Morning Oregonian

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AS TO PRIMARY CAMPAIGN EXPENSES.

Senator Borah and other senators who express alarm at the large sums of money which are being spent on the presidential primary campaign of Leonard Wood, Governor Lowden and others were brought face to face with a stubborn fact when Senator Moses, manager of Wood's campaign, said:

> Many states in the union now select their presidential candidates by direct vote of the people in primaries, just as United States senators are now elected by direct vote of the people, and in most states are nominated by direct primary. In carrying out in the appeal of a candidate, whether for the senate or the presidency, to the whole body of the electorate, money must necessarily be expended, and I am here to say that money is necessarily being expended in politics today.
>
> So far as my knowledge of the Leonard Wood campaign is concerned, I wish to say that it is immaculate with regard to its expenditure, and it has spent no dollar which has not been made necessary by the kind of a campaign which now has to be carried on. If the senator from Idaho could have his way, apparently from what he said in connection with the nomination for the presidency, a man would go out upon his front door steps and shout at the top of his voice, "I am a candidate for this, that or the other office," and the people of the country would rush there the next morning and give him the nomination.
>
> That is not possible nowadays. Money has to be spent. The senator from Idaho knows it as well as any man in this chamber or in the country. I have no doubt that he, as he has sought office, has received, if not solicited and probably expended, money in promoting his candidacy, legitimately and properly and for the good of the country.

Those are the facts, and any man who suggests that, because considerable sums of money are spent, they are therefore obtained and spent corruptly, talks buncombe. The people believed that much money was spent and many favors were promised under the convention system of nomination, and they decreed that the direct primary should take its place. That system requires a direct appeal to every voter that can be reached by every candidate for a nomination in each one of the forty-eight states. The people want to see and hear the candidate, to read his speeches and what others say in his behalf and to have their votes personally solicited by his agents. Expenditure for travel, printing, postage, committees is inevitable and is legitimate.

The bulk of the money thus expended must necessarily be subscribed by the friends and supporters of the candidate. When such subscriptions are moderate in amount and obtained from the people at large, not from any one particular interest, they are legitimate, for they imply no undue obligation to any individual. There is no just cause for suspicion against any candidate in the simple fact that his expenditures are large, provided that no large sums are obtained from single persons and that he is ready to give publicity to the subscription list and to his expenses. Since the people demand that kind of a campaign, candidates cannot justly be blamed for giving them what they want.

If such expenditures are to be forbidden, primary campaigns may develop into contests between men who can talk loudest and longest, men who have the greatest powers of physical endurance. In that event the nomination might as fitly go to the strongest-lunged shouter, rather than to the man who could win the confidence of the people by displaying the greatest capacity as a statesman. In the former respect the palm may safely be awarded to Senator Johnson, though, if all the salaries of all the California state employes who have been working for him were added to his expense account, the total might exceed that of Wood.

After all, the respective merits of the several men must be judged by their known characters as evidenced by their careers, public and private, not by insinuations carefully timed to reflect on the strongest candidate and to help the weakest candidate on the eve of the primary in an important state. Tried by that test, any other seeker after the republican nomination will compare favorably with Mr. Johnson.

AMENDMENT BY REFERENDUM.

Although Senator Brandegee is considered a conservative among republicans, he has taken the lead in moving to inject a part of the Oregon system into national affairs. He has introduced in the senate a constitutional amendment providing that future amendments may be ratified by the electors in three-fourths of the states instead of by the legislatures, and the judiciary committee has adopted a favorable report. In a speech to the republican convention of Connecticut he gave these reasons for the measure:

> Under the present provision of the constitution for its amendment, the legislatures of the states may be called upon to ratify amendments which have never been discussed by the people and upon which they have rendered no expression of their opinion. Organizations interested in securing an amendment to the constitution, it may be easily imagined, could, if properly financed by wealthy people, interested in what they consider to be a worthy cause, by skillful advertising and the employment of influential agents, artificially create the semblance of a wide demand for the ratification of some amendment, when, if the matter was submitted to the people, so that the other side of the question could be heard and the whole matter properly discussed and voted upon, the verdict of the people might be overwhelmingly against the proposal.

This change would be decidedly in the direction of making the constitution truly express the will of the people. It would retain the initiative in the hands of congress, but would give the voters a referendum on what congress proposed. A group of faddists could not have a proposal placed on the ballot by hiring petition circulators, and its only recourse would be to influence congress. But all this work would go for naught unless the group could persuade a majority of the people of three-fourths of the states to vote for the proposition. That would require the widest publicity and open discussion of its merits. There could be no back-room or star-chamber methods about such a verdict. No man could truly say that somebody had by subterfuge "put one over on" the people, hence attempts to reverse the decision would be blocked. The amendment would have all the force which a popular vote could give. The referendum thus safeguarded would add strength to the constitution.

