Morning Oregonian

ESTABLISHED BY HENRY L. PITTOCK.

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MORE RUBBERSTAMPISM.

The startling report that the American peace delegates to Paris had formally protested to President Wilson against the Shantung settlement simmers down to a simple statement that two of the delegates. Mr. Lansing and General Bliss, did not formally protest, but expressed an "unsympathetic view" in a letter to the president.

Thus the record is clear, and the hand-picked delegation of President Wilson justified its selection. It was not expected to oppose the president for any reason or on any issue whatsoever; and, so far as anyone knows, it did not. As a rubber stamp, it gave a perfect demonstration of me-too service at Paris. It might as well have been kept at home.

Not one man in ten can tell offhand the names of all the peace commissioners at Paris. But it would have been different if the senate had been consulted about their appointment and if the men who had a right to represent their country had been sent. Can anyone fancy Lodge, or Knox, or Root, or Taft, or Hughes, or David Jayne Hill, as a mere echo of the president in the peace negotiations? Because they are not cuckoos, the president would not select them. Because he did not select some of them, or others of equal distinction, he is in trouble with the senate and the senate may reject the treaty. Certainly, it will not ratify without reservations.

Just now the president is quite anxious to take counsel with the senators. He may well do so. But fate, or something, seems always to prevent his taking counsel with anybody worth while. Just now he is sick and is being sent to bed. The country will profoundly hope that he will soon be well, and that, when he is well, we will not forget his laudable plan of taking counsel with the members of the body designated by the constitution to be his counselor in the making of any peace treaty.

DISPUTING THE "GERM THEORY."

Not a great deal of scientific curiosity will be aroused by the St. Paul healer of one of the newer "paths" who has challenged a physician of an older school to make a test of the germ theory of disease. The challenger, a Dr. Zettel, proposes to the executive officer of the Minnesota Public Health association, Dr. Hill, that both of them expose themselves to a number of contagious diseases, including typhoid, smallpox and bubonic plague. Dr. Zettel says that he will defend himself only with sanitary conditions, healthful food and drink and pure air. His antagonist is to be permitted to employ the armor of inoculation or vaccination, and to use such other methods of prevention or cure as he may choose.

Dr. Zettel is a violent disputant of the "germ theory of disease." But it is difficult to see just what he hopes to prove by having himself and another man make human guinea pigs of themselves. The "germ theory" is not in itself inconsistent with any method of cure which operates by building up bodily resistance. It will be conceded by the most ardent champion of germs that the healthy body may, and often will, make a good fight against them. Good water, pure air, healthful food are part of the plan of every reputable physician. Indeed, there are signs that mere medicine is relied on less nowadays than ever before in our history.

We need to pinch ourselves occasionally to make sure that we are living in the twentieth century. Dr. Zettel reminds one of the physicians and clergymen who in 1796 were so vociferous in denouncing Dr. Edward Jenner for his introduction of vaccination against smallpox, a discovery from which have flowed the immeasurable benefits of comparative immunity against this disease, and which indirectly led to eradication of typhoid from army camps, by pointing the way to modern sanitation. It is incredible that there should be found a man in 1919 who would go back to the conditions prevailing, as to these two diseases alone, comparatively a few years ago.

But it takes less courage nowadays to proclaim opposition to an accepted theory than it did in Dr. Jenner's time. No doubt the St. Paul "doctor" will be amply rewarded by a certain kind of notoriety which he will attain. Dr. Jenner's high principles and pure motives were subjected to the fire before they were vindicated. Eventually he won. It is historically interesting that when the empress of Russia was persuaded of the soundness of his new principle, she caused the first boy to be vaccinated in Russia to be christened "Vaccinoff" and pensioned him for life. The path of progress is ever strewn with minor tragedies. One can with difficulty restrain a tear of sympathy for the lad doomed to pass through life with such a name.

We hope that the good doctor will carefully censor the list of germs which he discredits and to which he promises to expose himself. We should advise him, for example, to fight shy of the bacillus of tetanus, against which so many thousands of our soldiers were successfully inoculated during the recent war, with results highly gratifying to the "germ theorists," and to those who have at hand the statistics of deaths caused by the dreaded "lockjaw" of the civil war. He is indeed skating on thin ice with his offer to include bubonic plague, but perhaps he is confident the federal authorities would intervene. As a further conclusive test, he might have a try at glanders or some of the other germ diseases in which the mortality rate is practically 100 per cent. But it is dollars to doughnuts that he will not do this. Nor would we wish to have him do so. In so running counter to one of the few scientific principles which seem to have become fixed, he probably would subject himself to examination by a lunacy commission, and, persisting in his determination, he probably would be locked up.

