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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1915.

UPS AND DOWNS.

We have before us a typewritten statement of the ups and downs of a well-known piece of Portland property. The "up" column is on the left and in it is given the amount of taxes assessed against the block for each year from 1905 to 1914 inclusive. The "down" column is at the right. It represents the net income per month for the same years.

In the matter of taxes the outgo on this property has more than doubled. In 1905 it paid $6500 in round numbers; in 1914 it paid $17,000. In 1905 the net income from the same property was $568 per month. Every year but one since then the net monthly income has decreased, until in 1914 it was $273. Whereas taxes more than doubled in ten years, net income contracted more than one-half.

In respect to income we do not pretend to say that this is typical. As to taxes, however, there can be no doubt about it. But it is safe to assume as to practically every important lot or block in the city during the decade income has not kept proportionate pace with taxation, or anywhere near it. In the growth of the property owner's tax receipt is represented, of course, the actual increase in the value of his holdings. But when taxes paid are analyzed on a per capita basis it is indicated that the increase is not to be credited in large part to population growth and corresponding growth in property values. For 1914 taxes per capita have been estimated by Assessor Reed at $34.85 on a basis of 250,000 population in Portland; for 1915 the estimate is $28.45; in 1905, using a population estimate of 125,000, the taxes per capita were between $14 and $15. Thus is shown an increase of practically 100 per cent.

Generally speaking, it costs the citizen of Portland about twice as much for the benefits of organized government today as it did ten years ago. What is he getting for his money? A great many conveniences and activities have been and are being fostered by government which were unknown in Portland a decade ago. Playgrounds, swimming pools, wading pools, trade schools, domestic science instruction have been added for the benefit of the youth. A solicitous government looks after our health and safety in a dozen different ways. Our dairies, our markets, our slaughter-houses, our backyards are carefully inspected and we even have an official whose duty it is solemnly to warn in person the busy mother against letting the children play with matches.

In ten years the city has acquired a great area of paved streets, which has called for a large street-cleaning department and is now demanding a repair plant. We have built new bridges and established a system of public docks. The erection of numerous structures has called for building inspection. The plumbing, the wiring and even the sidewalks are carefully inspected before construction. These and many other things have crept upon us and established themselves insidiously. Most of them are worthy. Certainly they are nice to have. But they cost money.

One reason for the growth in the cost of city government is the ease with which small departments develop into big institutions. These are suddenly augmented by new ones under our very eyes. Of late there has appeared the jitney problem. Close on the heels of the problem came the jitney inspector. The City of Portland has one. He hasn't a thing in the world to do, but we pay him a good salary for not doing it. Watch the municipal jitney job. If it has not sprouted into an elaborate "transportation bureau" within another decade we miss our guess.

Give a man a city job inspecting bootblack stands and before the taxpayers have time to catch their next breath he will be head of a department, asking for a private secretary, a clerical force, an expert accountant and an automobile. The growth in cost of government is not lightly to be considered. Do we need so many aids to safety, health, comfort, welfare as we are getting? Would not a little financial relief extended by the taxing authorities to business and industrial enterprise provide better and wider safety, health, comfort and welfare than inspectors and restriction? There is no better moral or health tonic than food and comfort. More money spent for wages and less money spent for taxes just at this time would be a public benefaction.

COTTON BELT SMILES AGAIN.

In contrast with the gloom which overspread the cotton states a year ago, cheerfulness now prevails. Bad weather has combined with reduced acreage to cut the yield of cotton until now it is estimated at 11,000,000 bales, as compared with over 16,000,000 last year. The German and Austrian market is practically closed, the Russian market is accessible with difficulty, but all other markets are open, and increased purchases by the allies for use in explosives have gone far to compensate for the loss of other markets. The price has risen 10 per cent in the last month and is 40 per cent above the low price of the year. The prospect is good for unloading much of last year's surplus.

This situation shows how little justification there was for the hysterical alarm which spread through the South a year ago, when the first confusion resulting from the war caused an almost total suspension of exports. As in other affairs, the law of action and reaction has caused the cotton business to right itself. A big crop at low prices is naturally followed by a smaller crop at higher prices. The experience of a great crop with small demand has taught the South to diversify its farming, and by broadening the base to strengthen the agricultural industry. The South should learn by this lesson not to run to Uncle Sam for relief whenever it gets into trouble, but to work its way by using the means at hand.

NOT PLEASED.

