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THE RATE FIGHT THAT LOOMS.

Every farmer, merchant, every shipper—yea, every ultimate consumer—has vital concern in the interior rate scare that right now beclouds the horizon. It was not false alarm that prompted the convention of representatives in Salt Lake last week from a half hundred northwest towns. It was precaution. It was early organization against a foe that may show himself—and possibly may not. If this enemy does rear its head, he will find organized resistance. It is better to have organized resistance against a foe that did not come, than to be caught napping. Hence, the precaution.

The rate question is a complicated conundrum which only the expert fully understands. Its enormity and complexity stuns the average shipper, but it requires no rate expert to foresee the disaster that stalks in the shadow of the so-called long and short haul clause.

Few know anything about the equality or adequacy of rates, but they do see the absurd wrong of charging freight to Portland and back to La Grande on commodities shipped from Chicago to La Grande—of charging more for a short haul than a long one over the same road and in the same direction. It is rumored upon good authority that the common carriers will pray the I. C. C. for such a rule. It appears a valiant struggle for its re-appearance on the tariff sheets will be made. Be that as it may, one thing is even surer, and that is that an army of remonstrators will be recruited in the interior towns. Every merchant is gravely concerned, and the detailed report Bruce Cox will make to the Ad Club tomorrow means more enlightenment on the rate cloud—is the second step in preparation.

SCHOOL AFFAIRS INTEREST US.

Once upon a time not long ago, school elections often interested less than a hundred citizens. That is no longer true. Just imagine 22,000 people voting on a school election in Portland. That happened last Saturday. Yesterday's vote in La Grande was far ahead of the average for the past five years. These large crowds indicate there is a new-born interest in scholastic affairs. Would that the good folks of Oregon would pay attention to every election. Then the distressing condition of a bare majority of 30 per cent of the population of the state writing the laws into the statute books would cease.

THE AMERICAN WAR INDEMNITY.

The American people, while upholding the allies in their insistence on German reparation to the utmost possible limit, have been agast at the size of the indemnity imposed. Even while approving the settlement, as the least Germany could do to help repair the harm done by her, most Americans have felt sympathy for the common people on whose back that huge burden is laid.

It is well, therefore, to turn attention homeward, and consider how the American people compare with the German people in the war burden they are obliged to carry.

The German reparation sum is fixed at \$33,000,000,000, and is to be paid over a period of about 40 years. How about the American war load during that same period?

It is figured that if the United States continues for the next 40 years the appropriations for army and navy purposes that were made during the fiscal year now closing, it will have spent in that time \$33,000,000,000. Thus the United States will be paying for peace exactly what Germany is paying for war. One newspaper, pointing out this parallel, calls our prospective war burden an American "indemnity for the next war."

The parallel is all the more deadly because Germany, while paying for her past war, is not incurring expense for any future one—Germany is insured.

If this situation is to continue, it will be pertinent to inquire again, "Who has lost the war?" If the United States government does what is expected of it, giving effect to the public sentiment in favor of lessening armaments by international agreement, there will be some chance of the war victors getting what they fought for instead of an intolerable and perilous armed truce.

THE ROOT OF EVIL.

The Episcopal clergy of California, considering ways and means "the root of evil," has decided that the strictly policy is to at least indirectly be going after the root of evil. "The root of evil," they say, "is the root of all evil." They say that the root of all evil is the root of all evil. They say that the root of all evil is the root of all evil. They say that the root of all evil is the root of all evil.

THE OFFICE CAT



—By JUNIUS—

Meow! Meow! Meow!

I was down in the mouth,
And was blue as could be;
All out of sorts, and
Felt like bumping a tree.

Tried all the Doctors,
And stayed full of dope;
Finally they told me that
There wasn't any hope.

Unless I quit worrying,
And threw business aside,
Absorb humor and merriment
And stretch out my hide.

That my race would soon be over,
And the world be rid of one;
If I didn't take to frolicking
Get out and have some fun.

But chance I began reading,
The good old Observer Daily;
E'er long I was feeling better
And acting rather gaily.

I ran across a colyum,
They call the "Office Cat,"
That hands them out red hot
Right off the bat.

