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Subscript ion Rates: Bubscribers will find the date of expiration stamped on their papers to lowing their name. If last payment is not credited, kindly notify us, and

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APERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE have lined up either for r again the session of the legislature just ended. A large part of them principally papers of Democratic leanings, attack the lawmakers in vigorous terms while others defend the session as one of economy and efficiency.

It is too soon to judge the acts of the legislature. Only those few which contained an emergency clause are now in effect and none have had time to test out their merits. Criticism of men and measures should be delayed until time has proven the success or the failure of the bills.

Judging the legislature in a general way from a strictly non-partisan standpoint, it must be acknowledged that the twenty-eighth session has achieved a better record than any previous ones of recent years, yet it is plain to see that many of the platforms, so widely advocated before the election. have been forgotten or ignored.

Practically every legislator went to Salem with the publicly announced resolve to fight for economy and for the consolidation of boards and commissions. As far as economy is concerned, the total appropriations for the session are somewhat below the figures for 1913, but the consolidation program did not go far. Two boards consolidated and two abolished seem to be about the total work along this line. However, it is folly to assume that the entire system of state government can be changed at one session-indeed it would probably be too much of a shock on the organization of the state government to do away with all the boards at one stroke. Perhaps the best plan would be to appoint a commission to study the needs of the state and BEAVER CREEK MAN DISPUTES report at the 1917 session.

The most important measure enacted by the legislature was the prohibition law. This problem was disposed of to the satisfaction of all excepting only the most extreme prohibitionists and anti-prohibitionists.

Lack of harmony between the house and the senate was one of the principal drawbacks to more work. During the last few days of the session the situation became tense until a deadlock was reached. Charges that Sen- Germany Has Been Friend of United ator Day, of Multnomah, was the "fat boss" of the upper house were made throughout the state.

Forty days every two years is a short time to make the laws for a state of the size and population of Oregon. Important bills that should be carefully considered are often rushed through merely because of the lack of time, This fact should be considered when critics attack the acts of the state lawmakers.

HE ENTERPRISE sincerely pities the Courier which, in the issue and sincere appeal, but because it is friend. Like Charles Summer once appearing Friday, declares that it will remain a Democratic paper timely and paves the way for a calm said, "There is a higher law than the bis shoulder as he knelt, and the perin spite of the follies and mistakes of President Wilson and his which no one should be more interestgrape juice friend, William Jennings Bryan,

If the Courier is to be Democratic then it must explain the wonderful our father or mother lands across the is the law of justice toward your details of the administration's foreign policy in the present war times. It in the world's history never attained trail. must defend the Mexican policy and the one act comedy at Vera Cruz. The by any nations of the past or present. ship purchase bill, the tariff, the currency bill and above all the Sullivan in- No nations of the past had, and no ship purchase bill, the tariff, the currency bill and above all the Sullivan inother nation of the present has for its
a neutral nation has a right to permit
its people to sell anything they can
its people to sell anything they can Washington, That worthy sheet must find fault with everything ment upon which ours is founded to warring peoples, I take issue with the chest aft. Republican, which may be easy enought; but IT MUST ALSO DEFEND Name, if you can another nation where him Republican, which may be easy enought; but IT MUST ALSO DEFEND basic principles of government are all it is a fact that the United States and waited. It was evident from their equality, liberty and justice, resting government could stop this war in a stitludes that they expected to see AND HIS FOLLOWERS.

The Courier has the most difficult side of the national political question, tem, and we proudly say to the world. There is at present a great Republican wave sweeping over the country Yes, I am an American and this is tions at war. Without our war iscwhich was brought out at the recent state elections and particularly in Ore- my faith and my flag represents it tories and without our horses the sac- pearance seemed to be wilder him, and which was brought out at the recent state elections and particularly in Orc.

gon, where every legislator excepting only three belong to the dominant our faith, let us now proceed briefly to examine the situation as it actually mane act, yes, a true Christian act.

tories and without our norses the sac inficing of human lives across the sea his hands shook. It was Jean Darnell will soon cease. This would be a human act, yes, a true Christian act.

The Enterprise does not criticize the stand of the Courier. It is to be exists. supposed that in every Republican community the minority party must have and their descendants, strange as it great plants to manufacture life preits supporters in the press, but the Enterprise does pity its rival which must may seem, sympathizing with their nadefend the experiments of the administration and their disastrous results.

