OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF CONCRETE, REAPPOINTED FEBRUARY 17, 1914

Heed the warning given by high officials and do not buy to hoard, but keep business running as during normal times.

THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald, Established Nov. 23, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit

Teddy Roosevelt has been denied the oportunity to head an army unit for service in France, and politics is to blame.

VOL. XVI CONCRETE, SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1917 NUMBER 26

WOMEN ARE THANKFUL TO THE PUBLIC FOR HELP TO RED CROSS

GOOD AMOUNT IS REALIZED FROM SHOW THROUGH CO-OPERATION OF MANY—OTHER EVENTS BEING PLANNED.

At a recent meeting of the Red Cross branch in Concrete it was voted that public thanks be extended to all participating in making the show given for the benefit of the Red Cross a success, including the following:

Messrs. Smith and Shannon, for donating the use of the theater; Mrs. Shannon, for assistance at the window; Mr. Phebus, for running the films; Mr. White, for attending the door; all children who helped in selling tickets; Mrs. Annis, for playing the piano; the Concrete Herald, for printing tickets, and the general public for its liberal attendance.

After all expenses had been met, the ladies foud their fund enriched by $35.60, and in consequence feel that their efforts were not unavailing. They are not yet satisfied, however, and are planning a big social dance for the latter part of the month, to which a general invitation to the people of the county will be extended.

It is doubtful if the ladies in charge of any Red Cross branch anywhere in the country are working more enthusiastically or assiduously than in Concrete. Each Tuesday and Friday afternoons are devoted to sewing, a large number being present each day. Still, others interested in the work are requested to lend their presence and help in the work and also to become members of the society.

Outside of what is accomplished in the way of furnishing needed materials the local ladies hope to maintain a high standing for the amount of money sent in for memberships and from entertainments, and will keep actively at work with that object in view.

BURPEE MILL TO START UP NEXT MONDAY MORNING

Manley Brothers have completed overhauling and getting the Burpee shingle mill in shape for operation, and have had a crew of men getting out bolts for some time past with a view to starting the mill up next Monday morning. They will run the mill continuously during the summer and as late in the fall as is possible with a crew of thirty or more men.

When previously operated the Burpee mill was one of the most substantial establishments in the vicinity of Concrete, and under the experienced management of the Manley brothers it is expected that it will again attain its prominent position in manufacturing circles of the Upper Skagit.

LEAVING TRAINING STATION FOR WAR DUTY

Photo by American Press Association.

Freshly trained sailors leaving for the Brooklyn yard and active duty after having finished a course of instruction in seamanship at a naval training station.

BUILD NEW BRIDGE OVER BAKER RIVER NEAR SWIFT CREEK

FOREST RANGER BURCH LOOKS FOR MEN SO THAT WORK MAY BE COMPLETED BY THE FIRST OF JUNE.

Grover C. Burch, forest ranger, was down from the ranger station Friday in search of men to help in the construction of a new bridge across the Baker river, near the mouth of Swift creek, and also a man to remain in the government employ during the entire summer. Notwithstanding that exceptionally good pay is offered, he found men scarce, and is not certain that he will be able to complete the new bridge on the date tentatively set.

The new structure will have a span of about 175 feet and will be of a permanent nature. Piling will be driven on both banks of the river, the pile driver at the Baker lake hatchery being brought down river for the purpose. This in itself will involve much labor, but it is believed that it may be accomplished without serious inconvenience.

By building the new bridge at the mouth of Swift creek a far greater number of people will be served to better advantage. Heretofore it has

(Continued on page 4.)

WINTER WHEAT CROP WAY BELOW NORMAL GOVERNMENT REPORT

CONDITIONS DISCOURAGING IN VIEW OF THE TREMENDOUS DEMAND FOR ALL SORTS OF FOODSTUFFS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 8.—A summary of the May crop report for the state of Washington and for the United States, as compiled by the bureau of crop estimates (and transmitted through the weather bureau) U. S. department of agriculture, is as follows:

Winter Wheat

STATE—May 1 forecast, 11,500,000 bushels; production last year (final estimate), 18,285,000 bushels; two years ago, 35,880,000; 1910-14 average, 25,534,000 bushels.

UNITED STATES—May 1 forecast, 366,000,000 bushels; production last year (final estimate), 481,744,000 bushels; two years ago, 673,947,000; 1910-14 average, 494,654,000 bushels.

Rye

STATE—May 1 forecast, 131,000 bushels; production last year (final estimate), 102,000; two years ago, 146,000 bushels.

UNITED STATES—May 1 forecast, 60,700,000 bu.; production last year (final estimate), 47,383,000; two years ago, 54,050,000 bushels.

Meadows

STATE—May 1 condition 91, compared with the ten-year average of 94.

UNITED STATES—May 1 condition 88.7, compared with the ten-year average of 87.9.

Pasture

STATE—May 1 condition 80, compared with the ten-year average of 92.

UNITED STATES—May 1 condition 81.9, compared with the ten-year average of 85.2.

Spring Plowing

STATE—Per cent done to May 1, 1917, estimated 60 per cent, compared with 74 May 1 last year and 80, the ten-year average.

UNITED STATES—Per cent done to May 1, 1917, estimated 72.4 per cent, compared with 70.4 per cent on May 1 last year and 69.3, the ten-year average.

Spring Planting

STATE—Per cent done to May 1, 1917, estimated 50 per cent, compared with 65 May 1 last year and 78, the ten-year average.

UNITED STATES—Per cent done to May 1, 1917, estimated 58.7 per cent, compared with 56.7 per cent on May 1 last year and 56.3, the ten-year average.

Hay

STATE—Old crop on farms May 1, estimated 102,000 tons, compared with 152,000 a year ago and 143,000 two years ago.

UNITED STATES—Old crops on farms May 1, estimated 12,500,000 tons; compared with 14,452,000 a year ago and 10,797,000 two years ago.

Prices

The first price given below is the average on May 1 this year, and the second the average on May 1 last year.

STATE—Wheat, 225 and 86 cents per bushel. Corn, — and 136. Oats, 70 and 40. Potatoes, 213 and 76. Hay, $19.60 and $17.40 per ton. Eggs, 33 and 20 cents per dozen.

UNITED STATES—Wheat, 245.9 and 102.5 cents per bushel. Corn, 150.6 and 72.3 cents. Oats, 71.0 and 42.6 cents. Potatoes, 279.6 and 94.8 cents. Hay, $14.44 and $12.22 per ton. Cotton, 18.9 and 11.5 cents per pound. Eggs, 30.0 and 18.1 per dozen.

TO SHIP ORE SOON FROM MOLYBDENITE MINE UP THE SKAGIT

CHARLES FREEMAN PUSHING OPERATIONS ON PROPERTY ABOVE MARBLEMOUNT—PROPERTY BEING DEVELOPED.

Chas. H. Freeman the old time Skagit county mining man, who recently organized a company to develop his molybdenite mining property in the mountains above Marblemount, was in Anacortes the first of the week getting supplies for his crew.

Mr. Freeman has a force of six men building a horse trail from the wagon road into the mining property and will have the trail finished by the end of the week, says the Anacortes American.

After finishing the trail, Mr. Freeman will at once begin work at the mine and expects to be shipping ore on the first of June. Mr. Freeman reports that there is a big lot of snow on the ground but that it is rapidly disappearing.

The Freeman Molybdenite mine is five miles above Marblemount and is on a small creek just off the Cascade river.

The property is just a mile from the new state road above Marblemount and the new trail connects he mine with this road.

Apparently the price of molybdenite, which went soaring soon after the war began, has not reached its limit yet. Reports are that the ore is still advancing in price.

Mr. Freeman reports that a California mining man named Mitchell has a force of men at work on silver and lead properties twenty miles above the Freeman mine on the Cascade river. The California man took a crew of men in last week but the snow is so deep that he had to quit work on the mine and has his crew at work making trails.

RUSHING WORK ON NEW SEDRO-WOOLLEY SMELTER

For several days past a force of men has been engaged in erecting the big stack out at the smelter plant. The stack is 85 feet in length and of sufficient diameter to stand brick lining to the greater part of its height. The boilers and material for the furnace are expected to arrive before the end of this week. The work of construction is progressing as fast as possible, but has been hampered by car shortage and the consequent delay of arrival of necessary material. With present weather conditions prevailing and continued similar progress made at the plant, it is hoped that a demonstration run can soon be made.

