

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 1915.

AGAINST THE BONDS.

The case for the opposition to the \$150,000 bond issue for roads in Multnomah county is fully set forth in a letter from Mr. Korrell, printed today. The several main points of the anti-bonding argument are: (1) that Portland, which will pay most of the road tax, is heavily in debt now; (2) that present roads are good enough; (3) that hard-surface roads are chiefly desired by automobilists; and (4) that the value of the Columbia Highway is purely scenic.

Like other objectors to a definite programme of road development, Mr. Korrell protests that he is "heartily in sympathy with every movement for securing good roads in Oregon." What he means, obviously is that if they must be paid for. Undoubtedly if a plan could be devised by which we might have expendable roads which do not cost the taxpayer a dollar, Mr. Korrell and his fellow-objectors would be for it. But there is no such way.

It is not possible to keep heavy traffic off the present country roads, undoubtedly they would be good enough. But the march of the times has brought the automobile and the auto truck, and it is just as great folly to insist that all traffic on roads shall be carried on by horses and goads as it would be to insist that we tear down our trolley lines and go back to horse-drawn streetcars. Shall we progress or shall we retrograde? That is the question clearly put forth in the issue over hard-surface roads.

But there is more to be said about the money cost of paved roads. From the standpoint of economy, they must be built. Here is the situation in a nutshell:

The present cost of maintaining 70 miles of roads in Multnomah County per annum is \$1000 per mile, or \$70,000 per year. The cost of oiling is \$1000 per year. For ten years hard-surface roads are guaranteed by the builder, so that these items will be eliminated, at least for that period. Here is a total of \$38,000 per annum which will disappear with the advent of the paved road.

At an interest charge on \$1,250,000 bonds is \$52,500 per year. So that, for at least five years, when the county undertakes to begin paying part of the principal, the road tax will be less rather than greater, and thereafter it need not be greater.

If the road bonds do not carry, it is inevitable that paved roads be built, anyway, and it must and will be done out of current road revenues from taxation.

The cheap way to get good roads is to build them systematically and completely, under the bonding plan.

POWER OF BUREAUCRACY.

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It is a distressing sight to see the 6-year-old daughter of a millionaire sit down at a hotel table and choose for her dinner the most indigestible dishes on the bill of fare with nobody to correct her appetite. Of course such a child cannot grow up a healthy woman. She will probably be dyspeptic, hysterical and hypochondriacal. Still the rich are not all simpletons by any means in the management of their families. Many of them employ competent nurses and tutors who regulate the children's diet with strict regard to their physical requirements.

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The release of this considerable force of Russians and the elimination of 120,000 Austrians are particularly fortunate for the allies at this time, for the anticipated offensive in the west with reinforcements from both France and Britain. Just so many more men will be needed by Germany in the east and just so many less will be available for her campaign in the west because the Austrian fortress has fallen.

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"The amount, moreover, of the parcel post business which originated in these two cities is greatly in excess of that shown by the postmasters, because large houses in these cities ship by freight their catalogues and great quantities of merchandise to many distributing centers, where the packages are distributed through the mails. From the best information the committee has been able to obtain, it is estimated that the volume of sending by freight for distribution in the short zones by mail, and the greatly reduced rates which these mail-order houses obtain by this means, is approximately \$1,000,000 per annum by this change.

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GLEAMS THROUGH THE MIST

By Deau Collins.

Easter Bonnets.

Let us delight to sing and slight
Mist with all with all their might;
With lips shut tight, I'll show the light,
Nor make remains upon it.
Sunny Adam dived and those five span,
Each year the jokersmith's coat and pan,
The styles that lure the wits of man—
Especially the bonnet.

Ere Easter was established cause
For ladies' hat with bright gewgaw,
Men muttered "petticoat" and loud "hawhaw"
About their "trikes of lids" and "saw."
And Adam's teeth he would unweathe,
And snort at poor Eve's mystic wreath;
Just as we've mocked the maid beneath
The far-flung "merry" wad.

Myself, when young, my jokes have hung
On maiden's hair, and sonnets sung
In jest, in "trikes of lids" and "saw."
But years mature make me sure
That I was wrong to be a skewer
Of woman's fads. I cannot cure 'er,
And so I jibe no more.

Besides, I view with "trist" new
The hat styles men have turned unto,
And mutter, "What woman do
When everything is said,
Is no so foolish; Who's so mullah
That women he will mock so crush"
Nor also view with humor ghouliah
The way men dress the head?

So Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
I grieve you not your "tripsitory."
Upon your hat, you're fustian vary,
I'll drop no jokersmith's curse,
I gaze upon it, Eve, as you do fit;
I own it is a lively bonnet;
But I will shake my soul and pawn it
That Adam hat is worse.

"No—Well, there ought to be such a word."

"Sir," said the courteous office boy—
"Where were you last week?"
I roared.

"I was lost in the composing room,"
Whimpered the C. O. B., "that's what you get for trying to get along on the end of the column."

"Well, what have you to say?"
"Oh sir!" he cried eagerly. "I have begun to compile a five-inch bookshelf for busy men."

"What is it?"
"The Sporting Editor complains that the classics are too long for the busy man to read," explained the C. O. B., "and so I have boiled down 'Paradise Lost' for him as follows:"

"Shoot!" I said astutely.
He read:

Satan's troop
Flew the coast;
Why make;
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"Is that all?" I asked.
"Yes, for the present," he said with a satisfied expression. "The second volume for the 'Five-Inch Shelf' will be the 'Hud' or 'The Lady of the Lake,' I don't know which, yet."

And I turned to the Market Editor with tears as the C. O. B. dwindled down the hall.

"Our little boy is growing up," I said fondly, "and will soon be big enough to kill."

How sad! I oft think, as I dream,
"For this terrestrial ball,
If the man who invented galluses
Had never lived at all!"

Talk of universal peace is absurd so long as there remains one man who will plant spring garden and one neighbor who will keep chickens.

Mary, our city's pride and pearl,
Has got a curd, I hear;
But Mary is not in the ear,
And the curd is in the ear.

Here's some more reminiscent stuff from departed days that came via an old copy of the San Francisco Chronicle:

She's stepping at the Mountain House,
But great occasion needs,
She's always dressed in the dark,
Because the mountain peaks.

We merely wish to add:
But once we saw the mountain peak,
When she'd dining tried,
A cloud of orange and the mountain's brow,
And then the mountain side.

All the world's a movie film and all us men and women merely flickers.

Our Own Popular Song.

Gretchen was a noble girl, or very ancient
Lise!

Her father owned a contra-bass, and played
"Die Wach an Rhein."
He tried to raise his children well and keep
them out of jail,
But when he came to Gretchen's case, he
feared that he would fail,
For on the latest trolley she's all her
money spent,
And she'll be married to Grilla with
fellow wad.

Her father found her cracking crab in a
big grill one day,
And as he wiped her beard and chest, these
words to her did say:
Chorus—
Oh, daughter, go my lip and eye it brings a
sigh and tear,
To see you flying round so high and thus
behaving here.

I do not mind that Turkish cigarette, as you
put it on,
But why, oh, why, will you put on that
Tipperary bonnet?

Shoes are quite a nuisance, but I prefer
being pestered with "Shine, sir!"
rather than to hear some fresh chiro-pod-
iat yell; "Toes need manicuring, sir!"
as I pass his stand.

Matt. 7:6 Revised.

Why beholdeth thou the writh watch that
is on thy brother's wrist, but considerest
not the lavender band that is on thine
own hand?

CLASS AID.

It is somewhat singular that while in Oregon public sentiment in favor of state aid to employers in insuring against industrial accidents induces the Legislature to make no change, other states look askance even at a high cost of administration of compensation laws. In Oregon not only is a share of the losses incurred by industry to be borne by the state, but the cost of administering the law comes out of public funds. The state stands practically alone in this respect.

The recent Idaho Legislature adopted a compensation law, which Governor Alexander recommended that the state disapprove was the large appropriation made for administering the law. Another reason was found in the low schedule of compensation specified for injuries. In the veto it is said that he had the support of the major portion of organized labor in that state.

In New York in the first three months of the fiscal year 1914 the Compensation Commission expended all of the \$500,000 appropriated for its expenses for twelve months and created a deficit of \$25,000. The New York Compensation Commission then recommends that after July 1 the administration expenses be borne by those carrying insurance. In other words, it is proposed in New York that the general public pay nothing to maintain the compensation principle, but that industry bear all the cost. Oregon, in paying not only the building expenses, but part of the insurance premiums, is certainly generous in comparison.

New York has provided a striking example of the tendency of state departments needlessly supported by the public to outrun the bounds of reason in their expenditures. The dissipation caused Governor Whitman, on February 3, to send an emergency message to the Legislature. This message related that the commission had rented elaborate offices in New York at a cost of \$35,000 a year; had paid one special counsel \$10,000 for three months' work; that the number of its employees was grossly excessive; the rate of their remuneration inexcusably high; and that the office furnishings were absurdly extravagant.

