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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1915.

GOOD WORK.

The Multnomah County Commissioners have performed with fidelity to the public interest the responsible duty of awarding the paving contracts authorized to be made under the $1,250,000 bond issue. There has been a period of immense agitation by rival contractors and their representatives and friends, and no small pressure has been brought to bear upon the Commissioners to favor this or that style of pavement and this or that particular bidder. But the conclusions reached carry with them no suggestion or suspicion of discrimination for or against any one or any thing.

It is true that the greater portion of the contracts call for one standard pavement—bitulithic—but it is obvious enough why the Commissioners reached their decision. The experience of Portland with bitulithic has been satisfactory, and there was no question that, laid under proper conditions and with ample guarantees, it would meet all expectations. There was not the same certainty about cement, and other types were eliminated from consideration by their large cost. Several of the shorter roads, however, will be laid with cement, so that there will be ample opportunity for a demonstration as to its serviceability and durability.

The example of Multnomah County in building hard-surface roads will be watched with great interest by the state at large. It is certain that it will be followed by other progressive counties, for it is realized everywhere that present traffic conditions call for permanent roads and that anything else is a false economy.

Multnomah County has always kept pace with the demands of the time in road construction. Years ago the gravel road was good enough, but Mr. Lightner, then as now a County Commissioner, began to build macadam roads. Then came the automobile and the auto truck, and Commissioner Lightner encouraged a policy of paved-road construction. The chief propagandists for hard-surface thoroughfares have been Mr. Benson and Mr. Yeon, who, with other public-spirited citizens, have supported the good roads movement, and who have done much to devise and carry into effect a sound road programme, but it is due to Chairman Lightner and his fellow Commissioners, Mr. Holman and Mr. Holbrook, to say that without their co-operation nothing much could now have been done.

The road movement in Oregon is in its beginnings. What Multnomah County has done and is doing is only a fair start. It is matter of congratulation all around that the first great work has been so well done.

DRIVING OUT AMERICAN SHIPS.

As regards at least the requirement that 75 per cent of a ship's crew must be able to understand orders given in the language of the officers, the seamen's act has not worked out according to the expectations of its advocates, including The Oregonian, or of its framers, chief among whom were the officers of the Seamen's Union. Its effect is to drive American ships from trans-Pacific trade and to hand over that trade to Japan. It does not give jobs to more American seamen, but deprives of their jobs those few who have been employed. It has caused the Pacific Mail to announce the withdrawal next November of the only American line which crosses the Pacific. These ships may be tied up, sold, leased or put in some other service where they can comply with the new law without incurring loss. The Pacific Mail having lost money until two years ago and having shown a surplus of only $20,000 in 1913 and $300,000 in 1914, refuses to bear the estimated increase of $620,542 in cost of operation under the new law.

The Pacific Mail line employs Asiatic crews at Asiatic wages. Otherwise it could not compete with Japanese and other ships, which employ Asiatic crews. As Japanese are the only ships employing crews 75 per cent of which understand the language of the officers, they alone can comply with the law. A British ship having officers of its own nationality and an Asiatic crew would, under the new law, be compelled upon arrival at an American port to discharge nearly all its Asiatics and to seek men who could speak English, paying them American wages. It might find the men, but it could not compete with the Japanese, therefore would shun our ports. French, German and other ships would have difficultyin finding enough sailors of their nationality. The Government, in order to enforce the law, would find necessary the employment at each port of a staff of linguists to examine sailors in nautical terms expressed in various languages.

It is doubtful whether so great a shipping nation as Britain could retain its present share of the world's carrying trade if it attempted to enforce such a law. The United States has increased by 50 per cent the proportion of its foreign trade carried under its own flag, but this proportion is still only 12.64 per cent. How much less than Britain could we retain our trade, when we have so slender a hold! Yet we are attempting to lay down the law for ships of all nations visiting our ports and we do so in disregard of our commercial treaties. Notice has been given of the abrogation of those clauses of treaties which conflict with our new law forbidding imprisonment of sailors for desertion, but a commercial treaty is a bargain, in which one or more concessions are given in exchange for others. Foreign nations are apt to declare that our action abrogates the whole treaty.

Our shipping laws have been muddled more than ever by the demagogic readiness of Congress to grant the demands of the seamen without giving proper consideration to the effect on our shipowners, our commerce and our treaties. The whole subject of shipping and seamen's laws should be taken up and threshed out by statesmen and economists.

SORRY NEUTRALITY.