FAKE INDEPENDENCE.

Mr. Bryan told his fellow journalists at the Press club the other day that he favored a national newspaper printed under governmental control, and that he had no confidence in the so-called independent newspaper. Nor has anyone who is familiar with the impossible thing.

Mr. Bryan's frank partisanship is one of his most engaging qualities. He is a democrat, and he is never ashamed to say so, even in the presence of those political neuters who seek to promote their personal and political ends by the hypocritical guise of a false independence. Mr. Bryan did not so characterize the Press club, of course; nor do we. But there are newspapers hereabouts to which the oratorical shoe offered by Mr. Bryan may be fitted. Painful to say, they are mostly friends and supporters of Mr. Bryan and his party. He is not ungrateful, it may be supposed; but nevertheless he is both candid and contemptuous.

Mr. Bryan's other idea of a national newspaper is interesting enough; but if we understand his definition, it is not to be a newspaper. It would be a political pamphlet accessible to the official spokesmen of all parties, who are free to say what they please. It can hardly be possible that Mr. Bryan got his conception of such a publication from the record of the bureau of public information presided over by the opinionated and troublesome Creel; but political propaganda, under government auspices, after the Creel model, is what he proposes. If the government is to stand sponsor for party publicity, it is but another step to government control of party organization itself. The parties are doing a pretty fair job now about furnishing newspapers with material to be printed. Some of it at times finds its way into the papers. All of it would be published, without a doubt, if the papers thought it would be read. Would the same articles, sent to every citizen of the United States by the government, be any more likely to escape the wastebasket? A people cannot be educated against their will, even in politics.

It is well enough for party—one party or the other—to run the government; but it will be disastrous for government to run any party.

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?

Terms of settlement of the telephone strike which seem satisfactory to the operators and electricians do not relieve a bewilderment which has existed among the people during the three weeks they were so seriously discommoded.

The operators and the electricians go to work at the wage scale offered by the company at the time the controversy began; the question of retroactive pay is left to the government wire control board which doubtless would have decided that phase of the trouble without a strike. A plan for adjusting future controversies seems to have been agreed upon but it is not conclusively disclosed whether it is the one the company offered or the one the employes demanded. The sole positive point achieved by the strikers concerns the date of expiration of wage agreements with the operators. The agreement will expire on the date of expiration of similar agreement with the electricians.

The tenure of agreements, it may be assumed, pools the interests of electricians and operators. They will be better able to work together in securing favorable adjustments of future controversies.

The operators know better than we what material advantage there is in the sole point gained. Apparently they were willing to pay handsomely for it. To obtain it, each operator on minimum pay contributed approximately $36 in lost wages; and it cost each operator receiving maximum pay the sum of $57. Each electrician contributed to the good of the order about $120. If finally granted retroactive pay most of the workers will still be out of pocket.

What the strike cost the public cannot be measured in dollars and cents. It was a period of extreme inconvenience and one which the public will be glad is ended. Public sympathy, in event of strike by poorly paid employees for higher wages, is invariably with the workers, but the public knows and cares little about strategic maneuvers for advantage in possible negotiations of the future, and in general it is opposed to the principle of the sympathetic strike. More firmly than before is it likely to be convinced by its recent experience and observation that employees of a public utility should not strike except as a last resort to obtain fundamental rights. The settlement promotes the suspicion that the public has been the victim of a summer insanity.

HOW YOUR GOVERNMENT IS RUN.

If any person doubts that the government wastes hundreds of millions of dollars, a few facts brought out in a recent senate debate should convince him.

A public buildings commission has been created by congress with absolute control over allotment of space in all public buildings except those occupied by the president, congress and the Smithsonian institution. In its first assignment of space in June it effected an annual saving in rent of $607,905 at an expense of only $750.

It could save much more if it had authority to inquire into the need of employes for whom housing is asked. The first director of the war risk bureau tried to see how many employees he could secure irrespective of the work done. He had 18,000 employes and, Senator Smoot said, "the girls were so crowded that they were falling over each other. Many girls complained that they were not doing the work they would like to do."

A great quantity of the information collected at the first was incorrect. That is why there was so much trouble in finding out about soldiers who were wounded, and why allotments and insurance were not paid.

