EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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"We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place to those who have given their lives that the nation might live. We cannot dedicate. We cannot consecrate. We cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far beyond our poor power to add or to detract. The world will little note, or long remember what we say here, but what they did here it will never forget."—A. Lincoln, Gettysburg, November 19, 1863.

WHO?

"IN THE conduct and course of the Republican party in Oregon there has been nothing rational in years," says the Oregonian. "Not a man of judgment will try to do anything with it or through it. Distracted by every sort of folly, it is incapable of concerted or rational effort."

And why? Everybody knows why. The great body of Republicans in Oregon are honest, straightforward and high minded. They hate falsehood. They loathe chicanery. They do not want falsehood and chicanery made a party policy. They believe in the integrity of men. They have confidence in the race. They respect the ballot box. They acknowledge the right of the majority to rule and always bow to the will of that majority. They love truth for truth's sake and spurn the liar and his lie. They deny the right of anybody to bully them, to browbeat them and insult them. They deny the right of a small group to thrust aside their collective will and deny the right of that group to cram a personal program down their throats.

They have been "distracted," and by whom? Who is it that raises irrational issues that beget factional strife? Who is it that refuses to bow to the will of the majority? Who is it that prepares a personal program and insists that all others must swallow it? Who is it that, after the will of the majority has been regularly and orderly ascertained, refuses to submit to that will and bullies all who refuse to join in resistance? Who is the insurgent that refuses to submit to the orderly course of government and attempts to commit the Republican masses and the party to a policy of insurgency? Who is the false teacher that attempts to lead these masses into false paths and bullies them when, for their conscience sake, they do not follow? Who wheedles them today and whips them tomorrow? Who is the autocrat that refuses to allow them to boss themselves, but insists that they must be bossed? Who is the king that can do no wrong and that insists that the Republican party must submit to his rule or be ruined? Who is the prophet that preached yesterday that "broken pledges" were "infamy" but preaches today that they are a virtue? Who is it that fills the party with "irrationalism" and "distraction"? Who?

A VICTORY AND ITS RESPONSIBILITY

THE PEOPLE have won again. Once more the Oregon supreme court has held against the corporation that controls the Willamette locks. It has denied the petition for a rehearing of the case in which a decision was handed down last May. The decision, so far as the Oregon courts are concerned, firmly establishes the right of the Oregon people to one-tenth of the net revenues of the locks and to collect from the corporation 10 per cent of the revenues that have accumulated during the past 12 years. In effect, it gives the people a one-tenth ownership in the locks, and by that amount reduces the price to be paid in case of a purchase by the federal and state governments.

It is an auspicious decision in that it clears the way for purchase at the coming session of congress. As a fruit of the decision and the offer of the state to bear half the cost, there ought not to be further delay for the Willamette project. The members of the Oregon delegation have now behind them resources that ought to enable them to win this fight. An open and free Willamette is needed for the material development of the Willamette valley. It is the climax of folly that a highway of nature so easy of opening should remain obstructed, and the products of the region be made to pay a tribute that has cost the producers an aggregate of many millions. It will be the climax of impotence if the unnatural process is permitted to continue.

The state authorities have done their part. The legislature has offered to bear half the cost. Though other governors overlooked it, Mr. Chamberlain directed suit to be brought to assert the state's interest in the locks, and the supreme court has made this title clear. The responsibility for success now lies with the members of the Oregon delegation, and it is a responsibility they should not fail to meet.

WHEN THE COLLEGIANS COME TO TOWN

BOUNDING young life with its enthusiasm and buoyancy is to be much in evidence in Portland at the end of the week. A great athletic event is to take place with teams representing the two leading educational institutions as parties to the competition. Reports are that the student body of each institution will come en masse to Portland to be interested and doubtless highly excited witnesses of the contest. It is given all to be young once, and they are fortunate who can the longest remain youthful. The wonted sincerity and guilelessness of young people, the hopes and the aspirations are a mighty factor in the joy of the world. Not yet in the grind of business, with everything in life still a prospect, and with that life brilliant and beautiful with all the colorings of the rainbow, youth and the influence of youth, its hope and the radiance of its hope is a leaven for society. It is wrong to hurry life into age, for the longer the period of youth, the sweeter and more mellowed age will be.

