The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland (Oregon) Postoffice as second-class matter.
Subscription Rates—Invariably in advance:

(By Mail.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and Weekly, one year	3.50

(By Carrier.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

How to Remit—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—12 to 16 pages, 1 cent; 18 to 24 pages, 2 cents; 26 to 40 pages, 3 cents; 42 to 50 pages, 4 cents; 52 to 70 pages, 5 cents; 72 to 80 pages, 6 cents. Foreign postage, double rates.

Eastern Business Office—Verree & Conklin, Brunswick building, New York; Verree & Conklin, Steger building, Chicago. Pacific Coast representative, R. J. Bidwell, 742 Market street.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9, 1916.

THE UNFLAGGING CONFLICT.

With the great war racing along toward its second birthday there are many phases of the fray that give it the aspect of barely having gotten under way. Eighteen months of fighting have just passed by and if anything has occurred tending toward a final decision it is not apparent. Fearful battles have been fought. Some of them will go down as the greatest in history. But in proportion to the vastness of the whole issue these titanic clashes of arms appear as little more than outpost brushes.

Nor, in surveying the whole situation past and present, is there anything surprising to be found, unless it is the durability of the allies in resisting the assaults of the central powers. However, we have ceased to wonder at that ever since Germany failed in her initial rush on Paris. Germany was the best prepared of all nations, equipped with a human fighting machine the like of which had never been witnessed before. Fairly leaping upon France, the German army set out to make short work of the supposedly inferior French force. At the same time flying columns were hurled against the unready Slave in order to demoralize the Czar's war preparations. The world fairly gasped at the German military audacity in sweeping down upon powerful enemies and knocking them right and left even as they rubbed their eyes in bewilderment before the suddenness of the rush.

The German strategy was an ancient one applied here on a gigantic scale. The German armies would attack and defeat their enemies in detail. France first, then Russia and finally Germany's one true enemy, Great Britain. With France out of the way and German bases on the English Channel what an opportunity for bringing the British to terms! But France staggered, reeled, recovered, and fought back. Groggy and wobbly for a brief period, the French army finally recovered its equilibrium and stood in a shoulder-to-shoulder slugging match with the Kaiser's army. Unable to over-run the French, the German army finally accepted the only other course and dug itself into the ground at the point where progress westward ceased. Feverishly fortifying and strengthening this new Teuton western boundary, the German strategy thereafter concerned itself with defending this new line.

Thus, also, in Poland. Assuredly the Kaiser never entertained definite hopes of crushing the Czar. But he must have hoped to inflict such severe punishment that the Czar's hitting power would cease to be of consequence. A separate peace may have been dreamed of by Wilhelm's blunt diplomats. Nicholas' army was driven back and demoralized in a succession of brilliant German drives which placed the name of Von Hindenburg among the military immortals of the world. But the Russians came back. They continue to come back. And at this moment, when, according to Teuton calculations, the Slave should be nursing the remnants of a broken military force, they are pressing offensive operations on a small but growing scale in the Caucasus.

Thus the war raged on east and west fronts for more than a year. The Germans were compelled to change their strategy from an offensive to a defensive series of campaigns. Not only did the French refuse to be driven farther, but they set themselves resolutely to the task of pressing back the invaders. In this the French failed even as the Russians have failed to change a mile of that new German boundary which has been drawn in blood and steel through the heart of Poland.

An impasse east and west was recognized apparently by all concerned last Fall, whereupon the central powers took advantage of Bulgarian assistance to open a line of communication with their southernmost ally, Turkey. This was made possible by the temporary demoralization of the Russian forces in Poland, which assured Germany that the task of holding its new eastern boundary might be accomplished with diminished forces pending the full recuperation of the Slave. Poor little Serbia was overrun and a sore thorn thus removed from Austria's side, leaving that country free to pay her respects to Italy, which had been sparring threateningly, but to little purpose on the sidelines. The allies likewise were thrown out of Gallipoli, but mainly by Turkish efforts, and brought to a standstill in Mesopotamia. Teuton activities in the Orient have failed in results, although this southern dash was interpreted, if not designed, as a vital blow against Britain. Uprising of Mohammedan hordes throughout the East have failed to materialize even as a whole array of predicted surprises and disasters have failed to shape themselves into concrete form.

Dull, dogged fighting, that is the war to date, and with every indication that the hardest actions and bloodiest encounters are yet to come. Far from being a clash of mere armies, the thing has developed into a struggle for survival among those great groups of nations and races which are involved. Germany is fortifying to protect the new boundaries wrought in steel. If Germany holds her own henceforward until the day of peace her prestige cannot suffer. But the allies are planning that Germany shall not hold her own. They are laying siege to the central powers, not within their own territory, but within the new ring which the Teutons have drawn in hold hand about the very heart of Europe.

