

# ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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## No Cause For Alarm

Alarm caused by settling of the grain elevator and adjoining buildings at the St. Johns terminal will be quieted by the preliminary report of the board of engineers appointed by the dock commission to examine the buildings and to recommend a remedy. The settling has not been such as to destroy the buildings or their usefulness. They can be made strong and sound by strengthening their foundations in one of the manners proposed by the engineers. This will entail some additional expense, but the work can be done in time for the elevator to receive wheat of this year's crop.

Decision of these points will clear the air of doubt as to the wisdom of building on the St. Johns site and will furnish a solution of questions as to the style of construction to be adopted with buildings of great weight on the river front. A rock foundation would no doubt have been ideal, but it could not be found at any point fronting on the river within the limits which commerce fixes for the elevator. The character of the ground at St. Johns is as good as that of any other site, and the site chosen has merits which others cannot match. The error was that of the designers of the elevator, who were reputed to be among the best in the country. As the dock commission now knows the nature of the ground and of the foundation necessary to sustain the weight of such heavy structures as the elevator, it will be able to avoid risk of another similar experience.

Portland is now well started on provision of all the harbor facilities needed for its commerce, and the work is in the hands of as able and public-spirited a body of men as can be found. It will not be daunted by such a slight setback as it has had. It will finish the elevator, will add to the St. Johns terminal and will construct other terminals as the growth of business requires.—Oregonian.

## Remove the Shackles

Remove the shackles from the American shipbuilding industry. Let the yards accept contracts from any source offered, foreign or domestic. A fight along these lines has been started by Representative Fred A. Britten of Chicago, who, with other members of the house naval affairs committee has just completed a tour of the Pacific coast, inspecting naval establishments and shipbuilding plants.

On the eve of his departure from Seattle, Representative Britten sent a long telegram to Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the United States Shipping board, urging that the embargo on the American steel shipbuilding industry be lifted. At present the shipping board does not allow shipyards to accept contracts for steel vessels from foreign or domestic corporations nor from foreign governments.

So impressed were Mr. Britten's colleagues on the naval affairs committee with the importance of some action being taken by the shipping board that they joined in sending a second telegram to Mr. Hurley protesting the embargo. It was pointed out in this second telegram that, because of the shackles on the American yards, British Columbia yards late last winter obtained contracts from the French Government for \$9,000,000 worth of shipping, on which American yards were not allowed to bid.

Mr. Britten declared that if the embargo is not lifted when he reaches Washington, D. C., he will renew the fight personally before the shipping board. Other members of the naval affairs committee declared they will support the movement to the limit of their ability.

The best test of the individual. Is whether he is "there" in a crisis.

And can recover immediately. Anybody can be gay and happy and successful.

When everything about him is running smoothly.

But the man who arrives is one who.

Being knocked down, Arises to write a poem on the beauties

Of the stars he saw When his head connected With the pavement.—Ex.

We have sold a large number of talking machines in this district and all our patrons are SATISFIED. CURRIN SAYS SO.

## Letter From France

Rev. J. H. Irvine is in receipt of the following interesting letter from his son in France:

On Active Service with the American Expeditionary Force, March 1st, 1919.—Dear Father: Time seems to pass swiftly in spite of our rather aimless existence here. While we await the final settlement of world affairs, by the great council in Paris, we are trying to keep contented by keeping busy and by realizing that even in waiting we are of service to our government in maintaining a reserve force here in the interim.

Europe is in a great state of flux; almost anything is possible at any time. Great social forces have been loosed and have not found balance or direction. Until these conditions become somewhat definite a large armed force in Europe is, I believe, necessary; and so, too hasty demobilization, even if we were able to demobilize more rapidly, might prove a mistake. But that great task of getting the boys back has been undertaken as energetically and as efficiently as getting them over here and by the same great G. H. 2.

So we are well content to await our orders, tho there is no present indication that we are to sail for home before fall. It is hard for Americans, when the job is done, to wait and wait to be ticked out as an infinitely small part of a great Mechanism. But the boys are going home all the time and in increasing numbers. So we will await our turn.

