

Published Every Evening Except Sunday, Salem, Oregon.

Address All Communications To

The Daily Capital Journal

SALEM 136 S. Commercial St. OREGON

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily, by Carrier, per year \$5.00 Per Month .45c
Daily by Mail, per year \$3.00 Per Month .35c

FULL LEASED WIRE TELEGRAPH REPORT

FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES

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W. H. Stockwell, Chicago, People's Gas Building

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THE DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL

Is the only newspaper in Salem whose circulation is guaranteed by the Audit Bureau of Circulations

SINKING CAPTURED WARSHIPS.

The American delegates to the peace conference have been brought around to the idea of sinking the captured German vessels. First, it is proposed to inspect these vessels carefully to see whether the naval designers can learn anything from them.

This disposition of the vessels is intended to settle the difficult question of ownership, as well as to support President Wilson's declaration that the war was not based on aggression or the acquisition of property.

It is just as well to sink the ships, anyway. The allies today have no need of the battleships, cruisers and submarines. Before their surrender the allied navies were overwhelmingly stronger than all other navies of the world. With the German and Austrian fleets deprived of all their offensive power through the surrender of their best battleships, cruisers and destroyers, and of all their submarines, there is no possibility anywhere of resistance against the allied sea power.

It will be decades, too, and possibly generations, before our late enemies will be in position to build up their naval armament again, even if such armament is permitted hereafter by the law of nations.

What enlightened men and women everywhere are hoping is that naval construction will soon be stopped for good, or at least be greatly restricted. If the peace conference does its work thoroughly there will be little need for warships hereafter except for policing the seas under international authority.

If such a world reform is accomplished, the sinking of the enemy warships might serve as a useful example. It seems a pity to sink ships that have cost so much money and labor. And nobody need think that any allied ships will be scuttled deliberately for some time yet. But if the peace of the world were once definitely guaranteed, and it were evident that the menace had been permanently removed, three-fourths of the warships of the world could be sunk, with the enthusiastic approval of mankind.

The Serbian relief commission is collecting clothing in this country for Serbian children "over eight years old." There are none younger than that, thanks to Kultur. And still these same Prussians have the nerve to yell for help the moment their milk supply runs low.

And just think that next summer we'll be engrossed in club standings and batting averages just as we used to be!

RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason

BAFFLED SCIENCE.

I asked the doc to cure my flu, and he remarked, "Ker-swoosh! Ker-choo! Just hand my pill-case from the shelf --I have the blamed disease myself!" "Oh, doc," I said, "I sent for you to cure me of this dreadful flu; I've taken all your pills and dope, and now I'm nearly shorn of hope; I'm worse than when you first began to pump me full of Valley Tan. 'Twill be a pretty howdydo if I must perish of the flu, and still owe money, when I'm gone, for bitters by the dimmijohn." The doc replied, "Ker-swoosh! Ker-choo! Why do you have this dognone flu? Why can't you have some sane disease like rheumatiz or housemaid's knees? I've treated you, at all times, white; to be your friend was my delight; my loyalty to you demands consideration at your hands; and yet when you decide, you hick, to have a turn at being sick, you say, 'What ill shall I endure? The only one doc cannot cure!' 'Tis thus you treat a comrade true, a loyal friend--Ker-swoosh! Ker-choo! You might have tried out Bright's disease, which doesn't make you cough and sneeze; you might have had the mumps or croup, and I'd have pulled you from the soup; but you must fall for this blamed flu, and get my goat--Ker-swoosh! Ker-choo!"

CO-OPERATION.

There is hardly a word more used and more abused than "co-operation."

Especially we have been warned that in the conversion of business from war to a peace basis, if the transfer is made without panic or calamity, there must be "full and free co-operation between employer and employee."

First the employer says it, and then the labor leader says it, and then the politician says it, just as if he had discovered something new.

It is true that co-operation is vital, especially now when every question of labor and wages is a vexed one. But too often labor says "co-operation" when operation is really meant, the thing in mind being the separation of capital from the largest wages possible with the least return of work. While the employer similarly ponders not a thing of benefit, but a one-sided performance which consists in getting the most production from labor for the smallest sum.

Neither is fair. Both forget that co-operation means mutual understanding and effort, mutual gain, and, if necessary, mutual sacrifice.

Fred C. Butler of the industrial section of the war department has said: "Heretofore our employers have thought that all their men received in their pay envelopes was money. Now they have come to realize that they receive in these envelopes proper or improper food, clean or dirty streets, desirable or undesirable homes, and many other things which go to make life worth living or miserable."

Well and good for the employer who does realize this and does all he can to have the pay envelopes of his men set them on the way to good and prosperous citizenship.

On the other hand, the employe thinking of his envelope in the same terms should expect to render fair service for his hire; to remember that his employer carries the investment with all this implies of expense and liability to destruction and failure, and that the purchasing power of a dollar is no more because it is written in a check book than it is in an overall pocket.

The Oregonian simply has got off wrong. Nobody wants to destroy the wooden shipbuilding industry of the northwest, but all who are interested in the development of this section would like to see it put on a permanent basis. At best it could not long be continued on government subsidies which were only justified by war. Naturally and justly war contracts are being cancelled everywhere and war-time operations are giving way to the activities of peace. The Oregonian's content on that the government should continue to build vessels in Portland, paying the builders 10 per cent profit on a gross cost that is quadruple that of normal times, has no convincing argument back of it.

