

"THE OREGONIAN" FORUM OPENS WIDER RANGE OF TOPICS

Readers Discuss Plumb Plan, Capital Punishment, Japanese Invasion, Food Waste, Slang, Garbage, and Movie Censors From Variety of Angles

TARIFF MAKES HIGH PRICES

Law on Exports Advocated as Solution of H. C. L.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—What are we going to do to combat this high cost of living and the regularly advancing prices for almost everything we have to buy?

Laws and regulations, investigations by committees and commissions, presidential orders that prices shall not be advanced beyond a certain point, price regulation or price limitation—all these have about as much effect as the wind on a sandcastle.

And we are told that it is futile to try to regulate or limit the advance of prices, because we are trying to regulate or check the operation of a natural, immutable law: the law of supply and demand.

Now, if this is justifiable, or desirable, it is best for the general good of the country, and if we can raise the selling price of commodities within the limits of our own country by a tax upon imports—why can't we reduce the selling price of commodities here in these United States by a tax upon exports?

Also, we are told by the merchants, that they cannot afford it, except in order from the manufacturers or jobbers. This is probably because so much is exported to other countries.

OREGON FLAX FILLS BILL
Fiber From This State Complies With Best Anywhere.

PORTLAND, Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—In an article relating to the flaxing interests in the Oregonian recently, reference is made to the prohibitive prices for flaxing which has not receded from its pre-war price of \$4 a pound, and the consequence is that the flaxing industry, which is only \$1 a pound.

Before the war the price of seine twine was \$1.25 a pound, and it cost of manufacture was 13 cents a pound, which allowed a fair margin of profit.

JAPS SHOULD GET WELCOME

Shrewd American Labor Should Not Fear Competition.

PORTLAND, Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—All honor to the Seattle Ministerial association for adopting resolution which has been in honor of the receipt of American-grown flax.

The only criticism made on the sample was on its dryness, "due probably to the heat of the climate," but really due to late planting otherwise the fiber would have been in No. 1 class.

MRS. WILLIAM P. LORD
"MOVIE" MOVEMENT REMOVED
J. P. P. Advises Women to Clean Own Homes First.

PORTLAND, Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—One of the greatest educational agencies in the world is the "movie." Thousands of our young girls that unfortunately never had a mother to tell them the right and wrong of life, have seen at the "movie" how the virtuous girl was seduced away by the villain and how the penalty was for her an equal amount of our lads have seen what the effect of women, wine and song is.

ESSAYS REVEAL DETAILS OF LIVING COSTS IN PORTLAND
Contributed Articles in The Oregonian's Prize Contest Are Printed.

Living Costs Held Down by Thrifty Means.
Saving More Each Year as the Expenses Mount Is Way Local Family Considers.

WINNER OF FIRST PRIZE, \$10.
To Contest Editor: There are only two ways of meeting the increased expenses of the present day—earning more or saving more.

Vain Search Made for Items That Do Not Rise.
Cost for Family of Five Doubles in Last Five Years.

PORTLAND, Or.—(To Contest Editor)—"It costs us twice as much to live as it did five or six years ago."

SHREWD AMERICAN LABOR SHOULD NOT FEAR COMPETITION

PORTLAND, Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—All honor to the Seattle Ministerial association for adopting resolution which has been in honor of the receipt of American-grown flax.

It is not our country big enough, are not over a hundred million American citizens intelligent enough and possessed of enough stability and character to compete with any foreign element that comes to our country and seeks to make a living out of it.

It is proposed to enact a state law especially against oriental races, but the present airing of the great national coming to our state.

EDITORIALS ARE WELLED
"Silent Thinker" Gives Views on Weighty Subjects.

SEAVIEW, Wash., Jan. 15.—(To the Editor)—I have always read the Oregonian editorials with special interest in the purchase of lumber for the interior.

Budget System Wins in High Cost Battle.
But Slight Increase Noted by Careful Housewife.

WINNER OF SECOND PRIZE, \$5.
PORTLAND, Or.—(To the Contest Editor)—In order to get the best advantage, a family can live comfortably on a very slight increase over the cost of living prior to the beginning of the war.

ABOUT BEN ADHEM TAKES LESSON FROM HORSE.
He Labors 14 Hours Daily at Cost of \$2.25 Per Month for Food.

PORTLAND, Or.—(To Contest Editor)—This contribution to the H. C. L. essay contest is not written so much for those who can afford to buy what they want as for the poor, humble ones who have a constant struggle to

SLANG BECOMING GREAT SIN

Hello Girls Should Cut Talk With Scathing Rebuke.

PORTLAND, Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—I would like to call the attention of the public and offer a protest to the use of slang used so freely by our schools and others.

"HORROR" FILM DESCRIBED
Action of Censors Arranged by Movie Fan.

PORTLAND, Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—The present airing of the censorship of moving pictures impels me to make a few remarks, if I may be so bold.

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PLUMB PLAN IS ADVOCATED

Reorganization of Railways by Cummins Bill Opposed.

PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—The Oregonian December 9 is an illustration of the "Mendacious Propaganda" which is being carried to misinform the public as to the provisions of the Cummins bill.

It is not true that the interstate commerce commission has almost completed its valuation of the roads. At the present time an actual physical valuation has been made of only 10 per cent of the roads.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BELONGS TO PERIOD NOW PAST.
ALBANY, Or., Jan. 16.—(To the Editor)—As regards capital punishment and best respects to our club women who are going to make a

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