The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1915.

ONE BILLION NOT ENOUGH.

The United States is a billion-dollar country and the spenders and wasters at Washington are running it. There are millions to be extorted from the people in revenue, but not a dollar for economy.

The estimated revenues for the Government for the fiscal year ending in 1916 are the immense sum or $1,055,000,000. The expenditures—according to the estimates of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo—are to be $1,090,000,000.

Here, then, the Government faces a deficit. A billion dollars is not enough for a single year. It is not enough with fifty-five millions added. There must be more revenue, or the Administration will have either to go into the red or cut down expenses.

A billion dollars was enough for any preceding Administration; but not for the present. They blame the war; they blame the industrial depression; they blame even the Republicans; but they never blame themselves, who alone are to blame.

FOR A BOURBON EMERGENCY.

Senator Burton has brought clearly to light the evil consequences and the ineffectiveness in attaining the desired results of the Administration shipping bill. That bill was rushed through committees of both House and Senate and through the House with very little inquiry or debate. An attempt is now being made to rush it through the Senate in the same manner by means of a conspiracy of silence among Democrats, who refuse to debate.

This extraordinary effort is being made to "jam through" a bill which is revolutionary in character and which would embark this Government in a private business in which no other nation on earth has engaged. Other nations have engaged in lines of business within their own borders which are natural monopolies, such as railroads, telegraphs and telephones, but the Administration proposes that this Nation engage in a business which must be conducted outside its own borders, in competition with its own citizens and with citizens of other countries. These Government ships are to "engage in trade with foreign countries," and it is provided that they shall have the same status as privately-owned ships, but neither that mere declaration nor the fiction that they are owned not by the Government but by a corporation can remove the fact that the Government would own control of that corporation. Other nations would ignore this transparent disguise and would regard the ships as Government ships and would hold this Government responsible for their action.

As originally reported to the Senate, the bill provided for ships to run to Central and South America "and elsewhere." Mr. Burton proved by quoting the sailings from New York and the amount of unused space in them, that the ships now running from American ports to Central and South America are now more than enough to carry the present trade. So far from our trade with those regions having languished for lack of vessels, it is larger than that of any other country, and the recent discussion of expansion has been directed to the capture of some part of the trade which Europe cannot supply because of the war. Nor are the present rates to Latin America exorbitant, for Mr. Burton showed that the increase during the war has been only 20 to 25 per cent, despite war risks, which were considerable until German cruisers were swept from the sea.

Insertion of the word "elsewhere" in the original bill and substitution of the words "engage in trade with foreign countries" implies a purpose to engage in trade with Europe. If our Government should buy the interned German ships, load them with cotton and send them to Bremen, what chance would they have of escaping seizure by allied cruisers? The allies would not be deterred from seizing the ships because they were owned by a Government-controlled corporation; they would be more apt to accuse our Government of an unneutral act in buying the ships and in thus releasing cash resources of their enemies which would otherwise have remained unavailable throughout the war. As Senator Root said, with every belligerent ship we bought we should also buy a foreign complication.

A large proportion, probably half, of our exports to Europe is now contraband of war. If more than half of the cargo of a Government ship bound for Germany were contraband the ship and cargo would be lawful prize, and our Government would be accused by the allies, with some cause, of giving aid to the enemy. If Government ships carried similar cargoes to the allies, Germany might justly make the same charge. We could not deceive them with the pretense that the ships were owned by a corporation in which the Government was merely a stockholder. They would brush that explanation aside and would point to the fact that the Government owned a controlling interest and directed operations through its shipping board.

From what ports would these ships run? Every port on each of our coasts would clamor for a Government line and would pull political wires to influence the shipping board. If every port were gratified by being made a terminal, the $40,000,000 investment which is contemplated would not go far. If a steamer starting, say, from Boston for Buenos Ayres were to call at every port on the Atlantic Coast it would prove a long, long way to Rio, and Brazilian importers would weary of waiting for their goods.

