

EDITORIAL PAGE

Competitive America

As things develop, and we must all admit they are developing very fast, the thought presents itself firmly that America is essentially a country of competition.

America has gained her place in the sun by a business and commercial competition. The fortunes amassed and as a result came the desire to legislate prevention for such for us.

It is doubtful if, before the great war, all our members of congress knew exactly what the Monroe doctrine meant. They were engrossed in the commercial end of things and were paying little attention to the problems of government that marked our forefathers with such foresight and such intelligence that our state documents in those days were almost looked upon as divinely inspired.

And the whole trend was to remove competition and place the government in charge of some line of business. The war forced much of this to be done, and yet look at the large number of millionaires made by the war.

The whole paternalistic plan is not fitted to America. This is a free country and every man has a right, or should have that right, to produce an article and put it on the market as best he sees fit.

We have almost reached the point where every industry and every producer feels that government protection is not desired, but demanded. What will follow? What is following? The cost of every commodity is going sky high.

Packers and canners understood each other, as do men conducting almost every other line of business.

Even opposition is being set up against the Lane bill to open vast areas of agricultural land, because it is feared farm products will be produced in too great a volume and the prices will sink.

Handling money is not the key to wealth nor to happiness. To take a load of pumpkins to town and bring back a load of money would not be at all satisfactory, and besides in such a readjustment there are many lines of business that would fall by the wayside.

The dollar's purchasing power today is low and it will be much lower unless there is something done to stop this maddening procedure to raise everything out of reason and then organize to keep commodity prices on these high levels.

Plainly as day, America must return to the days of competition, else we will fail in our early intent, and lose many of the cherished things which are so dear to every American.

In the death of Frank E. Toews, coast editor of the Portland Telegram, Oregon loses one of its best newspapermen. He was one who did not seek the limelight but chose to do his work efficiently and effectively without special notoriety.

It's a fine thing to rub against the Hotel Greeters who have been in Portland in conyention. Each of them has a smile that is a wonder. If he has corns no one would know, nor if he had an attack of bad stomach you could not discern it.

Take off the lid from the pot that holds the money and begin spending it for improvements. This is the edict that will help straighten things out quicker and better than any other formula.

Oswald West asks \$50,000 as a reasonable attorney's fee for combining the Home Telephone system with the Bell system at Portland. Oswald is a hard working young man and if he gets a few feet of this size he will get on in the world very well indeed.

With Senator Poindexter's veto of the bill for President of the state of Washington may start a new style in hats. It might be well to make a note of this style of good deal of clicking around.

Eugene is counting on a court of July people for quite long. La Grande is almost as large as Eugene. Do

Victims



No Use, Boys, No Use.

We cannot help but admire the Bend Bulletin's insistent desire to move the state capital, and failing to do that, that paper puts forth a plan to organize a new state east of the Cascades.

But it's no use. The Willamette valley has the population and never would vote to let out the large tax-paying area east of the mountains.

A few years ago when Oswald West was jangling around as governor of Oregon, making all sorts of vaudeville plays and attracting as much attention as a painted chorus girl in a church choir, many people would have been glad to eat the ties that bind us to Western Oregon, and proclaim a new state east of the Cascades.

Everybody can sing the old, old song "How Dry I Am." And no rain in sight. The alfalfa is now claiming attention, says Col. Eckley.

Let good road work go on, and on, and on. Potato Hill Philosophy.

If a Tom cat were president, office hoppers under him, and editors and voters of his political faith, would say he was the greatest man in the world.

We Americans scream about slavery, lack of opportunity, etc. In practical effect, it is an effort to destroy the best country the sun ever shone on.

It is stated every few minutes that Colonel House is adverse to publicity; indeed, this seems to be the specialty of his publicity agent, who is getting more free space in the newspapers than any other press agent.

"What," the papers are asking, "is the meaning of freedom of the seas? It means England with the largest fleet in the world, and bound to maintain it.

The leaders of the Old Order are very impudent, without a doubt. Three of them sat around a table in Paris lately, and settled world affairs with a high hand. The leaders of the proletariat are equally impudent.

How clever congress is in assessing "D" is for Deficit.

Just why school teachers should not form a union, or something meaning the same thing, is not quite clear. It is very other line of work is organized, every producer is fast organizing and before long it will be entirely a case of organization against organization in this country.