BE CALM.

The strength of Hiram Johnson, we are told, is being demonstrated before the people. It is being shown through the agency of the plurality primary, in such states as Michigan and Nebraska. He has not had yet a majority anywhere. He may get it in California, where there are only two tickets—Hoover and Johnson; but his only hope of carrying Oregon, for example, lies in the fact that there are five candidates. Here, if there were two candidates—Johnson and one other—all the chances would be with the other.

Too much significance may therefore be given to the several successes of Johnson. There remains the convention at Chicago. It takes a majority there to nominate. In a convention of a thousand delegates, a majority is more than 500. At the best Johnson will go to Chicago with somewhere from 100 to 150 delegates. Where will he get the necessary remainder?

Some republicans are getting a little nervous about Johnson. He has the faculty of stimulating the ardor of numerous followers. He has also the faculty of stimulating the ardor of a more numerous opposition. Chicago may be awaited with comparative calmness.

NAMING THE PORT BODY.

From the city hall comes the report that the proposed port development plan finds high favor there, as evidently it does everywhere; but the suggestion is made that the state legislature is not the proper body to select the port commissioners and that that vital function should be left to the people.

Let us hope that the plan of popular nomination will make no great headway. We are familiar with the frequent aspersions on the legislature and its disposition to play politics; but, as the proof of the pudding is in the eating, the test of the legislature's ability to consider on its merits any question deeply affecting the welfare of a community is past performance. It will not be seriously said by anyone that the personnel of the present Port of Portland is not of the first order.

It is important to remove the concerns of the port from all considerations of politics or of personal self-seeking. It is desirable to recruit from the responsible citizenry men who are capable of originality and carrying forward large policies, and who will respond to a genuine call upon them to perform a public service. It may be doubted if any member of the Port of Portland would willingly submit himself as a candidate for political office; and political office is what it would be under the suggested scheme. Leadership, initiative, experience and unselfish public spirit are all needed now in the enterprise of making a great commercial, industrial and maritime center at Portland; and no chance of faltering or failure should be taken. Once fairly under way, continuity of policy is indispensable, and it cannot be had if the project shall be subject to the changes and vicissitudes of politics.

Doubtless the city commission will give the port plan in all its phases conscientious, intelligent and sensible consideration; and, having thus done its duty, we cannot be in doubt as to its action in the nomination of port members.

PUBLICITY FOR CRIME.

The best answer to Vice-President Marshall's accusation that the newspapers give undue publicity to crime is that they do not, so far as the great majority of newspapers and the most widely read among them are concerned. Exploitation of crime is the specialty of the sensational papers, the "shockers," which are a decided minority. Any person who doubts this statement is invited to examine the pages of The Oregonian of the day when Mr. Marshall's speech was published, pick out the articles relating to crime, observe their length, their number and the prominence given them in comparison with other classes of news. Each newspaper should be judged by its own policy, not by that of any other, nor should newspapers in general be judged by the course of the few which offend against public morals or good taste.

There are sound reasons why news of crime should be published. It is news. The newspapers would not perform their function if they ignored it. Mr. Marshall's suggestion that they should speak of "the fine things of American life" implies that they do not, when in fact they do. News of an exceptional act of heroism or self-devotion receives at least equal attention with a deed of exceptional brutality. Crime is news because it is unusual; the usual does not interest the people. If John Jones goes downtown, attends to his business, goes home to dinner and spends a quiet evening with his wife, that is not worthy of mention; it is what everybody expected him to do; it is what tens of thousands of Joneses do. But if Jones should rob a bank, forge a check, shoot his neighbor or elope with his neighbor's wife, that would be news, of value proportioned to his prominence in the community and the character of his crime. Of equal value as news would be some unusually meritorious act of Jones, such as establishment of a new enterprise, saving a person from drowning or giving $100,000 to the Red Cross.

Objection to publication of crimes comes from those to whom crime is so repulsive that they speak without thought of the good to be accomplished by publicity and of the evil results of suppression. Life is a continuous conflict between good and evil, and the first requisite to successful war on crime is knowledge that it exists, of its nature and of its causes. He who would have news of evil suppressed is not interested in combating it, but in sidestepping it by ignoring its existence. All progress has been effected by publicity, which by exposing crime incites people to stamp it out. Thus suppression of news of crime is always favored by those who would shield the criminal. Those who are involved in a crime or scandal are always anxious to "keep it out of the papers," because they dread the consequences of publicity.