The fact that a solid phalanx of Bourbon Democrats supports the shipping bill and will not be denied suggests that the emergency is not an emergency extending to all American commerce, but is one limited chiefly to the Southern States. It suggests that the Scioto Gazette answered correctly the Chicago Tribune's question, "What is behind the ship purchase bill?" when it said:

> The answer is plain: The Southern planters. They have been seriously hurt in the marketing of their cotton by the war. They wanted the Government to buy it. Failing in this they now see an opportunity of having it carried to European markets at a rate of freight to be fixed by their own friends and representatives. And they want this arrangement to begin as soon as possible and to last as long as possible.

The National emergency is the need of an American merchant marine which shall carry the commerce of the whole Nation, not of a favored section, and which shall be permanent, because profitable, although competing with the world. That emergency can be met only by a thorough study of the whole problem by a non-partisan commission, which shall uncover the causes of our failure and of other nations' success and which shall report a measure according with its findings. When Congress passes such a law we shall have laid the keel of a large and permanent merchant marine. The ship-purchase bill is doomed to failure, but a commission could be created at this session and a law enacting its recommendations could be passed at the next session. The true remedy is to remove obstacles to private enterprise, not to add one more to those obstacles.

INVIDIOUS COMPARISON.

The Oregonian has received from a critical subscriber a statistical discussion of the auditorium matter, running somewhat in this fashion:

> January, 1914—Strong talk about building a municipal auditorium in Portland.
> January, 1914—Same thing in San Francisco.
> April, 1914—Same in Portland.
> April, 1914—Laid cornerstone for auditorium in San Francisco.
> January, 1915—No auditorium talk at all in Portland. Everybody asleep.
> January, 1915—Twenty-five thousand happy people attend first ball in auditorium, owned and controlled by the City of San Francisco.
> Tip—Don't compare the wideawake spirit of the two cities any more.

We will not make any such comparisons; nor have we. But if we were to make them we should call attention to the historical fact that Portland conceived the auditorium idea long before San Francisco did, and voted the bonds. All this was something like five years ago. We have no auditorium, to be sure; but our intentions are good.

Just now, when labor is clamoring for employment, it is particularly unfortunate that the auditorium project is at a standstill. The Supreme Court will decide the auditorium case some day; and then perhaps Portland will go ahead in real earnest to build the structure.

THE BEAUTY OF GETTING TOGETHER.

For years John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and "Mother" Jones seem to have regarded each other as the embodiment of all that is evil in industrial affairs. Finally Mrs. Jones heard Mr. Rockefeller express his opinions and sentiments frankly to the Industrial Relations Commission. What she heard impelled her to seek a personal conversation with him, and he readily consented. As a result of that conversation each has discovered that he or she misunderstood the other and that they substantially agree on principles and on the main points of applying these principles.

Here is a lesson in the immense advantage of getting together and calmly talking over our differences. How many times have two farmers cursed each other across the width of a forty-acre field, only to learn as they drew closer together that each had some reason on his side, and to lower their tones and to moderate their language until when they met and leaned their arms on the fence they settled their dispute without difficulty?

Mr. Rockefeller, although holding or representing the largest interest in his Colorado corporation, has done business only through executive officers whose chief purpose was to make the best financial showing. When trouble came he was unwilling to "go over their heads," meet their opponents and learn and remove the cause. Mrs. Jones, finding him remote and inaccessible and finding no one to deal with as representing him except local officials who were embittered against the strikers and who retaliated for her fiery speeches by causing her arrest, came to regard him as a sort of ogre. Mr. Rockefeller, judging of Mrs. Jones by her speeches, formed the same impression of her. When they actually met each was agreeably surprised to find what a reasonable being the other was.

Had Mr. Rockefeller done a year and a half ago what he now intends to do—gone to Colorado, personally met the miners and learned the cause of trouble—much bloodshed, misery and financial loss might have been avoided. But perhaps nothing except the terrible events of the last year and a half could have brought him to his present commendable frame of mind.

THE WAR ON TUBERCULOSIS.

Dr. Grover Bellinger, of the State Tubercular Sanitarium, gave an interesting account of that institution in a talk to a Salem business men's club the other day. The sanitarium was opened by legislative authority in November, 1910, and up to the beginning of the current year had admitted 530 patients. Any person who has resided in Oregon for a year may enjoy the benefits of the state sanitarium if he obtains a certificate of his need from a physician with the County Judge's signature. Some seventy persons can be cared for there when all its capacity is utilized. The expense to the state, according to Dr. Bellinger, is about $35 a month for each patient. In the course of two years, ended last September, the sanitarium discharged 221 patients, of whom ninety-six were probably cured. In all of them there was manifest improvement, but the physicians do not venture to pronounce them permanently cured until they have been under outside observation for several months. The disease is apt to return should conditions favor it, even after it has to all appearances been extirpated.