No Democratic newspaper, so far as has been observed by The Oregonian, has found a Republican candidate for President with whom it is entirely suited. This is all most unfortunate, for it is well known to have been the uniform practice of the Republican party to consult the wishes and prejudices of its great opponent in all important matters. Or if it has not been the practice, there is a widespread Democratic opinion that it should have been.

There is the New York Times, for example, dismissing Senator Borah from consideration because (so it says) he voted for Bryan in 1896. The Republicans, it says, "may have forgiven that aberration, but what face would they put on a campaign in which Bryan would be the principal stump speaker their candidate would have to meet?"

Must Bryan, too, be consulted? Or will the country conform to its usual habit of listening more or less respectfully to Bryan and voting the other way?

Mr. Borah ran for Congress in Idaho in 1896, as a Silver Republican, against a Democratic-Populist (Bryan) candidate and a Republican candidate. Mr. Bryan was the Democratic-Populist candidate for President. It is quite certain that if Borah supported Bryan, Bryan did not support Borah. It is certain, too, that Borah opposed the Bryan candidate for Congress.

The Oregonian does not know for whom Mr. Borah voted for President in 1896. But the Times seems to think it knows. What is its authority?

NO HARM DONE.

Mayor Gill, of Seattle, does not think that a chief of police who visits a local grill famous for its galeties and enjoys a midnight supper with a professional cabaret dancer and a few friends ought to be removed from office. Nor does an incidental call upon the lady in her private apartments by the same chief seem by the Mayor to be worth bothering anybody about. The chief, it appears, was there officially to ask the lady a few questions about some wicked persons who were shadowing him, or something of that sort, and strictly in that capacity—officially, as chief of police—he ordered wine or beer, or some kindred refreshments, solely to aid her to impart the things he wanted to know.

The Seattle Times expresses itself as gratified at the outcome, for it says: "In point of fact what else could Mr. Gill do under the wholly absurd circumstances of this disgusting case?"

What, indeed? We do not know that the question is particularly addressed to us, and we see no reason why we should answer. But we will take the liberty of passing it on to Mayor Albee, merely to inquire of him what he would do if his chief of police publicly dined and caroused with cafe frequenters and cafe entertainers and had later a private interview with one of the latter?

Of course, it is nobody's business in Portland what the Seattle chief of police does, and what its Mayor does not do. But we have no difficulty in guessing what the Portland Mayor—any Portland Mayor—would do in the same circumstances.

RENOVATED FEATHERS.

It requires the mental exertion of a pretty old pioneer to recall the time when Portland did not have a budget system in all its essentials just like the one that is now in operation. Yet the submission of the budget estimates has inspired the following burst of admiration for commission government:

> One of the virtues of commission government is that everything is in the open. The estimates are published long in advance, so they can be seen and discussed by all citizens before the final budget of expenditures is adopted. There is no longer a haphazard, devil-may-care system in the financial affairs of the city.

Under the councilmanic form of government in Portland the heads of departments prepared their estimates for the ensuing year and submitted them to the Mayor. At that time the estimates were made public. The Mayor pruned them where he deemed necessary and submitted them to the Council. The Council referred the budget estimates to the ways and means committee, which considered and revised them at meetings open to the public, and reported back to the Council, which finally adopted the budget.

Under the process today the heads of departments submit their estimates to the Commission without the intervention of the Mayor. The Commission considers and revises at meetings open to the public and finally adopts. The process is a little made over, but it is no more open today than it has been for years.

Yes, indeed. The plumage the Commission charter borrowed from the old charter is very pretty. But cannot the charter's apologists stop admiring made-over millinery long enough to tell us something about the million dollars commission government was to save the city annually?

HUNTING THE WILY PHEASANT.

Fear not, gentle reader. The dull, rumbling bombardment that awakens you with the first peep of dawn this morning does not proceed from the deadly rifles and cannon of an invader. No foreign army has set foot upon our undefended shores in accordance with the oft-repeated predictions of our military alarmists. Nothing of that sort at all. It is merely the Portland army—of pheasant hunters advancing through the stubble fields and brush patches in the outskirts of the city. While the firing is heavy, we opine that the casualties are light, inasmuch as the average Chinese pheasant cock is more than a match for the average nimrod. The principal losses are of sleep, patience and ammunition.

