

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER... PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING... SUBSCRIPTIONS... RATES...

of many With... of the morning picture... it is, in its actual... a revelation and a...

A HUMBUR... THE city of Portland ought not to buy the Fritz Strobel property at any such figure as is proposed.

Twenty-three thousand dollars for a house and an acre of ground at Sixth and Sheridan is absurd. The assessor knows it is absurd, for he valued it this year at only \$5500—\$4500 for the ground and \$1000 for the house.

The very foundation upon which the asking price of the property is based is an indictment of the figures. B. D. Sigler, former assessor, appraised the property for the information and guidance of the city commissioners at \$22,250. But last year, Mr. Sigler, as assessor, valued the property for assessment purposes at \$3800 for ground and \$1000 for the house, or \$4800 in all.

As assessor, Mr. Sigler was commanded by a solemn statute to assess property at "its true cash value," and as assessor his official oath required him to obey the constitution and the statutes of the state. While acting under his oath of office he placed the value of the Strobel tract at \$4800, and his valuation made while serving the people under oath must discredit his valuation of \$22,250 made as appraiser.

At every turn, there is an inflated price when the public wants to buy, and a shriveled price when the public wants the property's share for the support of government. It is a practice that is immoral, and that teaches immorality. It sets up a sort of accepted understanding that it is no harm to gouge the public, a common belief that causes much of the graft and that has undermined and corrupted hundreds of thousands of men.

To pay more than four times as much for a property as it is assessed at is a sham, a humbug and a tremendous injustice to the people. It is bad enough to pay double the assessed value and even at that, the price would be all the Strobel tract is worth. But for the building of the Terwilliger Boulevard, which is costing the public \$150,000, nobody would think of paying one half as much for the Strobel property as is asked for it.

SENT TO PRISON... DAVID H. TOLMAN, known in the east as the king of the loan sharks, will spend six months in prison unless technicalities save him. He was convicted in New York the other day of collecting interest at the rate of 200 per cent a year for the use of \$10 loaned to a clerk for three months.

This is Tolman's first prison sentence, although many cities prosecuted him in the last ten years. He escaped with a \$1000 fine in Trenton, New Jersey, a month ago, but was arrested the next day on the charge on which he was sentenced to the penitentiary. He conducted between forty and fifty loan offices throughout the United States, and his methods were typical of most loan sharks.

Tolman accumulated millions by charging usurious rates of interest to his victims, mostly working people. His former escapes from jail were because his employees, usually women, were made scapegoats. He hid behind their skirts and allowed them to go to jail. Even when he went into court to collect his pound of flesh he compelled women employees to testify for him. He maintained a school for his employees, teaching them how to evade the laws against usury in the twenty-six states in which he had offices. He gave his branches company names. It was Tolman's first conviction in a New York court, although many prosecutions had been started against him. It was the first time a New York judge had opportunity to send him to prison, and the judge who heard the testimony gave notice that loan sharks can expect no better treatment in his court than thieves receive.

making markets available to the farmers. Ohio has demonstrated this. The Ohio Good Roads federation has remodeled the map of that state. The federation has been at work for years, with the result that now Ohio has a system of improved main roads connected up with each other and leading by the most direct routes from one important point to another. The trunk roads are so laid out as to make it easy to construct laterals, the trunk roads and the laterals combining in an inter-county system making the markets easy of access from every part of the state.

Ohio has what is called a market system of roads which run between the principal market points. It has been found by actual count that 90 per cent of the travel is between such towns and cities. Ten thousand miles of good roads serve 80 per cent of the state's population. Oregon counties should follow Ohio's example in road building.

THE OFFICIAL BUYER... IN PORTLAND, we have spent thousands of dollars and changed the form of city government in an effort to reach efficiency. Efficiency is the demand of the hour. It is the gospel of the age. It is the aim of every great industrial corporation, of every big railroad, of every steamship line, of every private business and is, or ought to be, the aim of every public institution.

There has been much effort to introduce efficiency in the public affairs of Multnomah county. Mr. Holman and his colleagues have managed to make a reduction of about \$3500 a month by better organization and better administration. Further effort is making to so increase efficiency that there may be added reductions.

In no field is there usually a larger leak in public administration than in a health or gas-works department, every body-buying purchase of supplies. To stop this leak, there has been a widespread resort to the purchasing agent, and in both private and public affairs that functionary is everywhere the official and responsible buyer.

