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AFTER THE WAR, WHAT?

It is quite a popular pastime especially among newspaper writers to draw pictures of what will follow the declaration of peace in Europe, and especially what will happen on this side of the big pond.

It is all guess work at the best, and one free born American citizen has as much right to guess as another. That is an inherent Yankee privilege. It is somewhat amusing and also instructive to read these various and varied prognostications, for they suggest all manner of things, some wise and others otherwise.

One, who at least thinks himself a prophet says soon after the war there will be an unheard of immigration to this country, everybody leaving the new warring countries and coming here to avoid helping pay off the enormous load of debt piled up.

Another says all immigration will stop as the authorities will not allow any able bodied persons to leave their country, as they will be needed to assist in rebuilding the ruined cities and industries, as well as to help pay the debts, and so they will be forbidden to leave.

Still another sees the ruin of all American industries as Europe will pour a flood of her goods upon us that will simply drown us in a sea of disaster. The United States will go absolutely dead. Her factories will be closed, and want will press on the American wage earner that will force him to the point of starvation. One even goes so far as to say that Europe may have to help us, even as we have helped Belgium and other of the devastated countries.

With all due respect to these calamity lovers, for they must be that from the way they seem to long for her disastrous presence, it strikes us that when peace at last comes the world will jog along much as it did before. The countries will again trade with each other. We will send across the Atlantic our agricultural products because people will still have to eat, and Europe does not grow all the food stuffs she needs. In return Europe will send us of her manufactures as she has always done, and we will buy them because we need them.

It is easy to talk about this country supplying all her necessities and being absolutely independent of the world. Outside of certain things such as coffee, tea and products of the tropics we might be able to do this; but when we did would have to quit dealing with the balance of the world. In order to deal with other countries we must from the nature of things trade with them, otherwise they could not buy what we produce. The only thing they can pay for our products with is their own.

We are apt to overlook the fact that money is not value but only the measure thereof, a medium of exchange which enables us to get the value of our wheat, for instance, expressed in dollars, and then we can purchase any other product with the same. We can thus trade wheat for silk when if the value was still in the form of wheat the silk merchant would have no use for it.

So, after all, commerce is but a trading of products, through the medium of gold, the common measure of values for all things, even sometimes consciences and honesty.

In the meantime no matter what comes after the war, it can be relied upon that the world will wag on in its old grooves simply because there are no other grooves for it to travel in.

Postmaster Myers of Portland has been informed that while Vice President Marshall will never ask anyone to have his name put on the ballot in Oregon, he certainly would not repudiate the act if this was done. It probably will be. Outside of the possibility of the death of the president, the vice-president is about the most thoroughly useless and utterly side-tracked man in political life.

There will be twenty-five concerts in Wilson park during the coming Summer, says a news story yesterday. This is probably correct, but the park just now does not look as though it could ever be used as a place to sit around on the grass.

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WOULD NEVER LOVE ANOTHER

The talk about some of the European countries sending an army of half a million or more trained and seasoned soldiers over here after the war ends, and capturing the United States has its humorous side. We fancy when the war is over all the participants will have had enough of it to satisfy them for awhile, at least. Most of the soldiers will be in the condition of a recruit during the civil war. He was complaining bitterly about the hardships, the lack of food and comforts he was used to and bewailing his condition generally, when his lieutenant overhearing him, asked: "What's the matter Bill? Don't you love your country?"

"Yes": was the reply. "I love my country well enough to leave my wife and family, to go without a decent bed, and eat blamed poor grub, and take the chance of being killed or crippled for it, but I want to tell you lieutenant that when this war is over I will never love another country."

It may well be doubted whether the Agricultural department of the United States, or at least its statistical branch, is a benefit to the farmers. It certainly was not last year when it garbled the wheat statistics to the farmers' injury. Its figures were decidedly wrong. Correct as to the yield approximately, they did not state that one-fourth or more of the crop was not fit for milling purposes and so played into the hands of the speculators. This was not done intentionally, perhaps, but the result to the wheat grower was just as bad as though it had been.

The country will not tip up because Garrison jumped his job. Bryan demonstrated this and he was a much heavier weight than Garrison. His resignation shows his egotism, his belief that Garrison was the only man in the United States capable of handling its military affairs—the only man whose judgment was always and infallibly right. He will pull the hole he has created in after him.