OFFICERS INDORSE WORK OF Y. M. C. A. IN ARMY AND NAVY

ORGANIZATION DOES MUCH TOWARD MAKING MEN MORE EFFICIENT SOLDIERS AS WELL AS MORE CONTENTED.

What the president thinks of the Young Men's Christian association as an adjunct to the army and navy is indicated by the following executive order signed by President Wilson on April 27:

"The Young Men's Christian association has, in the present emergency, as under similar circumstances in the past, tendered its services for the benefit of enlisted men in both arms of the service. This organization is prepared by experience, approved methods and assured resources, to serve especially the troops in camp and field. It seems best for the interest of the service that it shall continue as a voluntary civilian organization; however, the results obtained are so beneficial and bear such a direct relation to efficiency, inasmuch as the association provision contributes to the happiness, content and morale of the personnel, that in order to unify the civilian betterment in the army, and further the work of the organization that has demonstrated its ability to render a service desired by both officers and men, official recognition is hereby given the Young Men's Christian association as a valuable adjunct and asset to the service. Officers are enjoined to render the fullest practicable assistance and co-operation in the maintenance and extension of the association, both at permanent posts and stations and in camp and field."

As indicative of the way that both big business and employes of big business regard the work of the Y. M. C. A. in the army and navy, it is announced that the United States Steel corporation has given $50,000 towards the $3,000,000 Y. M. C. A. work fund, and the employes of that concern have given $4 each on the average.

This is what David Lloyd George said of the army Y. M. C. A.: "You cannot overstate the value of the Young Men's Christian association work in the army camps."

Still it is not necessary to go across the Atlantic for testimony. The service of the army Y. M. C. A. among our own troops at the Mexican border last year is well known to every line officer and every enlisted man.

Says Colonel John L. Hayden, commanding the Northwest department, United States army: "For many years I have had opportunity to observe the army Y. M. C. A. in camp and garrison. The work it has done is so valuable that it has gained official recognition as an agency [illegible] indispensable in connection with the welfare of the men."

The intensely practical service combined with the idealism of the army and navy Y. M. C. A. makes for cleaner men and more efficient soldiers.

HOW TAXES WILL BE LEVIED DURING WAR UNDER PENDING BILL

EVERYBODY WILL BE FORCED TO CONTRIBUTE THROUGH PURCHASE OF NECESSITIES OR LUXURIES.

Liquors, soft drinks, cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, cigarette papers, snuff, stamps on documents, playing cards, freight bills, passenger tickets, express bills, pipe lines, passenger coach seats, berths, staterooms, electric light, gas, telephone service, telephone messages, telegraph messages, advertising, insurance, automobiles, tires, tubes, musical instruments, phonographs, records, motion picture films, jewelry, sporting goods, golf clubs, baseball bats, billiard and pool tables, balls, pleasure boats, perfumery, cosmetics, proprietary medicines, chewing gum, admission to theaters and other amusements, dues in clubs and other organizations, incomes.

The foregoing indicates how the government proposes to raise funds for carrying on the war, and it will probably be but a very short time before people will be called upon to pay the proposed tax on everything included in the list. It is estimated that this will approximate $33 per capita on an average each year, or as long as it may be necessary to raise the amount of money now considered necessary for prosecuting the war.

It will be noticed that very little has been overlooked by the framers of the new statute, but in addtiion special taxes may later raise individual contributions to the war fund. These have not as yet been worked out by congress, but probably will be shortly, and enacted into law.

CONTRACT IS AWARDED ON THE M'LEAN ROAD WORK

The Skagit Construction company was awarded the contract for the hard-surfacing of the McLean road from the end of the pavement, at Tuesday's session of the county board. The contract calls for two and thirty-nine one-hundredths miles, which will carry the new work to the Jennings school house and north toward Whitney station about three-fourths of a mile. The winning bid was $34,120.60. The completion of this contract will make over six miles of paving west of Mount Vernon.

COMMISSIONERS ALL LOOK TO BALFOUR

Photo by American Press Association.

The French as well as the British commissioners at Washington generally accept the British foreign secretary, Arthur J. Balfour, seen on left with Secretary Lansing, as their spokesman in the matters of major importance under discussion

INTERNED GERMANS TAKE EXERCISE

Photos by American Press Association.

At Fort McPherson, Ga., the interned men of the seized German ships are permitted to exercise, but under the watchful eye of our soldiers. The top photo is of a barbed wire stockade being erected at the camp.

THE CONCRETE HERALD

H. J. BRATLIE, Publisher
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Treasurer	W. J. S. Gordon	"	Arthur G. Smith
City Clerk	G. L. Leonard	"	W. J. O'Connell
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CENSORSHIP DURING WAR A NECESSITY

Since discussion began in congress anent the question of a rigid censorship bill to govern news sent abroad and published in this country there has been much talk both for and against such a measure, but, in the main, arguments presented against the proposed law will not withstand the acid test of complete analysis—the carrying of the argument to its logical conclusion. They are mainly along the line of interference with guaranteed personal liberty and the freedom of the press. They hark back to earlier times when conditions were so materially different as to preclude them as a matter of comparison. Largely these arguments are not arguments at all, and have little, fundamentally, as a basis upon which to stand.

There is no question involved in the censorship controversy of the loyalty of a vast majority of residents of this country, but simply because most people are loyal it does not seem reasonable that those who are not should be allowed liberties prejudicial to the best interests of the country and its loyal citizens. Those who commit no treasonable acts need have no fear of a censorship law, and such people will feel the safer did they know that severe punishment would be meted out to disloyal persons. As in other crimes a stringent espionage and censorship law cannot but have a deterrent effect upon those who would aid the enemy, and the comparatively slight inconvenience falling upon people generally cannot possibly be construed as of sufficient importance to prevent punishment of those found guilty of treason to the government.

Quite naturally the newspapers would be hardest hit by a strict censor- [illegible] publishers are of the loyal breed who willingly face inconvenience and the disturbing of their fixed and regular order of affairs in behalf of the government. Very few of them would knowingly publish, or otherwise disseminate, information that might in any manner inure to the benefit of the enemy. That there are those who let their newspaper ambitions outweigh their judgment is well known. They are men who think more of publishing an extra edition containing sensational news in advance of their competitors than they do for the safety of the entire nation. Not that they are intentionally disloyal, either, but their instinct and training are the controlling elements, and they "tear loose" with red ink and type as many inches high as their offices afford, regardless of the consequences. They have scored a beat and go to their homes and beds happy in the thought that they have again put one over.

Then there are the individuals who will do anything for money. In every war of which history has been written there have been traitors. Had it been possible to curb their activities much damage might have been prevented. The countries at war for more than two years past have learned the value of censorship, and through their organized bureaus have furnished this government with much valuable information. If censorship is good for those countries, why not for us? We are engaged with the same enemy, and he is utilizing the same tactics against us as against them. Simply because we are a democracy, is it to be understood that we are a bunch of fools and knaves who cannot realize what the existing situation calls for? This war is entirely different from any that has gone before and requires different action on the part of all belligerents. Simply because we have been permitted to "spout our heads off" in the past is no excuse in view of the present acute situation. It will do many of us good to be forced to keep quiet for a time.

Newspapers and others should quit harping against a censorship and do all within their power to lend strength to the government in preventing information reaching the enemy or individuals causing trouble at home. Let the censorship be strict and strictly enforced. We talk too much, anyway.

IS THE GOVERNMENT LETHARGIC?

Recently there has been criticism of the government because so much valuable time is being consumed in preparation for active participation in the war. Many have accused public officials of unwonted lethargy and have insisted that much more might have been accomplished. Just exactly what and how they have not made plain.

Probably the easiest thing possible for the human being is to criticise somebody else. No matter what he does or how he does it, there is always the fellow who could have done it better, more quickly and oftener. He is the real prodigy of the universe when it comes to doing things—with his mouth. But it is hard to make others believe that he is the genuine genius he would make himself appear and still remain so long in comparative obscurity—outside of his own knowledge of his tremendous ability.

So much for the carping critic who offers no solution except to demand that somebody else get busy and hurry up.

