

THE JOURNAL
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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Learn to look for the light.
Positively refuse to harbor shadows and blot, and the deformed, the distorted, the discolored.

AN EPOCH MAKING DECISION
THE REFUSAL OF the interstate commerce commission to authorize an advance of railroad rates is an epochal decision.

POPGUN STATESMANSHIP
THERE IS DOUBT as to what is the text of certain road bills that passed the legislature.

GET AN ACRE OF GROUND
THE LETTER OF Mrs. Blank of St. Johns in yesterday's Journal can be read with profit.

the people of Oregon to look to it for advice as to what changes the primary law may require.

The Oregonian tried to kill the direct primary with the assembly. It led the campaign for the assembly.

Yet, it tells us that the primary should be changed by adoption of the second choice hocus pocus.

Everything about the road legislation is doubt. Nothing is certain. The helterskelter fight in the legislature over these bills, their passage as last hour legislation and the attempts of popgun statesmen to introduce all manner of changes and programs in them have resulted in confusion worse confounded.

But instead, 725 peanut bills were introduced, and the time was spent in their consideration. Big legislation was lost sight of in popgun bills raising salaries, creating new officials and new deputies, changing game laws and other trivial matters.

THE LETTER OF Mrs. Blank of St. Johns in yesterday's Journal can be read with profit. She is the woman with a cow and an acre of ground whose work in solving the high cost of living has attracted much attention.

profit, but adds to the comfort and happiness. In Mrs. Blank's family are seven persons. The products taken from the acre farm make all the difference between plenty and want.

Mrs. Blank says in conclusion: "Every dollar invested in a good, productive place around Portland or any other coast city is two in your own pocket—the only way of eating your candy and keeping it, too."

"TARIFF REFORM" is the English slogan of the Conservative or House of Lords party. It is the nickname, or rather pet name, bestowed by Joseph Chamberlain on that party which he invented to remodel the revenue system of England by taxing the entry into Great Britain of all kinds of material, save only raw materials for manufacture.

At present Canadian wheat and American grain wheat enter duty free, and Liverpool prices set the market price for all. In the good time coming, when the Tories rule, Canada should get the privilege of free import while American farmers paid the tax.

MAN WHO SIGNS himself "A Hungry Mechanic," writes The Journal that notwithstanding his ability to work, and his willingness to work at anything, he can find no work.

THE QUESTION of prohibition is to be resubmitted to the people of Maine, the original and most persistent prohibition state. The question has not been voted on there before since 1884, when prohibition was endorsed by a vote of 70,783 votes in its favor to 23,811 votes against.

here. The people of Oregon cannot change the climate or the state's other natural features, and these will recommend themselves more and more on acquaintance, but we can do much to make the new arrivals welcome.

Letters from the People
Abuse of the Referendum. Weston, Or., Feb. 23.—To the Editor of The Journal.—At Cottage Grove, in Lane county, a referendum movement has been started against the University of Oregon, at Eugene, also in Lane county.

The Oregon Agricultural college has also been liberally treated. There is no more excuse for holding up the U. O. appropriation than for holding up the O. A. C. appropriation. In truth, there can be no grounds for attacking either of these institutions.

At the place that Wolfe chose for his battlefield the plateau was less than a mile wide. The English army consisted of six battalions and the detached grenadiers of Louisbourg. Montcalm was the French commander, and his forces consisted of four battalions, comprising in all 1,000 men.

Twenty Millions for a Power Dam. Not far from the spot where Jim Bludsoe ran the Prairie Bell around and held his nose in the bank till the last gasp, there is a mile wide dam being built which will completely change the contour and topography of the Mississippi river and the historic land thereabouts.

Stack With Cold Storage Eggs. From the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. No one can tell to what extent the abuse of the cold storage system has been responsible for the enhanced cost of living, instead of being a beneficial aid toward keeping prices at a uniform and fair level.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE. Hobson is a near-lunatic, but there are others. Summer is coming on soon, and there is no fly inspector.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS. More train weighing 3175 pounds sold for \$100. Random people are working for a fruit and vegetable cannery.

