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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER
 MEMBER ST. HELENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

THE AMERICAN SOLDIER IN GERMANY

One of the most interesting phenomena in the American expeditionary force since the armistice has been the surprisingly cordial attitude of the rank and file of the army of occupation toward the German civilian population. To some people this is a disturbing phenomenon as well as an interesting one, for the subtle malice of German propaganda methods is well known, and it is certain that we do not want our boys to come home disposed to justify Germany and the German idea.

It is hardly probable that there is anything to worry about. While the soldiers were fighting or training in France they were billeted in a country already overcrowded with fighting men and native refugees, and often in districts laid waste by invading armies. They had to take what accommodations they could get, sleep in barns and sheepfolds, occupy all sorts of dirty holes and corners. Most of the time they were working or on the move, and their freedom to roam about and see the country was narrowly restricted. Naturally they came away with a poor impression of France.

In Germany they get real bedrooms, clean sheets and feather beds, for Germany has not been stripped as France was. There is more leisure in the daily army routine, more latitude in passes and furloughs, more recreation. German villages are of a different type from French ones, more orderly and spick and span, resembling to some extent the American small town. It would be peculiar if doughboys did not feel more at ease and better satisfied with life.

As for propaganda, it is plausible to suppose that Germans at large have sufficient sagacity to know that they will benefit by making friends with armies of occupation. The German is brutal when he is the conqueror, but when things are the other way around, there is no more submissive a being.

FINAL CASUALTY LISTS

The casualty lists now being published in the daily papers contain the names of the last of our boys who died or were wounded in the great war. The lists to be published from now on will contain, with but few exceptions, the names of only those men who have died or been injured since the signing of the armistice. There are also cases in which extended investigation is necessary to confirm reports of death or to determine the extent of injuries and these names also will appear in forthcoming casualty lists; also the names of those who were injured beyond recognition when they gave their lives for their country.

Casualty lists will, however, continue to be issued indefinitely, because there are bound to be deaths and illnesses among our soldiers who are with the army of occupation abroad, and the next of kin will continue to receive the usual official notification from the war department as to casualties.

LOADING BRAINS

Banking is coming to the front as one of the great constructive industries.

Not so very long ago the banker merely loaned money.

Today he is loaning brains and experience in addition, and without cost. The modern banker finds that he must in many instances anticipate the needs of his customers in obtaining information and statistics relative to industries which may be developed in his community.

The banker realizes that in the success of his community lies his success. Successful industries or farmers means hundreds and thousands of new depositors and added opportunities for safe loans.

Hence banking is developing more into a personal service organization and not a mere cold blooded money loaning machine as it is often pictured.

In response to a notice stating that her subscription was due, a St. Helens subscriber to the Mist, when enclosing a check, said, "We appreciate the Mist." It was a short letter, but it was appreciated by the Mist, and our subscriber's appreciation of the Mist is no more than the Mist's appreciation of the kind words.

Of course a few ex-soldiers around in socialist and bolshevik meetings. They were "caught in the draft" as they put it. To claim that they represent the spirit of any considerable number of soldiers is an insult to the American uniform.

The postoffice department, in instituting aerial mail routes, is making the old mistake of trying to fly before it can walk.

The people never give up their liberties but under some delusion.—Burke.

COLUMBIA COUNTY APPLES ARE BEST

The orchards of Columbia county are undergoing a thorough renovating and hardly anyone having fruit trees but are taking extra good care of them.

The price of apples never was higher and the inquiries for Columbia county fruit is demanding consideration from outside points. The orchards, with the exception of a very few, have been pruned and sprayed. There are two orchards, however, whose owners have done nothing toward eradicating the pests that infect them and drastic action will be taken to prohibit the sale of any diseased fruit from any such orchards.

The apples of Columbia county by test as to longevity and lusciousness, have proved of a superior brand than Hood River or Yakima. The Belleflower of Columbia county, Hood River and Yakima were tested and the Columbia county product retained its solidity for six weeks longer than its competitors and its juicy flavor was apparent when all juice had gone from the others.

It is the purpose to organize the fruit men or everyone having a half-dozen trees in bearing. The plan will be to have a registered trade mark and every box shipped from this county to go under an inspection certificate and the trade mark. A selling agent to represent the entire county will look after the work and one or two cents per box will be charged to go to a sinking fund which will purchase at wholesale price sprays for the members. The selling agent will be given a compensation for which those belonging to the association will be charged a fee of 5 cents per month. When fruit is shipped under this plan it will command a price of from 35 to 80 cents per box more than if sold by the individual. It is the purpose to hold meetings at Scappoose, Warren, Yankton, Deer Island, St. Helens, Goble, Rainier, Myager, Quincy, Clatskanie, Birkenfeld, Mist, Natal and Vernonia, during the summer, before shipping of apples begins. There are 3800 farmers in the county and they will readily co-operate.

