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WOODEN VERSUS STEEL SHIPS

Now General Goethals concludes the steel ship costing more than twice as much as the wooden one, is better for the German submarine harvest than the latter. We have a profound regard for General Goethals' opinion, but reserve the right to think he is wrong in this case. What is needed is an abundance of ships that can be built most quickly and most cheaply. They are built for the express purpose of running the most dangerous blockade ever established, with the chances largely in favor of their not making more than a few round trips on an average. To meet the demand requires the ships that can traverse the Atlantic at the earliest date. The wooden ship can do this. Then as to cost, it would require the sinking of double the number of wooden ships to cause the same damage. However General Goethals has charge of the work and what he says, goes. As he says perhaps only about 100 wooden ships will be built, it will still fall to the Northwest to build these. However this need not discourage Oregon ship builders, for the demand for ships by others than the United States government, is such that every ship that can be turned off the ways will be taken as quickly as she can be fitted out. This is not only true as to the present, but after the war there will be an immense demand for ships of any kind to do the world's carrying. The great tonnage destroyed will not only have to be replaced, but the world's merchant marine will have to be largely increased, to aid in rebuilding the devasted war section. It will take five, and possibly ten years after the war ends to bring the complement of ships to normal, and reduce freight rates to a standard that will permit the world to do business again on a normal basis.

Colonel Joab, of Seattle is so patriotic that not long ago he caused the arrest of a young man for an alleged libel of George Washington. The jury trying the offender found him guilty. One would think that with this example before him the doughty colonel would have used at least common discretion in speaking of the present president. However, according to the news dispatches he made a bitter verbal attack on President Wilson a few days ago in the shop of an old man, a republican but good enough American to accept the man selected by the people as his president as well as of those who voted for him. When Col. Joab gave vent to his feelings about Wilson, the old man expressed his opinion about the Colonel, by landing on the Colonel's nose with an indignant fist to such purpose that the Colonel was forced to wear it in a sling, so to speak, for several days. "It makes a great deal of difference with some people as to who does the talking."

Spain will in all probability be the next to turn against the Prussian system. She has demanded an explanation of the sinking of one of her ships; reparation for it, and a guarantee that hereafter her ships will not be attacked by submarines. Unless she is much more powerful than the United States, or has more "pull," she will not get the guaranty asked. Prussian ruthlessness that spares nothing will make no exception in favor of Spain. So it is up to the Dons to either take it back and say they never said it, or join the balance of the civilized world in removing the world menace.

Just when General Pershing and his division of about 40,000 men will sail, or how or where from is not known and probably will be kept secret until the army is in France. It is the part of wisdom not to let the undersea boats know of the troops' movements, until after they are made.

Apparently the number of victims of the undersea boats is decreasing France reports that while some 950 vessels entered her ports and nearly the same number departed, there were but six torpedoed. This would make the loss of all vessels making the round trip, about one-third of one per cent. The loss of one ship out of 300 can be borne without much worrying.

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IT WILL SAVE THE BOYS

Germany depending on a crop shortage in America to win the war is leaning on a very flimsy and weak reed. This country will have enough for its own use and to spare. The only question is how much of a surplus it can produce. In this connection it should be remembered that feeding the armies of the allies is really a greater help to them than sending men over to assist them. The more food we send them the less men we will perhaps have to provide, so there is added to the patriotic inducement the further one of saving our own boys. It will surely encourage the cultivation of all vacant lands and the furnishing all assistance required by the farmer in handling his crops, when we recollect this may be means of saving many of our boys taking active part in the war. It may be your boy you are saving by adding to the country's production of foodstuffs. It is claimed more can be accomplished by aiding the farmer than by cultivating vacant lots in the cities, but while this may be true, there is no reason why both may not be done.

It looks as though Russia had weathered the storm following her change of rulers, and was getting on her feet with a stable government. The latest news is to the effect that the new government will stay by the pledges made by the old regime, and will continue to prosecute the war. It may be she will not be able to start a vigorous offensive at once, but so long as she stays with the allies and maintains an army on the front that will compel the kaiser to keep a strong force to meet it, she will do much toward winning the war. This, it seems, she is doing and will continue to do. At the same time the offensive began by the Italians will compel the sending of reserves to that front, and with the three fronts to take care of all at once it is going to make it a strenuos year for Prussianism.

The question: "What shall children read in war time?" has been raised and so far not answered. We have no suggestions to make as to what they shall peruse, but suggest that if they want to know anything of history, they dodge the series of school stuff called history and now studied as such. Ayers almanac with the changes of the moon and consequently knowledge of the right time to plant potatoes might make a substitute for so called school histories.

Nicaragua is small, but she is dead right in indorsing the principle announced by President Wilson to the effect that the nations of the world, regardless of size, are all entitled to the use of the oceans on equal terms. They are also entitled to work out their own destiny in their own way without being coerced by stronger nations. This is what the allies are fighting for, what the United States is in the war for; and every nation big or little should be with them in their battle for the rights of the people of all countries.

