

A Boy That Laughed

I know a funny little boy—
The happiest ever born;
His face is like a beam of joy,
Although his clothes are torn.

I saw him tumble on his nose,
And waited for a groan—
But how he laughed! Do you
suppose
He struck his funny bone?

There's sunshine in each word
he speaks.
His laugh is something grand;
Its ripples overrun his cheeks
Like waves on snowy sand.

No matter how the day may go,
You cannot make him cry;
He's worth a dozen boys I know
Who pout and mope and sigh.
—Wide Awake.

If you want job printing done don't overlook us. We want to do all the printing for St. Johns people. For commercial printing this office is well equipped and we know how to do it. Prices are lower than the same class of work is done in Portland, because our expenses are less. Any support along the printing line that any citizen or business man can give us will be highly appreciated. Please don't forget.

Note the label on your paper.

Useful Electrical Devices

- Vacuum Cleaners
- Hair Dryers
- Boudoir Lamps
- Samovars
- Toasters
- Disc Stoves
- Foot Warmers
- Milk Warmers
- Massage Vibrators
- Cigar Lighters
- Ovens
- Waffle Irons
- Washing Machines
- Library Lamps
- Coffee Percolators
- Chafing Dishes
- Flat Irons
- Curling Iron Heaters
- Luminous Radiators
- Tea Kettles
- Sewing Machine Motors
- Shaving Mirrors
- Kitchen Ranges
- Shaving Mugs

ELECTRIC STORE ELECTRIC BUILDING
Portland Railway,
Light & Power Co.

"A SHINE IN EVERY DROP"

Black Silk Stove Polish

Get a Can TODAY



John Poff J. H. Harvey

P. & H. Transfer Co.
Phone Columbia 308
206 N. Jersey St. Johns, Ore.

'Billie' Nichols RESTAURANT

111 N. JERSEY STREET
Open Evenings
GIVE US A CALL

The Central
THOS GLOVER, Prop.
Philadelphia Street, St. Johns.
Soft Drinks as usual
Coldest and Coolest Drinks in town. Sandwiches, etc. All leading Summer Drinks
TRY OUR MILK PUNCH

To The Consumer!

Somebody pays the solicitor who calls at your door.
Somebody pays the delivery man who brings the goods.
Somebody pays the bookkeeper who looks after the charge accounts.
Somebody pays the loss occasioned by the man who beats his grocery bill.
Somebody pays for the upkeep of the palatial downtown stores.
Somebody pays for the big green auto delivery car that backs up to your door with liveried driver and flunky.
Somebody pays the tea-coffee-extract peddler who wastes much time going long distances from his base of supplies.
Somebody pays for all the little business conveniences that may readily be dispensed with if the proper spirit of thrift is exercised. Yes, somebody pays it. Do you realize, Mr. Consumer, THAT SOMEBODY IS YOU? There is no getting away from it in the final adjustment of accounts. What is the remedy?
Trade at the nearest store, whatever the line may be, that gives you right goods and proper service at the minimum cost. Keep for yourself the money that would otherwise go to pay for unnecessary and useless service. To save, at the present time, is a patriotic duty. A few reasons why I can help you save on your grocery bill:
I believe my overhead expense is the least of any store in town.
I sell for cash only.
I deliver in my own district and on large orders only. Absolutely no profiteering. While most groceries are higher than formerly, my per cent of profit was never less than right now. Look the following prices over and then act according to your judgment:

- | | | | |
|--|-----|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Post Toasties, pkg. | 11c | Matches, best quality. | 5c |
| Kellogg Corn Flakes, pkg. | 11c | Large can peas, corn, tomatoes 12c | |
| Quaker Corn Flakes, pkg. | 11c | Campbell's or Preferred Stock | |
| Finest quality new crop, small | | Soup, per can. | 12c |
| white Beans, 2 lbs. | 25c | Royal Rapt or Holsum Bread. | 9c |
| Cottolene, small can. | 48c | Large roll Toilet Paper, 6 for. | 25c |
| Best Seeded Raisins, new crop. | | Black Figs, best quality, 2 lbs. | 25c |
| 15 oz. package. | 12c | Coffee, excellent blend, per lb. | 27c |
| Seedless Sultana Raisins, per lb. | 12c | Large bottle Monopole Catsup. | 23c |
| Salt, 2 lb. sack 4c; 4 lb. sack. | 8c | Best cane Sugar, 12 lbs. | \$1.00 |
| Walnuts, Manchura, per lb. | 18c | Del Monte Tomato Table | |
| White Soap. | 5c | Sauce, per can. | 7c |
| Brown Soap. | 4c | Bacon, sliced or piece, per lb. | 40c |
- Fresh stock Garden Seeds and Onion Sets just received. School Tablets, Stationery, Tobacco and Cigars, all at right prices. Quality of all goods guaranteed.

J. M. SHAW
Groceries and Provisions
802 North Ivanhoe Street PORTLAND, OREGON

LUCKY STRIKE CIGARETTE

Until this new "smoke", was made you could never have a real Burley tobacco cigarette. It's the best yet.

IT'S TOASTED

The toasting brings out the delicious flavor of that fine old Kentucky Burley. You never tasted anything so agreeable—think what roasting does for peanuts.



10¢

Guaranteed by
The American Tobacco Co.

- J. R. WEIMER Transfer and Storage**
We deliver your goods to and from all parts of Portland, Vancouver, Linn, town, Portland and Suburban Express Co., city dock and all points accessible by wagon. Plans and furniture moving.
- Milk and Cream Direct From the Cows**
Muscaday Dairy
J. H. WINDLE, Prop.
Phone Col. 320 Delivered Daily
- The Past Time Billiard Hall.**
N. E. WHITE, Proprietor
The Place Where They All Go
A Choice Line of Cigars, Tobacco and Soft Drinks
WHERE THE CAR STOPS
- Portsmouth Gospel Hall**
Meeting 3 p. M. for Christians. Gospel meeting in evening 7:30. One door west of drug store.
- Bloomberg's Shoe Shop**
110 South Jersey St.
Across from Peninsula National Bank
We do all kinds of first class Shoe and Rubber repairing in best obtainable style at a reasonable price



NEW MATERIALS FOR MAKING SPRING CLOTHES

— KEEP THE —
Home Fires Burning
100%
The Greater the Activity
In Your Home, the Stronger will be the Home Ties

Spring is coming. Do your own sewing; that's part of the activity, a pride creating influence.
Choose your material from our new spring stock. Our store is being daily brightened with new arrivals.
Select a

Butterick Pattern
then inspect the new Devonshires, Gingham, Percales and a large selection of the Linweave White Goods.
The Home Fire can be kept burning by your patronage; yours and ours. A dollar spent in your own locality returns to you.

BONHAM & CURRIER
L. E. ROSE, Mgr. Toggery Dept.

A National Calamity If Public Utilities Are Broken Down

"The work of war has thrown upon many of these corporations strains which they are unable to endure without prompt help," says John Skelton Williams, Comptroller of the Currency of the United States, in his annual report to Congress.
He says further: "The maintenance of efficiency and credit of public utility companies is essential, and public utilities commissions and municipal and local authorities should give immediately the most direct relief with the broad-minded co-operation of the public generally."
This vitally important message to Congress relates directly to the grave crisis which our country, like all the public utility companies of the country, finds confronting it and should be of peculiar interest to every citizen at this time.
Mr. Williams' report, as it relates to Street Railway companies, is as follows:

A PRESSING PERIL.
National and State Banks, and many thousands of small and large investors, have suffered seriously from the decline of the earning capacity of public utility corporations and the consequent shrinkage in the value of their securities, representing investments of many hundred millions of dollars. These losses naturally diminish the power and disposition of the public to respond to the calls of the Government for money for war. This danger should arouse, I venture to suggest, the anxiety and stimulate the efforts of the Congress and of every patriotic citizen. A more urgent and pressing peril is forced upon our attention by the obvious fact that we are dependent so largely on the efficiency and strength of these corporations and on our railroads for speed and success in preparing for and prosecuting the war.

