

VICTORY LOAN IS FAIR TEST OF AMERICAN PATRIOTISM

IF IT GOES OVER THE TOP, NATION'S WAR RECORD WILL BE WITHOUT A FLAW—TREASURY OFFICIALS CONFIDENT PEOPLE WILL RESPOND TO GOVERNMENT'S CALL—NATIONAL CAPITAL CORRESPONDENT DISCUSSES CHARGES OF EXTRAVAGANCE.

By W. W. JERMANE, in the Seattle Times.

On Monday there began a test to determine whether American patriotism is made of the same dependable stuff, now that the fighting is over. That was its distinguishing feature when the Huns were pressing against the battlefronts in France and Belgium.

America has raised four large war loans by popular subscription. The one now at hand will be the fifth, and last. If it goes over the top, like the its predecessors, the American war record will be without a flaw; if it doesn't there will be a defect of continuity and cohesion that will cause deep regret and that the passing of the years will not obliterate.

The end of hostilities has undoubtedly had a profound effect upon the public mind. Stress and strain are gone. The people are now thinking about the important readjustments that will permit the country to enter upon an era of unexampled prosperity. But that in all the change anything has happened that will endanger the loan is not believed by officials of the treasury.

Glass Is Confident.

Secretary Glass is even more confident regarding the outcome than was his predecessor when loans were being made at the height of military activities. He was quick to see that the fifth loan would come under conditions importantly different from any hitherto existing; and, by increasing the interest rate, making the exemption privilege more attractive, making the loan a short one, and in various other ways having the government meet the public half way, and more than half way, he believes he had overcome all difficulties and insured the subscription in record time.

One point that must be met is that there has been extravagance, even waste, in war expenditures; that proper management might have rendered the fifth loan unnecessary. Let it be frankly admitted that this charge is true. It has been true of every war that ever was fought, and it will be true of all wars of the future, whatever the belligerent countries.

War is the greatest prodigal, the greatest spendthrift, mankind has ever known, and it never can be anything else.

That is one of the strong arguments against it. It spends money just as freely as it sheds blood and destroys property, and all the humanizing in-

fluences in the world cannot make it do otherwise.

Waste Held Unavoidable.

It is likely that billions of American money were paid out to no seemingly good purpose. That was true in England, France and Italy, and also in the former Central Empires and Russia. There would have been the same waste if the people who are inclined to make this point had themselves been in charge of operations, posing as great experts.

A government at the head of a nation at war can afford to take no chances. It must guard every avenue of possible or probable attack and take advantage of every opportunity for offense. This means money. Preparations are made for offense or defense at a score of points, and the struggle comes at only two or three of them. The money spent in getting ready at all the other points is wasted, in the opinion of those who, after peace has come, endeavor to pass judgment on expenditures made while the fighting was at its height.

Then, too, there is the inevitable waste growing out of unpreparedness and lack of expert management. America had a regrettable experience with airplanes, big guns, ammunition; it was unable during the first year of its participation in the war to take proper care of its soldiers, even in the home training camps.

This experience proves just one thing, namely, the difficulty that must always attend the changing of a great peace loving nation, almost overnight, from a peace to a war footing. Yes; there has been gross waste, but how, in the very nature of the case, could there have been anything else? It is well to keep in mind, however, that much of this waste, in an important sense, was more apparent than real.

It is the unanimous opinion of all the great authorities, including those of Germany, that the immensity of American preparation in the six months preceding the armistice after we had struck our gait, had more than any other one thing to do with compelling Germany to surrender. She knew all about our big guns, then being turned out in the required numbers, all about our airplane construction, our reserves of men and money, and her military leaders saw a campaign in 1919 that would reproduce east of the Rhine the same devastation that had been wrought in Belgium and Flanders.

American "waste" shortened the war by at least a year, and kept the number of American dead at 70,000 instead of increasing it to probably

500,000, as would have been the case had the 1919 campaign been made.

In various other ways America spent money with what is now regarded in some places as reckless prodigality. It will be sufficient to mention one of them.

Question of Wheat.