Walker D. Hise, Director General of Railroads, whose middle initial is now admitted to stand for "deficit," because the government controlled railroads under his direction continue to run up balances on the long sheet of the ledger. Mr. Hise is also credited with having been over the government plan to maintain,

feel perfectly at home in the marble palace of the First National Bank in Portland, but somehow we cannot help believing he will long for the dry hills of Eastern Oregon.

That was a good bluff the weather man pulled last night. But the clouds were like lots of people's talk—they meant nothing.

Boast the Hunt club, for it is picturesque and brings back the good old days of association with horses and dogs.

Our reform talk is stolen from Russia, where the people had real grievances. We had not, but we are talking the bolshevik language.

How impudent the bolsheviks are! They want us to feed them while they spread propaganda that will ruin us.

I sincerely hope Woodrow Wilson will be a candidate for a third term; I would like to see those who are tired of his literature get a chance at him.

RED ORGY OF MURDER City, Freed of Bolshevik Rule, Reveals Terrible Story.

Men, Women and Children Killed Without Trial, Many After Horrible Torture.

London.—Paris, the first city of any size retaken by Admiral Kolchak's All-Russian army from the bolsheviks, offers a great study in "red" atrocities. There is virtually a slaughter house. Hundreds of bodies of bolshevik victims already have been recovered, and more are being found every day.

In the garden of a seminary, where bolshevik chiefdoms were wont to hold their revels, the bodies of two dozen schoolgirls already have been recovered. These girls, ranging in age from twelve to sixteen, were first attacked by "red" officers, then when the fiends had tired of their oily victims were killed by being tapped on the head with a wooden mallet.

This seminary garden is one continuous grave of naked bodies and skeletons. Identification of the victims is impossible. A Russian countess and her daughter were tied to posts in this garden, stripped of their clothes; then killed by a succession of dagger thrusts all over their bodies. A dozen priests were crucified head downward; two others were boiled in oil.

Hundreds of the upper classes of the city, men, women and children, sentenced to death without trial, were taken to the edge of a swamp outside the city and given their choice of being flung into the swamp or being shot down where they stood. Many dashed into the swamp, only to be engulfed in the quicksands. The others were shot down at the edge of a ditch, into which their bodies fell, and left uncovered during the entire winter.

South Sea Beauties Use Chalk on Complexion Philadelphia.—Paint and powder on the faces of "beauty" world over were condemned by Gov. Dr. A. Polburn at the Presbyterian international conference in the Wilkeson building.

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A WANT AD will do it.

Thompson Was a Janitor

Since W. L. Thompson, of Bend, Ore., has been selected by the First National Bank of Portland for its vice president, some of his early life has come to the front and it bears such splendid lessons for the boys of today he Gassner gladly reprints a portion of it as learned by the Portland Oregonian:

From being janitor of a small-town bank to vice-president of the First National, one of the largest financial institutions in the Pacific north-west, is the record of Mr. Thompson. It had been his ambition to be a physician, and he had studied several years for that profession when his career was changed for a job paying \$15 a month. His duties then consisted of sweeping out the bank and helping on the books. Born in the village of Clayton, Wis., June 15, 1878, Mr. Thompson started his banking career in 1897 at New Richmond, Wis.

Rise in West Rapid From \$15 a month he worked up to \$50, and then in 1899 he decided to come west and landed at Lewiston, Idaho, where he became assistant cashier, serving in that capacity until 1904, when he moved to Pendleton.

For the past 15 years Mr. Thompson has been active in the business world of eastern Oregon, eastern Washington and part of Idaho. Arriving in Pendleton, he organized the Commercial National bank, with a capital of \$50,000. In 1909, with his associates, he bought control of the American National, in that city and in 1910 he was elected president, a position which he continues to hold.

Mr. Thompson had built up the deposits of the Commercial National to \$250,000 when the American National was purchased, making combined deposits \$1,000,000. Today the American National has \$3,250,000 deposits and institution handles a larger volume of business than any other.

Lack of system in the old mercantile world designated Mr. Thompson with business as a boy, but he immediately began banking when he discovered that every night a bank knows to a nickel where it stands.

