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### THEORY ALL RIGHT BUT NOT PRACTICAL

The Oregonian in its leading editorial yesterday preached a fine sermon on the duty of Americans, and pointed out that they must stand together forgetting that they are republicans or democrats, and all work for the common good of the country. Then the rest of the page is devoted largely to roasting the administration.

We are not finding fault with our contemporary for so doing, for that is its privilege if it feels and believes that way, but simply call attention to the fact that what it preaches it does not practice.

As a matter of fact in this, as in any other so-called democracy, where every man is as good as the other and sometimes better, there always has been a difference of opinion as to the best policy for the nation to pursue, and there always will be. This being the case no matter what party is in power those against it will continue to voice their objections to it just as does the Oregonian in the column next to that in which it reads its homily; for paralleling its leader is a half column devoted to a roast of President Wilson in which it calls him a political weather-cock.

It would be very easy to reach the Utopian heights which the Oregonian so eloquently describes—if we all thought alike; but we don't. The Oregonian does not lay aside its opinions and stand back of the administration; and it refuses to do so because it thinks the president is wrong in his ideas, and weak in enforcing the laws. It may or may not be right, that cuts no figure in the matter, for at present Mr. Wilson is our president, and as such is entitled to the support of the country. He won't get it, that is its unanimous support, for thousands do not agree with him, even as the Oregonian, very frankly, does not.

If his course was such that our big neighbor could heartily indorse it, there would be countless others who would not, and there you are. We could all arrive at the desirable condition the Oregonian describes if the other fellows would only be sensible and think as we do, or if we could, as they would put it, be sensible and think as they do. Neither of these things will happen, and so things will wag along in their old way, simply because there is no other way for them to wag.

Have you arranged for your seed for that tract you are going to plant to flax this year? Have you made up your mind to plant double the area you did last year? If not why not? It is practically demonstrated the crop is a success and that the product is first class. All that remains is to produce enough of it to attract the eastern manufacturers and bring them and their plants to the valley. There is an urgent demand for all flax products and once the industry gets on its feet here it will make the valley blossom like the rose. Every farmer should make a try at it even if only a small tract so as to learn how to grow and handle the crop against the time when he will want to plant acres of it. It is a duty he owes himself to encourage flax growing in every way possible. Once it is a success it will make a market for other products, for it is an industry that employs lots of labor. The state will furnish the seed at cost and will aid so far as it can in harvesting and taking care of the crop. Try an acre or two of it and get familiar with the new and promising business.

The "reliability" of European war news is again illustrated in the case of the Tubantia. Lord Robert Cecil says he has reliable information she was anchored when blown up and could not have struck a mine. A dispatch from Berlin says the American consul says it was a mine. London asserts it was a torpedo. Berlin asserts with equal firmness that it was a mine. The only thing certain about it and on which all agree is that the Tubantia was sunk and the cause was an explosion.

Congressman Gardner should have a dose of twilight sleep given him. He has visions of war and destruction all the time that must keep him awake of nights. Something should be done to make it easier for him.

### MINING IN MARION COUNTY

While little is being said about it, here in Marion county, there is a great amount of mining work being done. Several companies in the Gold Creek district have men at work and are doing much development work. One company is running an 800 foot cross-cut, which will cut its ledge at good depth. A road is being built making it possible to ship concentrates and it will not be long until this will be done. The ores in the district are base, and though carrying good gold value, have so far not been worked because of lack of machinery.

Both chalcopyrite and galena are abundant, and with the present price of lead and copper, concentrates that a year or two ago would not stand shipment and leave any profit now will pay good dividends.

Those interested in mining are watching with a great deal of interest the results of the first shipments and are hopeful they will be such as to place Marion county permanently in the mineral producing class.

There are some good bodies of ore in the district, and they give evidence of permanency. However, their values cannot be determined until at least a small plant is at work and shipments of concentrates made.

At present the haul out from the mines is hard, a big hill having to be climbed to get to the railroad at Gates. It is understood a new road is building that will do away with this and make Lyons the railroad point for the district.