Since the government entered the war much has been accomplished, notwithstanding the predilection of members of congress to spend many long hours in needless spouting on pending acts for which they were fore-sworn to vote either for or against and which the hot air fest did not influence in the slightest measure. However, more would already have been done had necessary statutes been enacted promptly. But the politician must edify himself and disgust his constituency regardless of the exigencies of the occasion.

By and large, it is perfectly safe to assert that no nation has ever accomplished more toward preparedness in a given length of time than has the United States since war was declared. Out of the present seeming chaos will quickly come order and action. Even the piffling pinheads who are howling so lustily could not whip their own mediocre affairs into shape so quickly, and when the derelict congress has furnished further weapons of war the finish fight will be started.

The nation has not been lethargic. Some petty larceny members of congress have been even worse than that, but they are not backed by the nation in their inactivity, and will be called upon to answer when the proper time rolls around.

The present situation has demonstrated as nothing has during the past century the utter fallacy of political divisions in congress, so far as the enactment of necessary legislation is concerned. The bunk that has been handed out each session of arguments pro and con by Republicans and Democrats has impressed some people, but the number is getting smaller and smaller each year. What the people are demanding these days is action. They have tired of theories that have been mulled and threshed over for several generations without the possibility of solution, so far as members of congress are concerned. After-the-war politics will unquestionably be of a different brand from that up to date, and politicians will be forced to walk a much straighter chalk line.

Much interest has been caused in Pacific Northwest lumber circles because of the government letting it be known that three-quarters of a billion fee of lumber is required for shipbuilding purposes. Naturally the manufacture of this immense quantity of lumber will set the wheels of industry to humming with renewed energy, but the filling of this order will by no means be the end of activity in the lumber industry. Conclusion of the war will bring unprecedented demand, and the mills will be kept busy for some number of years to come. The Puget Sound country is finally getting its share of the war prosperity, and the best part of the story is that it will last much longer than in other sections of the country.

Indications now point to a solution of the submarine problem through American ingenuity in providing means for either preventing operations of the undersea boats or destroying them. It seems strange that something of the kind has not been accomplished before this, if among the possibilities. Our own entry into the war is not the only incentive.

An Alaska miner mushed over four hundred miles of trail in order to enlist in the aviation corps. An army made up of such men as that would reach Berlin if it took the rest of their natural lives. There is real patriotism as their actuating motive, and nothing may stop them.

COMMENTS OF THE STATE PRESS

Some Real Thoughts from the Think Tanks of Thoughtful Thinkers

Should Have Fixed Food Prices Long Ago, Too

Seattle P.-I.:—Transportation is a vital necessity to the country, but it is not so vital as food. We have for years regulated transportation and fixed the prices chargeable for it. It is not such an extraordinary departure in principle, although the practical application is much harder, to fix the prices of foodstuffs.

♠ ♠ ♠

Shure-re, and It Was a Genewine Foine Ould Toime

Bellingham Herald:—An Irish mass meeting which was held in New York last week for the purpose of passing resolutions pledging support to the United States in the war with Germany, broke up in a riot because the explosive issue, home rule, was introduced by a volatile member. The resolutions were passed before this point was reached, however, and in spite of the fact that cracked heads abounded, a very pleasant time, as the society editor would say, was had by all.

♠ ♠ ♠

Why, Doggone It, Louis, We'll Let the Women Do That, What?

Burlington Journal:—Now that everybody is planting a big vegetable garden, the fact should be borne steadfastly in mind that the best possible results cannot be attained unless that garden is kept weeded.

♠ ♠ ♠

And It Will Be a Real Army Once We Get It Organized

Monroe Monitor:—The Powers That Be in Washington have done the wise thing in deciding to adopt universal conscripton for the United States. This guarantees this country having a real army, conducted along lines which the experience of European countries have proved.

♠ ♠ ♠

By Golly, Yes, and Later We'll Force Him Out of It

Anacortes American: — Senator Wesley L. Jones stands alright on the selective draft measure, anyway. He declares that wars are undemocratic and that when a democratic nation is forced into a struggle it must adopt undemocratic means to win it. None will deny that it took some forcing to get Wesley into the conflict.

♠ ♠ ♠

Oh, That Was Just a Stall and a Cheap One at That

Camas Post:—There used to be a brand of citizens who was in favor of prohibition if it could be made national prohibition, but now that national prohibition is in sight he is no better satisfied than he was before. John Barleycorn is about to go down for the count. There will be few tears shed. The grain that was made into liquor in this country during the past year would feed many a hungry baby.

♠ ♠ ♠

We Are Bound to Come Into Our Own Some of These Days

Mount Vernon Argus:—After several years of inactivity there is a revival in the development of the mineral resources of the upper Skagit valley. The demands of the world war have been extended even to this far section of the country; and the industries that have looked to foreign countries for certain necessities such as chrome iron, molybdenite, etc., are making every inducement for the development of mines that will yield these much needed minerals. Even Cokedale, which was shut down and flooded by the orders of Louis Hill a number of years ago, will once more be producing. In addition the iron deposits of Hamilton are being worked, the chrome deposits of Cypress island are under investigation and molybdenite properties near Marblemount are about to be developed. If the war will have finally uncovered the vast mineral wealth of the upper Skagit so much good will be credited to this vilest of man's institutions at any rate.

♠ ♠ ♠

Root Always Knew That the Root of Statesmanship Is Sense

Auburn Globe-Republican:—Elihu Root, America's greatest statesman, has been named by President Wilson to head the commission that goes to Russia to counsel with the leaders of the new democracy upon the problems now confronting them, and to plan for further co-operation in the prosecution of the war. That the mission will be performed to Russia's advantage and this country's honor there can be no doubt.

♠ ♠ ♠

Bet Four Valuable Army Beans That You Don't Collect, Doggone Ya

Mount Vernon Herald:—The Koelnische Volks Zeitung, after abusing President Wilson in the style which appears popular in Germany at present, says: "We are entitled to a thumping war indemnity and we don't care who pays it. Therefore, America, which has earned thousands of millions through munitions and supplies, will have to unbutton its pockets. We need not force America itself to pay, but we hold so many pledges in hand that for the entente it is most important to have America as a banker behind them."

A Los Angeles farmer has equipped a specially prized mule with an electric tail lamp to prevent accidents from automobile traffic at night.

Electricity is expected to play an important part in the defense plans of the Naval Advisory Board of which Thomas A. Edison is chairman.

JUST A FEW CRACKS BY THE TOWN NUT

Smithy says when he completes the serial now running he is going to show films of Grape Nuts. Ouch!

Wish some guy would tell me where there is a supply of plain, ordinary navy beans stored away. Robbing a beanery beats robbing a bank these days, for wholesale houses are only charging twelve to fifteen dollars a bushel for seed. Plant a bean, doggoneya, plant a bean and be a millionaire.

Alphabet Gordon, as the official ransacker of homes in the Upper Skagit, has about completed his work of listing people's chickens and cooking utensils for personal taxation purposes. Gee, everybody likes to see the long cuss come—and then go.

Joy juice. Joy ride. Nineteen dollars and seventy cents fine. Dividends? Haven't heard of any.

Mount Vernonites are fishing for a guy to build a fish cannery in that burg. Did not know the suckers were so plentiful in the county seat that it had become necessary to can them as a safety measure.

"Spend your vacation in the harvest field," is the slogan of the day. By heck, but there is heaps of sport in pitching thirty loads of hay a day or proving how skookum you are by throwing bundles to the top of a high load. Vacation? Sure.

Doc Van Buskirk has offered his services to the government dental corps. The only difference between Doc and a real soldier is that they kill a fellow and get him out of his misery, while he actually enjoys causing a poor cuss all the misery possible.

Say, folks, let's form a barefoot club and save the price of shoes this summer. Here, now! I did not suggest this just to get a glimpse of the winsome tootsies that I know the Concrete girls have. Can't you ever give a cuss the benefit of the doubt?

If you had a boy in the army wouldn't you like to know that some kind mother who did not was spending a little time each day sewing those things that are useful to the boys who might be injured? How much time do you spend each day, and if not why not?

Did you put a Red Cross on a dollar yet? Those buttons look fine on real Americans.