I have been greatly interested of late in political developments back in U. S. The men over here follow the papers pretty closely, as you may guess, and they, as I have found them, have little sympathy for the Eagle-screaming party politics which has sprung to life all too soon for the good of the job that the soldiers aimed to settle. It is a long tedious job to get things adjusted before Europe and the world can be normal again. Anyone who is in Europe knows that the social and economic balance of this part of the world is very unstable. Everybody in the U. S. pulled together so well until the soldiers finished their part of the task. But now when the most delicate part is to be done, the part which is to be the test of the whole accomplishment, the country forgets that it must keep its eye on the real thing, and starts to "play the game" as of old. The President comes to Europe to lure the whole world to true American ideals, and the gamblers start their campaigns to get re-elected. I tell you the old liners are going to find the returning soldiers mighty poor party followers.

The A. E. F. believes in a solid America behind President Wilson until he has finished with the Peace Conference. Divided backing merely weakens America's influence over here, and surely we all believe that American ideals and principles ought to wield a great influence in this greatest conference in history.

The politicians started an investigation of conditions at Brest. Every man who has passed thru Brest has a memory that will never be lost to him. He had to work all the time, that he was not sleeping, unloading cargoes, storing supplies, building barracks, being an apprentice to any army mule and living under rainy skies; eating, working and sleeping in mud. But there is not a doughboy who looks back upon it without realizing that in the congestion and rush such conditions were well nigh inevitable. The investigation found that since the signing of the armistice, the army's own inspection system had greatly improved conditions until they were "satisfactory." Then some soft-hearted patriot from Kansas who had a burning desire to return next term to Congress began weeping about the terrible losses in the 35th Division. Investigation showed that there were seven other divisions whose losses exceeded theirs, and that the charge of a failure of artillery was altogether untrue.

I can assure you that the men over here despise such stuff as that, and even the boys of the 35th are disgusted. But we know that Mr. Wilson will win out and carry thru a great new plan in international relations. Surely this Conference will not end as former Peace Conferences in Europe have ended in a "Status quo" or "Balance of power." Tomorrow I go on a five-day furlough, three days to be spent in Paris. It is a great opportunity and I shall enjoy it greatly and write you about it later. Your son, Paul. Ordnance Sergeant Headquarters Co. 605th Engineers.

## Exempt From Payment

The announcement by the industrial accident commission that employers and employees operating under the workmen's compensation law will be exempt from payment into the fund for months of April, May and June comes at a most opportune time. It relieves Oregon industry from a burden during the readjustment period. The exemption is possible because of a surplus that accumulated in the fund during the past year. The exempting of this three months' period will mean that no payments will have been made into the fund by employers and employees for seven of twelve months of the fiscal year ending June 30. The effect of these exempted months is to reduce the rate of payment made by employers upon their payrolls to five-twelfths of the base rate. The exemption just declared by the commission will relieve employers from the payment of approximately \$600,000.00 into the fund for the months of April, May and June, the commission having sufficient funds on hand to pay all claims during the period.

The recent legislature, at the suggestion of the commission, amended the compensation law, changing the method of exemption so as to provide an annual credit refund to employers instead of the monthly exemption system. Under the old law the employer had to have continuous payrolls to be entitled to the exemptions as they were declared, but under the new law the employer will be given credit at the end of the year for the proportion his payment into the fund bears to the entire amount.

Since the workmen's compensation law became effective in

## Big Contract Awarded

Robert Wakefield was awarded the contract by the dock commission for the construction of Pier No. 2 to a length of 1500 feet and for an extension of pier No. 1 of 300 feet at the St. Johns municipal terminal for the sum of \$299,971. His proposal was \$62,291 below that of the next lowest bid and \$157,921 lower than the highest bid. Work on the two piers will begin immediately and according to the contract must be completed within 160 days. The successful bidder will provide a surety bond in the amount of the contract to protect the dock commission against loss. There was such a great difference in the amount of the bids that the dock commission was somewhat reluctant to award the contract to Wakefield, fearing that he would be unable to complete the work at the price quoted. After going into the matter thoroughly and learning that Wakefield had an abundance of financial backing, the commissioners decided to award the contract to him.