TTENTION IS CALLED to a news dispatch and an advertisement cannon, submarines, builets by the mil- be if our government would take a and nodded. "Sure enough," he assent appearing in New York on the same day by the Sun. Both appeared shipping it to the allies. American at home as well as abroad by looking forgot that." in the same issue of that paper as in other papers. The news dis- horses by the thousands are being after the interests of the tolling patch is short:

"Washington, February 16.—Because of the rapidly multiplying joining the allies in this neutra, string-terests of the world. For this great problems confronting the state department in connection with the European gle on our part. Yes, and our gov- conflict is only fundamentally a busiwar, Secretary Bryan has been forced to enlist the aid of Chandler P. Anderson, counsellor to the department in the Taft administration, to act as an munitions of war may be safely land-

"Announcement to this effect was made by Mr. Bryan this afternoon." The second member of the pair was located in the space devoted to advertising and was flanked by notices of vaudeville and melodrama: "CARNEGIE HALL, WED. EVE. FEB. 24

> "Address by "SECRETARY BRYAN "On 'THE NEW ERA' "Seats \$1.50 to \$25c at Boxoffice"

The matter has created considerable comment in eastern states and particularly in New York city. It is to be hoped that the presence of Mr. An- goods for Germany having been stop derson will make it unnecessary for Secretary to cancel his engagement even ped by England on the high seas and though the European conflict should take on a new turn, Tuesday,

BENEFITS OF A BANK CONNECTION

No amount of information can give you knowledge of actual experience. You may know the advantages of a check account at the bank, but not to test the method is to lose the benefits. This is true of all departments of banking. To secure a bank connection is to add many advantages to your daily business transactions, - advantages that you can get in no other way. Our bank is for the benefit of our patrons, for their use every day or occasionally, just as demands require. We daily give practical service to the most exacting customers. We can serve you.

The Bank of Oregon City 33 YEARS IN BUSINESS.

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE IN ITS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF OPERATION, the tolls of the Parsagna canal have totaled \$2,000,000, according to press dispatches received within the last few days. When considering the total investment or a fair return on the cost of the canal, the sum is small.

But the first six months of operation of the canal have been important for greater reasons than the mere monetary returns. The project will pay after international trade routes have been restablished and the commerce has heen incrased by the stopping of the war and better financial conditions throughout the world. The practicability of the canal and the folly of fear Because of the Gatum dam or the Culebra cut have been demonstrated. Profitable or not, the Panama canal is a magnificent engineering triumph and a successful one as well as a protection to the nation that built it.

Nerve was required in the 27 road districts that have determined to levy the daughter-had drawn a plan by special tax for highway purposes. Such a decision was reached, probably in candlelight, to the quarrel, to bis own every district, against the force of strong public sentiment. The total amount of special tax to be collected in the 27 districts will be \$64,012.21 and the Brut time the fatal paper-to know the levies vary from 2 to 10 mills. The fact that 27 districts have determined secret of the wealth of the "Master to levy special taxes for road purposes shows beyond a doubt the sincere desire for better highways that exists in every part of the county. Also it shows that with the present system of handling road building and maintenance, \$232,000 is not enough for the county's roads. Likewise, it is too

The Estacada Progress hits the nail on the head when it remarks that 'the rotten condition of Oregon City's water has been a byword throughout the state for months past and has acted as a far from attractive advertisement besides being a constant source of danger to public health."

LOGIC OF STAND OF THE **ADMINISTRATION**

LAST YEAR QUOTED

States and Britain Constant

Enemy, He Says in Long Communication

plea for neutrality in the weekly edition of the Enterprise. Not that I and neutral American, can point out agree with him entirely in his frank just once when England was our Themas Gallen and His Little Daughter. ed than we Americans regardless of is a higher law than neutrality, and dered the box taken aft.

their coeffict. American men are after the welfare of the business inernment is permitting England to use ed in English ports.

And when an American vessel loaded with bread and cutton is loaded to ponent. This requires munitions of be sent to Germany our government permits the allies to stop the vessel, haul down the American flag, put the British flag in its place and take the cargo to England. You call this neu- this is its true meaning. How weak trality? Our state department talks apologetically to England, but insist. its flag to be hailed down under any ingly to Germany.