We need only survey rapidly the nations of the world in order to realize that those which have the most enterprising, independent, uncensored newspapers, publishing news of crime as well as of good deeds, are the most free, the most law-abiding, the most civilized, the most humane and the most progressive in every field. One of the principal reasons why they are so is that knowledge of crime and social evils equips them with the first essential to the cause and cure of whatever is wrong in their laws and institutions.

THE SARTORIAL BADGE OF COURAGE.

The overalls crusade does not have sound economy as a reinforcement of its effort to beat down the price of clothing. To don overalls means almost invariably that one must go to the store and buy. Probably nearly every man now possesses overalls, but he has used them for the purpose for which they were purchased—to save other clothing from dirt and stains. The overalls he has on hand are not fit to wear to business.

As The Oregonian has remarked before, in substance, the general adoption of overalls as business clothing would mean that many would purchase overalls who would not have purchased new clothing of any kind had there been no overalls crusade. Every maker of and dealer in clothing is quite familiar with the ephemeral character of fads. The merchant could take his profits with the satisfied feeling that he had made countless sales that he had never expected to make and that the people would finally return to him for the regular garments he had in stock; the overalls maker could make the most of it and smile while it lasted.

A real test of the determination to force a reduction in clothing prices would be an old-clothes crusade. It would be less spectacular and require considerable more bravery. Just now display of the patch or the shiny seam is a badge of courage, provided it is avoidable. Of late we have been giving our old clothing away to aid the needy in other countries. Perhaps many have been more generous than forehanded and thus have disposed of clothes that could have been made to do for themselves. Good clothes have become the mode more than ever before. The poorer folk have felt the urge to keep up with the Joneses, and demand has doubtless had its customary effect upon prices.

While the overalls craze prevails, one may wear denim without feeling conscious that somebody will suspect that he has exhausted his financial resources. But to don old clothes. Ah, that is different! It is not the style. Yet if it were made the style it would turn the trick if anything that the consumer can do would do it.

WASTE IN BUILDING ARMY CAMPS.

Democratic congressmen profess to be shocked at the expenditure of about $2,000,000 used in investigating the manner in which war funds were expended, though that sum is less than one-tenth of 1 per cent of the total cost of the war. If what has been discovered about construction of cantonments, added to the revelations as to aircraft production, fairly represents the whole, the cost of the inquiry will be well spent. The people have already learned the truth about aircraft; the facts about cantonments have just been laid before the house. They were so damaging that the house by a vote of 299 to 4 resolved to refer the committee report to the attorney-general with a request for grand jury investigation "for the purpose of indicting and prosecuting such persons as are guilty of criminal conduct, and to institute civil suits for the recovery of any government funds which have been fraudulently or illegally paid."

Responsibility in the first instance was fixed on Secretary of War Baker by Representative McCulloch of Ohio, who told the house what the subcommittee had learned. Mr. Baker is charged with the duty of providing shelter for the troops. The council of national defense was created for the purpose of "surveying, advising, recommending and assisting the regularly constituted agencies of the government," but it "assumed control."

The council then established a subcommittee, called the emergency construction committee, which "kicked the war department out bag and baggage and assumed absolute control. . . with the approval of the secretary of war."

The emergency construction committee fostered the impression that the war found the government absolutely unprepared, with no plans or facilities for construction. In fact, the corps of engineers of the army, trained in construction, was ready to go upon the job and build the structures. The committee refused to permit the army engineers to function, though "there was in every zone where a cantonment was to be constructed a district office of the corps of engineers whose officers could have been gotten upon any job in not to exceed one week." General Sharpe notified those in authority that the engineers were ready with complete data as to labor and all necessary information, but they were absolutely ignored.

In consequence the committee "took weeks to decide upon the form of a contract, took weeks to select the contractors, took a great deal of time selecting the several engineer organizations necessary, while an efficient organization of the government remained idly by." Two years earlier the quartermaster corps "had prepared plans and detailed material lists" for cantonments, so that all preliminaries for building any sized camp "could be prepared in the course of a day."

The first action of the committee was to decide on the cost plus form of contract, which according to several high, practical authorities, "opens the door for fraud and great extravagance, for the padding of payrolls, reduces the morale of labor, eliminates the incentive for the contractor to speed up or economize, delays the work and increases the cost." Such contracts had been made by the navy department, but they contained "essential safeguards" against these evils which the committee omitted. Some of the consequences described by Mr. McCulloch were the astounding waste, padded payrolls and wholesale loafing on the jobs. They are given more in detail in another column.

If the Goethals plan of employing the army engineers had been followed and if orders had been issued the day after war was declared, they would have been on the job a week later, about April 15. Under the committee with its cost plus system construction did not begin till June 22, 1917, and was not completed till the first part of December. The Goethals plan could have finished it by August 10.

