The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 1915.

WITHIN A VERY SHORT TIME.

I therefore publicly and very solemnly call on the leaders of all factions in Mexico to act together and to act promptly for the relief of their prostrate country. I feel it to be my duty to tell them that if they cannot accommodate their differences and unite with this great purpose within a very short time, this Government will be constrained to decide what means should be employed by the United States to help Mexico save herself and save her people.

It is well enough now to recall the words of the President of the United States, addressed on June 2, 1915, to the quarreling Mexican brigadiers of loot and lust. They have received the formal warning of their powerful neighbor with open scorn or with contemptuous silence. They have had experience with watchful waiting, and they believe it is inspired by feebleness, and not by patience.

"Within a very short time" does not give the Mexicans a great deal of latitude. It may be assumed that the President meant to follow warning with action. There is not now the excuse of Bryan's presence in the Cabinet to justify flabbiness and weakness in our foreign policies.

THE REAL DECIDING FACTORS.

In forming our opinions as to the final result of the war, it is necessary that we do not permit the events of the immediate present, however momentous they appear, so to fill our field of mental vision that we fail to observe the development of the far greater and ultimately decisive factors. We must judge the war as a whole. Our conclusions must not be based on the present deadlock in the west and on the Dardanelles, on Teuton victories in the east nor on Italian progress in the south. They must be formed after taking into consideration not only the number of men, ammunition, guns and ships now arrayed against each other, but the means of replacing losses in, and adding to, the supply of these requisites to success. This involves consideration of the ability to manufacture an ample supply of war material without respite until victory is won. It also involves ability to command the raw material and the money needed.

Recent events are important in this connection chiefly as showing what are the chief essentials to success. The Teutons won in Galicia because they had overpowering artillery and unlimited shells. The French and Germans are deadlocked in the west because they are about equally matched in that respect. The British are paying a heavy toll of men for keeping the Germans at a standstill, because they lack enough ammunition to match the Germans in artillery fire, much less to assume a general offensive. The meaning of this situation is plain. The chief elements of success are to be found, not on the battlefield but in the factories at home.

Germany started at her maximum. She now has under arms practically every fighting man, according to the New York Sun's review of estimates from the various fronts. Her industries were organized and the whole nation was mobilized to supply the army with war material when the war began. She cannot increase her output and she is possibly using up her accumulated supply of ammunition and of materials for its manufacture. The men killed or permanently disabled cannot be replaced with new men drawn from civil life. Austria too started at her maximum power, but her generalship and the spirit of her troops fell far below those of Germany. Hence she has suffered disastrous losses and has sunk much farther than Germany below her maximum.

France was the first to see the advantage with which Germany had started, and the German tidal wave was no sooner turned back at the Marne than France set to work to deprive her enemy of it. In September she began organizing all her workshops for production of war material under a law placing them and all workmen at the disposal of the state, the workmen to be moved about as national interests require. With foreign supplies of raw material available to make up her home deficiencies, she now produces as ample ammunition as her chief enemy. In material she has reached her maximum, while in men she has 1,500,000 in reserve.

Britain, as usual, entered the war unprepared. Nearly all her wars can be divided into three periods—the first of blundering and bungling, with deficiencies in both men and material at the front; the second, of keeping the enemy at bay with such men and material as she can hastily assemble and rush forward, while she really prepares to fight; the third, of actual fighting with all the men and material necessary to success. In this war the blundering and bungling was at home rather than in the field, and it imposed upon the army a superhuman task. The second stage has just been entered upon with Lloyd George, as minister of munitions, mobilizing the nation's industrial forces in a manner peculiarly British. He has authority to use compulsion, but he keeps it in the background while he does everything possible to secure voluntary co-operation.

Lloyd George hopes thus to enlist on his side such an overpowering sentiment that he will encounter no opposition to use of compulsion against the relatively few shirkers and slackers. He is eliminating causes of discontent and is forming a voluntary committee in each district to organize the industries. The measure of his success can be judged from Lancashire's offer to produce 250,000 explosive shells a month, but he promised not to growl if the county started at that and worked up to a million. Red tape, union rules, war profits, all are to be cast aside in the supreme effort to produce so many guns and shells that a constant stream will pour into France and the Dardanelles, and that Russia's deficiencies may be made up.

