Morning Oregonian

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(By Carrier.)

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THE CONVENTION'S COME-BACK.

The New York Evening Post is informed by its observant correspondent, David Lawrence, that the "progres sive west is virtually ready to discard the primary or at least to amend it so that the party convention shall be effect restored." This conclusion was reached after Mr. Lawrence had sounded sentiment in Idaho and several other western states but not in Oregon. Washington or California. Idaho restored the convention system as a corollary of the direct primary at the last session of the legislature, Nebraska had previously returned to the older system and Minnesota is wrostling with it.

It is probably premature to say that regon, Washington and California are virtually ready to restore the po-litical convention, though there is a greater frankness concerning deficiencles of the direct primary remarked among those who are not ordinarily listed as confirmed politicians. The politicians themselves are still divided between those who profited from the cld-time convention and long for its reinstatement, and those who did not profit from the convention but now either derive some personal benefit

from the primary or still hope to do so. The objectionable features that Mr. Lawrence points out in the Post are generally admitted: It produces inferior candidates in many instances; there is no direct responsibility for improper nominations; no man with-the motion p out money and a willingness to spend qualification. it can hope to defeat an organization candidate. To which may be added that it promotes a multiplicity of can-

despair of proper selection and finally produces party apathy and governmental indifference among the voters.

But Mr. Lawrence's letter is most interesting in its designation of the real instigator of return to the convention. The nonpartisan league is the one named. This league's process of gaining control of state government has been to invade a regular party's primaries and capture the name and organization. In North Dakota the nonpartisan league members are known politically as republicans; in Idaho they are known as democrats. With explanation it is understandable why opposition to the primary culminated so much sooner in Minnesota, Idaho and Nebraska.

Is to be held at Washington to determine what attitude shall be adopted towards the league of nations. It is lower of nations. It is lower dealer of nations. It is well enough that it be held; but it will now be wise, or expedient, or politic for the republican senators to seek to commit the republican party to a position of opposition to the league covenant. Nor will it be possible.

Many republican senators have been at home during the congressional value of the people. Others have remained at Washington, but have read the newspapers and have heard from their constituents. They know, or should know, that the great body of the American people are for a league, and that the vast majority of them now support THE league, as been of murders in Oregon with the been down that the votes adversed in the last year of prohibition 32. In the laster end of 1915 to 31 in 1916. Insane commitments to the county jail were reduced from 244 to 256. The number of the were a was 406; in the first year of prohibition 32. In the laster end of 1915 to 31 in 1916. Insane commitments to the county jail were reduced from 244 to 256. The number of the county jail were reduced from 324 to 256. The number of the were sent to the county jail were reduced from 32. In the laster end of 1915 to 31 in 1916. Insane commitments to the county jail were reduced from 324 to 256. The number of

In the Pacific coast states the nonpartisan league's activities have been revised.
Inconsequential. In Oregon something
like the counterpart of its policy is
tor Poindexter, have been running the discredit of this state. If correct the discredit of this state. If correct they are as enlightening as to capital punishment as prohibition. The death punishment as prohibition. In the Pacific coast states the nontion of weak candidates. It is perhaps are mistaken. every political fray to which the way end, a poor substitute for statesman is irresistible to many men, ship. and the majority party's internal con-

ductive protest Oregon now looks upon this practice with a partial degree of fortitude, but not such fortitude that the decline of the direct primary else where is viewed with dismay, or that the subtle processes of the nonpartisan lengue would not be resented in this It is not unsafe to predict that the future—but not the immediate future—will bring forth a rational nominating system in Oregon, one which does not wholly commit selection of candidates to steering committee or other methods of manipulating conventions, nor continue it son has been a under the present free-for-all self- half a century. aggrandizing process. Widespread ad-

POREHANDEDNESS IN PEACE.

