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**Open Forum**

**THE "FLU" VERSUS SALEM.**

To the Editor:

It seems that the time has arrived for the sane thinking people of Salem to come out of this trance and take action in the handling of the "flu" situation. When is the curtain going to ring down on this burlesque? The humorous aspect of this farce has passed into history along with some unfortunate flu patients. The business of Salem in all lines is totally paralyzed. The business interests of Salem and every citizen of Salem is entitled to know several "whys."

Why was an emergency ordinance passed, with much talk verbally and in the papers making the bag in Salem tighter, or in other words, telling every breadwinner, business house or establishment and citizen that they must sacrifice their earnings and business interests and jeopardize their lives, because irresponsible and criminally careless people are allowed to circulate around other peoples' homes and places

of business and sneeze and cough in their faces at will?

Sad experience in dealing with contagious diseases in all parts of the world and at all times has taught us that there is absolutely only one way to effectually combat a contagious disease and that is by "isolation" enforced by rigid quarantine of patients and exposed members of households.

The modified quarantine that exists at present is a joke and tragedy. A joke if you haven't the flu and a tragedy in several homes in Salem where neighbors have inoculated neighbors. Instead of wasting time and money and using good newspaper space on ban ordinances which have proved to be thoughtless and to be absolutely ineffective, why wasn't there an ordinance passed that would quarantine and keep quarantined the people who have the flu, the exposed members of the household and convalescent patients; also penalties for infractions and then enforce it.

Why do we have reports of such an alarming number of cases of flu in Salem, such reports purporting to come from the health department? The grand idea seems to be to frighten the people of Salem into blind hysteria. One statement quoted the health department as saying there were one thousand cases of flu in Salem. One half of this

number would be a very liberal estimate and would then include all the measles, chicken pox, mental hydrophobia and so forth that have been properly quarantined as flu.

In proportion to population, Portland has flu conditions as serious as Salem and are adopting rigid quarantine measures and not trying to kill their town without protecting its citizens. If a vote of the citizens of Salem were taken, Salem without doubt would have no bans but a real "honest-to-goodness" quarantine system which would take effect "pronto."

In the good old days we devoted a goodly portion of each Sabbath to listening to oratory regarding fire and brimstone plus many loud exhortations in which the Lord was given ample credit for our trials and tribulations and blessings. But alas! Times have changed, for some one hesitated long enough in his mad flight to think and decided that it would be a good proposition to go 50-50 with the Lord so now it is quite the proper thing to give thanks to Divine Being for our blessings and blame ourselves for our mistakes and troubles.

Isn't it time that we take revenge?

How much longer is the fundamental principle of America—safety and best interests of the great majority, first, last and always—going to set on the side lines?

Kidding the public is great stuff and "kidding" is a wonderful anesthetic, but it must be remembered that it is only temporary that the public sometimes comes out from under the "influence" then we usually expect complications.

The people of Salem are not at present keenly interested in pretty footwork in "we small politics," neither can they be expected to have transports of joy over thrifty but not original methods in personal advertising.

H. C. PUGH.

**WAR EXPERIENCES TOLD**

Kenneth Forrest, youngest son of J. E. Forrest of Portland, has returned from overseas and arrived in Portland on New Year's day, where he visited with his father and sister, Mrs. Kirk. He came to Turner to spend the week end with his oldest sister, Mrs. Finley. He will also visit his aunts and uncles, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Graves, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Forrest and Grandpa J. S. Forrest, while here. Kenneth has some very interesting stories to tell of his trip and experiences overseas. He was an aviator and took several adventurous flights in the air. He gives the Red Cross considerable praise and says the boys are surely supplied with their wants if it is within their power to do so. Some of our citizens would do well to learn of the Red Cross activities thru the views of those who have come in actual contact with their work. They would have a different opinion and hunt up a dollar for membership.

Speaking of the Y. M. C. A. he says: "We had no use for the organization 'over there.' I know the Y. M. C. A. sold sweaters, chocolate, etc., that had been sent to our boys thru this organization. Mr. Forrest will return to Portland in a few days, but expects to return to Turner."—Turner Tribune.

**DR. STARKE NOT YET DEPORTED**

Inquiry as to the whereabouts and status of Dr. Eric R. Starke, formerly a dentist in this place, brought the following reply from the United States marshal's office at Portland:

"So far as we are informed this German enemy alien has not been deported. At present it is hard to say what disposition will be made of the German enemy aliens interned at the different camps in them will finally be deported. At any rate they will be detained where they are at present for some time to come."—Aurora Observer.

**DESTROYED 'HAIR TONIC'**

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 11.—Chief Deputy Marshal W. E. Theodore destroyed 10 cases of liquid labeled "hair tonic" today. According to United States Attorney Robert Saunders, the hair tonics were too exhilarating as a beverage for public use. The cases were seized by federal authorities from druggists and a barber supply house.

## STRIKE MAY BECOME NATION-WIDE UNLESS ACTION COMES SOON

### President Wilson Has Cabled War Labor Board To Make Finding.

New York, Jan. 11.—Leaders in the marine workers strike, which has completely tied up the port of New York, today threatened to extend the walk-out to 42,000 longshoremen and later to 150,000 harbor workers in other ports, thus making the strike nation wide in scope.

Reports were current that the workers on the Hudson and Manhattan tubes might strike at any minute with the same demands as the marine workers. This would completely tie up traffic between New York and New Jersey.

