

THE JOURNAL

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Modest doubt is called The beacon of the wise, the tent that searches To the bottom of the worst.—Shakespeare.

PORTLAND'S TRADE CRISIS

WE have a committee report on the Portland trade crisis. It is recommended that a bonus of \$75,000 a year be raised for three years as public subsidy for an oriental steamship line. This is the plan of the sub-committee of the oriental trade committee of the chamber of commerce. The plan is proposed after an exhaustive study of the situation.

The report says: "In our opinion, a subsidy can be raised, and it is worth the trial, because its accomplishment lays the foundation of success in the efforts on the part of Portland to secure an oriental steamship line, as the committee having the bonus in charge, would be in a position to make a contract with one of the present Trans-Pacific steamship lines, or it could offer a locally organized company a helping hand that would be almost certain to secure the necessary subscriptions to the capital stock."

The committee is Mr. Mears, Mr. Wilcox and Mr. Knapp. It is a substantial committee, and its belief that the subsidy can be raised is of value. It is splendid encouragement for organizing a Portland steamship company. The \$225,000 of bonus during three years, is \$225,000 of free insurance against loss. It is \$225,000 of working capital for the business. It is a two-hundred-and-twenty-five-thousand-dollar guarantee that the enterprise will be successful.

A local company could not begin business with a more encouraging outlook. There is an abundance of men in Portland with brains and experience for conducting such an enterprise. Portland banks are gorged with idle money. There are 200 men and women in the city who could take \$5000 of stock in such a company as easily as they could buy a breakfast.

In what other business does the public offer a guarantee of \$225,000 against loss? It is a two-hundred-and-twenty-five-thousand-dollar guarantee that the enterprise will be successful. "Such a line conducted for three years in Portland would become a paying enterprise," said a Portlander of large shipping experience yesterday. He was once a member of a big steamship company. "It could charter three or four ships for three years and put them into the service. It would have a standing that would enable it to arrange favorable routings with the railroads. The bonus of \$225,000 would absolutely guarantee it against loss for three years, and in three years, by regular sailings and proper accommodations to the shipping public, it could easily build up a business that would be profitable."

The day that such a line was established, there would be a new atmosphere in the millinery, manufacturing and exporting circles of Portland. Only discouragement is there now. Orders pour in, but there is no transportation except for the men who have branch establishments on Puget sound. The oriental business is slipping away. The mills must run shorter hours or close down. There is no rosette future ahead. There are actually men in the district who think of pulling up stakes and moving to the sound.

A new air would be affixed the moment a first sailing date for a new line was announced. It would be a line giving equal opportunity for the small shipper with the big shipper. We have had no such line in recent years. What we have had was an annex to Puget sound. Oriental steamers have sailed out of Portland and left with cargo round saved for Seattle while Portland shippers stood on the wharves and clamored and begged in vain for space. That is why business slipped away from us. That is why the Portland that once had all the northwest trade with the orient has no oriental line now, while Seattle has four and Tacoma has a regular line in addition to calls from the Blue Funnel.

The Journal believes the railroads would give routings to aid the enterprise. Railroads don't always do what they should, but it is probable that in this case they could be shown. They do not always realize it, but it is to the interest of the railroads to help make Portland a mitting and trade center. Every added man employed in Portland makes more railroad traffic. Every stimulus to Portland trade or industry makes

more railroad traffic. Every influence that builds up Portland and Oregon makes railroad traffic. If the big figures of Portland will join in organizing a steamship company, it will be the beginning of a new epoch in Portland's life as a city. It will stimulate industry. It will stimulate trade. It will stimulate employment. It will stimulate building construction. It will stimulate the field of labor. It will stimulate the business of every department store and every little store. Indirectly, it will be of material value to every resident of Portland.

Under the encouragement of a guarantee of \$225,000 against loss, if, with \$225,000 as free insurance against a deficit, is there not enough red blood in Portland to launch such a company? If not, what is Portland?