Every male person who still has left in his nature a strain of the primitive hunt lust is wont to turn out in the annual quest of the Chinese pheasant. If we may judge from the number of licenses issued, the quantities of ammunition sold and the volume of noise made, the pheasant-hunting army must approximate in size the whole allied force in France and Flanders. It would appall our gentle souls to think upon the havoc wrought did we not know that the Chinese pheasant cock is able to take care of himself in the fray. As for the hens they are protected by law, their native sagacity and acumen being insufficient protection—a sex characteristic peculiar to other species.

There will be some losses bright and early this morning. The stately birds of gorgeous plumage which have made their homes in wheat fields and orchards, even in our streets, will be caught unawares. During the tranquil months of the closed season they have become used to the propinquity of man. But they are quick to detect treachery, so that by noon the survivors will be on the alert. The male pheasant has an amazing faculty for hiding himself. As a tactician, he has the shrewdest hunter beaten. With a peculiar intelligence all his own, the Chinese pheasant is adept at judging the ranges of effective fire, and he will run through stubble until well out of gunshot before rising. If caught napping and brought into a corner he has been known to rise and fly directly at the hunter, barely clearing the nimrod's head. Thus an almost impossible target is offered, and the hunter is too greatly surprised to practice miraculous gunnery.

It is keenness of instinct alone that has prevented the extermination of this beautiful game bird in the Northwest. No other bird is hunted with such deadly earnestness and persistence. We might be led to wonder that so sagacious a bird did not betake itself to the fastnesses of isolated sections. Perhaps the wily fowls are entirely satisfied with their own ability to cope with hunters and feel no need of retreating. Leastwise they continue to multiply in spite of the hunters, and if you will investigate the matter you will ascertain that the average stalker of Chinese pheasants returns from the chase empty-handed.

THE ALTERNATIVE.

Conspicuous in the flowing mass of misrepresentation and hysteria over the late Western states water-power conference is the statement that that body went on record in "demanding that the water-power monopoly be given title to the water powers." There is no color of warrant for that assertion. But it is made so persistently and so frequently that it is well enough to recall just what the conference said in its resolutions.

The states, said the resolutions, have the right and power of control and use of waters within their borders.

The converse policy, expressed in the Ferris bill, is that the power of regulation and control must rest with the Federal Government. It is another phase of the Government scheme of conservation, reservation, isolation, and starvation of the states.

(2) A general leasing policy was opposed. Do the contentious and short-sighted brigadiers who have raised the flag of Federal control of state concerns favor the leasing of the public lands?

(3) The right of eminent domain by the states over the vacant Government lands for public uses was asserted. A denial by the Federal authority of the right is a declaration of intention to block development of water powers owned by the states until the states yield control to the Washington bureaucracy.

(4) Any legislation substituting arbitrary or discretionary authority of executive officials for fixed rules of law was opposed. It cannot be defended, though in fact it is the rule at Washington.

(5) Ownership or control by the United States of intra-state (not interstate) public utilities was opposed. Does the most radical advocate of Federal usurpation in its most familiar form dare to go so far as to favor it?

The whole issue is Federal control through bureaus versus state control through law.

Federal control means long-distance government of state utilities. It is just that.

State control means home regulation of state utilities. Denial that the state is competent to control its own affairs is an admission that state government, and particularly the New Idea in government, has broken down. Has it?

PREPARE THE NATION FOR PEACE.

Advice given by James J. Hill in the Annalist that the American people begin before the war ends to prepare for the great revolution in commerce, manufactures and finance which will follow restoration of peace is most timely. The war is making profound changes in the governing conditions. It has already changed us from a debtor to a creditor Nation, a change which our new banking system enables us to handle without disturbance. But, Mr. Hill tells us, "the financial ideas of our people must be enlarged to fit the new sphere in which they should operate" and "we must bend our study to the gigantic new task of maintaining a proper adjustment of the finances of the world." We must stop "the reckless borrowing at home that has marked the last twenty years."

We must also, he says, gain "a clearer view of the international quality of productive industry," for the end of the war will draw the Nation "closer than ever in an industrial sense." The tariff duties must be arranged "in recognition of profound industrial changes." On this point he says:

> These cannot any longer be made the sport of parties and the prey of private interests. The tariff should be turned over to a nonpartisan commission of experts, whose recommendation should be listened to before changes can be made, if we are not to sacrifice our natural advantage in that material reconstruction of the world which will follow the coming peace.