in 1916 to consider plans for demobi-lization and for the rehabilitation of general lines can be avoided. Mr. exiled by the Turks during the last industry. In that year a commission Watson wants to raise a memorial five years, the majority would be even on reconstruction was appointed by fund out of which all the preliminary greater. The new republic has about the president, and a year later the needs of the colonists, including "food, 20,000 square miles more area but commission was reorganized to in-shelter and entertainment." shall be clude the ministers of public works, provided for until the enterprise has transportation, agriculture and labor, and in the same year laws were passed \$300,000,000 for restoration of farms about ten years to acquire title to its sion to semi-barbarism and serfde and purchase of farm animals and own home

began had co-ordinated most of the crux of the plan is scientific manage- people have preserved their ancient governmental departments and private ment and provision for technical edu- civilization and religion, have a high

activities concerned with problems of re-employment and restoration of peace-time conditions.

Italy at the same time created a commission with large powers to formulate restoration plans. Elisha M. Friedman, who has studied the preparations of the various nations and has swritten a book about them, says that Japan has shown great forehandedness in this regard, and that even Greece and Spain are not without definition programmes. Not the least surprising fact that he discloses is that some of the South American republics are progressing favorably with their after-the-war measures. Chile, Brazil and Colombia are in the lead amons these.

The essence of all the plans to

TAKE CARE.

didates which in turn at first creates despair of proper selection and finally produces party apathy and governmental indifference among the voters.

af minority purties have gone unand there to their point of view, which in Oregon; it has not been abolished blushingly into the republican prists that America has no compelling in either California or Nevada. More-Whenever successful, They profess to have ascertained that over, a considerable number of the this practice has resulted in nomina. public sentiment is with them. They

not wholly accurate to say that the invaders deliberately in all instances to be mistaken about what the people It is a grave mistake for a politician out inferior men with the idea are thinking. It is an error neither that they will be defeated in the gen- Borah nor Poindexter has often made Inclination to get into heretofore. Crystal-gazing is, in the prohibition would "put the kibosh" on

The league of nations is not a party tests are usually the liveliest and most issue. It is in a high and noble sense interesting. But it is a definite rule that the re- Sherman, a corn-cob villager from the can who is most acceptable to state which holds kalserized Chicago. the democrats is not usually accept-able to a majority of republicans, speak for the republican party, they Occasionally the balance of power of democrats voting in the republican primaries has been felt with the ultimate election of a democrat to office, and his hard-shell crew. The voice for the democrats who vote in repub. which the rank and file of republican lican primaries invariably return to will heed are Taft's and Hughes' and their own party in the general elec. Root's and Hays'. Above the counsels democrats to nominate weak repub.

licans have been reriously suspected.

After much experience and unpro
ductive protest Organization and true patriotism of the lishment as a free nation, but some and cheapest for the least handling.

Organization of the lishment as a free nation, but some and cheapest for the least handling.

AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT. Henry David Watson, who proposes enter upon an elaborate experiment in modern farming as a memorial to Theodore Roosevelt, is a man with imagination, as the outline of his cheme gives evidence, but it is inter-sting to know that he is not a mere visionary. As the owner of an 8000- square miles, less by at least 30,000 trated advertising. and as the reputed discoverer that alfalfa can be grown ington combined. Its present populaprofitably without irrigation, he mands respectful attention. Mr. Watson has been a farmer for more than other Christian nations, about 1,000,-

Success of the experiment will cenmission of the primary's defects is an ter around the wisdom exhibited in district are the most numerous of the the selection of 125 families who would other Christian races, and they are constitute its basis. They must be willing to unite with the Armenians see how well families who strongly desire to return in an independent republic. There are She just goes. An instructive contrast with the to the land, are without means, but probably 1,000,000 Armenians in other lack of preparation for peace which probably possess other qualifications, marks the situation in the United such as industry, continuity of purStates is found in the summary of pose, fair intelligence and willingness what other nations are doing toward to co-operate with others. The colony reconstruction.

