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What the Editors Say

Official dignity denies that \$640,000,000 was wasted in airplane experiments. Says half of it is in bank. Suppose \$320,000,000 is such a small sum it isn't worth bothering about. -Empire Valley News.

Daily defeat is wearing away the fighting spirit of the German troops among the people at home. And why not? The war party promised loot and booty, and disappointment is as great as hopes were high. The tide of battle has turned. -Itemizer.

The calls to the colors has decreased the number of applications to practice law in Oregon. At the recent examination only eleven applicants took the tests before the supreme court. In an ordinary year there would have been sixty at least. -News Reporter.

Cat pelts are selling in the East at \$1.24 each, and buyers admit they expect to pay more before the close of the season. In view of the demand it is suggested that persons whose slumbers are disturbed by backfence cat parades, can make profitable their midnight activities by investing in shooting arms. Instead of heaving shoes and hair brushes and getting nothing better than a brief respite from annoyance, a few well directed shots will bring enough fur to compensate them for their loss of sleep. -Telephone Register.

According to a Portland paper Sam and J. S. Spencer of the Sherwood district, held by the federal authorities in the Portland jail on a charge of being slackers, were tried before the kangaroo court composed of prisoners in the jail on a charge of harboring influenza germs in their wipers. The sentence was removal of the offending appendages and this was done. According to the paper's story, the technical charge was "hiding behind the bush" and the conviction was for "hoarding alfalfa." The trial is said to have been excruciatingly funny. The Spencer brothers were arrested last week by Sheriff Alexander, and are said to have claimed to have been -above draft age, but neither could give the date of his birth. -Independent.

The Stars and Stripes, the official newspaper published by the soldiers of the American Expeditionary Forces in France, says editorially about the enemy peace offensive. "Let the weak hearted who are dreaming of compromise; let the pacifists who are talking a peace by agreement; let the sideliners who have had enough of war; let the secretly inclined pro-Germans who think this war should end without a decision-let them one and all know one and for all that the American Expeditionary Force there is no such word as "Peace" with the Hun unbeaten. The man who talks of peace today, except through victory, is a traitor." The enemy peace offensive is likened to the action of German machine-gun crews in the Vesle fighting, when they fought and killed Americans until they were surrounded, then shouted "Kamerad." The mothers of the American soldiers in France want the same peace their sons demand. All the courage of the ancient Spartan mother is in the hearts of the women of America. The object of the Fourth Liberty Loan is to bring that peace-a just peace, a righteous peace, an American peace. -Observer.

The Independent has previously called attention to the position in which Hillsboro has been placed in previous Liberty Loan campaigns and believes that the experience in the present campaign proves that a change should be made in methods, and that hereafter the county should be the unit. Hillsboro has been at a disadvantage because of the fact that quotas are fixed on the basis of bank deposits and the city being the county seat carries deposits from all parts of the county and these deposits are drawn upon to pay subscriptions made in other districts. During the past year Hillsboro has had the unenviable notoriety of being a slacker in these drives, for it has been exceedingly difficult, despite the hardest kind of work by the patriotic gentlemen who have composed the various committees, to meet the quota assigned to the district. So far as subscriptions paid for from deposits in Hillsboro banks are concerned they have been in correct proportion and the federal reserve plan has proved sound, but when it comes to crediting them to Hillsboro's quota is where the difficulty arises. As a result the city is branded a slacker in spite of the basis of the loan being met. In all fairness, therefore, the plan of the past calls for revision and we believe exact justice can only be secured by making the county the unit. -Independent.

Why Persecute Them? This is no time to persecute the newspapers of Oregon, for this state's successful response to the call of the nation in every community are too dependent upon the leadership and publicity of the press. As surely as a hardship and financial loss is forced upon these interests, so surely will the state and nation suffer. At the last legislative session the efforts of C. S. Jackson to defeat the

fair legislation and protection being asked for by the State Editorial Association met with partial failure, although his influence modified much of the legislation enacted. Now he has carried his fight to the polls, in two initiative measures the effect of which is to cripple the country's revenues.