So Portland will welcome the state's boys and girls, and join with them in the spirit of the hour. The young folks should come with the graces that college training gives them. They should, and doubtless will come with a spirit and behavior reflective of the dignity and culture of the institutions of which they will be the representatives. Coming thus in the freshness and joy of college youth and typifying the gladness of college life, the lads and lasses will be met by Portland with open arms and given the city's freedom and its hospitality. Many an old college grad will find in the occasion incidents and scenes to start the flow of musings, romances and recollections, and in thought live over again with the buoyant visitors one more day of youth and youthfulness.

A TEACHER OF DISHONOR

IS THERE a teacher in the public schools of Oregon who advises pupils to be untruthful? Is there one in the educational institutions of the state who teaches youth the doctrine that a promise given or pledge made need not be kept? Are there parents in Oregon who would want such rules of life taught to their children? With what indignation would parents resent such instruction!

Oregon has a teacher that encourages such conduct. Professing to guide the people, the Oregonian is urging men to break their promises and repudiate their pledges. These pledges were made to the electors of Oregon and to the electors of their legislative districts by legislative candidates. They were made after proper deliberation by strong, intelligent men. They were signed by the candidates and officially filed as a part of the public records. These pledges became an asset by which the candidates obtained election. The people desired legislators pledged on the subject of senator, and to get their votes the candidates made the pledges. Otherwise these candidates would have been defeated, and would not now be members-elect.

The pledge therefore is a part of a contract, from which withdrawal is impossible without dishonor. There is not a public school teacher in Oregon that would teach pupils to withdraw from such a pledge. There is not a college professor in Oregon who would teach students to break such a promise. There is not a parent in Oregon who would want such a doctrine taught to his sons and daughters. And it is doubtful if there is another newspaper of standing in the United States that would advise such a course. The limit of abandon as to newspaper morals has apparently been reached, and Portland enjoys the distinction of affording audience for this unmatchable prophet, more's the pity.

What makes the case the more amazing is that but yesterday this teacher of immorals taught another and a better doctrine. Two Portland men were elected to the legislature on pledges that they would support the late Mr. Dolph. They repudiated their pledges and voted for another. The Oregonian stigmatized their action as "infamy." The odium the paper heaped upon them is being reprinted daily in The Journal. If an ante election pledge to vote for a senator was sacred in 1895, it is sacred in 1908. If it was "infamy" to repudiate those pledges in 1895 it would be "infamy" to repudiate them in 1908. Principles have not changed, and truth is still truth and falsehood still a lie. If the two men who repudiated their pledges in 1895 were the "stinkards," "lying rascals" and "lying scoundrels" that the Oregonian called them, what of the teacher that now publicly and repeatedly advises 51 men to do the same thing?

WATERWAYS AND RAILROAD RATES

THE OREGONIAN scarcely makes any attempt to conceal its opposition to river improvement in aid of transportation to the interior. The efforts being made by the people of this city and state to secure water competitive conditions are met by editorials in this paper minimizing the benefits, exaggerating the difficulties, belittling the work in progress and seeking to divide and distract those favoring the opening of our rivers to navigation.

The inspiration of these articles and the purposes and motives are well known and understood, but an editorial in Tuesday's paper is in some respects the most remarkable of this remarkable series. This editorial not only shows an entire lack of appreciation of present conditions, but a willingness to tax the consumers and the interior under a pretense, refreshing for its frankness, that the Oregonian favors Portland jobbers.

The feature which appeals most to the Oregonian is the "stiff rate on the local haul back to the interior." The only logical conclusion to be drawn from this editorial is that the jobbers of Portland should cease all efforts to secure lower distributive rates, either through water competition or otherwise, and rely upon the railroads for such favors as they choose to distribute. Herein is shown the lack of knowledge of the true situation. Railroads make their rates on the basis of revenue. They charge what the traffic can bear and they will handle it most advantageously to their own treasuries. The business men of Portland have long since learned that the trade they can control will be that which they can supply to the best advantage, and that rates not justified by conditions are a very slender reed to lean upon. They know that throughout the northwest there will be a number of jobbing cities; and if they wanted to prevent the development of other centers they are smart enough and broad-minded enough to know it is not within their power. It would be strange indeed if throughout the great area covered by the three northwest states there should be but one jobbing center.

Furthermore, there is another very important business class in this city to whom low distributive rates out of Portland are of the utmost importance, and that is the manufacturers who now employ thousands of men and whose business is constantly growing. To them a "stiff rate on the local haul back to the interior from Portland," which seems so alluring to the Oregonian, is the most serious handicap. This is peculiarly the case where, as it seems, goods of eastern manufacture take, in many instances, the same rates as the raw material to Portland.

