

Editorial Snap Shots.

We wish the people of Tillamook County a happy New Year, with the hope that they will be prosperous in all their undertakings and industrial efforts.

Germany pulled down and devastated France and Belgium and she should be made to pay for the building up what she destroyed—the home and industries.

It must be that absence makes the heart grow fonder, for as soon as some of the boys return home they surrender to their best girls and immediately apply for marriage licenses. For several months the boys in the spruce division were captivating a number of Tillamook girls.

Those who are complaining about waste of time in trying cases in the law courts, could score a point by advocating that the jury system be done away with and cases tried before justices of the peace and circuit judges. A whole lot of time is taken up in obtaining juries and attorneys addressing them, and then one never knows what a jury is going to do, anyway, for after they get into the jury room, often jurymen introduce and discuss things that have nothing to do with the case they have tried.

We cannot impress this upon the public too strongly. Persons who are suffering with Spanish influenza should not be allowed on the street and they should be strictly quarantined. It is jeopardizing other people's lives and spreading the disease to allow that state of affairs to exist. We do not want to scare anybody, but when there is such a deadly, infectious disease going the rounds and then going the rounds again one cannot be too particular and too stringent methods adopted.

We find there is quite a favorable impression in regard to laying more hard surfaced roads north of this city for the reason that the road between this city and Garibaldi is going to be subject to heavy travel in the near future, even more than the county road south of this city. Those who are spending money on industrial activities are entitled to first consideration in road building, and besides it is good business sense and economy to lay hard surfaced roads where there is heavy travel, for it is a well known fact that maintenance charges on macadam roads eat up considerable of the road funds.

What a lot of newspaper waddle is going the round about the freedom of the seas, if we go back a little over two years it will be remembered that Germany tried to prevent the United States from the freedom of the seas, and on account of Germany sinking United States vessels, eventually plunged this country into war. It was the right of the United States to freedom of the seas that brought about a series of notes between Washington and Berlin, but Germany persisted in its endeavors to force the United States off the seas, and this was the direct cause of the United States entering the world war.

The railroads were earning about \$4,000,000,000 per annum when the government took them over. The rates have been increased 25 per cent adding at least a billion dollars which the traveling public and shippers have had to dig up, all of which, it is said, have been used up, if not more, in increased operating expenses. Now McAdoo is advocating that the government retain control of the railroads for five years, and that Congress vote \$2,000,000,000 to help operate them, to be taken out of the pockets of the taxpayers. No wonder that the common people are opposed to government controlled railroad under an extravagant democratic government.

The snap shot man is inclined to the opinion that all schools in the county should be allowed to resume teaching, the first of the year. The embargo restrictions have not brought results that were anticipated, for the reason that persons suffering from Spanish influenza were not quarantined and mixed with other persons, which, no doubt, helped to spread the disease. We are firmly of the opinion that every person suffering with the flu should be quarantined directly they have become sick. The most serious trouble is with persons who have light cases and where doctors are not called; also doctors not reporting cases to the health officers. We do not consider there is any more danger in a well ventilated school than there is in stores and offices. Of course it is wise to use proper precaution, and this could be done by the directors of the school boards empowering a teacher to send home pupils where there is sickness in the family. Take most any school in Tillamook county and it is generally well known if any one is sick in the district with the flu.

What is of considerable importance just now is to find employment for discharged soldiers. Most of these men gave up steady employment and good jobs to serve their country and to fight the battles for those who were not of draft age or not physically able to go to war. This is something that must not be overlooked or lightly pushed aside. The men are entitled and deserving of our most serious consideration in pro-

viding for them employment, and for that reason we believe it would be a good plan for each county in Oregon to have a county organization to handle this matter. Most of our citizens cheered, and were proud of our young men when they left their homes and the county for active service, and it behooves us all to show our appreciation of their services when they return to the county. We can do this by giving them the glad hand and finding work for those who need employment. Let's show that we are just as patriotic after the war as during the war, and we can show our patriotism by helping to find employment for our home boys who want work on their return.

The Scientific American, a publication of the highest character, holds that the Spanish influenza could and should have been kept out of this country. It says: "There is a growing conviction that the sudden invasion of the United States by that European epidemic known as the Spanish influenza, and the speed with which it has spread throughout the country are due to the laxity with which the port authorities along the Atlantic seaboard have carried out their duties. If ever there was a period when the quarantine laws for guarding the ports of the United States against the entrance of the disease should have been enforced with redoubled vigilance, it was during the summer and autumn of the present year when it was known that a highly infectious and fatal disease was sweeping through Europe like a scourge of the middle ages. In view of the immense and deadly character of the disease, we had every reason to believe that the federal authorities would set a double guard at our ports of entries, and instruct our quarantine officials to take every possible preventative measure against the landing, not merely of influenza patients, but of every passenger who had been exposed, during the ocean voyage, to infection."