When you think of over 26 American merchant vessels conded with pulled down the American flag and then permitting England to take these cargoes and examine it first to see what she wants, before she allows these American ships to go on after allowing our flag to be put upon these masts again, it is enough to make the perces of 1812 turn in their graves with groans.

No wonder these men to whom Rev. Milliken refers are silent. They can afford to be when they know England is again "mistress of the sea," and the United States is meekly submitting to England's outrages but insists sternly that Germany better not shoot at a vessel flying the American flag if it be an English ship. "O, Consistency, thou art a jewel!"

Oh, for Henry Clays in the American congress! Then Rev. Militken refers to England's neutral spirit during the Civil war! That because Lincoin declared a blockade of the southern ports England had a right to declare war upon the north.

I can't convince myself of Brother Milliken's sincerity in these references. England neutral during our OREGON CITY ATHLETIC EXHIBI Civil war? England had the right to declare war upon the north at that time? When Lincoln tried to put down a rebellion, a rebellion mark you. England and France had a right to make war upon the United States because scheduled for Friday night in Cane-Lincoln said to them:

"Here, you quit selling guns, amnunition and quit building battleships tions of their kind during the winter, and quit putting English marines on judging from the names that appear them and helping my rebels?" I hope on the card. that any person with average intelligence can see there is a vast differ- in the Willamette hall, but owing to clais. ence between foreign governments as- a stand taken by the city officials the

ctroy their republic and the present

European conflict. When England in our great Civil war built battleships, marined them with British sailors and put on a confederate captain and then preyed up on northern commerce, she violated every principle of honor and justice. Now, it is a good principle of government to be neutral. But it is also an equally good principle to remember your friends and not forget your en-

Every American public school boy and girl who has read our history can tell you that Germany has always been our friend while England has always been our enemy. During the American revolution who was it that so nobly assisted our own George Washington in his patient struggle for independence? Frederick the Great of Prussia. Who was it that in the great Civil war supported first, last and all the time our immortal Lincoln? Germany. Among the foreigners, no nation furnished as many soldiers for OREGON CITY, Ore., Rt. 3, Feb. 21. the union cause as did Germany sec-(Editor of the Enterprise)-I have onded nobly by Ireland. You, who in just read with pleasure Rev. Milliken's this unfair, one-sided conflict, looking

Then in conclusion, let me just re

short time. Our government can stop stone. Tais is the theory of our sys- our manufacturers from making and erwise, why this costly expedition?

We find the naturalized Americans pel indirectly, if not directly, these tive lands across the seas. We find who are roaming abroad in our land the lock. Mrs. Darnell angrity jerked the newspapers of the United States by the millions without homes, with at his shoulder. nearly all on the side of the allies, out clothing and without bread. How We find our manufacturers making much more truly American would it lion, and other munitions of war and greater interest in preserving life here ed, "we have the key! Funny I had shipped to the alnes to help them in masses everywhere, instead of looking ness man's war. Commercial jealousy and they were all staring at the sodthe American flag in order that these of Germany's marvelous success has den contents. aroused the jealous fear of England and Japan. To make business interests succeed requires death to the opwar and human life.

To make the toiling masses succeed means equality, liberty, justice and if the American flag stands for anything then for our government to permit pretent or allow its use as a disguise to protect Great Britain from her en-ROBERT GINTHER.

NOBLE HAS QUERY FOR ROBERT GINTHER

OREGON CITY, Ore., Feb. 24.-(Edtor of the Enterprise)-I do not think much good will be done arguing about this deplorable war. A war in which so many United States citizens have some of their dearest kin fighting on both sides. But in all fairness, I would like to ask my brother citizen Robert Ginther this question:

Is there one thing that he says the United States government and firms allow the allies to do that they will not allow Germany to do

C. S. NOBLE.

TIONS SET FOR FRIDAY

The boxing and wrestling bouts mah park by the Oregon City Athletic

The meets were to have been held disting rebels in their attempt to de-place was changed Wednesday to the and two boxing bouts. Emmett Dunn

"I was dreaming." he said slowly, she saw the flame in his eyes.

boat and laughed bitterly. Dorr was welcome to what there was in the old

CHAPTER XXI.