Russia began the war with more troops available than either of her allies, but with less means of supplying them with material. To her shortcomings in this respect are mainly due her defeats in Galicia. In the space of one hour 200,000 shells were fired at the Russians. In the battle on the San, says the correspondent of the Novoe Vremya;

> At Radyymno alone 700,000 shells were fired by the Germans within 24 hours. The wave of high explosives swamped our trenches, broke among the divisional staffs and reserves, and even among remote transport columns. The curtain of bursting shells rendered the enemy's trenches invisible. It became impossible to bring up teams to remove the guns.

To meet such storm, Russia increased her production of munitions sevenfold within the first half year of the war, prohibition alone having increased the productive capacity of the men 30 per cent. She has now begun organizing all her factories for war, seizing those owned by Germans and calling all specialists and technical students into service. But she is so far behind her allies in manufacturing that she must call upon them for a large proportion of their supply.

Italy, having had ten months within which to prepare before entering the fray, was amply supplied. By watching the war she could see and apply its latest lessons. She started at her maximum efficiency with her industries already organized for war and with abundant material accumulated.

These being the essentials to success, it can be gained by a nation of inferior resources only by starting at the maximum efficiency and by gaining such rapid and complete victory as to deprive the enemy of his resources, to acquire them and to turn them against him. Japan started with this advantage over Russia, but after the battle of Mukden she receded from her maximum while Russia advanced toward hers. Russia at that stage had only just begun to use her resources, while Japan had used nearly all of hers. The result was that Russia practically dictated the terms of peace.

WHAT OF THE TIMBER?

It is a good deal easier to point out policies that ought not to be pursued in respect to the railroad land grant than it is to offer practicable suggestions for its best utilization in conformity with the public interests.

There are the three sections which have come under the personal observation of Mr. J. T. Wilson, who tells of them in a letter printed today. The three sections, he estimates, are worth $100 per acre for the timber that is on them.

Attempt to enforce the actual settlers' clause in respect to these sections could only result, as Mr. Wilson says, in fraudulent settlement or destruction of wealth. Here are 1920 acres worth in the raw state of the timber $192,000. The use of the timber would result in the creation of wealth many times that value. Nor will putting the timber to use make the land less valuable for agricultural purposes.

The actual settler does not have $16,000 to pay for a quarter-section of land. If he were permitted to purchase at $400, or $2.50 per acre, fortunes would either be allotted for a song to men who would make settlement a mere matter of technical residence, or the timber would be slashed and burned to make way for cultivation. Yet it is not to our interests to have the timber rot or stand idle in a forest reserve.

In short there is a value in much of the grant to which the Supreme Court declares the railroad is not entitled—value which would be permanently destroyed by "settlement," but which can be saved to useful purpose. Shall it be turned over by lot to lucky entrymen, or appropriated by the Federal Government or given to the state?

Certainly the lands should be classified and conservation—not reservation—of the value in the timber be assured by appropriate enactment.

WHAT A PEACE LEAGUE COULD DO.

Prof. Hugo Munstenberg has no hope of success for the plan of a League of Peace, all members of which would be bound to combine their armed forces against any member which attempted to settle an arbitrable quarrel by war. He fears that the treaty binding such a league would be broken as easily as have been other treaties in the present conflict. In a letter to the League of Peace he predicts that "the interests of strong, growing nations will lead in the future as in the past to conflicts," for nations will not be "more willing to give up their chances in such conflicts" than they now are. He thinks the world will more willingly go to war and already foresees a conflict between Britain and Russia. Agreements of the kind proposed, he says, "would awake a treacherous confidence," while "all true protection would be lacking."

Two lessons are found in the war by Professor Munsterberg—one that "mere agreements cannot bind any nation in an hour of vital need"; the other that "the mere joining of forces widens and protracts a war, but does not hinder it." Peace endeavors can succeed only by positive, not by negative means. Rather than focus attention on disasters to be avoided, we should awaken impulses toward the right action—build up from within.

Doubtless a league of peace composed of nations formed by such a cold-blooded parceling out of territory as was made by the treaty of Vienna in 1815 would break down, as Dr. Munsterberg predicts. A league composed of nations whose boundaries closely conformed to racial lines would, however, be free from the most fruitful cause of past wars and from the true inciting cause of the present war. A league founded on the principle that no boundary should be changed without the consent of the population concerned would have yielded to one of those right impulses of which he speaks. There would be a genuine community of interest in maintaining such established boundaries. Other questions should be susceptible of arbitration or conciliation.