Like all other physicians who have to deal with tuberculosis, Dr. Bellinger insists upon the prime importance of prevention. Formerly afflicted persons took no precautions for the safety of those around them. They are still much too careless. The case is cited of one old man at French Prairie who "infected and thus killed seven members of his household." Almost every neighborhood can produce incidents of the same sort. They should not be ascribed to murderous malice, but to ignorance, though it makes little difference to the victims. Dr. Bellinger tells of another old man reeking with tubercular germs who assured him that he always took the greatest precautions against infecting others. A little later the physicians caught him spitting on the sidewalk. The need of education, and perhaps something sterner, is only too patent in such cases. If, as great authorities tell us, 75 per cent of the population is infected with tuberculosis more or less seriously, there is wide room for missionary work in popular hygiene.

A RUNAWAY.

In appointing the House committee on alcoholic traffic Speaker Selling clearly sought to balance the membership so that neither radical prohibitionists nor radical opponents of prohibition should have a preponderance of influence.

It was naturally supposed that an evenly-balanced committee would be able to agree on a bill that would best carry out the wishes of the people as expressed in the last election. Yet the committee members exhibit a remarkable unanimity of purpose. They are bent on reporting out a copper-riveted, brass-bound law which would make acquirement from without the state of wine or other alcoholic beverages for lawful use in the privacy of one's home so burdensome as to be a restriction on personal liberty.

The provisions of the bill, as now agreed upon by the House committee, limit the quantity that one person may ship in by common carrier to two quarts of spirituous or two quarts of vinous or fifteen quarts of malt liquors in any one month. Mark the word "or." The user has a choice of one or the other. He cannot have all. But to get this meager quantity out of the express office the consignee must make solemn oath that he is not a habitual drunkard and give a number of other items of information, all of which within the thirty days becomes a public record at the office of the County Clerk and open to the inspection of every scandal-monger in the county who is able to dine sumptuously off a crumb of gossip.

Such restrictions offer but one conclusion. The liberal members on the committee believe that an obnoxious bill will sooner or later arouse the people to kill the entire principle of prohibition. Their working partners on the committee seem to possess a sanctimonious impression that their mission in the Legislature is to compel the public to conform to their particular ideas of how the public shall conduct its intimately personal affairs.

When two such elements work as a team a runaway is perhaps to be expected and the only hope of avoiding a wreck lies in the Legislature as a body. The Oregonian trusts that there are not very many members in either House or Senate who do not realize clearly that they are not there to force their personal opinions on an unwilling public and that neither trickery nor hidebound prejudice can be tolerated in the face of a public decision so definitely defined as was the decision on the particular prohibition measure adopted last November.

The amendment went before the people with solemn assurance from its proponents that there was no intent to interfere with the personal liberties of the people. The voters relied upon that assurance. As a moral guidance that assurance is as much a part of the law as if it had been specifically included in the amendment. So plainly has a programme been laid down by the people in this particular that the Legislature ought to have no grave trouble in agreeing on a popular law. About all that is needed to reach that end is the exercise of common sense and decency of opinion.

CRITICISING EUGENICS.

The February Atlantic Monthly publishes a sensible article on eugenics by S. J. Holmes. It is in reply to a recent attack on eugenic theory and methods by Fielding-Hall, who should have known better than to discuss a subject of which he evidently knew little or nothing. Fielding-Hall imagined that eugenists wish to set about propagating human beings as stockmen do horses and cattle. This silly mistake led him into all sorts of absurdities. The leading apostles of eugenics do not wish to disturb the marriage relation and they expect to improve mankind by a slow process of education rather than by law. The only radical measures which they approve concern degenerates who exhibit insanity, feeble-mindedness and the like traits. It is admitted by all rational persons that these defectives should not be permitted to marry and propagate their miseries. Under suitable restraint they would die out in a short time and the world would be rid of their particular troubles.

