

Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

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WHY HE ASKS A SHOW DOWN

The United States is having a hard time trying to maintain a strict neutrality. Whatever move it has made strictly in the interests of real neutrality has been looked upon by both sides as being intended to aid the other, which is the best evidence that it is about right, because naturally each side wants the better of it. It is so with the president's note asking all parties to the war to make definite statement as to what they are fighting for and on what terms they would be willing to make peace. There is no attempt to make either side come to terms, no suggestion as to what those terms should be, no taking either side, but just a request that each side state what it wants. Yet this perfectly proper request, proper because the United States as well as the rest of the world is interested in having a world at peace and conditions such that it cannot be forced into war, not in favor of either side, but in defense of its own rights, but which would necessarily work to the injury of which ever party to the war she should take up arms against--has caused bitter comment by all parties to the strife. It would seem that each and all of them are ashamed to say what they are fighting about--that is if they really know. On the face of things they are fighting because a crazy Serbian assassinated an Austrian prince, but everyone knows that is not the real reason for the war. A war that has caused the deaths of two or three millions of men, the flower of Europe, should have something grave and important enough behind it to make each of the parties willing and anxious to let the world know just what they are fighting for. If there is not some principle involved then the war is utterly inexcusable, and if there is, those who are fighting for it should not hesitate to state it. Germany so far has stated she is fighting for the freedom of the seas, whatever that is; while England so far as she has told what she is fighting for, has only announced that she is fighting against Prussian militarism--whatever that is. Both statements are too indefinite for daily use, and that is why the president of the United States in the interest of peace and of the neutral nations is asking all parties to the scrap for a show down.

Congressman Gardner of Massachusetts is sore at Republican House Leader Mann because he endorsed the president's peace note and says he will not vote for him. He goes further and says this is the fourth time Mann has "endorsed the president's wicked attempts to aid Germany." Yet Congressman Mann's actions show that he is big enough and broad minded enough to be the right man for the place. He is not of the same class as the political pimpermickle of the Bay State who sees nothing good unless it emanates from republican sources. His patriotism is a negative quality and a negligible quantity. Congressman Gardner is a promiscuous limelighter, but he shows his hand on the table when he says: "I believe that the happiness of the world requires the destruction of the dynasties of the Hapsburgs and the Hohenzollerns."

The dispatches yesterday told of a woman aged 106 years cooking dinner for her 26 grand and great grand children. Without forgetting the old lady's spryness, the thing that strikes us most is that with her experience she should be able to get up a dinner that would make the gourmands and epicureans of even Lucullus time smack their lips over. That is of course supposing they were back on earth to do the eating and smacking.

Only a few days until little 1917 is here and swearing off time comes with it. It is more than likely there will be more pledges kept following the swearing off this year than for many seasons past. Circumstances over which these resolving to quit have no control will prove of valuable assistance in helping them stay on the water wagon.

Now the San Francisco board of health has decided that the public cigar cutter is a source of danger to the smokers and has decided further that it must hit the scrap heap.

MAY CHANGE COUNTRY'S POLICY

That the United States is becoming more and more tied up with the old world is shown by the fact staring the country in the face that its policies may be changed owing to its connection with world-wide affairs. It has been the policy of the country to make no alliances with the powers of the old world, yet the proposed peace guarantee will force us to abandon this policy. It is a certainty that if this peace guarantee materializes, the United States will be not only a party, but may have to show and lead the way. Surely the world has had enough of war, and the time is propitious for the movement that will cut off all danger of another sudden conflagration starting that will threaten civilization. It will do away with the maintaining of vast armies, and navies, those of each nation being regulated by agreement, and it will give the war-stricken nations a chance to recover that much more quickly. In the meanwhile it is well enough for this country to lay the foundation for a greater navy and a larger; not that they will be needed if a world peace can be arranged, but that this country will be in better shape to help force this arrangement. If it is accomplished well and good, for the big battleships can be dismantled and the armies disbanded. If it does not succeed, then we are in condition to protect our shores and our frontiers at all times.

A Few Suggestions to Mr. Bligh

FROM JAMES M. HEADY

Mr. Bligh, (owner of Bligh Theatre),
Bligh Building,
City:

MY DEAR MR. BLIGH:

You are a nice man and I LIKE YOU because you always treat me POLITELY when I come after your ADS each morning.

I work almost all the time at something or other but ONCE IN A WHILE I go to a MOVING PICTURE SHOW or anything.

So last night, I thought I would like to see and HEAR WAH-LET-KA, as she revealed past, present and FUTURE. So I went down, or up, or over, or out, which ever WAY IT IS TO THE BLIGH, and paid TWO-BITS for myself and TWO-BITS for the wife and Ten Cents for the Boy, which is VERY CHEAP for a TWO HOUR Show. I've paid FIFTY CENTS at THE ORPHEUM and didn't SEE ONE AS GOOD.

Of course WAH-LET-KA was over at The YE LIBERTY, but that's my fault, I DIDN'T READ THE AD STRAIGHT.

Anyway, the three LADIES on the BIG BILLIARD BALLS were fine, and MISS HAPPY HARRISON has the "MISSING LINK" BILL down to where he don't MISS MUCH.