At least twenty employes of that bureau asked Senator Smoot to get them transferred, saying: "I want to go into some government office where I can do some work," a strange but creditable desire for a civil service clerk.

There is need of some government authority to ascertain whether the number of employes in a department is necessary. Senator Smoot and Hitchcock, one of each party, agree on that point.

A commission is at work readjusting salaries, but it has no authority to readjust number of employes. That is the job of the several appropriation committees which are very busy.

There is duplication of work in every department, but no inquiry is made into it. Forty-seven agencies of the government expend money in the public health service alone.

An efficiency commission exists, but it can only report on duplications and waste, and no senator seemed even to know its exact name.

That is the way the government is run. Senators and representatives are beginning to grope around and inquire, and learn things which shock them, and seek ways to improve affairs. So there is hope that the government will at least become a little less wasteful.

HOW DID THEY EVER GET ALONG?

The enthralling courthouse mystery over that fifth automobile tire causes one to reflect upon the scant comprehension of individual rights that was characteristic of both officials and public a decade or two ago.

Once upon a time the pay of county commissioner was nominal. The public did not truly appreciate him. Presumably the official was called upon occasionally to transact county business at a place other than the county seat. Veracious account of methods by which he got there are unfortunately lost in antiquity. The taxpayers so far as may be recalled made no ready provision.

If the county ever kept a stable full of fine horses and rubber-tired buggies, as it now keeps a garage full of shining automobiles, we have forgotten what they cost and where the stable was located. Nor does memory bring back visions of a flock of bicycles for use of energetic office holders in the days when the bicycle was the most popular mode of conveyance.

How the county's business was transacted thus becomes a puzzle to the person used to progressive ways and high taxes. Possibly the commissioner occasionally engaged a team from the livery stable and charged it to the county. Mayhap he went by train if any train went in his direction. Few did in that period. But somehow, someway, the county survived the uncouth conditions. Nowadays interurbans radiate in several directions, and street car lines cover the city, but it is beneath the dignity of an official to travel on county business in such common vehicles. By way of further contrast Multnomah county owns numerous automobiles but not enough to go around. So the custom is for the official graciously to lend the county the use of his own machine and charge the county only for gasoline, oil, tires and other incidentals. What a scandal it would have been 20 years ago when hoofing it was not disreputable, if some official had billed the county for half-soling a pair of shoes worn out attending to public business! But what's a $44 missing tire to the enlightened community of the present?

STAND PAT ON THE CONSTITUTION.

The United States has had its troubles with the I. W. W., the bolshevists and various brands of disloyalists during the last year or two, but they have been a mere ripple on the surface by comparison with the troubles which have shaken Europe. We have had strikes, some fairly big ones, but they have been about the old questions as to wages and terms of work, and they have been settled in the same old ways—by direct negotiation or by arbitration or conciliation of federal or state boards.

Apparently because of this comparative freedom from revolutionary convulsion, Henry Seidel Canby, a Yale professor, in the Century magazine accuses America of being twenty years behind England in social economic reform. The reason given is that progress in the United States is halted by fossilized thinking of the "conservative-liberal" type of mind. He compares this with what he calls the "radical-conservative" of Britain, who agrees with radical principles but objects to the society of radicals. He describes the American conservative-liberal as "the man who will fight for the freedom proclaimed by the declaration of independence against any later manifestation of the revolutionary spirit," as "a revolutionary who stands pat upon his progress." He places both ex-President Taft and President Wilson in this class.

What does the professor mean by "social economic reform" and "progress?" The fact that the terms are used by a professor leads us to suspect that he means socialism, and to object at the outset to his assumption that his plans for change are reform and progress for no better reason than that he considers them so. Is it unprogressive to stand pat on the declaration of independence and the constitution? We have just won a war and dictated a peace which extend the first principle of the declaration of independence to Europe and western Asia. That sounds fairly progressive. The American system of government, as embodied in those documents, provides abundant means by which reforms can be effected without revolution if the majority wants them. If they are not effected it is as fair to infer that they are not reforms or progress, or that the majority does not want them, as that the people are unprogressive. Certainly the American people are not opposed to change. In a period of only thirty years they have brought the railroads and other public utilities under government control, they have at least stopped the worst activities of the trusts, they have adopted direct nominations, direct election of senators, income tax and are in a fair way to adopt national woman suffrage and prohibition. As to relations between capital and labor, we have the national eight-hour law for government work and for railroads and accident compensation. A conference of employers adopted a fairly radical programme for industrial relations, and profit sharing becomes more general.