The business of Portland has grown, is growing and will continue to grow. The handling of wheat is not its only resource, jobbing is not its only business, but its commercial life is extending in all directions. Anything that will tend to cheapen transportation, assist in distribution or otherwise contribute to the development of the state will aid this city, and it is doubtful if another instance could be found in the United States where a paper published in a great commercial city used all its influence to prevent an increase of transportation facilities or lower rates. The growth of the city is dependent upon the growth of its adjacent territory, and this business men of Portland well know.

Portland at the junction of the water courses of this section, so far as nature could determine it, is bound to be supreme, and it seems incredible that any one in this city, let alone a newspaper, would be found opposing the very feature, above all others, which makes for that supremacy.

The interior has rights, as well as the coast, and it is not slow to assert them. The creation of the "Spokane Zone" is an excellent illustration of the fostering care the railroads take of the coast interests when these do not coincide with their policies—and there are others. When it pays the railroads better to make favorable interior rates they will do so in the future as they have in the past. The efforts being made to increase Portland's distributive area through water transportation are not based on opposition to railroads; they are in response to the natural laws of trade, for commerce will follow the lines of least resistence. If these efforts are successful, as they will be, the benefits will fall on all alike. No one city, locality or person can monopolize the benefits. Instead of opposing this work, which the Oregonian concedes will be a benefit to the state at large, that paper should support it.

The state in its efforts, through the Portage Railway, to furnish some relief in this direction should be sustained. This railway was not built to make money directly. The Cascade locks are free, and it is hoped that the locks at the Willamette will also be free, and the state has already appropriated $300,000 to aid in their purchase.

Some years ago the state built a portage railway at the Cascades, which was sold as old junk after the locks were completed, yet it saved the producers and consumers hundreds of thousands of dollars while it was in operation.

If this city, with free waterways to the interior, with a deep waterway to the sea, with an unobstructed entrance at the mouth of the river, with railroads radiating in all directions, cannot maintain itself commercially, what city in the northwest, or elsewhere, can? If the opening of the rivers will not affect rates, why all these complaints and regrets?

More time has been given this subject than is perhaps necessary, but it would be nothing short of a public calamity if the people of the interior, with whom we now have most cordial relations, and the people abroad should believe that the position taken by the Oregonian on the improvement of our waterways reflects the spirit of the people or the aspirations of this great city.

The Disfranchisement of Southern Negroes

A reader asks:

"Will you kindly advise through your columns whether the negroes are disfranchised in the south and if so in what states and for what reasons?"

Negroes are practically disfranchised by constitutional amendment in Maryland, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina and Louisiana. These amendments do not in terms disfranchise negroes, because that would be contrary to the federal constitution, but they provide that only those adult, sane and noncriminal male persons can vote who have $300 worth of property on which they pay taxes, or can read and construe to the satisfaction of the judges of election a portion of the state constitution that may be submitted to them, or whose father or grandfather has been a soldier in the service of the United States or the late Confederate states. Under one or the other of these provisions, of course, almost every negro can be and is excluded from voting. And even in the southern states that have not adopted such an amendment, few negroes vote, for they know that their votes are not desired and probably would not be counted.

Letters From the People

Letters to The Journal should be written on one side of the paper only, and should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The name will not be used if the writer asks that it be withheld. The Journal is not to be understood as indorsing the views or statements of correspondents. Letters should be made as brief as possible. Those who wish their letters returned when not used should inclose postage.

Correspondents are notified that letters exceeding 300 words in length may, at the discretion of the editor, be cut down to that limit.

Outsider's Keen Comments.

Portland, Nov. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—There are some things in politics which are interesting to the fellow on the outside. The thing which interests me now is the desperate effort of the Republican machine to defeat Mr. Chamberlain. Three times, when left to a vote of all the people of the state, he has whipped the Republicans, so now, finding they can not defeat him in the open, they are going to try and stab him in the back by getting up a fictitious excuse for weak-kneed Statement No. 1 men to stultify themselves.