Such an official has been installed in the county administration, and it was an excellent move. It reduces buying to a system, and makes for the efficiency that is the common and universal aim. Without exception every article from a paper of pins to a threshing machine used by Multnomah county, should be bought by the purchasing agent, and he be held accountable for his transactions.

The new administrative code went into effect October 1, and the county board is to be commended for its endeavor to faithfully apply its provisions and processes. The people expect every functionary in the county to unhesitatingly and fully cooperate in observing its terms and requirements.

KEEPING A PROMISE... PRESIDENT WILSON and Secretary of War Garrison have selected four Filipinos to be members of the Philippine commission. A fifth, Rafael Palma, who has been the only native on the commission since 1903, will continue in office. Thus the Filipinos will have control of the commission, as they have had control of the assembly, the legislative and administrative government going into the hands of natives.

This is the first step in the policy of the Wilson administration looking toward self government and ultimate independence of the Philippines. The native commissioners were recommended by Governor General Harrison. He says they are among the most prominent and best educated people of the islands. The future of the Philippines is in the hands of Filipinos, and it is for them to say when the United States government can withdraw from the islands.

Among the new commissioners is Victoriano Mapa, a lawyer, and since 1901 an associate justice of the supreme court of the islands. Another is a journalist in close touch with the people; a third is a lawyer of ability, and the fourth is a graduate of law and leader of his party in the assembly. Three of the native commissioners belong to the majority and two to the minority party of the islands. Four Americans will complete the commission's personnel. Heretofore the Filipinos had control of the assembly, but that body's acts could be nullified by the commission, eight of whose members were Americans. Under the new arrangement, the commission retains its power of veto, but with the natives in the majority, the veto power if exercised, is by act of the Filipinos themselves. If partisan politics should divide native members, the American members would have the balance of power.

fully fit, they will get self government. It is a fortunate circumstance that in the multitudinous and uproarious affairs of the Philadelphia Athletics they have to refer to him only as Manager Connie Mack. There might be another story to the world series if they had been compelled all the time to speak his full name, which is, Mr. Cornelius McGillicuddy.

Treasure hunters are searching for 600 jugs of whiskey said to have been sunk in the Missouri river in the early 50's. It will prove a vain and futile search, for, though freebooters and pirates may forget the hiding place of all other loot, their geography as to the whiskey is always unerring.

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 should be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. If the writer desires to have the same published, he should so indicate.)

Discussion is the greatest of all reformers. It rationalizes everything it touches. It no longer recognizes the right of a man to be a tyrant, and it no longer recognizes the right of a man to be a slave. It is the only force that has ever been able to bring about a change in the human mind.

After years of talk and months of effort on the part of the means of putting the loan sharks out of business, at least to a considerable extent, the public has realized that the measure deserves cordial approval and support. The loan shark is a leech on the body of the community, and his removal is a single commendable quality of feature.

Joseph E. Murphy, in Popular Mechanics... The building of a tunnel under the English channel, like the digging of the Panama canal, is a project that will not down. It has come up for discussion and agitation periodically for nearly a century, and each time it has been defeated because of military considerations. Thirty years ago the tunnel came very near becoming an accomplished fact. Trial headings aggregating about one-tenth the total length of this tunnel were dug. Then the work stopped on the same old idea that a connection with the continent might be used as a means of invasion in time of war.

The project is now being promoted again, and apparently with more likelihood than ever that it will be carried through to completion, owing to a pronounced change of attitude both on the part of the public and the authorities of England. Curiously enough, this change of attitude is due, not to any belief in the permanency of peace, but largely, if not entirely, to the development of the aeroplane and dirigible balloons as formidable instruments of war, with the consequent destruction of that "splendid isolation," in a physical sense at least, of which the British have always been so jealous. Dozens of airships have already made flights over the channel, and it is apparent that in any future war the most serious menace would come from other sources than a tunnel. A bill now pending before the British parliament contemplates the immediate beginning of construction. The building of the tunnel will place London in direct railway communication with Paris and other cities of the continent, and will eliminate one of the most disagreeable features of European travel, the much dreaded channel passage.