Did you swat the high cost of living with a broadside of a garden patch? If not, then plant beans. It is not too late yet.

Careful scrutiny of the fashion notes of late has not brought to notice anything freakishly new or new and freakish. Must be folks are to wear just plain clothes this year. Now what will we do for diversion?

Bet six bits that you do not know the words of The Star Spangled Banner, so I have printed them in this issue. Cut it out and the whole family get busy and learn it by heart. Then sing it, see!

Wonder what a young fellow who is physically able and who waits to be conscripted thinks of himself. I can't just get his viewpoint some way, can you?

Tungsten, the metal which plays such an important part in the modern highly efficient Mazda lamp, has been found superior to platinum for contact points on telegraph keys.

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NOT AFRAID OF CRITICISM

Mr. Wilson said no more than was to be expected from him when he wrote Arthur Brisbane that he would not support a censorship bill denying the people of the United States "their indisputable right to criticise their own public officials." Unless he had changed in everything except his name this would be the natural stand for him to take. Yet it was something of a comfort to have him put his thought into words. So much has been heard lately of the things that we would all be compelled to do, and of the things that would be "verboten" to do, that some positive assurance of rights and duties with which the war need not conflict was needed. At present there is little disposition to criticise the government, but if the time comes when somebody wants to, and will do it in a sane, constructive way, these words of Mr. Wilson give him license.

Sincere criticism is like winter in the forest of Arden—frosty but kindly. Far from being treasonable or obstructive, it is sometimes the best kind of co-operation. The president's task is political as well as military. He must take stock of the state of the public mind as well as of the supply of munitions. He needs to know now more than ever what the people are thinking. So we are not all to keep mum like whipped dogs or old-fashioned children, but to speak our minds, provided that we do it with a fitting sense of responsibility toward our country.—Fremont Older.

Poultry raisers say that electric incubators hatch a higher percentage of chicks than are hatched by any other artificial method.

Practically all of the new United States silver coins are being stamped out by electrically-driven presses in the Philadelphia mint.

G. L. LEONARD
Attorney and Counselor at Law
NOTARY PUBLIC
Concrete, Washington

DR. W. H. AXTELL
Bellingham National Bank Bldg.
BELLINGHAM, WASH.
Specialist: Medical and Surgical Diseases of Stomach, Bowel and Rectum

DR. G. A. JONES
Veterinary Surgeon
Office at Hoehn's Livery
SEDRO-WOOLLEY, WASH.

The Star Spangled Banner

By FRANCIS SCOTT KEY

O SAY, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bomb bursting in air
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O, say, does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

ON the shore, dimly seen through mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream.
'Tis the Star Spangled Banner! O, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

AND where is that band who so vauntingly swore,
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave.
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O THUS be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their lov'd home and the war's desolation!
Blest with vic'try and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!
Then conquer we must when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

(From Key's own manuscript.)

Shows Time in the Dark
"RADIOLITE"
(Radium-Lighted)
Makes the Dial Glow

Ingersoll has brought out a luminous substance called "RADIOLITE". The light-giving power of "RADIOLITE" is *genuine* RADIUM in minute proportions.

On the figures and hands of Ingersoll watches this substance glows in the dark more brilliantly than pure radium. And this glow continues as bright as ever for six to eight years.

Quick as a glance on even the darkest night you can read the time with an Ingersoll "Radiolite".

See The Four Models At This Store

"RADIOLITE" $2—the regular Ingersoll with luminous figures and hands

"RADIOLITE" TWO IN-ONE $2.50 in white holder for table or bureau

"RADIOLITE" Strap Watch $3.50—the watch most widely used by soldiers

WATERBURY "RADIOLITE" $3.50—the small jeweled Waterbury with "RADIOLITE" dial

THE CONCRETE DRUG CO.
DUDLEY I. GREEN, Prop.

A HOME BANK — UNDER STATE SUPERVISION — A good bank in a good town

You Can Help Your Country

Economy in your personal expenditures will help your country. You can only economize when you keep accurate accounts of your money affairs. A check account will aid you in doing this. Try it! Open your account at this bank. We furnish bank book—checks—and deposit slips—FREE!

STATE BANK of CONCRETE

CONCRETE, WASH.

J. E. METCALF

Lumber, Building Material, Window Glass all sizes, Mazda Lamps

Stumping Powder, Caps and Fuse

CENTRAL TRANSFER

PERRY THOSATH, Proprietor

Heavy Draft Horses and Pleasure Vehicles. Wood and Coal For Sale. Prompt Service at All Times, Day or Night. Phone No. B53

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FIRST CLASS BARBERING

Old Model Building

A. F. Baker Co.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND LICENSED EMBALMERS

Perry Thosath, Local Mgr.

Embalming for shipping a specialty

Day and night service

Sunset Phone 153 P. O. Box 337

CONCRETE, - - - WASH.

Burglary and Theft Insurance

Why lose money through having your home or place of business robbed, when you can buy at little cost a policy in the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co.?

W. J. S. Gordon

Agent

Concrete Wash.

SAUK

Miss Mildrel Ragan returned to Sauk after a week's visit to friends and relatives at Burlington.

Word was received at the Fulk home that Miss Nettie Fulk was not getting along very well, and her mother went down to Burlington to be with her.

Mrs. W. Stafford, Mrs. Abe Young, Mrs. Kincaid, Mrs. Greathouse, Miss and Ethel Atterbury were visitors at the schoolhouse Monday.

The parties who are building a saw mill up on the Dibble place are busy hauling the machinery up the hill.

Mrs. Bert Dibble visited Mrs. H. Wainwright Monday.

Mrs. Ernie Perrault came down from Mob hill and visited friends at Sauk.

Abe Young had a very narrow escape Monday down at Stafford's camp while hauling out a pile. It caught on another tree and knocked it down. All ran to get out of the way, but Abe slipped and fell, and he tree fell right across his back. There was a high piece of ground which saved him, but the boys had to shovel him out from under the tree.

George Schrich has gone to Rockport to cut cottonwood.

Miss Bessie Stafford was the guest of Miss Erma Ragan Sunday.

Mrs. Jennie Babcock was the guest of Mrs. Chrisney Monday.

Mrs. Garnet Thompson visited Saturday and Sunday at Sauk.

Mrs. Backus visited Mrs. Kincaid Monday.

Jack Demaine came up from Hoods Canal, where he has been visiting and is watching at the mill.

Mrs. M. Kimbrough was at Sauk shopping on Monday.

SOUNDED SUSPICIOUS

"Young man," said the country counsel to the reporter of a southern paper, "you have done me irreparable harm."

"What have I done?" asked the bewildered reporter.

"I got in largely on a temperance platform, as you may recollect."

"Yes, sir."

"And you speak of me in this morning's paper as 'drinking my coffee with gusto.' It will take me more than a lifetime to get it out of the heads of my constituents that gusto isn't some kind of alcoholic beverage."

FREEDOM OF OPINION IN WAR

Absolute unanimity is no more possible in war time than in time of peace. There will be differences of opinion, according to temperament, education and interest, with regard to almost any military or political measure. We can hope for unanimity only in the form of a general acquiescence in the fact of war and the purposes for which we are fighting. On any ground less broad than that there will be countless divergences. All that even a coercive law or an even coercive public opinion, could secure, would be the appearance of unanimity. Intolerance batters itself against one of the most tenacious qualities in human nature. There is more than one possible way of saving the country, and while the nation continues to be made up of representative human beings, varying ways will commend themselves to varying groups and individuals.

It may be conceded that though it is hopeless to expect unanimity of opinion there has to be, within certain limits unanimity of action. The military policy cannot respond to the usual democratic influences. It cannot be one thing Monday and another thing Thursday, but must be fixed and followed. There is but one way to accomplish this. Part of the sovereignity that resides in the electorate must be delegated during the war to individuals and small bodies—to a president, to congress, to a general staff—and while the war is on this sovereignty cannot be recalled or brought to an accounting. In a fighting state the centralizing tendencies have to be given full play. There can be not hard, effective hitting if the striking power—which is, in war time, the government, is paralyzed by an ambiguity of purpose.