New Methods Installed In Pendleton he began installing on modern business system with his customers. The old country bank idea of lending money to farmers and the annual settlement was discarded. Under the old style neither the bank nor the farmer knew how much was owed, until the farmer received pay for his crop and went to the bank for an accounting. Mr. Thompson evolved a different method, by which the farmer and the bank always know what was due. He also attacked the overdraft problem and showed business men how the overdraft was poor business. These were innovations when Mr. Thompson undertook the reforms, and at first it was believed his ideas on these subjects would drive customers away.

Handling the wheat, cattle and sheep business made Mr. Thompson an important factor in the financial world of inland empire. He has been president of the Oregon State Bankers' association and is a member of the executive council of the American Bank association, representing Oregon. Mr. Thompson was a member of the Oregon commission for the Panama-Pacific exposition in San Francisco, the first commission which ever filed a detailed audit account of its expenditures.

Prominent in Loan Work He was chairman of all the liberty loan campaigns and the Victory loan drive in Umatilla county and served as chairman of the Umatilla county chapter of the American Red Cross during the war.

As a member of the state highway commission Mr. Thompson has become generally known outside of the inland empire and, as he said when in Portland Monday, the duties of commissioner consume one-third of his time. The office carries no compensation.

COCKLE BURR, LONG PEST, FINDS ITS USE

Yields Valuable Oil for Paints and Varnishes and Adaptable for Food.

Out of the cockle burr, which sticks to the clothes of the passer-by and is generally being considered a pest, is now being made a new and valuable oil valuable for use in paints and varnishes and adaptable for food.

The details were explained by L. B. Rhodes, oil chemist of the North Carolina department of agriculture, in an address delivered in Raleigh, N. C., before the North Carolina section of the American Chemical society.

"The cockle burr," said Mr. Rhodes, "familiarly known as the clot burr, is a coarse plant, with rough leaves and prickly head. It is widely distributed through the United States, so that it is more or less of a nuisance in most localities and is very abundant throughout the South. If the burrs could be obtained systematically in sufficiently large quantities they could be easily milled.

"Those which I have gathered," continued Mr. Rhodes, "were either dry or in a half dry condition. They were first cut in half by a trimming board and the kernels mashed. The ground kernels were then wrapped in cheese cloth and pressed between cold steel plates.

"The oil thus obtained was allowed to settle for three or four days and then filtered. It is of a light yellow shade, has a clear sparkling appearance and a pleasant odor and an agreeable nutty taste. It keeps well without becoming rancid. On account of this quality it should eventually be used as a substitute in the dietary for other vegetable oils.

"The press cake left after expression in the oil should be of value as a food for cattle and certainly it can be readily used as a fertilizer."

The yield from the kernel is about 50 per cent and the kernels constitute about the same proportion of the bulk of the crude burrs. The press cake contains about 40.24 per cent of protein.

SOLDIER NOT KILLED

Comes Back Home After Being Mourned as Dead for Three Years.

Five years ago Edward T. Devitt stepped across the threshold of his father's house to enlist in the Canadian army. Nearly four years ago his father and sister read an official letter that the boy had been killed. That was all—no word came, no word was expected. Devitt stepped back over the threshold the other day.

He appeared as a war-scarred veteran. The home is at 306 Forrest avenue, St. Paul.

He enlisted August, 1914, with the Edmonton Fusiliers and went to France with the first contingent. One day a comrade brought news back to the States that Devitt was dead.

While officially "dead," the soldier was only wounded at Ypres, June, 1916, and had a turn at "blighty" in England. He returned to the front in January, 1917, and served until the armistice was signed.

BACK TO THE FARMS

Government Hurries Demobilization of Horses and Mules.

Demobilization of the army mule and horse is going forward rapidly according to the war department. When hostilities ended there were about 500,000 head of horses and mules in the United States army.

Because of the big demand for these animals on farms in the central West the government has been hurrying distribution, and when auctions now advertised are completed 150,000 animals will have been disposed of since January 1.

Deftly Thought. The scholar who cherishes the love of comfort is not fit to be deemed a scholar.—Confucius.

AUTHORITY ON RAILROAD PROBLEMS.



SEN. A. B. QUINN

Senator A. B. Quinn, chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, will be specially summoned at this session of the Senate to a public hearing before a subcommittee. The hearing will be held on the 1st of July at 10 o'clock a. m. in the Senate chamber. The hearing will be held on the 1st of July at 10 o'clock a. m. in the Senate chamber. The hearing will be held on the 1st of July at 10 o'clock a. m. in the Senate chamber.