And say, on thelevel, if the violin that Miss MADE-LINE SACK played on is valued at \$5,000, who ever did the valuing didn't OVER ESTIMATE it because BELIEVE ME it was MUSIC. I should like to hear her play on a \$10,000 ONE, only if she did I would be spoiled for REGULAR MUSIC for the rest of my life. If you didn't hear her YOURSELF, I would advise you to hire her for the rest of the week and then LAY OFF FROM WORK and LISTEN.

But what I STARTED out to do was to call your ATTENTION to a few things. The Blue Bird picture "LOVE NEVER DIES" might be IMPROVED in 2 or 3 places. For instance where the UNCLE grabs the HERO by the throat or the collar ANYHOW and orders him "AWAY"--you'll remember the HERO has a VIOLIN CASE under his arm. Wouldn't it TAKE BETTER if the HERO would SMASH UNCLE on the "BEAN" with the CASE. The violin (if any) could be removed beforehand. Don't forget it was little TOUCHES like that that made CHARLES CHAPLIN famous.

But especially I wanted to call your attention to the way the SLIDES are run. They are not IN KEEPING with THE PICTURES.

When the HEROINE is surprised by UNCLE as she is DANCING in the MOONLIGHT and ordered "OFF THE PREMISES"--There is the poor thing, NO PLACE TO GO and not DRESSED UP EITHER. What an ideal place for a slide announcing--"FOR LADIES' GOODS--GO TO MEYERS"--"THE BEST DRESSED LADIES BUY THEIR SHOES AT FULLERTON'S" and so on.

When the little girl stepped in the water and got her feet wet, what could have been more appropriate than an AD reading, "HAVE YOUR SHOES FIXED WITH NEOLIN SOLES AT PRICE'S SHOE STORE and KEEP YOUR FEET DRY."

And when the YOUNG FELLOW finally sold THE OPERA and CHOKED the VILLIAN and started in to be a REGULAR GENTLEMAN--a slide calling the attention of the AUDIENCE to the fact that, BISHOP or SCHEI or BRICK BROS. or SUNDIN or OTHERS could make anybody look like a GENTLEMAN, would certainly get RESULTS.

You see Mr. BLIGH, when you leave the SLIDES to the end of the REEL, people forget to make the CONNECTION.

Hoping you will be able to make use of these SUGGESTIONS in a PRACTICAL way and wishing you A HAPPY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR, I'm yours very truly,
"THE ADVERTISER"

Who likes to see all ADVERTISERS "GET A RUN FOR THEIR MONEY"

Thomas W. Lawson, author and stock gambler, says the leaks from officialdom in Washington are a fact, and that those who are howling the loudest for leak investigations are the ones who benefited most by them. In the light of Secretary Lansing having asked the fullest investigation as to the leak of last week by which Lawson and other plungers cleaned up some millions, it would appear that Lawson's statement is a direct charge that Lansing was one of the beneficiaries. At the same time he says the supreme court has leaked for 20 years and that its decisions were known in advance and taken advantage of by speculators. He also says that within a short time a leak already made will cause a wreck in Wall street which will make the hiatus of last week seem a small affair. A short time will tell whether Thomas is telling the truth or talking for effect on the market.

Like everything else, silver has increased in value on account of the war. When the struggle began the white metal was priced around 54 cents, while now it is above 75. If the United States continues to gobble all the gold, the nations now at war may have to adopt a silver basis, and the Bryan plan of "sixteen to one" at which they one and all pointed the finger of scorn may yet be adopted by them.

Other cities may have had bigger Christmas celebrations for their kiddies, but it is safe to say that none assembled a happier or brighter lot of little folks than gathered around the big tree in the courthouse lawn Christmas eve.

All the press of the belligerent countries have had their say, and most of the countries have made some remarks. Now gentlemen lay your cards on the table and let the world know what stakes you have been playing for.

John D. gave each of his household employes a ten dollar gold piece for Christmas and so far has not raised the price of oil or gasoline. Maybe this was just a ten per cent raise on their salaries, just as other big employes granted those working for them.

Several empty whiskey bottles and a woman dead, stuffed in a corner, was what was found as the aftermath of one Portland Christmas celebration.



LIFE IS THUS

The parents rear a winsome maid, whose name, perhaps, is Rose, and feed her pies and marmalade, and buy her furbelows. They educate her year by year, with knowledge store her mind, although the learning graft is dear, and money hard to find. They hope that when they're old and gray, the damsel will be near, to soothe their dotard griefs away, and dry the misfit tear. "She'll surely be our rod and staff," they say, "when we old wights are ready for the epitaph, and other last sad rites." But

when the maid is seventeen, there comes along a guy, whose car burns up more gasoline than any man should buy. Oh, parents cut but little grass, when that young man arrives, whose wagon, burning up the gas, puts joy in maidens' lives. Fair Rose is scorching up the road, and hitting hills on high, and in their silent, sad abode, the old folks sit and sigh. All broken are the hopes and plans which in the years have grown; they know that they are also-rans, for youth must have its own. It is the saddest thing I know--the saddest man can find--when children from the homestead go, and never look behind.