"The railroads," says Mr. Hill, "must have relief from unjust existing restrictions and encouragement for that development and extension without which agriculture, manufacturing and commerce cannot prosper." He points to the bad financial condition of the railroads as an obstacle to their extension, and warns us that the railroad's expansion is an indispensable essential of industrial growth, but that "it not only will not grow, it will contract if laws and regulations prevent it from earning a reasonable profit."

"For the foreign carrying trade," he says, "American ships need only the same freedom from hampering regulations that those of other countries enjoy to restore the old precedence of our merchant marine." He predicts that, with this done and with land and ocean carriers free to make joint rates, "our foreign trade would take the same precedence that events have given to our international financial position."

Our future place in the world, in Mr. Hill's opinion, depends "less on any one act or policy than on our capacity to take the broad, scientific view of the whole situation." He concludes:

> The wisdom of real statesmanship must supersede the petty play of party ambitions and the ruinous selfishness of class interests. If, during the war, it is the nations of Europe that are put to the supreme test, after the war is over it will be our own.

In the same vein the Springfield Republican tells us that the next Congress "might accomplish a work of incalculable value if it were led with wisdom, inspired solely by patriotism and sought no object, personal or partisan, inconsistent with the largest and highest public welfare," for it will have the opportunity of preparing us "not merely for the future competitions of war but also for the future competitions of peace." That journal outlines how bureaucracy like that of Germany would attack our problems. It would exhaustively study them all in advance of peace. It would not only reorganize our defenses, but would clean up all outstanding questions in the Philippines, Mexico, the West Indies and Central America and would decide the scope of the Monroe Doctrine. It would remove the tariff from politics, adapt the anti-trust law to foreign trade, start the development of a merchant marine and recognize that the United States "might have to face in the international markets a Europe more nearly consolidated industrially than it has been hitherto." We must prepare for a great diminution of that individualism in Britain as well as in other countries to which "many of Britain's weaknesses in the war are traceable."

Congress will not be able to rise to the great emergencies thus described unless its leaders on both sides have the patriotism to place country above party. What matters it who gets the credit for legislative and administrative achievements provided the country benefits by them? If the men at the head of the two parties can prove themselves big enough and broad enough to rise above considerations of party advantage, they will combine their energies on the right solution of our problems. Then this Congress may render us secure from foreign attack, may establish a tariff commission, give us a rational shipping code, clear away obstacles to foreign trade expansion and start us on a career of peaceful, commercial conquest which will put to shame the bloody, military conquests of Europe.

What bade fair to develop into a thrilling manhunt came to a tragic and fortunate close when the slayer of Warden Minto was shot by a police officer after a single day of liberty. Thanks to the telephone, telegraph and more thickly settled rural districts, the way of the bad man is hard and his career short. The hunt for Hooker was brief and uneventful as compared with the pursuit of Tracy and Merrill in much the same region years ago.

More don'ts for our mollycoddle teachers: Don't let the children engage in calisthenics. Don't let them carry themselves erect and alert. Caution parents not to let the children sleep in tents or the open air. Don't let them obey you without question. Don't encourage them to be prompt. Don't enforce discipline over them. Soldiers do all these things and they savor of militarism.

There was not a mollycoddle among those 20,000 tottering veterans who marched through Washington, nor was there a militarist, for when they had saved the Union they went home and returned to the arts of peace. Their conduct refutes the statement that preparedness for defense means militarism and aggression.

The underwriters of the allies' half-billion-dollar loan will reap a little business, too. Ten million dollars is what it will amount to in a general way, but of course they must incur some risk and expense, although the risk no doubt is small enough. Anyway, it is a good business deal for some.

Secretary Lansing has been accused by a German-American of having been born in Canada. He was not, for Watertown, N. Y., is his birthplace, but if he were, the manner in which he disposed of Dumba would prompt us to wish for a few more of the same kind of Canadians.

The Balkan riddle is still unguessed. One story is that Bulgaria will join the Teutons on October 15; another that a pro-Russian Cabinet is being formed. We shall not know on which side Bulgaria will be until she has begun to fight on one side or the other.

The Philadelphia Nationals have won the league pennant, and one of the players, Bancroft, stepped up from Portland only at the close of last season. Perhaps that accounts in a measure for Portland's occupancy of the cellar in our own league.

When kerosene and gasoline are kept in the household and the former is used to hurry a slow fire, the only safe way is to use containers so entirely different that a blind person can tell them apart. Yet nobody will do so.