The plan now as outlined to me in part, and then resolved down, seems to be to get up a petition to the Statement No. 1 men or possibly the legislature. It is fair to presume the petitions will be circulated by the men opposed to Mr. Chamberlain and it is also fair to presume that it will be presented for signature to the "right" men. I am wondering if there will be men contemptible enough to pretend they are influenced by such a hoax on the ground that they consider it fair.

As a matter of fact, outside the Republican machine, who questions the expression of preference of the June election? Personally I did not vote for Mr. Chamberlain, I voted for a better man, but when the majority asked that he be made senator, as twice before they have asked that he fill the office of governor, that settled it with me. I expect to see the Oregonian advocating the idea that all Republican senators from states which have recently elected Democratic governors should at once resign, perhaps.

It is funny how the machine has gotten the people worked up to believe there is a real issue here, in a matter which they have once settled for themselves. "Go to it, boys."

PROHIBITIONIST.

What Fulton's Scheme Will Do.

Portland, Nov. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal—Certain members of the Republican party gave their pledge, their word of honor, that if the voters would elect them to the legislature they would vote for the man receiving the largest number of votes for senator. Mr. Chamberlain received the most votes. Now Mr. Fulton and other "bosses" are trying to make these men believe it is their duty to lie about it and vote directly opposite to what they are pledged to do. If Mr. Fulton will do this kind of work, what will he do when in office? I think the voters know what they want without being told by any politician, and although I have always been a Republican, I will say that if this scheme goes through and the will of the people is defeated by a leading Republican, that not only myself, but a great many others will never vote a Republican ticket again. R.

Madrid has the highest altitude of any city in Europe.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

A friendly word to Mr. Bryan—Don't.

• •

Tst An, like some other people, lived over long.

• •

Help make unfortunate or afflicted people thankful.

• •

Every city should beware of a purely partisan administration.

• •

Really, the De Sagans ought to have kept quiet till after the holidays.

• •

Good roads will never be had until people are willing to pay for them.

• •

It is hoped that there won't be a boom in the free soup business this winter.

• •

Mr. Bryan's nerves appear to be all right; he killed 25 ducks, the limit, in one day.

• •

Still there will be one bad result of more prosperity; there will be more automobiles.

• •

All prosperous people can be thankful and those not prosperous may be thankful for hope.

• •

It may be possible to prevent an emperor from talking, but with an empress or queen it would be impossible.

• •

We'll say some pleasanter things about Uncle Joe if he will consent to an appropriation for the Oregon City locks.

• •

Now that the governor's as well as the president's proclamation has been made, we can all get ready to be thankful.

• •

The favorite amusement of the time seems to be running automobiles over precipices and into rivers, and it isn't so very funny afterward, either.

• •

The kaiser has agreed not to talk unrestrainedly. But congress and cabinet and governors and all the powers of this country could not force our president to keep quiet.

• •

The morning newspaper affects disgust with the Republican party in Oregon, but perhaps it is afflicted with unconscious disgust with itself, for advising an act of perfidy and dishonor.

• •

The new charter makers are evidently all doing their best to serve the city well, and are entitled to the public's gratitude, even if the result of their labor is not satisfactory to some people.

• •

Chicago Record-Herald: To William Hohenzollern, Dear Wm.:—If my duma scolded me the way your reichstag has been jawing you I would have it run in by the police. What do you mean by allowing this sort of thing to go on? You are violating the rules of the Autocrats' union. N. Romanoff.

• •

A press dispatch comes all the way across the continent about the marriage of a Miss Hall and a Mr. Owsley, and the wonder that especial notice should be given to this more than any one of 100 other weddings vanishes with the explanation that the bridegroom is a well known former Yale football player.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS.

A milk condensery for Tillamook is talked of.

• •

Milton will have a big ice plant to cost $18,000.

• •

Many fruit trees are being planted around Myrtle Point.

• •

Cove has become big enough to support a moving picture show.

• •

Enthusiastic over the apple fair the Democrat declares that Albany can be made the greatest apple center in the world.

• •

The total cash value of the fruit crop of the Walla Walla valley fruitgrowers this season will amount, in round numbers, to $1,000,000.

• •

Albany Democrat: The most important thing for the people of the valley to consider is the matter of better roads leading to the centers of trade.

• •

There is greater building activity in Myrtle Point this fall than there has been during the summer, says the Enterprise. Several handsome residences are being built and other property improved.

• •

Eight years ago two barbers, brothers, bought 115 acres of undeveloped land near Medford, at a low price, and now they have 80 acres of apple orchard, beginning to bear, worth perhaps $500 an acre, besides the 35 acres to plant yet.

