

SAVE

Read the Times' advertisements carefully every day. The best bargains offered by the best Tacoma stores will always be found in this paper's advertising columns. And then besides there is page 6 filled with live snappy want ads, famous as result getters. Times' want ads have never yet failed to sell anything that was saleable.

MONEY

The Tacoma Times

THE ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN TACOMA.

HOME EDITION

30c A MONTH

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WEATHER FORECAST
For Tacoma: Fair tonight and Sunday.
For Washington: Fair tonight and Sunday. Cooler tonight, east portion.

COUNTY IS STUNG FOR \$25,000

Belgium Is Dead Nation; Millions Face Starvation

BY H. J. PHILLIPS.

AMSTERDAM, Holland, Jan. 22.—(By Mail).—Belgium is dying. The death rattle is in a nation's throat. A martyr to its honor, the little country has practically been turned into a desert—a little more and it will be a wilderness.

No tornado nor volcanic eruption could rival the invaders at accomplishing the desolation that is now Belgium's. Uniformed hosts have swept across the country and laid it bare. Whatever survived the first blaze of destruction has been carried back to Germany to add sinews to that empire's war for life.

The people are in desperate want. Their homes gone and their personal possessions taken, they have been swept and and fro across their tortured leagues.

EATING HORSE FLESH
At Ostend, where 4,000 of the 45,000 still remain, there is no meat except horse flesh, no vegetables and but little bread. Every other town is in like condition. Antwerp is almost entirely deserted, its population in desperation fleeing to other parts in the hope of finding food and finding less of it than before.

To add to the misery of the inhabitants are the immense and impossible war levies imposed by the military authorities and the floods of the creeks and rivers, natural at this time of year, which have inundated thousands of acres and compelled hundreds of families to abandon their homes to the waters.

AWFUL FAMINE LOOMS
The conqueror's taxes have exhausted the capital resources, their principal object seeming to be to destroy Belgium's commerce and industry. Absolute famine has so far been prevented only by the food supplied by the American relief committee.

"Of all the impressions of a trip through northern France," declares a man who has visited the German headquarters there, "the most striking is that left by the countless stacks of unthreshed grain. More than 100 German threshing machines are working double shifts in the region occupied by the army, and more are coming up daily to get into the fields. The army is not only living on the supplies of flour and meat derived from this region, but it is actually sending wheat back THROUGH Belgium into Germany."

This presents a startling contrast—shiploads of American food, pouring into Belgium by way of Holland, while carloads of French grain roll through and beyond famine-haunted Belgium!

STORES AND HOMES LOOTED
Reputable American physicians are among those who testify that the military authorities have looted every doctor and druggist office, home and store in Belgium, carrying away surgical instruments, lint and bandages and every other necessary, so that they have no means of keeping up their practice. Hospitals have been seized and turned into military hospitals exclusively, so that the natural population are left to get through their ailments unattended.

Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the American relief committee, declares that 8,000 tons of food a month are required to barely save the Belgians from starvation. This is but one-quarter of the normal requirement and but one-half of a soldier's rations. The committee needs \$5,000,000 a month until the next harvest—whenever that will be.

Slavs Crushed By Teuton Host

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—It is daily becoming more apparent that the Russian offensive in East Prussia has been crushed. The Slav forces which essayed to drive against Königsberg and Thorn have been expelled from German territory. It is estimated that 30,000 men were captured and that many guns and enormous quantities of supplies were taken.

The Russians once more have been the victims of Field Marshal von Hindenberg's strategy. As was the case when the Slavs were led into a trap and almost annihilated at Allenstein, Earthwar,

von Hindenberg has again lured them on. The Germans withdrew before the advance guard of the enemy until von Hindenberg thought the time ripe for a crushing blow.

He then struck the Slav front and both flanks with such terrible strength that the enemy was thrown back disordered. A Russian air scout saved the czar's forces from complete rout. He discovered the German maneuver and advised the Russian commander. A retreat was ordered before the Germans completely surrounded their prey.

WHO WAS HE? REGULAR PIRATES OVER IN SEATTLE

Frank Krupp, who was committed to the asylum for the insane Feb. 3, died several days later without being able to give the authorities any facts regarding his relatives. Krupp's bankbook shows that he had \$800 in cash when he died.