These facts are fairly good evidence that we have no "later manifestation of the revolutionary spirit" because it is unnecessary in order to accomplish the reforms which the majority desire. We stand pat on the constitution because it provides satisfactory means of effecting changes, including changes in the constitution itself. In fact we are so well satisfied that our governmental machinery will produce the desired results that many of us do not take the trouble to vote and we leave decision of fairly important questions to active minorities, as at recent elections in Oregon. If that habit should grow, a good-sized, determined minority might be able to force upon us a reform to which it was devoted, provided the reform was not too violent or radical.

Then the professor's discontent with our "stodginess" must arise from failure to convince the majority or even a respectable minority of the wisdom of reforms which he champions, and from impatience with our aversion for revolution. Other nations have had revolutions in the last 143 years because they could not get what they wanted and ought to have. The American nation had no revolutions because it got what it wanted by the process of evolution set in motion by the constitution. In Europe despotism blocked the working of this process, and left revolution as the only way open. Secretary of the Interior Lane well expresses the reason why the United States stands pat on the constitution by saying in the Nation's Business:

> This is no land in which to spread any doctrine of revolution because we have abolished revolution. When we came here we gave over the right of revolution. You cannot have revolution in a land unless you have somebody to revolt against—and whom would you revolt against in the United States? When we won our revolution 140 years ago, we then said, "We give over that inherent right of revolution because there can be no such thing as revolution against a country in which the people govern."

The alternative to the American system of evolution may prove to be the despotism of a minority, which is equally opposed to the rule of the majority and to the rule of any other minority. It finds a monarchist and aristocratic minority class in control, and overthrows such a government to set up one of its own minority. That is what the bolshevists did in Russia and Hungary, and it is what they tried to do in Canada. The result is simply a new despotism, in which the deluded followers suffer from as severe tyranny of a small clique as they would suffer under a czar. It is what American radicals squint or hint at when they complain of America's aversion to revolution. They advocate the absurdity that the American people should rebel against themselves, but they actually propose that their minority seize control of the government and impose their despotism on the majority. Against any such plans the American people do well to stand pat.

An after-the-war census of the hospitals of the United States shows that we are beginning to approach our needs in respect to institutions of this kind. There are now nearly 9000 hospitals in the country, with 869,000 beds, a daily population including patients, physicians and nurses of 1,250,000 and a permanent financial investment of $2,000,000,000. The annual expenditure for maintenance and new construction is $750,000,000. The contrast with 1873 is especially impressive. In that year there were only 149 hospitals, although the population was two-fifths as great as at present. These contained only 35,400 beds. Fifty-five of them were devoted to care of the insane, forty-three were for public charges and only fifty-one for persons able to pay. The influenza epidemic as well as the war has aided in bringing about increased facilities. Prejudices against hospital treatment of the sick has also greatly abated within a generation.

Recall the days when Billy Storey, who was a good mayor and a good sheriff, used to bring in a barge load of slabwood and almost give it away, the price was so low? The memory lingers when paying five, six or seven dollars, as the case may be.

The Mexican trouble was better settled in 1865, when Sheridan was sent toward the border without strings on him. There are a few of the kind aching to go, but it's a different kind of Washington behind them.

The downfall of Bela Kun may not mean a change from bolshevism to reason in Hungary. There is a prospect of more of the same in the identity of the men who threw him out.

When you gaze into the blue skies, give a little credit to the boys of the forestry service for their vigilance in keeping out the fires that in the long ago darkened the days of summer.

If the Poles, Ukrainians, Hungarians, Russians and a few others keep diligently at it, the fighting may stop about a year after the war was over.

Texas has exhausted her patience and wants the border troubles stopped. Texas is right, and now is the time again to keep us out of war.

Consume all the Bull Run water you can. It will make the eyes sparkle and the cheeks rosy and add a year or two to your days.

Foch refuses to trust the boche, and his judgment is entitled to respect, for it is founded on long and unpleasant acquaintance.

The little five moves with more celerity than the big four, and peacemaking may be finished before the dog days end.

About the coolest place of a warm evening is the show house. It's to the manager's interest to have it so, and he does it.

Some excuse for the lowliest of us when even the president is not careful about what he eats during hot weather.

If every grouchy old man had to cook his own dinner these days, he would be a different "old bird" or go hungry.

