

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER. PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (except Sundays) and every Sunday morning at the Journal Building, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York, 1215 People's Gas Building, Chicago.

Subscription Terms by mail or by address in the United States or Mexico. DAILY. One year, \$7.50; One month, \$1.00.

A PRESSING ISSUE

ONE of the most important recommendations that has reached congress in years is the Taft message urging a simplification of the business processes and a reduction of the ordinary expenses of the national government.

Mr. Taft himself scarcely realizes the momentous purport of his words. They are in line with the policy urged upon this government by Thomas Jefferson 110 years ago, when he insisted upon "a simple form of government, economically administered."

The growth in the cost of American government is astounding. It is estimated that the annual cost of government, federal, state and municipal, now amounts to the extraordinary total of \$2,500,000,000.

The entire ordinary expenditures of the American government during the four years of the first Cleveland administration were \$1,077,629,097, equivalent to only about one year of expenditures in either the Roosevelt or Taft administrations.

In round numbers, the expenditures of the first Cleveland administration, by years, were \$242,000,000, \$267,000,000, \$267,000,000 and \$299,000,000. The expenditures by years of the second Cleveland administration were, in round numbers, \$367,000,000, \$356,000,000, \$352,000,000 and \$365,000,000.

For the last four years of the Roosevelt administration and the first two years of the Taft administration, the national expenditures, according to the statement of Representative Tawney, chairman of a house committee on appropriations, aggregated the huge sum of \$6,061,257,132. For the six years, the expenditures averaged more than one billion a year.

The sum is three and one half times the expenditures of the government under 15 presidents from the inauguration of Washington to the beginning of the Civil war. It is over three fourths of the value of the agricultural products of the United States for the year 1909.

In 14 years, the cost of government has far more than doubled. In the same period, the expenditures for the army and navy have increased fourfold.

interesting feature is the installation there not only of the newest equipment of a Bradford woolen mill but of a French drawing and mule spinning set, carrying through spinning on the French system, under which the beautiful fabric of Roubaix and Verriers are turned out.

In the weaving sheds a series of looms is found of all varieties including several American machines. The new departure is a school plus a mill and unlike any mill known in the worsted industry of Great Britain all the processes heretofore carried on in different establishments under separate management are here assembled under one roof.

The department will take in raw wool and turn it out as merchantable pieces. In Bradford technical instruction is organized. From the mechanical side of the public school the boys go to the technical college. There he studies both the scientific and the severely practical side of his life work.

This description is drawn from the United States consular reports of the 15th instant. The cooperation of Cambridge university is one of the unexpected benefits already accruing from the development plan, passed on Lloyd George's initiative, in 1909.

THE poor we have always with you." In the city we rub shoulders with them as we pass about our business, but too often we know them not, as persons, as individual families. Their houses are their castles and no one uninvited crosses the threshold.

THE ABUSES OF TAXATION. The Journal prints a letter today from Assessor Sigler, regarding assessed values as well as selling values. Mr. Sigler appears to think he was criticized in the Journal editorial, but such was not the situation.

THE theft of another automobile was added Saturday night to the already long list of stolen machines. By splendid work of the Portland police and excellent cooperation of Vancouver officers, the stolen machine was taken, along with the thief, within three hours after it was seized on a Portland street.

THE present week in China should see the "die cast" as to the immediate passing of the Manchus. They have seen their foothold slipping day by day, their troops either deserting en masse, or retreating with massacre following them.

THE first to improve the wool itself as yielded by the sheep. Cambridge university has thrown off its old foggyism and has received a large appropriation under the new development law to experiment on hybridizing sheep for wool production.

THE new buildings cost \$37,000, the machinery and equipment \$68,130. The distinctive feature of the new department is the concentration of teaching and experimenting facilities with those of a complete mill under the same roof.

bounds and with some reference to the assessed value. When it is not, a grievous wrong is done to society, and "special privilege" again knocks out "equal rights" and "free institutions" are weaker and less fruitful in consequence.

WOMAN'S WEAKNESS. IGNORANCE of business essentials is a lamentable weakness of the woman in the home," said Mrs. E. H. Harriman recently. "A woman who has no knowledge of business would better sit down and look facts in the face. These be see-saw times, and the rich woman of today may be the poor woman of tomorrow. If she be a wife she has no guarantee that her husband won't lose his money. And if she be a widow there is strong probability that she will lose her money, for business barons will consider her their prey, send them straight from the business man's heaven.

"I have a poignant knowledge of this, for my husband would have thought it most unwomanly of me to know how to draw a check or sign a receipt, and since I was left alone I have had to learn business in the hardest way — learned it through suffering, by being cheated. Ignorance of business forms is defenselessness in business.

Assessor Sigler's Viewpoint. Portland Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—Permit me to make a short reply to a communication appearing in your issue of the 17th inst. in which you editorially called attention to my article.

First Mr. Wagon states that block 51, Eastmoreland, was purchased by the school board from the Land Assessor for \$49,000 in 1911. Certainly not from the records. Surely, Mr. Wagon would not willfully misrepresent facts. The Journal of course, naturally supposed Mr. Wagon knew whereof he wrote and did not take the time to investigate and corroborate his statements. This, I trust, is sufficient answer to Mr. Wagon's statement.

It is well to remember that men rarely cheat women. The reason is simple: women are usually fools in business. Men do it because it is so easy. A woman left alone, without knowledge of the rules of business, is a tragedy. And yet, husbands and fathers allow their wives and daughters to pursue rose colored routines without hint or warning of that which would impend, were the bread of their lives to snap! These same men insure their lives for vast sums that their families may be provided for in case of death; they work their fingers to the bone to amass great fortunes to be handed over to those who may be left. Is it not a strange provision that takes no account of the "lamentable weakness of the woman" to retain that which is so carefully provided? It is time for our fathers and husbands to "look the facts in the face."

