# THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON .....Publisher

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We play with sounding words;
men ever did;
It is not children only love the drum.
—Alfred Austin.

## WILLIAM GIBBS M'ADOO

NOBODY doubts that there is great strength in the Wilson cabinet. There is general conviction that William Gibbs McAdoo is one of its strongest figures.

He was born amid the ruin that General Sherman left, in his march to the sea. His rise from the depths of poverty to his present conspicuous position and standing, is example of the possibilities that environ the pathway of American youth and give the lie to those who insist that this is no longer a land of opportunity.

Mr. McAdoo saw the time, as a boy, when he was glad to earn nine cents a day, or 54 cents a week. His first rise in life was when he was able, as a junior in college, to earn $2 a day as a copyist in the circuit court. From that to a graduation, a law practice in Chattanooga, and thence to New York and the construction of tunnels under the Hudson between Jersey City and Manhattan, is the rapid and almost romantic advance of the present secretary of the treasury.

It was in his daily journeying from Jersey City across the Hudson by boat to New York that Mr. McAdoo conceived the idea of the tunnels. When told on occasions to wait for the next boat the busy brain that had forced the rise from the poverty of a ruined plantation in Georgia to high position in the national metropolis, grappled the great issue of a better facility for passing between the two cities. Hundreds of thousands of others had also been told to wait for the next boat, but it was the McAdoo mind that was made active by the problem, and it was the McAdoo mind and the McAdoo energy that, with indomitable resolution drove the great tunnels under the Hudson. They are a splendid example of McAdoo achievement and a noble monument to his genius.

But perhaps it is as secretary of the treasury that Mr. McAdoo has rendered his most exalted service. His act in placing vast stores of money in the national treasury at the disposal of the country in moving the late crops was a splendid statesmanship. It checked the contraction of credit that was already country wide, and opened to farmers and bankers an easy way to market the output of American fields. It brushed aside financial fears that were gathering and set the business of the country free.

However, the greatest business to which Mr. McAdoo has ever addressed himself was the part he played in bringing forward and helping push to a final completion the new currency system which brings the secretary of the treasury and his colleagues on the regional bank committee to Portland tomorrow.

It is a system that congresses and committees of congress had dreamed of for nearly a generation. It is a system that statesmen and cabinets and presidents had sought for, but never dared to grapple.

It remained for a man who was once a penniless Georgia boy to join with a president and a congress, and the same powers of mind, the same indomitable purpose and the same restless energy that built the Hudson river tunnels, helped to fashion and fix into the statute law of the nation, the measure that emancipates American business, liberates American credit, and stands as a part of the new birth of American freedom.

## FINE SPUN ARGUMENTS

SENATOR SUTHERLAND of Utah has attacked the right of Blair Lee of Maryland to a seat in the senate. Mr. Lee was elected by popular vote last November, and the senate committee on elections reported favorably upon seating him.

The Utah senator, who is a lawyer, contended that neither the seventeenth amendment providing for the direct election of senators, nor the laws of Maryland, authorized the governor to call a special election to fill a vacancy in the senate. Senator Kern said the case had been so thoroughly presented to the committee that he felt it unnecessary to defend Mr. Lee's right to a seat.

The Sutherland argument was that the Maryland special election should have been called only after the legislature had passed an enabling act. An opinion by the Maryland attorney general and a decision of the Maryland appellate court to the effect that the state's existing laws authorized the governor to call a special election were ignored.

The incident has no great importance except as an illustration of the attitude of many sticklers for what they choose to call constitutional law. The senate is the judge of its own members. There was no claim that Mr. Lee was not fairly elected by the people of Maryland. The claim was that a technicality, which a Maryland court had decided did not exist, was sufficient to overturn the people's expressed will.

Popular election of senators does not meet the idea of men of the Sutherland type. But it is significant of the times that fine spun arguments against the new system are not effective, even in the United States senate.

## A FALSE OATH

JUDGE MORROW'S offense is serious. The statements in his oath before the secretary of state in several instances are not true. If the oath bound asseverations of a judge are false, how fares it with the solemnities and issues of justice in such a court? In his latest application for salary, Judge Morrow made oath as follows:

I, Robert G. Morrow, judge of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of Oregon, in pursuance of the provisions of Chapter 43, Laws of 1911, do hereby certify, that all matters submitted to me as Circuit Judge for decision three months or more prior to the execution of this voucher have been decided; and that no matters are pending before me as Circuit Judge that have been finally submitted to me for three months or more prior hereto. Robert G. Morrow.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of December, A. D. 1913. J. F. Wood, Notary Public for Oregon.