Careful estimates by a contractor show that the 16 national army cantonments should have been built for $128,101,399. They cost $206,632,920, a loss to the taxpayers of $78,531,521. The committee believes $50,000,000 can be recovered.

Winter weather set in early in 1917, and soldiers in the hospitals suffered intensely from cold, one witness saying that they were "actually pinched blue; their lips blue; their fingernails blue," and that doctors were clad in sheepskin-lined overcoats and nurses in furs, because the heating plant was not finished. At that time steam-fitters were killing time, playing cards and billiards.

Some of the soldiers died of privations due to the criminal neglect of the contractors. No prosecution can bring them back to life, but the government should omit no effort to recover from the dishonest contractors every dollar that has been stolen or wasted.

THAT ORIENTAL JUNKET.

Representative Randall, the lone prohibitionist in the house, who has been left without an occupation by adoption of national prohibition, sadly misjudges the spirit of the times when he proposes a congressional excursion to the orient in order that members may "inform their judgment" about our insular possessions.

Nor will the proposal that the transport Vernon be used for the excursion in order that all the congressmen and their families may have first-class cabins receive popular approval. The Vernon is well employed in taking to their homes the Czech troops which have been fighting for two years against bolshevist barbarisms, and these veterans have earned a far better title to the luxuries of travel after enduring the rigors of a Siberian winter than have the congressmen who live in comfort at Washington. If the congressmen must go, some of them might profitably inform their judgment by traveling second or third class. They would gain useful information as to how the many travel by sea, and they could apply it profitably in making laws for shipping.

At present the demand is for increased production and higher efficiency. Congressmen would meet that demand if they were to leave their families at home and were to spend the regulation eight hours every day in studying the needs of our insular possessions and the general oriental situation. If they merely take a junket at the public expense, their constituents may elect them to stay at home or to travel at their own expense.

The death yesterday of Robinson Locke, who inherited the Toledo Blade, recalls his famous father, David R. Locke, who as "Petroleum V. Nasby, P. M.," developed a line of humor during and after the civil war that was spontaneous and homely. Nowadays wit is scientifically made. The younger Locke and his paper were not much heard of outside their immediate field, perhaps because genius is not a heritage.

The Dalles has been obliged to install concrete traffic markers at street crossings because motorists ran over the old ones of light iron. Heretofore the concrete work seems to have been done by the drivers.

More than 3000 gallons of confiscated "booze" went into the river here yesterday and if there is a carp down St. Helens' way able to work this morning he will be a piscatorial wonder.

About 70,000 republicans have registered in Multnomah county, and if only 60,000 of them come out primary day there will be some excellent nominations.

Isn't it great the way this land "goes flooey" and subsides? First of late was the potato profiteering, then the overalls episode. What next, one wonders?

The Astoria steamers are reviving old times on the river when the Bailey Gatzert vied with the Telephone for the broom.

One thing, we may depend upon it, that congress will not do is to raise funds for the bonus by taxing candidates for office.

The state collected $11,975 in filing fees from 343 candidates for office. We begin to see some benefit in elections.

Huirt, the 25-ply bigamist, says he can explain. If he means his modus operandi, he should put it in book form.

A month or two ago this paper predicted $10 potatoes. How did we know? Prescience! Hit us with a spud!

Germany wants to double its authorized army and has a plausible reason, but the allies know better.

The great desire just now is for less rain and more wind. Cherries are blooming.

Outlaw strikers in Chicago hissed the flag yesterday, and that's their size.

Government must help the tornado victims and do it with a rush.

If it should be deferred until Sunday, the fences will "bust."

It ill becomes an Oregonian to decry the rain. But—

Stars and Starmakers.

By Leone Cass Baer.

When Marie Lloyd was in Portland some half dozen or so years ago she married Ben Dillon, an English jockey, by request of the United States immigration authorities. Benny had made the trip across from England with Marie and had gone into Canada and across the continent, when Uncle Sam decided that if England's "own "Maury," as they call their idol of the music halls, wanted to carry our money out of the country she might as well conform to a few of our laws. Bluntly the law put it up to England's idol, and protestingly she obeyed and married the funny looking little Mr. Dillon one day, right here in Portland, during her vaudeville stay here. All this is ancient history perhaps, but it is revived in the news that has just come from England to the effect that Mr. Dillon is out of jail on bail of £20 awaiting trial for beating Miss Lloyd's 70-year-old father, John Wood. The assault on the aged man occurred at Miss Lloyd's home during her absence, and servants called the police. Following the affair Miss Lloyd put an item in a London paper to the effect that she upheld Dillon, that it was a "family matter" and no one should interfere. The entire Lloyd family other than Mrs. Wood, the mother, took the opposite view, however, and they are behind the prosecution of Dillon. While Mrs. Wood does not appear to uphold her husband's assailant, she stands behind her daughter Marie, the oldest in her family.