These are perilous days in the news paper field, especially in the smaller communities which are suffering from removal of labor to larger cities and generally feeling the hardships of the war more than metropolitan centers.

All that a newspaper has to sell is its advertising space and all that it is asking is a fair profit on same. Every article going into the manufacture of a newspaper from paper, inks and machinery to the skilled labor has gone up in price from 40 per cent to 100 per cent in the last four years.

The price of advertising should be increased, but few country publishers are able to obtain this increase, as advertising is considered by too many of the smaller town merchants as a charity and placed in a spirit of patronizing home industry rather than as a paying business proposition.

The value of the country newspaper in any community is too great and too well known to the voters to need further elucidation here, for it is the heart of the community, the mirror of its activities and the leading factor in its development and progress.

Few country papers are financial successes as compared with other lines of industry, few owners and publishers are earning salaries with hundreds of dollars proportionate to their labor and responsibilities-so why enact legislation which will prove a hardship and oppress this important part of our state's industry. -Oregon Voter.

Kaiserism at Home.

Through force of circumstances the newspapers have, to a large extent become lawmakers in matters of direct legislation. More and more the voter neglects to study measures for himself and relies upon the advice of his favorite publication.

This has been remarked by prominent citizens of opposite extremes of political thought. Yet but one newspaper in Oregon has ever drafted a bill, paid the cost of its initiation and made the bill its own.

The Portland Journal has in the past initiated and fathered measures. Its publisher is said to have expended upwards of \$4000 to force upon the ballot this year two bills relating to newspaper advertising.

The corrupt practices act places certain restrictions upon the expenditure of money by corporations in the interest of candidates. Yet a newspaper, if it determines to use its influence and its organization to foster legislation of particular type, can go farther toward attaining its ends than any railroad or bank or manufacturing in purchasing candidates for the legislature.

The large newspaper's organization is every town wide. It has employes in its own office and in nearly every hamlet. These it can require to do its bidding on penalty of dismissal.

The newspaper has space on its pages which it will not sell at any price to advertisers. This preferred space it is at liberty to utilize for its own ends.

If a newspaper will it, there may be constantly at its door a group of sycophants ready to do whatever it desires, in return for small crumbs of publication. No matter what its devious course, it seems also to be true that any newspaper can attain a following which believes implicitly anything it may publish.

Here are elements sufficient to create a kaiser or czar out of any newspaper of large circulation in Oregon which may elect to devote them to its own ends.

The Journal has manufactured an issue out of nothing. It has paid to put the issue before the people. It has put its employes to work scanning the books of every county for material that may be twisted into an argument in favor of its position. It is devoting space that no other lawgiver would be permitted to use at any price. It is searching out these persons who believe it, or fear it, or merely rejoice in notoriety to interview in behalf of its policy. While complaining that the country newspapers term its publisher a czar and do not discuss the merits of the bill, it has never yet, on its own account, published an honest statement as to the present law which it seeks to amend or an honest statement as to what its bill would do. Its attempt is plainly a desire to illustrate or prove its power as a czar.

It is withal a gross abuse of journalistic power and ethics and a betrayal of such confidence as is reposed in that publication. If there should ever come the day when the Oregonian, the Telegram, the News, the Voter, the Labor Press, the Journal and every other newspaper big or little, has its own pet bill, made in its own office, and circulated by expenditure of its own money, on that day the people will doubtless rise and smite the initiative and referendum out of existence.

It is a proper thing to point out the abuse of the power of the press in this instance. The issue is a far greater one than the merit or demerit of the particular measure so unscrupulously presented. -Oregonian

Call a Halt on Mock Heroics.

In a single eight hour day, one exceptionally swift and vigorous riveter in the South Chicago ship-building yard, earned a wage of \$64. It was double pay work on Sunday, and undoubtedly the worker labored under high pressure, but the achievement is indicative of the lavish benefits enjoyed by shipbuilders.