At the time this oath was made a number of "matters submitted to me as Circuit Judge for decision three months or more prior to the execution of this voucher" had not been decided. There was then undecided in his court the suit restraining the city from enforcing the bonding ordinance for hotels and rooming houses. Though a case of very great importance, it had been argued before Judge Morrow December 17, 1912, more than a year prior to the making of the salary oath. It was then, and still is, undecided.

There was the case of the St. Johns Lumber Company versus Robert Britz, Kate H. Holcomb and others, under advisement by Judge Morrow since December 7, 1912, a period of a year and a month prior to the making of the salary oath.

Among numerous other cases is the personal injury suit of Anna Backstrom versus the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company. The plaintiff was injured in an accident on Grand avenue during the Rose Festival two years ago, when her buggy was struck by a streetcar. The attorneys for the company filed a technical motion, and on or about the 19th of March, 1913, the issue was argued. Though it is more than ten months since the matter was submitted, the motion is still undecided, and the woman's case is believed to be virtually lost because of the disappearance of witnesses.

With such a matter pending, there can be no excuse, no explanation, no apology for Judge Morrow's salary oath in which he stated that "all matters submitted to me as Circuit Judge for decision three months or more prior to the execution of this voucher, have been decided."

There is no excuse, explanation or apology for a false oath.

## A WARNING TO PARENTS

IN THESE days of psychologists, sociologists, alienists, experts and other species of faddist, we are constantly meeting surprises and shocks.

Thus, a Bostom school expert who has been investigating conditions of study and deportment among public school children, finds that "the mental life predominates in January and February," while boys and girls "are lowest from the viewpoint of good citizenship during March, part of April and October."

Good boys, the expert avers, are at their best at 10 o'clock in the morning and bad boys at their worst at three and four in the afternoon. He urges that parents should make their appeals accordingly.

How wonderfully discerning the professional psychologists are, to discover that boys are worst as to citizenship in March, April and October, when there are no watermelons on the vine, a discovery that will be vaguely questioned by the intensely practical man who was himself once a boy.

How about the dependability of the other discovery that boys are at their worst at three and four o'clock in the afternoon, which is about the time they are due at the old swimmin' hole and when their behavior with Pa or Ma or the teacher used to be exemplary because it was the best way to get permission to go to the river?

Boys are boys, and there is some doubt about the fine expert distinction that finds a boy most mental in January and February at a time when perforce his love of adventure can, on account of winter storms only find its perfect expression in canning the dog's tail, persecuting the cat, teasing other children and upsetting the household generally with noise and nonsense.

Psychologists are psychologists and experts are experts, but from their findings many of them were not the kind of boy that most boys are.

## THE BLOOD ROLL

ARMED with a pistol and ammunition, two of the idle men at the Gipsy Smith auditorium went on an enterprise of burglary and highway robbery on Portland Heights. One of the unemployed and a special police officer are in hospitals and expected to die as a result of a consequent pistol duel.

The revolver and ammunition tempted the two unemployed to go robbing. The incendiary talk of agitators at the tabernacle, teaching weak men that society owes them a living whether they work or not, possibly contributed to the resolve. As a sequel Officer Healey and burglar Stros are bullet riddled with slender chance of recovery.

Meanwhile, a stringent city ordinance and a state law prohibit the carrying of concealed weapons. Stros was one of the idle army that marched southward from Portland to Albany, and was in jail five days in the latter city. Where, when, and how did he get the revolver and ammunition with which he shot the Portland officer? Who let him have the weapon without a permit, when that act is strictly forbidden by state law and city ordinance?

With the city providing them with quarters, heat and light, are other of the idle men at the tabernacle also armed for killings? Are they also violating the concealed weapon ordinance and the state revolver law?

Are the officers of state and city treating as a joke the effort to lessen man killing in this town and state?

Is our blood roll a jest?

## CANADIAN IMMIGRATION

IMMIGRATION to Canada and the United States has developed contrasting problems. In this country there is a demand for laws which will limit the number of foreigners coming to America, while in Canada the problem is to keep immigrants as permanent residents.

Canadian official reports say that during the past six years 616,112 Americans entered Canada for the purpose of settling. In the same period 594,919 people left Canada for the United States, leaving a net gain of only 21,193 to Canada's credit in the exchange of immigrants.