But another cause was found by Governor Whitman for depletion of the funds. He said:

"The law itself is an attempt to work a separation between employer and employee, so that they may not only be apart as separate interests, but that they may be opposing interests. It is a single and unified interest. In this attempt the law provides that in every case of accident or injury, the employer shall be liable for the cost of adjustment and payment must be done through the compensation commission. The result shows that the attempt by the state to do the business of its citizens must be to the state government, besides the inconvenience and disorganization of private business and injury to private interests, whether of capital or labor."

The necessity that every claim be passed upon by the board before payment may be made has led to extreme delay in almost every case in New York. Employees suffering temporary disability have recovered and gone back to work long before their claims were paid. In the face of these conditions and of Governor Whitman's message, one Assemblyman has charged that the effort to amend this defect in the law is the result of collusion between the casualty companies and the bosses, the casualty companies being permitted to write compensation insurance in that state. An uninformed New York newspaper observes that whatever the inspiration back of it, an amendment that would permit immediate payment of claims by private companies would benefit the ambulance-chasers and open the way for all manner of abuses.

An equally uninformed Oregon newspaper, taking its text from the New York newspaper, congratulates this state on having escaped the struggle that is now going on in New York through the refusal of the Legislature to pass the Michigan law recommended by Governor Withycombe. Facts and sound argument ought to be more weighty than expressions of mere suspicion. Yet such suspicions have been encountered at every turn in the effort to save Oregon from plunging into needless expenditures in maintaining the compensation principle, and they seem to have taken hold.

Truth is, the adoption of the Michigan law would not have plunged Oregon into the struggle New York is now undergoing, for the reason that the provision in controversy in New York is not contained in the Michigan law. In Michigan, payment to injured workmen of their dependents are not first passed upon by the state board, but are paid immediately, thus saving the workman or his dependents needless suffering for want of money. The claims are, however, checked up later by the board and if found incorrect adjustment is carried by the system of giving back the ambulance-chaser or lead to abuses. Some of the high National labor leaders are authority for that.

Whatever mild tolerance the Oregon public may now give to state aid to industrial employers it is quite probable that ultimately, as the cost of that system grows, the people will ask themselves why they should help the employer take care of his industrial insurance, when the state does not aid him to pay his fire insurance or help the individual to carry his life insurance, or assist the owner of the office building to carry the public liability involved in operating his elevators.

It seems absurd that any person should have expected the steamer Great Northern to come from Philadelphia to the Pacific coast empty when thousands of people wished to travel a her. The law against use

ATTACKS THE HUMAN SYSTEM WHEN IT IS DEPRIVED OF PROPER NOURISHMENT.

In former centuries it was the scourge of deep sea navigators and Arctic voyagers, but with the scientific diet which modern conditions enable sailors to enjoy scurvy is no longer dreaded on shipboard. It survives, however, as one of the blessings of war.

Already the owners, Messrs. Libby, McNeill & Libby, a concern with a world-wide reputation, have contracted for 1000 tons of pears, 400 tons of cherries and 500 tons of apricots for each of the coming five years, at remarkably good prices. Many cities larger than The Dalles were in competition for this plant, notably Walla Walla and North Yakima. But Mr. Pease and his co-workers were able to show to the satisfaction of Messrs. Libby, McNeill & Libby that The Dalles was the ideal spot for such a plant—and they won.

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She's always dressed in the dark,
Because the mountain peaks.

We merely wish to add:
But once we saw the mountain peak,
When she'd dining tried,
A cloud of orange and the mountain's brow,
And then the mountain side.

All the world's a movie film and all us men and women merely flickers.

Our Own Popular Song.

Gretchen was a noble girl, or very ancient
Lise!

Her father owned a contra-bass, and played
"Die Wach an Rhein."
He tried to raise his children well and keep
them out of jail,
But when he came to Gretchen's case, he
feared that he would fail,
For on the latest trolley she's all her
money spent,
And she'll be married to Grilla with
fellow wad.

Her father found her cracking crab in a
big grill one day,
And as he wiped her beard and chest, these
words to her did say:
Chorus—
Oh, daughter, go my lip and eye it brings a
sigh and tear,
To see you flying round so high and thus
behaving here.