* * *

Further accounts of the Lloyd-Dillon affair say that Dillon received much unpleasant notoriety for his unpatriotic attitude during the war in all of which Miss Lloyd's name was associated. He was sent far away in the English service, but came back. Following the armistice Dillon-Lloyd family matters received more attention from their acquaintances through Dillon's actions, leading up to the beating of John Wood, father of the Lloyd family.

* * *

Quite like a bit of fiction is the story that has come to light in the suit instituted by Lila Lee, the "Cuddles" of the theater, against Gus Edwards and Mrs. Edwards, in which "Cuddles" asks that Mrs. Edwards be removed as guardian for the 15-year-old picture star, and her mother, Mrs. Carl Appel, wife of a Chicago ex-saloonkeeper, take her place.

The bill states that Mrs. Edwards has not made an accounting and is using the funds of the child star, Gussie Appel (Lila Lee), who did not even know what her salary was, the full amount being mailed weekly to Mrs. Edwards.

* * *

Lila Lee is one of the best known individuals in the American show realms, having been before the public for ten of her 15 years, always remarkable for her beauty and precocious talents. Edwards found her playing in an alley in Union Hill, New Jersey, when he was producing a revue, and put her on as she was, dirty-faced and ragged, to fill the ensemble. She was a sensation and he took her with him to New York, paying her parents, who were respectively cook and bartender in a German free lunch saloon, $50 a week for her. At Hammerstein's she repeated her success and became famous over night in a bitter suit brought by the S. P. C. A. to bar her from the stage. Edwards won and toured the child for years in his acts, developing her until she and her partner, Georgie Price, were standard featured performers.

* * *

Two years ago "Cuddles" was in Portland on the Orpheum in one of the Edwards revues, and when the act played Los Angeles Edwards negotiated a picture deal with Jesse Lasky, who made the child a star immediately, without preliminaries, and her releases went over at once. Edwards says the salary figure is a sliding one from $250 a week, to start, to $750 a week; that the girl lives expensively and maintains servants and an automobile, and has practically eaten up all her earnings, but that she received a monthly balance from Mrs. Edwards, who was legally made her guardian at the time of the picture contract in order to be able to sign the contract and make it binding.

* * *

Recently Miss Lee telegraphed for her mother, who, with her father, had moved to Chicago, where he manages North Side Turner hall, and the mother induced her to bring the action.

Mrs. Edwards has retained counsel and says she will defend the suit only in order to get vindication of these allegations on record, as her contract with Cuddles' parents at no time permitted her to make any profit and that she never contemplated any; that she has been sending monthly accountings and forwarding all balances left after paying the girl's expenses in Los Angeles; that the mother is not temperamentally fitted to guide the destinies of a star—and that the precipitate action is the last and the most ringing instance of ingratitude which she and her husband have suffered from the children they picked up and took to stardom and other high professional careers.

* * *

Gus Edwards' comment on the suit is expressive. He says:

"Between the law, the duties of a nurse-teacher-father, and the final kick-back of ungratefulness, I have had all I want of child management."

* * *

An application for a separation from her husband, Harry W. Allen, has been filed in New York by Susanne Westford, sister of Lillian Russell. They have been married about seven years. Mr. Allen appeared with "The Better 'Ole" in the Portland engagement.

* * *

Evelyn Nesbit is being sued for divorce by Jack Clifford, and Blossom Seeley is asking for a separation forever from Rube Marquard and the custody of Rube Jr., aged 5.

* * *

Jane Cowl is to make a summer tour to the coast. Starting on July 11, she will work westward to the Pacific. "Smilin' Through" is to remain at the Broadhurst until almost time for the western trip. Anna Marble will be in advance. Anna is a sister of Mary Marble, at the Orpheum this week.

Those Who Come and Go.

All Ione is looking forward to the ball game next Sunday at Arlington. The Ione team beat the Arlington contingent 3 to 1 last Sunday and the Arlington players are furious, for last season they lost only one game. The Ione team has a pitcher who has something besides a prayer on the ball and the Arlington players can't hit him. A booster for the Ione team is H. A. Edwards, who is registered at the Perkins. The Arlington team has such a good pitcher that after he received a contract for $150 a month, or thereabouts, the Tacoma team tried to steal him from the bush league. The Arlington people almost had to give up having a ball team this year because the Columbia highway was located within a few feet of the home place, and influence was brought to bear to shift the highway, for there isn't another level spot in the town big enough to play ball on. And so the highway was shifted and the ball grounds were saved.