Salem people are behind most of these mining ventures and they have shown faith and grit in the way they have put up their money for development work. They deserve to win anyway, and Salemites generally hope sincerely they will.

The attorneys for Mrs. Isabel Clayburg wanted in Seattle on a charge of running a "badger game," are doing all they can to prevent her being returned to Seattle for trial. It is claimed by Sheriff Hodge that some of her victims are putting up the money to make the fight against her extradition, as they fear the disclosures that will be made if she is placed on trial. He also threatens, if their interference in the case does not stop, to turn over to the newspapers the letters seized when the raid was made, and also the pictures of the parties in compromising positions, captured at the same time. Hodge is rather noisy, but is not afraid, and if he carries out his threat there will sure be things doing among Seattle's upper crust.

The Mexican trouble had one good effect, it stirred congress into action on the matter of preparedness. The Hayes-Chamberlain bill was up before the lawmakers yesterday and more progress was made on it in six hours than would have been made in six months under normal conditions. It is probable from yesterday's action that the army will be increased to about 140,000.

While not much is being said about it, it is evident neither the administration nor the army officers have an abiding faith in the promises of Carranza. It is probable the latter are keeping at least one eye on the Mexican president, and they are making no mistake in so doing.

It is claimed that Villa's bandits can travel fifty miles a day and that Uncle Sam's pursuing army can make but 15 to 20 miles. At this rate with Villa given a week's start how long will it take to capture him?

The only thing absolutely certain about the battle that has raged for several days on and around Dead Man's Hill in France, is that everybody telling about it is lying.

The weather in Mexico is said to be unusually warm. This being the case, while the cavalry may not feel it, the "dough boys" are pretty certain to be "hot" on the trail.

From all indications since the raid on Columbus, Villa intends to fight a "running" fight.



### OLD SONGS

Last night I heard an ancient dame hum divers songs of bygone years, and tender recollections came, which filled my old green eyes with tears. "Oh, Birdie, I am tired now, I do not care to hear you sing"; thus warbled on the withered frau, while darning socks, like everything. Beneath the bright Canadian skies I used to sing that simple lay; folks heard my boyish treble rise, and wished I'd quit, or go away. Where are the men who cried "Shut up!" and promptly sicked their dogs on me, when I, before their wickiup, turned loose that song in ecstasy? The beldame by my fire-side waits, and sings old songs to you unknown, as, "Wait for me at heaven's gates, sweet Belle Mahone, sweet Belle Mahone!" I used to sing the same sweet song, beneath the warm Canadian sun, and neighbors rang the chestnut going, and put more buckshot in the gun. Old songs! Sweet songs! They blaze the track to bygone days and vanished scenes, before I had to break my back to earn the beefsteak and the beans.



### CITY NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Davis received the sad news this morning of the death of their grandson, Ralph Davis, Jr., in Kansas.

Fred A. Lewis, who was arrested last night on charge of being intoxicated, was given a sentence of seven days in the city jail upon his plea of guilty to the charge in police court this morning.

The Pythian Sisters' club met with Mrs. Frank Schram Friday afternoon to celebrate St. Patrick's day. After a social hour, refreshments were served. Mrs. Colonel J. Olmsted will entertain the club March 31.

Miss Emily J. Griffin, of Eugene, has been elected physical director for the girls of the high school and will begin her work next Monday. Miss Evelyn Cash until lately director, was called to Pontiac, Mich., by the illness of her mother and was not able to return this semester.

Chief of Police Welsh brought Victor Knight back to this city from McMinnville yesterday evening to stand trial on a charge of defrauding an insurance company. Knight was about this city for some time and it is said left for McMinnville without settling all of his bills. He will be arraigned in justice court before Justice Webster this afternoon.

Motorists will do well to put on the soft pedal while passing school houses. The limit henceforth is 10 miles an hour when schools are in session as the ordinance passed by the city council March 8 is now in effect. After passing the school house, the limit is 15 miles and in the congested parts of the city, 13 miles an hour.