The invertebrate journalism which is at the same time trying to uphold the President and to applaud Mr. Bryan is contemptible. It is to the credit of American newspapers without regard to politics that they have united, with hardly an exception, in support of President Wilson and in condemnation of Mr. Bryan. Yet there are a few papers which are feebly calling upon the people to stand by the President and are piously eulogizing Mr. Bryan, who has refused to stand by the President.

It is the same old game of hunting with the hounds and running with the hares. They are for Wilson and for Bryan, just as they are for America and for Germany in the Lusitania affair.

It is a fearful thing when a newspaper is so worried by the sight of a waning circulation list that it palters with the truth and evades duty. Thus it invites the contempt of all sides. Neutrality is a sordid thing in an issue involving the National safety and honor. A man, or a public journal, cannot then be both a neutral and a patriot.

LET US IN, TOO.

Secretary of the Interior Lane has undertaken a most necessary propaganda in the cause of "Freeing Alaska From Red Tape," that being the title of an article he has contributed to the North American Review. He adopts President Wilson's description of Alaska as a storehouse and of the Alaskan railroad as "thrusting in the key and throwing back the lock and opening the door." When we do so, the "resources must be opened to use, the lands must be opened to settlement." This requires that there be "such administration of the laws as will give to honest settlers prompt and ready assistance, unhampered by red tape and unnecessary delays, while protecting fully the rights of the Nation against monopoly, fraud and waste."

Decentralization for Alaska is proposed by Mr. Lane through the establishment of a development board under the Interior Department, which shall have charge of all Alaskan affairs. That means local centralization, under which Alaskan officials could do all the work now done by the various agents and would have authority to act.

If this be good for Alaska, why is it not good for the West in general? Bureaucratic ignorance, procrastination and red tape have tied up the West only less completely than they have tied up Alaska. At the same time that Mr. Lane proposes to relieve Alaska from these evils, he proposes to aggravate them in the West through his conservation policy. The same arguments which he advances in favor of local control for Alaska are sound as applying to state control of water power in the West. Just as Mr. Lane's Alaska Development Board is preferable to the multifarious agents through whom Uncle Sam now governs Alaska at long range, so would state control of Western resources be preferable to the agents through whom he would administer the resources of the West at a range not quite as long. What is good for Alaska is good for the West.

A DANGEROUS OMISSION.

The short line railways have a good case against non-regulation of automobile competitors. The common carrier that operates over steel rails on its own right of way must provide reasonably adequate service and equipment and charge reasonable rates; it is unlawful for it to discriminate against localities, to offer rebates or to grant passes to other than employes; it must publish its tariffs and is forbidden to charge more or less, or to change its rates without giving notice, and is regulated for the protection of the public in other particulars.

The common carrier that operates over the public highways is unregulated. It may without molestation provide inadequate service and equipment, charge all the traffic will bear, grant rebates, carry its favorites free, and need not publish or conform to fixed tariffs.

The auto carrier of freight and passengers for hire is one of the elements that make hard-surfaced roads necessary. It is one of the causes of the higher cost of permanent road construction. The rail carrier not only must compete with this unregulated competitor, but must pay a portion of the taxes which go to provide its competitor with suitable highways over which to operate.

But regulation is required not wholly as a matter of justice to the railroads. The public has an important interest in seeing that one shipper shall not pay less than another similarly situated for the transportation of his goods. The patrons are entitled to a service governed by considerations higher than the whim or selfishness of the carriers. Growth and prosperity of the community are not so dependent upon fairly conducted auto transportation as they were upon the good will and honest administration of the railroads when the pass and rebate abuses were prevalent, but it is a growing institution and there is no reason to expect that, unregulated, it will be long bound by stricter business morals than were the railways. Neglect to close the way to abuses may mean disaster to many business and industrial enterprises.

THE NEW CITIZENS' FOURTH.

The Americanization day plan for the Fourth of July this year, by which its advocates hope to have the country fairly ring with patriotic addresses, from leaders and laymen alike, has aroused a healthy analytical interest.

The Americanization day campaign intends to make the Fourth of July a day for appealing in every eloquent way to the patriotism of the United States and its people.

To the immigrant just arrived in America, largely ignorant of American customs and language, the firecracker on the Fourth of July no doubt gave him a clearer understanding of Americanism than long patriotic speeches in a tongue which he could hardly understand. The quick reverberating message of the cracker was intelligible.