The unknown factor today is the new military power of Britain. At the outset King George marshalled a force of 177,000 men, which aroused the German contempt. Now the British have 2,000,000 men in the field ready to fight and another 2,000,000 men in concentration camps being trained to fight. France, gaunt and hard pressed, is showing powers of resistance that surprise. Russia, drawing munitions from Japan even as Britain draws them from America, is grimly preparing to resume the issue in more deadly earnest than ever. Can these new forces dig the Germans out? That is the vital question of the present era in the war. Is it within the realms of human possibility to break through hundreds of miles of trenches that are arranged in deadly networks miles in thickness? A line of trenches taken at the cost of thousands of lives merely brings the allies face to face with a new line. Line after line, in unending array, must be taken. Men must venture into the open and seek to force their way ahead over the heaps of dead comrades against the protected gunners of the German trenches. What a crimson harvest when the allies set out on this mission! Or will they be content to lay gradual siege in the expectation that time and comparative isolation may combine to wear down the enemy's resources and weaken his powers of resistance? Light should be shed upon these vital questions with the coming of real fighting weather late in the Spring. The sparrings and assaults of the present hour in France are nothing more than local diversions with no possible bearing on the final decision, we suspect.

IS THERE A ROOSEVELT WAVE?

The editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mr. Scott Bone, has just returned from an extended tour of the East and Middle West, bringing with him a somewhat vivid impression of the belligerent and universal character of the Roosevelt sentiment spreading over the country. We do not feel qualified to dispute such first-hand authority, even if so disposed; but the remark may be made that the great Roosevelt wave has not yet created any phenomenon in the Northwest beyond a few ripples.

Undoubtedly there are many old-time Roosevelt men who would hail his nomination by the Republicans—some of them by any party—with tumultuous approval; and we suppose the regulars, who are in the habit of voting the Republican ticket because they believe in and are faithful to the Republican party, would offer some semblances of satisfaction, not to say enthusiasm. Some of them would bolt, no doubt, but in what direction?

There is a belief in some quarters—it amounts even to an obsession—that the man of the hour is again Roosevelt. If the Republican party nominates him it may be taken for granted that the one supreme voice of the party—the National Convention—has given him absolution and made him regular. If the National Convention has not the right or power to define a Republican and his qualifications, no other body has. This is doctrine, by the way, fully expounded by The Oregonian in 1912, but it fell on deaf ears in the Roosevelt camp. We suppose it will be readily accepted now.

In view of what has happened in 1914-15-16, it is folly, not to say unpatriotic, for any citizen to recall what happened in 1912.

ENFORCING THE LAW.

The Oregonian has received from an unknown source a copy of the Union Signal, a temperance paper of National circulation, containing commendation of this paper for its support of the public officials in enforcing the prohibition law. The Oregonian will indulge in no mock heroics by saying that it is indifferent to praise or blame, and it will acknowledge unreservedly the friendly motive of its much-respected contemporary in bestowing its encomiums. Yet it will ask if the Signal or anyone who knows The Oregonian expected it to do otherwise. It stands as it has ever stood, for law and order.

It is true enough that The Oregonian had been doubtful of the success of prohibition, and no one will pretend that five or six weeks' trial has been a complete demonstration that prohibition will prohibit. But the public as a whole, including this paper, is determined that the law be given a fair and full trial. The first sign of laxity, or indifference, or connivance on the part of the administrative officers will be noted and proclaimed through these columns; and any evidence of excessive leniency toward malefactors by judges, or of improper or indefensible verdicts by juries will be duly weighed and appropriately discussed.

The Oregon law is not technically or actually a prohibition law except as to the manufacture and sale of liquor; for its use is permitted under certain conditions. There is no doubt that the saloon is gone for good, and up to this time there has been no substitution for it. True, there have been infractions, but ways to evade the law are as yet more or less of an experiment. They may fail altogether.

It is certain that any effort just now to repeal the law, or to modify radically its provisions, under the referendum or through the Legislature, will be overwhelmingly defeated.

WRITERS WHO STARVE.