ON TO ARMAGEDDON

STANDING on the brink of the impassable gulf that separates him from those who, not being bull moosers, are mostly malignant lions, white-livered thieves and grave robbers, Colonel Roosevelt says:

If the tariff is really to be made a tariff for revenue only, then every species of protection must be removed from the American farmer and the American laboring man. Furthermore, if the Democratic platform is not repudiated, then the party under Wilson will bring every industry in the country to a crash which would make all panics in our past history seem like chins play in comparison.

The authors of the Payne-Aldrich tariff couldn't have said it better. Joe Cannon couldn't have said it better. The Lawrence mill owners couldn't have said it better.

The secretary of the American Protective Tariff League, who declared he would rather have Boss Murphy than Woodrow Wilson for president, couldn't have said it better. George W. Perkins of the harvester trust couldn't have said it better. Judge Gary of the steel trust couldn't have said it better.

All the mandarins of special privilege and all the field marshals of Big Business joined in a grand chorus of protest, couldn't have said it better. But—in whose term in the presidency did the last great panic occur?

A NAME ONLY

THE other day a young white girl was brutally whipped by a party of men down in Georgia. The girl was carried to a grove on the outskirts of a city. There she was stripped to the skin while four men held her, and one lashed her naked body with a buggy whip. A negro chauffeur held a lantern nearby so that the men could see to do the job thoroughly. The girl now lies at the point of death in a southern hospital.

The only excuse offered by the men for their disgusting assault is that the girl refused to promise to give up the young man with whom she was in love.

The men responsible for the attack were not ignorant, irresponsible toughs, but men of affairs. And they were men of affairs in the chivalrous south which has always been famed for its high respect for woman.

A COLOSSAL EXTORTION, No. 2. WALL street expert on finance says the people of the United States are paying interest and profits on \$20,000,000,000 of watered stock. Thirty billion dollars is a staggering sum. The human mind cannot comprehend it. By comparison, we know that it is more by a billion dollars than the total investment in farm property in the United States a few years ago. Speaking of this huge overcapitalization, the Philadelphia Telegraph, a standpat Republican paper, says:

In other words, it is 30 billions of dollars represent the capitalization of what is known as "the good will" of business. On this huge sum dividends amounting to one billion and a half have to be paid annually. This amounts to about \$18 per capita or \$100 per average family. To pay this vast sum, only a part of the dividend fund, either wages must be kept relatively low or prices must be artificially raised. Every year we are compelled to pay on this unwieldy, intangible, unreal value \$1,500,000,000 in interest. The annual interest totals more than the value of all the taxable property in Oregon, with thirty annual wheat crops thrown in. Every man, woman and child in the United States has to pay \$18 apiece, every year, to meet this interest.

ures at which men would stagger. Those figures are the real explanation of why the cost of living is high. The labor-saving machines should have reduced the life cost. But they haven't. They made production easier and cheaper, but the price of everything is enormously increased. A cause of increase is the staggering total of money that we must annually raise to pay interest and profits on overcapitalization—interest and profits on thirty millions of water, interest and profits on thirty millions of nothing, interest and profits on thirty millions of unearned, intangible, unreal wealth that shrewd financiers collect of us through stocks and bonds.

Woodrow Wilson refused campaign contributions from Thomas F. Ryan and Wall street in order that the field marshals of overcapitalization might have no strings on him and the White House.

THE FEE NUISANCE

THERE is pending before the courts in Portland an alienist's bill for \$1000 for testimony in the Roberts case.

There is another bill for \$950 by another alienist in the same case. The \$950 bill is from an attache of the state insane asylum. No court should authorize the payment of fees so extravagant. One circuit judge has already refused to allow the fee of the asylum official. All courts should require a more moderate fee in both instances.

Nor should the cut be restricted to the alienists. Attorneys' fees in estates and other cases, receivers' fees, stenographers' fees, and other fees have been permitted by judges to mount to extravagant figures, figures that are beyond all the bounds of reason.