An essential part of the plan of a league of peace would be limitation of armaments of each nation, that it might bear a certain ratio to population, wealth and the necessities of each case. Such a limitation would prevent any one nation from attaining so superior a degree of military preparedness that it could hold out long against all other nations combined.

Given these sound fundamental conditions for maintenance of peace, a league of peace would have good prospects of success. It would insist that strong, "growing nations" grow within their own bounds or overflow by emigration to new, undeveloped countries. It would forbid them to grow by grabbing their neighbors' territory and by subjugating the inhabitants. It would prevent any one nation from acquiring such preponderant military power that it could commit such aggression in defiance of the league.

THE INCREASING DEATH RATE.

For persons whose age is over forty the annual death rate is increasing. For younger persons sanitation and the prevention of the infectious diseases have lowered the rate. But for the diseases of mature life other measures are required. It is said by physicians that about 80 per cent of the deaths of men and women above the limit of forty years might be postponed almost indefinitely if proper precautions were observed. We lose from diseases of the kidneys and circulatory system, including apoplexy and paralysis, about 410,000 persons every year. The victims are mostly men. Comparatively few women die of these maladies.

The United States Public Health Service warns us that the expectation of life after forty is less than it was thirty years ago, and this is "due largely to the prevalence of diseases of degeneration." And the degeneration, as the warning goes on to say, can be traced back to sedentary occupations and "indulgences" such as tobacco, liquor and, particularly, overeating. The overladen dinner table sends more men to untimely graves than the winecup.

These diseases of degeneration, which are increasing out of all proportion to the population, might be prevented almost entirely by temperate living and by exercise. We mean by temperate living moderation in food and drink, rational hours of work, adequate rest and recreation. Exercise to be of any value must be taken regularly and kept up persistently. Any man who wishes to live long and retain his health must make up his mind to work his muscles. He will get more good from outdoor exercise than from any other kind and Portland with its lawns and gardens offers enviable opportunities for it.

But bedroom gymnastics are better, far better, than nothing. It takes tremendous resolution to continue them a great while but they are worth all they cost. There are hundreds of city roofs that might be transformed into gymnasiums and recreation grounds with little cost and they would be extremely desirable on account of the open air they afford. There are plenty of ways to get exercise if a man is determined to have it. The only question is whether he thinks enough of his life to take care of his body. As matters stand, most men do not.

OUR COLLEGE MENTORS.

What should we do without the baccalaureate sermon with its superfine wisdom and dreadful warnings? To have all our faults held up to us once a year in a hundred college pulpits is a blessing which we ought to be thankful for. The healing floods of the commencement preacher's wisdom make us all feel like Solomons, at least for a while. Perhaps this delightful effect would last longer if the wisdom were a little more genuine. President Hadley's baccalaureate sermon was typical. The good man had to utter a word of warning and advice to our "democracy."

A democracy unwarned by the annual college sage would go headlong to destruction in a few weeks. It might even fall into some of the troubles which distress the European monarchies, from which hitherto we have been exempt largely, of course, by following the counsels of the college orators. President Hadley thinks our worst fault is our proneness to "hasty speech" and the lack of self-control that naturally accompanies it. "We indulge in the luxury of righteous indignation without full information as to the fact or adequate calculation of the consequences."

No doubt, no doubt. And the fault is one to repent of in sackcloth and ashes. But we have the consolation of knowing that other countries are just as bad or worse. "Hasty speech" is quite common everywhere, even in Germany. Occasionally our sister nations do even worse than to "feel indignation" without full knowledge of the facts and consequences. They plunge into war now and then without counting the cost. Silly as we Americans are we have managed to keep out of the big war thus far. And if our college advisers are faithful in dealing with our shortcomings perhaps we shall stay out of it.

Despite the keen sense of our failures which always comes over us at commencement time we are, upon the whole, peaceful, prosperous and happy, a good deal more than can be said of some nations. The United States is a land of many misdeeds but with all her faults we love her still. Like George Eliot's Mrs. Poyser, she imparts a certain comfort and security to our lives which is worth a good deal of more showy merit.

HONESTY IN ADVERTISING.

The recent convention of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World recorded a marked advance in the ethics of advertising. Reputable newspapers are now conducted on the theory that it pays to tell the truth in advertising as well as in news columns. They hold that advertising of quacks, fakes and swindles does them an injury far exceeding in money value the sums they receive therefor. Their maxim is now the old schoolbook adage: "Honesty is the best policy."