But this is not intended to be a plea for the old form of Fourth celebration. The Safe and Sane has been proved a vast improvement. Yet, while the Fourth of July plans are being shaped, and the Americanization idea is thriving, let us look to the new citizen who doesn't understand our oratory; who doesn't quite conceive of our inherent patriotism. Let us make our patriotism sane—yet plain to him. In fact the Nation cannot allow to escape an opportunity which the day offers for letting him know how we feel about the basic principles underlying our institutions. Some have chosen to call it an opportunity for offsetting the menace of the hyphen.

The Americanization day committee purposes to have speakers who can best tell the immigrant these basic principles do the Fourth of July speaking this year in all communities where arrangements can be made. Frank Trumbull, chairman of the Americanization day propaganda, will send out from a special bureau in his Washington office information to furnish as many communities as can be interested in the campaign. It will give assistance also in getting speakers, speakers who can tell the immigrant the advantages of citizenship and of learning the English language, of the fundamentals of civil government and of the opportunities for fuller participation in American life.

There is work to do—not alone for Presidents and Governors and Mayors, and other officials. There is patriotic work for us all to do while we are celebrating this year.

THE CENTENNIAL OF WATERLOO.

The Battle of Waterloo began at half-past 11 o'clock on the morning of Sunday, June 18, 1815, and ended at nightfall with Napoleon's defeat and the destruction of his army. It was one of the few decisive battles of the world. On the field of Waterloo Napoleon's ambition was quenched forever. French aggression was definitely ended for half a century and in the interval the nations of Europe enjoyed an opportunity for normal development. No such tremendous issue was decided at Waterloo as at Tours, where in 732 Charles Martel checked the victorious advance of the Saracens and saved European Christianity from extinction. No doubt the defeat of Hannibal's brother Hasdrubal on the river Metaurus was, upon the whole, a more momentous event, since it was the turning point in the long struggle for supremacy between Rome and Carthage. Had Hasdrubal been able to join forces with his indomitable brother it is pretty likely that our civilization would today be of the Phoenician rather than the Greco-Latin type and we might trace back the genesis of our principal divinity to Moloch instead of Jehovah. Nor can the consequences of Waterloo be compared in weight to those of Salamis and Plataea, where the Persian hosts were overthrown and Europe saved from the blight of oriental despotism.

The Battle of Waterloo was fought between nations of the same religion and the same historical traditions. It was like a family quarrel rather than a struggle for existence with an invading host from an alien civilization and nothing more fundamental depended on its outcome than the distribution of power among the European nations. Had Napoleon been victorious it is quite likely that Germany and Austria would have joined his standard, leaving Russia and England to carry on war alone, with little hope of success. After annihilating Wellington and Blucher, he might possibly have invaded England and would perhaps have given the throne of Great Britain to one of his favorite marshals. France would have dominated Europe for the next ten or fifteen years and then some new alignment of forces would have introduced new wars and a new hegemony. There is not the slightest likelihood that Napoleon, had he been ever so victorious at Waterloo, could have founded an enduring empire similar to Charlemagne's. The conditions of the world did not admit of any such achievement then and they are still less favorable to it now.

The campaign of Waterloo was compressed within the compass of a week. Napoleon began operations by advancing into Belgium and taking up a position at Charleroi on the Brussels road. This placed him between Blucher, whose base was at Liege, and Wellington, who had to look to Antwerp and Ostend for supplies. Napoleon hoped to prevent their junction and defeat them in detail. His initial movements were as successful as he could have wished. On Friday, June 16, he put Blucher and his Germans to rout, but made the mistake of not pursuing vigorously. Blucher was thus allowed to march northward to Wavre on a line parallel with the Brussels road and come in at the critical moment of Sunday's fight for Napoleon's ruin. The conqueror himself turned his attention to Wellington. The British troops were stationed at scattering points along the Brussels road. Napoleon planned to drive them in a defeated mob from his pathway, intercept their communication with Antwerp and Ostend and finally capture the whole force. Leading the movement against the British in person, Napoleon came by Saturday night to Belle Alliance Inn, still on the Brussels road, some three or four miles south of Waterloo. Here he put up for the night, with Wellington's hastily concentrated army facing him.

