

## OXFORD PUBLIC LEDGER

AND  
**OXFORD BANNER**

PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY  
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EDITOR AND MANAGER

Entered at postoffice in Oxford, N. C. as second class mail matter.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

ONE YEAR	.....\$1.50
EIGHT MONTHS	.....1.00
SIX MONTHS	......75
FOUR MONTHS	......50

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All Communications, Checks and Money Orders should be made payable and addressed to the Oxford Public Ledger.

### THE "GOB."

It wasn't difficult to find an answer for that man-o'-war's-man, who leaned against our desk the other day and demanded gloomily to know why more nice and appreciative things aren't being said about the seafarers of this war and why all the glad uproar appears to range around the returning doughboys.

The fact of the matter was obvious. Mere prose isn't enough to tell of the wonders and terrors that the sea has known in these last few years. And therefore only song or epic can ever tell adequately of the appalling world in which the gob lived and toiled and fought and had his being.

The sailor of the navy had one advantage over the man in the trenches. No cootie could ever enter his world. It wasn't permitted. And, in any event, it would have died instantly of fright. In all other respects the sailor on the sea lived the tamer, the wilder and, in many ways, the more perilous life. When he laid him down to rest he knew that thunders and lightnings sufficient to shake a continent were folded up and tucked away within a few inches of his ear and that they might be unloosed at any instant by a shrewd thrust of an enemy in the dark. The bellowing tempests of the North Sea sang his cradle song and rocked him to sleep. Day and night he rode the troubled seas on a floating volcano. He was flayed by winter winds and he could never know whether he was to live for five minutes or a hundred years.

Night and darkness, which brings peace and rest to other men, brought to your seaman a crowd of new concerns and the need for greater strain and alertness. He lived in a world where there was no rest, ready for battles in which there could be no quarter, and had the feeling always that sudden death was everywhere—on port and starboard, under the water and in the skies above, and under the table t which he ate his dinner.

Cheers and speeches, well done, may serve to glorify the soldier of the land. For the "gob" there must be poets and bands.

—When a woman says she will divide with you fifty-fifty, she means that she is to get half and her mother the other half.

### PROTECT THE FOOLS.

We are told that hundreds of schemes of a highly questionable nature have been launched to appeal to the cupidity of holders of Liberty bonds thru the offer to them of shares of stocks promising a high rate of interest in exchange for their Government securities. It is said that something should be done by the Government to prevent the consummation of these swindling schemes.

No one will dispute this, but the way to punish a swindler is to enforce the present laws against getting money under false pretenses, and not by passing a dangerously paternalistic law intended to protect fools from the consequences of their own folly.

The old rule, "Let the buyer beware," although discredited by many social reformers at the present day, is a pretty good one. When properly understood it does not justify the dealer in swindling his customers when he can. Swindling is not the rule of business. If it were no business would be possible. We have criminal laws already that deal with the man who gets money on false pretenses. And the average citizen trades with the man who gives him value for his money and avoids the exceptional man who cheats him. He invests his money according to his best judgment and sometimes loses it, as the most skillful and experienced investors also lose theirs.

There are bureaus enough in Washington already, with long lists of jobholders, without creating another one to look after the financial booby who do not know enough to prevent a slick promoter from separating them from their cash.

### EXTRA PAY FOR SOLDIERS.

There is a movement on foot, with national headquarters in Norfolk, to benefit the men who were called to the colors. The plan is to put a bill through Congress whereby every man of the service, regulars, reserves, etc., shall receive 12 months' extra pay, whether they went abroad or not. Those staying in the service will receive it as well as those being discharged.

The circular letter at hand says: "Do you know that the majority of the men that joined the service gave up positions paying them around \$150.00 per month and some as much as \$300.00 per month? Compare that with \$30.00 per month. The men of the service have worked in the various camps for one dollar per day, while the civilians at their side received as much as ten and fifteen dollars per day, the civilian going home at night and the service man standing by night and day."