"I've always got to explain the name of that town," sighed W. J. Royce, speaking of Sedro-Woolley, where he has a veneer factory. "A man named Sedro laid out a small township and later the Woolleys came and built a town on the hill. Then came a flood and Sedro was wiped out and ever since there has been a row over the name of the town, some wanting to call it Sedro and the Woolley family wanted Sedro dropped. Most of the natives now combine the two names." Mr. Royce, in addition to the plant at Sedro-Woolley, has a factory at Eugene, the mayor of Eugene being his partner in the enterprise. Thirty years ago Mr. Royce, Milt A. Miller and Charles Younger were the three democrats in Linn county and Mr. Royce and Mr. Miller shared the special car William J. Bryan used when he visited Lebanon, Or., and rode to Portland. In those days Mr. Miller was a druggist and Mr. Royce was a paper manufacturer.

"While I've lived in Springfield, Mass., for 14 years, I don't know the town or the people, for I get home only for the week end and spend my time in the club of the traveling men. There are 6000 traveling men who live in Springfield the way I do," said J. G. Spear, who is at the Hotel Portland with Mrs. Spear. For 28 years Mr. Spear had been on the road, but never west of the Mississippi. Last autumn the firm told him to take a long vacation at the expense of the house, so he headed for the real west. Speaking of things political, Mr. Spear says that Governor Coolidge isn't considered seriously as a presidential possibility in his home state and he also says that there is considerable dissatisfaction with Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, senior senator from that state, for his fight against the league of nations.

If Hamlet, according to Polonius, was "still harping on my daughter," so is Mayor Donnelly of Arlington still harping on why the John Day highway should connect with the Columbia river highway at his town. "No improvements are pending on this decision," according to the mayor. Today there will be a council meeting at Arlington, when plans for a new municipal sewer system will be considered and bids will probably be called for. The town wants the sewer laid before the Columbia highway is hard-surfaced through the main street. The money for the sewer was voted at an election some time ago and is waiting for some contractor to come along and take it.

Prices are four times higher than they were before the war, but notwithstanding the expense, the travel is never crowded, the hotels are congested, accommodations are fought for, getting service or wanted articles is a problem, according to the tale brought back by Dr. Mae Cardwell, G. L. Harrington and Mrs. B. O. Church, who are at the Hotel Washington. The party has been on a three months' trip to Japan and can give enough instances of profiteering by the little brown brother to make the common or garden variety of American profiteer turn green with envy.

The maddest man in Portland was J. C. Boos, an attorney from Chicago, who was held up by three policemen and searched for concealed liquor when he stepped off the train at the union depot. When Mr. Boos arrived at the Hotel Portland his indignation knew no bounds and he voiced his sentiments regarding the rum hunters who gather at the depot to molest and annoy strangers. Incidentally, Mr. Boos confessed that there wasn't any in his suitcase.

Somewhat disappointed was the Woodburn contingent when it landed in Portland yesterday to learn that the weather was too bad for the opening ball game. In the group were John Hunt, who for years without number has been an attache of the state senate; L. H. Shorey, Blaine McCord and H. M. Austin. Rather than have the trip a total loss, they remained over to watch the events staged at Milwaukie.

Postmaster Frank Little of Mikkalo, Or., arrived at the Perkins yesterday with his daughter and Mrs. W. T. Salvester, and when these three left Mikkalo the town was just about deserted, for the population is around a dozen. The first thing Postmaster Little inquired about of Clerk Farmer when he registered was whether the opening game would be played, for the postmaster is an optimist.

Having spent a few months basking in the lazy atmosphere of the Hawaiian islands, W. S. Farr, formerly of Condon, is at the Hotel Washington. Mr. Farr was in the meat business in Condon for years and accumulated enough material treasure to take things easy for the rest of his life.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Dunne are at the Nortonia. It doesn't sound particularly thrilling, written like that, but to give a touch of interest, be it known that Mrs. Dunne is Mary Marble, vaudeville headliner, who first came to Portland, it is alleged, as Innocent Kid in Hoyt's "A Parlor Match."

"There's a foot and a half of snow on the summit of the Coast range," reported Harry L. Clark, when he arrived at the Perkins from Tillamook. The snowfall is interfering somewhat with the logging operations in the various camps along the line of the Tillamook railroad.

The Astoria Marine Iron Works moved into the Hotel Portland yesterday with the arrival of C. W. Fleck, Thomas Billyeu and W. A. Viggers. They were in town just a few days ago and had to come back.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Orth of Mount Angel, Or., are at the Multnomah, while Mr. Orth, who is in the mercantile business, is distributing a stock of orders to the wholesale houses.

Mrs. L. F. McClure of "The Eyrie," which nestles on the cliffs overhanging the Columbia river near White Salmon, Wash., is at the Multnomah.