Steelworkers shrewdly choose the torrid season for a strike at their torrid work, and actually take a vacation.

If hogs continue making records at the Portland yards, only the thriftless will be eating pork by and by.

Herbert Hoover is the most numerous foster father on earth. Two million kids call him daddy.

Wilson is lucky to be able to "lay up" when indisposed, but there is no sense in taking chances.

The raiding of lottery games at the parks might as well be extended to take in all of them.

Who would not be a Mazama this weather, climb Mt. Hood and sit on a cool glacier?

"Liberty Loan" Smith has changed his name to "The Million-dollar Aviator."

What? Another tire? Spare us the maddening mystery, Mr. Mather!

Those Who Come and Go.

Willamette valley orchardists were, unwittingly, the cause of a large influx of Portland men into the Willamette valley a few weeks ago. H. H. Corey, public service commissioner, is authority for the story. "Railroad men were commenting, a few weeks ago on the unusually heavy traffic from Portland to Salem and Willamette valley points," he ruminated yesterday in the lobby of the Imperial hotel. "It seems that the orchardists had inserted want ads in the Salem newspapers which read, 'Experienced grafters wanted.'" And it beats all how many Portland men thought they could qualify for the job," he concluded amid the laughs of his hearers.

Budding novelists who might be looking for a big two-fisted, sour-dough type of western hero might find a few new wrinkles in local color after a chat with Al Cody of Seattle who is stopping at the Imperial. Cody formerly was a policeman, then a detective, and when the gold rush to Alaska struck the country back in '98, Al went with it. Up in the land of northern lights, Al fought his way along with the others. He became a typical sour-dough. He made his strike and a good one. Now he hasn't anything in particular to do except enjoy himself. That's probably the reason he leaves Seattle at stated intervals and comes down to the Rose City for rest and recreation.

If it's from the Rogue River valley it's all right. If you don't believe it, just ask John Hampshire, a Grants Pass hardware merchant and contractor, who is staying at the Portland hotel on a business trip to the city. He thinks that the Rogue River country is about the best little garden spot that was ever permitted to flourish in this vale of tears, and there's nothing he would rather do than sound the praises of his native heath. Just now he is building one of the highways through Josepline county under a state contract.

"Can you hear him? Can't you hear him?" Joe Hermann, one of the greeters at the Portland hotel shouted excitedly into the telephone at J. J. O'Brien, who works opposite him at the Portland desk. "Say, boy," gloated Hermann proudly, "he came this morning. He weighs eight pounds and say, what a pair of lungs! Can't you hear him." Lyle Weaver, another of the Portland's greeters, thought the stork should have used just a little better judgment in his visit to the Hermann home. Weaver was down at Seaside communing with the waves and other coast attractions when he was called back to his work. Daddy Hermann just couldn't think of working for a few days since his appointment as chairman of the reception committee to Hermann Jr., so Weaver cut short his annual vacation and came back to relieve Mr. Hermann. All those concerned in the event are well and happy.

Lieutenant Edgar Piper Jr. will sail from Havre on July 26 on the steamship La Savoie for the United States. Lieutenant Piper has been in France for 1½ years. For the past six months or more he has been attached to army headquarters at Paris. His service lately has been as regulating officer and assistant adjutant of the district of Paris.

As chairman of the "third house" irrigation committee, Jay Upton of Prineville during the recent legislature was more than popular with lawmakers and others. In fact, he had quite a following at times. As president of the Oregon irrigation congress Mr. Upton is now in Portland on business. He is at the Portland hotel. He is also interested in the rate hearing now in progress before the interstate commerce commission.

Down at the Multnomah hotel the clerks and other members of the official family of that hostelry are winking knowingly and saying "Just wait." The cause of the suppressed excitement is a lost article which a porter found in the lobby, suspiciously near where some of the staff work. This lost article is a "pome," and it is captioned "Our Family Prayer." It reads:

A PRAYER.

(Portland doctors raise prices to keep pace with living expenses—news item.)

In this ever upward scramble of high prices as we ramble
Down life's road that's strewn with grocer bills and other perturbation,
We've determined it's no wonder that the doctor man, by thunder,
Have decided that their own price lists must undergo inflation.
With a countenance that's tearful we've been getting 'most an ear-full
Of the reasons why all prices climb despite our righteous roar;
But the medicos, God bless 'em, it's not in us to redress 'em,
For without their ministrations we might reach a ripe old age.
We don't mind the chance they're giving us to pay for their high living,
For we've gotten used by this time to this state of being poor;
But we hope they'll show acumen, or at least half-way human
As they come with bills to latch-string when the stork knocks at the door.