We recently had the spectacle of a \$30,000 attorney's fee in a receiver's proceeding at Pendleton. We had a \$9000 attorney's fee in a \$19,000 receivership of the Seaside Lumber company. We had a trustee's fee of \$2000 in the same case. The public is not deceived as to what these extravagant fees mean. They are easy money, if not worse. They are money that somebody has to toil for and sweat for. They add to the high cost of living, a cost that fees, costs, tribute, taxes and allowances help boost higher and higher.

Worse than all, they decrease public respect for the courts. Judges cannot afford to allow fees out of all proportion to the service rendered. They cannot afford to allow huge rackets that the public knows to be extravagant.

There should be a change, and there will be a change in this unfit status.

THE ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

IN his speech of acceptance Mr. Taft says the law cannot make the rich reasonably poor and the poor reasonably rich. He says, "votes are not bread, constitutional amendments are not work, referendums do not pay rent and furnish houses, recalls do not furnish clothing, initiatives do not supply employment and relieve inequalities of conditions of opportunity."

It is an honest, frank statement from the president, as are all the utterances in his speech. It is his viewpoint, and from that viewpoint Mr. Taft ventures into an avowal that the masses everywhere will misunderstand, misconstrue and resent.

No president in history has been more unfortunate in his discussions of public issues, and in few instances has Mr. Taft been more unhappy than in his speech of acceptance.

The dispatches say those present when it was delivered frequently applauded the president's points. The applauders are to be admired for their enthusiasm. The men who can keep up their courage at such a time could whistle and make merry in a graveyard.

THE MAN ON HORSEBACK

HIS articles say Governor West went on horseback to Bolso to be spectacular. If West had gone in a coffin they would have said he did it to be spectacular. No man knows better than does West, the value of such a journey on horseback. It carries him through the country roads, past the farmers on their wagons and in their homes, over the hills where the woodmen work, over the hills where the common man travels. It is a way to come in contact with the little man, to learn his viewpoint first hand; to learn the touch with those on the low levels and to contrast their viewpoint with that of the upper crust.

Most public men journey by Pullman, amid the great and near great, far removed from the herd that toils and spins in the great outdoors. It is why the common man is so often publicly forgotten.

Letters From the People

(Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length and must be accompanied by the return address. If the writer does not desire to have the name published, he should so state.)

Protection and Taxation.

Portland, Or., July 30.—To the Editor of The Journal—It is claimed by the protected manufacturer that without the tariff they could not operate and that many plants would be compelled to shut down. And again that it enables them to pay better wages. Also that it shuts out importations of pauper labor made goods. But they do not tell the public that it increases their profits from the tariff.

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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE. The more prosperity, the less interest in politics. Early rising each morning helps to make a happy day. Trade and commerce are the lifeblood of a seaport city. The harvest is great, and the laborers are many, but not enough. Chinese gambling games are bad, of course, but there are really worse evils. Give the I. W. W.'s due credit; they seem not to be interfering with harvest hands. O, the hotels will thrive and the drummers will drum after the parcels post is established. More and more every summer the tourists are making Portland a principal objective point. Votes on tariff bills indicate a gratifying decrease of mere partyism and politics in congress. Democratic senators voting for a good Republican tariff bill is one sign of political progress. The able laborer who won't work now shouldn't complain if it is a cold, hungry world for him next winter. Mexican rebels are increasing again in number and activity; they must have discovered some new "angels."

