

THE JOURNAL

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OREGON'S RAILROAD ERA

MORE MILES of railroad will be built in Oregon during the next five years than in any other state in the union except Montana.

The wild is tamed by transportation. Without transportation in some form, there can be no commerce or industry. The products have to reach market or they are of no value.

A commercial or industrial enterprise is the product of transportation. If the transportation should be withdrawn from such an enterprise already created, the industry and the commerce in it would perish.

It is during the next five years, Oregon is to have more railroad construction than any other state except Montana. It will mean tremendous progress for the state.

There is no way to foreshadow the structure to be yielded by the promised railroad construction. It marks the end of that unfortunate period in which the state was literally bottled up by a single railroad line.

PLANNING OREGON'S GROWTH HOWARD ELLIOTT of the Northern Pacific says Oregon needs more population. So it does. President Kerr of the Oregon Agricultural college proposes a plan that may be a first aid in securing it.

In the visit to Washington from which he has just returned, President Kerr discussed his plans with the divisions of plant industry, irrigation and other officials of the department of agriculture and national experiment station.

One way to get people into Oregon is to show them how and where to get good water. It is an acre of land in the Willamette valley can be made to yield two or three times

the present crop, a good start is made for securing added population. Allied with Dr. Kerr's plan is a proposal for a dry land experiment station in Harney county, and for a horticultural and irrigation station in southern Oregon.

A dry farm station at Moro and an irrigation station at Hermiston, conducted jointly by the federal government and the state college have been in operation for several months. It was because of excellent results and prospects of results at these stations that President Kerr was enabled to induce the federal authorities to enter into the plans now proposed.

THE CASE OF SUGAR

IT IS IN A civil action that the federal government is proceeding against the sugar trust. The purpose is to dissolve the trust and prevent it from doing business hereafter as a combination in restraint of trade.

There is a far better way to deal with these people. In its complaint, the government sets forth that in 1887, there were 23 independent sugar refining companies, and that Havemeyer and 16 other companies, representing 90 per cent of the trade, combined and gained control of the business.

All these acts are in direct violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, and the Sherman anti-trust law has a criminal provision. By the government's own complaint, the officials of the trust are guilty of violating the criminal provision of the Sherman law, but not one of them is prosecuted under that provision.

The sugar trust was the guilty party in one of the greatest scandals ever known in this country. It confessed its guilt at the bar of justice by making restitution of \$2,136,000 of stealings in customs duties obtained from the federal government through short weights at the port of New York.

The government's complaint tells us of things the trust has done that we know to be violations of the criminal law. We know in addition that the trust has controlled congress, and that for years it has controlled the tariff on imported sugar.

IN CALIFORNIA

IN SPITE OF its new primary law, California seems to be confronted with a bitter fight over the senatorship. The lines are already sharply drawn, and the conditions ripening for an ugly struggle in the legislature.

Instead, California adopted the advisory plan, and in consequence, two senatorial candidates loom large on the horizon. One is A. G. Spalding, who carried in the election a majority of the senatorial and assembly districts from which Republican members were chosen.

is the fact that he is a Lincoln-Roosevelt insurgent, and by that token in harmony with the views of a majority of the Republican members of the legislature.

Thus, there are two sides to the issue, and at this time, each party to the struggle seems to be on good fighting ground. The publicity bureau of each is active, and a senatorial battle is on with as much fuss and fury as though the people had not voted their preferences in the late election.

MARION COUNTY'S STUNT

THE ENDOWMENT fund of Willamette university will be increased to \$500,000, providing \$100,000 of this amount is raised in Marion county. It is also desired to raise \$50,000 for a memorial building on the campus, to contain a great auditorium for general use.

The Salem Statesman says it "will be hard work to raise the \$100,000, but it will be raised." The prediction in the last clause should certainly be made good, and it ought not to be a very hard task, in such a cause, and in so rich a city as Salem and county as Marion, to raise this amount.

Willamette college is the oldest institution of the kind in the state. It may have been handicapped by being to some extent a sectarian institution, but its work has deepened and broadened, and it is worthy of the support of all sorts of Marion county people.

NAVY FOR CHINA TOO

ACCORDING to the Journal of the American Asiatic association, the Chinese government has about a billion dollars in gold which was overlooked by the allied Christian soldiers when they looted the imperial palace in Peking.

Now what do the modernists of China propose to do with this vast sum of money? They might build railroads and wagon roads, improve rivers and harbors, open mines, establish industrial schools, and irrigate arid lands; but they will do no such foolish things. They intend to build a great navy. They also have the great navy itch. China is becoming "civilized." If you please, or so must have a big navy like the other civilized and "Christian" powers.

RAILROAD RATES

AS AN EXCUSE for raising rates, the railroads plead that they are not making money. The Chicago bureau of railway news and statistics has shown that during the fiscal year ended on June 30, 1910, the gross earnings of all railroads in the United States were \$2,779,246,868.

Finning the big criminal trusts effects no good for the people, rather harm. The trusts pay the fines, and pocket big money besides, by raising prices or reducing wages, or both. Send the higher-ups to jail

for good long terms and treat them just as other felons are treated; that is the only remedy.

Letters From the People

Forest Rangers. To the Editor of the Journal—Please answer through your columns the following questions: To whom and where would a person write to make application for government ranger, or hunter, in Oregon and Washington?

The Los Angeles Times wants to know why it is necessary to tip a writer, after one has paid about twice what the meal is worth.

Some women imagine that people think they are very beautiful, whereas they are only considered "stunning."

After a few days of preliminary congress will adjourn for the holidays. It is a pity that those fellows have to work so hard and steadily.

After a person has paid 40 cents for a little slice of beefsteak, reading means that the price of meat has dropped, he wonders how much a big beef critter comes to at restaurant prices.

Today the Poles of every city in the world, will celebrate the anniversary of the commencement of their great struggle against Russia in 1830. The initial act which led to the uprising of the whole people and protracted for two years, was the revolt of the School of Ensigns, in Warsaw, on the night of November 29, 1830.

From the Detroit News. Much has been heard of late about movements undertaken with a view to getting men back to the land, and H. E. Yeakum is again raising the cry. Various allurances have been proposed. Many statesmen and economists have attempted the task of resisting the evident trend of population from farm to city as if it were a new problem with which they were confronted.

The Hoodlums of London. From the Detroit Free Press. The women who seek a share in the government of Great Britain are doing their best to demonstrate that utter unfitness for such responsibility. It has often been remarked by cynics that the gentler sex, when in power, are almost indefinable "quaintly," "honor," which has no relation whatever to morals. Gamblers have it to a high degree; business men regard it as the first essential in those they deal with; thieves have it in the sort of their own; and even lower walks in life manifest a sort of professional ethics for which they are often ready to make heavy sacrifices.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE. The socialist travel should not be overlooked. Now is when good roads begin to shine.

FOREIGN HIGHLIGHTS. M. Q. Lownadales the celebrated pioneer apple grower, who owned a 300 acre apple orchard near La Fayette, has sold it and definitely retired. The price was about \$100,000.

When the Ground Burns. One of the strangest facts observed in the forest fires which occasionally sweep over the woods of northern Michigan and Minnesota, is the burning of the ground.

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