St. Helens Mist

Issued Every Friday by
THE MIST PUBLISHING COMPANY

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One Year $1.50
Six Months ..... .75

Entered as second-class matter, January 10th, 1912, at the Postoffice at St. Helens, Oregon, under the act of March 3rd, 1879.

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

"I pledge allegiance to my Flag, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for All."

"I WAS IN IT."

When those of our boys return home
from France
Who missed death in the war's
awful toll,
Blind and maimed and crippled for
life
But ennobled in spirit and soul,
And they gather with friends and the
dear ones at home
By the fire or on summer's long
days
And tell of the times they went "over
the top"
In the early morn's twilight haze;
Should they ask you what you were
doing the while
In the world's greatest war to help
win it,
Could you then look them right
square in the eye
And truthfully say, "I was in it?"

Did you buy all you could of Liberty
bonds?
Freely aid the great Y. M. C. A.?
Did you give to the American Red
Cross till it hurt
Of your savings for your own
rainy day?
Did you plant? Did you reap? Did
you do all you could,
From the first to the very last
minute?
If you did, you can say with the boy
home from France:
"We fought a great war; I was in
it."

—Price Cross, in Daily Times Herald, Dallas, Texas.

CHARLES W. FULTON, STATESMAN.

By the death of Charles W. Fulton, Oregon has lost an illustrious son. He was a brilliant lawyer, a statesman of recognized ability and above all, an honorable man. Though high in the councils of the state and nation, and busy with state and legal matters, Charles Fulton always had time to counsel and encourage the young man who appealed to him, and moreover, his counsel was that of an interested friend. It was our privilege to know and honor Charlie Fulton and we deeply feel his loss. Oregon could ill afford to lose such a capable and loyal son.

THE RAISE IN TELEPHONE RATES

The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company, in line with the general tendency of the times, has soaked the telephone users of St. Helens for an additional 25 cents phone rental. That is, those who had "obsolete" rates. The definition given by the phone company to "obsolete" means that Mr. Obsolete was getting his phone 25 cents per month cheaper than was Mr. "Not Obsolete," so in order to make everything equal the rates were raised on "obsolete." Of course, it would have been impossible to reduce "not obsolete" so that he would pay the same as "obsolete." And while the phone company is thinking of raising, wouldn't it be a good idea for them to raise a few of the poles which set almost squarely in the center of the sidewalk. This matter has been brought to their attention heretofore, but on account of the war, the possibility of a change of office which would necessitate the moving of the pole bearing the cable, and various and sundry other excuses, they have been allowed to let the poles remain where they are. Now since it is evident that they appreciate the action of the citizens to the extent that an arbitrary raise is made in telephone rentals and their income will be considerably increased by reason of such raise, they might spend a portion of this extra money in removing the obstructions from the sidewalks. This is the least they can do, for the service ever since the Pacific people took charge has been far inferior to that had before they bought the line.

A NECESSARY ROAD

The most necessary piece of road building that can be done in the county is the building of the St. Helens-Pittsburg road. Think of it, ten miles is the distance from Trenholm to the garden spot of the county, and that ten miles is impassable. A resident of the Nehalem valley, in order to reach the county seat, has to travel ten to thirty miles to Clatskanie and then thirty-six miles to St. Helens, or if he chooses to go out at the upper end of the valley, he will travel seventeen miles from Vernonia to Timber and then 78 miles by rail from Timber to St. Helens, and bear in mind that while he has to travel this great distance if the Pittsburg road was built he could reach St. Helens from any point in the valley in about three hours time, and travel not to exceed 30 to 35 miles. The road will further develop a great country and afford a market for the products of that country, and should be built just as soon as possible.

THOSE WHO SHIRK

One thing that keeps the lives of draft exemption boards from getting monotonous is the vivid contrast provided by the dicerent effects of draft requirements on unencumbered young men. One man will walk 100 miles to make sure he is doing his duty; another will travel thousands to avoid doing his. While some youths have been found willing to undergo operations that will make them unfit for service, others have submitted of their own accord to the expense and inconvenience of surgery so that they may not be barred from serving. Of two young men in like circumstances, one will cheerfully waive all claims to exemption while another will go to absurd lengths to convince the officials that he can not be spared.