### COL. MINOR FOR GOVERNOR.

There is going to be a lot of bad feeling engendered in North Carolina by the dozen or more politicians who are clamoring to be governor of the commonwealth. Some of them are being groomed by the politicians assembled in Raleigh, but the next governor of North Carolina is doing his "watch on the Rhine," perfectly oblivious of what the weak-kneed politicians at home are doing.

The Public Ledger learns on good authority that the Legislature is about ready to "hatch out the next governor," and it is a duckling that has been in the incubator for ten years. The Legislature may cut and dry its candidate for all we care, but the wise people should not enter into any alliance until our soldier boys come marching home. We have two men on the Rhine that stands head and shoulders above the hoard of politicians that make frequent trips to Raleigh and Washington to see which way the wind blows.

If Col. Sydney Minor, a native of Oxford, wants to be the next governor of North Carolina all he has to do is to hold up his right hand. He is a lawyer, a financier and an excellent gentleman. From the present outlook it would seem that if we don't get Minor we will have mighty poor picking among the dozen or more "stand-pat" candidates.

—Half the population of Berlin is shouting "Hoch!" and the other half is shouting "Nieder!" And the rest are out trying to borrow a machine gun.

### AVOIDABLE WRECKS.

Railroad operatives have always known that no system, no matter how carefully its mechanism is adjusted, is proof against accidents due to a failure of the human equation.

For this reason the railroads devised an extraordinary process of selection in order to eliminate dangers by putting only dependable men in responsible posts.

Have the demands of the military service on railway personnel left important duties in irresponsible hands? This, it would seem, is a question which ought keenly to interest the investigators who have to explain the fatal and costly railroad wrecks.

—The young men did the fighting to win peace; the older men will do the work of making peace permanent. Wilson is 62, Clemenceau is 77, Lloyd George is 56, Balfour is 70, Lord Reading is 58.

### UNANIMOUS REGRET.

The old bromide about saying nothing but good of the dead was unnecessary caution to those who commented on the death of Colonel Roosevelt. The unanimity of the expressions of esteem and admiration for the sound Americanism of the man was splendid. However much men may have disagreed with his methods, not one has seriously questioned the sincerity of his purposes. He made mistakes, but he got away with them, as the man in the street would say, because every one knew that they were mistakes of judgment.

### UNCLE SAM'S BEAT INTERNATIONAL.

Nearly \$65,000,000 is to be spent at the League Island Navy Yard this coming year. Among the items of expense contemplated is the construction of two of the biggest battle cruisers in the world. There is nothing incongruous in the fact that we are building battleships while strenuously working for the establishment of a World League of Nations to enforce peace. If the world is to be policed, America is big enough to be called upon for a large percentage of the necessary police force.

### HATRED.

The world is sick of hatred. Imitations of hate are therefore all the more detestable. We may yet hear of a society for the frowning down of German fried potatoes or of a law under which any one so unpatriotic as to fall ill of German measles would be denied the care of a physician.

### MATHEMATICALLY OPTIMISTIC.

Peace clouds may gather, but there's unquestionably a glint of sunlight in the reappearance of a most potent Wilsonian augury, since the session in Paris began on January 13. The very number has never been divided, save by vulgar fractions.

### BUT HE ALWAYS LIES!

Bernstorff says he is for the League of Nations. Now we must begin to lose faith in a plan that heretofore has seemed to offer the only solution for the world's difficulties.

—When the Peace commissioners begin to tackle the question of boundaries they will understand something of the feelings of shock troops going through barbed wire in No Man's Land.

—If we do not altogether believe that America is above all other nations a world-deliverer and a world-guide, at least we must concede that such a belief is conducive to the prompt performance of any righteous task ahead of us.

—A farmers' supply association, organized by the farm bureau of Crawford County, Ohio, saved \$4,500 to farmers on a business last year of \$49,500. The association has a capital stock of \$10,000, divided into 1,000 shares of \$10 each, one share to a man.

—We are glad that child life is at last receiving some consideration. At one time various methods were employed to strengthen the life of hogs, sheep, etc., while the child was left in the "midst" to come up, unattended, but at last America sees her mistake, and the best for the child is really being given attention.

