the Mr. McNary, the present incumbent, is defeated for the short term and elected for the long, while one of the gentlemen who have announced themselves for the place is elected to take his place for one year.—Independent.

Floyd Ramp, the noted Oregon agitator and often called a rank anarchist, had his trial in federal court in Portland last week charged with seditious utterances against the government. He admitted himself to be an atheist and out of joint with the government, and the jury was only forty-five minutes in deciding him guilty as charged. His conviction carries with it a maximum fine of \$10,000 and twenty years in prison. He has given notice of appeal and is out on bail of \$15,000. He was more or less known in Yamhill and Polk counties where the socialistic tendencies publicly expressed marked him as a Bolshevik with even more radical views.—Sheridan Sun.

Speaking of the benefits of the purchase of war saving stamps Frank A. Vanderlip, chairman of the National War Saving Committee said: "This is the first time in history when the United States government ever offered anything at bargain prices." Mr. Vanderlip went on to say that the fact derlip went on to say that the fact that the purchase price of the War Savings stamp increases in value from month to month should appeal to the women folks especially and speed up sales in the early months of the campaign. War Saving Stamps, of a maturity value of \$5 in five years, costing \$4.13 in February and will increase 1 cent each month through December this year, the last month in which they may be purchased.—News Reporter.

The Observer was one paper which tried to boost for Dr. Kerr of O. A. C. as long as boosting was good, but it will be noticed that for several moons now we have had not a word to say. There is wide difference of opinion as to Mr. Kerr's motives, but most people will perhaps agree that much injury has been done to the institution and to the fair name of education in Oregon by Dr. Kerr's escapade. An educator is placed on a pedestal, and is supposed to live up to the reputation which is imputed to him, and when he falls off the perch, as Dr. Kerr seems to have done, he places a blotch on the fair fame of the profession which it is liable to take him a long time to remove. Dr. Kerr is not, and we prophesy never will be the man in Oregon that he was a few months ago.—Polk County Observer.

Those who will have charge of putting over the coming Liberty Loan drive will have a man-sized job, for securing quotas will mean hard digging from individuals. Heretofore the work has meant little more than solicitation to take a share and the amount was left to the individual, and the quota was rounded out by the amount subscribed by the banks. In the coming loan, however, the banks cannot be counted on too strongly, for they all have the limit they are permitted to carry, and the fellow with idle money will have to step into the breach and take their places. It will be up to those in charge of the work, then, to see that there are no slackers in this class, and it is likely the campaign will proceed along the lines of requesting subscriptions on a

basis of what can be afforded or a good reason for refusal.—Hillsboro Independent.

If our readers were to see the amount of matter thrown into the waste basket by us, which was sent us for publication, they would probably, after reading the contents of the waste paper basket, say we are not patriotic or so much good patriotic stuff would not be thrown away. In Tuesday's mail we received enough reading matter sent us from various government departments to more than fill our entire paper—all intended for publication. Nothing else left to do but to make use of our waste paper basket. And therein is where the government is wasting a whole lot of the people's good money. The expense of preparing, printing, mailing, and delivering to the newspapers and to the people of the county the millions of pieces of reading matter sent out, the great part of which is wasted, is certainly enormous and a very great saving could be made if steps were taken to eliminate about 90 per cent of it.—Itemizer.

Sinking of the Tuscania has once more stamped indelibly the word "murder" on German methods of war. A great ship crowded with gallant men was stabbed in the dark by a skulking, unseen enemy. When other ships came to the rescue, another torpedo was fired in an effort to sink the rescuers and to complete the slaughter of the fugitives from the doomed ship. Where is the chivalry which moves men to meet in fair, open fight and which refuses to strike at a stricken antagonist? War had already become an affair of mechanics when Germany set to work to divest it of its last redeeming features of romance and humanity by making it mere wholesale murder freed from all moral restraint. The single aim is to kill as many of the enemy as possible by any means, however cruel and despicable, and under any circumstances, however strong the appeal of helplessness. Germany has done her utmost finally to discredit her chosen, favorite industry.—Oregonian.

We have always said that Germany is starving and we are unable to find authorities and reports that convince us different, unless through neutral channels Germany has stored quantities of food stuff for her armies but none for the people at home. But our food administration tells us not to look for a collapse of Germany on account of food shortage because they have plenty. There you are. Now comes a man direct from Germany, who has lived there during all of this war, and he tells people are starving and dying at a fearful rate. The people of Germany are kept in ignorance as to worldly conditions. That's the only way the kaiser Hun can control them and he knows it. Uncle Sam ought to get the real news to them, even if he has to shoot it to them through a cannon. It would soon change conditions and end the war with a Republic of Germany. The people are looking for an opportunity to throw off that devilish kaiser yoke that keeps them in slavery.—Banks Herald.

Armed with search warrant special counsel Francis J. Heney of the federal trade commission on Tuesday seized the Swift & Co. files in the office of Attorney Veeder in Chicago. The warrant, issued by Federal Judge Landis, charged that the Armour, Swift, Cudahy and Wilson packing companies had combined on meat bids for the American military forces. This and allegations of false entries in their books, as well as illegal combinations to control supplies of fish, vegetables, fruits, eggs, butter and olcomargarine were called felonies in the warrant. Apparently the game of camouflage has been played by the packers, as they first gave assurance of cooperating with the government to do the right thing in food products. If this investigation should prove their professions false, and that they have been profiteering at the expense of the government and the poor people by raising prices, there is no punishment too severe for them. And we judge if they are "gettable" Francis J. Heney is the man who can "get" them.—Telephone Register.