Pier No. 1 is now completed to a length of 1200 feet. The 300 feet additional will provide room for the berthing of three large ships. Pier No. 2 will be constructed to a length of 1500 feet. Many demands are being made upon the commission for dock facilities to handle the shipping coming to Portland. The present dock facilities soon will be taken to the limit and by the time the contract awarded is completed it is believed that the additional docking facilities will be needed.

There is one business that we know and that is the drug business. CURRIN SAYS SO.

## High School Notes

Saturday evening the Freshmen held a party at the Y. W. C. A. rooms. Miss Randall and Mrs. Johnson acted as chaperones.

The Senior Class play to be held Friday and Saturday is a certain success. Many tickets have been sold and, if the play brings the crowd our presentations usually do, we are assured a full house both nights.

The Tumalum cartoon contest is bringing to light much good material from rather unexpected sources. Members of the lower classes are doing especially good work. As usual, of course, the upper classmen are also doing their share in this direction.

Because of the illness of Miss McDaniels, the art teacher, during the past week, Miss Gresham has been substituting in her place. We have also, after a week's rest, resumed our classes in Science under our new instructor, Miss Brewer.

The Hiak Klatawa held an initiation meeting Friday evening, at which time about sixty new members were admitted. Among the different forms of "Torture" which they were made to undergo was branding. Altogether the evening was one of rollicking fun.

The members of the English six, seven, and eight classes, History seven and eight, Civics and Sociology classes met at the Y. W. C. A. rooms Monday evening and organized the James John Civic League. A constitution was adopted and plans for future activities were discussed, among them the Salem trip, which this year will include the members of all of the above classes. Plans are being made to have a basket social and dance on April 17 to raise money for the expenses of the trip. The social will be under the auspices of the league. The League decided to admit alumni to membership, as the graduates will be more closely bound to our school, as well as giving added interest to League activities.

The seventh and eighth term history classes on Friday, March 28, had an excellent debate, which proved of great interest to the older students. The subject of the debate was "Resolved that United States should approve the constitution of the League of Nations." English seven supported the affirmative by arguing that we should approve the constitution after it had been completed and put up for approval, while English eight, on the negative side declared that, "The constitution should not be adopted in its original form in amended." The judges, Mr. Howard, Mr. Bonham and Mr. Edleson, voted in favor of the negative because of the speakers' interpretation of the question. The speakers on the affirmative were Leona Ehret, Charles Trumbull and Hazel Greene, and on the negative Gordon Avery, John Wulf and Clarence Toole.

The baseball prospects at James John seem unusually bright this year. Under the guidance of Mr. Campbell the double J. nine expect to "clean up" the interscholastic league. Captain J. Ohm will probably hold down the catching position, while "Long Jawn" and Harvie Lane will be on the mound. Larry Johnson plays first base like an all star, and J. Jower, holder of second base, sometimes complains of the speed in which he receives the ball from the first point in the diamond. Kugel, short but fast, seems to own the position of short stop and as he is a veteran from last season, there is no doubt of his holding his place this year. With Tommy Trumbull the four points on the diamond are complete. Tommy can stop anything and one thing that will be noticed by the fans is his excellent ability to get "pick ups." In the outfield

## A Great Labor Saver

Foe of aches and pains that all through the years have been the bane of fellers of trees in the woods or workers who converted them into fuel is the drag saw. It is the benefactor and friend of the industrious man who has been wearing his life away in the forests wielding the axe or pulling at the handle of the cross-cut saw. Instead of the muscle of the human this implement is operated by an engine fed upon gasoline, and instead of four or five cords of wood a day, the capacity of two strong men, the machine will easily cut from 20 to 30 cords, according to the timber and facilities for reaching it. It weighs from 275 to 300 pounds, can be carried by two men and be operated by one, is said to be "fool proof," is manufactured by the Beaver State Motor company of Gresham, is sold by the Beaver Motor Products company and its fame is traversing the entire country. Shipments have been made to South America, the Orient and in our own country to the extreme Eastern and Southern States.

Substantial improvements have been made in drag saws in the last four or five years. Today it represents the genius of numerous inventive mechanics and its value is recognized as fully in the logging camps, the farm and shingle bolt cutters as among those who make a business of cutting cordwood for city consumption. Those engaged in coopers work also find the drag saw a helpful convenience, as do all employed in crosscutting timber for any purpose.