The guarantee of the price of the 1919 wheat crop to the American farmer is to cost the people a billion dollars. That means a high price for flour and bread to the average consumer, at least for another year, and yet, early last fall, when the guarantee was made in order to swell the acreage of winter wheat, then about to be planted, the war was at its maximum of fury, and everybody whose opinion was worth repeating was talking about peace in from two to five years.

Fortunately for the world, peace came in November, but the government must keep the pledge it made to the farmers. There isn't a right thinking man in the country who will say that it ought not to do so. Better high bread for another year and "waste" in other directions than an increase by fivefold at least of the number of American graves in France.

The question of war extravagance is to come up in the new congress. Two or three months ago the Republicans were jubilant over the political advantage they were to secure through a series of sensational disclosures. Latterly, however, they have undergone a change of front. The investigations will be made, but there will be little political capital in them.

As good an authority as Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming, who will be the Republican leader in the new house, recently announced that they were not to take up a great deal of time. The Republicans are to feature the great readjustment program which confronts them, having made up their minds that the country will not be in any humor to encourage a flamboyant hunt after the sensations led by all the Peeping Toms and Paul Prys on the Republican side.

CHEVROLET AGENTS

SELL SEVEN MORE

FOUR-NINETY CARS

Seven Chevrolet Four-Ninety cars have been delivered during the past few days, six touring cars and one roadster, by the Capital Transit & Repair company, Thurston and Mason county dealers. The roadster went to H. P. Richardson of this city and the touring cars to W. M. Huggett of this city, C. C. Duffy, Tenino; W. F. Hutchinson and James Frew, Shelton; W. W. Wymore, Delphi, and Carl Turner, Rainier.

EPWORTH LEAGUES TO MEET

Big Conference on Centenary Plans in Tacoma Next Tuesday.

Following along the lines of the Methodist centenary world program conference recently in Seattle, there will be held next Tuesday at the First Methodist Episcopal church, Tacoma, a district mobilization rally of the Epworth League. Delegates from every league chapter in the Tacoma district and from outside points are expected.

The conference plans to begin to mobilize the 13,000 members of the Epworth League in the Northwest behind the campaign of the Methodist centenary. Rev. J. H. Secor, pastor of the local Methodist church, will be one of the speakers, his subject being "The Strategy of the Centenary." A similar conference will be held in Centralia the following day.

18th Engineers En Route Home.

The 18th Regiment of Engineers, with which a couple of local boys went to France, sailed from Bordeaux April 16 on the transport Texas for New York. William Bailey, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Bailey of Ward's Lake, is returning with the organization, while Roscoe Fullerton, son of Judge and Mrs. Mark A. Fullerton, who went overseas with the regiment, was later transferred to the 469th Engineers. The 18th Engineers regiment was organized at Camp Murray under command of Colonel Bates Cavanaugh and was among the first to go to France.

Attend Funeral of Dr. Wells.

Quite a number of Olympia people and residents of the western part of the county went over to Shelton Tuesday afternoon and attended the funeral of Dr. Charles H. Wells, who died suddenly in a San Francisco hotel the latter part of last week. Dr. Wells had practiced his profession in Mason county for more than 20 years and his funeral was attended by one of the largest crowds that ever gathered in Shelton for such an occasion.

Buy Mill at Oakville.

A. P. Wilson and Oscar Bleckschmidt have purchased a small mill, which they have set up on the latter's place near Oakville. They will cut railroad ties. Wilson only recently completed logging operations near Onalaska.

Hogs High at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS.—Hogs sold on the livestock market here Tuesday for \$21 a hundred pounds—15 cents higher than any former quotation at the local market.

DON'TS FOR THE STORAGE BATTERY

The motorist who will examine the battery of his car regularly every week and heed the following instructions will continue to receive satisfactory service from his battery day after day," says Burton Troxell of the Capital Transit & Repair company, local dealers in Chevrolet passenger cars and trucks.

"Don't allow your storage battery to stand in a discharged condition for any length of time. Should the battery for any reason become discharged, have it fully charged at once at the nearest garage or charging station. A battery when in a discharged condition sulphates rapidly, making charging extremely hard and in time entirely destroying the elements.