France, which suffered most in the highly communistic at first; evidently making the Armenian majority still aspects of the struggle, began it is hoped that the mistakes made by more decisive. If a million Armenians create an agricultural credit of ing but willing to work and learn downtrodden race, reduced by oppres-

own home. This will not appeal to lacking initiative to hold up its head. those impatient ones who expect to Rather, they are like Belgium, which Great Britain's ministry of recenstruction was established in the summer of 1918, more than a year before the armistice was signed. Canada laid plans early in 1918 having the same and in view, and by the time the homeward movement of the soldiers before the armistical was a straight of the soldiers are interested as a straight of the soldiers are interested as a straight of the soldiers are into immediate ownership, but it represents a conservative estimate of conquered during German occupation. The last independent kingdom of Armenia was not subdued by the Turks made as a "memorial" or as a straight the year 1375, and the mountainess proposition, it promises to constitute a valuable object lesson. The

and Colombia are in the lead amons these.

The essence of all the plans to which reference has been made is their centralization. Vast unnecessary labors are saved by co-ordinating many interests and avoiding duplication and overlapping. It may yet be shown that the nations which prepared for peace even while the war was in its most intense stage will be first to resume the normal tenor of and wash day at one sweep from the index of the colomel's well-known views as to the size of families.

Nothing, says Mr. Watson, is to be lished. Armenia stood across the path-known views as to the size of families.

Nothing, says Mr. Watson, is to be left out. One is the more inclined to the trulkish conquest, and has been from the to the Turkish conquest, and has been from the way of invaders who went from central view of invaders who we their ways.

COLLAPSE OF THE PERSHING IDEA.

The public hears little nowadays of The public hears little nowadays of General Pershing for president, but much of General Wood. What is the reason for the growth of the Wood movement and the decline of Pershing's little boom?

The uncertainty of Pershing's pointial status—whether he be republican or democrat—may be one reason. The ical status—whether he be republican or democrat—may be one reason. The attitude of the general himself, in his refusal to regard himself, in his refusal to regard himself as a candidate, but as a soldier, may be another. The lack of enthusiasm for him by the returning soldiers is unquestionably a potent cause of the apparent collapse. The suspicion that Pershing had more or less to do with keeping General Wood on this side of the water has also probably had its proved that one man can run an eight before seven months of 1918, prevented Turkey from carrying the holy war to the Turkomans of the Caspian region, held Baku till a British expedition arrived, and caused the Turks to divert considerable forces from Mesopotamia and submerge their individualities in the Palestine. Liman von Sanders, the Turkish commander in Syria, ascribes the Turkish commander in the Issue of management. Mr. Watson the water has also probably had its has proved that one man can run an eight battalions joined General Allenthe water has also probably had its has proved that one man can run an eight battalions joined General Alleneffect. Altogether the Pershing idea 8000-acre farm; the question whether by's army in Palestine and, in his

At the time the figures were printed

in December, 1916, the total number

drink illicitly obtained. The last im-

ial criminals never touch intoxicants

times rob, assault, burn or murder,

A MANDATE FOR ABMENIA.

Men in their soberest moments so

eradication has produced a whol

obligations to the Armenians?

2,500,000 are Armenians,

000 Moslems and 200,000 mi

tion is estimated at 4,300,000, of whom

neous. The Greeks of the Trebizond

of arrests in Portland was available

To make provision for the care of 300,000 ager. to make properties of the companies of the companies of the construction of her transportation system, docks and harbors, and manugurate modern improvements and means

To help Armenia, through technical complesions, in the construction of her transportation system, docks and harbors, and handsom in its towns and clies.

The principal aid which Armenia will ask can be rendered by a Red. Philippline government and set it going civil and sanitary engineers and constructors, agricultural and mining experiments. The country has been laid waste and plundered, and will need capital, but its reparation claims against Turkey and Germany would be executiv. The damage is estimated at \$3,750,000,000, but only a part of this can be collected.