A plea has been made by the American Academy of Arts and Letters for an endowment to encourage worthy American writers and artists whose adherence to high ideals removes them from those profitable fields of sustenance which are the sole heritage of popular writers, so-called. Robert Underwood Johnson, secretary of the academy, claims personal knowledge of four writers or artists who today are in straightened circumstances, notwithstanding their exceptional talents. He points briefly, too, to the recent suicide in New York of Mrs. Dora Knowlton Ranous, who was driven to despondency, not because luxury was denied her, but because of direst poverty. This after she introduced to American readers such writers as Maupassant, Flaubert and D'Annunzio through her translations of their works. Although a woman of cultivated tastes and fine critical standards, the long years of conscientious professional work she performed found so little reward that her mind was driven upon the tragic shoals of self-destruction. Can anything savor more truly of ingratitude than that such workers should be left in penury even while scores of the writers of drivel flit by in chauffeur-driven limousines?

What encouragement for scholarly achievement in the realm of letters is there when the writing of flimsy tales or the vocation of carpenter or bootblack offers greater material rewards? The artist cannot live wholly upon satisfactions accruing from achievement. The body, if not the spirit, demands something more nourishing. And with one such artist a suicide, we are told that four others are in dire want! Here indeed is a place for someone to perform a distinguished service for American art and letters. A fraction of the sum that might be foolishly squandered on a silly peace junket abroad would suffice to fortify the mere handful of men and women who have had the courage, not to say audacity, to cling to critical standards. Unless so fortified how long will their courage or their strength endure? How long will they be able to resist the lure that must have drawn many of their number into the more remunerative sphere of the hack writer?

PLANS TO EXPAND COMMERCE.

An essential part of preparedness for peace is the strengthening of Governmental machinery for promotion of American commerce abroad, as now provided by the consular service and by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. That the business interests of the United States favor action in this direction has been proved by the result of a referendum taken by the United States Chamber of Commerce among its members.

Nine proposals were submitted to a vote, all of which were approved by great majorities, the favorable vote ranging from 847 to 877 and the adverse vote from eight to thirty-eight. Of the votes received too late to include in the official totals, thirty-eight were favorable, three adverse to all of the propositions and two favored some and opposed others.

The proposals are: To increase the staff of the Commerce Bureau at Washington; to appoint a director of field service with enlarged appropriations and with separate sums for collection of samples for geographical experts, distribution of American literature abroad, traveling and living expenses of agents abroad; increased appropriations for field service in Latin-America; five new commercial attaches and trade commissioners; new position of trade commissioner, and commissioner to at least six countries; continuance of present eight branch offices; field service to be under Civil Service law; consular service to be Americanized and given adequate clerical assistance, eleven consular agencies to be elevated to consulates, fifteen new consulates to be established, and consular offices to be more adequately and frequently inspected; publication of statistics of internal commerce to be rendered.

The Portland Chamber recommended that Federal and state governments each pay half of the expenses of branch offices, which should collect information relating especially to their own state; that temporary appointments be given to practical business men without Civil Service examination; and that consulates in main trade centers be strengthened rather than that more consular agents be appointed.

This referendum is important as showing the keen interest taken by American business men in questions relating to foreign trade and their practical unanimity in favor of enlarged expenditure for an efficient, nonpolitical service. Foreign commerce has become the chief topic in business circles, which recognize that it is our most promising field for trade expansion.

ANOTHER HENRY OF DETROIT.

All the great automobile manufacturers of Detroit are not pacifists like Henry Ford. Henry B. Joy, president of the Packard Company, has issued a circular expressing his opinion on the Wilson foreign policy in no doubtful terms. He is unable to restrain his indignation at the course of the Administration in the Lusitania affair. Here are a few of the most vigorous paragraphs from his pen:

American self-respect is being bartered through the means of high-sounding words for the flesh pots of a temporary soft and delightful peace and prosperity, which we all so much love when it can be ours righteously.

The pen is indeed mightier than the sword, except only when we use our pen and the other fellow uses his sword.

I have always, until the historical record of the past few years, especially the last eighteen months, been proud of being an American.

Today, however, on what can be based a feeling of pride in being an American, in view of recent history?

The tragedy of Mexico is a pitiful picture of American dishonor.

Yet it is a mere sideshow to the greater dishonor heaped upon us by the records of the European war.

Do we really want to be a discredited and disorganized Nation? Do our people really understand what is being done to them as a whole? Do they know, I ask, that the honor of Americans is being sold for dishonorable quietude?

Do they know that all this American people has striven for from the days of Washington through the times of Lincoln and McKinley is slipping through our fingers?

Our disgrace came with the murder of Belgium. We also had signed the Hague Conventions. Our disgrace attaches to the Lusitania and our methods of asserting Americanism. Our disgrace thereafter comes from Washington, D. C.

Our Government has now reached the point of "indemnity." What is to be the price of dead Americans and of the honor of our country?