MY HUSBAND AND I

Jane Phelps

MILDRED TELLS CLIFFORD OF HER LONELINESS

CHAPTER CIV.
Two treats for one little girl in the same night are almost too many," Clifford said, as he helped Edith to a bountiful dish of cream. She was rubbing her eyes sleepily.
"Is I going to have something else, daddy?"
"Goodness, no, Miss Greedy! But isn't it one treat to come down to dinner with mother and daddy, and another to have ice cream? That makes two."
"Oh, yes!" and the bestest treat is to have my dinner with you and mamma," she declared, a spoonful of cream halted in mid-air while she spoke.
"So do we, dear," Clifford smiled at her, although his voice was grave.
Dinner over, Mandy took our little invalid up-stairs, and Clifford and I adjourned to the library. Kate brought us our coffee, and Clifford lit a cigar.
"Oh, isn't this lovely!" I said, with a long sigh of content.
"Was it so bad as that?" Clifford asked. "It has been trying, I know."
"I was very sad while Edith was so ill--very lonely after she commenced to improve," I returned.
"Well, it's all right now, so cease dwelling on it."
"I wasn't! I was only thinking how nice it was to be here with you."
Restraint.
Had I done as I wanted to, I should have crept into his arms, laid my head on his breast and cried out my love for him, my longing to know that he loved me. But as usual, I compelled myself to sit still, and sipped my coffee while we talked of impersonal things. Then, after Kate had taken the dishes away, he produced a late magazine for me to read, while he looked at the papers.
I would much have preferred to talk; but that was his way when at home. After a little desultory conversation he would bury himself in the papers, until time to retire. About 10 o'clock he laid his paper down with the remark:
"Come, Mildred! you look tired. We'll turn in early."
Before 11 o'clock, I was sound asleep in my own bed. Long afterward I recalled that quiet evening in the library as one of the pleasant pinnacles of my married life.
Unpleasant Thoughts.
As the days passed, the happy feeling slowly oozed away; and in its place came the old thoughts, the old disappointment, the old neglect. Then, too, so many things seemed to go wrong. Clifford and I clashed constantly, and

STATE NEWS

Oregon's 1918 fruit crop will net growers fully \$9,000,000. This is the valuation placed on the commercial shipping crop, and does not include the value of fruit consumed at home. Taken altogether, the crop was worth \$1,000,000 more than in any previous year. The apple crop proved to be better than had been anticipated. The total shipping crop is estimated at about 3,000 cars. On account of the continued car shortage, a large proportion of the crop remains yet to be moved. While apples head the list in point of value the prune crop takes first rank for the amount of outside money brought into the state. The 1918 production of Oregon Italian prunes reached the 40,000,000-pound mark, the shipping value of which was \$3,000,000. There was a creditable showing in other varieties of fruit--Oregonian.

Clay C. Clark, representative from Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler counties, expects to introduce a bill in the state legislature during its next session raising the bounty on female coyotes to the rate of \$10 each. He says that such a bounty would make it worth while for hunters to purchase dogs, and eventually the animals would be exterminated. Representative Clark says coyotes are becoming very numerous in eastern Oregon, and the sheep industry of that section is threatened with disaster unless some drastic action is taken in the near future.

Aurora Observer: Several hop sales have been reported the past few days at prices considerably lower than prevailed a month ago. Among the sales reported were the Louis Heueller lot of 55 bales to the Seavey Hop company at 1-2 cents; 75 bales of the Piper crop to A. J. Misher, at 9-12 cents, there being 57 bales still left in the Piper lot; the C. S. Arnold lot of 86 bales went to the Wolf Hop company, at 7 cents, and the G. C. Carothers lot of 117 bales, went to A. J. Ray & Son, at 8-1-2 cents.

In connection with the mineral springs a sanitarium is to be established at Ashland. Work on the first unit to cost \$50,000, is expected to begin within the next two months.

MEDFORD CHRISTMAS WHITE

Medford, Or., Dec. 26.--Medford and the Rogue River Valley celebrated a genuine "white" Christmas with snow six inches deep on the floor of the valley, white settlers in the hills were literally snowbound. According to the local weather bureau, all snow records for December have been broken, the ground having been covered now for two weeks.

For the first time in a decade woodchoppers near the Applegate have put their sleds in commission and are pulling their loads through the snowdrifts in true New England fashion. More snow is predicted tonight and at sun-down there were intermittent snow flurries which promised to develop into a heavy fall before morning. Medford held its annual municipal Christmas tree Saturday night, attended by several hundred children. The tree being set up in the public library park. There were the usual holiday dances among members of the ranch colony and the young people home from college.

TRY JOURNAL WANT ADS

THEY WERE RUNDOWN

How often we hear it said of a man or woman that "they were rundown in health" which accounts for their present sickness. For that reason it is important that when you find you're fire easily, when your nerves are troublesome or your work is irksome, you should strengthen your system immediately with the blood-enriching, tissue-building food in Scott's Emulsion which contains pure Norwegian cod liver oil and is free from alcohol.
Scott & Bown, Bloomfield, N. J.

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