Readiness To Be of Service, Accommodating Spirit,

and the easy way in which an account can be opened at the Puget Sound State Bank, are some of the striking features connected with this bank. Customers are given cheerful and ample assistance and a feeling of security and satisfaction is enjoyed by every one of them. Come in and let us get acquainted. ONE DOLLAR will start an interest account.

PULLMAN BOYS LEAD COUNTRY

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.—The Washington State College at Pullman, with a score of 986, led the national intercollegiate shooting tournament this week, it was announced today. The Washington team is now in the lead of the race for national championship.

Cotton Drops Fourteen Holes

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—As the result of unconfirmed rumors of the sinking of several British merchant vessels, the cotton market declined 14 points at the opening today.

WHITE SLAVE MARKET RUN BY GYPSIES

DENVER, Feb. 13.—A white slave plot, gigantic in proportions and nation-wide in its ramifications, is exposed in an official report sent to Washington last night by William H. Fitch, special investigator for the United States department of justice.

Fitch's report, the result of a secret investigation, which he has been conducting for several weeks, is preliminary, but contains some startling revelations, based on a confession obtained from a gypsy chief.

According to the story told by this man there has been for several years an organized traffic in girls stolen by gypsy bands in various parts of the country and sold to white slave markets at prices ranging from \$200 to \$2,500. The average price for girls, he said, was \$1,000.

Most of the girls stolen by the gypsies were taken to Kokomo, Ind., and there held until they were sold in the slave markets. These latter, it is declared, exist in all parts of the country and include New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, St. Louis, Minneapolis.

Blackmail Claims Man

Jacob Peterson, who lives at South 56th and Mason avenue, created a furor in Justice Lincoln's court today when he loudly exclaimed that he was being blackmailed for a bill of \$8.30.

Peterson, who is stone deaf, and his wife were being sued by A. Marshfield, who bought the assets of the bankrupt, A. Bain, a grocer, among them being a bill against a Jacob Peterson.

Both defendants declared they had never traded with Bain.

"It's a scheme to blackmail me," shouted Peterson, shaking his fist in the face of Attorney Wayne, representing Marshfield.

OTHER NATIONS OFFER PROTEST

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.—It is learned today that Norway, Sweden and Denmark have protested to Germany against the latest decree extending the German war zone. The Scandinavian protest is couched in language less vigorous than the American protest, but it is said to stand squarely behind the principle announced in the American note. It is understood that Holland and probably Italy will send similar notes.

HENRY HOPELESS

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 13.—"There will be no hope for Mexico," declared Henry Lane Wilson, former minister to Mexico, "until the present administration changes its policy or a new administration committed less to 'uplift' but more to practical advice and assistance in the way of intelligent evolution comes into power." He was speaking before the Columbia club here.

WHEN A MAN'S MARRIED

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 13.—"If a husband embraces his wife with such enthusiasm as to cause her to flinch, that is not sufficient cause for divorce."

Such is the opinion of Judge Easterday, who refused today to hear the case of Ella Nero against John D. Nero until the complaint had been amended.

It was argued by Nero's attorney that because no specific instance of urgency had been men-

'ETERNAL TRIANGLE' PROVES SATISFACTORY TO THESE 3 PEOPLE



though married, to love ALL women.

Unfortunately the law of Massachusetts, as also Mrs. Dennett, had not yet been emancipated from their old-fashioned puritanism, and as they did not share this free soul's love ideals he was unsympathetically ousted from his home. Mrs. Dennett was given a divorce and the custody of her two children.

The Chase home "Mount Plato" at East Alstead, N. H., and its occupants, Dr. Chase (at right); Mrs. Chase; and Architect Dennett (at left).

Dr. Chase was a highly honored physician, and Brookline is a strictly proper and very aristocratic Boston suburb. Hence when Hartley Dennett, not content with discovering that he and the doctor's wife were soul-mates took it upon himself to proclaim the joyous news to all the world, thrill and gasp and "ahem" shook the neighborhood as might an earthquake.