By his method of shooting first and inquiring afterward, Patrolman Long may be able to run the two notches in his gun up to a dozen in due time.

If Commissioner Daly would abolish his absurd billing system for flat-rate water consumers, he might knock another $50,000 off the water budget.

The size of the lottery evil in San Francisco is shown in the statement that 4000 agents are thrown out of employment by its suppression.

Unless the allied army at Gallipoli hurries, the British expedition in Mesopotamia will get to Constantinople first.

The German line is not yet broken, but it is slightly bent. The allies' task is to discover the limit of its flexibility.

Governor Withycombe has a happy way of doing things. John W. Minto is just the man to succeed his brother.

The wireless phone may yet enable the Kaiser to consult Mars on how to wage war.

The truth of the matter is, the quality of the films has outgrown the nickel.

Jim Hill is neutral and subscribes to both loans. That's business.

That city woodpile will be thoroughly ripe before it is gone.

If the days are rainy, it will be dress-up week, all the same.

Dave Bancroft in the big series sounds good.

The day of the pheasant's doom is at hand.

GERMAN ON MONROE DOCTRINE

Hostility Is Denied, but Hint Given Germany May Oppose.

A most significant article at the present juncture in our international relations is that of Professor Herbert Kraus on "The Monroe Doctrine as Germans See It," in the Atlantic Monthly. There has long been an impression in this country that Germany was hostile to the Monroe Doctrine and would be the first to challenge it. Americans accept as a matter of course British assent to and support of the doctrine as in consonance with British policy. Professor Kraus gives a far different view.

The Monroe Doctrine is compared by Professor Kraus to a will-o'-the-wisp, but this "most salient characteristic" is "unquestionably the secret of its practical efficiency and beneficial effect upon the policies of the United States." He sees "not the slightest indication" that the doctrine will ever be defined, and adds: "The general conviction exists that when the Monroe Doctrine has been defined its value will be extinguished."

But he attributes to this lack of definition "the preponderance of false statements as to its scope, objects and contents." One result of these errors, he says, is "the argument as to whether the United States should oppose a German invasion of Canada, and as to whether sending of Canadian troops to Europe contravened the Monroe Doctrine. His opinion is that "technically the Monroe Doctrine does not have the remotest bearing on either point." He says, "more mistakes occur in this respect in the United States than in Europe," and that "the tendency to stretch the principle is generally popular in the United States."

The rest of the world, however, accepts it "in a spirit of cold aloofness" and abroad "efforts are made to restrict its scope as far as possible."

So far as it affects Europe Professor Kraus says there are "few true enthusiasts" for the doctrine, and he warns us to mistrust British professions of friendship to it, saying: "No true Englishman can favor the Monroe Doctrine," emphasizing the word "can." "Every blow that the United States has struck with the aid of the Monroe Doctrine has been dealt at England." He describes this doctrine as "the strongest weapon of which the United States disposes in the long-protracted and by no means concluded contest which she and England are waging for supremacy in America." As to Germany's attitude, Professor Kraus says:

> There has been a daily increasing number of persons who recognize the tremendous value which the Monroe Doctrine possesses for the purpose of the United States. In it they see the master key to the political power of that country; they envy her the theory, and they have formed their ideas as to its significance in connection with the minimizing of possible bones of contention between the members of the family of nations.

"As a result of my personal and minute observations as to German sentiment," he says, "there is not the slightest indication of any actual hostility to the Monroe Doctrine."

As to the immediate present he believes the Monroe Doctrine to be "engrossed by the idea of absorbing, controlling and commercially restricting non-American states." Professor Kraus says: "'The Wilson doctrine' contains the power and the initiative to restrict without discrimination all trade between foreign nations and America." On the "same assumption of right" which Mr. Wilson raised against oil concessions, he says the United States could object to contracts between Americans and citizens of foreign countries and could "veto any or all Asiatic or European immigration into Central or South America."

The professor here finds the only contingency "which might eventually cause the Monroe Doctrine to militate against German interests." He asserts positively: "Germany has never yet made a serious attempt to establish colonies in America."

Professor Kraus does not expect that "the commercial element of the Monroe Doctrine will cause friction between the United States and Germany," and says:

> Such a contingency can arise only in the course of relations with England, whose every transaction has been actuated by underlying motives and who, up to the present, has always made use of her political supremacy to advance her commercial influence.

He declares "this undertone entirely foreign to the relations between Germany and the United States."