OREGON SIDELIGHTS. Work is about to begin on the superstructure of the Y. M. C. A. building at Baker. Roseburg lodge No. 1037, Loyal Order of Moose, has set on foot an active movement for the erection of a lodge building. A bank at Newberg has adopted the day-and-night system for Saturday business. It is open from 7 to 9 o'clock p. m. on that day. Jacksonville Post: Now that we have one of the best water systems outside of Portland, how about a few sewers? Bound to come, and the sooner the better. Oregon City Courier: And with the coming of a city on the west side will come a new suspension bridge, the new one twice as wide as the present structure. Construction work on the new Presbyterian church in Eugene has commenced. The builders hope to have the building inclosed before the fall rains set in. Haines Record: Four steel bridges are to be erected in the county this season, which will make a total of 20 steel structures in this county during the past three years. Oregon City Courier: Cluster lights on encourage a single grower. Plant again next year and every year. The man who does this will win. Eugene Register: Albany is to be congratulated on the completion of its new filter system, at a cost of \$30,000. Eugene has had a filter of the same type in use for two years, and constant tests of the water show that the filter does the work. The Hermiston Herald thus cheers the potato grower on the project: "Early potatoes did not bring an average price this year, but this year, at the present time, the price is up. Plant again next year and every year. The man who does this will win."

There will be three or four months steady harvesting work, at good wages, in the inland empire. But it will not be arduous work under an easy boss. An alleged boss named Murphine is to be Baltimore candidate for congress. He may be partially abrogated before another house this summer. Congress can't very well put Taft in a hole now, though maybe he might be pushed a little farther down. The sugar trust's authority to plunder will be a national scandal before the end of the year.

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SEVEN FAMOUS CALENDARS

Gregorian Calendar. So perfect was the Julian style of reckoning that it prevailed generally among Christian nations, and remained undisturbed until the accumulation of the remaining error of 11 minutes or so had made a difference of 10 complete days, the vernal equinox falling on the 11th instead of the 21st of March, as it did at the council of Nice, A. D. 325.

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question to be solved, we now see the gleam of a brighter morning for us and our American, and can almost hear the shouts of "God save the emperor of the land" as we stand now so near the banks of a political Jordan river. The Taft and the Wilson platforms are silent upon the liquor question. The Roosevelt and Socialist platforms will no doubt have the same "aching word" in brief and concise; the platforms of the two old parties are a great mass of words, so much so that even the National Tribune, Washington, D. C., the great champion for our civil war veterans, has said that "Woodrow Wilson is a good man no doubt, but when he utters words like 'I will fight with the campaign, he is like 'Poor Tracy' was said to be. I firmly believe there are hundreds of thousands of not several millions of American citizens who are the 'idea of November' will flock to the prohibition standard, Christian men and women too, who will vote as they pray; that the drink curse will be removed. We may not win to a position in Washington but we will hold the "balance power" and by 1916 we will elect our man. By that time the liquor men will all be in one party and the prohibitionists in the other. Our nation can no more survive 'half drunk, half sober,' than we could 'half slave, half free' as Lincoln declared.

Does Not Want to Vote. William, Or., July 30.—To the Editor of The Journal—I want to thank "A College Anti-Suffragist" for her article on your column last night. By her article one can tell that she is a woman of true culture and refinement. May her tribe increase. Such women as this are the only ones who are of grand nation to near perfection. Nothing can convince a normal mind of the present day that women are not the intellectual equal of man—unless it is the insane methods of the suffragists. Let us be thankful that our American women are not released from their proper place in the English colonies. Let the women of our day keep in touch with the laws and questions of the day, discuss them intelligently in our homes, bringing our finer sensibilities to bear on a man's more rugged nature. That will do more good than any action protesting the men—our American men who do more for us than any other men of any other nation ever did or ever will be made to do by women who forget their modesty, decency and kindness in the rush for a new sensation. Is anything perfect? Are good men and women all over the universe giving their lives in one unending struggle to benefit humanity, in vain? Do women, two thirds of whom are not of the class who could understand political problems thoroughly, expect by giving their uneducated opinion to remedy the ill master minds are bending all their energy toward? What class of women will vote? Will it be the woman who is busy helping lame dogs over stile in her own little corner of the earth? Or will it be the woman of the class who are honest in their endeavor and who actually believe that woman by her vote will clear the earth of her filth, but how small that crowd will be beside that great company who are clamoring for votes for various other reasons.