Last year about 54,000 Americans who emigrated to Canada returned to the United States, but dominion authorities say this backward flow was nearly double what it was in any of the five former years. They insist that Canada has lost only a minor fraction of her American immigrants, explaining the figures by saying that the Canadian immigration department has spent large sums of money to bring people across the seas only to increase the population of the United States.

If the figures are authentic they have large significance on this side of the boundary line. Canadian immigrants are assisted, and the charge is being made that dominion agents in Great Britain and continental Europe have attempted to make a quantity rather than a quality record. It is charged that the immigration department is run in a loose manner, the agents paying little regard to the desirability of people sent over to become citizens.

Canadian cities have an unemployment problem, made more difficult by the rigorous climate. The problem has been made complex because of immigrants flocking to the cities, and it would be much further from solution had not many of Canada's unemployed immigrants moved on to the United States.

At Brownsville, there are five candidates for postmaster, and it is proposed to make the selection by a popular vote of the patrons of the office. It is a far better way than the old plan in which candidates get indorsements of party chiefs, prominent persons and sometimes circulate petitions, relying ultimately on a selection being made by persons entirely unfamiliar with local conditions. It is the patrons that are most interested, and it is to them that a candidate for a postoffice should go for his indorsements.

R. G. Dun & Co. report a more favorable business outlook for 1914 in the Pacific Northwest. Why not? The fruit crop just marketed brought more money than in 1912. The hop crop on account of high prices brought better rewards to growers. The grain and forage crop, on account of prices, brought more value in spite of reduced volume. The Northwest never harvested more or sold higher.

Next week, a local pictorial theatre is staging Antony and Cleopatra, and there is insistence that the performance will equal "The Last Days of Pompeii," recently produced. The distinct drift of some of the pictorial houses toward higher and better shows is one reason why their business is becoming so enormous.

Is it because it is a United States building that the new Portland postoffice cannot be built for $1,000,000, even on a two story basis? There are public buildings of greater size in Portland that were built at less than half the figure. The plans should be modified and the processes be fumigated.

## 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. If the writer does not desire to have the name published, he should so state.)

"Discussion is the greatest of all reformers. It rationalizes everything it touches. It robs principles of all false sanctity and throws them back on their reasonableness. If they have no reasonableness, it ruthlessly crushes them out of existence and sets up its own conclusions in their stead."—Woodrow Wilson.

### Questions Alaska Coal Mine Plan.

Portland, Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—Will you kindly tell me how the contemplated way of opening up the Alaska coal mines is going to cheapen the price of coal in this country? Who ever heard of the leasing plan, as followed in Minnesota and Colorado, benefiting anyone except the capitalist? How is this plan going to prevent this coal from being Guggenheimed? It certainly did not in Colorado or Minnesota. The consumer is not very much interested in the name of the capitalist, who mines the coal, but is greatly interested in the price of that coal.

What is the use of building the railroad with public money if it is to be leased by private interests? Statistics tell us that 87 per cent of the people own 13 per cent of the wealth in this country.

We have got to have more legislative action in favor of those of the 87 per cent, or general government ownership, with the government representing all the people, will be the result, just as sure as the sun shines.

Under present living conditions a man with a family of not over two children, working for $2.50 per day, here in our prosperous city, may be able to earn a home in 10 or 12 years, if he can work every day of all those years and has no sickness or bad luck. The writer knows of one man with a family of one child, who has worked for one company for 14 years, who does not drink nor spend money foolishly, and still has $200 to pay on his little home.

In the east there are millions of men working for $1.65 per day, and no hope of ever having their own homes.

If any man doubts these assertions, I invite him to take his family and get out and earn his and their living on the standard wages for one year. Then, perhaps, he would be qualified to say whether the unemployed have been slothful or wasteful and whether or not they failed to improve their opportunity. H. D. F.

### The Speed Fiends.

Portland, Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—For some time I have been watching the accounts of the numerous accidents caused by automobiles, and it seems as if Portland is holding records for people getting killed or maimed by careless drivers of autos—two deaths in a week, and four maimed. It seems there is no way out of it with coroner's juries holding drivers blameless. The police force at present doesn't do anything, for reasons unknown. The speed limit should not be more than five miles an hour in the congested district. If the owner of a pair of horses should exceed five miles he would be fined, but the auto fiend is going 15 and 20 right along, nor does he consider the right of pedestrians. If Portland does not want 100 deaths from those fiends, something will have to be done.