It rained all Saturday night and for some hours after dawn on Sunday, so that the earth was too soft to manipulate the cannon upon which Napoleon relied to devastate the enemy before his troops should charge. But by half past eleven the sky had cleared and the ground seemed to be in fairly good condition. He then began the attack. Wellington's army faced to the south, away from Brussels, its east flank guarded by the strong chateau of Hougomont, its left resting on the village of La Haye. Between these points ran the Brussels road, along which Napoleon expected to drive his routed foe. His first attempt was on Hougomont Chateau, which made an obstinate resistance and cost him heavily in troops. The next assault was on the village of La Haye on Wellington's left. This place was finally captured by Ney, who might have made a flanking movement from it and greatly embarrassed Wellington, but he did nothing of the sort. He merely stayed there. Napoleon's third move in the bloody game was a charge on the British center along the Brussels road. This was driven back. It was now about 1 o'clock. For some time troops had been dimly discerned approaching from the east. Napoleon, deluded by hope, supposed they were Grouchy's men. He had sent Grouchy to keep Blucher busy and naturally imagined that his subordinate had won a victory and was now coming to his assistance. Grouchy had really spent the afternoon in a pointless attack on Wavre, where he finally ensconced himself and left his commander without reinforcement. Blucher thus had a free hand. It was the Germans whom Napoleon saw advancing at the moment of his dire need.

To keep Blucher from taking up a position in the rear of his right flank Napoleon left the front and directed the movement against him. In this way he spent three hours, leaving the main battle to the guidance of his subordinates. During those three hours the French cavalry charged Wellington's front thirteen times and each time they were beaten back. Their losses were made more frightful by a sunken road which they had to cross. Here riders and horses were piled up in a sodden mass until those who followed could ride over on a level pathway. When Napoleon reached the front again he ordered a general charge, which was as fruitless as all his other efforts on that day of doom. As his troops were retiring from Wellington's immovable ranks Blucher arrived to complete their rout. That night Napoleon, bereft of his army and his power, was a fugitive on the road to Paris and the specter of his dominion vanished from the earth.

Robert E. Hicks deserves a parole if ever a man did. Convicted twelve years ago of robbing the mails, he escaped and fled. But subsequently he was converted at the Bowery mission in New York and consecrated himself to saving souls. His work was rich in results, but his conscience troubled him and he has now voluntarily gone to prison for his obsolete crime. Few will deny that Mr. Hicks would be more useful preaching to New York sinners than pining in a dungeon. We hope to hear soon that he has been paroled, or even pardoned.

One reason for Baker's prominence on the world map is the team work of its officials and citizens. A few nights ago a man just drunk enough to be mean used insulting language in a saloon and was getting what was due when an officer took him away. At his trial next day the man who did the beating testified the other did not get enough. "They pulled me off him too soon, Judge," he said, and the magistrate must have thought so, for he made it $20 and ten days in jail.

It turns out that the "war baby" stories from England were hoaxes. There is said to be about the usual number of illegitimate infants there this year, no more and no less. Bishop Ingram calls the tale "a big bubble" and sternly avers that if there is anything in it, "it was the girls' fault." The giddy things led the soldiers astray and "made mischief" here and there. "The woman tempted me," and so on. But it looks as if the bubble had some substance after all.

Commissioner Davis, of New York, who is a woman, felicitates herself that she has never met with a delinquent among college women. Why should she? College women are the flower of their sex as far as ability, opportunity and character are concerned. Delinquency is not to be expected among such people. It is poverty, bad heredity and evil environment that foster criminal propensities.

The Saturday Evening Post makes light of the big figures which assume to express the increase of our National wealth. The figures give it as ten billion dollars a year. The Post says this is imaginary insofar as it stands for inflated land values. The land is no more productive than it was ten years ago, but the value has often doubled. From this airy source comes a good part of the ten billions.

There will be excitement in the Browning clubs over the news that the master recited one of his poems into a talking machine. The record has been preserved and may be reproduced. This gives us all a chance sooner or later to hear Browning speak with his own voice, or with something resembling it.

When the Mayor of Chicago locked the doors and kept the streetcar officials and employes together until they agreed on arbitration, he showed himself a man who does things. When they agreed on him as the third arbitrator, they recognized him as such a man and as one who does things on the square.

Many are overlooking the real cause of early settlement of the Chicago strike and its freedom from violence and turbulence. Farley, notorious strikebreaker, is dead, and his detestable methods passed with him.

What has become of the old-fashioned Liberty car in the Fourth of July parade, with little girls representing the states and the prettiest young woman in town as the Goddess of Liberty?

The difficulty about bringing the Mexican leaders into agreement is that only the under dog is willing. The upper dog prefers to finish the under dog. That is the trouble with Carranza.

The New York Times' book review for June 13 with characteristic enterprise prints Magna Charta entire in English. The Latin original is in the archives of Lincoln Cathedral.