For this reason it is foolish to pretend that the nation can be democratic during war as it is in peace, or to try to make it so. The government has become something more than an umpire, and the citizen has lost the privilege of taking an active part opposed to that officially decided upon by the heads of the state. In time of peace there is no law of which it is not legitimate to urge the repeal, but to urge tht repeal of a declaration of war borders on treason. The declaration of war, unlike most measures, enacted by congress and signed by the president, becomes in effect one of the principles of government, which it is revolution to oppose. Until the treaty of peace is signed the democracy cannot regain its delegated prerogatives.

But to say that the government cannot tolerate opposition to its principal purposes during war is not to say that there can be no discussion of the means by which such purposes are to be achieved. As this is a war for democracy it is perfectly legitimate—even a sacred duty—for legislators, publicists and citizens to resist unnecessarily undemocratic influences acting within the country. The surrender of a certain amount of popular freedom for the period of the war is one thing, the unnecessary licensing of reactionary influences which will exercise their power indefinitely is quite another. The distinction between conscription and compulsory universal training is a perfect illustration. Conscription limits the freedom of individual citizens, but it does so because the government has decided that this is necessary to the purposes of this war. Compulsory military traiining, on the other hand, is not a policy of any particular use in this war, nor designed to meet any immediate emergency. It is as debatable as high or low tariffs, and should properly be left to the free discussion of peace times. Conscription itself is a legitimate subject for debate up to the point where it is actually adopted as a governmental policy—until, that is, it becomes a law. The same is true of all war policies upon which there has yet been no definite action by congress or, if they are within the presidential prerogative, definite pronouncement by the president. Until they become law there should be the utmost freedom of discussion concerning them. It is mere bigotry for the advocates of one policy to condemn as traitors, as some thoughtless individuals have been doing, the advocates of a differing one.

Yet even in the colleges, which ought to be the seat of reverence for the intellect, there has been just such a demand for its abdication, as though it were better for common people not to think at all than to disagree with the oponions which pass muster in certain academical circles. Unless we want to Prussianize ourselves this will not do. The genius of America calls for free thinking and unlimited tolerance. We must mobilize our national intellect as well as our physical strength, our technical abilities and our material resources. So fast as a war policy is enacted or promulgated it is the duty of law-abiding citizens to respect it, but while any policy is still debatable it is the right and duty of all freely to debate it.—Fremont Older.

HOLD STATE EXAMINATIONS

The regular state eighth grade examination will be held at the following places May 17 and 18: Edison, Mount Vernon, Burlington, Bay View, Prairie, Lyman, Hamilton, La Conner, Conway, Clear Lake, Big Lake, McMurray, Alger and Concrete; also such other places as make special arrangements with the county superintendent.

BANK STATEMENT
(Official Publication)

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION of the STATE BANK OF CONCRETE, located at Concrete, State of Washington, at the close of business on the 1st day of May, 1917.

RESOURCES

Loans and discounts	$ 50,948.53
Overdrafts	61.58
Bonds, warrants and other securities	2,319.57
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	12,000.00
Other real estate owned	None
Due from banks—Approved reserve agents	15,434.08
Due from banks other than approved reserve agents	None
Checks on other banks and other cash items	39.05
Exchange for clearing house	None
Cash on hand	2,810.94
Expenses	1,389.56
Total	$ 85,003.31

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	$ 10,000.00
Surplus fund	2,000.00
Undivided profits	2,224.81
Dividends unpaid	None
Due to banks—deposits	None
Deposits	70,778.50
Certified checks	None
Bills payable	None
Notes and bills rediscounted	None
Total	$ 85,003.31

State of Washington, County of Skagit, ss.

I, Frank D. LeBold, cashier of the above named bank, or trust company, do solemnly swear that the foregoing statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

FRANK D. LeBOLD, Cashier.

Correct attest:

J. GUDDALL,
J. C. WIXSON,
Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of May, 1917.

A. W. BREUCHER,
Notary Public, in and for the State of Washington, residing at Sedro-Woolley.

BANK STATEMENT
(Official Publication)

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION of the LYMAN STATE BANK at Lyman, Wash., at the close of business on the 1st day of May, 1917.

RESOURCES

Loans and discounts	$ 58,632.12
Overdrafts	88.20
Bonds, warrants and other securities	24,245.00
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	3,713.40
Other real estate owned	4,033.85
Due from banks—Approved reserve agents	31,010.92
Due from banks other than approved reserve agents	None
Checks on other banks and other cash items	None
Exchange for clearing house	None
Cash on hand	3,317.34
Expenses and interest paid	1,433.60
Total	$126,474.43

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	$ 10,000.00
Surplus fund	3,000.00
Undivided profits	1,822.35
Dividends unpaid	None
Due to banks—deposits	None
Deposits	101,652.08
Certified checks	None
Bills payable	None
Notes and bills rediscounted	None
Bonds borrowed	10,000.00
Total	$126,474.43

State of Washington, County of Skagit, ss.

I, F. C. Fellows, cashier of the above named bank, or trust company, do solemnly swear that the foregoing statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

F. C. FELLOWS Cashier.

Correct attest:

G. A. MINKLER,
W. M. KIRBY,
Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of May, 1917.

J. C. CRISS, J. P.
In and for the State of Washington, residing at Lyman.

BANK STATEMENT
(Official Publication)

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION of the HAMILTON STATE BANK, located at Hamilton, State of Washington, at the close of business on the 1st day of May, 1917.

RESOURCES

Loans and discounts	$ 26,902.12
Overdrafts	69.13
Bonds, warrants and other securities	13,500.00
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	4,715.00
Due from banks—Approved reserve agents	23,488.89
Checks on other banks and other cash items	100.00
Cash on hand	2,344.32
Expenses	920.15
Interest paid	155.32
Total	$ 72,194.93

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	$ 10,000.00
Surplus fund	500.00
Undivided profits	1,399.30
Deposits	60,295.63
Total	$ 72,194.93

State of Washington, County of Skagit, ss.

I, M. J. Smith, assistant cashier of the above named bank, or trust company, do solemnly swear that the foregoing statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

M. J. SMITH, Assistant Cashier.

Correct attest:

J. H. SMITH,
FRED. G. SLIPPER,
H. S. CROTHERS,
Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of May, 1917.

H. S. CROTHERS,
Notary Public, in and for the State of Washington, residing at Hamilton Wash.

Concrete for Permanence

Superior Portland Cement

for Perfect Concrete

Vermin Proof

RATS, mice and like pests cannot find lodgment in walls, floors or foundations of concrete buildings. Such as may enter are easily exterminated.

CONCRETE FOR PERMANENCE

Write for Further Information
PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
111 West Washington Street, Chicago

Superior Portland Cement Co.

613 Northern Bank Bldg. Seattle Plant at Concrete, Wn.

Spirella Corsets

Mrs. Robert Riffe announces that she has taken the agency for the Spirella Corset in Concrete and vicinity and will call on anyone wishing to purchase what is recognized as the best corset ever sold and which may not be secured in stores.

Mrs. Robert Riffe

Concrete, Wash.

RHEUMATISM

ANTI-URIC

The famous ROOT and BERRY remedy for RHEUMATISM. Contains no opiates or chemicals, and will not injure the most delicate stomach or digestion. Results guaranteed or money refunded. Price $1.50 per outfit. For sale by the

Concrete Drug Company

THE TAINT OF VOLUNTEERISM

Some Prussianized Americans, who are sure that Prussia cannot be beaten except by copying her methods, are making capital out of the argument that anyone who opposes their pet proposals is "giving aid and comfort to the enemy." The saddest and most curious event of the past week occurred when Colonel Roosevelt, with his projected volunteer force, crossed their path and got bitten. They accused the poor colonel, who has been preaching virility for many years, and whose patriotism is as unquestioned as the sun of a summer morning, of being perilously near the point of giving aid and comfort to Germany. All that the colonel had done was to try to get to the front in a hurry, but this had the heretical flavor of volunteerism in it and the Prussian Americans could not abide it. Their theory is that in a democracy it is perfectly damnable for anyone to do his duty willingly. The whole principle of willingness is wrong. Willingness takes the spirit out of a country or an army. The jail, the club and the bayonet are much better. The trouble with Colonel Roosevelt was that he was too willing. That won't do.