The good will of a newspaper consists not only in its readers' confidence in the completeness and accuracy of its news; it consists also in a reputation for the reliability of statements contained in its advertising columns. Necessarily the more confidence an advertisement inspires in a reader, the more benefit it confers on the advertiser, for the more it will incline the reader to buy. If side by side with an actually truthful advertisement there appears another for an obvious fraud or one which looks "fishy," the doubt raised as to the newspaper's reliability will extend to the truthful advertisement and the firm which has been paid for it loses part of that for which he has paid.

Frauds are naturally short-lived, fly-by-night affairs and are only transient customers of the newspaper, while reputable, well established concerns which tell the truth and deal fairly are permanent customers year in and year out. The reputable is unwilling to be placed by the reader in the same category with the disreputable. Hence the newspaper must choose between the two, and sees its advantage in the long run to lie in choosing the reputable and casting out the disreputable.

So firmly fixed has this policy become among newspapers of high character and among high-class advertising men generally that they not only exclude fraudulent advertisements, but when, in the haste necessarily incident to publication of a daily newspaper, a doubtful "ad" is accepted, its statements are investigated. Each ad club has a vigilance committee, which runs down apparent falsehood and exaggeration, even to the point of having a chemical analysis of goods made. These committees in different cities co-operate, and the composition of impure goods is exposed on moving picture films.

By this policy the advertising departments of such newspapers as The Oregonian have become a bulwark of strength to honest business and are a powerful means of driving quacks, fakers and swindlers out of business. They are thus protecting their readers against imposition. They are agents of the square deal between merchants and consumers and between promoters and investors.

Thomas Jefferson was prouder of the University of Virginia than of any other work of his hand or brain. Benjamin Franklin laid the foundations of Pennsylvania University. George Washington left an endowment for a National university, but his wishes still hang fire. The point is that these statesmen saw the connection between knowledge and National success.

A sapient contemporary says "stones are alive" because they contain silicon, which is a constituent of animals and vegetables. By the same reasoning water is much more alive than stones since it forms three-fifths of our bodies. In fact it is common to speak of "living springs" as well as "living rocks." By well directed logic we can prove almost anything.

The Osage Indian tribe has just sold 680,000 acres of oil land. Need we say to whom? The chief Ashegabre signed the deed with his thumb mark, which is better than any written signature because it cannot be counterfeited. The palefaces will never cease from their wiles until the last Indian has deeded away his last acre.

Farmers will read with satisfaction that the Federal Trade Commission is going to investigate the marketing of apples. Investigations are fashionable and sometimes more or less beneficial. But the farmers would be still more pleased should the Government take some practical measures to help market their products.

Serbia has some territory that Bulgaria claims. Bulgaria wants some territory that Greece holds. If Serbia and Greece will relax their grip on these tracts Bulgaria will join the allies and march against Constantinople. The trade is under discussion and may be effected any day.

Farm mortgages do not always mean distress. "We've got to mortgage this farm" was formerly a cry of woe, but nowadays it may signify prosperity. A mortgage to raise money for improvements is often as helpful to a farmer as a note at the bank to a merchant.

The instinct to be a cave man is strong in the healthy boy in midsummer and given the bank to tunnel he cannot resist the call. He knows nothing of the danger and would scorn it if he did. This is the period when parental wisdom must be the guidance.

Organization has reached its limit in the National Speech Artists' Association, which met in annual session at San Francisco yesterday. Popular idea confined these things to the asylum, but many seem to have escaped.

When the trunk roads radiating from the city have been paved we shall find many extensions like that proposed by County Commissioner Holman which can be built at moderate cost.

It may be nobody loves a fat man, but he is coming into his own in France, which has about decided to enlist him. Now he will show the "splinters" that he can fight and not run away.

Oregon's wheat crop is estimated at 20 per cent greater than last year. In Washington County the growers figure on forty-five bushels to the acre, and Washington is an average county.

Middle Western roads want five million feet of Oregon lumber to build into 1500 freight cars. That is only a start in revival of the times.

The fat men of France may reduce their weight by guarding communications and thus may qualify for service at the front.

The fiend who prompted Prinzip to shoot must be well satisfied with the result as he surveys the world today.