No autos should be permitted on certain streets, and a five mile limit should be imposed as to others. If the police cannot stop this, the people will find other means, such as a ten mile limit on highways and four miles in cities. This can be done by the legislature; besides, the highways are being damaged by the autos, as the wheels throw all dirt from them, making roads uneven.

I think a tax from $25 to $100, to be paid according to a machine's use, would aid the roads, and should be levied to help keep roads in repair. What has become of the One Hundred club? A. VON PRESSENTIN.

### Those Russian Immigrants.

Portland, Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—Kindly allow me space in your paper, of which I am a constant reader, to express a view that is not only mine, but also that of hundreds of Portland's honest working people, in regard to a statement in an article in yesterday's Journal, under the headline, "Immigrants Bound Here Promised Jobs." It is stated that they have no visible means of support. It is strictly against the immigration laws of our country to admit them. Not only that, but goodness knows there are enough of that kind of people here now, dependent upon the city of Portland (including myself), and if the poor boob of a contractor mentioned in The Journal article, who says he will give them work, will take a walk around this good city with some official of the city, or with the gentleman that runs the city employment office, he will discover that there is no need to bring any more men here for the city to keep than what it has already. And if he will stop to think that the people of the city of Portland are giving him his bread and butter by letting him contracts in this city, he will probably get it into his head that if he can give employment to 12 men he can get them right here, without sending to New York for them or trying to get our immigration laws broken by his promise of labor to them, and he will be doing some good to our city.

I am a married man out of work and willing to do anything, and I am a citizen of this good old U. S. A. R. H. S.

### Denunciation of Dancing.

Dallas, Or., Jan. 26.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have been reading the various articles on dancing, recently published in The Journal. Some of these I read with pleasure and all of them with profit. He who speaks or writes in defense of the dance does so, not because of any moral excellence he sees in it, but because of his love for this form of amusement, while those who speak or write against it, do so in order that they may aid in safe-guarding the young and inexperienced, and thereby aid them in the development of moral excellence and spiritual power.

The letter written by A. M. Brown was to me the most convincing. I most heartily agree that the dance is evil in all its forms. Any argument in its defense is as baseless as that put up in defense of the liquor traffic. So far, the only attack on the article written by Mr. Brown was made by Mrs. Holtz of Portland. She wanted to know if Mr. Brown had ever danced, and reminded him that if he never did, he was in ignorance as to what he was talking about. A clever dodge is this—just as though the man was blind to observation and deaf to testimony.

If God in his goodness gave the dance to us, as Mrs. Holtz affirms, then the turkey trot and tango are heaven's lates; revelations to the dancing world, are they not?

If so, let no dance lover's voice be lifted up against the wild, exciting, licentious movements of these late additions to the dance catalogue. Let them join in the giddy whirl, let their cry be, "On with the dance!"

But some of us are not yet convinced that the dance is a gift of God. We have been unable to discover "its peaceable fruits of righteousness," but the fruits of unrighteousness are plainly visible to all whose eyes are open to truth. M. B. YOUNG.

### "Working Workingman" Indorsed.

Maplewood, Or., Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—As a "working workingman" I wish to indorse what was said in the letter in Sunday's Journal by "A. M. R.," under caption of, "From a Working Workingman."

It is absolutely true that a whole lot of these fellows who are now quartered at the tabernacle would not work if they had a chance. Nine-tenths of all the troubles of the unemployed are due to their vicious habits. Ask any of these men why he has nothing ahead for the winter, and he will tell you "booze," if he speaks honestly. Booze and dissipation are playing havoc with our American laborers. You may talk about the need of social reforms as much as you please, but until laboring men have enough sense to control their own appetites they can't get ahead. You can put a pin right there. As I said, most of these floaters won't work when they are put to work. I know what I am talking about. Hard as times are now, it has been difficult to get men to stay on the job I am working on, although conditions are as good as could be expected at this time of year.

In conclusion, let me say that, as I am working nine hours every day with a "muck stick," in the rain and mud ankle deep and over, and have been so employed all winter, I believe I have a right to speak my mind freely on this subject; so you may know this is no warm office opinion. H. D.