The armies may yet be clothed in armor plate so heavy that the men must be hauled to the trenches in automobiles and dropped into their places with derricks.

There is one comfort for the crew of the steamer Walkeno when they meditate on the possibility that its cargo may explode—their death would be painless.

When a furniture man marries there is no problem of getting things together to begin housekeeping.

The war has done more for the American beetgrower than any tariff ever did.

Maybe Bryan would take a bet of 16 to 1 that preparedness provokes war.

The place that has not arranged to celebrate the Fourth has got to hurry.

General Goethals has earned the right to apply for retirement.

Who better can defend timber than Colonel Wood?

Tag day has reached the limit.

A Red Muckraker.

By James Barton Adams.

On a rock beside the river,
Where the warm sun rays were dancing
On the clear breeze-wrinkled waters,
Sat Star-Eyes, the Indian maiden,
Chewing at a piece of buckskin,
'Cause her gum was all exhausted.
Sat she there a lovely picture,
Silhouetted 'gainst the mountain
She was using for a background.
She had served a term at Carlisle,
In the State of Pennsylvania,
And returned unto her people
Educated to the limit,
And of such superior polish
That her nasal prong was carried
At an elevated angle
When she strolled about the village
On the Dog Creek reservation.
From the bushes strode a warrior,
Clad in unbleached muslin breechcloth
And a few red scars of battle,
And but little else to speak of.
In a husky voice that quivered
'Neath the promptings of emotion,
Like a bowl of calf's foot jelly,
He proceeded to address her:

"Ah! you scorn me, haughty maiden,
Maiden of the twinkling star eyes,
Hand to me the icy eyeballs,
Shun me as you would the cur dog
Bearing fleas that were contagious.
Ere you yet had quit the village
For the paleface lodge of learning
All your wiles on me were focused,
For your smiles I was the target.
Then you were a native squawlet,
Ate of dog meat as your sisters,
Chewed boiled tripe with redskin relish,
Took a bath but on your birthdays,
Or when caught out in a rain storm;
Wore a skirt of army blanket,
Gunnybagging were your leggin's,
'Stead of open work limb casings
Showing through the interstices
The material you're made of,
And your nut-brown ears were laden
But with decorative tinware:
And—"

But with a haughty gesture,
Rising from her squat position
On the rock beside the river,
She his speech now interrupted,
Cut it off close to its fountain,
Saying in a voice that chilled him
From the scalplock to the toenails:
"Cut it out, you red muckraker!"
Then with dimpled chin uplifted
Strode the maid toward the village.
While the warrior stood and wondered
What in thunder 'twas she'd called him.

FIRE INSPECTOR'S WAY ANNOYS

Voter Incensed at Attitude of Inquisitor Who Invades Home's Privacy.

PORTLAND, June 17.—(To the Editor.)—An assistant fire inspector visited us the other day and poked his inquisitive nose into the attic and from thence down into the basement; passed around our dwelling place and told us to clean the moss from the north side of the roof, and took his blue-uniformed self away. The lord of the house was home that day and sent a boy to that roof with a close-toothed rake, and said boy applied his energy toward uprooting the particles of said moss. There wasn't much of it, and we thought he did a good job.

Three days later Mr. Blue Uniform came again and after greetings, this dialogue took place:

"I see you haven't done anything with the roof."

"Indeed, yes—the boy was up there an hour or so."

"Why, you haven't touched it."

Angry surprise on the part of the lady. When her heart started its normal thump, thump again, she took up the cudgels with Mr. Blue Uniform. She showed him the moss lying on the ground, and, seeing the evidence with his own optics, was throwing the lie back into his face. But even then, if he breathed an apology it never escaped his chest.

"Must get a fine-wire rake," quoth he, and took his blue self away.

Later in the day he called up the lord of the house and told him to do some more raking. We complied with the command by taking a fine comb to the covering of the house.

We have lived here 15 years and this is the first time our home has had strange eyes, in uniform, desecrating its privacy.

On Williams avenue I notice many houses with a thick coating of moss clinging lovingly to the shingles thereof, and, by the color, it must have been there many years.

Why not commence such a crusade nearer the city?

It seems unnecessary to commence away out here in a country suburb, where fire protection is not; and I assure you, we would much rather have the mechanical apparatus; we consider it much safer and more agreeable.

Mr. Uniform told me his office was created about two months ago.

Did they also create the other inspectors that have been in this berg?

ONE VOTER.