The local merchants will be requested to use Columbia county apple first and asked to aid in the project. Inquiries have been received from two firms in Chicago and in all probability an order for at least two carloads of apples will be the result. Columbia County Apples Beat the World for flavor and keeping qualities.

The codling moth is already showing a very valuable plan to aid very materially in its destruction. Place a wash tub nearly filled with water in the orchard. On the water pour one pint of coal oil. Suspend a lighted lantern over the tub and see the result. The codling moth and moths who breed germs that infect all fruits and vegetables, will be at

tracted and caught. This will not eliminate all, but will be a great factor for aiding both fruit and vegetables.

It is requested that every orchardist and farmer in the county comply and thereby save, not only his fruit of all kinds, but all vegetables that have been or are subject to the destroying moth.
 A. L. MORRIS,
 Fruit Inspector.

NEW TAXES THAT ARE EFFECTIVE

The revenue act of 1918 provides taxes on many articles of general use. On and after February 25, 1919, manufacturers of the following articles are required to pay a tax upon their product when sold: automobiles, motorcycles, automobile trucks, tires, inner tubes, parts or accessories for automobiles and trucks, pianos, organs, phonographs and records, tennis rackets, skates, baseball goods and other sporting goods, chewing gum, cameras, photographic films and plates, candy, firearms and cartridges, hunting knives, electric fans, thermos bottles and riding habits, articles made of fur, toilet soaps and toilet powder. The manufacturers of any of these articles should communicate at once with Collector Milton A. Miller to ascertain their liability. The tax on these articles does not apply to stocks in the hands of dealers, but only to articles sold on and after February 25, 1919 by the manufacturer.


On and after April 1st, there will be a tax of 5 per cent upon the sales of all articles commonly or commercially known as jewelry, including precious metals or imitations thereof, and ivory, watches, clocks and opera glasses. This tax is to be collected by the dealer upon such goods when sold to the user, and every store in Oregon handling any of these lines must collect this tax upon all sales made commencing April 1st, 1919. In order that a complete list of dealers in these goods may be compiled, all such dealers should send their names to the Collector at Portland, stating the business engaged in.

On and after May 1, 1919, there will be a tax collected from the purchaser of ice-cream, soda water, and such other refreshments of this kind as are served at soda fountains and similar places of business. Owners of soda fountains and ice cream parlors should be sure to have their names listed with the Collector at once.

On and after May 1st, 1919, the luxury tax will be effective. This provides that a tax of 10 per cent shall be collected by the dealer from the purchaser on carpets and rugs selling at over \$5.00 a square yard; picture frames, trunks, valises, purses, portable lighting fixtures, umbrellas, fans, smoking jackets, men's waist coats, men's and women's hats, caps, boots, shoes, pumps and slippers, men's neckties and neckwear, silk stockings or hose, women's silk stockings or hose, men's shirts and men's and women's pajamas, nightgowns and underwear, kimono, petticoats and waists. Practically every store in Oregon will be affected by this tax, which will apply to all that part of the price for which the goods are sold in excess of the price stipulated in the Act.

On and after May 1st, 1919, perfumes, essences and extracts, dentifrices and similar articles, as well as pills, tablets, powders and other medicinal preparations, will be subject to a tax of one cent on each twenty-five cents, or fraction. This tax will be paid by stamps affixed to the goods by the seller. Other new taxes are on shooting galleries, which will pay \$20.00 a year, riding academies which will pay \$100.00 a year, "for hire" cars to pay \$10.00 a year for each car having a seating capacity of more than two and not more than seven, and \$20.00 for each automobile having a seating capacity of more than seven. It is the intention of the Internal Revenue Bureau to give wide publicity to the various provisions of the new Act, but it should not be forgotten that the taxpayer is supposed to ascertain his liability, and that ignorance of the law is not held by the courts to be a valid reason for not complying with the law.

Collector Miller will be pleased to furnish all information upon request, but obviously has no means of reaching every one affected by the Act and notifying them individually of their liability.



Conservatively Progressive

THE Columbia County Bank is conservative enough to place every safeguard around the operation of the bank and customer—and yet sufficiently progressive so the bank will keep forging ahead—and so the customer will obtain the co-operation necessary to insure the maximum advantage in his operations.

We invite the accounts of farmers, employers and employes

SHERMAN M. MILES, President
 MARTIN WHITE, Vice President
 A. L. STONE, Cashier
 G. MOECK, Asst. Cashier

Columbia County Bank
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 IN COLUMBIA COUNTY

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'Chain' 'Usco'



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