I do not mind that Turkish cigarette, as you
put it on,
But why, oh, why, will you put on that
Tipperary bonnet?

Shoes are quite a nuisance, but I prefer
being pestered with "Shine, sir!"
rather than to hear some fresh chiro-pod-
iat yell; "Toes need manicuring, sir!"
as I pass his stand.

Matt. 7:6 Revised.

Why beholdeth thou the writh watch that
is on thy brother's wrist, but considerest
not the lavender band that is on thine
own hand?

ATTACKS THE HUMAN SYSTEM WHEN IT IS DEPRIVED OF PROPER NOURISHMENT.

In former centuries it was the scourge of deep sea navigators and Arctic voyagers, but with the scientific diet which modern conditions enable sailors to enjoy scurvy is no longer dreaded on shipboard. It survives, however, as one of the blessings of war.

Already the owners, Messrs. Libby, McNeill & Libby, a concern with a world-wide reputation, have contracted for 1000 tons of pears, 400 tons of cherries and 500 tons of apricots for each of the coming five years, at remarkably good prices. Many cities larger than The Dalles were in competition for this plant, notably Walla Walla and North Yakima. But Mr. Pease and his co-workers were able to show to the satisfaction of Messrs. Libby, McNeill & Libby that The Dalles was the ideal spot for such a plant—and they won.

POWER OF BUREAUCRACY.

The letter from Mr. B. F. Jones, printed today, illuminates the methods by which an overgrown and vigorous bureau overthrows the gentle efforts of Congress to give western states relief from the Pinchot policy of reservation.

The law very plainly says that agricultural lands in the National forests are open to homestead entry. But there must, of course, be some authority to determine whether lands are available for agriculture. It is in fact that character. If the authority selected be opposed to settlement in the forests the way to defeat the law is simple.

The homesteader, almost invariably, has no capital, and cannot live in idleness for an indefinite period. He is not a man of means, and he is not a man of means. He is a man of means. He is a man of means. He is a man of means.

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STARVED CHILDREN.

It is a question whether the children of the rich or the poor suffer most for want of proper food. The petted darlings of the rich usually have enough to eat, such as it is, but their diet often lacks the proper elements to nourish the human body. The children of the poor are frequently starved and deprived physically from sheer starvation, but the wealthy dwellers in hotels and sumptuous apartments probably suffer quite as much for lack of proper nourishment. The pampered little creatures devour everything they ought not to have and get very little that is really good for them.

It is a distressing sight to see the 6-year-old daughter of a millionaire sit down at a hotel table and choose for her dinner the most indigestible dishes on the bill of fare with nobody to correct her appetite. Of course such a child cannot grow up a healthy woman. She will probably be dyspeptic, hysterical and hypochondriacal. Still the rich are not all simpletons by any means in the management of their families. Many of them employ competent nurses and tutors who regulate the children's diet with strict regard to their physical requirements.

No doubt the worst pampered children in the United States are, upon the whole, those of the comfortable middle class. Among these people there is a zealous competition to make "our children" outshine the neighbors'. So the unhappy little creatures are dressed in fine clothes, reared in idleness and indulged in every peevish whim at the table and in the drawing-room. The result is a badly nourished mind as well as body, ill-health in mature years and race suicide.

The best private schools in the country are the lighted paths and public services. He was born in Virginia in 1824 of parents not very well to do, and after their death, which occurred in his boyhood, he saw many hardships, some of which must be attributed to the daring adventurousness of his disposition. On one occasion, in company with his brother, he ran away from his adoptive home and the two boys made their way as far west as the Mississippi, where they lived one whole summer on an island, earning a scanty living by cutting cordwood for steamboats. But this wildness was a passing phase of Jackson's character. He soon developed those serious, meditative and stern qualities which were to impart to his letters more of the tone of a pastor than of a military commander.

AN ARMY FREE FOR ATTACK.

Later reports of the surrender of Przemysl to the Russians enhance its importance as to the outcome of the war. The number of prisoners is now 120,000, a greater number than surrendered at Sedan in 1870 or in any other engagement of the present war. The large number of cannon captured by the Russians will be a very welcome acquisition to them, for they have been reputed to be short of artillery and have suffered heavy losses in that arm in East Prussia.