The country will well repay the effort which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the forth which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the fort which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the shale was a shale in the second purpose of the courtry will well repay the effort which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the forth which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the forth which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the forth which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the forth which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the fiving service, left Sunday for San branches and the service of the courtry will well repay the effort which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the fiving service, left Sunday for San branches of the courtry will well repay the effort which the American peeple will put forth on its behalf. The soil of the fiving service, left Sunday for San branches and the service of all that the put forth on its behalf. The soil of the fiving service, left Sunday for San branches and pay our insurance, as and gone forever, as I hope soon will soon shive, coal, sinc, copper and mangament and service and the service of all that the submarine sone to the submarine. The submarine sone is a submarine sone to the submarine so on capital crimes, comparing the num-ber of murders in Oregon with the

portant murder in Portland was committed by a druggist who had been imbibing from his stock of raw alcohol. furnish water for irrigation and power. It has never been contended that Above all, it has an industrious people skilled in many crafts, who crime, if by that expression is meant extermination of crime. Some habitgiven new energy and hope by freedom. The American people should welcome the opportunity to start such a people on the road to freedom, pros-

Intoxication is but one of numerous incentives to crime. That its partial That it is for his own use is reduction in criminality cannot be de proper plea for possession of liquor and officers do well to resist the drawing power of the tearful voice. nied. It is evident, even were there no statistics, to any competent observer "Thou shalt not" means what it says, who lives in Oregon now and lived if you get caught.

What are you doing about the "made in-Oregon" plan? Candy, for example, Armenia asks that the United States of which there is much conaccept a mandate to help it in estab- Oregon candy is the best in the land

refuse the task as too great a burden after this country has borne the strain Next time you are waiting for a number, pick up a classified page and of the great war and still finds its glance at the "ads." Chances are you strength unimpaired. How great a will find so much of human task is this from which Little Amer-there you will forget your call. will find so much of human nature

icans shrink and what are our moral The first American corset maker is The territory which the Armenians dead, and he has to his credit the propose to include in their republic glory of opening the way, front and comprises from 125,000 to 135,000 to a tremendous line of illus square miles than Oregon and Wash-

Popular idea of Japanese houses is district. they are made of paper and bamboo sticks, and news of great fires in that country is held commonplace in the Benson. same popular idea. In this matter of victory garden, a

fellow does not take his wife along to see how well he works. Not at all.

o looks on the outside looking in, it may change its mind.

stone age.

beaver may yet climb a tree

The world loves a sailor.

"Medford is strong for the Roosevelt highway." declared Dr. JF F. Reddy, former mayor of that town. "We are so much in favor of it that we would vote to build it without federal aid, if necessary. Our section of the state has planeared the seed condensate was represent the "Cruel and Inhuman Conduct" Provi-

Oregon. No part of the state more it may be that the vibrations from the fully realizes the benefit to the entire social discord of the old world have state of road construction anywhere, awakened responsive chords here. The All of southern Oregon is heartily in favor of the Roosevelt highway."

"Get off the earth." And the refrain is

and equipment, but the delegation thus describes the help that is asked from Benson yesterday with his parents, America:

Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Cook, and sister To aid the Armenians in an advisory capacity to establish a government on a permanent basis.

To send to Armenia possibly two or four regiments, to remain for a brief period, which will exert a steady effect upon the native pepulation.

To co-operate with the Armenian government in the repatriation of 1,500,000 Armenians. Julia, the family coming from the east

cade Locks are at the Multnomah. When they settled near the Cascades no one dreamed that there would ever be a paved highway from that place to Other Countries Profit Most When Traf-Portland, nor any other way of reaching the city except by water.

How many Oregonians, native or otherwise, know where Walton river is? J. D. Harvey of Walton is at the Imperial. Walton has a population of 85, or had when the last census was taken. The town is on Walton river and is 21 miles west of Eugene.

China, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Barkley and W. S. Farkley are at the Benson. Mr. Barkley represents considerable commercial interests in the Shanghai

Raymond M. Hudson of the United States railroad administration is at the

from Magnetic Spring, Ohio,

FIGURES ASKED ON PROHIBITION

to newspaper reports, there have been in the state of Oregon 49 killings, while California has had 11 and Nevada 13 for the same period. Kansas, the star prohibition state, is now organizing

roo looks on the outside looking in, it may change its mind.