Mr. Joy quotes the advertisement signed "Imperial German Embassy," warning Americans that they would embark on allied ships at their own risk, which was published five days before the Lusitania sailed on her fatal voyage, and he says:

Was the insult of this published notice immediately called to the attention of the German Ambassador? Was he told that he must instantly see that no harm should come? Was he told he must avert it? Does anyone doubt that in the intervening five days a real American Government might have persuaded the Germans not to murder us? Think it over. You would never have known it, and the real American who might have saved those American lives and all others since would have been criticised for his rudeness to an Emperor!

Alas, our travelers, like the free Americans they thought they were, set sail on their lawful occasions, with, as they thought, the great American people backing them up in their lawful rights and guaranteeing their safety. Five days later they were murdered and not a finger have we lifted in defense of our Americanism. We talk indemnity!

Does anyone think for a moment that if our American Ambassador in Berlin were to publish a similar notice to the German people he would be permitted to remain in Germany except as a hostage?

With what submissiveness shall we take the next instructions to Americans when published by his excellency?

We have had our lesson—we better bow down low and obey. We are being so. Everything is perfectly satisfactory.

If approval of our course make modern Americanism, then indeed I am not an American.

Shall we not redesign our beloved Uncle Sam? Ought we not to depict him as a blind, bloodless classroom Indian, with a wooden head and a wooden heart and wooden insides?

There is a decided contrast between the sentiments of the two Detroit Henrys—Ford and Joy. Mr. Joy may go farther than some who resent the wrongs which Germany has heaped on the United States and the weak and dilatory methods of President Wilson in seeking redress, but few will deny that he shows more of the spirit of a genuine, red-blooded American than the other Henry.

A JOKER IN THE CLAYTON LAW.

Criticism of the Clayton anti-trust law, which was made by Democratic Senator Reed, of Missouri, while that measure was under consideration, has been proved well founded by Representative Steenerson, of Minnesota. Mr. Reed said the bill had neither teeth nor claws. Mr. Steenerson says that, in practical operation, it has proved "a fraud as a weapon against unlawful combinations in restraint of trade."

Believing the increased price of gasoline to be due to an unlawful combination, Mr. Steenerson tried for weeks to have the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission fix the responsibility. He said in a speech in the House that the Clayton law had made it impossible to reach the situation and he thus exposed the joker in that law:

Formerly the Government was able to prosecute any violation of the anti-trust laws in restraint of trade, irrespective of the effect on prices, so long as there appeared to be a combination which controlled prices. It was the power to fix prices that was condemned.

The Clayton act provides for prosecution of "substantial" lessening of competition. The insertion of the word "substantial" in the Clayton law has practically taken all the teeth out of it. While comparatively easy to prove the existence of a combination, the Clayton law has enormously increased the difficulty of a conviction, owing to the absolutely indefinite meaning of the word "substantial."

The Democrats by the insertion of this troublesome word "substantial" in the Clayton act have emasculated the whole scheme of trust prosecution for violation of law, and have virtually committed a fraud upon those whom it was supposed to protect.

Thus the predictions that any attempt to render more definite the prohibitions of the Sherman law by defining illegal restraints of trade would result in weakening that law have been verified. Complaints that the law was indefinite came from those who lived in fear that it might be invoked against them. Its broad, simple, general terms embraced all devices of monopoly which the courts could construe to come within its meaning. Monopolists asked for clearer definition in the hope that some of their devices might be defined out of the law; certainly not with the desire that all possible offenses might be brought within it. They got what they wanted from the Democrats. The latter no sooner set about defining than the word-juggling began and that indefinite word "substantial" was slipped in. That joker could never have got past President Taft, than whom the trusts never had a more relentless prosecutor. He thought the Sherman law sufficient and he saw the danger of more exact definition of the offenses which it forbade.

Owners and occupants of many quarter blocks and larger tracts on the East Side do not act as if they are required to remove the snow from their walks. A visit from a motorcycle officer would stir their civic obligation.

A decision of the State Supreme Court yesterday relieves the city from paying damages that result from defective sidewalks. This puts it up to the owners to keep them in repair.

Surely the many powder mill explosions cannot be caused by the diplomatic friction between the United States and Germany, for it produces no sparks.

Predictions that Roosevelt will be nominated, or that he would be elected if nominated, are premature, to say the least. But it would be a great fight.

A British royal commission advises less use of sugar, since the supply must all be imported, but it will not work. How can they sweeten the "tay"?

The name of Colonel William P. Hepburn will live in history as that of the author of three of the greatest constructive laws enacted by Congress.

The Villa family is in worse luck. A brother is to be extradited from Cuba. If some court had jurisdiction over the General ah would be well.