### Opposes Foreign Immigration.

Portland, Jan. 26.—To the Editor of The Journal—The editorial in The Journal of January 28, entitled "The Alien's Land," sums up the question in a nutshell and should be widely read. First, last and all the time, I am in favor of Asiatic exclusion, even at the cost of war or anything else. It is only the entering of another race problem. People of races which will never amalgamate with ours and who cannot become citizens, whose instincts are not in sympathy with our institutions, and whose ideals are so different from ours, will always cling to their native land. Why should not our land be owned and tilled by those who will be a bulwark and defense in time of need, instead of those who will aid and comfort the enemy? We are having examples of too much foreign immigration impressed upon us now. We see so-called armies of unemployed foreigners led by some notoriety seeking mountebank, clamoring for work, but who won't work. They are living without work, off the people, and will not scatter for fear they then would find work. Their leaders don't want to lose them from their army that is to bring them notoriety. Such leaders ought to be put on the rockpile first, and the rest would soon find work and stick to it when found.

What right have foreigners to come to America and say that the country must feed them—that it owes them a living? If a man will not work he ought not to eat, and he forfeits all claim on those who do work. No foreigners should be admitted for 20 years who have not $2000 in the family, or, for one individual, $1000. The country needs a rest from immigrant laborers. C. S. ATWATER.

### The Weakling in the Dance.

Vancouver, Wash., Jan. 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—While my busy life prohibits my indulging in such pastimes as dancing were I inclined to do so, I agree with Mrs. Holst and E. L. in taking exception to A. M. Brown's statement that only the impure in heart dance, for I have friends who are pure and good who dance, and I know there are others who, with Mrs. Holst, find a pure and pleasant pastime in it. But I believe there are those who are morally weak and have not will power to restrain their passions, who should not indulge in its pleasures. We know there are times when such things exist, and it is not being evil minded to face the truth. Was it an evil mind that prompted Mrs. Holst to condemn the "best people" whom she saw "sitting or lying on the grass" in the quiet evening? Might it not have been an hour of blissful quietude after a day in the hurry or rush of a busy world? Might it not be an interesting study of the planets that God gave to lighten the darkness of the night, or of quiet communion of the soul with the God who gave it?

"By their fruits," sayeth the Savior, and the alarming statistics gathered by those who study the downfall of woman, who cite them to the hall room, as the first step that led downward for the great majority of the ruined, causes me to cry out for the sake of those who, as Mrs. Holst says, "should not." MRS. E. S. C.

### Terms Called Inaccurate.

Oregon City, Or., Jan. 24.—To the Editor of The Journal—Frequently, in news items of late, I have noticed where someone has been shot with an "automatic revolver." I beg to state, on authority, that there is no such firearm as an automatic revolver. An automatic firearm is one which reloads itself by the automatic action of the bolt recoil, and such an arm is called a pistol.

Another thing which I wish to get off my chest is the frequent use of the expression "head-on" collision. I have railroaded for 25 years and never yet heard such an expression used by railroad men. When, in running towards each other trains collide, the collision is designatel a "head-end" collision, not "head-on." Running in the same direction it is called "hind-end" or "tail-end" collision. There is absolutely no meaning to the expression "head-on" collision. R. C. E.

### English as Sometimes Printed.

Portland, Jan. 28.—To the Editor of The Journal—It is a big joke for the Oregonian to say that some of its neighbors, unhappily, can neither write nor speak, when it a few months ago in an editorial placed the nominative case after a preposition, and only last week wrote, in another editorial, "Business lays neglected," and on each occasion was driven by its readers to the humiliation of confessing the vileness of the English.

THE TETRARCH.

## A FEW SMILES

"Did yiz iver make iny money backin' horses, Mulligan?"

"Sure. Oi made a hundred dollars wance."

"How did yez do it?"

"Oi backed him down cellar awn thin sued th' mon for leavin' th' door open."

A gentleman travelling in England was being shown over an estate by the owner, who was a crank on landscape gardening. They came to a small greenhouse with a young boy locked up in it. The visitor inquired the reason and his host replied that he had caught the boy stealing flowers from the grounds and had locked him up for punishment.

Going a little farther, they came to another greenhouse, the counterpart of the first and similarly situated on the other side of the grounds, and this also contained a small boy.

"What!" exclaimed the visitor, "has this boy, too, been stealing flowers?"

"Oh, no," replied his host, "that is my little son."

"Then why," asked the puzzled caller, "have you locked him in here?"

"Why, for the sake of symmetry," answered the host.—Everybody's Magazine.

"Me daughter, Mary Ann," said the newly rich Mrs. Cassidy, "wants to l'arn to play some music insthrument. I wonder w'at wan would come aislest to her?"

"Well, now," replied the jealous and caustic Mrs. Casey, "if ye could only get somethin's that's built like a washboard 'twould be jist the thing."

"Is that your mule?" asked the man who was going fishing.

"Yassir," said the colored man, who was sitting on a log by the road.