David Starr Jordan has given an account of a certain district in Europe where a singularly virulent kind of cretinism had been prevalent for many years. The people, he says, "were breeding a special type of man utterly incompetent to take care of himself and useless for all purposes." The local authorities finally segregated the cretins, forbade them to marry and thus in a short time caused them to disappear. A similar policy might be pursued with regard to many other varieties of degenerates with no inhumanity to the sufferers and with immense benefit to the world. The subject of eugenics has now been under discussion for several years, but its purposes and aims are still misconstrued by men of whom better things might have been expected. It is impossible for even a Fielding-Hall to treat any social subject edifyingly without studying its elements a little.

RURAL CLUBS.

The University of Wisconsin has been working hard of late years to improve the conditions of country life. The agricultural college of the university has made dairying a much more profitable business than it was formerly. New methods of grain-growing have been introduced. Tobacco has been made a highly profitable crop and many similar advances have been made in the interest of rural dwellers. The university has done as much on the intellectual side of life as on the material. Within the last few years it has been deeply concerned with what may be called the social and religious uplift. Clubs have been organized in the country villages. Debating has been encouraged in the public schools. Neighborhood clubs have been organized widely and the plan of lending libraries to the people has been pushed to great perfection. The debates which the university encourages have not been limited to school children. It is organizing men's clubs for the same purpose. They are variously known as Six o'Clock Clubs, Candlelight Clubs, Civic Leagues, or simply Men's Clubs.

The members are often business and professional men and the questions they discuss cover everything that interests civilized human beings. The programme usually begins with a lecture, which is followed by free-speaking on the part of the members. Of course a great deal of information is disseminated on vital matters, but of still more advantage is the social life which these clubs foster. "Business rivals foregather in a genial atmosphere and forget their differences and vexations in planning for the common welfare. Time is devoted to broad projects of work for humanity."

Both heart and mind are broadened by the relaxation and change of thought which the clubs inspire. Such clubs are perfectly feasible in every rural community. The only prerequisite is trained leadership to set them going. Where shall the leaders be found? The harvest is plenteous but the laborers are few.

The annual report of Harvard's President Lowell gives the startling information that the university is short of money. The University Press needs funds. So does the dental school. There is penury everywhere. "There is almost no branch of the university," writes the Harvard president, "that is not straitened and hampered by lack of funds." Evidently Harvard is almost ready to join the cue at the door of the soup kitchen.

The Suffragist which speaks for a suffrage amendment to the Federal Constitution is growing a little impatient with President Wilson. He has now "turned back for the eighth time a suffrage delegation of representative women," pleading that it was all a question for the states. State rights is a convenient catch-all for Mr. Wilson to contain subjects upon which he dares not use his brain.

The Saturday Evening Post comments ruefully on the fact that farmers can no longer afford to raise calves. "Feed, milk and veal are all so high that due consideration of profit ruthlessly devotes the young animals to slaughter." The Post thinks "we may as well at once order a last porterhouse, kiss it a tearful farewell" and proceed "to learn the charms of boiled turnips."

Kitchener showed he has heart in ordering a furlough, with ration and expense money, for a young trooper with the expeditionary force whose mother was dying. All the same, he will next Spring throw the young trooper and a million with him into the jaws of German artillery and never lose a wink of sleep.

It is a comfort to notice that old-style graham bread is regaining its prestige. Since three-fourths of the wheat's nutriment is in the bran, what folly to reject that part, particularly when the price is soaring. Graham bread tastes better than the chalky loaf and is infinitely more wholesome.

Farmers who are raising kale plants in hotbeds for early planting have begun an interesting experiment. Their expectation is to have kale ready to feed in the August drought. This is quite practicable. The only wonder is that it was not done long ago.

Creamerymen will rejoice at conviction of the "bull butter" men at St. Louis for defrauding the Government during eleven years. Integrity of the butter business is built on the confidence of the buying public, and when it is abused the malefactor must get the limit.

The Administration is worrying over the deficit. The only successful Democratic policy thus far is the Mexican matter, and just how much of a success that is the public may judge from the dispatches of late.

"Down with the war" has become a popular cry in Austria. It is not much heard in the other fighting countries yet, but wait a few months longer and then listen. People seldom feel after a year or two of war quite as they did at its beginning.