If strong drink can find a way to squeeze itself into a temperance bar it will do so. This is a world of temptation, and resistance is passive.

Snow in falling must find the atmosphere full of dust and brings it down, else from whence comes all the dirt when the snow melts?

In these piping times of peace Adjutant-General White ought to arrange for a parade of the Third Oregon on Washington's birthday.

Flanders mud is so potent in restraining the pugnacity of the armies that they can do little besides fight artillery duels.

Before the Slingsby baby case is decided in court the baby may grow up and decide for himself who is his mother.

It begins to look as though House Leader Kitchin would have few followers in his opposition to preparedness.

The headless body found in the river has a simple solution. After decapitating himself he jumped in.

There is work on the Navajo Indian reservation for General Hugh Scott, the great peacemaker.

The Michigan Agrics want a date with the Oregons for another "licking," which they can have.

Mushrooms have gone up 50 cents a dozen, but the man who eats them can afford the rise.

One fact is pre-eminent—that Germany is able to feed and arm itself for a long time.

Germany certainly has a tall hold on the elephant in the 1,479,171 prisoners of war.

That Burmese totem pole must be unblushingly scandalous to shock San Francisco.

Snow has about disappeared from all places but the sidewalk of the silurian.

You cannot see the chinook wind work, but it delivers the goods every time.

Dividends and wage increases have become the order of the day in the East.

This water is needed by the ocean and it is getting there as fast as it can.

How the pupils of the marooned schools must miss "dear teacher"!

Time is approaching to plant sweet peas, but do not be in a hurry.

If typhoid fever is an accident, the grip is contributory negligence.

The armor makers are not bigger than the Government.

The chinook wind is thawing politics.

Uneasy sits the house on a sidehill.

How to Keep Well

By Dr. W. A. Evans.

Questions pertinent to hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, if matters of general interest, will be answered in this column. Where space will not permit or the subject is not suitable, letters will be personally answered, subject to proper limitations and where stamped, addressed envelope is inclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Requests for such services cannot be answered.

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"SETTING-UP EXERCISES."

EXERCISE 1—Yard Arm. While deeply inhaling (through the nose) slowly raise the arms to a horizontal position straight out from the sides; let the arms fall slowly to the sides while exhaling.

2—Arm Stretching. While inhaling raise the arms with a wide sweep until the palms of hands meet straight above the head; sweep the arms back to the sides while exhaling. These movements should be performed at the rate of 10 a minute.

3—Tree Swaying. While in the standing position thrust the arms straight above the head, then sway from side to side, moving from the hips upward, the arms loosely waving like the branches of a tree.

4—Leg Lifting. Assume the standing position but with hands resting on the hips. Raise the right thigh until at right angles with the body, leg at right angles with thigh; thrust the leg straight forward to a horizontal position, then sweep the leg back to standing position. Repeat with the left leg.

5—Signal Station. Assume the standing posture with hands on hips. Thrust the right arm straight upward while lifting the left leg outward and upward and rigidly extended. Lower the limbs and repeat on other side.

6—Crawling Position. Rest on hands and knees, thighs and arms at right angles to body, spine straight. Reach forward with arm and follow with thigh and leg of same side; repeat on other side. Knee protectors can be worn during this exercise.

7—Body Bending. Raise arms straight above the head an sweep them down to the floor without bending at the knees.

The above is taken from monthly health letter No. 20 of the Life Extension Institute. At this season of the year the office man and woman must do something to keep fit. The weather forces them to stay indoors. The daylight hours are few. Almost irresistibly the tendency is toward flabby muscles and sluggishness. A skilled laborer is no better off. He may be hard enough in one or two groups of muscles, but taking his muscular system as a whole he, too, is on the toboggan and will be for three months.

To carry out the above exercise will not require much time or cause much trouble. If you are not willing to do that much, at least go as far as holding the body erect or taking a few deep breaths before an open window. Perhaps you would be willing to contract the muscles of your arms, legs, and abdomen a few times each day as you sit at your desk.

Diabetes.

E. J. D. writes: "I am told by a doctor that I have diabetes in a minor form. (1) Is there any cure for same? I also have an intermitting pulse. Am 33 years old, have been an athlete. Two years ago weighed 160 pounds, now 145. (2) Are baths good? (3) What kind? (4) Is one quart too much to urinate in 24 hours? (5) What should I eat and drink?

REPLY.

1. It depends upon the type of the disease, the age of the patient, how long he has had the disease, and if he has had proper treatment. When the disease begins in early adult life it is seldom curable. When it begins in middle life, the chances for recovery are much better. While most cases cannot be cured, this does not mean that much cannot be done to lessen the symptoms and greatly improve the condition. The patient who no longer excretes sugar in his urine and considers himself cured, must carefully guard against a recurrence, which sometimes occurs when he is subjected to great mental strain or acquires any febrile disease.