The Gresham made drag saw is equipped with a four cycle engine and a clutch designed by Messrs. Johnson and Ralph, considered by operators improvements of more than ordinary moment.

We have the old standby, Willikson, commonly known as "Dad" with him are Lee Hoskins, Bob Miller, "Sleepy" Schaffer and other promising young leaguers who will back the James John to a finish.

The cast for Mice and Men as follows — Mark Embury, a philosopher, Charles Trumbull; Roger Goodlake, his friend and neighbor, John Wulf; Captain George Lowell, his nephew, Merle Harrington; Sir Harry Tomblstone, Gordon Avery; Kit Barmiger, a fiddler, Raymond Bredeen; Peter, Embury's servant, Hugh Whisler; Joanna Goodlake, wife of Goodlake, Nana Seely; Mrs. Deborah, Embury's housekeeper, Etta Patterson; Peggy, "Little Britain," Alice Brown; Matron of Foundling Hospital, Joyce Mason; Beadle of Foundling Hospital, Harvi Lane; Molly, a kitchen maid, Margaret Carr; Orphans of Foundling Hospital, Dorothy Jones, Theresa Reich, Hazel Greene, Eleanor Thomas, Gwendyth Young, Leona Ehret, Alverda Mac Niven, Alice Brown and Fay Smith.

The evangelist was entreating his hearers to flee from the wrath to come. "I warn you," he said, "there will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth." At this point an old lady in the gallery stood up. "Sir," she interrupted, "I have no teeth." "Madam," said the evangelist sternly, "teeth will be provided."—Ex.

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Can never turn a wheel.

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1914, the industrial accident commission has received from all sources \$6,007,081 which it has disbursed in the course of business at an administrative expense of only 6.17 per cent, the balance being available for the payment of claims of workmen injured in Oregon industry. During the year 1918 there were 25,288 workmen injured in industry in the state, 182 of the accidents being fatal.

## Recovers His Memory

Alton J. Zuver, who was taken up in the streets of Aberdeen several days ago and was unable to identify himself, has recovered his memory. Zuver's home is in Falls City, Or., and prior to going there he was employed by the Portland Gas & Coke company at Portland. His father-in-law, W. H. Weiser, lives at 321 East Burlington street, St. Johns. Zuver is a carpenter. He says he had been in Raymond before coming here. His wife and child are buried there. He has three children living with his father-in-law. Only one point remains befogged in Zuver's mind. He cannot remember why he came to Aberdeen or how he came to be wandering the streets there penniless and half starved. He suspects that he was hurt accidentally or beaten about the head by thugs. When in Raymond he had about \$20 and some dress clothes. Money and clothing have disappeared.

The nearer home you spend your dollar the more that dollar will benefit you. CURRIN SAYS SO.

## Good To Be Elastic

It is good we're so elastic, for it helps us play the game; not a grief can be so drastic that we can't forget the same. I have half a ton of sorrow bearing down to day, on me; but by ten o'clock tomorrow I'll be happy as can be. It's our nature to be joyous, to indulge in mirth and song. Sometimes we announce, in sadness, that we'll never smile again; we have said farewell to gladness in this grim gray world of men. Woe has got us by the ringlets, grief has soaked into our bones; we're as dour as any kinglets who've been chivied from their thrones. "Let us talk of tombs," we mutter; "let's discourse of epitaphs; for there are no jokes to utter, and there's no excuse for laughs." But the next day we are grinning in the old time cheerful style; and there's naught on earth so winning as our large flamboyant smile. It's our nature to be cheery, to believe that grief is vain; when the times are dark and dreary, it is all that keeps us sane.—Walt Mason.

Who's dead?" asked the stranger viewing the elaborate funeral procession. "The man what's inside the coffin," answered a small boy. "But who is it?" the stranger pursued. "It's the mayor," was the reply. "So the mayor is dead, is he?" mused the stranger. "Why, of course he is," said the small boy wistfully. "D'you think he's having a rehearsal?"—Ex.

How about that spring tonic? We have a large variety of the most approved formulas. CURRIN SAYS SO.