When the new cement garage is completed, Corvallis will be well on the way as one of the best automobile towns on the coast. Besides 50 private cars, there will be three garages, each owning several autos, says the G.T.

There is a general merchandise store at Worden, Klamath county, writes a resident; a postoffice has been established, and it is a good location for our saloon keepers and bootleggers who have been selling their whiskey. And the latter for terms twice as long as the Indians.

Echo Echoes: The happiest man in our town and for miles around is your humble servant. No, it is not an increase in our family, nor a visit from our mother-in-law, but a man who has a year in arrears came into our office Tuesday and paid that, and one year in advance. We could shout for joy.

The Oregon Electric with a little push can cut off rivals in reaching that magnificent mountain fruit as follows: Apples, 540 tons; pears, 170 tons; plums, 130 tons. This fruit, which to all intents and purposes was practically wasted, would have been brought by a better man.

SEVEN FAMOUS CHARGES

The famous charge of the Louisbourg Grenadiers on the Heights of Abraham in 1759 was the turning point in the war between the English and the French for the possession of Canada with Wolfe, the English general, the victor. This charge decided the fate of the French in North America.

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Railroad Extravagance and Cost of Living

By Cleveland Moffett in Hampton's Magazine.

The really important point in the present railroad war is not over rates, says Mr. Moffett, is that it has a distinct bearing on the cost of living. It concerns all of us, everywhere. A man need not pay ten dollars for grand opera seats, nor five dollars for a modest meal in a fashionable restaurant, he can do without these things; but he cannot do without railroads. As a passenger he must pay his fare, as a shipper he must pay his freight, and as a consumer he must pay the freight which the shipper pays. We all of us pay exactly what the railroads ask. Therefore we are all of us deeply and properly concerned in knowing whether our railroads are asking too much, whether they are managed prudently and efficiently, or wastefully and inefficiently. It is our business to know these things.

Louis D. Brandeis, championing the whole ninety odd millions of us, decried before the interstate commerce commission that American railroads, through mismanagement, incompetency, graft and general inefficiency at present waste or, at least, might save (which is the same thing) a million dollars a day, over three hundred million dollars a year.

"Under Wall street rule our railroads have practically lost their autonomy, our railroad presidents and managers are no longer big, free-handed men as of old, but, have become servants, all too docile, of the magnates. The magnates are interested in railroads not to make them efficient economical carriers of freight and passengers, but to use them as assets in their exciting but expensive games of high finance. Mr. Brandeis pointed out to me that two of the worst and most wastefully managed railroads that come into New York city are under the absolute control of a great banker whose name makes Wall street tremble.

Tanglefoot. By Miles Overholt

EASY TERMS. Lend me your ears for a moment or two, Sit by my side while I weep on your vest. Hear my brief lines while I blubber the rest. A dollar down, a dollar a week. That is the text of my song, Sob when the tears gently course down my cheek, And help make the melody strong. Young was I, friend, yes, and happy and gay. Bidding me stay as the flowers of May, Ah, but I fell when I bargained to buy goods by the week—yes, that's why I'm here.

Man's Influence

(Contributed to The Journal by Walt Mason, the famous Iowa poet. His prose-poems are a regular feature of this column in the Daily Journal.) One man who is dismal and grim as a shroud, with grief that's abysmal, disheartens the crowd. I know of a dealer in pickles and tin; who takes a glad spiel or the sight of a grin. He preaches the floor on, and scowls at his clerks, and seems to be sore on the street. He thinks that good humor is foolish and vain and carries a tumor instead of a brain. His clerks wouldn't care if they saw him no more; and some day the sheriff will close up his store. His patrons grow weary of such a sour dog; they find things less agreeable around at the morgue. I know of a doctor in Iowa, who carries a bowie knife, and a pair of shears, whose jubilant laughter resounds in his lair. His mirth is outrageous, but being good ends, for it is contagious, and brings him friends. The salesman who tinker around in his store all day, who's a cinker, what man could ask more? I say that your scowling costs more than a grin; and your growling and growling are stupid as sin.