GOOD SPELLERS ARE FEWER NOW

Linotype Operator Observes Decline in Orthography in Recent Years.

SALEM, Or., June 17.—(To the Editor.)—Editorially, The Oregonian Sunday refers to a "Spellin' Match" recently held in Ohio, and concludes with the ironical remark that "the remarkable victories won by the Ohio youths . . . assure their future wealth and honor. Who could possibly fail, etc?"

If the writer of the irony were compelled (for his daily ham and eggs) to sit at a linotype and edit, punctuate, and, in a great number of cases, almost re-write copy which comes to the machines, even from presumably able sources, he would readily grasp my defense of "spellin' and cipherin' matches" from the little "deestrict" schools to the bigger institutions of learning.

This writer has noted a falling off in the orthography of the average person for the past 20 years. Up to 25 or 30 years ago a public school week was not considered complete without its "spellin' match" or "cipherin' match," and I wish to impress the fact that in those days (and the same thing would be true today) those matches were looked forward to as one of the brightest parts of the school work. The eternal human desire to "beat somebody else to it" caused we "young uns" to perk up and put our hearts and minds into our work in those good old day, when, every Friday afternoon, we would "choose up and spell down."

I concede that life and death do not depend upon whether or not one can spell a certain word correctly, but I take issue with him when he leaves the sarcastic inference that it doesn't matter. There is a right and several wrong ways to do a thing or spell a word, and while we are paying out perfectly good money in support of public schools, I ask, Why shall not the words be spelled correctly, as well as to have the correct ingredients in a cake, or the proper stroke be used in delivering (or serving) a tennis ball?

W. I. ZMIKE.

Keep Your Tax Receipts.

SWEET GRASS, Montana, June 15.—(To the Editor.)—In 1907 I bought property in Hermiston, Oregon. In 1909 I sold one lot, and sold the balance in 1914. One month ago I received a letter from the man I sold the one lot to in 1909, enclosing a tax receipt for 1908. The letter stated he had received notice that his lot would be sold unless the taxes for 1908 were paid. He paid the taxes and sent receipt to me and asked me to pay them, but I had kept the receipts, which I sent to him, and he got his money refunded. They said it must be a mistake.

How can those mistakes occur? There is sufficient formula attached to taxes to remind any official if they were paid or not paid. Others may be in the same boat as I, but not so fortunate.

B. F. BOYCE.

NEW CLUB NEEDED BY DEMOCRATS

Judge Murphy Would Back President With Virile Men of Party.

PORTLAND, June 17.—(To the Editor.)—In the current Collier's Julian Street states this self-evident truth:

As a nation we are sentimental to the point of sloppiness. This failing is reflected in our literature, our art, our popular songs ("I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier!"), our courts, our politics, our demagogues and the fact that we listen to them, our well-intentioned but loose-thinking "pacifimaniacs," and in countless other products of our peaceful, prosperous National life. More than any other one thing, perhaps, the sentimental school history is to blame for our absurd, unfounded military confidence.

To bring the matter home reference is made to the following reference to an address delivered in this city June 16 and printed on the first page of one of our newspapers:

"There are only two places where men have to march," she said. "One is the army and the other is the penitentiary. We are not raising our children for slaves."

Some people who assume to lecture others on how to raise children would do well first to learn how to raise themselves, and if this speaker is a sample of the finished product of emancipated feminity, we do not have to go abroad to find a hoax. Comparing the officers and men of the United States Army to convicts in a penitentiary is an insult to the flag that they are called upon to defend, the honor of their country personified in their uniforms and to the revered dust in countless graves immortalized by Abraham Lincoln in his famous speech:

"That from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause to which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Reference is also made to the day when the recreancy of Bryan was announced in the press. Not a reputed leader of the local Democracy, as shown by the press interviews, met the crisis with intelligent courage. Their velvet lips puled pusillanimous apologetics for the apostate American who had deserted his chief and his country in a crucial hour and at a time when the whole Nation, regardless of political affiliations, demanded self-sacrifice and unstinted patriotism. Some of them are now condoning the dastardly conduct of the most accomplished faddist and self-sufficient demogogue in the history of American political life.

I have no inclination to censure Bryan now; I was one of those who censured him when he controlled the pie checks. Let those who fattened by his bounty, now that it is certain that the overwhelming majority of all parties uphold the statesmanship of Woodrow Wilson, condemn him with their valedictories as the peerless Democrat, to borrow a thought from Carlyle, who can tell the most damnable lies beautifully.