We cannot understand why anyone can raise objections to the United States joining a league of Nations to prevent future wars. It is the right thing for the United States to do. Wars are barbarous and can be avoided if the nations will settle their disputes by arbitration. Germany refused to arbitrate, hence the cruel war that was forced upon the nations of the world. Arbitration is the sensible, Christian, manly way of settling disputes between nations, and we sincerely hope that that will be the attitude of all the statesmen of the allied powers at the peace conference. Then there will be no more use for big armies and big navies, which have been a serious menace and financial burden to most all countries. There is considerable talk of the United States keeping up a great navy and a large standing army, but it is to be hoped that Congress will not provide the money should the United States become a party to a league of nations. Because Germany would not abide by her treaty obligations and treated them as scraps of paper there is no reason to believe that the allied powers would do so should they decide upon a league of nations. Although there was no league between the United States and England, the two leading democratic nations of the world, they have successfully decided their disputes by arbitration, and we consider that a league of nations can do the same thing just as successfully.

The snap shot man with a number of prominent citizens, are invited to a good roads conflag, at Wheeler, on the evening of December 27th. We gladly accept the invitation, and will forget the unpleasant recollections of what happened to the Tillamook delegation that went to Wheeler previous to the county bond measure being submitted to the people to be voted upon, for our Wheeler friends have had a change of heart. We may mention that we are glad to see that the people in the north part of the county are waking up to the importance of a hard surfaced highway through the entire length of the county, which the snap shot man strenuously advocated for a number of years, and which will be a great benefit to all parts of the county. With industrial activities in the north part of the county making rapid strides, it is only natural that the people living there should turn their attention to obtaining hard surfaced roads. These new industries need good roads and the more good roads there are in the county will help to bring more industries. From all indications Tillamook County will have a great lumber boom the next few years, and no time should be lost in providing better roads of a permanent character. This is something that is of vital importance to all sections of the county, especially the north part, which is not enjoying any of the benefits of hard surfaced roads at present. In discussing the road problems for this county, we want to impress this upon the people of Tillamook county. Take a magnanimous view of the situation and avoid all sectional jealousies and pulling for this or that section, and work together for the good of the entire county, in a spirit of give and take, for to complete a hard surfaced road through the county cannot be done right away. It will take several years, but what should be decided now is to put all our energies for the next few years into obtaining the

paved highway as soon as possible and use a large proportion of the road fund for that purpose. No doubt the matter of bonding the county will again be discussed and a special election called for that purpose. With \$400,000 available for hardsurfacing, this would greatly expediate the completion of a hard surfaced road through the county, and it is easy to figure it out that it would be economy to bond the county. Should the people decide to bond the county, we are inclined to think that it would be a good investment for the county to own and operate its own hard surface plant, provided a competent person was put in charge. Clackamas county is doing so with good results, and we see no reason why Tillamook county cannot do the same. These are some few points that must be considered in discussing the good roads movement, and with all sections of the county united in boosting for the victory highway through the county, we feel sure we have citizens of business ability who can work out a definite plan that will be a great benefit to the county and will not burden the taxpayers. What should be avoided, if possible, is increase in taxation.

Airships Better than Planes.

For the immediate future, according to further extracts from the report just completed by the civil aerial transport committee of the British air board, the commercial airship offers a great advantage over the airplane, particularly concerning passengers, where comfort and ease of navigation, safety and a high ratio of disposable lift are vital considerations, says a cable from London.

Airships now exist, the report says with a range of more than 4,000 miles, and they can travel at a speed of 78 miles an hour. By running their engines slower a maximum range of 8,000 miles can be obtained.

Quite Some Sum.

One London banker, says a London cable, estimates that Germany will have to pay to the allies for reparation and restitution about \$7,500,000,000. Calculated on a 5 per cent basis, with a 1 per cent sinking fund, this would mean an annual charge on the German revenue of \$450,000,000. He says there can be no question of Germany's ability to meet this demand. It is impossible, he says, discussing the subject in a newspaper article, to arrive at any approximate figure as to damages and robberies in the invaded territory. "For Belgium" the article continues, "I would put the amount of indemnity at \$1,400,000,000, of which sum levies on Belgium towns account for something like \$500,000,000. I know of another estimate for Belgium which is as high as \$2,000,000,000."