Yet the colonel has never shone in a better light for some of his ex-**admirers, than when** he kicked over the traces in which our American junkers expected him to trot. As long as Roosevelt refuses to take program from others, no matter how willing he is to pound others into taking program from him, the American nation is safe from that complete submissiveness which the junkers so desire and the rest of us so detest and despise.—Fremont Older.

Mazda daylight lamps are being installed in hotel sample rooms to enable salesmen to display their goods **to the trade in their true color values.**

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.
(Publisher.)

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Seattle, Washington, April 26, 1917.

NOTICE is hereby given that Edward Morgenroth, of Rockport, Wash., who, on January 10, 1916, made Homestead entry, No. 03878, for NE¼, Section 20, Township 34 N, Range 10 E, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Five Year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, U. S. Land Office, at Seattle, Washington, on the 1st day of June, 1917.

Claimant names as witnesses: George Sharich, of Rockport, Washington; William Tracy, of Rockport, Washington; Sam Walls, of Rockport, Washington, Barry E. Miller, of Rockport, Washington.

G. A. C. Rochester, Register.
April 21-28, May 5-12-19.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.
(Publisher

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Seattle, Washington, March 14, 1917.

NOTICE is hereby given that George Sharich, of Rockport, Washington, who, on January 10, 1916, made Homestead Entry, No. 03887, for SE¼, Section 20, Township 34 N, Range 10 E, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Commutation Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, U. S. Land Office, at Seattle, Washington, on the 1st day of June, 1917.

Claimant names as witnesses: Edward Morgenroth, of Rockport, Washington; B. E. Miller, of Rockport, Washington; Samuel Walls, of Rockport, Washington, William Tracy of Rockport, Washington.

G. A. C. Rochester, Register.
April 21-28, May 5-12-19.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
(Publisher)

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Seattle, Wash., April 10, 1917.

Notice is hereby given that Mabel M. Jenkins, of Rockport, Wash., who, on January 10, 1916, made Homestead Entry, No. 03876, for lots 2, 3, 4 and SW¼ NW¼, Section 4, Township 34 N., Range 10 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make commutation Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, U. S. Land Office, at Seattle, Wash., on the 28th day of May, 1917.

Claimant names as witnesses: William Tracy, of Rockport, Wash; George Allinger, of Rockport, Wash.; George Sharich, of Rockport, Wash.; William Von Pressentin, of Rockport, Wash.

G. A. C. ROCHESTER, Register.
(April 21-28 May 5-12-19).

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
(Publisher))

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Seattle, Wash., April 10, 1917.

Notice is hereby given that William Tracy, of Rockport, Washington, who on January 10, 1916, made Homestead Entry, No. 03872, for lots 6 and 7, Sec. 8, and N½ NE¼, Section 17, Township 34 N., Range 10 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Five Year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver U. S. Land Office, at Seattle, Washington, on the 28th day of May, 1917.

Claimant names as witnesses: Mabel M. Jenkins, of Rockport, Washington; Edward Morgenroth, of Rockport, Washington; William Von Pressentin, of Rockport, Washington; George Sharich, of Rockport, Washington.

G. A. C. ROCHESTER, Register.
April 21-28 May 5-12-19

SHORT LOCAL NOTES

—Good body fir wood for sale by Frank Ritchie. Phone F15.

Miss Gladys Carter, accompanied by her little sister, Elizabeth, went to Bellingham last Sunday to visit her brother, James, who is still confined to the hospital. He recently underwent a serious operation for an abscess, but is recovering rapidly. He will be confined about a month yet.

Axel Foss went down to Burlington last Sunday to have his eyes examined and treated so that he may enlist, there being but a slight imperfection to overcome.

Mrs. Kate Glover and Mrs. Nell Wheelock motored to Mount Vernon Wednesday on a short business trip.

Isham Carter returned from Bellingham Monday.

Leonard Ervin and Mrs. C. E. Murdock returned from Bellingham Sunday evening after visiting a few days with relatives.

Harry Binzer came up from Seattle Wednesday evening and remained with his parents until Thursday evening. He has transferred from the signal corps to the aviation corps and will leave shortly for San Diego, Cal.

Heath Walker, who has been stationed at the Baker lake hatchery, left Tuesday morning for Duluth, Minn., where he will be connected with one of the government distribution cars.

Walter Savage has accepted a position at the Baker lake hatchery and has assumed his duties.

Joe Kimmerick was down from the Baker lake hatchery this week.

—Good body wood for sale by R. F. Crooks, or phone Main 2315.

Dudley I. Green, Frank LeBold and L. E. Wolfe motored down to Sedrowoolley Tuesday evening to attend Masonic initiation ceremonies.

A. G. Smith was in Sedro-Woolley and Burlington Monday. He also visited the Cokedale mine while down the line.

Primary pupils of the Concrete school will give the last program of the year next Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, to which parents and friends of the little folks are invited.

R. H. Raberge was up from Hamilton Thursday and expects to make a trip to Sulphur creek either today or tomorrow.

Dr. H. W. Van Buskirk went to Seattle Wednesday evening to arrange for joining the dental reserve corps of the army.

Deputy Game Warden Harry Wainwright was down from Sauk Friday morning.

S. A. Post came up from Sedro-Woolley on a short business trip Thursday.

Under provisions of the new state game laws it is unlawful to kill any kind of bear from May 1 to September 1, except when the animals are a danger to domesticated animals and commit depredations.

FINED FOR FIGHTING

Tuesday evening Justice Landis found John and Andy Radicich, Austrians, guilty of assault on Tony Barkulich Monday evening, and assessed their fines at $10 each and costs. Both paid. There were several witnesses to the encounter and considerable language was spilled in bringing out the details of the trouble. Justice Landis also fined A. A. Hunt $19.70 which included costs, for reckless driving.

HAVE ONE ASSOCIATION TO TEST COUNTY COWS

Instead of three cow testing associations, as planned on, there will be one covering the entire county. This course was decided upon at Wednesday night's meeting of the dairymen in the Mount Vernon Commercial club rooms.

This association will start out with 1400 cows, which is said to be the largest number of animals in any like organization in the United States.

SKAGIT COUNTY MILLS TO CUT GOVERNMENT LUMBER

The Puget sound share of the billion foot lumber order sent out by the federal government several days ago will be 200,000,000 feet, according to the statement of F. H. Jackson, secretary of the Clear Lake Lumber company. Mr. Jackson stated that he had secured the pledges of a number of mills on the basis laid down by the government and that they would begin on the duty as soon as the specifications arrived. These are expected to arrive in a few days.

The mills listed on this order are the Clear Lake Lumber company, Minkler Mill company, Skagit Mill company, Day Lumber company and Nelson & Neal Lumber company. The Anacortes mills saw principally spruce and hemlock for box shooks and will not be included in this order. It is understood, however, that these mills will also be called upon to turn out a large part of their product for the government.

HAMILTON RED CROSS VERY BUSY HUSTLING FOR MONEY

The Hamilton auxiliary to the Skagit county chapter of the Red Cross is coming right to the front with enthusiasm and results. The whist drive given recently in the opera house was one of the most successful social affairs given there in a long time and netted the auxiliary something like $60 to help along the good work being done by the faithful workers. Several new names were added to the local membership, which now is sixty. The latest material help has been offered by the T. I. P. club, which has promised to give one afternoon of each week of their time to sew or help in any way needed by the Red Cross.

Thirteen prizes, all donated by local merchants, were awarded at the whist party after two hours of play. Following cards a dainty supper was served by the Red Cross members and then dancing was enjoyed until 2 o'clock by about eighty young people. Twenty tables were at play for the prizes.

PARTY IS GIVEN IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. THOMPSON

Tuesday evening of this week Miss Elizabeth King tendered a party to Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Thompson, who in future will make their home at Sauk, where Mr. Thompson is employed. It was in the nature of a farewell event for Mrs. Thompson, who had been a valued employe of the office force of the Superior Portland Cement company.

Decorations of the house were in keeping with the occasion, the color scheme being red and white, with hearts and bow knots predominating—emblems so dear to the heart of new brides. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were recipients of remembrances of some fine silverware. The evening was most enjoyably spent in bridge and exquisite refreshments, the following being present:

Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. George Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Dickinson, "Doc" Wagner and the hostess, Miss Elizabeth King.