Call for a thousand men to clear streets of Berlin naturally brought but sixty responses. In wartime "let the women do the work," and in the case of the German woman she will do it with a snap and "go."

The Clarke County pullet that laid an egg nine inches around the larger way will get wise as she gets older and conserve her energy, as do all old hens.

The big attack planned for the Kaiser's birthday failed to develop. Possibly the field marshals wanted to take no chances of marring the occasion.

No compromise is in sight over the Democratic patronage fight. Better get together, gentlemen. Your brief lease of power is rapidly passing.

The Russians have lost their Carpathian passes. Which will prevent them from riding inland on Austrian railroads.

Oregonians who would move to Canada will note the temperature of 56 below zero at White River this week.

Montana's "dry" measure, if adopted, will put a number of ready reliefs in the drugstore trade out of business.

Mexico's food supply is about exhausted. The revolutionary industry does not produce food supplies.

The boys who re-enlisted for the Oregon's trip will have a longer term to serve than anticipated.

This is Sunflower day and an occasion of note, but next Tuesday will be the day of days.

Of course Wilhelm received birthday greetings from Nick and Cousin George.

The McAdoo girl is too big to become reconciled to her new ma.

That's a right smart press agent the Rockefellers have hired.

This is the weather that makes the native glad.

Mexico approaches the last gasp.

Stars and Starmakers

BY LEONE CASS BAER.

WALTER GILBERT has discovered one of the reasons so many actors are out of work. He says there are far too many of them in the business.

* * *

Honora Hamilton, who used to sing in local grills, has got into vaudeville, in a small-time way. She and her partner, George Henry, are at the Princess in San Francisco.

* * *

Frank J. Morse, formerly dramatic editor of the Washington Post, is ahead of Henry Miller in "Daddy Long Legs," now in California—and soon coming to Portland.

* * *

Howard Russell has written another sketch for vaudeville, said by reviewers to be even more clever than his "Smithy and the Eel," which visited us via Pantages last Fall. Like that sketch, this one also is of the crook variety. Its title, "The Crooks," alone suggests as much. Harry Cornell and Ethel Conley and Mrs. Howard Russell, the same cast that presented the first sketch, appear in the new one. Mrs. Russell's professional name is Minna Townshend. She is a Portland girl, the daughter of Judge and Mrs. J. T. Lighter, and her brother is Thomas Lighter. Howard Russell is a former Baker player, who is now with the Avenue Stock in Vancouver, B. C.

* * *

New stars are beginning to peep out in the theatrical firmament. Florence Reed has been made the star of "The Yellow Ticket"; Ann Murdock twinkles as a star in "A Girl of Today," under Charles Frohman's management; Pauline Fredericks is now the star of "Innocent," and Marjorie Rambeau (Mrs. Willard Mack) is soon to be launched as the star in "So Much for So Much," her husband's play, under the direction of H. H. Frazee.

* * *

"The Bubble," Edward Locke's newest play, has been given a successful tryout by Louis Mann in Schenectady, N. Y., and is scheduled next for Chicago. Mathilde Cottrelly is his leading woman. The play concerns the exploits of a crafty bucket shop schemer who contrives against the proprietor of a delicatessen emporium.

* * *

Molly McIntyre, who is through with her season in "Kitty Mackay," is going into vaudeville in a sketch called "The Fiddle Told."

* * *

Cora Belle Bonnie, who returns to the Baker Sunday in "The Dawn of a Tomorrow," Gertrude Elliott's appealing success, says she knows a woman who reduces her weight by rolling around on the floor every morning. Sort of coffee and rolls atmosphere, as it were.

* * *

Toby Claude, who was recently arrested at the instigation of a Buffalo installment jeweler, filed a petition in bankruptcy on January 14, with liabilities at $5500. Miss Claude's trial in Buffalo on the alleged charge of grand larceny comes up in February.

Toby has visited us via Orpheum vaudeville.

* * *

Marion Barney has succeeded Edna Baker as leading woman of the stock company at His Majesty's Theater in Montreal.

* * *

The title of the new comedy intended for Lou Tellegen has been changed from "An Irresistible Man" to "A Charming Fellow." Sounds like a wrist watch and lavender spats.