Another Anti-Suffragist. A Veteran Prohibitionist. Albany, Or., July 31.—To the Editor of The Journal—It is very seldom that I do not fully agree with the sentiment expressed in your editorials, but I do not agree, or rather I am not optimistic about the result of your editorial of the 28th instant headed "Why Wilson Will Win" and ending with these words "There is not the slightest chance to defeat Woodrow Wilson." With the defeat of the Republican party as between Taft and Roosevelt, there is great promise that your prediction will come true; but you have still to reckon with the prohibition and Socialist parties, particularly the former. "We have stood on the prohibition 'firing line' for 30 years, and the summit of Mount Hood and had the grandest view of my life. Twenty years from today I expect to stand with others upon some lofty height of moral reform, and though voice may be tremulous with age; to join in the glad shout, 'the saloon is gone, we have won the day.' At the tremendous pace at which prohibition sentiment is growing, I have every reason to believe my "forecast" will become true, at least in Oregon. I am a "booster" for our peerless commonwealth, and though an humble farmer there is nothing that I can do in my advanced years that will bring my native state more of prosperity, peace and happiness than to help wipe off her fair face the crowning sin of the ages, the "legalized liquor traffic." And to this end we will ever pray.

Always in Good Humor. NEW PROBLEM IN PHYSICS. From The Washington Post. The class in force will now kindly explain what happens when an irresistible built moose meets an immovable elephant. A GUEST'S MISTAKE. From The St. Paul Dispatch. A gentleman staying at a hotel asked the person next to him if he would please pass the mustard. "Sir," said the other, "do you mistake me for a waiter?" "Oh, no sir," was the immediate reply. "I only mistook you for a gentlemanman."

SOME CLASS. From The Pittsburgh Post. "Some class to our graduating exercises," boasted the south side girl. "What's that?" "Some class, believe me." "Aw, you roped in some senator, I suppose, to deliver the diploma." "The senator is nothing. We had the diploma delivered by a south-paw pitcher. Some class, eh?"

A SUFFRAGE SUGGESTION. From The Washington Post. Why not settle the woman's suffrage question by giving the ballot to the wife first in every family in which the husband is too lazy to register and exercise the franchise?

Pointed Paragraphs. Many a man's courage isn't skin deep. Worthless people are often more amusing than worthy ones. A small boy tries to practice economy in the use of toilet soap. When a man is flat broke his wife calls it financial embarrassment. It certainly is. When two smiles come together in a head-on collision the result of a kiss is every citizen in which the husband is too lazy to register and exercise the franchise?

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Work is about to begin on the superstructure of the Y. M. C. A. building at Baker. Roseburg lodge No. 1037, Loyal Order of Moose, has set on foot an active movement for the erection of a lodge building. A bank at Newberg has adopted the day-and-night system for Saturday business. It is open from 7 to 9 o'clock p. m. on that day. Jacksonville Post: Now that we have one of the best water systems outside of Portland, how about a few sewers? Bound to come, and the sooner the better. Oregon City Courier: And with the coming of a city on the west side will come a new suspension bridge, the new one twice as wide as the present structure. Construction work on the new Presbyterian church in Eugene has commenced. The builders hope to have the building inclosed before the fall rains set in. Haines Record: Four steel bridges are to be erected in the county this season, which will make a total of 20 steel structures in this county during the past three years. Oregon City Courier: Cluster lights on encourage a single grower. Plant again next year and every year. The man who does this will win. Eugene Register: Albany is to be congratulated on the completion of its new filter system, at a cost of \$30,000. Eugene has had a filter of the same type in use for two years, and constant tests of the water show that the filter does the work. The Hermiston Herald thus cheers the potato grower on the project: "Early potatoes did not bring an average price this year, but this year, at the present time, the price is up. Plant again next year and every year. The man who does this will win."

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