• •

A La Grande man who is interested in the Malheur oil fields, has made a thorough investigation and believes the efforts will be successful, and that striking oil is only a question of going deep enough.

• •

A Merrill man has two 8-months-old mules that tip the scales at 800 and 820 pounds. They are Democratic mules, and he says that if there are any Republican mules in the state that can beat them, he is from Missouri.

• •

Waldport correspondence of Newport News-Reporter: Now that trolling has so much improved on the bay the people are busy smoking salmon. Trolling has been fine the last few days and the gill nets have been getting more fish than can be handled.

• •

After describing the big Rogue river irrigation project, the Grants Pass Courier says: The importance of the work can hardly be overestimated. The value which the water will add to the lands as the work of clearing and planting goes on will each year amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. We are satisfied that a conservative estimate of the increase in land values in the next ten years through the introduction of irrigation will amount to fully $10,000,000.

• •

There were found on a Seaside sidewalk, according to the Signal, a hat, shoes, coat, vest and trousers, all arranged in a neat pile, as if the doffer had disrobed to retire. A watch and quite a lot of money were in the pockets. A quest located a well-known somnambulist who, it seems, had found a place that looked good to him, and decided to retire. He has no recollection of the event, and wonders how his clothes got a mile away from home.

THE NEW MORALITY IN POLITICS

From the St. Paul Pioneer-Press

That obtuseness to moral values and influences, which was becoming too marked a characteristic of American political management before the beginning of the Roosevelt era, has been displaced, in a large share of the Republican leadership, by a keen sensitiveness which repels any proposition the rectitude of which is not sure, whatever may be the political advantage involved. What we mean is illustrated by that early incident of the campaign just closed—Taft's refusal to ally his fortunes with those of Foraker. There still remains, however, some men whose control of the party machinery has enabled them to retain official prominence, although their record shows them to be out of harmony with the new ideals and ready to ignore a moral point if it stands in the way of interests which they have found it profitable to serve.

Some of these men, in congress, are already planning, for instance, to practically nullify the promise of tariff revision, uttered in the Republican platform, by so emasculating the revision work as to "keep the word of promise to our ear, And break it to our hope."

Others propose to continue the alliance with the land-grabbing and timber-stealing interests which has so far prevented the adoption of measures—repeatedly urged by President Roosevelt and six or seven of his predecessors—looking to a revision of our land laws and the abolition of the frauds which make the homestead and timber claim laws a cover for the baldest robberies. Others will persistently stand in the way of any legislation which shall recreate our lost "merchant marine" by a revision of our absurd navigation laws; since such revision, they fear, would destroy a favorite shipbuilding monopoly; while others, still will bar, if possible, any further extension of federal control over corporations.

That is, such will be the attitude of certain members of congress, unless the emphasis placed by the people, in the nomination and election of Taft, on their desire for the maintenance of the new "Roosevelt" standards of morals in public service shall have made itself thoroughly felt; or unless constituencies shall now "drive home" that desire to the consciousness of their representatives. The administration of President Taft should not be hampered as has been that of Roosevelt by the machinations of "reactionaries." It was at these that John Sharp Williams aimed that well-directed thrust when he said that, while the people were "afraid" of his own party, they were "tired" of the Republicans. The result of the election shows that they would still rather trust those of whom they were alleged to be "tired." But by a close alliance with Taft in his continuance of Roosevelt's work, both houses of congress should now demonstrate that there is no longer any occasion for whatever of that "tired feeling" has in reality existed.

The Vultures Arrive.

From the East Oregonian.

It is as was expected. After every battle thieves go forth to plunder and steal, while the buzzards hover above the field of carnage to prey upon the defenseless fallen.

In Oregon the looters in their greed did not wait for the smoke of conflict to lift before getting upon the field. They are already at work and their first great object is to rob Governor Chamberlain of the senatorship.

In a column lead editorial recently the Portland Oregonian outlines a scheme whereby the senatorship may be stolen. There is evidently a plot afoot to accomplish this end, and the Oregonian has started the work of pillage.

The excuse for the movement to prevent the ratification of Governor Chamberlain as senator, is that Taft carried this state. That he carried Oregon and was elected is admitted. But where is the law of God or man which says that because of his victory a band of shysters may go forth to rob another of something he has justly earned.