"Only an idel."

at it stupidly. His mind went back

down the years to that night when

Thomas Gallon-scheming for his lit-

And now he was about to see for the

It was Jean Darnell who recalled

him to the present. She leaned over

Key." He forgot his surroundings.

desperate flight and escape.

HEN the chest was hove on

ous, Harry Wilkerson stared

Idols don't talk."

was pursuing them.

htm, helped him.

cost so much.

his shirt.

The idol rolled away and came to

"No plans!" muttered Wilkerson with

"Only an idolf" laughed Jean in wild

In the bitterness of her heart was no

Presently a sailor made excuse to

come aft and peered at the pile of

stealthily caught it up and hid it in

"Good in a pawashop," he chuckled.

escaped from Wilkerson's filching fin-

When the launch put into San Pedro

think it worth your while."

call out some inarticulate plea,

She merely smiled again and left.

She paid no attention to one of the

a concealed object beneath his jacket

This individual, once clear of the wa-

ter front, quickly made his way to

a pawnbroker's shop, and the idol

changed hands for a small sum after

Before Wilkerson had settled with

the diver John Dorr's launch also

made its landing, and the two enemies

As he slipped away he saw the other

"There is just one thing to do," John

told the broken bearted Ruth, "and

"I'm going to Los Angeles," she said.

"Didn't they take anything?" de-

manded Ruth, peering curiously at the

the mementos of the long past trage-

dy, and then the captain suddenly ejac-

ulated, "Yes, there is one thing miss-

"An old idol. But I'm sure neither

"But what became of it?" John con-

"Maybe one of the men picked it up

tinued, trying to conceal his anxiety.

for a curio," the skipper said apolo-

getically. "Everybody seemed to think

the old thing was worthless, and you

know a sailor will grab at just that

kind of thing. Better ask some of the

A few moments later Dorr had learn

ed that one of the sailors had indeed

taken the image and gone uptown with

John thanked the captain, and when

"What is that?" demanded John

cles scattered on the deck.

moldy sea chest.

of them took it."

crew.

would have met except that Wilkerson had to go to bank to cash a draft.

much haggling

He looked up, laughed and then or-

Then he looked at her directly, and "Why dream when things are com-

nothing less than great treasure. Oth-But Wilkerson did not start immedi-

ately to open the chest. Its very ap-

launch is chasing us!"

"Harry, you fool, here is the key!"

He took the article she handed bim

With some difficulty he managed to clear the lock and insert the key. It turned with difficulty. A moment later he had pried the lid

back from its setting of rust and slime There was no sound except the trun-

dling of the swiftly revolving propeller and the heavy breathing of the suffors. Suddenly Wilkerson swung round angrily and ordered everybody forward.

Then he began his slow search. Old jackets almost disintegrated by the action of water, pulpy papers and

Wilkerson Stared at It Stupidly.

various odds and ends came to his hand. The pulp he carefully laid aside as being possibly what he was looking for.
"I'm afraid the plans are gone," Jean

whispered. 'We must find them!" he snarled and went on with his task

Halfway down be came upon a grotesque figure dripping with woody coze. It stiffly stared up at him as he

hall, the club was put to some disad- boxing bout. Willard Montgomery, of or in sticking in major league comvantage by the decision of the offi- Oregon City, and Bill Sherry, of Porthibition of the evening. The card consists of two wrestling

it, apparently to sell it.

Harry Lammers, of Beaver Creek, when about the same age.

By John Fleming Wilson

"Some sallor's curio. Well, go on, said, "That fdol is what we are after, An hour afterward Harry Wilkerson

But where can we find it?" she deck, dripping with ocean rose to his feet and kicked the scatter-alime, corroded and mysteri- ad contents of the chest into the scup-We must trace the sailor. Ten to

one be'll try to sell it to a secondhand man. Our best plan Is to look into the a stop upright against the bulwarks, pawushops, I think, Ruth." he anawered. when it presented glazed, mysterious The first places they visited gave up

no information of value. The third pawnbroker looked at Dorr curiously when he saked whether a man had been in to dispose of an idol.