No Taxes From Railroads.

There is alarm in some quarters, with possibly some reason for it, that the control of the railroads by the government is going to operate to hold up tax assessments levied against railroad property. Some who think themselves to be in a position to judge upon such matters believe that unless congress acts no tax money will be paid over by the railroads.

In many places this would mean the doubling of local taxation. In Lane county the effect would be serious, although we would not be effected to such an extent as a place like Portland, for instance, where railroad properties run into the millions. Lopping railroad properties from the tax rolls, leaving the deficit to be made up by local taxation, would mighty soon cure people of the public ownership bug, for that is just what would happen under government ownership.

We may be mighty sick of our mild imitation of government ownership before the war is over.—The Sentinel.

A heavy team, harness and wagon for sale. Apply O. Myers, East 7th Street, Tillamook, Oregon.

BUNGLING AND WASTEFUL DELAY IN SHIPBUILDING.

The Oregonian Throws Some Light on the Subject.

Most instructive as to the bungling and wasteful delay from which our shipbuilding programme is only now emerging is the plain tale which F. C. Knapp told the Senate commerce committee. As a lumberman of thirty years' experience and as a man who has built wooden ships without previous sale, to be sold on their merits when completed, he told the committee of a belt of timber 400 miles long and 125 miles wide, 90 per cent of which is Douglas fir. Of the adaptability of this timber for seaworthy ships he said:

"The Pacific Ocean for years has been dotted with vessels built with Douglas fir. Your shipping records will show you that there are now on the Pacific ocean at least 40 vessels built of Douglas fir, ranging in age from 15 years to 40 years."

In the light of this testimony from a man who has intimate knowledge, how absurd seems all the detraction of the wooden ships by interested or ignorant persons. He disposed of General Goethals' sneer about birds' nests by saying that shipbuilders use green timber for this reason:

"We have no trouble in getting from the log, between the actual heart of the log and the sap of the tree, a piece of timber that shrinks in many cases not at all, and never to any appreciable extent."

This matter needs the attention of nobody except the sawmill men and loggers of the Pacific Northwest, he said, though he frankly admitted that "any practical, unprejudiced man" from any section of the country would be able to detect these features, and that Senator Nelson would understand them after three minutes' explanation.

Though Mr. Knapp was then building eight ships of his own type, each of 3600 to 4000 deadweight tons, all of which could be launched in a year, and though he could add sixteen to his present four ways, the Shipping Board had delayed, and still delays, to contract for more ships. It is not a question of getting the timber, for Mr. Knapp said that "it will be perfectly easy to add 50 per cent, 100 per cent, or, I believe 150 per cent to the present output." It is not a question of capital to build logging roads, for that would be available "if private capital could be assured that there was a fixed policy of shipbuilding."

There are no longer any labor difficulties, in Oregon at least, for there have been no sawmill and loggers' strikes in this state, and as to shipbuilders, "a small percentage of house carpenters and a very large percentage of bridge builders and millwrights make in a very short space of time very good ship carpenters," and Mr. Knapp's men waived the claim to a Saturday half holiday when informed of the necessity of hastening work. He summed up the facts in these few words:

"We on the Pacific Coast know that the wooden ship is practicable. We know that the timber is there. We know that the men are there to build the ships. If the government wants ships then I think it is a mistake not to build them."

He disposed of all the foolish talk about the wooden ship not being practical by saying:

"England wanted wooden ships and was begging us to build them at the time the Emergency Fleet Corporation was organized. Norway and Sweden had always wanted wooden ships. The French people swear by the wooden ship and Italy is in the market for wooden ships. The ideal course would be for the fleet corporation—the biggest shipbuilding corporation in the world—to go on a fixed policy building wooden ships, and help supply these other countries with tonnage, if the United States does not require the output of all our yards and if they want it."

\$2,650,000 is 1917 Revenue of Oregon Cheese Industry.

University of Oregon, Eugene, Feb. 11.—Oregon produced more than 13,000,000 pounds of cheese last year, Tillamook county alone producing 5,000,000 pounds. These interesting and impressive figures were collected at the University of Oregon school of commerce by Miss Blanch Lucas, one of the students, who had made a special study of the cheese industry of the

state. Miss Lucas' investigation reveals also that the standard of Oregon cheese has been advanced gradually the last few years. The volume of second-grade cheese produced in this state is constantly decreasing.

Since the war Oregon cheese has found new markets in the middle west and points as far east as Chicago. It has competed successfully there with cheese manufactured in Wisconsin and other dairy states of that region. The cheese industry of the state returned approximately \$2,500,000 in revenue last year, said the report.

Found Dead in His Cabin.

Paul Kingston, who has been a resident living alone on his ranch in Slab Creek, for the past 15 years, was found dead by his neighbors in his cabin last Saturday morning. His age was 67 years. His two sons and two daughters with a nephew arrived in Cloverdale Monday to take charge of the remains. But very little is known of Mr. Kingston here aside from his near neighbors, who speak in highest terms of the deceased gentleman.

Mr. Kingston came to Nestucca Valley from Amity, at which place he held his membership in the Masonic lodge, and was also a Chapter member of the McMinnville Lodge R. A. M.

He was buried today (Thursday) in Oretown cemetery, Rev. Montgomery preaching the funeral sermon, and Cloverdale lodge, A. F. & A. M., conferring the ritualistic funeral service.—Courier.

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