Boat owners and harbor workers were standing firm and the efforts of federal, state and city authorities to bring about an agreement had completely failed up today.

Governor Smith arrived in the city and took a hand toward bringing about a settlement. Mayor Hylan asked District Attorney Swann for a grand jury investigation.

### Orders Investigation

Washington, Jan. 11.—President Wilson today cabled the national war labor board to again take up the New York harbor labor troubles and make a finding.

### Big Five Rapidly Gaining Control Of Food, Is Charged

Washington, Jan. 10.—Unless regulated the "big five" packers will be able in a few years to dictate what food the American people shall eat and the prices they shall pay. Chairman Colver of the Federal Trade Commission charged today before the interstate commerce committee.

The "big five" he pointed out, are rapidly encroaching on new lines of industry, extending their sway over the nation's food supply.

"And when," he continued, "these five concerns turn their attention to a new industry it sends a cold chill down the spine of the independent concerns in that industry. Usually their fight is lost before it is begun."

Farmers' representatives urged enactment of legislation giving the government control of packing plants.

"We consider it the duty of the government to protect its citizens in co-operative business such as we are conducting," declared E. H. Gustafson of Nebraska.

Centralla is organizing in an effort to have the coming legislature locate a normal school at that place.

## Friction Arises Between Sec. Glass and Sec. Daniels

Washington, Jan. 10.—Serious friction has arisen between Secretaries Glass and Daniels over the retention of the coast guard under naval jurisdiction.

The coast guard service, originally under the treasury department, was given over to Daniels by a presidential proclamation early in the war.

It was expected that the row would be aired before the senate naval committee.

Daniels proposes to keep the coast guard in the navy department because, he says, the nature of the service dovetails with regular navy work.

Glass holds that the coast guard is essential to the treasury because of its work in connection with the revenue and treasury branches.

### Transport Ulua Arrived Today At Hoboken Dock

New York, Jan. 10.—The British transport Ulua arrived at Hoboken today with 1,903 American troops from overseas on board.

The Ulua had to dock with assistance of only one naval tug, on account of the marine workers strike.

The following units were on board: Headquarters supply company, batteries 46 to 50, Sixth anti aircraft sector, headquarters supply company, batteries 12 to 17; Twelfth anti aircraft sector; 109th trench mortar batteries and the 32nd casual unit.

Mrs. Marie M. Kirk, wife of Captain George Kirk of San Francisco, was on board. She has been visiting her husband at Paris. Kirk is an American aviator.

### London Paper Says Gompers Cuts Unions From Politics

Manchester, England, Jan. 11.—The Manchester Guardian declared today that Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, is forcing European workers to sever completely the trades unions from all political movements.

It maintained that Gompers' attitude was responsible for withdrawal of part of the preliminary committee of the Trades Union Congress delegation to the international labor and socialist congress in Lausanne.

"Gompers and his associates are determined to force Europe to separate completely the trades unions from political movements," the Guardian said.

"The whole labor movement in Europe is against them. Workers have longed to understand that Gompers advocates a purely allied trades union conference at Versailles. There is not the slightest chance of the British, French, Belgian and German delegations allowing the Lausanne conference to be split in two on this question."

Four men were killed Wednesday by the explosion of 1500 pounds of gelatin dynamite at the Hercules Powder company's plant at Pinole, Cal.

Herman Scheffaur, poet and author and a native of San Francisco, has been indicted by the federal grand jury for treason.

## Endeavoring to help

Stamp out the "Flu" is the reason we are not making any special sales and are disinfecting our store very often to kill any chance germs of any kind that may be brought in. Everything that can be done to protect the public will be done here to the best of our ability.

OUR REPAIR DEPARTMENT is in fine condition to turn out work properly while you wait if you wish, and at prices you can afford.



### British Peace Delegation Has All Been Appointed

London, Jan. 11.—The British peace delegation has been completed with the appointment of George Barnes, W. M. Hughes of Australia, General Botha of the Union of South Africa; Sir Robert Borden of Canada, and W. F. Massey of New Zealand.

The last four named will serve in rotation as colonial representatives. Overseas dominions will be represented as small nations.

The labor party is protesting at the failure to include a member of the official party "as promised."

"The labor party is not entitled to a representative because it refused to remain in the coalition and is now opposing the government," Premier Lloyd-George replied. "Mr. Barnes is qualified to represent labor generally."

Barnes was ostracized by the labor party when he refused to leave the coalition.

### House "Speed Up" Program Put Into Effect Today

Washington, Jan. 11.—The house democrats "speed up" program was put into full effect today in an attempt to get the big appropriation bills and other necessary legislation passed before the end of the session, March 4.

The rivers and harbors bill was the first measure to feel the effects of Majority Leader Kitchin's determination to finish business.

Managers of the measure were told that they would have to finish their work by tomorrow night or the bill would lose its place and have to take chances at coming up some time near the end of the session.

### Sailings Of Several Transports Announced

Washington, Jan. 11.—Sailing of several transports with troops for this country was announced by the war department today. The Pueblo, Brest for New York, due Jan. 17, carries, en route companies 415, (New York); 416 (Washington); 421 (Ohio); 422 (Maryland); 426 (Texas); 436 (Ohio), and the headquarters detachment, medical detachment and companies A, B, C and D of the 53rd ammunition train.

A portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart was sold for \$21,000 at public auction in New York Wednesday. Three years ago it sold for \$3500.

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