"I love Mrs. Chase," declared Dennett in open court. "But I love my wife none the less, for my ideals of love allow me,

TOLEDO, O., Feb. 13.—Two men are dead and a woman is probably fatally injured, as the result of an explosion and fire which demolished a two-story building here early this morning. The dead are: Charles Demeyer and Frank Bosson. The injured woman is unidentified.

2 DEAD; WOMAN DYING, RESULT OF EXPLOSION

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TIGHT SQUEEZE NO CAUSE FOR DIVORCE

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TAX BLUNDER MUST BE MET BY CITIZENS

Investigation by The Times today shows that \$125,000 on the county's personal tax books for 1914 are non-collectable.

Further, it showed that the county will lose \$25,000 cash to the state because of the promiscuous assessment of personal property.

To Re-cruise Timber.
It also developed today that a re-cruise of the timberlands in the county will be necessary before this year's taxes on that land can be adjusted.

"Strike-offs" on the personal tax books cut the total tax down \$125,000. These "strike-offs" are being made where it is found that the tax is absolutely illegal and where collection would be out of the question.

County Loses \$25,000.
But taxpayers of the county actually lose \$25,000 because 20 per cent or one-fifth of this \$125,000 has already been certified to the state, which now holds Pierce county liable for that amount.

J. W. Anderson, in charge of the personal tax department for the county, stated this morning that it was merely a matter of "robbing the taxpayer."

"This \$25,000 which must be sent to the state, of course must come out of some other county fund raised by taxes," he said.

Assessor Cameron said this morning that a re-cruise of timberlands in this county would be necessary to adjust assessments. This will mean the employment of capable cruisers at \$6 a day and expenses.

"There is a certain amount of this land that has been taxed against the owners," he said, "for timber that was cut off before last year. Such timber is not assessable."

School Boy Taxed.
One of the glaring abortions appearing on the personal tax books is the statement of Kennedy B. Cox, a school boy living at 1417 South M street. He was assessed \$300 for a motorcycle, the actual cost of which, when new, could not have been more than \$300.

Hundreds of small assessments against men with families who can claim exemption under the law are being cancelled.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.—The Southern Pacific railroad must dispose of its holdings in the Pacific Mail Steamship company unless operation of the vessels of the steamship company through the Panama canal is stopped within 60 days.

Thirty affidavits from prominent Tacoma newspapermen, attorneys, bankers and uplift workers will be presented by Attorney Homer Bone and A. B. Comfort, who are associated to defend Mrs. Bertha Difley against a murder charge, will be presented to Judge Card Monday to back a motion for a change of venue.

The affidavits set forth the belief that it would be impossible for Mrs. Difley, who is charged with killing 3-year-old Clarence Hall last December, to get a fair trial here because of adverse public opinion.

Attorney Bone charged today that the prosecutor's office had filed a charge of first degree murder against Mrs. Difley because they are aware she, being a pauper, cannot appeal, if convicted, to the supreme court.

Makes it Easier for Him, Maybe Will Ask for a Change of Venue in Difley Case

Before he had been given an opportunity of paying the bill, E. C. Lohre, a one-armed man, found himself today the victim of a garnishment for \$8, to which had been added \$5 attorney's fees and \$3 costs for filing the suit against him.

Lohre was dismissed from his job last spring because being one-armed he could not perform certain duties required of him. A few days prior to the loss of employment he had purchased a suit for his wife, paying something down and arranging that other payments should follow as his salary came to him.

Throughout the summer he was without work. Last Monday he got a job as night watchman at the St. Paul mill. His first payday is today.

TODAY'S CLEARINGS.
Clearings \$ 379,012.29
Balances 51,988.97
Transactions 1,035,432.36

CAN YOU WRITE JITNEY JINGLE?

The "Talk o' the Times" Man, who holds forth on page four each day, begs for a little page one space today to announce a Jitney Jingle contest. He's a jitney crank, and wants to pay \$1 each day next week for the best jitney jingle written and sent in by any Times reader.

The "Talk o' the Times" fellow has written a sample jitney jingle.

Stone & Webster are raising a row. Something's wrong with their big Boston Cow; That little Ford Jitney Got hold of her jitney, And they wonder who's milking her now.

Get busy, you jinglers. Write a Jitney Jingle. Mail it to the Jitney Jingle Editor. If it's a good one you get \$1. Contest opens Monday.