"That thing seems to be wanted pret-Then her handsome face flamed with ty much," he remarked. "But I bought wrath. She turned her back conit in good faith and sold it to a Hindu temptuously on Wilkerson and stared a little while after for a rug. Maybe across the water at the launch which you would like to buy a rug?"

They made it plain that rugs did not interest them and departed with the mingling of pity for her tool; only self poor satisfaction of knowing that the contempt that she had depended on object of their search was in the hands of an unknown wandering peddler of When abe could control herself she rugs, who was presumably an East Inwent forward to get out of sight of the mocking heap of rubbish that had

"We can't do any more just now." John told Ruth.

"No," was the response. "But I am going to keep an eye out for a Hindu rug seller. I don't imagine there are junk. The idol caught his eye, and he very many of them here, so it ought to be an easy matter to pick him up.

As they walked back to the botel Thus once more the plans of the Buth grew more cheerful. "At any mother lode of the "Master Key" mine | rate, Wilkerson and Mrs. Darnell missed it." she remarked.

"I never understood just why that woman mixed berself up in this," John



"All she is after is money."

said thoughtfully. "You must have got some notion, Ruth. You were with her some time."

"Yes, I have an idea," she responded. "I'm not sure of all the details, but it seems Mrs. Darnell knew both father and Harry Wilkerson in the old

"And what?" "Well," she went on, blushing divine-"father didn't like Jean and wouldn't have anything to do with her nor allow me to either. She always hated father after that."

"Wilkerson is certainly in love with her," John said presently. "I think he is," Ruth asserted. "But

she doesn't care anything about him, I'm sure. All she is after is money." Later in the evening as they discussed the events of the day John brought up the subject of Wilkerson's anxiety for the papers again and recalled the fact that old Tom Gallon had always

insisted on Wilkerson's knowledge of

something. "I wonder just what it was," he went "If he knows just where that rich lode is he's concealed his knowledge pretty well, and the engerness he is showing to get hold of the plans is proof that he isn't sure."

that is to find out what Wilkerson did "He is spending lots of money," she sighed. "How much longer can we with what he got from your father's keep this up. John? Surely we are broke again?"

The captain of the other boat re-"Not so long as good old Everett ceived them with a good humored sticks by us," was the response grin and in answer to their inquiries pointed to the open box and the arti-"But-maybe father was mistaken,

and we can't pay it all back!" "Nonsense!" he said reassuringly. "I "So far as I could make out," he can make the mine pay just as it went on, "there wasn't anything in the stands. But I promised your father I'd old chest worth the trouble of going see that you got all your rights, and he after. At any rate Mr. Wilkerson and certainly meant for you to have the the lady seemed disappointed and put wealth hidden somewhere in the 'Mas-

ter Key' mine." "And we've lost the deeds and the key, and we haven't found the plans," she sighed.

"Not a thing, so far as I could dis-"I'll find that Hindu and his precover," was the reply. "In fact, I clous idol if I have to go to India," he heard the two of them kind of quarsaid promptly. "One thing-we won't reling, and the lady went off by herhave Harry Wilkerson spoiling our schemes. He'll give up now." The three of them stared down at

But Wilkerson had not given up. On his return from the bank he had learned from the launch captain of Dorr's interest in the idol, and he had promptly followed this clew, with the result that he knew as much about its where abouts as John and Ruth did, so far as its getting into the hands of an East Indian peddler was concerned. Whether Dorr had recovered the Image from him he did not know.

(Continued on page 6.)

and Harry Stonicher will give a lively exhibition of wrestling and Owens and Aggle Genilli will complete the card

WAGNER IS 41 YEARS OLD

he and Ruth were out of earshot he PITTSBURGH, Feb. 24. - "Honus" Vagner, veteran shortstop of the Pittsburgh National league team, celebratdancing pavillion in the park. Owing and Hugh Kellogg, the latter of Ported today his 41st birthday. There are club will probably be the best attractor to the fact that it was advertised that land, will put on the principal stunt few players who can show such a recto the fact that it was advertised that land, will put on the principal stat ord as Wagner, either for the quality of the bouts were to be held in the local of the evening in the shape of a fast of form shown during their careers, Oregon City, and Bill Sherry, of Port-land, will stage the other boxing ex-when he was 38 years old, and most of the other veterans were through