"Don't allow dirt, water or any pieces of metal to come in contact with or remain on the top of your battery. Inspect regularly and keep clean.

"Don't continue to crank your engine with the starting motor if it does not start after a few revolutions. Something is wrong with your ignition system or carburetor. Locate and remedy the trouble before again cranking the engine. Just turning the engine over will not help you start, but it will exhaust your battery if continued for any length of time.

"Don't forget to turn 'on' the ignition switch before attempting to start the motor.

"Don't forget that you must restore in the battery whatever current has been withdrawn for starting. It requires about 20 times as long to restore current to the battery as it takes to remove the same amount in starting the engine.

"Don't turn on all the lights of your car and leave it standing for several hours. Conserve the battery supply by using only such lamps as

are absolutely needed to prevent accident.

"Don't allow the battery to become loose on the brackets."

Gives Lecture on Alaska.

J. L. Burnside, who has been connected with the leading commercial and transportation enterprises of Alaska for several years, gave an illustrated lecture on that country at the high school auditorium Friday evening, under the auspices of the Lincoln Parent-Teacher circle.

A large number of the members of St. John's Episcopal church joined in the annual parish dinner at the church Tuesday evening. Rev. R. Franklin Hart, the rector, presided, a number of interesting talks were made and several musical numbers presented.

Corporal Frank E. Bradshaw of Olympia and Corporal John M. Andriessen of Rainier, arrived at New York Easter Sunday with the 316th Supply Train.

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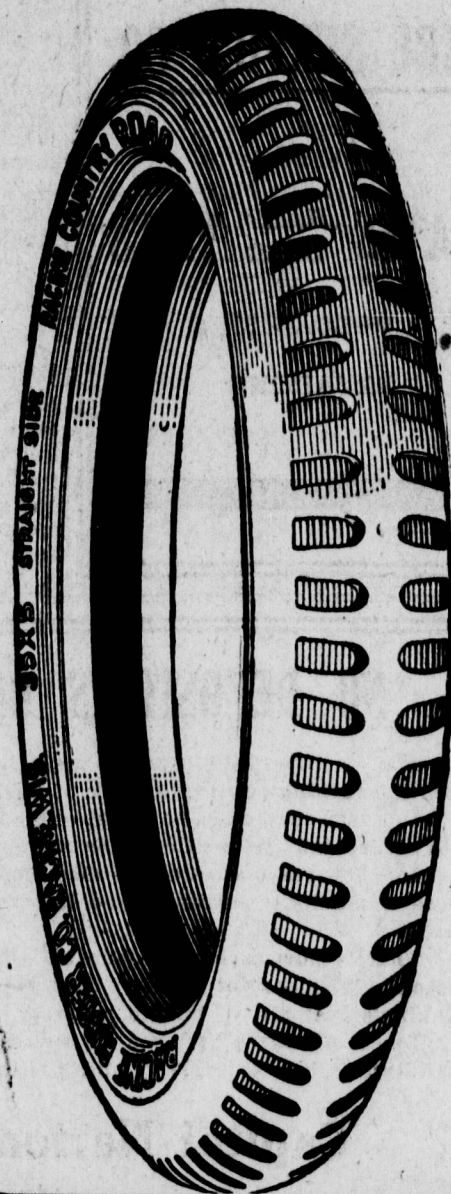
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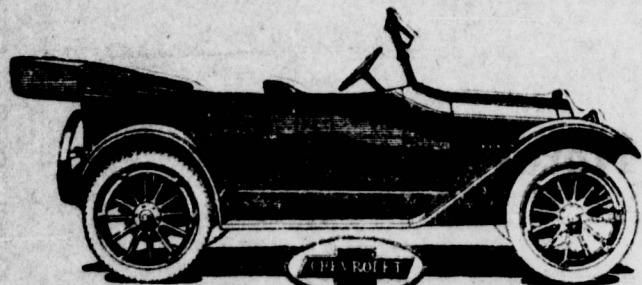
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