George Kohlhagen, who is one of the best-known meat dealers in Roseburg, is in Portland on business and is at the Hotel Oregon.

Levenworth Kershaw, secretary of the Tacoma Dredging company, is at the Multnomah.

HOW WAR FUNDS WERE WASTED

House Committee Discovers Vast Squander in Camp Construction.

Charges of astounding waste of materials, of greater padded payrolls and of wholesale loafing by workers under the cost-plus system of awarding contracts for construction of army cantonments during the war, are made by Representative McCulloch of Ohio, Mr. McCulloch, as spokesman for a congressional sub-committee of investigation, reported to the house that:

"More materials were ordered than needed. There seemed to be absolutely no check system nor method followed in the ordering of materials. Carload after carload of lumber, of hardware, of cement and building materials generally were dumped indiscriminately on the ground where the camps were to be constructed.

"There seemed to be an effort made on the part of nearly everybody to destroy and waste as much material as possible. As an instance, loads of finishing lumber were dumped into mudholes for the purpose of repairing roads. It was a common thing to have trucks run over piles of lumber and destroy it.

"Hundreds of kegs of nails were left out in the open and in the rain to rust and ruin. Carloads of cement were left out in the open to be destroyed by the elements.

"During the process of construction it was a common thing to saw a foot or two off a board and throw the balance into the scrap heap. After a building was completed all the material that remained, often including bundles of flooring unopened, building paper, kegs of nails, and everything that was in the building were thrown into a scrap pile and hauled to a dump heap where they were afterwards burned, without any systematic effort made to salvage or save.

"The workmen were encouraged to destroy good material, and the idea seemed to permeate their minds that the greater the waste the better the contractor would be pleased, for the more money he would get out of the job by way of percentage.

"A careful analysis of the testimony will disclose that from the beginning to the end there was a loss in materials of at least 25 to 50 per cent. It was a riot of waste at all camps.

"At Camp Sherman lumber was burned in such quantities that the men who burned it were compelled to lay off frequently for the reason that the fires got so hot they were afraid of burning down the cantonment. 50,000,000 feet of lumber used at Camp Sherman, at least 12,500,000 feet were wasted. Finishing lumber in bundles that were never untied were hauled away and burned. At Camp Meade an entire regiment of 3000 men was employed for a week in carrying the waste lumber off the drill ground.

"Roofing material was piled up like cordwood out in the sun and two-thirds became absolutely useless, the reason that it could not be unrolled. Unbroken rolls of roofing were hauled away and burned.

Tons of nails were hauled to the river and canal and thrown away.

"Automobiles were hired by the day, invoiced at less than $400, for which the government paid more than $800 each as rental. One and one-half-ton trucks were rated as three tone and five-tons trucks were rated as seven tons.

"At Camp Sherman they had no use at all for 250 of the teams. These teams were kept on the payroll, but were hidden away in the gravel pit, or ordered to drive around the camp to make it appear that they were being used.

"When work started upon these camps there was an effort made to get just as many people upon the payrolls as possible. Wages were fixed without regard to the workmen's experience or ability. It soon became apparent that efficiency was not expected nor desired. Boys were employed as journeymen carpenters and paid journeymen's wages who had never worked at the carpenter trade an hour. It was testified that out of gangs of 25 to 30 men drawing wages as journeymen carpenters there would not be to exceed three or four who had ever worked at the carpenter trade. It was a common thing for gangs of men to be ordered to "get into the clear," to hide in the cornfields, or behind the hills, or in empty buildings, or any covenient place, just so they could keep on the payroll. Everywhere the idea prevailed that the longer it took to complete the job and the more idleness that prevailed the more the contractor would get out of the job under the cost-plus system.

"From 30 to 50 per cent of the labor was wasted; hundreds of men were engaged in gambling in the wheat fields, the cornfields, and in nearly every building on the grounds; the idlers on every job were so many that they were in the way of those supposed to be working; that there were so many men on the roofing job that at least one building actually collapsed by their weight. Witnesses testified that a continuous crap game was going on in one barrack building."

BLACK LIST FOR SOME TENANTS

Curb on Landlords Should Reach Malicious Renters and Dead Beats.

PORTLAND, April 21.—(To the Editor.)—It is proposed that the city investigate charges of profiteering in rentals against landlords. This inquiry may be justified because of the greed of certain landlords, and if found guilty they should be held up to public censure. But I suggest that tenants who willfully deface and damage houses which they occupy, or who evade payment of proper rentals, should also be investigated.