"Does he kick?"

"'Deed, mistuh, he ain't got no cause to kick. He's gittin' his own way right along. I'm de one dat's havin' de worry an' difficulty."

## PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

### SMALL CHANGE

The big packers' profits run up to many millions a year, to which all meat eaters contribute.

• •

There seems to be no specific penalty for deserters from the idle army—unless it be forfeiture of free, begged grub.

• •

Many people decide a matter solely through sympathy, predilection or prejudice, regardless of justice, and often with little or no knowledge of the facts.

• •

A news item says that R. P. Schwerin has been getting free coal through the graft process for several years. Probably nobody in Portland, at least, will say that it can't be true.

• •

It certainly is quite time that the increasing folly and vice of cigarette smoking among boys arouse wide and earnest public attention. Perhaps no other thing causes the ruin of so many boys.

• •

In the case of boys and youths, at least, cigarette smoking is almost invariably associated with profanity, obscenity, evil company and other evil habits, that frequently lead to crime, disgrace and ruin.

• •

Wall street brokers made $550,000 in 90 minutes on the resale of New York state bonds. The people lost it. Tom Lawson is right; bond and stock speculation is principally a bunco game, the producing workers being always the ultimate victims.

• •

Peace between the United States and Great Britain for the past one hundred years, and no defenses along the Canadian border clear across the continent—a century-old and three-thousand-miles-long refutation of the militarists' theory that forts and battleships are a guaranty of peace.

### OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Harney county's high school board has authorized the establishing of a teachers' training course in the school at Burns.

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A juvenile band is in process of organization at Silverton. Boys of 12 to 16 years are eligible.

• •

"So open is the winter that some eastern Oregon towns are already talking of fourth of July celebrations," the Pendleton East Oregonian says.

• •

A number of Paisley people, it is reported in the Press, are raising a fund "to send Tom Wiley to Peru to look into the prospects there along agricultural lines."

• •

The 1913 report of the government forecaster at Tamarack station, eight miles east of Fossil, shows precipitation 18¼ inches against 20 inches for 1912, which was an exceptionally wet year for that region.

• •

Weston Leader: Those suave and affable, impressive and confident it-will-be-worth-$10-a-share-inside-of-a-year coal stock peddlers from Spokane were eminently well groomed and well fed. Now that they are under indictment in the federal court their victims in this neighborhood confess to some curiosity as to seeing how they would look as involuntary guests of the government.

• •

Juntura Times: Juntura hasn't a candidate for governor, that is, not yet, we have made no attempt to have a regional bank located here. Governor West's crusade blew up before he got this far. We have no oil wells to exploit, the grand jury only returned two indictments against wrong doers up this way, no one sick, no one marrying, no fights, no lawsuits, everybody happy, so how can you blame an editor for having a bum paper.

## THE RATE INCREASE—A MIDDLE WAY

From Collier's Weekly.

The railways ask permission to increase their freight rates by 5 per cent. That would add $100,000,000 to the country's freight bill, and this bill already exceeds two billions. The increase is defended on the ground that while the general level of prices has risen 20 to 50 per cent and wages some 20 or 30 per cent, railway rates have stood still. Of course, the latter is not wholly true. In a great many ways railway rates have been considerably raised within the last 10 years. The fact that the average rate per ton mile has stood still is due to other causes. One kind of transportation has in the United States been developed to a very high degree of efficiency. That is the transportation of commodities like coal, grain, iron ore and so on, over long distances. These commodities are carried cheaply, because if they were not carried cheaply they could not be drawn these long distances, but because they are drawn a long way the profit is large. Rates for the short haul in this country are not low, compared with Europe. In many instances as much is charged for a short haul as for a much longer haul. The effect of this scheme of cheap long haul and dear short haul has been to build up the big cities at the expense of the country. It has produced enormous congestion of population in the great centers and sent land values in these centers to fantastic heights. It is a striking fact that the congestion of municipal centers in the United States now exceeds that in many parts of Europe. This same vicious scheme has ruined industry in many portions of the country. It has nearly ruined farming in New England and the Atlantic states. It has ruined the woolen fatcories in the west and often suppressed coal and iron mining where it would otherwise still yield profits.