No, the bolsheviki do not need science. They want to go back to the stone age.

The Beavers are in lowly place, but beaver may yet climb a tree.

prohibition state, is now organizing vigillante committees to prevent crime as the officers don't seem to be able to handle the situation. I am no saloon man, but at the same time I am opposed to depriving the people of their personal rights and if prohibition is putting the kibosh on crime you have got to show me.

JOHN MITCHELL.

given in another column on this page. Dantzic

The Lady and the Spider. By Grace E. Hall.

You in all your gorgeous raiment now are seeking, in your way.
For the one who'll most contribute to
your comfort, day by day;
You may snare with youthful beauty. while I use a cunning net. But we both are surely casting for the

but we note are surely casting for the best that we can get;
Scorn me not then, haughty lady, for I promise, ere you leave.
When you are no longer subtle, then shall spiders cease to weave." MOST DIVORCES BLAMED ON LAW

sion Lends Itself to Grave Abuse.

PORTLAND, April 29.—(To the Editor.)—Seeking a solution of the divorce pioneered the good roads movement in problem leads to a study of the people. social discord of the old world have awakened responsive chords here. The key note is b flat (not a pun) meaning "Get off the earth." And the refrain is iconoclastic. Down with anything fosthe water has also probably had its aspected that one man can run and aspected that one man can run and soft-acre farm; the question whether supposed that one man can run and soft-acre farm; the question whether supposed reports the supposed to the water of the supposed to the s

Right here it occurs that the women who were so grateful to the returning soldiers for their sacrifices have a middle-sized opportunity to give a substantial testimonial of their appreciation of their protectors and scorn the devilted the divorce lawyer, who, alone, is interested in the perpetuation of this ambiguous statute about "cruel and inhuman conduct making life burdensome," etc.

This hocus-pocus law places the existence of every marriage at the beck.

A READER.

vice-president of the company in addition to being the advertising manager.

He had to travel 200 miles cross lots before he could get a train to ride to Portland, did D. Z. Robinett, who arrived at the Imperial yesterday from

This nocus-pocus law places the existence of every marriage at the beck and nod of a court and is directly responsible, with its devil's double exploiters, for most divorces. They could demand that this law be supplanted by one that nobody could misunderstand. The laws no respecter of persons.

fic is Supervised by Foreigners.

PHILADELPHIA, April 24 .- (To the Editor.)—The Oregonian's editorial en-titled "Portland's New Start as a Port." which appeared Monday, April 14, was received and read by me with enthusiasm and interest. It surely manifests the spirit which should permeate Portland's citizens. It depicts the reality of opportunities. It arouses action

N. N. V., U. S. N. R. F.

HEROES OF WAR DO NOT BOAST.

Writer Has More Confidence in Soldier Who Sits in Meditation.

Mr. Barkley represents considerable purchaser.

Mr. Barkley represents considerable purchaser.

Then such a one as traffic manager, as you suggested, should be a red-blooded, truly loyal American. The lack of this one thing retarded and nearly ruined the export shipping business of some eastern ports, due to the fact that many export shipping organizations were operated and controlled by foreigners, not interested in the development of America's export trade. Many times it was demonstrated that these feditors bell in the such a man has really seen a few things. Far be it from a real hero to boast. But the silent man who has slain his fellow men and that is persuade that man is my idea of a hero. Actions speak louder than words.

STANLEY DAVIES. times it was demonstrated that these

The last report made public regarding the Canton was that she sailed from Baltimore March is for Dantzic sulphur as an irritant when taken in the navy department has not indicated its original form. The figures Mr. Mitchell desires are where the vessel will proceed from scribing nuclein

In Other Days.

