## Ensin Editorial Page of The Capital Journal

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## HERTLING'S PITIFUL PLEA FOR MERCY

Yesterday Chancellor Hertling of the German empire made an address to the reichstag in which he expressed the desire of the war lords for peace-a German peace, however. The Brest-Litovsk treaty with the Rus-
sian bolsheviki was held up as a sample of the kind of a sian bolsheviki was held up as a sample of the kind of a
peace the German rulers desire, but the chancellor with peace the German rulers desire, but the chancellor with
great emotion proceeded to say that the allies would not aceept a German-made peace and had determined to defeat them in a test of arms. He considered this an
outrageous decision which could only have the effect of outrageous decision which could only have the effect
prolonging the war with its slaughter and suffering. prolonging the war witc th slaughtur and suifering.
The ehancellor's speech was a mournful wail--the wa
The chancellor's speech was a mournur wail--.the wain The power of the Central empires is failing and the lead ers of the military clique reaize this fact more certain than anybody else. Hercent his command to break the allied front and won some ground on account of the incompetency of the British military command and its has been repaired and now Hindenburg delays a further has been repar kaiser's diplomats make frantic efforts to move while the kaiser's diplomats make frantic efforts to
secure a hearing from the allies to discuss a conclusion of secure a hearing from the alies to discuss a conclusion or peace which will allow the junkers to escape a thoroughlypeace which will allow the junkers to escape a thoroughy.
deserved whipping. While Hertling whines and pleads for mercy, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey are crumbling away before the assaults of the allied armies---and Germany, the instig
A story came out recently by way of the Danish ludenorff, has stated the war will probably end with the end of the year. He admits Germany's defeat while conthe usual German misconception of things he gives the allies credit for some things which more properly belong to Germany, but which the German trait of seeing but one side of a question fails to recognize. Speaking to a Ger man diplomatic leader, Ludendorff is credited with say ing: "Despite the fact that your excellency belongs to a guild, I must say that in diplomacy and in polities the coalition has beaten us. They put the world in arms gainst us with a skill we neither understood nor know how to imitate. It has been brilliant. We must therefore speak in the only way they left us--by object les-
sons." Concluding his statement he said: "Chimneys may continue to smoke indefinitely, but war in a genera way will end with the end of this year.
It was a remarkable interview, and coming from the leading German militarist is that much the more so. At
the same time the failure of the German mind to visualize situation is exemplified by it. Ludendorff is apparentl oblivious of the faet that it was not allied diplomacy, no superior political wisdom, not the "making of language do all it can do," that arraved the world against Germany.
That was done by the German's themselves, by their That was done by the German's themselves, by heir
arrogance, their ruthlessness, their violation of all the rules of civilized warfare, the sinking of ships belonging to neutral nations, the torpedoing of hospital ships, an were the things that arrayed the world against Germany and her system. These things have been given publicity $y$ the allies, hat is an, and "o this extent they have made language do will perhaps come with the end of th the end of the war will perhaps come with the end of the shape to invade Germany, that the kaiser will lose his oold front and sue for peace. Hertling was pleading for the treatme danger of having to do this becomes imminent, she begs or mercy. The German soldier is trained for victory only, and with defeat his portion he will prove a sorry
loser. It is hoped General Ludendorfl's ideas may be materialized and that the war will end as he suggeses, bu this may well be doubted, for the reason the German
militarists still have an idea that any real offer of peace

## LADD \& BUSH, Bankers

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will be accepted by the allies. They overlook the fact that
there must be some kind of a government with the Ger man people behind it, with which the allies can make a peace treaty. This cannot be done with the present military government. Ludendorff probably forgot to look at the matter from the standpoint. of the allies, and
expressed only what the German government will try to expressed only what the German
do in the way of making peace.

WHY NOT EXPECT HARMONY
What did Governor Withycombe and Major Deich expect would be the reception of the state police in the various communities of Oregon? Did they think that the
citizens of this state are so lawless that the regularly citizens of this state are so lawless that the regularly elected and appointed peace officers would
cous in their dealings with the state police?
ous in their dealings with the state police?
It would seem that they had some such id
It would seem that they had some such idea as this as Major Deich has made a report to the governor advising the state police and the Portland police department and the federal troops. Is it something unusual that harmony hould exist between these bodies of men? What is there about the state police that caused the governor and
Major Deieh to fear they would not get along amicably with other peace enforcing agencies in the state? Majo Deich's report has aroused our curiosity.

Director McAdoo in order to lighten the burden on the dilroads has placed tugs and barges on the new Erie able. If this is good policy in the east why is it not equal $y$ good here in the west. We should have more boats on he Columbia and Willamette and we should give them all possible patronage, shipping by them every possible bit evelop the country and at the another industry, help reight cars and much motive power for other work. The frst step toward accomplishing this is the building of roductive improving the cross roads leading from the Columbia should not carry practically all the products o he inland empire to Portland and put them in touch with e markets of the world. The northwest wheat which will be sent in the newly built ships by way of the canal
should all find its way down the Columbia, and be loaded direct into the holds of the waiting ships.
A dispatch Friday says the ezar is still living. Since Villa has retired from the repeated death list the czar holds the record. This recalls Livingstone and the almost
weekly reports of his death, which caused some newspaper reporter to get off this jingle

Oh, Livingstone, how sad thy lot,
Where Africa's sands are hotter,
Onere ees en the weary Hottent
Onot and totter.
Better the sword they life cut short
Or cannon shot cut shorter,
Better to fall at one report
Insurance Commissioner Wells says that Oregon has he lowest fire loss ratio of any state in the Union. The re insurance rates of any state in the Union. But has it? wner. Fire insurance rates in Oregon have been high In the last year or two slight reductions have been made hey should be if Oregon maintains its record for a low re loss ratio.

## Rippling Rhymes

 We've lived to see the greatest scrap that ever jarred the mundane map. Four years ago, in padded ways, we spent our money
hunting days. Some prophets stood around and said that balmy peace would soon be dead. They pawed the air, it made them while at their forges busy Huns were making swords and bombs and guns. ly ought to prets. We exclaimed; "you real y ought to be ashamed to rend your beards and say that peace, the precious boon, will
ever cease. We're civilized, we have advanced; the world is now so circumstanced hat every nation only asks a chance to do its useful tasks, to bale its hay and put up ice, and see it always has the
price. No government is so insane that it the brain, so chase yourselves, on dippy seers, and let us yoke our brindled steers." Four years ago we talked like his! Who sadid that ignorance is bliss? Our ignorance lived to see the planet torn, we've ived to see the nation mourn. And we shall live to see the Hun, who wished a ge-place in the sun, into the outer darkness cast and
groping in a horror vast.



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large.

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