## Editorial Page of The Capital Journal



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## MAKING HISTORIC BATTLEFIELD

The Italians have put up a splendid fight and have made the present battlefield one that will be historic. It is good news indeed that both French and English reinforcements have arrived to aid them in not only check ing the Teuton advance but to assist in driving the in vaders from Italian soil. The results will be watched with keen interest for the fighting is largely in the open and once the Teutons are forced to retreat there should be some brilliant fighting such as brought fame to old-time battlefiields. It is also possible the invaders may find the way out much harder to travel than the road in. The kaiser's forces are making a desperate struggle to brea through the Italian lines, and the fact that they have no been able to do so indicates now that help is arriving, that the attempt will, proving hopeless, be abandoned. If thi happens, on top of the whipping administered by the British it will keep the kaiser's backers busy explainin the two catastrophes. The reports from Berlin indicate the true story of the western front, and the other of alure in taly are both being suppressed, and that claims of German victories are told in place of them. This may win for a time, but when once the deceit is generally nown a wout the only thing Prussionism con poople. its face, but lies eventually are discovered and then trouble its face
starts.

## DEMOLISHED A STRAW MAN

The Oregonian criticises a local news item about the escape of Elwin Hayes from the State hospital for the insane, and says "familiarity with these unfortunate be eme minds. "The intimation is that the Capital Journal was "jocular," over the escaped patient's condition men tally. The story, which the Oregonian prints in full, "jocular" in any sense, was so not concerning the person but only as to the weather conditions. The escaped man later developed homicidal traits and unfortunately kille a deputy sheriff of Multnomah county. As a matter of fact Hayes had been a perfectly harmless patient fo years. He had beengiven broad iberties about the instiunion as looked upon by those in authority as a. dangerous. It is of course true that an insane person is never to be trusted implicitly any more than is a sane ever to be tresed pres an an a person or the Oregonian. What there was in the story
in question to induce eriticism by the big morning pape is beyond comprehension unless it felt that it wanted built up a straw man and then proceeded to demolish it
Apparently the federal autherities the fact that seditious talk is common and also that must be stopped. Atress ace repored the country except Salem, and there is realky no reaso why this section should be overlooked, for there are of as the start has been made it should go the limit an make a clean up of all this class. Those who are not for
the United States are against it, and if they talk agains it they will also act against it if the opportunity offer They should be interned until after the make chance to ret acquainted with conditions in their homes, just by way of comparison with what they have bsen accustomed to

President Wilson objects to a declaration of war Austria at this time, holding that in case that ally be in better shape to foster the sentiment and aid in gratifying the desire

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## WELL WORTH INVESTIGATING

Salem has been hampered in getting and keeping fac ories on account of Portland having better freight rate This condition will exist until Salem itself removes it-it can. The offer to sell the steamers Oregona and Po mona to Salem merchants and business men may offer a
solution of this problem. It is claimed by the present owners that none of the river towns, Salem with the rest have given the boat line patronage enough to justify its quit the route, There is an abundance ompany desires to boats, and much more than they could manage if they were properly patronized. The question is would they be any better looked after in the questio sos would they be hold of them? With an increased patronage the boat ine could be made to pay and also to help solve the freight problem for such factories as Portland has left us It is proposition that should be looked into carefully and if It is should be undertaken.
It is a certainty that if Salem is to grow it will have to
do so through the push and energy of her own people. This being the case nothing which gives promise of helping that growth should be left untried. The boat proposibe carefully examined into.
British troops are reported to be within three and a half miles of Jerusalem. They occupied Gaza not long since carrying the city instead of like Samson the gates,
and later they saw the Turks and later they saw the Turks bombarding the tomb of
Samuel. Now if they can locate anuel. Now if they can locate, and locate in the Garden felt the taste of the greatest of all wars.
It is reported a daughter of the czar is on her way to marriage. And that she escaped from siberia by a cictitious unfortunate and Miss Romanoff will be given a chance to forget her father was czar of all the Russias, and also blundering fool.
$\overline{\text { ough the Oregon mist had forgotten is }}$
It looks as though the Oregon mist had forgotten its
ccupation. Half a dozen times this Fall rains have occupation. Hat stopped after a day or so. The good old webfoot drizzle used to keep everlastingly at it for ween at a time, but pr
ford it any more.

Thanksgiving Thursday, Christmas in a month, New Years a week later and then comes the mix-up of Olcott, Moser, Withycombe, McNary, Stanfield and a whole caboodle of smaller fry. In six months the primar.
pe over and the candidates will konw who is who.

The Italians are still fighting desperately and holdin heir ground. It seems it is high time that some report England had arrived and was making itself felt by the England
enemy.
Reports of the DeSaulles trial mention society women elegantly gowned being in the court room and moved to ng the case the verdict can be predicted with reasonable ertainty.
Turkey in Asia is in about as bad a fix as its namesake America. Neither has anything to be thankful for jus ondition, having his troubles over for Thanksgiving time at least
The militant women doing time for picketing the white house, and who went on hunger strike, thought better it and all took a feed so as to be in condition to appe
court when the writ of habeas corpus is returned.

## Rippling Rhymes <br> \section*{by Walt Mason}

THE LONG FACE
The man who's always serious, who's

solemn all his days, is prone to pain and weary us, in fifty-seven ways. These times be dark and troublesome, with war and
dead men's bones; still let your laughter bubble some, it does more good than groans. I read of endless slaughtering on red fields over there, and yet no tears are watering
the handdowns that I wear; 'tis not because Im frivolous, or hardened, that I smile; bu grief will only shrivel us, and isn't worth
our while. I can't conceive what meant-that prophet of old day - Jery out joy and merriment, a long lament raise. The man whose voice is pitiful, whose face is like hearse, will queer a whole blamed city full, and break men's hearts or worse. He's bad enough when breezily mens hearts or worse. He's bad enough when breezily and tears like fountains flow, when souls and nerves nee smartening, why multiply the woe? With sighs for this world's misery I waste no precious time, but with my
weapon scissory I steal some cheerful rhyme.

## (1) Margarel Carretts Husband in



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