Attaches at the Benson hotel are thinking of procuring a distinguished service medal for one of the women members of the force because of her heroic action in a combat with a street car conductor a few days ago. It occurred as she boarded a Mount Tabor street car at one of the transfer points along Morrison street, near the federal building. "Madam," said the conductor, as she handed him a transfer, "this is no good. It expired an hour ago." "Nor am I a bit surprised," was her quick retort. "What with this sweltering weather and the closed windows on the car I just left, I wonder that the poor thing lived as long as it did."

A likely candidate for the Jackson club, an organization of Portland's "unterrified," is "Bill" Culbertson, formerly of Kansas City and Missoula, who has just bought the furnishings and lease of the Cornelius hotel and has assumed charge as active manager. Bill is one of the original Bryan democrats and was a member of the upper house in the Missouri legislature a few years ago. But his political days are over—so he asserts. He is going to devote his entire time running his newly acquired property and nothing short of a Bryan presidential candidacy can force him to come out of retirement.

Tom Nolan, department store owner of Corvallis, is at the Portland while he is here buying goods for his Benton county firm.

S. Schafer, manager of the Portland and San Francisco Steamship company, is at the Imperial.

Canadian tourists in Portland yesterday included Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McCauley, Mrs. W. C. Trick and Miss Marjorie Trick, all of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada. They are registered at the Oregon hotel.

A. H. Chambers, a stockman of Olympia, is a business visitor in Portland. He is registered at the Perkins hotel.

There are not many people in Portland who are aware that there is such a town in Oregon as Never Still. But B. A. Eldred, who comes from there, is authority for the statement that its residents are a live-wire bunch and always on the move. He is at the Perkins.

Vance H. Cleland, chairman of the public service commission of the state of Washington, is here to attend the hearing on the Columbia Basin rate case. He is quartered at the Multnomah hotel.

Eugene France, former mayor of Aberdeen, Wash., is in Portland on business. He is registered at the Perkins hotel.

More Truth Than Poetry.

By James J. Montague.

AN EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.

When Dempsey concluded J. Willard's career
With a mixture of sinew and science,
I said to myself: "I shall never more fear
These overgrown, Auroch-thewed giants;
I used to get out of their way, I admit,
Because I believed I had got to,
But The bigger the bruisers the quicker they'll quit'
Henceforward I'll take for my motto.

"Too long have we little men stepped to one side
To let some impressive Colossus
Walk over our feelings and injure our pride
And brutally bully and boss us!
From Willard's example it's easy to see
That big men are pretty much yellow.
Next time such a person gets funny with me
I shall certainly wallop the fellow!"

And therefore next day, as I stood in a crowd
Regarding some score board or other,
An over-fed, over-sized copper allowed
That I'd better run home to my mother.
I didn't turn round to express my regret
At having unduly provoked him,
I doubled my fist up, got carefully set
And swiftly and savagely soaked him!

. . . . . .

I hope to be out by the end of the week.
I still have a few bad contusions
I drew from that Willard affair—so to speak—
Some rather unfounded conclusions!

* * *

A Job for the New League.

Now that Nicaragua has collected $846,000 in revenues, somebody down there is sure to start a revolution in order to get hold of it.

* * *

Railroad Crossing: Look Out for the Fords!

The Jersey Central is suing the owner of a Ford because his car ran into and damaged a locomotive. Which reminds one of the farmer boy's defense that he wasn't going to let no sheep bite him.

* * *

The Last Sanctuary.

It is possible that the prohibitionists may make headway in England, but just wait and see what happens to them when they go to Scotland.

The Quiet Place.

By Grace E. Hall.

The high ideals and the better thoughts
dwell not in the market place,
Where the clink of gold with its echo
cold with avarice keeps space;
Nor yet in the marts where tradesmen
vie with a craft that has no soul,
'Tis there ideals die under the wheels
of greed, that ever roll.
While gold lust burns man only spurns
the dreams of the quiet place
And scorns the call, in his narrow stall,
of the boundless open space.

Out, out on the paths that lead afar
where no money madness cries,
Where shines the bright unchanging
star in the blue unchanging skies,
Where the hush of a silence that portends not loneliness but rest,
Soothes the mind to a holy calm on
nature's ample breast,
Out from the haunts that man has made
to those where the free winds roam,
In the quiet place of God's vast space
the ideals are at home.