The construction of the tunnel would be a big engineering job, but it would not be comparable in cost or in the difficulties to be overcome, with the construction of the Panama canal, and the conditions to be met are fully as well known as those of the canal. As they were at Panama before work there began. A surprising amount of reliable information has been gathered in regard to this project. The French alone have already made a device for the channel and demonstrated beyond a doubt that the chalk strata that form the prominent feature of both the English and French coasts continue unbroken under the channel. Complete maps and sections have been worked out, and these show that favor-

able conditions exist for the construction of a tunnel. The natural place for the tunnel is the Strait of Dover, where the distance from coast to coast is only about 30 miles and where the average depth of water is about 13 feet. A narrow strip of water has always been one of the important international highways of the world and the traffic lines on both coasts converge to it. But it is also a great natural barrier, and the force of the swift currents and rough seas to which it is subject. The economic importance of the strait as a link between England and the continent will never be altered, and it is therefore inevitable that a tunnel providing adequate railway transportation will finally be built.

The tunnel, as proposed, will run from the Shakespeare cliffs near Dover, England, to Sangatte on the French coast near Calais, and its total length will be a little more than 22 miles. On each side it will enter the cliffs at a short distance from the shore and drop down on a grade of 1 in 80 for about 2 miles into the impervious gray chalk under the strait. From each of these low points the grade will rise at the rate of 1 in 100 to the center of the middle of the strait, the thickness of the gray chalk being great enough to permit this arrangement. The plan for placing a summit at the middle of the tunnel is solely for the purpose of drainage.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE... Huerta is living a few centuries too late. Heads of departments always want more, more, more. The ghost of Lorimer rises to plague Senator Jones of Washington. Baseball interest wanes; the season is old, and the pennant is won.

So far, two men are known to be against the Columbia river bridge bonds. The senatorship is Hobson's choice, but probably Hobson won't be Alabama's choice. To a Latin-American, a coup d'etat is the acme of successful statesmanship and government. When they get into successful operation, the men will have no mercy on the middleman.

One thing Americans can be thankful for this year a little more than usual is that they are not Mexicans. Cooperation of country producers and city consumers, to the advantage of both, will be worked out ere long. If the city wanted a patch of Mount Hood, privately owned, probably about \$1000 an acre would be asked for it. Being such a cramped up little patch of a country, territorially, Russia may be "its" new discovery to be quite valuable.

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OREGON SIDELIGHTS

"This year, as usual," says the Eugene Register, "the hop grower is gambling or merely holding for such prices as the market conditions warrant." The dramatic club of the Eugene high school, it is said, is to reorganize this year, and members are now signing up. The club was organized last year in the high school and produced several plays which aroused favorable comment.

Meteorological observation in the Woodburn Globe: "We never before saw a country where fall looked so like spring as it has here lately. But then the climate is just what we need, and there is precious little left of the year." Lakeview Examiner: The ladies of the Presbyterian Aid have today gone to the fair at Douglas. The fair is in town, where they will be entertained and incidentally sack the large potato crop which is being raised in the proceeds of their labors into the church.

The McMinnville News Reporter acknowledges a valued service, in these terms: "The local correspondents of the Portland Journal have been doing a better work of late in printing the McMinnville state line before the public. Their articles are conservative and accurate." Roseburg Review: The splendid exhibit of the fair at Douglas, Oregon, and the fact that Douglas county won the first prize, is certain to attract many of the people who will be in the city for the fair. The assessed valuation of these four farms is slightly less than \$100,000.

Wesley Marriott is another of the old-time stockmen. He lives on Hinton creek, for years Wesley and I used to be partners every summer, running our cattle together in the mountains. "James" comes from the early-day stockmen. He lived on a ranch just above town. He and his wife had two girls were drowned in the Heppner flood. Several of the old-timers were drowned in the Heppner flood. In addition to James, H. C. Hart and Press Looney and John Ayers were drowned at that time.

"Uncle" Jack Morrow, who, with Henry Heppner, owned the first store here and for whom Morrow county is named, was a man I used to know well. He used to have quite a family, but Billy Morrow, both a well-to-do and a boy left. He is with the O. W. R. & N. Co. "Albert" Wright, the father of Elias and Arthur Wright, both of whom he located at the mouth of Balm fork. Harvey and Bill Rush were two of our early sheepmen here. "Ben" Barker came about 1878 and with Peter Gilliam and Jack Clark ran a sawmill on Board creek, not far from Rock creek. "Jim" Williams, one of our big sheep men, started in here about 1870. He went with me once to the different eastern fairs. We took in Chicago, New Orleans, Los Angeles and many other cities.

