

THE JOURNAL

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It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion. It is easy in solitude to live after our own. But the great man is he who keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude.—Emerson.

WALL STREET'S RAGE

WALL street is in a rage at the president-elect over the Chicago speech. It ought not to be. A fairer, milder, gentler appeal could not have been made. It was not a threat, but a petition to the captains of finance and industry to join with the rest of the country for economic freedom.

Nothing is so stupid in matters outside of cash registers and dollar-mills as are the brigades of great business. Their vision is a panorama of bank vaults and cash boxes. Their horizon is bounded by the stately towers and office buildings of Wall and William streets.

Over the fog and dust of national industry, their chief perspective is one of steeples and minarets of flotations, inflation and dividends from watered stock. Their geography is a map of railroad lines, corporations within corporations and gigantic syndicates, all centering in the city of New York.

THE MOVING PICTURE TRUST

At the hearing in New York of the suit of the government to dissolve the moving picture trust remarkable evidence was given. The General Film company was organized May 15, 1910. A year and a half afterwards it controlled eighty-three per cent of the moving picture business of the country.

Mr. Pelzer said that "no minutes were kept." Mr. Pelzer also seems to have studied in the Gary school. A young corporation that in a life of a year and a half has absorbed eighty-three per cent of the moving picture business of the country is a pretty hasty infant.

THE ELECTROCUTION BILL

IT ISN'T because the job is done with a rope that there is objection in Oregon to the death penalty. A rope by any other name would smell as sweet. It is not the manner of killing, but the killing that is opposed.

Those who have looked in on the horrors of an electrocution chamber with the white light focused brilliantly over the terrible death chair and all the rest of the room weird with shadows, pronounce it one of the most horrible scenes.

The preparations for the electrocution are even more gruesome. A part of the hair is shaved off the back of the neck to aid the contact, and this with the other preparations, and the chances of a horrible slip are, to many minds, more terrible than the simple matter of adjusting the noose and touching the button.

COMMISSION RULE GAINS

In the National Municipal Review for January the progress in the nation of commission government is noted in detail for the past year. In a list of cities, great and small, which have adopted it the following appear: St. Paul, Minn.; Salem, Mass.; Atlantic City, N. J.; Lincoln, Neb.; New Orleans, La., and Duluth, Minn.

Many cities have taken, or are taking advantage of constitutional amendments allowing municipal home rule without special legislation. The convention process for amendment of a city charter without complete revision has been affirmed by various state supreme courts.

COMING VOTE ON SUFFRAGE

Lines are so drawn in Parliament that a vote is expected on Friday, next, on the addition of the woman suffrage amendment to the government enfranchisement measure. Mr. Asquith has announced that every member can follow his own sweet will in voting, and that the government will be bound by the result.

Mr. Selling complains. If the railroads will not give Portland and Astoria justice, the Columbia river can be made a more powerful regulator of freight rates than all the Interstate commissions and all the railroad commissions in the world.

THE REVOLVER BILL

A BILL at Salem is leveled at the indiscriminate sale and carrying of the revolver and other concealed weapons. It provides a way for a dependable citizen who needs it to obtain a weapon. That seems as much as any citizen can ask.

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 name and address of the sender. It is the policy of the Journal to publish the name of the author, but to withhold the name if the author so requests.

MR. SELLING'S STATEMENT

MR. SELLING says Portland is too big for the rest of the state. He adds that the trade of 1912 was not better than in previous years. He thinks it will not be better in 1913. He says in Sunday's Journal: One of the prime causes for this condition is the investment by thousands of wage earners in suburban property at full prices on which it is impossible to realize at present.

TO URGE AUDITOR COMMISSION

Portland, Jan. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal.—A well attended and spirited meeting of the west side improvement clubs, held at the hall of the South Portland Boosters' club, corner Third and Sherman streets, the auditorium question was the order of the day. The main question was that the delay in the acting of the commission in the construction of the building was unwarrantable.

THE HIRED MAN AND HIS BOSS

Killekitat, Wash., Jan. 16, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal.—The "Hired Man" (Farmer's Source: None to Be Had) in The Journal of January 15, I read that Oliver C. Cornwell of Walla Walla makes that statement. Now, as farming is such a healthy, pleasant and lucrative business, why should this not be the case of Portland and the country adjacent to Walla Walla, I make the following observations and venture these few words in explanation: To begin with, the average successful farmer in the Walla Walla country moves to the city.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE. In most states about the fattest office in the state print... In all legislatures there are some penny-wise and pound-foolish members. The method of getting good roads is important, but not so important as good roads.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Corvallis high school band has been organized under the leadership of S. E. Wright. The band is composed of 25 pieces. Local talent of Corvallis will soon present a drama in four acts, entitled "A Daughter of the Desert," a story of life in Arizona.

THE PHILIPPINE QUESTION

In view of President Taft's declaration against the Democratic plan of giving self-government to the Philippines, the American resident of the islands and published in the Springfield, Mass., Republican, is of interest. Dear Sir: Many Democratic congressmen and Mr. Wilson himself are bound to be influenced by the enormous volume of evidence testifying to the disqualifications of the Filipino for self-government.

ALWAYS IN GOOD HUMOR

A TRIFLE IN ACCURATE. From the Chattanooga Times. Nothing was saved except the front wheels, the engine being badly cracked by the heat. Mr. Schneider lost a Panama hat, his gloves, inner casing and other extras.—Yakima (Wash.) Republic. Interesting but a trifle inaccurate. One's inner casing should not be classified as extras. They belong to our regular equipment.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS

Men who marry for looks seldom get good cooks. A fool boy may get over it, but a fool man is hopeless. The average man is willing to confess a fault he hasn't got. It is your friends who pick you to pieces; other people are indifferent.

A SHOPPING DIRECTORY

It tells you of the newest products and the latest merchandise. It gives information of the best in everything up to the minute. It guides you to the most reliable stores. It aids you in economical buying. It protects you against buying inferior grades of goods. Manufacturers of worthy products advertise them in THE JOURNAL. All needs of the person and the home may be satisfied through THE JOURNAL'S advertisements.

WALL STREET'S RAGE

From the New York World. Did Wall Street think Woodrow Wilson was a political crook? Did it think he was a political liar? Did it think he was a political confidence man engaged in luring the American people? Did it believe that he was seeking the presidency under false pretenses and would sell out as soon as he was elected?

THE PHILIPPINE QUESTION

Free the vicious influence of travel under such conditions. The other classes are more summarily disposed of. We Americans hold the office of messenger which are worth while except some of the judgeships. As long as we continue to want the salaries of those positions so long are we going to be a unit in declaring that the Philippines are disqualified to hold them. No change of politics will cause us to change our heart. Although a Democrat myself, I am quite well assured there will be no lack of Democrats who are patriots for reasons—who, if they succeed to those positions now filled by Republicans, will just as quickly discover the unfitness of the native to hold any good salaried job.

ALWAYS IN GOOD HUMOR

Both the civil and military governments are buying enormous quantities of supplies. They now favor American tradesmen, a patronage which would naturally revert to Filipino dealers upon a change of governmental policy. The daily (American) newspapers are, of course, the most virulent advocates of the native to hold any good salaried job. They are not to our credit. We could not help it. Mr. Taft declared that the collection of intelligence, piracy and legal knowledge of the islands, and the Manila, fell short of the best judicial standards. He had to appoint Filipinos. A single instance will illustrate the status of every American office holder in the Philippine Islands.

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