I laughed and I laughed
Till I thought I would bust;
And then I laughed some more
And I know that I must

Have excited all the neighbors,
For out of every door;
They came running in to see
If I was going to laugh some more

I have gained twenty pounds,
Lost my grouch and the blues
Feeling younger every day,
Even shine my shoes.

From now on the Doctors,
Can all go to scull;
I will take my medicine
Through the daily "Office Cat."
—A LONGFELLOW.

"Stop! Have You Left Anything?"
Many hotels throughout the country have signs, reading as above posted on the inside of the door, in all bedrooms. A departing guest at a Chicago hotel, added to this—
"Stop! Have You Anything Left?"

Uncle Jarve chirps that girls new-

been passed and upheld by the courts as proper legislation under the police power. In others these signs are taxed out of existence. Still another method lies in the power of public sentiment and this seems to be the only way to deal with the nuisance here.

Surely public sentiment is interested here. There is plenty of feeling about our scenic attractions. Is there anyone who does not appreciate the view of the mountains from almost anywhere on the Dulles-Calfornia? How do they like to turn from that view to a glaring signboard? What interest will they take to clear up this sign-board evil?

a-days must be ashamed of their ears; they never show them.

Street Car Stuff.
(Heard on a Number 17 Humanity hamper.)

Large, portly passenger to acid-faced lady who is trying to squeeze into an inadequate space? "I'm very sorry, madame, but I don't fold up any smaller than this, so you'd better take the whole seat."

When a man visits his old home town after an absence of years he cannot understand why all his friends look so old while he is as young as ever.

ETIQUETTE EVERYDAY

Church Weddings.

If it is to be a large and fashionable function, whatever the weather and season may be, an awning and carpet are essential at the door. Within the church, the decorations may be as simple or elaborate as the taste and means of the bride's family may dictate. Well in advance the organist should be consulted in reference to the musical program, and a series of front pews to the right and left of the center aisle be allotted for the use of the families and nearest friends of the contracting parties. The bride's nearest and dearest sit to the left of the center aisle; the bridegroom's family and closest friends sit to the right of this aisle. It is important that the ushers be given a list of all those to be seated in the front reserved pews, as the seats for the families are generally designated by a white-satin ribbon or floral gates, or a wreath of flowers.

Tomorrow: "Bridal Procession."

Hilvilla Tea

If you are warm and parched, and it's time to lunch, have a glass of Hilvilla tea. It makes good meals taste better.

Hilvilla Black FOR ICED TEA

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Aches, pain, nervousness, difficulty in urinating, often mean serious disorders. The world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles—

GOLD MEDAL HAMMILL OR

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Attractive Values and First Showings of the New

At La Grande's Greatest Store

Ladies' Athletic "Futurist" Underwear Special at \$1.30

Values in this lot that were \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.40 and \$2.50 in flesh and white, fine Nainsooks, dimities, etc. Some are trimmed; some hemstitched. All are regular "Futurist" garments and to the woman who likes the athletic style undergarment, these are exceptional values. Your choice at \$1.30, Center aisle.

New Kimonos and Mandarins For the Bride's Trousseau

Made of beautiful Jap silks and embroidered in heavy raso silks. These garments are all imported from the Orient. There are either Kimonos or Mandarins in blue, rose, pink, red or navy. Priced at \$18.00.

Jap Rose A SOAP FOR THE TOILET OR BATH

Contains purest glycerine, slightly scented. Special now at, two bars, 25c.

NEW! Gingham Fronts, Collar and Cuff Sets

The very newest in neckwear are these fronts and collars and cuff sets of fine French Gingham, trimmed with lace, tulle and inserts. Mostly in checks and very small plaids. Prices are \$1.95 and \$2.35.

FANCY SATIN STRIPED Georgette, \$4.00 yd.

Combining a thin sheer Georgette of navy blue with a heavy gold satin—making a new material for the overblouse—attractive in its colorings and the stripes of satin making it a heavier material. Very new in this department. Priced at \$4.00 yard.

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Safe Milk For Infants & Invalids NO COOKING

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