No Wonder They Like This!

The Department of Labor, which was giving charge of the housing scheme by President Wilson, in the construction of dormitories for government clerks under the shadow of the capitol, first violated the law which prescribed that the bids should be let competitively. The contract was let on "estimates". A firm of contractors was given a sixty thousand dollar fee for directing the job, then more than twenty thousand dollars for furnishing the plans and then was permitted to have the work done on the basis of the "estimates" which did not bind the contractor to furnish labor and material at that price, but did authorize him to charge that much. Thus it came about that trucks were furnished by one party to a middleman at a certain price per day, by him to the contractor at a higher price, and then the contractor added fifty cents per hour. Scrapers that cost twelve dollars were rented to the government at a dollar a day. Do you wonder that a lot of politicians are so enthusiastic about government control and government operation of everything in sight, when a proposition of this kind can be put over on the Capitol grounds?

Senators Hear of Teut Propaganda.

Operation of the German propaganda system in the United States, through which valuable information for transmission to Berlin was gathered at the same time that German doctrines were spread over the country, were discussed last week by Capt. G. B. Lester, of the army intelligence service, in testimony before the Senate committee investigating brewers and German propaganda. Most of the evidence related to activity of Teutonic agents before the United States entered the war.

Captain Lester declared that an unnamed informant, now interned, told him that the Berlin government on July 10, 1914, nearly a month before the war started, called into conference about 131 trained and educated German propagandists, and sent them to all parts of the world, with instructions to prepare for the world war, which they were told was about to be precipitated.

Thirty-one of these landed in the United States two weeks after hostilities started, and became the nucleus for an organization of between 200,000 and 300,000 volunteers, mainly German-Americans, who gathered information of all kinds and reported it to German counsels

and agents in hundreds of communities.

William Bayard Hale, a writer for the Hearst newspapers and formerly confidential representative of President Wilson in Mexico, eventually became head of the publicity branch of the organization thus built up, Captain Lester said. The officer also testified that newspapers and writers were influenced to promote German propaganda, film plays were produced promoting distrust of Japan and Mexico, a Washington newspaper man was hired to report government secrets to the German headquarters, writers were sent to Germany to send back dispatches praising the German cause, and a "Golden Book" was circulated throughout the United States to get signatures of American citizens leaning toward pro-German sympathies.

Political Ownership.

Dr. Maffeo Pantaleoni, one of the greatest authorities on systems of government, warns the United States against government ownership of railroads after the war. He advises it to prepare to shake off such "parasitic ideas." He says: "With the war the government (in Europe) has become almighty with us. The government now does everything and after the war its encroachments will be appalling and bring us near to ruin. \* \* \* If I had never before been convinced of the utility of government control, this war would



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certainly convinced me. I am now sure the less government a nation has the better it is for the prosperity of its people. A government is always robbed, always too late in what it does, is always betrayed by its employees."

It is probable that Dr. Pantaleoni makes the case, under the stress of war, a little too strong. The terrific advance in passenger and freight rates under government control has made the traveling and shipping world do some earnest thinking.

America Entitled to a Square Deal in The American Home Market.

Allen Property Custodian Palmer says:

"The old time fear of the American manufacturer for the German producer whose goods made in Germany had begun to be sold everywhere, was based upon no lack of confidence in American genius and productive ability, but upon the knowledge that the German plan of controlled industry made the competition grossly unequal. A subsidized German industry enjoying a monopoly of American markets by the stifling process of patent control of processes and products, was designed not to engage in trade with the world, but to dominate and control the markets of the world."

In this statement, speaking as a Democrat, Mr. Palmer chooses to overlook one of the chief sources of

German advantage in America markets, and that is cheaper labor costs than are possible in the United States. The equalization of these labor costs is the basis of American protective legislation. The design of the existing Democratic tariff law was to give the alien producer, including the German producer, free access to the American market, to exploit it for German advantage as against the interests of the American producer and the welfare of American labor. The Democratic paramount issue in almost every national campaign for years has been the demand that our home market be sacrificed to the alien producer, to whose unfair power under such an arrangement an administration official seems to have just awakened. The keynote of Republican policy has been America first; or at any rate a fair chance and a square deal for the American producer in the American market. The most intelligent suggestion this administration official has a ready remedy, however, is a boycott of German goods. It has not yet occurred to him that the American people who make the sacrifices and pay the bills incidental to the maintenance of this republic are entitled to an equal chance in the American market, and a tariff law which throws open our gates to the industrial invader, armed with the deadly weapon of a cheapness attained by a sacrifice of human values is a measure directed against the national welfare?