### EDITOR FORD.

Hardworking journalists who have to deal hourly, as best they may, with the iron realities of these thundering days will look with envy upon Henry Ford, who, as the newest editor in the world, has only to pluck blossoms of gentle thought in the green fields of the untroubled future where his mind has found blissful roads to wander in.

It is impossible not to like Mr. Ford. He is a good-hearted man, eager to do noble things. But he believes the troubles of the world may be solved with kindly epigrams, and he has a notion, which is apparent in the first issue of his weekly newspaper, that the universe of humankind is not less highly organized than the automobile business. It is not surprising that Mr. Ford in his first editorial utterance should mistake old truths for new ones. And that is what he has done.

We are informed in the first issue of the Dear-born Independent that it is nobler to make plows than to make dollars; that a business isn't worth while unless it produces useful things; that opportunity will not overlook you because you may wear overalls. These maxims have a familiar sound. They belong with the oldest truths in the world.

Everybody would like to be noble. It is easy to be noble when you are rich, difficult when you are a struggling business man not fortunate enough to have millions to spend in experimenting with the virtues. All business men do not live and work in the midst of plenty. They are not fortunate enough to have something that every body wants. Their road is full of hard problems. If their generosity is not as spectacular as Mr. Ford's, it is, nevertheless, proportionately as great or greater.

Journalism is a good school, and if Mr. Ford is a sincere pupil he will learn many things. Then he will not be so ready with his lectures to the relatively poor who are the vast majority in the business world.

—At Posen the other day a crowd of Germans fired into a parade of children, killing two of them. Just to remind themselves of the dear old days in Belgium doubtless.

### WAR ON THE YARDSTICK.

Before the might of sentiment and custom the most flawless logic stands abashed. Like many another reformer, Senator Shafroth has evidently been oblivious of that fact in introducing into Congress his bill compelling the use of the metric system of weights and measures throughout the United States. His intentions are excellent, for it cannot be denied that rods, poles, perches, drams, quintals, carts and pennyweights bristle with complexities. The decimal measuring system is really complete, comprehensive and simple.

The preliminary bother of mastering the system would be incommensurate to the benefits gained. But there is something chilling about perfection, while fallibility and clumsiness, when entrenched by tradition, exert an endearing appeal.

Unquestionably less confusion attaches to 23 o'clock than to 11 p. m., for sometimes the key initials are omitted in conversation and letters. Italy's railways employ the clearer scheme, and yet most of the Roman clock faces still conform to the twelve-hour arrangement.

The upheaval caused by the French Revolution must indeed have been titanic to have enabled its cockaded savants successfully to introduce the metric system. Anglophobia in America must have been rampant when we abandoned the unwieldy pounds, shillings and pence for the simple dollar standard.

It will be a keen index of the power of innovation in these momentous days if the Senator from Colorado can put over his obviously commendable reform. There are precedents, however, for believing that, measuring by his chances of success, he has a bigger job on his hands than President Wilson.

—The fact that the Prince of Wales ended a visit to the Yanks by dancing with American nurses simply shows that he is an eminently sensible and normal young man.