FOOD PRODUCTION CAMPAIGN

Doubtless the public is coming to realize the seriousness of the situation regarding food supplies for this nation. It is not an easy matter to organize in a day, a week, or a month, the forces of this great country either for economic production or the conservation of our food supplies. The plan under which we are now working contemplates local organizations in every county, city and school district.

Many have written to this office asking for seed or financial assistance that they may buy some agricultural implement, a team, a milk cow, a pig, a few sheep; in short, that some financial help be given to enable them to do their part in this food producing emergency. This office has no funds that can be used for such purpose. It is understood that the local committees are generally taking care of such matters It is not to be expected that the bankers will loan money to everybody for such purposes regardless of the security. But it is expected that in each community an organization of business men, professional men and farmers, and any others who are sufficiently well to do that they can afford to contribute a small sum to a guarantee fund, will subscribe their names to such fund, so the banker will know, when he makes loans on this kind of paper, which in itself may not be bankable paper, that the money will come back. Small loans made to actual farmers for such purposes are almost always paid, and with present prospects of high prices for all staple crops and meat products, there would seem to be a small percentage of loss from the non-payment of such loans. It is to guarantee against such loss that this plan has been suggested as the only workable plan in this emergency.

Where public work, such as new construction, can be put off for a month it would seem advisable to do so and put the team power and man power at work farming. This does not apply to the ordinary upkeep of roads which must be done now and which work is just as necessary as putting lands into crop.

Owing to climatic conditions, certain districts finish their spring farming operatons before other districts can begin work. Advantage should be taken of this situation to utilize every available team, seeding implement and man that can be spared in the districts having a late seed time.

Anybody and everybody can find some field of activity in connection with the local organizations whereby their services will help their country. Many who can't do manual labor can help to place the means in the hands of those who can work but lack the funds.

Local information bureaus should seek out those who can do more than they are now doing and aid them. If teams and farming tools are not working to maximum capacity, somebody is to blame. Ask yourself if you are at fault in any particular. No person can arrogate to himself a position of inaction. Nobody has a right to loaf. Everybody is called upon to act in some capacity. It is a mighty worthless individual, man, woman or child, who can't find something to do now that is worth while.

E. F. BENSON,
Commissioner of Agriculture.

Mistress—Goodness, Bridget, where is our telephone?

Bridget—Mrs. Jones sent over, mum, askin' for the use av it, and I had the divil's own toime gittin' it off the wall, mum.

HOME GARDENS

By E. F. Blaine, Chairman, Public Service Commission

We cannot urge too strongly the planting of garden or small tracts. Every family in the state of Washington should have a garden—a good one.

Under present conditions, the growing of a good garden is not only a patriotic duty, but it will be the source of great pleasure as well as profit. Working in a garden is better exercise than playing golf, horseback riding or burning gas and wearing out tires running an automobile.

Possibly the growing of a fine garden will do as much in sustaining our soldiery as sewing and doing Red Cross work.

Even mothers can work in gardens and not neglect their children. They can have their children with them while working and at the same time train them, for a very small child can be instructed in the cultivation of the soil and will enjoy it.

In planting a garden no one should be content with a few hills of potatoes, some lettuce and a row or two of peas. Plant plenty of carrots; they are good food value. Grow corn; Minnesota Early, Golden Bantam and the Evergreen varieties do well in Western Washington. When fit for table use the corn can be cooked, the kernels cut from the cob, dried and used at any time during the year. My mother used to prepare corn in this manner. I ate it and it was good and wholesome. By all means plant beans, beans, beans, and then some more beans. With beans and dried corn in the home no one need starve. Old Homestead or Kentucky Wonder beans are very prolific. They, however, must be poled. Probably there are few places in the world where beans do better than in Western Washington, particularly the garden varieties. Garden beans are just as good for winter use as are the small white field varieties. Plant a city lot to beans and you will not only get a lot of beans, but you will be proud of your work; and, as most wars in their final stages have been fought on pork and beans, you may become a near patriot.

To my mind it would be a grievous error to urge the farmers, particularly in Eastern Washington, to plant potatoes. Better by far let them put all their energy in raising hay, corn and wheat and the growing of cattle, hogs and sheep. These are staples that cannot be overdone.

The farmers, however, can grow too many potatoes. We ought not to overlook the fact that potatoes are largely composed of water. They are extremely bulky, and it is only once in a while that they bring a sufficient price to warrant shipping them a long distance. Moreover we may have a greater car shortage next fall and winter than last year, in which case only the more nutritious food products will be shipped. If in the state of Washington we can prevail upon the embryonic gardeners to grow our potatoes for home consumption, I am quite sure that the middle west and Atlantic states will produce enough for themselves and to supply the foreign demand.

I am sure that all the farmers east of the Rocky mountains cannot produce all the wheat, corn, hay, cattle, hogs and sheep called for by the war's demand, so let us aid where best we can and fill in where we are sure there are going to be gaps. Such a course is prudential, patriotic and is likely to prove remunerative.

A short time ago I was informed there are 600,000 vacant lots in Seattle. I feel, however, that statement was an exaggeration. For thirty years I have had a garden in Seattle. I know there is very little land in Seattle but will produce garden truck. If those vacant lots were to be cultivated, they would more than supply all the vegetables consumed in Seattle, including those shipped to Alaska.

In order to encourage growing gardens in Seattle, it might be proper that the city furnish free water for their successful irrigation.

What is true of Seattle is true of the other towns in our state. It certainly will be a splendid education to a great many of our people, not only to learn but to demonstrate how much can be produced from a small plat of ground. It will also lead to frugality, for that which is produced by one's own energy is, as a rule, never wasted but conserved.

Think of the fresh vegetables that will go into the homes this year as compared with the stale ones that have gone into them in the past. There is everything to be said in favor of home gardening. It should not be treated only as a fad, nor a patriotic duty, but is a common-sense proposition.

(Continued from page 1)

BUILD NEW BRIDGE

been necessary to make a considerable detour across the river by travelers on the west side, the old bridge near the lake not being properly located with reference to use by people on both sides of the stream.

Every effort will be put forth to have the new bridge completed by the first of June, when prospectors and others begin going into the hills.

The first use of a locomotive in this country was in 1820.

Kerosene was first used for lighting purposes in 1826.

The Tool Chest

Edited by Pupils of the Concrete Schools

F. A. McGOVERN, Editor-in-Chief IRMA METCALF, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

LOCALS

Samuel Bedont is rushing the season again with a pair of white tennis shoes. His feet twinkle just like stars when he scurries along, and Mr. Bedont is surely a sight to behold.

It is rumored about school that Myra's especial bent is having a leaning towards botany. She was seen studying a flower under a microscope the other day when she should have been studying something entirely different.

Mr. Ed. McKinney has the same leaning also, while Sam Bedont would rather read a book. Ye editor prefers to shoot paper wads himself.

Frank Davidson is reading Sherlock Holmes a great deal, as he is looking for a lost tennis ball. Davy sure has the sleuth look.

Irma Metcalf is of a forgetful turn of mind. She promised to read the paper before publication, but when the time came Irma was nowhere to be seen. It was learned later that she had departed for parts unknown until the storm should blow over.

Wesley Howard is quite a carpenter, although not as fast as might be desired. He has worked for all of six months nailing several boards together in manual training. The lumber supply ought to hold out well at this rate.

A promising young author of Concrete went into the postoffice to mail some of his manuscripts. "You will have to pay two cents an ounce for this," said the postmaster, "it's first-class matter." "Oh, is it?" said Franklin. "Thank you." And he went on his way, happy.

One of the teachers has an Easter egg on her desk, which has been there for over a month. We always wondered why the price of "cackle fruit" was so high. Now we know. A law should be passed against persons or trusts that hold enormous amounts of food supplies in storage and thereby elevate the prices.

The clock and the calendar are the school favorites at the present writing, and probably will continue to be so as long as the good weather lasts and until the end of the school term.

Franklin, after school each day,
Enjoys a pleasant walk,
He takes a certain grown-up out
And has a pleasant talk.

He takes her to his secret nooks,
Their beauty grand to share,
Where springtime's fragrance sweet
Pervades the breezy air.

And when at last they homeward turn,
For eve is drawing nigh,
Franklin whispers in her ear,
"Good-bye, dear ——,* good-bye."