Very likely it has occurred to the draft officials that in this state of affairs lies the strongest possible argument for the selective draft. Most of the men who are now willing to serve might have been brought into the nation's service without the compulsion of the draft, but the shirkers would be unassailable in their selfishness, and their share of the national burden would have been thrown to other shoulders.

That is why a measure of forced military service was necessary, and that is likewise why the country will undoubtedly resort, before peace comes, to other forms of military training. The same line of demarcation between patriotism and selfishness can be seen in observance of food regulations, in response to calls like those of the Red Cross and of the government loans; in big business and among the workingmen. The selfish are always willing to shift their share of the common sacrifice to those who are willing and eager to help. While this continues there will always be an element of injustice in voluntaryism.—Ex.

BE LOYAL TO AMERICA, OR LEAVE IT.

The man who loves other nations as much as he loves his own country is on a par with the man who loves other women as much as he loves his own wife. If a man has been within our borders for a while and doesn't like it, let him get out. The professors of every form of hyphenated Americanism are as thoroughly the foes of this country as if they dwelled without its borders and made active war against it.—Theodore Roosevelt.

THE UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION SAYS:

There is no royal road to food conservation. We can only accomplish this by the voluntary action of our whole people, each element in proportion to its means. It is a matter of equality of burden; a matter of minute saving and substitution at every point in the 20,000,000 kitchens, on the 20,000,000 dinner tables, and in the 2,000,000 manufacturing, wholesale and retail establishments of the country.

Where will you be in ten years from now?

If you are not in the land of the living where will your wife and family be?

Much depends upon how you use your talents, and upon whether or not you are thrifty.

S. W. Straus, well known as a writer on investments and things financial, has found that the records show that only 3 per cent of the men who die in this country have an estate of $10,000; 15 per cent leave from $2,000 to $10,000; and the remaining 82 per cent die leaving no tangible assets.

But they usually leave widows and families, because wives, so the records show again, usually outlive their husbands.

Only 18 per cent of the widows of the men who die are left in comfortable circumstances; 47 per cent are compelled to go to work, and the remaining 35 per cent have to be taken care of either by the state or by their relatives.

What is the answer?

Thrift.

And Uncle Sam has shown that he appreciates the situation by his plans to give the people of the nation opportunity to serve their country in this time of war, and at the same time teach them to save, to become thrifty, by the purchase of thrift stamps and war savings stamps.

When County Clerk Barnett resigned, the county lost an efficient, capable and trusted employe. As Commissioner Harvey expressed it, "Columbia county is unfortunate in having to give up one of its best officials." After a man has served the public eight years, it must be gratifying to know that they appreciate the service rendered. "Barney" was recognized as one of Oregon's most efficient county clerks. If he had remained in office, the next step should have been secretary of state, and he would have filled that office just as well as he did the office of county clerk.

The news from France that one of Columbia county's soldier boys has passed away, brings the war just a little nearer to each of us who are left at home. It does not matter whether the young soldier met death while in the trenches or died from natural causes, because he answered his country's call and met death while in the discharge of his duties as a soldier. All honor to his memory.

The provost marshal-general's book places the Beaver state foremost in patriotism. First chart shows highest enlistment credits—excess of enlistments over quotas and small exemption claims features. Repeatedly, insistently, in table, chart and summary of the report, the name of Oregon "leads all the rest."

Shipbuilding has enriched the state of Oregon millions of dollars the past year, and the future of the industry depends on national legislation encouraging to the construction of an American merchant marine.

GOV. WITHYCOMBE THANKS BOARD

Portland, Ore.—Now that the questionnaires are in with few exceptions, and the work of permanent and associate members of the various legal advisory boards is almost ended, Governor Withycombe has issued a statement thanking them in behalf of the state for their faithful and patriotic service.

"I desire to make forceful expression of my appreciation and gratitude, and of the gratitude of the people of Oregon," said the governor "to each member, both permanent and associate, of every legal advisory board constituted and organized in the state, for his earnest and satisfying effort."