### YANK TO VISIT ENGLAND.

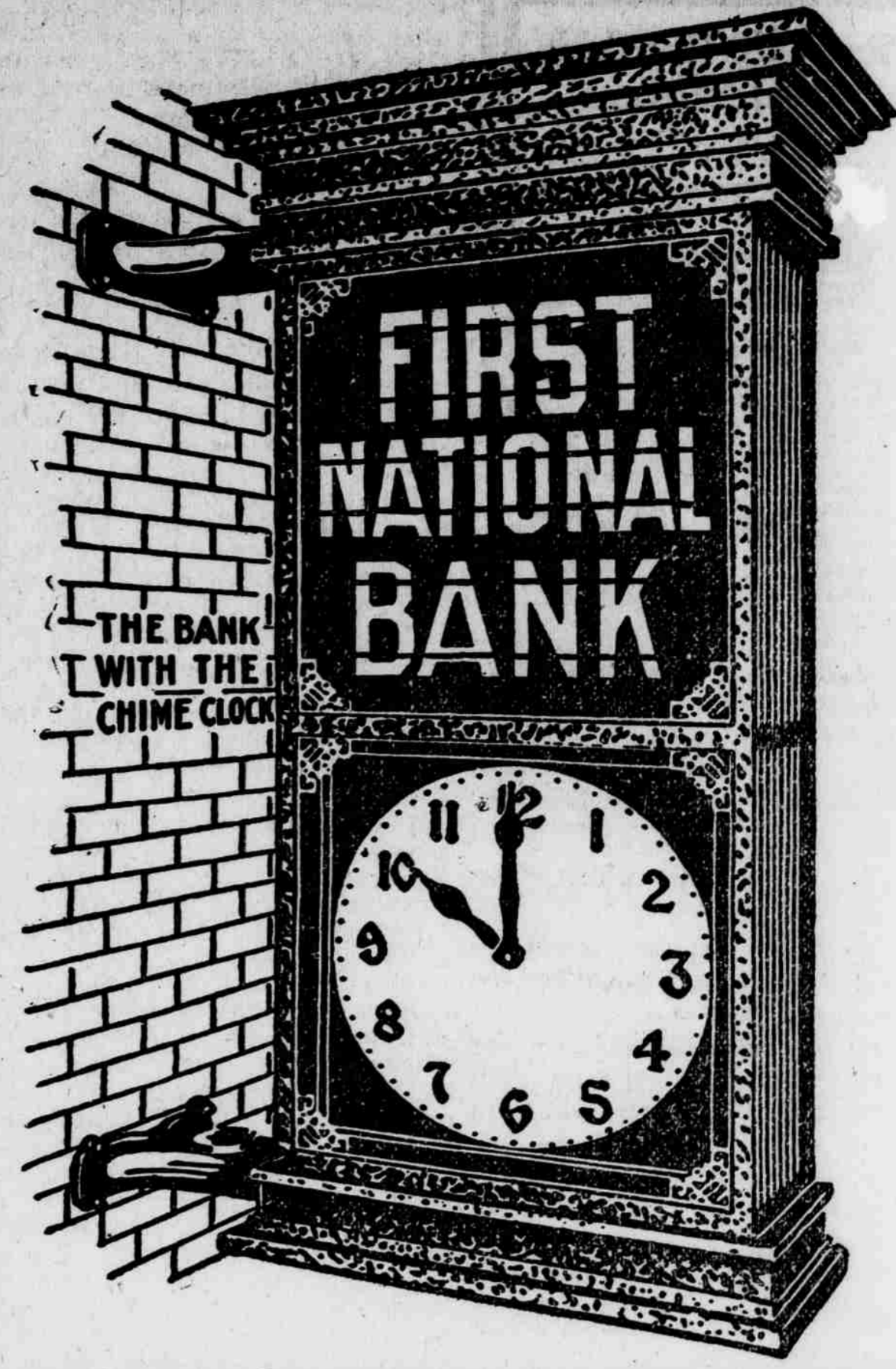
American soldiers in France are to be given an opportunity to visit points of interest in the British Isles before their return to this country. Descendants of those who came over in the Mayflower and later boats will have an opportunity to see the old home town. Rest stations, we are told, have been established at Stratford-on-Avon, Royal Leamington Spa and Edinburgh, "as many of the men are expected to visit those places." But what about the Liverpool docks? Artemus Ward, in Liverpool, fifty years ago, mentioned the fact that the natives mentioned the docks to him "at least once." And they have grown somewhat in fifty years.

### DICTATES OF HEART AND MIND

There is significance in the fact that representation at the Peace Conference is in proportion to the extent of the interest of each nation in the peace settlement and not merely in accordance with the part played by each nation in the war. The plan adopted is the American and British plan. That France should favor the other is easily understandable. She was closer to the war than her bigger neighbors. But because strong feeling sometimes interferes with clear thinking there is possibility that the course adopted is the wiser one.