No man ever won an office more honorably than did Governor Chamberlain the senatorship. Against heavy odds and in a race that was as free and open as the sunlight, he carried the state last June. If there was any juggling or factional knifing the fault was not his. Those things do not in the least affect his title to the senatorial toga.

In its editorial the Oregonian advises Statement No. 1 men to "retract" their pledges and correct the "mistake" they made. But the Oregonian has used the wrong words. It is out to steal, not to correct a mistake.

The plot to rob Governor Chamberlain of the senatorship is one of the most damnable schemes that ever arose in Oregon's political history. If an actual attempt is made to carry it out, some politicians are going to get hurt.

Because the people of Oregon voted for Taft it does not follow that solemn pledges may be broken—that honor shall no longer hold sway in Oregon. The rank and file of the people of the state, Republicans and Democrats, are honest, fair-minded men. They do not believe in stealing. Let them stop the looters.

The cornerstone of a Swedish Lutheran church has been laid in North Bend.

Ralph Peters' Birthday.

Ralph Peters, president and general manager of the Long Island railroad and one of the best known railroad officials in the United States, was born in Atlanta, Ga., November 19, 1863. Since his graduation from the University of Georgia at the age of 20 his entire career has been identified with the railroad business. He first became secretary to Samuel M. Felton, a prominent railroad man of his time, and in that position he obtained an inside knowledge of the executive end of the railroad business. After leaving this position Mr. Peters was for several years engaged in the street railway business and for a time was superintendent of the street railways in Atlanta. He then became identified with the Pittsburg, Cincinnati & St. Louis railroad and later was appointed superintendent of the western division of the Colorado, Chicago & Indiana road. In 1885 he was employed by the New York & Newport Bridge company. His next move was to the Cincinnati, Georgetown & Portsmouth railroad, of which he became vice-president. In 1905 he was called to the presidency of the Long Island road.

This Date in History.

1794—Jay's treaty between the United States and Great Britain signed.

1805—Ferdinand de Lesseps, builder of the Suez canal, born. Died December 7, 1894.

1854—Domingo Elias gave battle to the Peruvian general Moran.

1864—Sarah Jane Smith, 16 years old, a Confederate spy, sentenced to death at St. Louis.

1867—Charles Dickens arrived in Boston.

1868—New England Woman Suffrage association organized with Julia Ward Howe as president.

1873—"Boss" Tweed convicted of defrauding the city treasury of New York.

1891—William J. Florence, celebrated actor, died in Philadelphia. Born in Albany, N. Y., July 26, 1831.

1898—General Don Carlos Buell died. Born March 23, 1818.

1899—Twenty thousand British troops gathered at Cape Town.

The United States, including Alaska, produced but 62 tons of tin in 1907, about one twentieth of one per cent of the total output of the world.

The REALM FEMININE

Modern Chivalry.

IT fell to the lot of a man in West Orange, N. J., to be the discoverer of a method of combating the bargain-madness that afflicts some portion of womankind.

This bargain mania, you know, is a difficult kind, and almost impossible to counteract. It gets hold of women unaccountably, and yielding to it only makes it worse. From sweet 17 to doddering dotage the woman so afflicted will go on hunting bargains. She bargains her trunks and the attic full of trash, supplies her friends at successive Christmases with articles for which they have no possible use; she bargains for furniture on the installment plan which it takes 40 years to pay for and genuine oriental rugs that miraculously turn into cotton and jute.

It seems sometimes as though she even picks out her husband by the bargain method and takes him because he is marked down to $1.98, forgetting that husbands are not returnable if found to be damaged.

But as we were saying, a West Orange man has hit upon a plan, and what's more he has his wife's consent to it, according to the story in a New York paper which tells us that Luther Martin had published in the papers a notice that he would not be responsible for his wife's bills. "Now," he said, "as this public warning is given I shall be informed by telephone when any purchase is made, and if I approve it, it will be all right; if I disapprove of it, there'll be nothing doing." And he added that it is the duty of husbands to protect their wives in this way from yielding to schemers and to blandishments of shopkeepers who push their wares upon unwilling purchasers.

According to this man's view of bargain mania (which is perhaps the only kind which now goes by its old-fashioned name) women are the victims of designing tricksters in the dry goods and other stores. Since they are not up to these artful dodgers, the only thing to do is to limit the powers of the governed that they may not do themselves injury.