A linen napkin made from flax fiber grown near Salem in 1898 is on display in the Court street window of the Meyers department store, loaned by Mrs. William B. Lord, who has always taken an active interest in flax cultivation in the Willamette valley. The straw was cut in a tank built for the Women's Flax association in 1898 and was spun into woven in Belgium. All of which tends to prove that when flax is properly water retted, it will produce a fiber from which the finest linen may be made.

The next meeting of the Polk-Yamhill Marion Medical society will be held at Salem Tuesday, March 21, in the chapel of the Oregon State hospital. The program of the evening includes an address on "Some Anatomical Anomalies and Lesions of the Lower Spine and their relations to weak and Painful Backs, Sciatica," by Dr. Charles R. McClure, of Portland. Dr. McClure is one of the leading orthopedic surgeons of the northwest. Another paper of interest will be the one to be read by Dr. P. H. Thompson of Salem, on "Suggestions as to First Aid for Accidental Injuries as Viewed from the Standpoint of the State Industrial Accident Commission."

### Republicans Hold Candidates Rally at Armory Today

The republicans of Marion county were given a chance to ponder over the promises of the numerous candidates in the field at a mass meeting held at the armory this afternoon. Every candidate in the county was invited to be present and to make a speech outlining his platform. The meeting was well attended and considerable enthusiasm was manifested for the success of the party at the coming general election. Governor Withycombe was the principal speaker and delivered a plea for a united party as the only means of ensuring a republican victory throughout the state.

The meeting was called to order by R. F. Robertson, chairman of the county central committee. Senator Hal De Haven then introduced Frank A. Miller who acted as chairman of the meeting. Governor Withycombe was the first speaker followed by James Heitzel, president of the Salem Republican club.

The following candidates were each allowed three minutes for political speeches: For circuit judge, Percy R. Kelly, George G. Bingham and W. P. Pogue. For representative, Mrs. R. K. Page, Seymour Jones, E. H. Belknap, Thomas Brown, Mr. Keith, Sam Brown, Ben P. Robertson, H. P. McInturf and Ivan Martin. For prosecuting attorney, Guy O. Smith, Blaine McCard, W. E. Keys, W. C. Winslow, O. R. Carson and Max Gehlar. For county commissioner, Jap Rout, A. C. Libby and Monroe Nye. For sheriff, W. J. Needham and E. E. Cooper. For county school superintendent, Elizabeth Cornelius, Clarence Phillips, W. C. Gault and W. M. Smith.

### Officer Stubbs Quits Salem Police Force

Patrolman E. W. Stubbs, who has been serving recently as deputy health officer, has resigned from the Salem police force and has handed in his star to Chief Welsh. It is stated that Stubbs was requested to resign on account of a report that he appeared on the streets in an intoxicated condition and that the matter would be investigated by the council if he did not resign. Rather than arouse unfavorable comment by a hearing Officer Stubbs decided to resign quietly and enter the real estate business in this city, which move he has been contemplating for some time.

German Attacks Slacken. Berlin, March 18.—German attacks around Verdun have slackened on account of bad weather, the war office announced today. A thick mist hinders operations all along the west front.

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**Salem Heights Happenings**

Mrs. McCallum had as dinner guests Saturday, Mrs. A. Nye and daughter, Doris and Lois, Little Miss Maxine Ulrich of Salem, and Miss McAdam of Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Pray had a happy surprise last Wednesday when their youngest son, John and wife, of Fort Dodge, Iowa, walked in on them.

Mrs. Will Smith and small daughter, Ruth, of West Salem, are visiting with the former's mother, Mrs. Hensley.

Mrs. Wm. Trautgen visited at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Gibson, of Liberty, Thursday.

Mrs. M. L. Polgerson taught school a couple of days this week while Mr. Benjamin had the "poison oak."

The Ladies' Aid met at Mrs. Ben Morris' last Wednesday. A very pleasant afternoon was spent by a large number. After light refreshments were served by the hostess and her daughter, Leona, the ladies adjourned to meet with Mrs. Will Sawyer, in two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Stever visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace La Fountain, last Sunday.

Mrs. M. C. Thompson visited in West Salem last Thursday.

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