Oh, the better impulse cannot grow
where the brain's output is sold,
Where the mind connives in the sordid
hives to grasp the tarnished gold;
No wondrous thought that has lived
for long was born in the fetid air
Of the lucre-pit where barons sit like
lions in their lair;
But in solitude and the quiet place,
where nature freely gives,
Where the ideals race in boundless
space, is born the dream that lives.

NO GERMAN CONTROL OF COFFEE

Official of Brazilian Embassy Denies Charges Made in Portland.

WASHINGTON, July 16.—(To the Editor.)—As commercial secretary of the Brazilian embassy I feel it my duty to protest against a statement which has appeared in a number of Oregon papers to the effect that the coffee plantations of my native country are "practically owned and controlled by Herr Hohenzollern and German money." This statement is absolutely false and for the sake of the friendship between the United States of North America and Brazil, which it is my privilege to foster, I hope you will make the denial as emphatic as possible.

Alfred A. Clesset of Portland, to whom this statement is attributed, asks his countrymen if they are going to "help Germany pay her war debt by paying outrageous prices for coffee." This charge is an insult not only to the coffee planters of Brazil but to the whole Brazilian nation. Everyone knows that Brazil is the only important South American country that joined the United States and her allies in the war. We entered the great conflict immediately after the United States declared war and we gave our men and our ships and our money to help whip Germany. The victory of the great free nations over German despotism was hailed nowhere with greater joy than in the republic I represent.

When war was declared the people in Rio Janeiro and Santos wrecked the offices of the German coffee export concerns, the government forbade them to continue business and they are no longer a factor in the coffee export trade. The only important coffee planter in Brazil of German birth is Francisco Schmidt. Mr. Schmidt, however, came to Brazil when he was a boy 9 years old and there is not in the whole republic a more patriotic Brazilian than he nor a citizen more heartily in accord with our action in taking sides with the allies against Germany.

Our president, Dr. Epitacio Pessoa, has just gone home from a visit to this country, which demonstrated the cordiality existing between the two great republics of North and South America. Every speech he delivered here emphasized the importance of the American peoples standing together as the bulwark of the new world order thaht has resulted from the war.

Every good American, whether North American or South American, must deplore an attempt to arouse national prejudice. Mr. Clesset's assertions, I repeat, are absolutely untrue.

THEODOR LANGGAARD DE MENZES,
Commercial Secretary of the Brazilian Embassy.

"It Was Massycre."

Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

"I were a-layin' down behind the breast-works one day," said the veterah prevaricater, "a-firin' at the henemy, an' a-'ittin' of 'em hevery time, when I 'ears the patter of a 'orse's 'oofs be'ind me. Then a voice said:

"'Hi, there, you with the deadly haim! Just come ere 'alf a mo'!

"'I turned round an' salooted an' who should it be but the general. 'E come up and shook me by the 'and.

"'Wot's your name?' sez 'e.

"'Logan, general,' sez I.

"'Your first name?' sez 'e.

"'Dan, sir,' sez I; 'Dan Logan.'

"'Well, Dan,' sez 'e, 'go 'ome. You're killin' too many men. It don't seem 'ardly fair. Its massycre, that's wot it is. An' look 'ere, Dan, don't call me general—call me 'Erbert,' sez 'e."

In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of July 22, 1894.

The election contest case of ex-Circuit Judge M. G. Munly against Circuit Judge Thomas A. Stephens came up before Judge Shattuck yesterday.

A new and entirely practical route to the summit of Mount Hood, which may be designated the northeast passage, was discovered by a party of the climbers who reached the summit Tuesday.

Railroad men who joined in the strike are now seeking to be taken back to work, but have been informed that only those needed to fill vacancies will be employed.

San Francisco.—Sanford B. Dole has been installed as provisional governor of the republic of Hawaii and a delegation of royalists have left Honolulu to learn if President Cleveland will redress the alleged wrong to Queen Liliuokalani.

Fifty Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of July 22, 1869.

Paris.—The opening of the Suez canal has been postponed, it is announced, until the middle of November.

Washington.—It is understood that the first messages over the new cable from France to the United States will be dispatches from the emperor to the president and the president's reply.

The schooner J. C. Champion arrived yesterday from Tillamook with a cargo of dairy products, skins, furs, dry hides, etc.

The Great Eastern and Royal European circus is on the way again to this city from Eastern Oregon.