Owners are often put to large expense by careless or malicious tenants who scratch and mar woodwork, drive nails into plastering and leave houses cluttered with old cans, bottles, rags and filth. Other tenants avoid payment of rents under one pretext or another, and sometimes jump them without warning. It seems to me that if profiteering landlords are to be blacklisted, vicious and dishonest tenants should get similar treatment.

Profiteering in rents, like profiteering in anything else, is indefensible, but I believe that tenants themselves have contributed to it. For some time previous to about a couple of years ago, when houses were plentiful, tenants hammered rentals down to absurdly low figures, citing the law of supply and demand. Now tenants are facing the working of the law in the opposite direction and they complain loudly.

It may be that some owners of apartments, flats and houses are charging rentals which put them in the profiteer class, but I believe the majority of owners are asking and receiving what will yield only just and fair returns on their investments. Greedy landlords should be brought to book, but so should dishonest tenants. W. C. D.

Crown Prince Is Rebuked.

Indianapolis News.

"The German crown prince," says former Ambassador Gerard, "was much coddled by women in the past, but I once heard an American girl in Berlin hand him, as the slang phrase goes, a good one. She was a breezy western girl, a millionaire's daughter, and the crown prince was much taken with her dashing beauty. 'I can trace my ancestry back twenty-seven generations,' he said to her. She looked him over, and her lip curled. 'What else can you do?' she said."

In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of April 22, 1895.

New York.—Thomas A. Edison in an interview here stated that he may take up the question of long-distance communication between ships.

Owners of sailing craft in Portland are about to form a club to be known as the Portland Sailing club.

The Florence, Or., women elected as the town council failed to qualify and nominations of male citizens for the positions have become necessary.

Dr. J. B. Stoner, United States marine hospital surgeon, who has been stationed here for over two years, leaves today for Philadelphia.

Fifty Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of April 22, 1870.

Washington.—The amount of gold needed to pay the interest on bonds falling due May 1 is $25,500,000.

Washington.—The house rejected, by a vote of 68 to 32, the proposed amendment to the constitution enabling women to vote.

William Depenning, while employed in a shaft on a block occupied by the brick yard of T. M. Richardson & Co., was killed by the caving in of the shaft walls.

Beache's band and the steamer Carrie took a large delegation over to Vancouver yesterday to attend the republican territorial convention.

MANY SERVICE MEN RE-ENLIST

Large Percentage Among Recruits Indicates Absence of Dissatisfaction.

PORTLAND, April 21.—(To the Editor.)—In reference to the editorial in The Morning Oregonian, March 30, entitled "Offering Bait to the Rookie," permit me to say that there has undoubtedly been dissatisfaction and cause for complaint by individuals in connection with their experiences in the world war. Have our people forgotten the Spanish-American war conditions and all those of the revolution, the civil war and have they contrasted what has been attempted during the world war in the way of caring for and providing in so many ways for the soldiers? Have our people remembered the wars of the world and what men had to go through in these wars and compared the efforts made by our government in the world war in the way of care for its men? Let us take the specific points complained of. Instead of there being dire need of men and total inability to secure them, the army has during the last year since the resumption of voluntary enlistments secured in round numbers 185,000 men—about five times as many as were ever secured in a like period in peace time. We need men, but we are getting them and will eventually fill the army to whatever strength congress sees fit to authorize.

As to the chance for the army to win the good will of 4,000,000 men during the war and the assumed failure to do so, attention is invited to the fact that 60 per cent of the 185,000 enlistments above mentioned were by men who served in the world war but were satisfied to re-enlist. There is no question that there are still many dissatisfied ex-service men. It is inevitable that there should be many among 4,000,000 men suddenly taken from their homes and thrust into a strange environment under war conditions who would leave the service dissatisfied. That this sentiment is not held by the majority is proved by the attitude of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars with relation to the army today.

Comparing conditions in the Spanish-American war, the improvement should entitle the army to praise rather than blame. The army of 200,000 was expanded to 4,000,000 in little over a year. The complaints regarding insurance, allotments and postal service were the result of an effort to do more for the soldier than ever before. Were failures in these matters failure on the part of the army itself? Were the failures not those of other government agencies which broke down under the strain?

The army today is in many respects different from what it has been before. It is earnestly trying to make life more attractive and more profitable to the enlisted man in physical, educational and vocational training without sacrificing military efficiency. It has not yet fully realized its ideal, but is approaching that condition where troops are stationed.

We must have an army. Can the fault-finders provide a better scheme and plan than that now being followed? Can the fault-finders provide us an efficient and patriotic army? Have they the scheme ready to organize and place before an efficiently trained and equipped enemy an army for defense of their country?

G. W. S. STEVENS,
Lieut.-Colonel, U. S. A.

Memorial Tablet for Miss Isom.

PORTLAND, April 21.—(To the Editor.)—The writer knew Mary Fr