2. Yes.

3. Warm cleansing baths. Some patients can take a cool or tepid sponge bath each day.

4. No.

5. Breakfast—Four prunes, cooked without sugar; fresh bran muffins, with plenty of butter; oatmeal, with lots of cream.

Lunch—Poached egg on toasted bran muffin, buttered; crackers (diabetic); a bit of cheese or some fresh rhubarb; tea or milk with plenty of cream; occasionally chocolate, sweetened with saccharine or buttermilk; rhubarb sweetened with saccharine and glycerine after it is cooked; use saccharine sparingly.

Dinner—Any meat, except liver; fish of all kinds.

Vegetables—Cabbage, cauliflower, asparagus, green beans, lettuce, radishes, olives, celery, tomatoes.

Desserts—Custards, made with very rich milk; fresh strawberries; sour orange and grapefruit; fresh peach cobbler, batter made with gluten flour.

Cheese, any kind; nuts, any kind, except chestnuts, and often peanuts are excluded.

Growth on Neck.

F. F. writes: "The doctors here say that I have hardening of the arteries. I am 71 years old, have noticed a little hard growth for the last five years on the left side of my neck, and with finger can feel pulsations from the heart. Is there anything to be done for it? My blood pressure is about 180; am strictly temperate, have good health, weigh 155 pounds, am 5 feet 9½ inches in height, and for the last two months have been on a cereal diet. 2. Would cured meat, such as bacon, ham, etc., be hurtful for me?"

REPLY.

1. Your physician can tell you what the growth is.

2. Cured meat in moderation will not harm you.

NOBODY LOVES BILL ANY MORE

All Old Friends of Underwood Tariff Seek Any Port in Storm.

PORTLAND, Feb. 8.—(To the Editor.)—The faithfulness with which the Portland Journal trails at the heels of Woodrow is attracting general comment. No matter how fast he goes the Journal keeps up. If the President should declare for Taft or Teddy tomorrow it would be all right. There is something pathetic in abject devotion of this kind. Now that Woodrow has "tipped the wink," the Journal is for a non-partisan tariff commission, something which was called for in both the Republican and Progressive National platforms in 1912, but which at that time it was heresy for any Democrat to advocate.

The Journal very properly asks in an editorial, "How can a Congressman, ignorant of even the rudiments, comprehend a tariff touching every phase of manufacture?" It also approvingly assures its readers that "the country will take on increased faith in the President as a result of his announced intention to do what he can to take the tariff out of partisan politics."

One by one the friends of the poor old Underwood Democratic tariff are taking to the woods. The non-partisan tariff commission seems to be a sort of half-way house, abiding place, and a temporary place of refuge.

It will be interesting in the coming campaign to see the Democratic National platform of 1912 printed in parallel columns side by side with that of 1916, with eliminations, erasures, amendments and additions all printed in italics. OBSERVER.

Plea of the Prisoner.

Judge.

Magistrate—It appears to be your record, Mary Moselle, that you have been thirty-five times previously convicted of drunkenness. The Prisoner—No woman is perfect.

WHERE INCONSISTENCY PREVAILS.

Birth Control Advocates Offered as Fine Example by Woman.

PORTLAND, Feb. 8.—(To the Editor.)—I wonder if the two women who critically commented on The Oregonian's editorial on birth control think it is only men who oppose the principle of birth control. What Senator Chamberlain said recently about the defense policy probably holds good in reference to the subject of birth control. He stated that while the great majority of Americans believe in proper defense, the minority who oppose it are very vocal and fond of the limelight. Now, the great majority of women are too busy attending to the prosaic duties of home-making and child-rearing to spend much time airing their opinions as to the way they are enslaved and abused. In fact, a good many of the downtrodden, spiritless things are tolerably contented with their lot. Pitiful, isn't it?

I have never known a woman advocate of birth control who was consistent. All I know constantly harp on the fact that it is a crime to bring children into the world because there is so much poverty and misery, and point to the many poor, neglected children already here; but the fact is that these women, who will not have children themselves because the children might have hardships, never gather up any of these poor little waifs and show them the beauty of mother love and home life. Ah, no. It's the mothers every time who take in these little ones and care for them, or the women who crave children of their own and cannot have them.

I have a neighbor who says it is wrong to bring children into the world, and all that sob talk we have heard. Now, her own brother's wife met with an accident, so severe that her baby had to be put in the custody of someone. Did this sister, whose heart bleeds for the neglected children, offer to take the infant a few months? No, but an old aunt of the father, who has raised the disgraceful number of seven children, did offer and did take it. And I will say it was a good thing for the baby that the birth control aunt didn't take it—the baby would have been neglected if she had.