What Portland needs, and from all reports will get, is a "Woodrow Wilson Club," composed of Democrats who know the history and traditions of the party. We have had enough of menmaids and sentimental girlies. Let us have a "Woodrow Wilson Club," composed of genuine Democrats, and then we will have peace and also a piece of the good old days when Democrats didn't have to suck lozenges at a pink tea rally.

J. HENNESSY MURPHY.

DEALERS NOT ALWAYS TO BLAME.

Berry Theft From Full Boxes Witnessed by Market Visitor.

PORTLAND, June 17.—(To the Editor.)—Anent the short paragraph in The Oregonian regarding some of the boxes of fruit on the market not coming up to the new requirements for fullness, I think I have something to relate that may be of interest.

The other day as I stepped up to a stall to purchase some berries two women were selecting berries at the same stall, and while the Jap was stooping down to get a bag into which to put the three boxes already selected, one of the women deliberately picked three or four of the finest, largest berries off of each of several surrounding boxes and placed them onto the boxes she had set aside for herself.

By actual count this woman stole no less than 12 berries—the largest at that—from boxes that would later be sold to someone else, perhaps even ye editor.

Such petty thievery should be stopped even though it necessitated arresting the culprit; in fact had I been able to locate the market master at the time I would have reported her without delay.

DR. V. M. MICKLE.

Descent of Property.

PORTLAND, June 17.—(To the Editor.)—I am the owner of two pieces of real estate in Oregon, holding a warrantee deed for one and a quit-claim deed, from my husband, for the other.

1. In case of my death, there being no will and no children, to whom would the property revert?

2. What portion of said property could I legally will to my relatives?

3. Under what circumstances could my husband's relatives claim any part of the property?

SUBSCRIBER.

1. All to the husband if still living; if the husband is dead the property would go to your parents; if they are not living, then in equal parts to your brothers and sisters and to the issue of any deceased brother or sister.

2. All if husband is dead; if he is living all but his curtesy, constituting a life interest in the proceeds from one-half the estate.

3. Under no circumstances unless devised to them by you. Of course, if the property descended to your husband it would descend, after his death, to his relatives, unless he devised it otherwise.

Use of Neutral Flag in War.

MILTON, Or., June 16.—(To the Editor.)—Has an English vessel any legal right, by either common or international law, to fly the American flag to prevent an enemy from attacking the vessel?

T. H. MOSGROVE.

Hoisting of a neutral flag by a belligerent ship is recognized as a legitimate ruse of war. An enemy's warship has the right to stop and search the ship to determine whether its nationality is the same as that of the flag it flies.

Write to Land Offices.

PORTLAND, June 15.—(To the Editor.)—Can you give me any information as to the location of land offices and tracts now open or about to be opened for homesteads.

J. H. S.

For this information apply to the United States Land offices at any of the following places: Portland, Roseburg, The Dalles, La Grande, Burns or Vale.

Oregon Land to Be Opened.

KALAMA, Wash., June 15.—(To the Editor.)—Please advise me where I may obtain information on the homestead land to be opened in Morrow, Crook and Gilliam counties in Oregon.

ALEX ZACK.

Write to the Register and Receiver, United States Land Office, at The Dalles, Or., and at La Grande, Or.

Yes.

ASTORIA, Or., June 17.—(To the Editor.)—A man and wife come to the United States and the man does not take out papers of citizenship. A son is born to them soon after arriving in this country; at the time of the son's maturity will he be considered a citizen of this country without taking out any additional papers?

J. H. AND J. B.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of June 18, 1890.

Since early Monday morning every train has brought its quota of pioneers coming to the 18th annual reunion of pioneers which is being held here. The Oregonian this morning devotes three columns on the front page to a rehearsal of the proceedings and incidents of the day, together with several engravings of some of the leaders, including J. L. Parrish, who came in 1840; Captain M. Crawford, who came in 1842, and John Minto, who came in 1844. An additional four columns are devoted to the proceedings and annual address by H. W. Scott. A grand ball last night concluded the day's festivities. There were several hundred pioneers in attendance.

Olympia—Governor Ferry has made it known he is in dead earnest about the investigation into the alleged attempted bribery of the Board of Education, and inasmuch as the Board itself has not taken any definite action the Governor has taken hold. The principals are all out of the state now it is believed, but Governor Ferry wants a thorough airing of the proceedings.

London—Germany and England have come to an agreement on African possessions, it is announced. England has ceded certain territory to Germany, retaining the Congo Free State, while Germany gets the territory along Lake Nyanza West.

