

THE JOURNAL

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How many cowards whose hearts are all as false As stairs of sand, wear yet upon their chins

THOSE FLAMING SWORDS

HERE are all those fine gentlemen who were recently so hotfooted for commission government?

In the late city campaign, every candidate for every office was a commission government volcano.

Commission government candidates and commission government voters whooped it up from every housetop.

They held aloft their banners, and their trumpeting shook the skyscrapers.

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Income is a lonely place to spend the winter, and a poor incentive to men we are urging to go on the soil.

Academically, Secretary Fisher's plan may offer reasons as a guarantee against frauds.

The best tests of the settler's good faith are his improvements and his products.

AN UNBUSINESSLIKE BUSINESS

FOLLOWING the recommendations of Postmaster General Hitchcock, President Taft advises congress to increase the rate on second class mail matter to two cents per pound.

Here is another case of Mr. Hitchcock's unwillingness to see the business side of carrying the mails.

The government is already charging newspapers \$1 per 100 pounds for short haul service.

But, because the express companies handle this class of matter more cheaply, the government loses the short haul business.

On the other hand, the government carries matter on the long haul at the same rate, and all the long haul business goes through the mails.

As all sane establishments do, the postoffice department should make a charge for second class matter commensurate with the service rendered.

Now the "Local Anzeiger" of Berlin, being a paper often used for semi-official announcements by the German government.

Foundations will be laid there on which African questions, the Bagdad railway, the relations between Germany, England and Russia in relation to Persia and the rear east, the policy of the nations about China, and the cessation or reduction of bloated armaments can be dealt with.

It is to be the fact as stated, that credit is to be given to King George for putting an end to the tension, he has done great service to the world.

Without the map of Africa will be reconstructed. The Cape to Cairo railway will then have to cross a wide belt of territory not colored with the British red.

The theory of the "great illusion" will be tested. Norman Angell proved from history, and argument, that the nation which developed a territory by peaceful trade profited far more thereby than its rival which spilled blood and treasure to force a nominal sovereignty.

In that huge continent there is surely room for both. Rivalry will be acute, ambition will run high. But the rivals will be the peaceful trader, the developer, the ambition that to show the most rapid progress from savagery to civilization.

Secretary Fisher stoutly maintains his contention that the period for homesteading must be five years with a brief time allowance in winter months for the first three years for the settler to work elsewhere for the means of living.

Speaker Clark has promised his aid to the Borah bill with a three years' period and a reasonable concession as to time off.

What is a home without a living? What is a farm without a product? What chance for survival is there for a homesteader until he has tamed his land and made it productive.

The real test of right to title should not be time served, but products grown and improvements made.

A fireplace without fuel is a mighty dreary spot. A homestead with no

gardens of who may be either helped or hurt.

The final point is that substantial justice shall be the end—all of the trial. On that, devoid of technicalities to the utmost possible, the righteousness of the verdict shall depend.

FREE TOLLS

IT is possible that congress may commit an unpardonable blunder with reference to canal tolls.

One theory advanced at Washington is that there should be competitive rates to attract foreign tonnage from Suez, and a sufficient tax on domestic tonnage to make the canal a paying investment.

It is the old policy of taxing ourselves and giving the foreigner the benefit of our own industry.

The canal is one national opportunity to benefit almost every state.

The proposed charter provide for a water commission which will have power to raise funds and expend them, independently of the city government.

The Pacific coast wants eastern manufactured products at prices that do not make them prohibitive.

Coastwise traffic is already over handicapped by destructive navigation laws.

Public sentiment, voted by public bodies and otherwise, should thunder at the doors of congress.

There is not a doubt of the value of state aid as a stimulus in road building.

In Oregon, good highways are of inestimable value to Portland.

The only way Portland can help road building in that county is through state aid.

The criminal law and its administration are in point.

A criminal code should be clear, simple, comprehensible, the definitions of offenses free from technicality.

When the district attorney begins his work it should be his part to bring into the light of day, the truth.

The judge should control the trial. His powers should extend to the exclusion of evidence outside the lines of the indictment and defense.

Perish the thought, but can it be that the two Irvington husbands who refused to understand that their wives were not real burglars, and punished them so severely, were not really so ignorant on the point of identity as appeared on the surface?

A Boston man has won a fifty dollar prize for a song on the high cost of living.

For a man who says he doesn't intend to run, Bwana is taking extraordinary precautions to have the track clear.

in two minutes. Here is a chance for the American Health Protective association to have them pulled for speeding.

A Missouri judge has ruled that a barber is not an artist. But many a man who shaves himself shows ability in fresco work.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Counting fools of all grades and degrees, they are an overwhelming majority.

Anybody with nothing worth while to do can always start a new society, order of lodge.

Mrs. Sinclair doesn't want to love the same fellow long—unless he has plenty of money.

Seaside Charter Campaign. Seaside, Or., Feb. 21.—To the Editor of The Journal.—The people of the consolidated city of Seaside will vote on the twenty-eighth of this month to adopt one or reject both of two charters submitted by the charter committee.

The proposed charter provide for a water commission which will have power to raise funds and expend them, independently of the city government.

The contest on the twenty-eighth will be another battle between the Henninger and anti-Henninger forces.