The truth of the matter is, some women have no mother love. I believe it is one of George Eliot's characters who states that it is unwise to follow reformers beyond the threshold of their homes. Now that is not true in regard to all reformers, but it is true of all birth control reformers I have ever known.

Emma Goldman, who loudly preaches birth control, also denounces schools, churches, government and home discipline. With these theories in practice, it is probably best not to have children. A SPIRITLESS WOMAN.

HIGH WAGE, BUT HE EARNS IT

Robin Gives Return for Fruit He Eats, Says Writer.

ROSEBURG, Feb. 7.—(To the Editor.)—Some one over the signature of "A Bird Lover" has a letter in The Oregonian in answer to one which appeared in the correspondence column a short time ago, which appears to have been written by a much-peeved gentleman who certainly could not by any stretch of the imagination have been called a "bird lover."

I am ready to admit that our friend suffered great provocation. The tale he tells is a remarkable one to me. I have been acquainted with the Western robin for 70 years; and in all that time I have never known him to molest tame fruit of any kind except cherries and mulberries, and I have grown all of the fruits the correspondent mentions in his complaint with never a thought of any trouble with the robins.

Years ago, before I had ever seen a codlin moth, there alighted in my orchard a flock of a hundred or more timber robins, or varied thrush, as they are called, and forthwith proceeded to jam their long bills up to their eyes into the apples as fast as they could reach them, and I verily believe that if I had not gone to shooting them, they would have destroyed every apple in an orchard of 100 or more big trees.

Now, what is the strange thing about it, although I had seen thousands of the birds where there were any amount of apples, I have never, except in Winter, seen them touch an apple, and I cannot account for their behavior in this instance except on the supposition that they had run short of their natural food and I think this must have been the trouble in the case of our exasperated friend.

I am afraid that it would be a bad stroke of business to destroy the robins, and instead, I would suggest that the planting of elders in out-of-the-way places will save a goodly amount of fruit, as there is no fruit more acceptable to them than elder berries.

I am sorry to have to tell our friend "Bird Lover," that he is championing the wrong bird when he thinks our bird and the Eastern robin are the same, as they are classed by naturalists in separate genera; but, although I am not acquainted with the Eastern species, I suppose their habits are similar, but "the white moth" which "lays the eggs that makes the cabbage worm," which is a butterly and not a moth, is never molested by our robin, for the reason that he cannot catch it on the wing.

The time in which the robin gets in its best work is when it is feeding its nestlings. The number of worms they devour at this time is almost unbelievable, and on the whole, although the little fellow sometimes exacts pretty stiff wages for his services, he earns all he gets. F. M. SEBRING.

CADET PLAN MORE ATTRACTIVE

It Would Have Drawn More Recruits From High School, Says Writer.

PORTLAND, Feb. 8.—(To the Editor.)—Considering the small number of high school boys who have joined the National Guard or marines, I believe it would have been much better to have encouraged them to organize cadet companies in their own schools. I speak from experience, as I have been a member of both organizations. I must say that I took more interest in the high school cadets and liked my associates much better than I did for the first few years in the National Guard. I believe that their parents would readily consent to their forming an organization of their own, with their own schoolmates, when they might hesitate letting their boys join a company of older young men.

There is no question but that they would advance as fast and become as proficient in military training for the first few years, and take more interest in their company, than they would in other organizations. However, those who choose to do so could become members of both at the same time. Much interest would be taken in electing their own officers. At times regular Army officers could give them instruction. A battalion could be formed easily in Portland. Other cities would be sure to form companies, and a regiment be formed, if desired. Annual encampments would be possible. There are no brighter soldiers than the high school cadets. E. W. MOORE.

His Sanity Is Established.

Youth's Companion.

A Philadelphia paper tells the story of two rival delegates at a political convention in one of the Western states who got into a serious personal dispute.

"Oh, you're crazy!" shouted the other.

"I'm not crazy," denied the other.

"But you are crazy!" vociferated the first.

"I can prove that I am not crazy and that's more than you can do," came back the rejoinder.

"Let's see you prove it, then."

Whereupon the man who was accused of being crazy pulled from an inside pocket the discharge papers from a nearby insane asylum.

In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of February 9, 1891.

H. E. McGinn, Portland's favorite criminal lawyer, left Saturday night for a long tour of the Atlantic seaboard in company with his mother and father.