—It is strange to think that in this civilized period women are still in bondage. Cite for instance the case of the board of examiners, where the men draw a salary of \$2,500, and women draw only \$2,000, and do the same amount of work. That is one of the questions which our legislators will straighten out. Is it fair, and how long will it last? Women are only asking for justice in this.

'THE BANK WITH THE CHIMES'



## Strength In Unity.

Has been demonstrated through the results of the World War.

Our Federal Reserve Banking System is an emblem of this unity.

The great whole is divided into many parts—and this part—the First National Bank—is under direct supervision of the Central Government.

The benefits of the whole system are open to the depositors in First National Bank.

## First National Bank

W. H. Hunt, Pres., Z. W. Lyon, Vice Pres., T. C. Harris, Asst. Cash. THE FIRST AND OLDEST NATIONAL BANK IN OXFORD.

THE BANK WITH THE BIG CLOCK  
4 per Cent PAID ON TIME DEPOSITS.  
CAPITAL \$100,000. SURPLUS \$60,000.

### BUSINESS LOCALS

**OXFORD ORPHANAGE SHOE SHOP** will repair your shoes nicely. Will send for them and return them promptly. Call Phone 24 Jan 27th

**IT WILL PAY YOU TO KEEP** this one: Resolved, That during the year 1918 I will send my orders for

**PRINTING** to the Printing Department of the Oxford Orphanage. There's a reason. Ring Phone 24 and we will call. J16tf

**FOR SALE, AT STEM, N. C.—TWO** store rooms, two vacant town lots, store fixtures, etc. Day of sale, January 25th, at 2 o'clock P. M. Lots well located in Stem. R. G. TAYLOR, Stem, N. C. Jan. 21 tf.

**WHEN YOU THINK OF THE BEST** oil engine, think of Hercules and when you think of the best feed cutter, think Blizzard, and Samuel Davis, has them in large quantities. Jan. 10 3t.

**IF IT IS THE BEST CORN PLANT-**er it is an Aveyr, and if it's the best harrow its an Aveyr or Imperial, and believe me we have them. Samuel Davis the man who pays the freight. Jan 10 3t.

**MR. FARMER, I WANT TO TELL** you that we have got the wire fencing for you know of any height you want 26 in. 32 in. and 47 in. all in 6 in. stay, as well as barb wire of the light medium and heavy and our prices we guarantee to be lower up to July 1st. If you want wire, get your order here so Samuel Davis the hardware man. Jan. 10 3t.

**LOST—JANUARY 12, ONE PIG—**Black with white spots. About 3 months old. Reward. Please notify Lonnie Satterwhite, Oxford, Route 7. Jan. 21 2t-x.

**PLEASANT GREETINGS FOR 1919**—Samuel Davis, your hardware man. Jan. 10 3t.

**NO BETTER TIME THAN RIGHT** now to get that wire fencing, barn wire, garden wire, galvanized shingles, cook stove or range, wagon, buggy or set harness, corn planter harrow or mower. We have them and the price. Samuel Davis, the man who saves you money. Jan. 10 3t.

**ONE OR TWO HORSE FARM FOR** rent—in good condition; 5½ bushels of wheat sowed. W. H. Dean, Oxford Route 1. Jan 21 3t-x

**OLD FASHIONED POTATO ONIONS** sets for sale. Price \$1.00 per peck. John L. Suit, Farmers' Warehouse. Jan. 10 pd 1m

**SALESMAN WANTED—LUBRICAT-**ing oil, grease, specialties, paint. Part or whole time. Commission basis. Men with car or rig preferred. Riverside Refining Company, Cleveland, Ohio. Jan 21 1t-x

**VALUABLE FARM LAND FOR** sale. 125 acres of land ½ mile west of Angier, N. C., new bungalow 8-room house and basement. rooms nicely arranged, land now well adapted to tobacco, cotton, and corn. All lands freshly cleared. Produced one bale of cotton last year per acre. Nice location on Raleigh and Fayetteville road, ½ mile of \$30,000 school building. Call or write E. M. Curran, Angier, N. C. Jan. 21 2t.

**FORD CAR FOR SALE—FINE CON-**dition and looks like a new one. HORNER BROS CO. Jan 17 tf.