Acceptance of the Monroe Doctrine by any or all of the world powers, he says, "depends entirely on the attitude of the United States toward the present war." He adds:

> Confidence and might must be co-existent. The former must be connected that we can safely rely upon the attitude of the United States in regard to international relations.

He styles the export of war munitions by this country "as contrary to the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine as the tone of the American press," and makes this veiled threat:

> All of this will make itself felt in the subsequent relations between the United States and Germany, and it will doubtless play a part unfavorable to the Union in the general accounting, when her attitude toward Germany's opponents is considered. Partiality in international crises has always brought its own reward.

After all due allowance has been made for a desire to prejudice Americans against Britain and to quiet distrust of German arms, this article is encouraging to our hopes that the supremacy of the United States on this hemisphere will not be contested by Germany. But we cannot expect that supremacy to remain undisputed unless we provide the force necessary to maintain it.

An Aerial "Fadeaway."

In the British and French air service in the war, according to Claude Grahame-White, the English aeronaut, a premium is placed on speed. A tiny biplane of 160-horsepower, called the "bullet," has beaten all records of speed made during times of peace. "It passes through the air," he says, "at a speed of more than 130 miles an hour. Even when flying low this craft has been found to offer an extremely difficult mark. It sweeps up with a hum from its motor and flashes into view—perhaps just above the tree tops—at its amazing speed; then, almost as soon as it is sighted, and before guns can be leveled, it has faded to a speck and disappeared. Mr. White and Harry Harper has written a book, "Aircraft in the Great War," which deals with the science of airchaft and experience of airmen in the conflict. The work has just been issued by A. C. McClurg & Co.

Who Charlie Chaplin Is.

BONANZA, Or., Sept. 28.—(To the Editor.)—Would you please give information as to who Charlie Chaplin is?
A SUBSCRIBER.

Charlie Chaplin is Charles Chaplin, formerly an English pantomimist. In his teens he began in London theaters. A year or so ago he was in vaudeville. One day he wandered into a moving picture studio and plied his clown-like, reckless antics. He became popular in a short time. His brother is also an eccentric actor, having been brought up in the London theaters. Their mannerisms are similar.

Nerve and Golf.

Buffalo (N. Y.) Express.

"It must take a lot of nerve to play golf." Oh, not necessarily. You can dress sensibly for golf as well as any other game."

Rebuff From a Friend.

Houston (Tex.) Post.

"And you refuse me a loan?" "Oh, no, I don't refuse you alone; I refuse all panhandlers."

HIGH SCHOOL NOON PERIOD SHORT

Half Hour Too Little, Thinks One Father Who Sees Possible Bad Results.

PORTLAND, Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—Will you kindly lend some space to a question interesting the health of the school children in regard to time allotted to the students of the high schools in Portland for their noon meal. This time is only half an hour. Many parents, for financial reasons, cannot afford to give, every day, to their child or children the money necessary for a restaurant meal, even at moderate prices of the cafeterias installed in schools.

Some children purchase their lunch in other boarding places of the neighborhood and this should be their privilege. For other reasons, some parents whose residences are not too far distant prefer to give luncheon to their children at home.

In practice cafeterias and nearby luncheon places are most often crowded at lunch time, owing mainly to the short time granted, and it is difficult to serve quickly all children. As to those who go home or board outside, it takes them from 10 to 20 minutes to go to and from their eating places.

In conclusion many children have to take their noon meal in about 10 minutes, which is too short a time at an age when appetite and need of food are pretty much exacting. The result is easy to guess. It consists in a shoveling and swallowing process which can be but hurtful to many children's health, considering that this goes on five days a week for nine months. It is hardly what any doctor would approve of.

Would it not be possible to grant to the children one-quarter of an hour more at noon, which is a very moderate and reasonable request? The closing hour would be 2:45 instead of 2:30, a very small difference.

This request respectfully submitted to the Board of School Directors is an expression of opinion not only of many students, but mainly of many parents and possibly of part of the teachers themselves.
FATHER.

BUT WHAT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS?

Aid of Unemployed Seems to Consider Only the Men, Says Writer.

PORTLAND, Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—Knowing that the question of dealing efficiently with the problem of the unemployed during the Winter months is now occupying the minds of the city officials and others interested in the work, I am desirous of pointing out one very pressing necessity in connection with it, which, so far as I know, has not yet received the attention it deserves.