"If all men thus protected their wives," says Mr. Martin, "from yielding to schemers, they would save much unhappiness for all concerned."

Somebody once started a series of articles upon "The Great Ones of the Earth," which, unfortunately, was never finished. If it had been it would certainly have included the man who makes a woman buy a new sewing machine just because she goes into the shop to replace a broken needle: the milliner who makes a woman of 70 odd years pay good money for a screaming farce in headgear composed of an Indian chief's war plumage and 19 yards of purple ribbon; and also the man behind the counter in the haberdashery who succeeds in selling a No. 6½ green Fedora to a No. 9 man.

There is really something uncanny about the way in which these Great Ones wield their power. You long to escape; you struggle to free yourself from the awful spell; but gradually, blindly, you are drawn on, like the moth drawn by the incandescent lamp—until—ah, how well we all know—until you go sadly home minus your cash, but possessed of something that you never wanted, something that sends cold shivers up and down your spine when you look at it; something for which, and this is the hardest pang of all—something for which you have to account in prosaic dimes and nickels to the man. The man who says in cold measured tones—those saddest words of tongue or pen, "How much did you pay for it?" But now you see with Mrs. Luther Martin it will be all different. She will read of the wonderful bargains at Snatchem & Skinem's and she will go blithely down to the fray, and after suffering all the willing martyrdom that comes to the bargain hunter, such as having her favorite toes crushed and her hat knocked sidewise, she will look upon the bargain while it is red, and she will fall. She will fall cheerfully and with the admiring eyes of the other bargain hunters upon her. And then she will go home—and you see? Why, the thing she bought won't be there.

Spared all the pangs of regret and mortification, escaping all the post prandial lectures on "the change from that last time I gave you," Mrs. Martin will have all the fun, and reap none of the sorrows.

Of course there will be those who doubt the wisdom of the course so easily adopted by this man Luther Martin, who may have queer notions about a wife's equal share with the husband in the money that he earns. There is to be sure an appreciable number of people who believe that her work in the home is worth just as much as his in the office, and who still suppose that when he offers to make her his wife it means something more than a chance to work for her board and clothes for the rest of her life.

But it is easy to see that this man is descended from the great reformer who was not afraid to do battle against all the preconceived opinions of his day. The name has somehow been twisted in the course of time but the old spirit of Martin Luther may be seen in this modern reformer, Luther Martin.

Bits of Knowledge.

HERE are answers to every "how much" question that can arise on baking day:

One cupful of sugar will sweeten one quart of any mixture to be served chilled or frozen.

One teaspoonful of extract will flavor one quart of custard or pudding.

One tablespoonful of extract will flavor one quart of mixture to be frozen.

One level teaspoonful of salt will season one quart of soup, sauce or vegetables.

The ordinary French dressing (3 tablespoonfuls oil, 1½ tablespoonfuls vinegar, ¼ level teaspoonful salt, ⅛ level teaspoonful pepper) will moisten 1 pint of salad.

One tablespoonful of water or milk should be allowed for each egg in an omelet.

Allow four eggs to each quart of milk in making cup custards.

Allow from four to six eggs to each quart of milk in making a custard to be turned from the mold.

Rice will absorb three times its measure of water and a larger quantity of milk or stock.

One ounce of butter and one-half ounce of flour are used to thicken one cupful of liquid in making a sauce.

Allow two level teaspoonfuls of baking powder to each cupful of flour when no eggs are used.

Cream of Spinach Soup.

WASH thoroughly two quarts of spinach, stripping each leaf from the midrib. Put the leaves on in a double boiler with a pinch of soda, and cook until tender. The spinach should have been very thoroughly washed beforehand in two waters and no water need be put with it in the double boiler, except the moisture which clings to the leaves after the last washing. When the spinach is cooked soft it may be rubbed through a colander. Cook together a tablespoonful each of flour and butter and pour upon it a quart of milk. Cook until the thickening is well blended, add the spinach, boil up once and serve. You may, if you wish, have tiny croutons with this.

Fig Candy.

TWO cupfuls of granulated sugar, one cupful of hot water, a little piece of butter, two tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Boil until it stiffens in cold water. Test by rolling between thumb and finger. Flavor with vanilla. Pour in pan to cool and let stand until nearly cold. Then stir in one-quarter pound of chopped figs and stir until of the right consistency to work into shape. Confectionery sugar can be used to make it stiff while working on board.