The corporations referred to supply light, heat, power and electric railway transportation for passengers and freight. They touch intimately the daily life of the people. In normal times they have been favorite targets for sneers and savage criticisms from large parts of the public and the press. In some instances, doubtless, they have deserved and invited hostility. In others, the attacks upon them probably have been unjust and unreasonable. Frequently they have been the victims or beneficiaries of local politics, suffering injury in the end in either case. Yet, generally, they were able to serve the needs of their communities with reasonable efficiency and to earn fair returns on the money invested in them. Now they are threatened with ruin. If they are allowed to sink into inefficiency, much of the most important war work of the Government will be crippled or paralyzed.

COSTS INCREASE HEAVILY.
The work of war has thrown upon many of these corporations strains which they are unable to endure without prompt help. The costs of their labor and of all material for operation, betterment and upkeep have increased heavily and suddenly. They are required to increase radically and quickly their service and facilities. Industries manufacturing war munitions and materials demand of the public utilities corporations constantly greater supplies of power and light. At the industrial centers, car lines are being rushed and overburdened by new armies of workers. The gas companies are called upon for gas for cooking and heating in quantities beyond all normal calculations and far beyond their present capacities. They are urged continually to furnish more coke and coal by-products, trolley and other elements absolutely essential in modern warfare. Where cantonments have been established, the demands on the resources of water, lighting and transportation companies are especially severe; ability to comply with such demands is necessary for the safety and comfort of the fighting men in training.

A committee representing the four leading associations, which include all the principal electric light and power companies, street railway companies and the most important gas companies of the country, recently submitted to this office a report in which attention was asked to the increase within the last two years in the cost of materials they must use for the maintenance of their properties. They gave a list of percentages of additional cost, showing among others the following items:

INCREASE FROM 1915 TO 1917	Per Cent.
Copper Wire.	180
Pipe, Cast Iron.	100
Axles.	272
Acids.	162
Brass.	390
Car Forgings.	216
Castings, Malleable.	198
Copper, Bar and Sheet.	147
Lead, Pig and Sheet.	127
Nails.	110
Steel, Tool.	400
Tie Plates.	276

The continued and increasing efficiency of these corporations is important for the successful conduct of the war. This efficiency is not possible with present conditions. Corporations proved by their own figures to be approaching bankruptcy cannot obtain money for improvements or maintenance. On the other hand, banks and citizens suffering severe losses from investments in the securities of these entirely legitimate and once promising enterprises will be discouraged from lending money to the Government or deprived of the means to lend.

PUBLIC SHOULD COOPERATE
The first and most direct relief to the public utilities corporations can be given by the state public utilities commissions and municipal and local authorities, with the broad-minded co-operation of the people generally, understanding the necessities of war and realizing that the more promptly its burdens are accepted the sooner they will be lifted. It is essential that forbearance and consideration be exercised by the state commissions and municipal authorities, and that the corporations also be permitted to make such additions to their charges for service as will keep in them the breath of solvency, protect their owners against unjust loss, and give them a basis of credit on which they may obtain the funds with which to meet the strain put on them by the Government's needs. The breaking down of these corporations would be a National calamity.
Because of the gravity of the situation in this regard I am moved to ask for the careful attention of the Congress and the public. I am impressed with the importance of early consideration by the Congress of some measure to provide directly or indirectly for advance of funds on some conservative basis to such of these corporations as need help most urgently, so that they can give adequate service to the Government. The remedy would be unusual; but the times are unusual.
The amount of railroad and other public service bonds owned by the National banks June 30, 1917, was reported at \$763,000,000. This is equal to approximately 70 per cent of the capital stock of the banks.
With appropriate aid from the Government through the Congress; with liberal recognition by local authorities of the present acute conditions, and with some practical provision to enable the corporations to meet their own needs and those of the country, the danger now pressing and becoming more serious with each day will be removed, the general business interests of the country will be fostered, the ability and readiness of the public to respond to calls for money will be maintained and urgent requirements for the defense of the country's life and assurance of our freedom and peace will be met.

Portland Railway, Light & Power Company