The working man in hard luck can get good 5-cent meals, with many other comforts and conveniences, at such places as the Scadding House and our own Working Men's Club. The charitably inclined have meal tickets to give to such cases as they think deserving, and in this way the lot of many a poor man is made less hard.

But what about the women and girls?

There are to my knowledge many hundreds in the city to whom the satisfaction of a nickel meal and a comfortable warm clubroom during the cooler weather would be an unmitigated blessing.

We ourselves have fed many such during the past year, but our clubroom is not adapted to women; it lacks the necessary conveniences and privacy which are essential to their comfort.

If one or more of our wealthy citizens were to take this matter up and provide a working women's reading and dining-room on similar lines to our Working Men's Club, I believe it would be one of the most beneficial and good-resulting endowments which they could establish in our city.
CAPTAIN J. G. M'CLELLAND.

Germany's Submarine Campaign.

SHERWOOD, Or., Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—Did the Germans inaugurate their submarine campaign in retaliation for England's attempt to starve the civilian population of the former country? If possible I should like references, as I must convince a skeptic of decided pro-German tendencies.
DONALD HARRIS.

We can only cite the sequence of events. England announced a long-distance blockade of German ports after Germany had proclaimed a submarine war zone around the British Isles, but England had previously aroused resentment in Germany by enlargements of the contraband list and other marine activities. Germany, on February 6, 1915, issued a justification of the war zone policy in which the imperial government charged that additions to the contraband list of articles only of remote military benefit, seizures of German goods and German citizens at sea and the difficulties instituted by Britain to navigation of the North Sea were designed to starve the civilian population of Germany. The first official announcement of a "limited blockade" of German ports was contained in a speech delivered by Premier Asquith in Parliament March 1. The text of Germany's proclamation will be found in the morning newspapers of February 7, the report of Asquith's speech in the morning papers of March 2.

Non-Military Works Destroyed.

GLADSTONE, Or., Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—I have just read in The Oregonian Karl H. von Wiegand's article on Lieutenant-Commander Mathy's raid by Zeppelin on London. According to the commander's story he approves of aerial attack on London so far as concerns everything usable for military purposes, such as big railway stations, banks, docks, shipyards, industrial establishments, etc.

From a letter I received from my brother I find the brave commander has not confined himself to blowing up these institutions. My brother writes: "The last Zep raid we had completely blew up the John's Old People's Home at Leytonstone, East London. A family of five, who were known to us and were spending their vacation on the East Coast, moved to the same suburb to escape the expected East Coast raids. They also were wiped out by the same bomb."

It is to be hoped that the brave commander was apprised of this grand military coup.
FAIR PLAY.

Liquor in Unlicensed Places.

PORTLAND, Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—Can a person buy a bottle of beer in a saloon and take it to a restaurant and drink it with his meal? Or is there an ordinance against drinking it in a restaurant if the restaurant has no license to sell liquor?
A SUBSCRIBER.

Section 3 of ordinance 25216, passed by the City Council May 8, 1912, prohibits anyone from taking liquor into any eating place that is not licensed by the city to sell intoxicants and drink it with or without meals. A fine not to exceed $100 may be imposed on both the proprietor and the person taking the liquor into the place.

Blue Grouse "Drum."

PORTLAND, Sept. 30.—(To the Editor.)—"G" says that the well-known blue grouse of Oregon has the characteristic of "drumming" while "B" says they do not. Also could you answer as to whether Oregon pheasants "drum" in a like manner?
E. WEBSTER.

According to the prevalent belief among sportsmen the blue grouse and the Oregon pheasant are practically identical and they both "drum."

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian October 1, 1890.

As a result of activity on the part of the State Board of Commerce and of merchants generally, the Union Pacific has promised more cars to handle the business in and out of Portland. Lumbermen especially have been hard hit by the car shortage and have appealed directly to Omaha.

Seattle—The city election will be held here today. The excitement was intense last night. Bands were out and the crowds on the street were dense. The Republicans held a big demonstration in the Armory. Harry White is candidate for Mayor on the Republican ticket and John Collins is seeking the office on the Democratic ticket.

Astoria—The advance guard if Lieutenant O'Neill's exploring party, which is returning from the wilds of the Quinlault reservation, has reached here on the Alliance.

The performances of Diver Nelson, who is engaged in boring holes through the timbers at the new Madison-street bridge, is attracting considerable attention.

Frederic Archer will give a concert Friday and Saturday, October 10 and 11, at the First Presbyterian Church.