Stars and Stripes Come First

To the Editor of the St. Helens Mist:

I wish to express, through the columns of your paper, my gratitude to the Canadian officers who gave us such splendid talks last week; also my appreciation of the efforts of those who were instrumental in getting them to talk to us and in making their visit pleasant while here. And I also wish to say in all candor that the more I hear of the Germans' mode of warfare the more genuine love I have for a rattlesnake. But just wait till we get started, then what our khaki clad kids of Columbia do to the crippled kaiser will be as a Kansas cyclone to the gentle whisper of an Oregon mosquito. That is part of it. The rest of it lies in 100 per cent efficiency of St. Helens and the State of Oregon in general. Our hat, suspenders and B. V. D.'s are all in the ring, and if necessary we'll shy our last sock in for good measure, to show we mean business. So far we've made good in everything asked for, from oversubscribing Liberty Bonds to backing the Red Cross and the Y. M. C. A. campaigns for money to grease the ways for an easy slide into the arms of world democracy.

And the least of all these has not been the quota of boys we have slapped on the back and said "Go to it." You will find Oregon boys from the dugouts of bleeding France to flirting with fate in the clouds and wooing bayonet thrusts in the front line trenches. These are the boys little old St. Helens is backing to the last ditch, and then some. Even the bullfrogs are proud of this town and are getting ready to buy a thrift stamp. The middle name of this town is "Plentiful," and Uncle Sam can have anything he wants, from wooden ships to wooden legs. We are sitting up nights knitting socks, going without wheat and meat. We've got old man Hoover looking like a tongue-tied Dutchman trying to recite the Declaration of Independence in Greek. We are there with bells on. Optimism will win. And we will win because it oozes out of us in great gobs. It is backed by the coin of the realm and the brawn of the boys we are sending over. So let us forget our own petty troubles and rally round the Grand Old Flag. Let us erect a Goddess of Liberty at the gates of our city and make every worshipper of a foreign god get down on his knees and kiss the ruffle on her petticoat.

N. O. LARABEE.

NORTH PACIFIC DIST. ROAD ALLOTMENTS

The North Pacific district, comprising Oregon, Washington and Alaska, will receive $272,422 of the 1919 allotment of funds under Section 8 of the federal aid road act, which provides for the use of a million dollars of federal money a year for ten years to build roads and trails within or partly within the national forests, according to District Forester Cecil, of Portland, who has just received notice from Washington that the secretary of agriculture has approved the allotments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919. Under this allotment Oregon will receive $132,796, Washington $92,565, and Alaska $47,061. This is about $6,000 in excess of the 1918 allotment for the district.

Because of national forest land within their borders, 27 states and the territory of Alaska share in the benefits of this act. The allotments are made on a basis of the area of national forest land in the several states and the estimated value of the timber and grazing resources of the forests.

In order to take advantage of these allotments it is necessary for the local authorities, either state or county, or both, to co-operate in the various road projects, usually on a 50-50 basis. The engineering work for forest roads is done under the direction of District Engineer L. I. Hewes, of the office of public roads, who co-operates with the forest service in its road building operations.

Secretary Houston has already approved the co-operative agreements for seven federal aid forest road projects in the district—the Cooks-Collins road on the Columbia national forest, the Republic-Wauconda road on the Colville forest, and the Lake Quinault road on the Olympic forest, in Washington, and the Ochoco Canyon road on the Ochoco forest, the Canyonville-Galesville road on the Umpqua forest, and two sections of the Medford-Klamath Falls road on the Crater forest, in Oregon.

Funds to pay the government's share in the survey and construction of these roads have already been provided from the 1918 federal aid road act allotment.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Soap and tepid water will remove chocolate stains.

Pastry can be made from cocoanut oil instead of lard.

India meal puddings are very good served with roast beef.

Milk, fruit and vegetables are the last articles to save on.

Sweets made from honey should be as far as possible encouraged.

Mutton tallow, carefully rendered, may be used instead of paraffin.

Soap should be bought in quantities; remove the wrapper and allow it to dry.

Delicious cream croutons are made by spreading slices of bread with butter, then laying cheese on top of the butter and toasting brown in the oven. Serve with stewed fruit.

Very good table syrup can be made by boiling one cup of brown sugar and two cups of water. Boil until it will almost spin a thread, add a little baking soda and put into a jar.

Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us dare to do our duty as we understand it. —Abraham Lincoln.