Sugar has been advancing in price for some time. On top of this the dispatches yesterday announces that the American Sugar Refinery has compromised a suit brought against it by the government, for \$52,985.00. That is one way of making the people come through to pay any charges a big company has to face. All such bills are passed on to the consumer for final settlement.

When Judge D'Arcy says he saw a steamboat on State street every one who knows the judge knows also the steamboat was there. We mention this for the benefit of those who do not know him, for they might couple the story with the recent law about two, and twenty-four quarts, and imagine that was what caused so strange a sight.

That was a touching scene in Pendleton Thursday when hundreds gathered in the streets and mournfully sang "How Dry I Am," while the sheriff and his assistants knocked the necks off 535 bottles of beer and 75 bottles of whiskey, and emptied their "precious" contents into the gutters.

"Tis ever thus" from Adam's time down to Ford's there is no change. In each and every case there is a woman who must bear the blame. With Adam the demure Eve had to stand the blame and with Ford it is Madam Schwimmer.

A dispatch from New York today says: "Former Secretary of War Garrison, whose resignation from the cabinet was accepted last night, is here in 'seclusion' today." It is quite probable he will remain in that condition indefinitely.

The president is strong for national defense and yet he has dismissed his only Garrison.



Rippling Rhymes

By Walt Mason

WRITING NOTES

I am much too proud to fight; I, when I am in a plight, write a note; if some fellow kicks my shins, I submit with peaceful grins, and, when I have salved my pins, write a note. Follow up this splendid plan; do not be a martial man—write a note; if some scoundrel steals your wife, do not whet your bowie-knife, or make threats against his life—write a note. If a neighbor burns your shack, do not climb upon his back—write a note; if he comes and twists your nose, if he treads upon your toes, don't resent such trifling woes—write a note. If the neighbor steals your hens, take your choice of fountain pens—write a note; if a villain climbs your frame, pulls your hair and knocks you lame, to resent it is a shame—write a note. Let your indignation sleep; ink is plentiful and cheap—write a note; be the football of your town; let the hoodlums knock you down; when you're done up good and brown—write a note. Paper, purchased by the ream, doesn't so expensive seem—write a note; fountain pens are cheap as dirt, anyone can make them squirt; so when some one steals your shirt—write a note.



OPEN FORUM

THE COUNTY AGRICULTURIST

You who read the papers probably noticed a few days ago that California is buying Oregon potatoes. But the buyers are particular, they will accept only select potatoes, but for these they are paying a good price.

I wonder what portion of the potatoes in Marion county are worthy the title "select potatoes?" From the potatoes I have seen myself twenty-five per cent would be a fair estimate. That means Marion county could sell only twenty-five per cent of her output of potatoes to California buyers. The other seventy-five per cent would have to be sold at a very low price or fed to the hogs, unless there was a scarcity of potatoes throughout the country.

If one merchant puts up for sale a better quality of goods than another the farmers feel they have a perfect right to buy of the man who puts up the best goods. Then what right have the farmers to complain if California buys her potatoes in Colorado—if Colorado raises the best potatoes? What right have the farmers of Marion county to complain if the market is poor, as long as their output is poorer than that of some other locality. If there was any excuse for the farmers of Marion county producing poor potatoes they would be worthy of sympathy. But they have no excuse. In four years time the potatoes of Marion county could be improved three hundred per cent. The method to follow is so simple nobody can do it. When digging the potatoes save the hills that have an abundance of nice uniform, good sized potatoes, and store them by themselves. In the spring at planting time cut each one of these potatoes in halves lengthwise, and throw out all that show the least signs of disease or hollowness. Plant what you have left and raise your next year's crop from them. Work your ground well before and after planting, and don't grow a crop of weeds along with the potatoes. Practice this method four years and the farmers of Marion county will never need to complain about the potato market.

Our wheat can be improved just as easily. Nothing brings a smile on a miller's face so quick as clean unmixer plump kernel wheat. The smile never leaves his face as he adds a few extra dollars to the check he hands you. Such wheat is made into the highest priced flour.

Oats are just as easy to breed up as wheat. Good oats are the kind that make first class oat meal. Clean, unpoised, unadulterated, large, plump oats that weigh forty pounds to the bushel—and there is no excuse for growing any other kind in Marion county—never have a word for a good market. The fruit unions have been going over the country offering as high as four and a half cents a pound for this year's crop of strawberries, where the vines have been kept nice and clean and the runners kept cut off. Patches that have not been properly taken care of they will not even look at. But the owners of faces will cut the market and raise the calamity howl that a man can not make a living in Marion county, let alone making any money. The canneries can not afford to buy poor fruit. They would go broke if they paid the farmer a living price for it. Go to the groceries and note the difference in the price of first and third grade canned goods and you will not have to reason long to see the point.