* * *

A play depicting the peril of the Nation because of its unpreparedness for war is scheduled for production shortly by Harry Von Tilzer, producer of "Today." The play is "Stultitia" (Folly), and is of anonymous authorship. "Stultitia" was written in February, 1913, and is said to have predicted the present European war and, further, that the victor would wage war against the United States because of its insistence of the Monroe doctrine policy and complications resulting from the Panama Canal. Before the foreign foe begins its invasion of the country, after destroying our Navy, the United States is represented as paying for peace to prevent the bombardment of New York City.

The scenes are laid in Washington. Statesmen, politicians, high military and Navy officers, financiers, diplomats, peace advocates, and even the President of the United States are introduced as characters in the play.

* * *

Eugenie Blair, who is playing in stock at Columbus, O., is spending her spare time writing motion picture scenarios.

* * *

War conditions in England and their effects on the theatrical outlook in the United States have forced steps for the uniting of the English Actors' Association and the Actors' Equity Association of this country. For a number of months there has been constant friction between the two organizations. The English actors charged that they were discriminated against in this country. The American actors said that the presence here of English actors made it more difficult for them to get positions, and that they were discriminated against in England. The membership of the English association is estimated at about 1500, and the Actors' Equity Association membership roll reached the 2000 mark yesterday. It is understood that the threatened cut in actors' salaries on account of the war has had much to do with the patching up of the long-standing differences between English and American actors.

* * *

Daniel Frohman, president of the Actors' Fund, is in receipt of the following letter:

"Daniel Frohman, Esq., Actors' Fund of America—Dear Mr. Frohman: For some weeks past we have had in our company a fund which we call the war fund, and which was intended for the distressed and out-of-work actors in England.

"We find, however, that the effects of the war are now being so much felt in this country that we have much pleasure in sending you $50 out of our funds in hand. Inclosed please find M. O. for that amount. Yours very truly, Members of the George Arliss Company."

Clean-Up Day Lincoln's Birthday.

PORTLAND, Jan. 28.—(To the Editor.)—Portland's Mayor must have had in mind the old adage, "the better the day the better the deed," when he chose as cleaning-up day February 12, the birthday of the only American saint, Abraham Lincoln. However, it seems to me that out of respect for that beloved and martyred President another day might have been selected. Those who lived at that time and fought and suffered with him will probably voice this sentiment with me.

PAUL PFERDNER.

SERVIAN SIDE OF WAR VIEWED

Militarism Held Not So Much a Danger as Civic Duty a Need.

PORTLAND, Jan. 28.—(To the Editor.)—A few days ago you published an appeal from a Servian lady, who represented that her people were without seed wheat to replant their crops. We have been generous in our contributions for the relief of Belgian sufferers. It seems to me that the Slavs and the Servians have an equal claim upon us. Bosnia and Herzegovina were invaded and conquered by Austria, and Servia was invaded by the same power. Can we imagine the desperation of our people if the farmers of Oregon had been left by the desolation of war without seed wheat to renew their crops?

We constantly hear the expression that there is no justification for the present war in Europe. Do we stop to think of the great issue at stake? The issue is between pan-Germanism and pan-Slavism. The Britannica Encyclopedia gives the population of the Slavs in Europe as 120,000,000. Of these 60,000,000 are Russians and 60,000,000 are made up of Poles, Bohemians, Servians, Transivanians, Rumelians, Croats and others. All these are men without a country, and are subject to the rule of Germany and Austria. There can be no peace in Europe until this unnatural condition is rectified. We express our gratitude to Lafayette and Steuben for their services in our war of independence. We should not forget the services of Kosciusko and Pulaski.

We are apt to say that the war in Europe is the result of militarism. It is a race war for independence or control. In it militarism is but a means to an end. There is even idle talk about militarism being a danger to this country. Fifteen out of our 28 Presidents had performed military duty before their elections. Would these men have been elected President and a number of them re-elected had our people thought that their election would have proved dangerous to their liberties? Our danger is not from military ambition, but indifference to civic duty.

WILLAMETTE.

VACCINATION MEASURE HELD GOOD

Hood River Man Would Stop Compulsory Inoculation.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)—One of the most sensible bills ever brought before the Legislature of Oregon, is the one presented by Senator Moser to put an end to compulsory vaccination and providing a penalty for its violation.