Those Germans take to the allied occupation of their country easily and naturally. They always did like being bossed around, and now that the kaiser is gone anybody who has a stock of explicit orders on hand makes a hit with them.

As a Christmas present to Germany, the Allies are going to defer the announcement of the amount of the indemnity to be levied until after the first of the year.

It is adding insult to injury to say, as a ribald wit does, that there are no grounds for the coffee shortage.

THE WIFE

By Jane Phelps

UNDEE ORDERS

CHAPTER CXIV.

Brian was in camp learning to be a soldier. He came home nearly every Sunday. In spite of the hard training, he looked and said he felt better than he had in years. He was as hard as nails, tanned the color of an Indian. Also he was full of enthusiasm and could talk of nothing but the war, the time when he could start "over there."

"I'll be in the first load, or I miss my guess," he said to her after he told her he was a lieutenant, second of course, he explained. He had neither eyes or ears for anything but "his job" as he called it.

As always he accepted what Ruth did for him as a matter of course; all the little camp comforts he was allowed to have; as well as money to spend -- "Until you get your pay," she told him to save his feelings. But she need not have felt afraid of hurting him. He would have taken money for his needs from any civilian without embarrassment, thinking it their duty to provide for a man who was fighting for freedom--at least until the machinery managed by Uncle Sam could get to work. So the time passed until there were rumors that the time was nearly arrived for the boys to go over.

Ruth heard these rumors even before Brian came home and told her his time would now be short. She realized that great secrecy must of necessity surround their departure, and wondered once more if she should tell Brian her secret. Had she any right to keep it from him?

Mandel had noticed that Ruth was unlike herself; that her work, always before done so easily, now seemed a burden; but he was far from suspecting the cause. He laid her lassitude, her pale face and shadowed eyes, to the fact that Brian was going overseas. His age precluded his being called to do actual fighting. To be truthful he was, perhaps, for the first time he had known Ruth, glad he was so much older than she. Not that he was not paranoic, for he was. Already he had offered his services and his money to the government, the former without pay. But Brian would soon be away. He might, perhaps, take Mollie King with him. Mandel had kept posted upon Brian's affairs; and of late had included those of Mollie King. It is easy for a man of wealth to find out almost anything he wishes to know; and Arthur Mandel knew that Mollie was going over as a nurse, and that all her actions pointed to her going soon.

He also knew--and this would have surprised and distressed Ruth immeasurably, had she been aware of it--that whenever Brian came home on a furlough, he always saw Mollie. He usually spent an hour or two in the little studio before he went up home to Ruth. Naturally Mandel had no way of knowing that their time was spent talk-



THE ORIGINATOR OF THE JUGOSLAV MOVEMENT -- Mr. Nicholas Pasich is virtually the builder of a new state. He is the prime minister of Serbia who recently signed an agreement with the provisional government of Agram, Croatia, providing the union of all Yugoslav provinces of the former Austrian-Hungarian empire with the Kingdom of Serbia into a single state of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes which will have an area of 100,000 square miles and 10,000,000 inhabitants. (c) Underwood & Underwood.

American Aviator Shot By Hun After Armistice

Copenhagen, Dec. 19.--Murder of a young American aviator by German prison guards after the armistice was signed was reported today.

A young American aviator named Coheoney, who was a prisoner in a camp near Stralsund, went outside the barbed wire enclosure about seven o'clock in the evening of December 5, a British officer declared during an interview regarding German internal conditions, published in the Koebenhaven. "The German guards promptly shot him dead, despite the fact the armistice had been signed. Coheoney was about 27 years old."

Electric Workers In Tacoma On Strike Today

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 19.--This city may be left in darkness and without power for many of its largest industries tonight. Electrical workers employed by the city went on strike in a body at 8 this morning in all the city's substations, the power plant at LaGrande and on all power lines. The city is making efforts to fill the strikers' places. The decision of the electricians to strike was reached at a meeting of the unions of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers last night, as the result of the city's refusal to grant their wage demands of \$7.20 a day.

66,634 DEATHS IN 3 MONTHS

Washington, Dec. 19.--Influenza caused 66,634 deaths in the larger cities between September 14 and December 14, while pneumonia killed 38,763 more; according to census figures today.

ing of war, and what they expected to do for their country. He only knew that they were together, and took it to mean that they were more than ever in love with each other.

Mandel was a bright man. But he was also a worldly man. He had no conception of the fire of patriotism that burned in those two who were ready to give their lives for their country--also who both loved adventure, which love, took not a whit from their love of country. Ruth dropped. Unostentatiously Mandel tried to make things easy for her, to make her happy. Occasionally he gave her theater tickets, saying: "It must be lonely for you now that Mr. Hackett is in camp. Take some friend and see that show. It will help you to pass the time." He wisely never offered to take her himself. Or, again, he would order some flowers sent her, saying: "You looked a bit depressed today. I thought they might cheer you up." Then he would commence to talk of something else to evade her thanks. But the thoughtfulness of his acts touched her, and in a way comforted Ruth in her loneliness. Then one night after she had gone to bed the telephone rang. Brian would rush up to see her, he said over the wire, but they were to sail immediately.

Ruth stood holding the receiver in her hand for several minutes after he had hung up. While she knew he was to go, it had come with startling suddenness, as such things always do. Suddenly she sat down, her hand at her throat. It was hard to breathe. Brian, her Brian, going to leave her--going into such fearful danger. "Shall I tell him now?" she asked herself again and again as she waited.

(To Be Continued)

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