J. B. Montgomery is very sick at his residence in this city. He returned from Salem about ten days ago with a fever and he has been confined to his bed ever since.

During a portion of Miss Olo Krarer's lecture tonight she will be dressed in the costume of the Esquimaux, made of white polar bear skin.

W. S. Ladd's six-story Concord building at Second and Stark streets is all plastered and ready for the doors and windows.

Tonight the Boston Opera Company commences its third and last week at the Park Theater. The ever-welcome "Mikado" will be given for the first time here by this company.

Washington, Pa., Feb. 8.—John McKeon, the millionaire oil producer, died at his home this morning, aged 53. He has been troubled for months with a difficulty in breathing, attributed to asthma. His wealth is estimated at $5,000,000.

J. A. Logan is over from South Bend with his family for a ten-day sojourn with his old friends.

The public schools of Albina now contain 995 pupils and many more would attend if there were more accommodations.

Half Century Ago.

From The Oregonian of February 9, 1866.

The Montana Post of December 30 says tobacco is $5 a pound in that market.

Yesterday among other business matters before the Court of County Commissioners was that of the petition of Mrs. Frush for a license to run a ferry boat on the Willamette River at this city.

At a regular meeting of the directors of the Portland Library Association the following officers were chosen for the ensuing two years: President, L. H. Wakefield; vice-president, William Strong; corresponding secretary, Henry Failing; recording secretary, Theodore Minor; treasurer, B. Goldsmith.

We are informed that the notorious desperado, Ferd Patterson, was engaged in another shooting affray recently at Walla Walla, in which he lost his right arm.

This evening Professor L. Cary, who is very well and favorably known in this state as a lecturer on astronomy and chemistry, will give one of his popular exhibitions in this city at the Methodist Church.

We have heard but little for a few weeks about the Mechanics' Institute, but are glad to see preparations made for permanent rooms at 108 Front street in the postoffice building.

The schooner J. C. Champion left yesterday for Tillamook Bay with a full cargo of groceries, merchandise and farming tools.

PRESS SUPPORT VITAL FACTOR

President of San Francisco Fair Expresses Profound Appreciation.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—(To the Editor.)—Analysis of the influences which combined to make of the exposition such an unqualified success has still further convinced us that one of the great, vital contributions has been the loyal, patriotic and most effective support of the press.

Frankly we admit that in common with the thousands of our visitors, we, close to the exposition and responsible for it, have marveled at its symmetrical success—a success despite adverse world conditions, unsettled National conditions, an almost overwhelming conjunction of difficulties and handicaps which militated against such a result.

All Americans should feel gratified that more foreign governments participated in this than in any previous American exposition. Accepting the invitation extended by this Government and respecting American integrity and enterprise, they joined us in the effort to make of the exposition an international success. American states contributed public funds with the hope that through their participation American institutions might be better understood. Exhibitors spent vast sums in their efforts to show the visitor a decade's advance in every field of human endeavor. All these, nations, states, individuals were partners in an undertaking which sought adequately to celebrate a world achievement—the completion of the Panama Canal.

I feel that I here express the gratitude of all these and of all our visitors who through the exposition gained a better understanding of life's finer things and of true international fraternity. You aided in all this by the assistance rendered through The Oregonian. No word of ours can add to the satisfaction you must feel in having given such service in a world work, but desiring to recognize the great forces that made the exposition's success, we want to send you at this time our earnest and grateful acknowledgment. CHARLES C. MOORE,

President Panama-Pacific International Exposition.

Stockholder's Chance to Recover.

PORTLAND, Feb. 8.—(To the Editor.)—I am a stockholder of the defunct Portland Concrete Pile & Equipment Company. Will you please inform me if the stockholders will be able to recover anything? I have been told that a few of the largest stockholdra have reorganized the company. A. F.

Attorneys Cake & Cake, Portland, have appeared for the company in numerous suits in the Circuit Court. They can give you the information you desire.

War at Home Base.

London Punch.

London Householder—Not many people away holiday-making in war time, I suppose, milkman? Milkman—Well, mum, you'd be surprised; at least five gallons of my customers were away last week-end.

Separation From Money.

Kansas City Star.

"Don't hate a man because he has lots of money," counsels a Eureka philosopher. "Cultivate his acquaintance and see if there isn't some honest way you can separate him from some of it."

A Good Month to Shop In

From many angles February is a good shopping month.

To the value seeker it offers many special advantages.

To the woman who prefers to choose staple things at the season's end it gives price opportunity.

To the woman who is tired of Winter and wants some note of Spring in her attire it is a welcome occasion.

The advertising is probably read by more people this month than any other in the year, because it presents such a variety of points of distinct human interest.