In a single day the Chicago champion earned as much as a private soldier receives in two months. The salary of major general in the United States army is \$8,000 a year-a little more than \$25 for each working day-less than half the pay the Sunday pay of the Chicago worker. For \$33 a month the private soldier surrenders his liberties wholly to his country. There is no eight hour day for him! No extra pay for overtime, no double compensation on Sunday. It is drill, drill, drill, and then over seas at command and into the trenches or over the top, with all that implies of hardship, danger, dirt, disease; artillery, machine gun and rifle fire; poison gas or liquid flame; instant death or racking wounds, or, perhaps, the horrors of a German prison camp.

With these contrasts in view, many people are saying that it is high time to call a halt on further mock heroics about the man in the ship yards serving his country equally with the man in France or the man who is drilling to go to France. -Spokesman Review.

Slaughtering an Industry.

It is inconceivable that the voters of Oregon would deliberately kill one of their large industries and principal sources of food supply.

Yet that is exactly what is proposed in the referendum measure to prohibit commercial fishing on the Rogue river.

This fool bill was lobbied through the legislature by combinations of sporting elements and politicians.

It limits fishing on the Rogue river, one of the greatest salmon streams on the Pacific Coast, to gill-netting alone.

On the other salmon rivers, fish can be caught in seines, traps, fish-wheels and set nets.

On the Rogue river, gill netters have a monopoly in fishing, this year struck for more than a month against the price established by the United States Government for raw fish.

The two canneries on the Rogue River were forced to lie idle while hundreds of tons of valuable and necessary food product went to waste.

The fish industry is under state and federal regulation and it is a disgrace to Direct Legislation that the industry on the Rogue river can be singled out for slaughter.

It is this kind of legislative folly that makes people want to vote on break bills generally.

Such measures either strike at industries or propose to increase taxes. -Manufacturer.

CLEMENCEAU A HERO.

French Author Describes Minister of War as Savior of France.

Paul Louis Hervier, the well known French author, has written for the September number of the Red Cross Magazine a most interesting and quite intimate article about M. Georges Clemenceau, premier of France and minister of war, familiarly called "the Tiger" of France. Mr. Hervier has lived for some time abroad and is at present working in conjunction with the American Red Cross in France. He says: "Not long ago I heard a Frenchman say that France had been saved three times during this war, and that up to the present time there were three great names which would go down forever in history-these are the Marne, Verdun and Clemenceau. This is a slight indication of the popularity of M. Clemenceau in France today.

"If M. Clemenceau has become rapidly popular it is because he has always understood the obligations attached to accepting a position of trust. He always endeavors to do that which is most important for the safety of the country. He has no other aim or desire. At the front the French soldiers adore him, and he is often among them. In spite of his age he visits the trenches frequently, and does not hesitate to circulate through the first line trenches, his head covered by a steel helmet. They have remonstrated with him for doing this, and have pleaded with him not to expose himself unnecessarily, but he is as obstinate as a mule and continues his trips. Anything that comes from or pertains to the soldiers moves him deeply.

"In the interior of France they love this politician who has grasped with firm hand and long tail of political reason. Thanks to him, the country breathes more freely and thanks to him victory draws nearer for the allies.

"Later on the name of Clemenceau will be attached inseparably to the history of this war and to a solid and lasting peace for the welfare of humanity, and for the carrying on of human progress and civilization."

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In This Space Each Week Hereafter WE SINCERELY believe that no matter what may be your station in life, the establishment of a banking connection-then the full use of its advantages is the most important step that can be taken. Many persons in this vicinity do not know to what a large extent the services of this bank can add force to their undertakings, and it is our purpose to use this space on this day each week, hereafter, to tell you point by point of their use and advantages. Unlike any other business enterprise, the bank has no bargains to offer-but it has services that apply directly to each person's individual problem. If you follow these advertisements you will receive useful intimations that will serve you well, and you will be welcome to the benefits of what we have learned about solving business problems. [Keep learning, keep teaching, keep going, that is the voice of conscience in the souls of those who really desire success] Tillamook County Bank Tillamook, Oregon

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