The American Medical Association, working through and dominating all of the state, county and city boards of health, have tried to compel all citizens, regardless of their medical beliefs or desires, to submit to their dictation and be vaccinated on any and all occasions.

Th medical men, themselves, are at variance on this question, many of them opposing vaccination because it does not do what the doctors claim for it and admitting it is dangerous to life and health.

The people at large are generally awake to this fact and are bitterly opposed to having this thing forced on them or their children regardless of their wishes. During the flood in Ohio not long ago, the American Medical Association were so determined to force the people to bow to their wishes that they placarded the boats that carried supplies to destitute and starving people: "No vaccination, no rations."

I sincerely congratulate Senator Moser on his action in presenting this long-needed bill before the Legislature and feel sure he will have the support of thousands of law-abiding, but liberty-loving people in his battle to relieve them from the clutches of the medical octopus that is today the menace of this Nation.

Very truly yours,
FRANK B. CRAM.

LAW ON ROAD RIGHTS WANTED.

Michigan Newcomer Says His Highway Has Been Fenced In.

PORTLAND, Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—Some time ago I purchased a small tract of land in Columbia County, and was taken over a good traveled road to it, which was represented to me as a county road. Soon after getting a small cabin up and starting to get my supplies in, I woke up one morning to find my supposed public road fenced and four gates across it, notwithstanding that the road had been used by the public for four years. In Michigan, one year's open and notorious use of this road would have made a public road which could not be closed by the abutting property owner.

The lawyers tell me that there is no law in Oregon on the subject, and that my only remedy is against the outfit which sold me the land for misrepresentation. I did not wish to buy a lawsuit, but ony a small piece of land with a road to it. Is it possible that there is no provision in the Oregon laws specifying how long an open traveled road can be used before it becomes a public or county road? If there is not, is this not a good time for the Legislature to get busy and stop a little of the land "bunk" which is being handed to the new settlers in Oregon, who are brought here through high-priced publicity?

I might also suggest that if a good share of this high-priced advertising was placed on the roads of Oregon, in the shape of rock and drains, there would be fewer farmers going away discouraged and disgusted.

A MICHIGAN NEWCOMER.

Unorganized Women.

PORTLAND, Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please state in your columns if there is an effort being made in Portland to organize the unorganized women such as dressmakers, milliners, stenographers and domestic servants? I would like to hear from any of your readers who may be interested in this subject.

VI DEL JENNE,
2048 Multnomah Street.

There has been some effort along this line as it affects one or two of the vocations mentioned. Communicate with the members of Central Labor Council, Portland, and no doubt they can put you in touch with some one who is giving detailed attention to this phase of organized labor.

Sunday Closing in Portland.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 24.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly give me information in regard to the saloons of Portland, Or.

What year were they open on Sundays, and what year were they closed on Sundays, since 1900?

I am, respectfully,

E. P. GESTRICH.

Saloons were open Sundays in Portland until the Summer of 1907. They were closed then by District Attorney Manning, under the state law. In the model liquor ordinance of the city which went into effect April 1, 1911, Sunday closing was made a local law for the first time. Sunday closing, however, has been enforced since 1907.

National Debt Can Be Paid.

HUNTINGTON, Or., Jan. 26.—(To the Editor.)—I have heard it said that the war debt the United States owes the Rothschilds, of England, can never be paid, the contract is so drawn.

GEORGE SEDGE.

Government bonds are issued for a fixed time and can be paid when due or can be redeemed by the issue of new bonds. Even if any irredeemable bonds had been issued, they could be bought in the open market by the Government and cancelled.

Twenty-Five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of January 29, 1890.

Paris.—France is not for free trade. The general view is that the conditions in France, like those in America, differ from Great Britain's.

A petition is being circulated for a tri-weekly mail service between Arlington, Or., and Prosser Falls, Wash.

G. W. McBride, Secretary of State, has brought suit against Major E. G. Adams, of South Berwick, Me., in the Circuit Court of Columbia County. Major Adams formerly published the Columbian at St. Helens. The suit is for $700.

George E. Dayton and Sarah B. Wiswell were married Janury 26 at the residence of Robert Jones, Portland, by Rev. T. E. Clapp.

J. E. Thomas arrived here yesterday from Nestucca en route to Astoria, having received word that his little girl attending school there is sick.