No class of people are better placed to see the need and the great advantage to the farmers as well as to themselves of producing a first class product as the middleman, the merchant. In their desire to develop a market for the farm produce, and knowing what a better quality of produce would do toward developing such a market, they are more than willing, they are desirous to pay their full toward the up-keep of any means that will aid the farmer to produce a better quality of crops. They are trying to get the farmer to accept the assistance of a county agriculturist for their own benefit, and they have no reason to deny it, but the farmers will be benefited fully as much.

The farmers are acting a good deal like the little boy who refused to eat the apple because his father picked it for him instead of holding him up and letting him pick it off the tree himself. If the farmers had been first to sanction and encourage the work of a county agriculturist instead of the merchant they wouldn't be so slow in taking advantage of his help.

E. M. PETTYCREW,
Salem, Ore., R. R. No. 7.

NEED OF LIBERAL EDUCATION

Editor Journal: The need and value of liberal education can no longer be seriously questioned by thinking men and women. We demand liberal education in arts, literature and sciences. All schools and institutions of higher learning are trying to keep pace with the progressive spirit of human evolution by adding new departments and adopting advanced methods.

The same progressive tendency marks commerce and industry. In the realm of science every discovery and invention is hailed with joyous acclaim and welcome. On every hand we see clearly the imperative demand of progressive advance and the happy results and benefits derived therefrom. "Knowledge is the Key to Power" and "Truth is the Way of Liberty," so tell us the sages of old. Self-knowledge is the key to all power. The higher spiritual self (the kingdom of the human soul) is the door leading unto the Father (source and fount of all life and being.) Manliness is the path to godliness. Character is a means of salvation, is becoming more and more emphasized in theological teachings. The spirit of progress is slowly entering into the life of the church. We are changing our methods in demand of the age. Moving pictures, free discussions from the pews, social service meetings, dramatic programs are finding their way into the church. The old doctrines of hell and damnation (once the mighty thunder of the preacher) are heard no longer in progressive churches. Total depravity is

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no longer preached. The old Augustinian theology, with its gruesomeness and allegorical romanticism, is lifting from the intellectual and moral concepts of men and a nobler ideal and a higher estimate of God and man, of nature and the universe, or origin and destiny, of process and method is taking the place of the superstitions of dark ages. Reason and scientific fact are today giving a deeper meaning to faith. Light is taking the place of old time credulity and superstition; reality is taking the place of theological speculation; service is taking the place of sacrifice (burnt offerings) life, (living) not death, (dying) is the growing emphasis in progressive religion. Application is the keynote of all success. Poetic dreaming or theological speculation may have certain fascination, but will they get us anywhere? Jesus said: "Ye must be doers of my words." His emphasis somehow, is strong upon "the Doing of Things." Professors of faith, statement of theological definition without Work (doing) avail nothing.

Command. RICHARD F. TISCHER,
Minister of Unitarian church.

That Packing Plant.

Editor Journal: What is the matter with Salem, are they going to let the packing plant slip by? I see by the papers that Albany is going to have a stock yard there. Salem should have all the stock that is raised south of us. Get busy and get your packing plant. I hope that as the weather moderates that they will establish their public market again, make it a permanent thing. I think a good place for the public market would be on Ferry street by the W. C. T. U. hall. Then when the people get cold they could go in there and warm themselves. Only let us have a public market by all means.

I think if the Commercial club would have a ladies' auxiliary that maybe it would help some. I know among the best of the grange I have ever attended was at Corvallis and the ladies' auxiliary of the Commercial club entertained the ladies of the grange one afternoon. Now the state grange has been wanting to come to Salem for some time but we have been afraid we could not entertain them as they have been entertained at the other places, so if Salem wants the state grange in 1917 let the Commercial club say what they will do to help us entertain, as state grange meets at Grants Pass in May and if Salem wants them we will extend them an invitation.

A READER.

CARRIED SOME PASSENGERS

San Diego, Cal., Feb. 10.—A new record for coastwise shipping has been made by the steamer Harvard, which carried 1,675 passengers between this city and San Pedro in 12 hours. Yesterday 1,650 arrived and 925 departed on her return trip.

Grand Prize, Panama-Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, 1915
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