The Yaquis are Indians with the Indian idea of warfare, and nothing better can be expected from them.

The time is coming for another general election, but why think of it until cold weather is here?

The Indian wedding at Klamath Falls marks an alliance of the powers in Southern Oregon.

Turkey is too fully occupied to move on Italy. Italy is in a better position to move.

Huerta's intentions may have been as innocent as he says, but he needs watching.

Ty Cobb is batting less than .400, but his spiking average is gaining.

Fortunately for the Russian army, this is a good season for walking.

These rare days in June are crowding to get into the calendar.

A moral duty lies heavily on every fan to go out to the park.

Now, Beavers, two of the three series, no less.

The jitney seems to be eliminating itself.

"Beat it, Huerta!"

European War Primer

By National Geographical Society.

The Great Russians are the first of Slavonic peoples and the history of their rise is the history of the growth of the mighty Slavonic empire. There are Little Russians, White Russians, Red Russians, Cossacks and scores of widely varying peoples within the confines of the Muscovite realm, but Great Russia is the cradle of real Russians and the source of Russian progress and greatness. Of this kennel people of the vast modern nation a bulletin issued by the National Geographic Society at Washington says:

Before all other Slavonic peoples, those of Great Russia have succeeded in building the most powerful, the most enduring and the most promising of empires. Great Russia comprehends that part of the empire which is bounded by the Polar Seas upon the north, by the Ural Mountains upon the east, Novgorod and Kursk upon the south and the Polish and Baltic provinces upon the west. Within these confines has grown up the power that today has brought into being the mightiest of all empires welded behind one unbroken border.

The nucleus of Great Russia included a narrower region, with Kursk, Smolensk, Novgorod, Vologda, Nijni Novgorod and Tambov as its boundaries. Moscow is the heart of this region, the inspiration in the development of the dominant Russian. From this central region, growing outwards, the Russian people have developed slowly, but steadily, through centuries; much as in the case of the individual of the north and in strong contra-distinction to the nations of the south, they have come to their prime late. Today Russia has reached a majority that is filled with unbounded promise.

The Great Russian has a touch of Finnish and of Tartar blood, the one making him a little more phlegmatic, a little tougher than his other Slavonic brothers, and the other giving him a quality of thrift, making him a better housekeeper, than is the free-handed Pole, Little Russian and Servian. The Finns at one time lived all along the Volga Valley, while the Tartars several times inundated Muscovy during Russian infancy.

Great Russia numbers about one-third of the empire's people. With the exception of Petrograd and Odessa, it includes the more important, more progressive cities of Russia, and all of the cities whose histories are Russian history, such as Rostov the Great, Tver, Moscow, Yaroslav, Vladimir and Tula. Throughout this land long and bitter Winters reign, forcing the people to remain inactive several months each year. During these cold months the Russian peasant and his family spend the time huddled around the great stoves, or, in very cold weather, resting on top of them.

The peasant home in Great Russia consists usually of only one room, fifteen feet square, built with bunks around its walls, with, perhaps, a small loft overhead and a shallow cellar storeroom. The Great Russian village is generally two long lines of these simple homes facing each other across a broad street. Hermetically sealed against the stinging Winter weather, the Russian home in Winter tends to make its indwellers stogy, for fresh air only finds admission with the opening and closing of the door.

The life of the Great Russian peasant is something far more simple than that of the poorest of America's farmers. Sour cabbage, black bread and cucumbers are the staples of his table. Sour cabbage, put up in casks, slightly salted and fermented, is the first thought of the hungry Great Russian peasant. This sour cabbage, cooked in soup, with black bread, forms many and many a meal of the Russian family. Meat, except during the harvest festivals, is rare at the moujik's table. Despite simple fare he, however, is a remarkable worker, and also a man of splendid physique.

A man, woman and a horse form a Great Russian household. The peasants marry young. Marriages are simple ceremonies. The feasts, on the other hand, last several days, and in the years before the war they were enlivened with quantities of vodka. Instead of rice the Russian showers the bride and bridegroom with hops. By the rules of the Orthodox Church a man may marry three times, but not more, and a widow may make a second venture. There are few beautiful peasant girls in Great Russia. Good looks in a woman there are more a matter of deep chests, muscular arms and powerful shoulders than one of beauty of face.

A SMALL BOY'S COMPLAINT.