AUTO THIEVES. THE theft of another automobile was added Saturday night to the already long list of stolen machines. By splendid work of the Portland police and excellent cooperation of Vancouver officers, the stolen machine was taken, along with the thief, within three hours after it was seized on a Portland street.

Seeking Light. Portland, Or., Jan. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal—Since the opening of the controversy regarding capital punishment, I have been eagerly devouring all matter pertaining to the subject in an endeavor to settle my mind one way or the other. I might say that originally I was against abolition, but now I am leaning toward the retention of the death penalty.

WILL THEY FIGHT IT OUT? THE present week in China should see the "die cast" as to the immediate passing of the Manchus. They have seen their foothold slipping day by day, their troops either deserting en masse, or retreating with massacre following them.

THE first to improve the wool itself as yielded by the sheep. Cambridge university has thrown off its old foggyism and has received a large appropriation under the new development law to experiment on hybridizing sheep for wool production. The first clip of improved wool from Professor Wood's Cambridge flock is now ready to be manufactured at the Bradford technical school.

family from all branches of the government, and will announce or deprecate the establishment of a republic. Dr. Morrison is known to be as discreet as he is trusted by the Chinese, and his information may be well founded.

There's Harmon, also—only a governor; no colonel. It would be a little curious if our old friend and patriot, Ellis, wouldn't run. Couldn't we somehow have a General for a candidate? He ought to beat a Colonel.

Letters From the People. (Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should not exceed 300 words in length and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender.) Assessor Sigler's Viewpoint.

Spite of the Kentucky Colonel, we have the country under the thumb of a few big game hunters. Colonel should be elected again. Be elected daily for all good—and it is much, if we but see—the need is not of bended knees, so much as a mind that is not afraid to stand up for its rights.

London's Docks. Portland, Jan. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—In Monday night's paper a correspondent differs from my statements made some time ago in reference to the situation of the docks at London.

Helping the Poor. (Contributed to The Journal by Walt Mason, the famous Kansas poet. His prose-poems are a regular feature of this column in The Daily Journal.) When bitter is the winter day, and tempests sweep the moor, I go my cheerless way, to help the poor.

Pointed Paragraphs. And most of the things we get for nothing soon find their way to the dump. Many a poor man is mistaken for a genius when all that is his is biliousness.

Better Light Needed. Portland, Jan. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—I will say "dittos" to the complaint of M. S. in The Journal of the 17th. My occupation does not permit me to visit the library by day time so I have to go at night.

Helping the Poor. When bitter is the winter day, and tempests sweep the moor, I go my cheerless way, to help the poor. The poor man's children, sick and wan, are eating whey and curds; then I come rapping at the door, and bring them helpful words.

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

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OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Central Point council has provided for a street cleaning service to take care of the town's new paving. The Dayton Commercial club has a membership of 75 and an active ladies' auxiliary. Many of the club members are farmers.

The company that owns the brick plant at Willamina is installing new machinery that makes fireproof bricks and hollow blocks. It has a capacity of from 60,000 to 100,000.

McMinnville Telephone Register: There is promise of discussion over the location of a Carnegie library in McMinnville. We want to sound one note of good advice: keep good natured!

Forest Grove News Times: There are a number of farmers in this locality who are frozen over. It's different in Oregon. At last reports La Creole creek was still singing blithely on its way to the sea.

Send Bulletin: The auto trucks showed that they are the high water freighters by their through the snow to Burns. The snow at Burns was nearly four feet deep but did not affect the flow more than to delay them a few hours.

A proposition has been made by the trustees of the Christian church at Amity to sell their present church building to a syndicate of Amity business men to be converted into a public hall. The building was erected in the seventies, has been the home of the church for nearly 40 years and is now too small.

Jeffery Hudson. comic poem printed in 1688 with "Madagascar" to celebrate Hudson's misadventure. In 1688 appeared a very small volume, written in honor of Hudson, called "The Year's Gift," which had a eulphastic dedication to Hudson, and an engraved portrait of him by J. Droeshout.

When the Prince of Orange besieged Breda, in 1637, Lithgow reports that the dwarf, "Strenuous Jeffery," was in the prince's camp in company with the Earl of Warwick and Northampton, who were volunteers in the army.

Fuller says "though a dwarf he was no dastard," which fact is well illustrated by Crofts at Paris about 1649 he shot him dead with a pistol in a duel. Crofts had rashly armed himself with a squint only. In consequence Hudson had to leave Paris, although Henrietta Maria seems to have saved him from the imprisonment which he is often said to have undergone.

Accounts of the height of Hudson vary, but according to his own statement, as made to Wright, the historian of Rutland, after reaching the age of 7, when he was 18 inches high, he did not grow at all until he was 30, when she shot up to three feet six inches. Hudson was a back as a carpenter, and was exhibited as a curiosity in the Ashmolean museum at Oxford.

Sixty-seven Millions for Irrigation

Approximately \$67,000,000 have been spent by the government in irrigation work, and this vast sum is less than half of the amount that will have been expended when Uncle Sam's engineers have completed the present program of reclamation. In nearly every western state the flood waters of the streams are being impounded and already thousands of families are benefitting by this stored water.

The activities of the federal government in reclamation work have resulted in awakening a widespread interest in irrigation, which is no longer a local question confined to our rainless country. Experience has shown that a more general application of its principles throughout the whole country would result in material benefit, especially in intensive agriculture such as stock raising and small fruit growing.

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