

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. E. JACKSON, Publisher

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in their bodies? Does he know that while owing to causes entirely non-political times have greatly improved, there are tens of thousands of such idle men even yet? What do they think about the panic being only a little flurry that amounted to nothing?

Yes, Senator Fulton knows, but he is not sincere. He imagines that he can fool voters as they used to be fooled. But he cannot. All such speeches lack the ring of honest conviction and simple truth.

THE CONSTITUTION.

AMERICANS quite generally are taught that the federal constitution is as a whole and in all parts and details an absolutely perfect organic law, unanimously agreed upon by the wisest minds of all history, and is therefore sacred and all but divine. It is indeed a great production, and is the supreme law of the land, and so is to be obeyed as far as possible, and respected, but as a matter of fact nearly everything in it was a compromise, and on few things did even a majority of the convention cordially agree. One member had to sacrifice this, another that, and a third the other proposition or idea, in order that a majority could agree on anything. On the whole the result of all these concessions and compromises was good, and has been fairly sufficient, but that each provision is the acme of government wisdom is a crude and mistaken notion. One principal fear was the Saturday Evening Post points out, that under the constitution as adopted the poor would get too much power and plunder the rich, which shows how much mistaken some of these great and wise men were. Madison predicted that the constitution would be a failure, and others, for different reasons, thought the same. They builded better than they knew, perhaps, but let us not worship every line of the constitution quite as the Musselman does the Koran.

MAKING WAR CRAFT OBSOLETE.

THE wisdom of the billions spent in warship construction received a severe blow in the recent remarkable trip of the Indomitable across the Atlantic. By her performance, that terrible war craft has almost made an obsolete type of every armored cruiser afloat. Carrying seven to ten inches of Krupp armor and eight of the most powerful 12-inch guns afloat, she can overhaul and destroy any cruiser in any navy. If attacked by them, she could, one by one, sink a whole squadron of such vessels to the bottom of the sea. Her extraordinary speed of 24.6 knots from land to land, and 25.13 average for three days, coupled with her deadly armament, makes her the terror of the ocean. She has as effectively relegated the present type of armored cruiser to the scrap heap as the old protected cruiser on the list of by-gones.

Her significance is that a new type of cruiser of her class must be built by every war power, just as they are building Dreadnought battleships; and this in turn, on account of the quadrupled cost, means an increase in the cost of armaments to almost shake the foundations of the financial systems of the world. With England, Germany and other nations already mortgaging themselves to secure funds for war craft construction, with powers bankrupting themselves by taxation in the same behalf, the advent of the Dreadnoughts and Indomitables seems to argue that the armament mauls may yet collapse under its own weight. Why spend ten millions on a warship today, when tomorrow it may be obsolete, is a possible burning question of the future that may eventuate into a formidable factor for promoting peace conferences.

RAILROADS AND PEOPLE.

"WHAT the country needs," said President Winchell, of the Rock Island system, who was in Portland last week, "is more and better railroads, not more railroad regulation. If the railroads are hurt, the people suffer. The railroads are the biggest purchasers in the country and when they cannot spend large sums of money, the people are the worst hurt. With the slap-bang, hit-or-miss regulation the railroads are getting from the states whose laws differ as much as the various patches of a quilt, the railroads are being hurt."

Mr. Winchell further said that all state commissions should be abolished and the work of regulation left with one central federal commission. With the propositions that the railroads need to be prosperous in order to serve the people, and to "hit the railroads hard" hurts the people, all can agree. But the trouble is that the railroads have not done right by the people. They have violated reasonable and necessary laws, systematically and persistently. In many cases they have charged too high and unjustly discriminating rates. They have formed combines and divided territory, and then charged "all the traffic would bear."

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Pearly writes that up where he has gone it is very stormy, but there is no ice. Somewhat like the conditions managers; they are encountering storms, but are cutting no ice.

Senator Bailey is disgusted and may resign because he was endorsed by only 23,000 majority. In Oregon a senator is not to get on, it seems, although he did not get plurality.

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Albany Herald: God bless the council. They are working. Now, gentlemen, you have gotten out of the shell.

Hood River has put itself on record as in favor of good roads and will soon have an association to help get them, says the Glacier.

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Get a smelter in the Santiam mining district, with mines developed so it will do a profitable business, and the matter of securing an electric line from Salem to the region will be half settled, if not all settled.

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Hillsboro Independent: The crying need of Washington county is a cannery—not one but a number sufficient to preserve the thousands of dollars worth of fruit and vegetables that are allowed to spoil each year, and the other thousands of dollars worth of berries planted were a sure market at a fair price guaranteed, when the crop is gathered.

It is common for a man or boy to kill a snake while hunting, but for a woman hunter to shoot a rattlesnake something new. A Wallawa county woman and her little girl were out hunting grouse the other day with a 22-caliber rifle and the latter with a 22-caliber rifle. They found a grouse and the girl fired at it, but missed. As the bird took to the air, the mother fired and hit the child instead.

A Milton man has found young almond trees on his place which give promise of becoming prolific producers. They are but 3 years old and last year they gathered a bushel of nuts from the trees. Only one that bore. This year they are all bearing and the nuts are the largest ever seen in this part. One sample shown measured 2 1/2 inches and the kernel measured 1 1/2 inches.

Sheridan Sun: Prune picking is now well under way and the quality is very good. The season for picking is now open and a large number of hunters are on the groups for the purpose of killing all or a part of the large herd of elk perhaps all that range in the mountains between Big Lake and the Alsea rivers. This is so because the last legislature failed to pass a law protecting the elk. It is a shame to take advantage of this mistake and kill off these beautiful animals. The elk should be protected by law for all time. How interesting it would be for tourists who visit our shores and mountains to see the herds of these noble animals roaming the woods as they once did before the coming of the white man. They are now scarce in the mountains and are being protected by the deer and elk.

Protect the Elk.

From the Yaquina Bay Reporter.

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