Now this evil scheme is beginning to recoil on the railways themselves. To increase their business they must have larger and larger terminals. These terminals cost huge sums for the land alone. To pay interest and dividends on the money for the land purchased at these fantastic values, the railways now ask permission to raise their rates. Where is it going to end? The greater the congestion of population they produce, the higher the land values, the greater the cost of more terminals. Land on Manhattan island or at the mouth of the Chicago river is worth millions per acre; land on Staten island or in New Jersey 10 miles away, is worth hundreds of dollars per acre. At Fall River they are building bigger cotton mills, at Brockton bigger shoe factories, at Lowell bigger cotton mills; but the shoe factories in Texas, the cotton mills in Mississippi, the woolen mills in Ohio or Colorado do not flourish. And why? Because the power to fix railway rates represents the greatest power of taxation in this country, and the whole scheme of railway rates in the United States has been to enable industries which are established where they do not belong to compete with and suppress industries at the natural bases of supplies and power. And this is one big reason why food and living in America are one third dearer than in England and one half dearer than on the continent of Europe generally. It ought not to be cheaper to ship hides from Texas and have them made up in Massachusetts and shipped back and sold in Texas more cheaply than they could have been manufactured there. Texas has the raw materials and the fuel close by. New England has neither. Millions of cheap horsepower is going to waste in the far west, but industries will not move there in considerable part because railway tariffs are adverse to such a development. We believe that the time has come at last to make a beginning of the end of this purblind policy.

The railways ask for a nearly horizontal increase in all existing tariffs. They do not propose to disturb the advantage of New England or of Pittsburg or Chicago over the rest of the country. They do not propose to touch the rates which have created the fortunes of many of their directors and which have often been dictated by the directors themselves. The purpose is to keep on running the railways in the interest of the very few and the interest of a small part of the country against the interests of the many and the interests of the whole country. This is unreasonable. If it is to the interest of the whole country that railway revenues should be increased, it is not to the public interest that this increase should come from rates which build up the cities against the country. If rates must be increased, it should be the long-haul rates and especially those between the great centers. These are the rates which, from a social and economic point of view, are too low. In general, the longer haul is with commodity freight and the shorter haul with classified freight. We believe classified rates are to be raised much more than commodity rates. This may be good railway policy from the point of view of quick dividends—it is not good public policy. With the suppression of the railways' suppression of water competition, we believe it would be entirely safe to permit the railways to raise their long-haul rates as much as they liked. They could not raise them much because such a raise would promptly check the volume of business. We believe there is here a work for the interstate commerce commission of the highest economic importance. It transcends in importance the work of the new banking system, because it reaches far more deeply into the social and industrial life of the nation.

## ARE YOU A NAVAHO FINANCIER?

By John M. Oskison.

More than a hundred miles from the railroad, in northern Arizona, I stopped to talk (by means of signs and a meagre assortment of words which all of us could understand) with four Navaho Indian horsemen. Like children, they were curious and friendly.

After I'd told them all I could about myself, I, too, became curious. I asked to see the silver bracelets they wore, and the wonderful necklace of silver and turquoise which hung about the neck of one of the four. They handed the ornaments over for my inspection.

Presently I was asking the price of the bracelets. One, set with a large turquoise, was six dollars; another, set with a smaller stone, was five; another I could buy for four dollars, and the fourth, having no turquoise setting, I could buy for two dollars.

I weighed the plain bracelet in my hand, and it occurred to me that its weight must just about equal that of two silver dollars. Then I asked:

"How many pesos (dollars) you use when you make him?" The Navaho owner held up two fingers.

"Mexican dollars?" I asked; but the owner shook his head—he said that he had used two American silver dollars to make the bracelet; he said that that was why he wouldn't take less than two dollars for it.

That Indian had not yet learned that his craftmanship, wonderful as it is to you and me, had any value. Merely the value of what he put into the bracelet was what he ought to get out of it. A simple standard!

Since that day, I have been recalling the Navahos of finance I have known. Surely, they have been many! They are the inept ones who never dream that it is up to them to add to the value of the dollar which comes to them. They are the hoarders who distrust savings banks. They are the wasters who cheerfully pass on the dollars they earn every week without receiving anything more out of them than they put in to the effort of getting.

The Navaho would make you laugh, his standard of value is so primitive. Yet—I wish you could see a little more clearly the equally primitive notion of the value of earned dollars prevailing among the wage-and-salary young men of our cities.

Not to add to the value of a dollar you pass on is a confession of incompetence, of primitive simple-mindedness you ought not to make!

## IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley.

"San Jose in 1848 and 1849 was a pretty tough place," said T. M. Ramsdell, of Portland. "I remember seeing a man riding into town with a comrade who helped him off his horse. His neck was bound up and I learned that he had been lassoed and dragged by a Mexican and that his neck was badly lacerated. The Americans and greasers, as they called the Mexicans, did not get along together. In Santa Clara county in one year there had been 120 murders committed.