Yesterday was the seventh Sunday after Easter, including that day. There is an old saying that if it rains on Easter it will rain seven Sundays in succession. Whether there are any figures to back up this belief is not known, but it is a fact that the rule worked this year. It did not rain much yesterday, but enough to make the record good. One other Sunday had put a sprinkle, but it rained on each and all of them. Let us hope it will not start after a record, but let it go as it is with "seven wet."

The confession of Riggen at Hillsboro Saturday that he killed Booth, if true, gives another hard jolt to circumstantial evidence. It was this kind of evidence entirely on which Booth's wife and William Branson were convicted and sent to prison. Riggen's story is being probed, and as far as followed seems to be correct. Should investigation corroborate his story, it will open the prison doors to those now serving time for the crime.

Rippling Rhymes

by Walt Mason

CHEAP FOOD

I know not what this uproar means, about the cost of living; I'm eating dandelion greens, and much delight they're giving. The dendelions abroad, in yellow-blooming splendor, wherever they can find the ground, and they are nice and tender. You'll find them growing on your lot, as on your lawn you potter; you put the blamed things in a pot, together with some water. You boil them with a piece of meat, then at the table rally, and dine, and what you cannot eat, you throw out in the alley. Such diet at this season means the cure of ailments chronic, for all physicians hold that greens are quite a helpful tonic. They heal the nerves, all torn to shreds, your blood and bones they nourish, they bring new hair to old bald heads, and make the whiskers flourish. But dandelions grow at large, and do not cost a penny; we want the things for which they charge, or else we won't have any. If peaches grew on every shrub, if every weed bore honey, we'd say, "They aren't fit for grub, or they would cost us money."

Important Facts to Remember About the War Census

War Census Day—Tuesday, June 5, as named by President Wilson in his official proclamation.

Who Must Register—Every male resident between ages of 21 and 30 years, inclusive. This includes aliens as well as Americans. Japanese, Chinese, Italians, Germans, English, Americans, and men of any other nationality who are of the designated ages, must register. will not be drafted for war duty, of course, but a complete record of them is desired.

Who is Exempt—No male resident between the ages of 21 and 30 years, inclusive, is exempt from registering. Those to be exempted from military service will be determined later, but first all must register.

Where to Register—Registration must be made in the home precinct of the man registering. Register at your regular voting place.

Hours for Registration — Booths at regular voting places in each precinct will be open on war census day from 7 o'clock a. m. to 9 o'clock p. m. Don't wait until the last moment. Register early.

Registration of Absentees — If you find you will be unavoidably absent from your home precinct on war census day, you should apply at the earliest possible date to the county clerk of the county in which you may be at the time, whether in Oregon or elsewhere, who will fill out your registration card. He will then give you the card, which you must mail to the registrar of your home precinct, in care of the sheriff of your home county, in time to reach the registrar by war census day. If you live in Portland, or a city of over 30,000 population in another state, mail the card to the registrar in care of the mayor.

But remember, the burden of having your card reach the registrar of your home precinct by war census day is on you.

Registration of the Sick—Men of military age who are too ill to go to the voting booth to register must send a competent person before war census day to the county clerk to explain the circumstances, and secure instructions from the federal regulations which these officials will receive from the government.

Penalties—The penalty for failing to appear to register, or for giving false, misleading or incorrect answers, is imprisonment. There is no alternative of a fine.

Summary of Insurance Laws Now In Effect

Insurance Commissioner Harvey Wells has completed a summary of the new insurance laws, passed by the 1917 legislature, that go into effect today. These laws he believes are the most important that were passed by the legislature. In regard to the insurance measures he has the following to say:

It provides for a state insurance department, in charge of an insurance commissioner, who shall be appointed within 30 days after this act takes effect, to hold office for a term of four years from the 30th day of June. The law provides that the appointment shall be made by the governor, who must appoint a person experienced in insurance matters, which person may be removed for inefficiency, malfeasance or the good of the service.

The new law places adjusters under the supervision of the insurance department and require them to secure a license.

Heretofore there has been practically no law relative to the organization and supervision of insurance companies organized within this state and this new law will take care of these, also.

A general provision relating to fire insurance companies has been provided and in this connection over insurance is made unlawful, that is, where such insurance is wilfully and knowingly secured. This law not only reaches the policyholder, but the agent as well. The law further requires all fire insurance companies, except companies organized under the law of this state, to file a deposit with the insurance commissioner of $25,000 either in negotiable securities or a surety bond.

Probably one of the most important sections is the enactment of the provision relating to surety companies. It requires all surety companies to make deposits of $25,000 in first class securities with the state treasurer, who shall be trustee for the same, for the payment of judgments.

Another provision is that of inter-insurance, which is a mode of insurance carried by a group of merchants who exchange indemnity with one another.

The legislature also passed amendments to the present fraternal laws with amendments are considered as relief measures and apparently meets the approval of all societies.

Hospital associations are also regulated and required to file a bond of $10,000 for the protection of all members in these hospital associations, and places them under the supervision of the insurance department.

Marine insurance also has been defined and it is said Oregon is practically one of the few states that has defined this class of insurance. As a whole, experts who have examined Oregon's new code, have pronounced it is one of the most complete and carefully drawn insurance laws in the United States.