The increase in the number of prisoners over the first estimates must raise our estimates of the number of Russians engaged in the siege and now being free for other operations. This would surely be double the number of besieged, or about 250,000 men. That force, thrown suddenly against the Austro-Germans in the Carpathians, might succeed in capturing a way through into Hungary; it might beat down the Austrian resistance in Bukovina, effect an entrance into Hungary from the east and turn the flank of the army holding the Carpathians; or it might advance westward, the Dunajec River has been the limit of Russian advance westward through Galicia, but the Przemysl army might attempt to force passage in order to advance on Cracow and threaten Silesia.

The release of this considerable force of Russians and the elimination of 120,000 Austrians are particularly fortunate for the allies at this time, for the anticipated offensive in the west with reinforcements from both France and Britain. Just so many more men will be needed by Germany in the east and just so many less will be available for her campaign in the west because the Austrian fortress has fallen.

FRIEND OF THE MAIL-ORDER HOUSE.

"Making the Parcel Post Ridiculous" would be a suitable title for a report submitted to Congress by Sen. Burleson of Kansas, in which he expounds in considerable detail how Postmaster-General Burleson, largely by exceeding his authority, has reduced the efficiency of the parcel post.

Mr. Burleson has upset and made ludicrous the schedule of rates, and made the parcel post more an adjunct of the mail-order houses of the country than a boon to the farmers or a benefit to the city man hoping to reduce the cost of living by this means of transportation.

Senator Bristow made chairman of a joint Senate and House committee to investigate the parcel post, and to report recently made is a severe arraignment of the administration of the parcel post service under the direction of Mr. Burleson. Some of the discoveries made by the committee are set forth in the following report on the postoffices that submitted reports on the parcel post, only 687 reported outside the parcel post business in excess of their incoming business. More than 98 per cent of the offices received more parcel post matter than they sent.

It was found that 46,146,899 of 77,539,621 parcels handled by a given six weeks throughout the United States were sent from New York City and Chicago, the homes of the big mail-order houses. While New York dispatched, in that period, 26,696,489 parcels, it received only 1,895,453 parcels, and in Chicago the percentage was about the same. "The tremendous volume of merchandise sent out by the mail-order" houses of these cities is, of course, the explanation of this condition," says the Bristow report. It continues:

"The amount, moreover, of the parcel post business which originated in these two cities is greatly in excess of that shown by the postmasters, because large houses in these cities ship by freight their catalogues and great quantities of merchandise to many distributing centers, where the packages are distributed through the mails. From the best information the committee has been able to obtain, it is estimated that the volume of sending by freight for distribution in the short zones by mail, and the greatly reduced rates which these mail-order houses obtain by this means, is approximately \$1,000,000 per annum by this change.

The reference is to the order of March 10, 1914. Prior thereto the parcel post was a competitor of such success that the Postmaster-General, on the date named, stipulated that parcels of books weighing more than eight ounces should take the established parcel-post rates. Thus, under that order an eight-ounce package of

GLEAMS THROUGH THE MIST

By Deau Collins.

Easter Bonnets.

Let us delight to sing and slight
Mist with all with all their might;
With lips shut tight, I'll show the light,
Nor make remains upon it.
Sunny Adam dived and those five span,
Each year the jokersmith's coat and pan,
The styles that lure the wits of man—
Especially the bonnet.

Ere Easter was established cause
For ladies' hat with bright gewgaw,
Men muttered "petticoat" and loud "hawhaw"
About their "trikes of lids" and "saw."
And Adam's teeth he would unweathe,
And snort at poor Eve's mystic wreath;
Just as we've mocked the maid beneath
The far-flung "merry" wad.

Myself, when young, my jokes have hung
On maiden's hair, and sonnets sung
In jest, in "trikes of lids" and "saw."
But years mature make me sure
That I was wrong to be a skewer
Of woman's fads. I cannot cure 'er,
And so I jibe no more.

Besides, I view with "trist" new
The hat styles men have turned unto,
And mutter, "What woman do
When everything is said,
Is no so foolish; Who's so mullah
That women he will mock so crush"
Nor also view with humor ghouliah
The way men dress the head?

So Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
I grieve you not your "tripsitory."
Upon your hat, you're fustian vary,
I'll drop no jokersmith's curse,
I gaze upon it, Eve, as you do fit;
I own it is a lively bonnet;
But I will shake my soul and pawn it
That Adam hat is worse.

"No—Well, there ought to be such a word."

"Sir," said the courteous office boy—
"Where were you last week?"
I roared.

"I was lost in the composing room,"
Whimpered the C. O. B., "that's what you get for trying to get along on the end of the column."

"Well, what have you to say?"
"Oh sir!" he cried eagerly. "I have begun to compile a five