Oh, gee! I think it's awful mean
The way this world is run—
Fourth of July is almost here,
But we can't have no fun.
The guys out here in Oregon
Have said they want it "sane,"
An' so they don't want any noise—
Don't that give you a pain?
Why, who cares if their clothes are burnt?
Wear old ones like I do—
An' what's a banged-up thumb or hand
When you've had fun clear through?
We once could play like soldiers real
An' hear the cannon's roar,
An' shoot the rockets—"Zip-boom-ah!"
Oh, gee! I'm awful sore.
Now picnics are the latest stunt.
An' take it straight from me.
Of all the hard-worked boys there is,
I'm "it"—just come an' see.
There's always forty thousand kids
That simply tag around,
An' baskets that must be unpacked
An' wood that must be found.
An' water that you tote a mile,
An' tables to be set,
An' just when all gets straightened out
It rains—then things gets wet.
Then when it's time to start for home
An' you just rest awhile,
My mother says, "Why, Willie, dear,
Don't look so sour—just smile;
You've really had such lots of fun
With all these children here,
I'd like to have a picnic, say
Six times throughout the year."
It's wasting breath to try an' say—
You're mad enough to bust—
But if this stunt comes off next year
You won't see Bill for dust.

MABELLE VIRGINIA DRAKE.
Seaside, Or.

Just a Splash.

PORTLAND, June 28.—(To the Editor.)—For more than a century the Ship of State rode majestically on through the Sea of Prosperity. The Captain was changed from time to time and the officers were varied occasionally. Troubled waters were encountered now and then, but the Captain and his officers stayed with the ship continually and always brought it safely to port. The crew was ever ready to stand back of the Captain, and all went well.

The good ship rode majestically on, ever forward, day by day advancing in the standing of Nations. And then, when all but she were in troubled waters, a black cloud appeared in the distance. The Captain and his worthy assistants held steadily to the course—all save the first mate, who tried to run the staunch craft on the rocks. Failing in the attempt, he leaped headlong to oblivion in the Bryany deep.

There was a splash. The lifeboats were not manned. And the Ship of State rode majestically on.

MELISSA UVEDALIA.

Center of Population.

BOISE, Idaho, June 27.—(To the Editor.)—(1) Can you give me list of four or five correspondence schools which teach "financing" by mail?

(2) What is the center of population in the United States as per 1910 census?

H. R. S.

(1) Write to any school which advertises in current periodicals.

(2) In the City of Bloomington, Ind.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT LAND GRANT

Disposition of Timber and Question of Taxes Important Issues.

CORVALLIS, Or., June 28.—(To the Editor.)—The thing to do now is to agree upon a plan about the Oregon & California grant lands and all pull together. Would it be right to agree that the railroad shall sell to actual settlers for a price to be agreed upon and then let the railroad give the title by deed and retain $2.50 per acre for the land sold and balance to go to the Government for the benefit of the reclamation fund? Let the people who have paid the railroad more than $2.50 an acre, within the statutory period of limitations, recover from the railroad, if they can, and those outside the statutes, let them remain in statu quo.

No doubt the limitation of selling to actual settlers will produce the same kind of fraud that Mr. Heney and Mr. Burns prosecuted. No actual settler can make a living on 160 acres of timber land. And he cannot use the timber, but he can become the agent of a man who desires to buy up a large quantity of timber and make something out of his birthright. It would be worse than it is now if the land could only go to actual settlers, for that would never induce the establishment of sawmills, and the running of rail lines into the timber, which is the only means the country has of realizing on the value of the timber. As soon as the timber is cut off and the sunlight has a chance to warm and vivify the earth, then the lands will become valuable for grazing until the new growth of timber again shuts out the sun.

I live within about 20 miles of three sections of this railroad land, upon which is growing a body of timber something like 75,000,000 to the section. Now, it would be absurd to ask the railroad to sell this to some man for $2.50 an acre. This land is worth more than $100 an acre for the timber alone; it is near a railroad and very accessible. A policy should be agreed upon which will enable me or any other man who knows about this timber to go on the land and make a settlement, and then go to the railroad and tender the amount the railroad and the Government asks for the land and timber, and pay it, and then hold the timber, if desired, or sell it to some one else, if that is desired, without any fraud about it.

Men will not willingly commit fraud, if they know it is fraud. Most of the people whom Mr. Heney and Mr. Burns prosecuted did not know they were committing fraud, for they were following precisely in the footsteps of many before them, with whom the Government had trafficked, and while the transactions were stopped, and many persons ruined in their reputation, it is questionable whether as good results could not have been obtained without the fraud prosecutions, and without these people losing their reputations.