By virtue of his office as insurance commissioner, Commissioner Wells becomes exo-officio state fire marshal today. He has appointed Jay Stevens, of Portland, chief deputy fire marshal, who will remain with the department 60 days, or long enough to organize it. He will later become manager for the fire

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J. W. RITCHIE, Agent.
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Wheat Down Five Cents from Saturday's Close

Chicago, May 21.—Restricted weather continued to exert its influence on wheat and the grain market was erratic in featureless.

July opened 7 cents under Saturday's close, but later recovered to $2.35. September, down 2 cents, closing, subsequently lost another $2.12.

Corn followed the trend in wheat. July was off 1-4 at the opening and later went to $1.56, up 1-2. September was off 3-4 at $1.48 1-2 and later rose to $1.49.

Oats trading also was erratic. July opened down 5-8 at 67 and later rose 1-8. September was down 1-8 and lost 1-8 to 67 and later gained 1-8. December was down 1-2 and later rose to 57.

Provisions were lower on a lower market.

FAVOR CHURCH UNION

Dallas, Texas, May 21.—Resolutions favoring a union of the Presbyterian church, U. S. A., and the Presbyterian U. S., were adopted this afternoon by the 129th general assembly of the Presbyterian church, U. S. A. The committee on church and union is empowered to enter into negotiations with the Presbyterian church of the United States.

Construction work on the extension of the United Railways line from Wilkesboro to Tillamook has begun. The work of construction of the 30 miles of road is to be completed by the end of the year. The road will be built for logging purposes only, for a time at least.

prevention bureau for the Pacific coast in the interest of the insurance companies.

My Husband and I

By Jane Phelps

MONEY TROUBLES AGAIN

CHAPTER XLIX.

Tom was late in getting home, and seemed disinclined to talk. I started to tell him of Everett Crandell's call, then thought I would wait until morning. Perhaps he would feel better then.

"There's a man at the door ma'am, says as show he wants to see you," Norah told me as soon as I was dressed the next morning; Tom was still in the bath.

"I'll be right down," I told her, wondering who it could possibly be at such an hour.

It was the grocery man from up in the Bronx. I still owed him twelve dollars, and he had evidently become anxious in spite of my placating note. I must get rid of him before Tom came down. It would mean too many explanations; cause too many questions if he found it out now.

"Oh, I'm so sorry you felt you had to come way down here!" I said to him before he could speak, "I will settle that little bill tomorrow." I had not the faintest idea I could, but I must get rid of him.

Notwithstanding Tom's changed demeanor as regarded money, and in spite of his increased salary, I knew he would be very angry if he knew I had moved leaving debts behind him. Then I had told him untruths about them. I think that frightened me more than anything else.

"Be sure you pay it then," and there was a something very like a threat in the man's voice.

Just as Before.

At breakfast I told Tom that Mr. Crandell had run in for a few minutes, and that he had brought me a box of candy.

"He told me he had to come up this way.. I wish he'd stayed down-town with that fool customer, and let me come home. I'm tired to death."

Tom was cross. It was unusual for him to act peeved so I said no more. After he left I counted up what money I had, and found that if I didn't pay out last week's butcher bill, I could pay the groceryman. But Tom had refused to let me run house bills; he said it was bad enough to owe for the curtains and my dress. We were living right up to his salary; in fact didn't seem to have a cent more than before his raise. He had remarked only the day before that he didn't see how that bill was to be paid for another month; and had cautioned me about being careful.

After breakfast I went around to the butcher's. I was not quite so timid; quite so afraid of the tradesmen as I had been.

"I find Mr. Meyer that it will be more convenient for me to pay my meat bills monthly instead of weekly as I have been doing," and he, afraid of losing custom, replied:

"That's all right, Mrs. Randolph. Monthly will do just as well."

It was so easy that I recklessly bought a larger order than we needed.

Once more I must rob Peter to pay Paul.

A Letter to Peggy.

I had not forgotten my resolve to write Peggy Halstead and ask her to visit me. I was really anxious to see her; and more than curious that she should see how nicely I was getting on. I could not afford to do much in the way of entertaining for her; but thought would consider it enough. So I wrote asking her to come.

She answered immediately.

"Thank you so much for asking me, Sue, and I'll be there two weeks from today. I am so tired of this place, town, and you know I never have visited New York. I suppose you are a real city girl by this time. I'm coming to see your baby. The picture you sent your mother is too cute for words. She was going by one day and she called me in to see it.

My clothes are disreputable, of course, I wouldn't wait two weeks. I must get some things made; but I'm going to try to persuade father to be generous for once and let me buy a few things in New York. I think he will. I haven't felt very well lately, but when I'm sick he's just a little frightened, and gives in more easily. Dear old dad is all right! But he does hang on to his money. Kiss that darling baby for me; love to you, and remember me to your husband. I long to see him so much the little I saw of him before you were married.

Until I come Peggy."

"I was so excited over Peggy's letter that I ran right up to show it to Helen.

"We will have to plan some festivities for her," she said, ready to help me out as usual.

(Tomorrow—A Telephone Call)