When the summer sun was shining and the gentle zephyrs blew, Swung a lasy yellow spider in his hammock built so true:

Lolled and waited, seeming idle, but with cunning crafty eye in the company of the Commonwealth, arrived yesterday and from his rickety wagen amounced that the greatest march of the world's history had been completed. His aggregation was impacted by thousands of curious spectators.

What the waving mist-like grayness What the waving might be.

United States infantry, in charge of the recruiting office here, reports a goodly number of recruits enrolled during the

Then, as eager spider feasted on the quivering, helpless fly.

Came a maiden with her lover in the near-path passing by.

Gave a gasp at mottled monster as he plucked his twitching prey.

And with pitying exclamation turned her troubled eyes away:

Fifty-two of the ringleaders of the tramp army which stole the train of the Southern Pacific and rode away on it were returned to the city yesterday under guard of United States cav-

Fifty Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of April 30, 1860. New York.—Horace Greeiey has been offered a place on the Pacific rali-road commission, but has not stated definitely that he will serve.

Linen coats and straw hats were in demand yesterday. The sun shone brightly-warmly-flercely.

J. C. Cartwright, district United States attorney for Oregon, has re-moved to this city to reside perma-

The Continental sailed for San Francilsco yesterday, carrying a large list of passengers bound for that city.

LAND REGULATIONS ARE SEVERE

Soldier Encounters Difficulties in Et-

A READER

TREATMENT OF SAILORS RURTS

the battle front, but receive glorious entertainment, while we receive nothing, and it sure hurts.

Now you see why there is not a very good showing of the navy men in the parades.

J. H. SMITH. N. N. V., U. S. N. R. F.

miles west of Eugene.

Graduate manager for the athletic activities at the University of Oregon, Dean Walker arrived at the Benson, yesterday. Accompanying him is Mrs. Walker, who was formerly an Astoria girl.

Captain and Mrs. W. C. Hanna are at the Imperial for a few days. The captain, who is of the 1st infantry, U. S. A. will return to duty at Camp Lewis and Mrs. Hanna will visit with Mrs. W. A. Hoover, at Detroit, Or.

One of the first counties over the top in the victory loan drive was Union, and the man who had more than a little to do with it was former State Senator Ed E. Kiddle of Island City, who registered at the Imperial yesterday.

On a business trip from Shanghai, China, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Barkley and W. S. Barkley are at the Benson, Mr. Barkley represents considerable commercial interests in the Shanghai.

Then such a one as traffic manager.

Portland's citizens. It depicts the real-ity of opportunities. It arouses action and begets loyalty.

Your suggestion as to the appointment of the appointment of a traffic manager to canvass for markets and cargoes hits the proper ment of a traffic manager to canvass for markets and cargoes hits the proper was a fundamental need. Allow me to mention here that is a proposed mention here that is a propo Such a man has really seen a few

FOUNTAIN, Wash, April 28.—(To the Editor.)—(I) Does sublimated sulphur (so-called flowers of sulphur) or any Brought Crime Reduction.

PORTLAND, April 22.—(To the Editor.)—(To the Editor.)—(Does prohibition prevent crime? I have been a very close observer in the feed to this matter since prohibition came the regard to this matter since prohibition came than the would be necessity for but few peace officers after prohibition came than that falls would be unnecessary. It seems to me that there are just as many peace officers now and they seem to be kept just as busy as they were the saloon doors were open in Portland.

The Oregon will not be junked, and once we get her here we'll tie ribbons on her every May day.

When Italy sees how lonesome Mex. co looks on the outside looking.

Whereabouts of U. S. S. Canten.

ASTORIA. Or., April 28.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly inform me where the U. S. Canton, formerly a Holland navy vessel, is now and when will she return to the states?

ASUBSCRIBER.

The last report made public regard.

(2) What has become of nucleur. Twenty years ago the medical profession told us it made immune to one discuss the last distribution of the last distribution of the states?

ASUBSCRIBER.

The last report made public regard.

(1) The modern tendency is to regard

(2) Some physicians are still pre-