The postoffice yesterday ran out of 2-cent stamps and had to give one-cent postage to many purchasers. Postmaster Roby has $12,000 of the 2-cent variety ordered and it is presumed they are on the delayed trains.

A thief attempted to enter the apartment of W. J. Morgan, 291 Second street, yesterday morning, but he found the locks on the windows and doors more than he bargained for and quit in disgust. Mrs. Morgan said she heard him tinkering away, but was so frightened she could not dare to arouse Mr. Morgan.

Dr. Emma J. Welty will address the public tonight on "Emergencies" in case of illness and accident. She will give suggestions on what to do if a physician is unavailable or "before the doctor comes." The lecture will be preceded with a violin solo by Master Alfred Holt.

L. T. Barin, chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, has decided to call the committees together in Portland, March 5.

Owing to the receipt of telegraphic dispatch conveying the news of the death of the mother of Messrs. Donald and Kenneth Macleay, the warehouse of Corbitt & Macleay will be closed today.

Marshall P. Wilder, the dwarf humorist, is under engagement to Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt to visit all New York hospitals and play jester to the patients. In this manner many of the patients are laughed back to health and happiness.

Congressman Flower defeated William Waldorf Astor for a place in the Lower House of Congress. Astor has found consolation for his political rebuff in writing novels.

"DRY" TEMPORIZING CRITICISED.

Legislature Expected to Make Oregon Prohibition in Fact.

PORTLAND, Jan. 28.—(To the Editor.)—Why are temperance people petitioning the Legislature to limit (or permit) the purchase of alcoholic liquors for a single individual, to two quarts of whisky and 12 quarts of beer every 20 days? Did not our people vote last Fall to abolish saloons because they wished individuals and families protected from the injurious effects of liquor? Did they not wish to abolish the poverty, disgrace and crime that drinking produces? Do not our people, so active for eugenics and "better babies," wish to give the children their rightful heritage to be born well, unhandicapped at birth by the debasing influence of alcohol? Then why do they wish to cater to drinking customs? Why permit a family of five or 10 to have in the home from 70 to 140 quarts every 20 days if they wish?

Why should we nullify the very law we worked so hard to get? Should we not expect the Legislature to interpret the law to mean what it was meant to do?

Where people desire a dry community, let a dry law be effective; let us enforce it; give it a fair trial. Let children grow up as they do in other dry states, not knowing what liquor places or drunkards are from seeing them.

C. E. BRECK.

Tumalo and Other Projects.

SANDY, Or., Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please inform me where the Tumalo irrigation project in Oregon is located; also if there are other irrigation projects being carried on in the state?

CONSTANT READER.

The Tumalo Irrigation Project embraces about 20,000 acres of land in Crook County, lying west of the Deschutes River and adjacent to the town of Laidlaw. The latter town is something like 12 miles north of Bend. The lands run westward from the Deschutes nearly to the town of Sisters. The Tumalo project was first segregated as the Columbia Southern project but the promoters fell down and the state has just completed the reclamation of the land in a very satisfactory manner under the supervision of Engineer O. Laurgaard.

There are various other irrigation projects being carried on, notably the Government projects in Klamath County, the Hermiston project in Umatilla County, the West Umatilla project in Umatilla and Morrow Counties, and various projects in Malheur, Crook, Baker and other counties.

Corn Growing in the West.

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—I have been told some one in Portland has been making a study of the corn yield of the Middle West as compared with the yield of Central Washington and parts of Oregon. I am considerably interested in corn raising in Washington and I have 120 acres five miles west of Yakima, where I have some Berkshire hogs that would do better from a business standpoint if the corn proposition was better understood in the irrigated sections of this state. Can you advise me where I would get this information?

H. P. VERMILYE.

Write to J. L. Smith, "Corn Expert," of the O.-W. R. & N. Company, Portland.

Game Bill Upheld.

HAMMOND, Or., Jan. 26.—(To the Editor.)—What a tin soldier is to the State Militia, so are the men who call themselves sportsmen, who hire game preserves and bait and feed ducks and slaughter them at their will. There is not a grain of American sportsmanship about it. And Senator Dimick deserves the heartiest support in his fight against the trust.

H. GRAY.