HIGH PRICES MAY KILL DEMAND

Prune Growers Likely to Suffer From Boosting Cost, Says Writer.

PORTLAND, July 21.—(To the Editor.)—On page 21, section 2 of The Sunday Oregonian I note that the prune growers of the northwest are greatly surprised at the action of the California prune growers in naming the price for prunes this year and that it will mean a loss of from 4 to 6 cents a pound for the California growers. Furthermore, I note C. L. Dick states that the reduced price of California prunes will not cause the prune growers of the northwest to drop the prices to the level of the California prunes. I wonder if the prune growers of the northwest ever stop to think that they are on the road to ruin by their selfishness in getting all the traffic will bear while the getting is good. Ought not some of the leading prune growers of the northwest have enough foresight to see that by pushing the price of prunes away beyond their actual value, during the temporary shortage, that they are breaking down that which it has taken years to build up, viz., the demand for prunes?

Go into any restaurant and you will now see prunes marked up to 10 cents for a dish of five or six little prunes. Yes, and you will see the same dish of prunes on the same shelf for days. In fact they remain there until they go bad and I presume are thrown away or stewed into something else. Did the prune grower ever ask himself if he would go into the restaurant and order a dish of six prunes for 10 cents when he could get a nice piece of fresh fruit pie for the same price? No, sir, Mr. Prune Grower, when you get the dish of prunes in the 10-cent class you have simply put it on the shelf as an ornament.

Of course, during the war, when the army and navy had to have prunes, the price was not considered. But the war is over now. So you must compete with the American standby—pie—and you cannot do it at the same price.

The California prune grower is no better or worse than the Oregon-Washington prune grower, but he has had more experience and is looking out for the future and he well knows that if he kills the demand for his product the result of a life's work is gone, because it will take a generation to build up the demand again. It has only been a few years ago right here in Oregon and in California, too, when you could hardly give a prune ranch away. The California man is trying to see that that day does not come back. The Oregon-Washington man, well, he will learn from experience, as others have done.

For the good of all concerned I think the prune grower of the northwest would do well to keep his eye on the golden rule and then, as nearly as possible, get in direct touch with the consuming public and keep the prune price so that a dish of prunes can be served at 5 cents. It can be done and everyone make a reasonable profit, too.

ROBERT LEE ELLZEY.

NO EDUCATIONAL AID FOR S. A. T. C.

Law Specifically Excludes Them; Can Be Enlarged Only by Amendment.

LA GRANDE, Or., July 20.—(To the Editor.)—Have read Attorney-General Brown's interpretation of the soldiers' and sailor's educational aid law, passed by the voters of the state of Oregon, and want to speak in behalf of the interests of our boys who enlisted in this student army training corps.

In enlisting in S. A. T. C. our boys were actuated by just as high a degree of patriotism as other men in service. Many boys had just reached the age of enlistment, when, as you remember, about the first of August of last year all branches of service were closed to enlistments except the S. A. T. C.

Our boys then enlisted with the assurance of receiving intensive training and of being sent overseas in from eight to 12 weeks. Of course the armistice was signed and, like many other service men, they did not get overseas. They received only the same pay as any other private and their college work was disrupted by the intensive military training constantly.

Why should not these boys be entitled to the same compensation as men who were in training in other camps in this country? We ask for them the same consideration and that they be provided for in the soldiers' and sailors' educational aid law as other service men. Many of the S. A. T. C. boys will not be able to attend college without aid and we believe in common fairness that the recognition given other service men be extended them. R. L.

Educational aid can be granted members of the S. A. T. C. only by amendment of the present law by the legislature or vote of the people. The act specifically excludes the S. A. T. C. Neither the attorney-general nor any other agency other than those mentioned can change it.

Right to Educational Aid.

LEBANON, Or., July 20.—(To the Editor.)—In regard to the soldiers' and sailors' educational bill passed last June, would like to know if a young man who enlisted at Vancouver, Wash., and served in the old 2d Oregon overseas should receive the benefit provided, under these circumstances: At the time of his enlistment his parents were living in Washington, but were trading for a Linn county farm and moved there immediately afterwards. Would like to know what provision is made for such cases, as the young man is very desirous of going on with his education. SUBSCRIBER.

The soldier's right to educational aid depends on whether he was an Oregon citizen when he enlisted. In this case the best plan is to make application to the head of the institution he desires to attend, stating the full facts. His right to aid will then be passed on.