"C. J. Jones" Hays bought out the Rush boys. He has about 10,000 acres of the best land in Morrow county on the upper part of Rhea creek. "I" spoke of Andy Rood a moment ago. Andy and Ed Rood are twin brothers. They settled in Rood canyon near Hardman. Ed lives in Portland and Andy lives in Heppner. They both made their money in the stock business. Speaking of twins—there were some other twins on Butter creek. They were named Odd and Even Teel. Even Teel died. Odd has a fine ranch near Echo and his twin brother, Fred, is usually signs his name O. D. Teel. "John" Elder was one of our old-timers. His widow still lives here in Heppner. When first came both a well-to-do and a boy left. He is with the O. W. R. & N. Co. "T. H. Blisbee" is another of the old-timers here. Tim Blisbee, as we called him, was a sawyer in Parker & Gillison's mill here. Later he went in business with Frank Gilliam in the hardware business. The firm name is still Gilliam & Blisbee, though the Blisbee who is now in it, is a son of Tim Blisbee. Frank Gilliam, his partner, came in the early days, working as a farm hand around here until he got a start and later putting his money into the store of which he is now one of the proprietors. "J. C. Kirk, or 'Crock' Kirk, still lives here at Heppner. He settled on Rhea creek about 1885 or 1870."

YOUR MONEY... By John M. Oskison. At a recent convention of the United States Building and Loan Association, a report of progress for the year. It was a very encouraging report. The assets of these associations, says the secretary, are now growing at the rate of over \$100,000,000 a year, and he adds: "The figures for last year indicate that these associations have had a successful and prosperous 12 months and that they have been liberally patronized by the public. It was gratifying to those particularly well adapted. Their work is being conducted in a quiet, modest way, but the results which they are accomplishing are of the utmost importance to the general public." In the league on which the secretary reports are 8778 local associations, with a total membership of 2,518,442. They have assets of \$1,196,949,465. These building and loan associations are in the class with the two include about the only means in this country for turning the working man into a money saver. It is instructive to add the total of the bank depositors (\$1,010,304) to the more than 2,500,000 members of the building and loan associations and the tidy resources of the banks. The two ways of banking are in a building and loan association. The totals are mighty big—and mighty encouraging. If the building and loan associations go on increasing, the receipts at the same rate as they did last year (a year of quiet, modest achievement)—10.8 per cent better than the year before—I do not see any reason why they cannot reach everybody who ought to become a saver.

One of these days the agitation (which is just beginning) to extend the work of these associations among the farmers is going to be heard by the powers that be. It is a great new field will be opened to them. A man doesn't have to be an orator in order to speak well of himself.

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IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley. "Henry Heppner, for whom our town is named, was a very interesting character," said O. W. Morrow in talking of the early days of Morrow county. "In the 50's he was one of the largest pack-train owners and made lots of money taking supplies to the mines. Henry Heppner was a fine Hebrew scholar but it took a college graduate to read Hebrew. He was a good-looking man like a Scotchman that English. His sister married Henry Blackman."

"Most of the old-timers are gone," Henry Padberg was one of the best types of our pioneers. "Never a man needed help that Henry Padberg would not go out of his way to give him a hand. He was one of the largest pack-train owners and made lots of money taking supplies to the mines. Henry Heppner was a fine Hebrew scholar but it took a college graduate to read Hebrew. He was a good-looking man like a Scotchman that English. His sister married Henry Blackman."

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Pointed Paragraphs... Many a man can't because he believed he can't. Anyway, the idiot has no monopoly on the simple life. What a man earns doesn't interest his wife so much as what she gets. Of course, it is our charity that covers a multitude of other people's sins. The Woman's Page... DAILY FEATURES THAT ARE WORTH WHILE. "Illustrated Fashion Chat."—By Lillian Young. "Little Stories for Bedtime."—By Thornton W. Burgess. FREQUENT FEATURES OF WIDE APPEAL. "Hints for Girls."—By Jessie Roberts. "For Shopper and Housekeeper."—By Vella Winger. "Health and Beauty Hints."—By Abigail Moore. "On the Human Side."—By Edna K. Wooley. "Fair Stories Retold."—By Anne Bunner. "In Our School."—By Paul West. In The Journal