"During the winter of 1849 I worked in the redwoods district near McCapetavilla. In the spring of 1850 I speculated some in town lots. I sold them not long after I had bought them, at an advance of $1000. My wife and I started a boarding house. We charged $2 a day for board, but we steadily lost money. I went to the store and bought $3 worth of potatoes one day and the grocery man told me to spread out my handkerchief, he would pour them in my handkerchief and I could carry them home myself. We gave up the boarding house and started back to Oregon.

"The boat we were on took us as far as Astoria. We had to arrange our own transportation from there up the river. I paid $10 for an Indian canoe. In this I went as far as Portland, where I bought an ox team and we drove home to our farm. A mile below where Jefferson now is, a store had been started and the settlement was called Syracuse.

"In 1848 I was licensed to exhort in a Methodist Protestant church. After coming back from California I was licensed to preach. This was in 1850. I remember one of the interesting incidents of my early preaching. Judge Baker wanted to come and hear me preach, but he had but one suit of clothes and it was not in very good condition. However, as nearly everybody else was in the same condition, he decided to go. When I stood up to preach he discovered that my big toe was sticking out through the hole in one of my boots so he decided that if I could stand it to preach in that condition, he could stand it to listen in a somewhat dilapidated suit.

"After reading theology for two years I was ordained a deacon in 1852. In 1854 I was ordained an elder. In those days the scattered settlers could not afford to pay much of anything toward the preacher's support, so I supported myself by working as a carpenter during week days and preaching on Sundays.

"You can see from the birthplaces of my family how a preacher was shifted about. My first child, Elizabeth, was born in 1850 at Syracuse, near the present town of Jefferson. My next child, David, was born on a ranch near the Santiam. Margaret, my next child, was born in Salem in 1854. My next child, Jesse, was born in 1856 while my next child, who was named after me, Thomas Manly, was born in 1859, at Jefferson. Oscar, my next boy, was born in January, 1862, in the Waldo hills.

"Yes, I have had quite a family. I have had 13 children, 11 of whom we raised to be married. I have 42 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. I have preached for 60 years, my last regular charge being at Newport, about 20 years ago. Father Walker, Father Leslie, Rev. Parrish, Father Roberts, Rev. Bagley and all of the old time ministers were friends of mine in the early days."

## The Ragtime Muse

### Nothing but Money.

Pity the plutocratic pal pilgrim,
Caught benumbed down with money
When standards shifted overnight—
Is anything but funny?
Ideals changed while his class slept
And no one thought to wake it;
His swollen fortune must be kept,
For no one would dare take it.

We're pledged to poverty and health,
Low living and high thinking;
We have foresworn the cares of wealth,
Rich feasting and deep drinking.
We worry grand opera and rackets,
Fore jewels frayed truffles,
Corners in grain and corner lots,
Lobsters and fluffy ruffles.

Weep for the pallid plutocrat!
His stocks and bonds oppress him.
We should relieve him; I see that.
And with our blessing bless him.
I'd clear his garden quite away
And ease his hidden sorrow.
Ideals shifted yesterday—
They may again tomorrow.

## Pointed Paragraphs

Why owe any one a grudge when we can pay as we go?

• •

The silent watches of the night—Those we forged to wind.

• •

If mirrors portrayed us as others see us, we would never use them.

• •

Love may not be a disease, but it frequently shows a rash nature.

• •

Unless a man possesses self-control he is little better than a slave.

• •

When respect departs love packs its grip and hikes.

• •

Even the chap who is ambitious to become a millionaire would like to be rich enough to tell the boss just what he thinks of him.

### The Cause of Panics.

From Collier's Weekly.

The vacant lot industry is not only a very great obstacle to development, but speculation in unimproved land is an extremely dangerous business for any corporation to engage in. It is based on parcheology, not production. It is accompanied by a species of insanity, the symptom of which in its collective or mob stage is the real estate boom. Most of the great financial crises of the past century have been preceded by such booms, and there are many reasons for believing that the booms have been the main cause of the panics. . . . But the acquisition of good lands for purposes of improvement is a different thing. . . . Communities are benefited or retarded by real estate operations just in proportion as lands are by them put to their highest use. And all policies relating to land, with reference to corporations of all sorts as well as individuals, should be adopted with that idea in view.


## The Sunday Journal

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