I do not believe it would be right to require the railroad to refund the excess over $2.50 an acre for which they have sold some lands. That they did not sell all of it is their own fault and thus shift the political aspects of this mess. The railroad has uncomplainingly paid the tribute exacted by counties up and down the grant, and has built more schoolhouses and public highways since the law enabling school and road districts to make special assessments than any one else in Oregon. They have been grievously treated in the matter of assessments, in view of this $2.50 limitation. The railroad may imagine it can recover a lot of these heavy taxes, but that they cannot do. And that is one good moral reason why they ought not be required to refund the excessive money they have charged for the land over $2.50 an acre.

When I was assisting to fix values in this county several years ago the railroad came in for the heaviest raise. Their tax bill was increased something like $28,000 a year actual cash paid the county, and this was continued for several years. The land was then in litigation, and they could not object. They did not desire to object, if the value was there, so they said. But with the value split up between the railroad and the Government it is not so easy to see what is exactly the right thing to do about these taxes. The counties will not like to refund the enormous railroad taxes, nor even the Government's proportion of them. But it looks to one up a tree as if that proportion between $2.50 an acre and the amount the land was assessed for an acre might have to be refunded to the railroad. That would create a howl, let me tell you.

J. H. WILSON.

"REGRETS."

"One evening as I wandered forth
To get a breath of air,
I spied a maiden whose lovely face
Was sweetly young and fair.
Her step was dainty as the fawn,
And wondrous was her hair.
"Young stranger, whither goeth thou?"
I challenged with my eyes.
"Does quest of love thy steps constrain,
Or other youthful prize?
Or happy art thou hieing
Serenely on thy way
To a chocolate emporium
Or a moving-picture play?
I've seen you glowing Summer sun
Just thirty years return,
But never till this moment
Have I had cause to mourn—
Mourn because I met you not
When I was twenty-three,
Fearing if I woo you now
That you will laugh at me.
For time has not been idle,
His marks are on my brow,
The years that I have squandered
Have come to haunt me now.
Full many a time had wisdom
Advised me to wed,
Yet I heeded not the warning,
And the happy chances fled.
Behold me now thus lonely,
Ambling on my way,
Staring at shop windows
With feelings sad and gray.
Ye Gods! the scornful look of her;
No chance had I to win;
The hay upon my temples
Was faded out and thin.
She saw upon my manly face
The footprints of the crow;
She roze me with a chilling glance
That shook me like a blow.
Oh, man, while in thy early prime
Be warned, alas, by me,
And do not let the chances slip
A benedict to be.
For in your later years you'll meet
Full many a lovely face,
And when you beg a smile she'll look
Far, far away in space
Or slay you with the lightning
Of sweet but hostile eyes,
And all the blue will fade for you
From out the Summer skies.

GEORGE H. SANDS.

Oregon Members of Congress.

GASTON, Or., June 27.—(To the Editor.)—(1) What are the names of the United States Representatives from Oregon and from what districts were they elected, respectively? (2) What are the names of the United States Senators from Oregon? (3) What are the names of the Oregon State Representatives and Senators who represent Washington County in the State Legislature?

A SUBSCRIBER.

(1) W. C. Hawley, First District; N. J. Sinnott, Second District; C. N. McArthur, Third District. (2) George E. Chamberlain and Harry Lane. (3) Senators, W. D. Wood and W. H. Hollis; Representatives, William G. Hare, S. Paisley, Benton Bowman.

No.

ORENCO, Or., June 27.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly advise me whether I can legally marry without waiting six months, my divorce being granted in the State of Washington. ANXIOUS.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of June 29, 1890.

At half past two yesterday morning Mr. John Bradt, superintendent of the Southern Pacific lines in Oregon, died at the Lick House in San Francisco. He was on his way home, accompanied by his wife, Miss Susie Woodard and Miss Susie Royce. After attending the theater Friday night he retired at the hotel and between 1 and 2 o'clock awoke with a violent fit of coughing which lasted until he died.

Washington—Secretary Blaine had another long conference today with the Mexican Minister, Romero, regarding the scheme to capture Lower California. It is understood that Mr. Romero has been advised by his government that no steps would be taken against the United States for complicity of its citizens in the scheme.