The 26th annual session of the Oregon Lodge of Good Templars is now in session at Salem. The officers include J. E. Knox, of Albany; John Knight, of Salem; Mrs. E. J. Robinson, of The Dalles; G. Simpson, of The Dalles; W. S. James, of Portland, and Mrs. E. M. Vandervert, of West Salem.

Rudyard Kipling, the 24-year-old youngster who writes stories and poems which are all the rage in England now, comes to the front and in a magazine article asks what England, when she adopts socialism, will do with India. That one question smashed English socialism.

Mrs. C. B. Kan, one of the owners of the townsite of Hoquiam, saw a railroad for the first time a few days ago in Tacoma when she was on her way to Portland. She was born near Spokane 53 years ago.

The pupils and teachers of the Fourth Presbyterian Sunday School and their friends, numbering in all 375, were treated to a picnic last Saturday by Mr. P. F. Morey on his beautiful place on the Willamette above Oswego. A special boat took the party to the scene and brought them home. The entire cherry crop on the place was reserved for the party.

Mrs. Van B. DeLashmutt and her son Ivan left yesterday for Paris and a general tour of Europe. Mr. Ernest DeLashmutt has been in Europe the last two years. Mayor DeLashmutt probably will go to Europe to bring them home in about six months.

London—Mary Anderson, the talented and now famous actress, was married here yesterday to Antonio Navarro in the Roman Catholic Church. The ceremony was strictly private. Mary Anderson was born in 1859 in Sacramento, Cal.

MR. LOCKWOOD VIEWED AS FIT

Richard P. Kulisch Says Candidate for School Director Is Right Man.

PORTLAND, June 16.—(To the Editor.)—If there is one man who is fit to fill the office of school director, it is Samuel P. Lockwood. I know and there are hundreds who know that he has the ability, with application, perseverance and industry to fill with credit the office to which he aspires.

There are those who will oppose him, in ignorance, superstition and fear. But the eager voters, the taxpayers want a man who can and will devote all the time required by the office so that to the end, the people at large, the good citizens, who have the welfare of their children at heart, the future generation, will know they have a man in office, who above all and irrespective of politics and regardless of monetary considerations, seeks justice first. Modern American education always for the American children. Eliminating all superstitions, is what we want.

RICHARD P. KULISCH.
535 Savier street.

Quick Foreclosing of Mortgage.

BUTLER, Wash., June 15.—(To the Editor.)—Can you answer the following for me? A buys 20 acres from B, paying $1250 cash, and leaving $650 at 6 per cent for five years. The land is in Washington. A pays interest regularly and also pays off $150 of principal, leaving $500. Two days before the end of the fifth year B tells A that, if he does not pay up principal and interest, he (B) will foreclose. The next day A pays interest but not principal. Can B foreclose immediately, or when? And, if so, what will it cost A over and above the $500 principal?

P. T.

If B had the mortgage he could foreclose, and you would have one year after the issuance of Sheriff's certificate in which to redeem. If the land were not farming land you would have to leave premises immediately, otherwise not. If bought under contract it would depend entirely upon the nature of the contract. Costs would have to be regulated by the attorney handling the matter. It would be wise to consult your attorney on this.

Our Foreign Commerce.

U. S. S. ANNAPOLIS, Corinto, Nicaragua, May 30.—(To the Editor.)—(1) What was the value of the exports of the United States for the year preceding the present war? (2) What was the value of the imports for the same time? (3) What were the values of the five largest items on our export list? (4) What were the values of the exports of those nations that exceeded the United States in the value of exports?

J. T. HIGGINS.

(1 and 2) Fiscal year ending June 30, 1914—exports, $2,364,579,148; imports, $1,893,925,657. (3) Raw cotton, $610,475,301; iron and steel manufactures, including machinery, $251,189,677; meat and dairy products, $146,227,780; copper, $146,222,556; refined mineral oil, $145,361,384. (4) Great Britain, calendar year 1912, $2,371,073,000, alone excelled the United States in exports. Germany in the same year fell below the United States with $2,131,718,000.

Meeting in the Home

It is inside the American home that the prosperity of the country is made or unmade.

It is around the fireside or over the table that purchases are discussed and the buying impulse formed.

It is the advertisement that reaches the family circle at the psychological moment that makes the sale.

And it is these multiplying sales radiating out from the home circle that make prosperity.

Newspaper advertising is resultful because the newspaper is ever in the home.

It is as much a part of the family circle as the purring cat on the hearthstone.