Note—*Deleted by the censor.

Bertie (whose motor has broken down and who is compelled to ride in a trolley)—Really, I had no idea these affairs were so popular."

FRANK DAVIDSON'S CRITICISM

Darrell, on the playground near,
Was talking clear and loud,
"I'm going to be a general,"
Said he, quite big and proud.
"Perhaps you will, my classmate,"
Came Frank's prompt reply,
"But I know you will not make
As great a one as I."
"Oh, yes, I will," said Darrell.
"Oh, no, you won't," said Frank.
"What's the reason?" Darrell said.
"Because you are a crank."
Then Darrell's fist shot forward,
But Frank, he dodged the blow,
"I've another reason now,"
Said Frank, "you are too slow."

A FORTUNE

John Woodworth, Sixth Grade.

A man was walking along the street thinking how dull the world was because he wanted to buy a horse for one thousand dollars and he had only eight hundred dollars.

He saw a strange but happy boy running towards him. As he came near the man his face broke into smiles, as he said, "I bet you can't guess what I got."

"Something wonderful," said the man.

The boy smiled again as he showed the man a penny.

He went to a candy store and bought a stick of candy and saw the whole world in red and white.

He learned a lesson from the boy.

He deposited all his money but fifty cents. With the fifty cents he bought a hobby horse for his boy, and he saw the world in black and white.

All were happy with a few cents.

JUST A FEW JABS

Big Game

As a senator and a negro native of the place jogged along out in the suburbs, a squirrel appeared in the road. This was sufficient to arouse intense interest in the senator, who inquired:

"Do you have any big game here?"

"Yes, suh; yes, indeed, suh," replied the old darky; "we have baseball."

The Good Side

"Always keep on the good side of a dog," said the old rabbit to his son.

"Which is the good side, pop?" asked the young rabbit.

"The outside, my son."

"What kind of a place is London?"

"Faith, it's a great city; but it's no place for a poor man unless he has plenty of money."

James was having trouble with his Latin translation, and the teacher was trying to assist his laggard memory. "Sinister" was the word she wanted. "Come, James," she urged, "surely you know the Latin word for 'left.'"

James scratched his head for a moment, then looked up triumphantly, "Spinster," he offered.

Another One

Sergeant (disgustedly, to Private Josser, who is not exactly an expert at shooting)—Ugh! Don't waste your last bullet. Nineteen are quite enough to blaze away without hitting the target once. Go behind that wall and blow your brains out.

Josser walked quietly away, and a few moments later a shot rang out.

"Great Scott! the fool's done what I told him," howled the sergeant, running behind the wall.

Great was his relief when he saw Private Josser coming toward him.

"Sorry, sergeant," he said, apologetically, "another miss!"

A Ready Retort

A person entered an inn with a dog, and an Irishman asked what breed it was.

The owner looked up insolently and drawled: "It's a cross between an ape and an Irishman."

"Faith, thin, we're both related to the beast," was the ready retort.

Where the Advantage Lay

The visitor was being entertained by little Tommy. "My father's a mounted policeman," said the little man with an air of pride.

"Indeed," said the visitor, smiling, "Is that much better than being one of the policemen that walk?"

"'Course it is!" exclaimed Tommy, with much contempt at the lady's ignorance. "Why, if there's any trouble he can get away much quicker."

He Coudn't Blame Them

The new baby had proved itself possessor of extraordinary lung powers. One day baby's brother, little Johnny, said to his mother: "Ma, little brother came from heaven, didn't he?"

"Yes, dear," answered the mother.

Johnny was silent for a minute, and then he went on: "I say, ma?"

"What is it, Johnny?"

"I don't blame the angels for slinging him out, do you?"

BAPTIST

The regular Sunday service will be held in Eagles' hall.

Sunday school at 10 o'clock.

B. Y. P. U. at 7 p. m. Subject "Fellowship With God." Ps. 119:97-104. Group one will have charge of the meeting.

Preaching service at 8 p.m. Following is the order of service:

Prelude.
Doxology.
Invocation.
Hymn, "Sun of My Soul."
Scripture reading.
Prayer.
Offertory solo, "Under His Wings," Miss Lenora Anderson.
Hymn, "Take Time to Be Holy."
Sermon, "God's Message to Nineveh."
Hymn, "Love Divine, All Love Excelling."
Benediction.

Prayer meeting next Tuesday evening at the parsonage. Rev. J. A. Noftsinger, of Mount Vernon, will be present and will address the meeting.

The Ladies' Aid will meet Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the home of Mrs. E. R. Williams. A ten-cent tea will be served.

COSTS MORE NOW TO GET ONCE OVER YOUR FACE

On Friday of last week representatives of the union barbers of the county met to devise means for meeting the continual increasing prices of every material and requisite to their avocation. Like all others engaged in business the barbers have been waiting since prices of everything began to advance for the "upward flurry" to end, and a reverse set in. But prices of everything they use keep on advancing along with the absolute necessities of life they must have otherwise. The only thing they could do was to make some slight advance in their prices for service. They have their new scale posted in all union shops.

BAKER RIVER SHINGLE MILL IS AGAIN IN OPERATION

Saturday morning of last week the shingle mill of the Baker River Shingle company started up with a full crew, and there is no reason why it should not enjoy one of the most prosperous seasons in its history. The mill has been been put into the best of condition and many improvements in the method of handling bolts upriver have been adopted. This, it is confidently believed, will insure a continuous supply of bolts until later, perhaps, in the fall than during any preceding year.

With shingles at the present high price and the extensive demand for the high grade shingles manufactured in the local plant, a far more than ordinarily prosperous season is anticipated by the management.

The first steamboat plied the Hudson in 1807.

HIGH POWER BULLET SPEEDS LONG DISTANCE; KILLS HORSE

E. J. Siegrist is not the enthusiastic gunner that he was up to Thursday of this week, for when he was out for target practice Wednesday a bullet from his Springfield rifle sped over river, field and dale, and finally imbedded itself in a horse on the farm of George Kauffman, the animal dying a short time afterward. The bullet was found in the liver when an examination was conducted to ascertain the cause of death.

Mr. Kauffman was plowing and noticed that the horse in question became greatly excited, but he thought little of the incident at the time. Later on, however, he noticed that the animal seemed in distress and was not greatly surprised when it died. He could find no marks, so decided to hold an autopsy to determine its ailment. Finding the bullet he investigated and learned that there are but two such guns in this section, one owned by Siegrist and the other up the river. As Siegrist was out shooting Wednesday, the conclusion was reached that he must have fired the gun that resulted in the horse's death. Mr. Kauffman notified Sheriff Stevenson, and that official came up Thursday When informed by the sheriff of his conclusions, Mr. Siegrist promptly offered to pay for the horse, and there the matter was dropped.

But meantime Siegrist has lost much of his enthusiasm for target practice, particularly with a high power gun that shoots bullets that never quit going.

Soiled dishes accumulating in the average home may be washed, dried, and sterilized in an electric dish washer at an average cost of five cents a week.

The first sawmakers' anvil was brought to America in 1819.

STONE & WEBSTER CREW BUSY MAKING SOUNDINGS

The crew of engineers and men came to Concrete last Friday evening for the Stone-Webster people went up to Sulphur creek, where they are drilling for the purpose of locating suitable foundations for the second dam the big corporation proposes to build on the Baker river. They will be kept busy for a couple of months at least, it is said, and possibly longer.

There are further indications that the Stone-Webster interests propose to utilize the upper dam site within a comparatively short time as well as the one here at Concrete, for property owners have been approached with view to the purchase of necessary ground and intimation given that condemnation proceedings would be resorted if satisfactory arrangements could not be made. Negotiations for land are still being conducted and resort to the courts may be obviated through a mutual understanding.

Since several shipbuilding plants have started operations at Seattle and other Sound points served by the Stone-Webster people, it has become necessary for the big company to purchase power wherever available. Concoma is furnishing some current, but it is realized that this may be cut off any time, and this fact will be a further inducement for building dams to produce their own power. Those who posted express the belief that this will be done just as quickly as it is possible to secure steel.

THE SAFEST COURSE

"Is there no way of stopping cyclones?" asked a traveler who was relating his experiences in the West.

"No," replied the narrator. "The best way is to go along with them."—New York Times.