D. Hutchins has been appointed a regular policeman for the Humane Society. W. Olstitt, P. J. Barry and J. S. McHugh were added to the regular force yesterday.

The Portlands released Pitcher Witbrock yesterday. He had not won a game for Portland since he joined the team.

M. Wilkins, one of Oregon's representatives on the World's Fair Commission, returned yesterday from Chicago.

Captain W. T. Symons, United States Engineer in this district, has been notified that $494,500 is available for work under his charge.

THAT ELUSIVE CITY AUDITORIUM.

Its Construction This Winter Would Be Boon to Workingmen.

PORTLAND, Sept. 30.—(To the Editor)—I see by an evening paper that the Auditorium may be moved again. This time up in the Nob Hill district, handy to the apartment houses—on a double block—twice the size for half the money and so forth. Just about the time we think we are going actually to have an auditorium built, somebody jars us and says, "Your pipe's out." I'd like to see some of that few odd hundred thousand dollars spent in this town this Winter. It would help some. The roads will soon be done. The auditorium is the largest piece of city work that was in sight. And now somebody's going to move it again. "Button, button, who's got the auditorium?" Just about the time we think "Portland's got the auditorium" somebody or other comes along with another plot of ground to sell the city, and the usual line of bunk about saving the city money.

Listen: Several years after Portland decided it wanted an auditorium, so did Oakland. What happened? Oakland gave Portland several years' head start, got its auditorium completed last Spring and has been holding conventions in it ever since, while Portland's auditorium is still a will-o'-the-wisp. Why, I think it was about or over a year ago that Portland "decided" to build the auditorium on property it owns at Third and Market streets. It is not only not built yet—but what besides? Somebody's going to move it again. "On again, off again, gone again, auditorium."

It strikes me that right now would be a pretty good, time to spend that money. There are unfortunately plenty of men in this city not over supplied with work, especially in the building line, and the erection of a building of this size, if restricted to city labor, as I believe was the plan, would prove a boon to many. I think Mr. Baker said the plans and so forth would be in shape to go ahead on the Market block this Fall. But if there's going to be another long-drawn-out scrap about it, it'll never get started this Winter. It's too bad the auditorium can't be parcelled out all over town, then everybody with land to sell would be happy. But as it's only one we need, and we can't agree on where to put it, it looks like a safe bet that old Rip Van Winkle could return to this sleepy hollow in 20 years and find us still saying (altogether) "On again, off again, gone again, auditorium."
WORKINGMAN.

LATITUDE OF PORT UNCHANGED.

Book Which Juggles Bar Depths Right in One Particular.

PORTLAND, Sept. 30.—(To the Editor)—In a rather pretentious publication of 420 pages, entitled "North Pacific Ports," which is understood to have wide circulation at all of our leading ports, we are informed, in a chapter devoted to Portland, that the "approaches at the mouth of the Columbia River have a depth of 25½ feet." This appears in the edition for the year 1915 just issued, on page 244.

In the issue of 1914, page 215, the approaches were reported as having a depth of 28 feet. From this it appears that the channel at the bar is now more shallow by 2½ feet than it was one year ago. The accuracy of the information contained in this publication cannot be doubted, for it is issued by the "Terminal Publishing Co., Inc., of 303 Burke Building, Seattle." It is very gratifying to note that the latitude and longitude of Portland is reported the same for both 1914 and 1915.

Within the past 10 days we have had reports, purporting to come from Government engineers, that recent soundings showed a depth of 36 feet at low tide, in a channel 1000 wide, across the bar. Would it not be well for the Chamber of Commerce to institute an official inquiry to ascertain how the Government engineers made such an egregious mistake?
CHAS. B. MOORES.

Why It Is.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Why do they call 'em fountain pens? I should say reservoir pen would be the better name. A reservoir contains liquids; a fountain throws 'em around."

"I think fountain pen is the proper name," said the party of the second part.

Fault-Finder on Deck.

Exchange.

Some people denounce sin because no one ever gave them a chance to sin.

Be Sure You Are Right.

Remember old Davy Crockett and his motto?

"Be sure you are right—then go ahead."

Good motto for everyday life—"Be sure you are right—then spend your money."

Don't buy haphazard. Don't trust to luck. Find out first.

The advertising in a good newspaper like The Oregonian is a buyer's guide.

It is the first step to correct purchasing.

It may not tell you all you want to know, or ought to know, but it will start your feet in the right direction.