Portland, Feb. 22.—To the Editor of The Journal.—I am a Union Veteran, but have lost my certificate of discharge from service in Sherman's front as a carpenter and as fireman on a military railroad entering Chattanooga, Tenn.

They will remember when we took them from Atlanta to Rome, Ga., and how the weeds had grown up between the rails.

Wants Work. Portland, Or., Feb. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal.—I read in The Journal of February 16 of kind-hearted people who started a fund for one Quincey Adams Lewis, which is a going concern, and shows that there are some good and kind people in Portland.

Work for Big Men. Hood River, Feb. 22.—To the Editor of The Journal.—If Uncle Sam got the ship building duties, without regard to the construction of seagoing commercial ships, it would be better than the toll district of "fare please" on the canal's completion.

Single Taxer Defines Land. Portland, Or., Feb. 22.—To the Editor of The Journal.—Many of the letters to your paper discussing single tax are misleading and fail to make clear the points intended because of the misuse and misunderstanding of terms such as land, land value, landlord, etc.

Our Precious Tariff. Portland, Or., Feb. 21.—To the Editor of The Journal.—I see in your Saturday Journal that the Portland Chamber of Commerce has hired Senator Chamberlain to work against any change in tariff schedules excepting such as are prepared by the tariff commission.

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Some prominent men are declining to run for senator—wisely, probably.

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OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Coccolite people are agitating for free city delivery of mail.

Forty-five citizens have offered themselves for service in the volunteer fire department that is being organized at Lakewood.

Students of the Wallawalla county high school will present a burlesque version of "Merchant of Venice" Saturday night at the opera house in Enterprise.

Albany Democrat: Henry Kiresh has 21 acres, and is showing what can be done with a small tract of land. He has 350 cords of wood cut. Besides he has seven cows and numerous other chattels.

Ordinances are being prepared at Hood River requiring that a few dimes shall be placed underground within the fire limits and that outside of the fire limits all electric wires shall be placed on one of the street and telephone wires on the other.

Lakewood Examiner: Plans are under way here for the organization of a Gaelic football association among the local Irish boys.

Milton Eagle: Noah Taylor of Free-water has in his possession one of the rarest coins in existence, a half dollar piece coined in 1853 by the California state mint, and in size about that of a dime, but made of pure gold.

Lebanon Express: Oil leases were recorded with the county clerk a few days ago. Marquest, 450 acres; Williams, 450 acres; George A. McCarty, 100 acres; George J. Wilhelm, 600 acres; C. Wasson, 205 acres; E. J. Williams, 200 acres; and T. E. Grimes, 100 acres, all near Harrisburg, to J. J. Yackley; consideration, one-eighth royalty.

Corvallis city council has ordered that within six months the opera house is provided with an outside staircase, a rear exit, a good brick fire, and other adequate precautionary measures against fire.

SEVEN FAMOUS MUSEUMS

Metropolitan Museum. The Metropolitan Museum of New York city is the most important of the many museums in our country, and is better known than all the others.

The museum's collection of glass was increased by a purchase from Charvet and presented by Henry G. Marquand, also a later collection presented by J. J. Lewis, making the entire collection of glass the most valuable known.

There are magnificent collections of Babylonian, Assyrian, and other ancient cylinders, seal and inscribed clay tablets; Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Indian art in gold and silver; as well as pottery and stone; modern sculptures and bronzes; the Huntington collection of memorabilia of Washington, Franklin and Lafayette; terra-cotta statues, jewelry and modern glass; oriental enamel and other pottery, and objects of art in metal, ivory, etc.; the Coles collection of tapestries and vases; the Lazarus collection of miniatures, enamels, jewelry, and fans; the Draper collection of objects of art in gold and silver; the C. W. King collection of ancient gems, purchased and presented to the museum by John Taylor Johnston; the collection of oriental porcelain from S. E. Avery; the Japanese sword collection of musical instruments of all nations, presented by Mrs. John Crosby Brown, with a smaller collection presented by J. W. Drexler; the Banker and Aldrich and Cannon's collection.

Tomorrow—The Smithsonian Institution. Aldrich and Cannon's collection. You who have been studying the question for 20 years can know nothing about the subject in comparison with this essential commission. It is only in raising a tariff that a commission is not needed. If you are asked for a request you will find in prolonging this beneficial institution in its great work of turning out millionaires and sweat shops. I see Judge Gary has had his ear to the ground.

Jewish Women for Votes. Portland, Feb. 22.—To the Editor of The Journal.—When we open our spiritual eyes and peep a little deeper into the question of "women's emancipation," we perceive very plainly that the women's suffrage idea, is not only making a big progress, but it extends and it is prevailing all over the world. It is a modern life of activity, of equality in prosperity and adversity, pleasure and sorrow, in victory and defeat.

Willing to Help. Kenton, Feb. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal.—I would like to meet any who are interested in the subject of a stranger club with a view to forming one. I have been here three years as a business man of fair means and a property owner. Having felt the need of such a club, I will assist financially immediately. D. O. NEILL.

The Ohio supreme court has upheld the constitutionality of the Grange nine hour work day law for women.

State Aid for Canadian Roads

Honorable Dr. Reame, minister of public works, has announced that another million dollars is to be raised to continue contributions toward the cost of good roads built by counties, under the highway improvement act.

The previous million dollar fund was raised 10 years ago, when the system of aiding municipal road building was adopted.

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