London—The conflict between Turkish soldiers and Armenians at Erzeroum is viewed with alarm in diplomatic circles and on the continent. It is feared that Russia may at last be compelled to take the initiative step to protect the long-persecuted Christians of Armenia.

One of the most interesting features of the Fourth of July celebration will be the balloon wedding. The committee who have the matter in charge are making active preparations. The mammoth balloon is here and Professor Lang, the aeronaut, arrived in the city yesterday.

Yesterday afternoon a gentleman was out on Fifteenth and Oregon streets, Holladay Addition, when he noticed a small box on the ground. A card was attached to it on which was written, "Care of the Baby Home." On opening the box he was surprised to find an infant only a few hours old, alive and kicking.

Saturday evening was an eventful one in the history of Albina, when the graduating class gave their entertainment at Union Hall. The large hall was filled to its utmost capacity by parents and friends long before the exercises began, showing the great interest taken in the public schools. The programme was very interesting throughout, consisting of essays and orations, interspersed with solos and music.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of June 29, 1865.

Editorial—The slanderous calumniator of the Oregon Reporter, whose delight it is "to make most hellish meals of good men's names," says that the late President Lincoln was a dissimulating villain. The false accuser deserves to be scourged with a whip of scorpions through the nether regions to all eternity.

Gas failed in some places on Tuesday evening about the city for a short time. At this office, at the Council chamber and other places candles were in active demand about lighting-up time, but before they were lighted gas came in the usual quantity.

The people of The Dalles have purchased a gold-headed cane and contemplate awarding it to Senator Nesmith upon his return from the Simcoe Indian agency as a tribute of their respect for "value received" during his course as United States Senator from Oregon on the mint question.

The Portland Water Company is tunneling Robinson hill, at the head of South street, hoping thereby to secure a living spring of pure, wholesome water sufficient to supply the city.

The model of a machine to separate gold from dirt without the use of water was shown to us yesterday. It is a really ingenious contrivance. The inventor promises that it will save all the gold and that as much dirt can be put through it in a day as two men can handle. It seems to us it would be a useful machine in districts where water is scarce.

As an evidence that Portland is branching out we refer to the days fresh in the memory of all here who have been in the city any length of time, when no business house was to be seen beyond the prescribed limit of First street west, Salmon street south or B street north. Now a large amount of business is transacted farther out than either of the above named points.

Yesterday morning the contractor for the improvement of Front street, south of Morrison street, with a gang of 25 or 30 men, commenced the long-neglected work of giving this city one passable street. The work will be pushed forward vigorously to completion.

An Interrupted Concert.

PORTLAND, June 28.—(To the Editor.)—Last year during the concert season there could be no concerts in the evening at Kenilworth Park on account of there not being the necessary lights in the park. After years of waiting a system of lights has been installed. We have a concert in the evening at last. The city pays for both the concert and the lights, but right in the middle of one of the selections at 9:30 the lights are turned off, not giving the band time to finish their selection, not to say anything about the three selections that were still due. The band becomes helpless, renders a few short selections by ear and retires for the night.

There surely is a great error here. Was the parkkeeper not instructed, or did he not have enough sense not to put out the lights until the concert was over, or was it that he wanted to get home early? The band men were forced to collect their instruments in the dark and the people made to wander out of the park in the dark. What is the logic in having lights in a park, when they go out at the minute of 9 P. M., no matter what is going on? We might as well have no lights at all. If the city pays for an eight-piece concert, surely the parkkeeper should have sense enough to let them finish before putting out the lights. How about it?

TAXPAYER.

Largest Building at Chicago Fair.

HOOD RIVER, Or., June 27.—(To the Editor.)—A claims there was one building covered 40 acres of ground space at the Chicago World's Fair, all under one roof. B claims that A had a "pipe dream," as there was no building that had 40 acres under one roof all on ground floor.

CONSTANT READER.

The Manufactures and Liberal Arts building was the largest structure at the World's Columbian Exposition. It covered thirty and one-half acres.

Pull Them Your Way

Mr. Retailer, when the National manufacturer advertises his product in the newspaper he is pushing business your way.

Add your pull to the newspaper advertising push.

Put the advertised goods in your window where they can say "welcome."

Have your sales force keyed up to the situation.

Make up your mind you are going to get your full share of the business.

Both you and the manufacturer will benefit by this co-operation.