# THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON .....Publisher

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The conduct of our lives is the only proof of the sincerity in our hearts.—George Eliot.

## WHO GOVERNS AMERICA?

AT OTTAWA yesterday, ex-President Taft declared that the British are absolutely wrong on the free tolls issue. He held that the exemption to American ships in the coastwise trade is equivalent to a subsidy and that Great Britain and other nations can meet the United States "on the equal terms" of the treaty by granting subsidies to their own ships.

That is exactly what Great Britain is doing at Suez with her own ships and the language of the Suez treaty is absolutely the same language as the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, under which Great Britain objects to American free tolls at Panama. How can Great Britain consistently object to American free tolls at Panama when, as owner of that canal, she practices a free tolls policy at Suez herself and permits every other nation to do the same thing?

Furthermore, free tolls for our ships in our own coastwise trade is entirely our own affair. British ships cannot engage in American coastwise trade. They are forbidden from doing so by our navigation laws. Britain has no more business in trying to regulate our tolls on our coastwise trade than we would have in trying to regulate British navigation of the Thames.

It is absurd to contend that the United States has not the right to fix the terms upon which an American vessel carrying cargo from New York or New Orleans to Portland or Tacoma may pass through the Panama canal. It is absurd to hold that under any obligation of moral or statute law, national or international, Great Britain should have the right to say what terms should or should not be granted such a vessel.

We own the canal; we own the ship; we own the ports; we own the canal zone; we own everything incident to the transaction.

Under such a status, if Great Britain has a right to fix our tolls, she has a right to fix tolls on the Mississippi.

If she has that right, the American president should abdicate in favor of King George and the American Congress resign in favor of the British Parliament.

## EDUCATION AND FARMING

THE department of agriculture says that education and business methods are big factors in successful farming. Their importance has been shown by a series of investigations in the states of Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, where statistics were gathered from 520 farms, of which 273 were operated by owners and 247 by tenants.

The investigations showed that farmers with a high school education make nearly double the average income of those with merely a common school training. Those who start earliest make the most profits. Many farmers with very little schooling succeed, but the bulletin says these same men would do better if they had the opportunity of further training.

The department seeks to impress upon agriculturists that agriculture is a business the same as any other industry. Successful farming is an individual, economic problem. If a farm does not provide work, the pay must be correspondingly low. The farmer may have sufficient area and grow the right kind of crops, and yet not be successful, owing to the poor quality of his entire business. Such farms are unprofitable largely through ignorance or indifference on the part of the operator. Under good management they can generally be made successful.

The bulletin has been issued in connection with the department's campaign for increasing the farmer's efficiency. He is the nation's great producer, and upon his efforts much of the country's prosperity depends. Proper organization of well selected farm enterprises to permit the maximum use of men, horses and machinery lies at the foundation of success.

## A PROGRESSIVE COUNTY

COLUMBIA county has joined the ranks of progress. By a good margin that county voted yesterday for a system of modern highways. There was opposition and, curiously enough most of it came from localities which will benefit most from good roads.

Columbia county is one of the richest in the state but its development has been long retarded by the lack of good roads. Its fertile uplands and rich low lands could not be reached. These lands are well adapted to dairying and fruit raising and when made accessible will yield large profits to the husbandman. In addition there are along the Columbia river commanding sites for suburban homes to be brought almost within the boundary of Portland by a good roadway.

In the abolishment of the old wasteful system of road making and the adoption of a system of permanent construction the county has taken a long step in advance.

Its fast disappearing timber will be made to contribute towards building the roads, solving in a great measure the problem of the logged off lands.

A permanent road, it will be found by the people of Columbia, is a good investment and will pay for itself out of the increased property valuation it will create.

## A LAWYER'S TRICK

THERE was no way for Judge Bean to grant the officers of the Inland Development Company a new trial. It was absurd for Attorneys Fulton and Bowerman to ask a new trial. The motion for a new trial was an illuminating example of what Charles H. Carey referred to when he said to an assembly of lawyers in Portland:

> Much time is wasted on demurrers and motions which are filed in nearly every suit. Technical rules that confine parties to definite issues are obstructions to ultimate justice. Courts and lawyers now make justice a secondary consideration.

At the trial, the officers of the company were convicted on each of the five counts. The testimony of forest rangers showed that the Inland Development officers sold as fruit lands a section of land on the crest of Mount Ashland. Another tract was on the summit of the highest part of the Siskiyou mountains. A third was on the summit of the Blue mountains, 7600 feet high, and covered with two feet of snow on May 15. These tracts were advertised as first class fruit lands in a pamphlet circulated among its buyers by the company.

It was proven in court that the defendants began business with no capital. They had an oral contract for 40,000 acres of land at $60 and, estimating that it was worth $7.50 an acre, they figured out an air-castle profit of $60,000 and it was on this margin that stock was issued. The manner in which the stock was handed around among the promoters and the considerations given in exchange, as told in court, constitute a most amazing story of dizzy finance.

Pictures of other lands were palmed off on buyers as representing the company's property, a fact that was admitted in open court by the defendants. The accused represented that they had deeds to 40,000 acres of land in escrow in the Lumbermens Bank but Mr. Dukehart, escrow agent of that institution, testified on oath that the bank refused to act as escrow agent of the company. It was proven at the trial that all the land the company ever owned was 2300 acres.

The company gave a free lot at Klamath Falls along with each land sale and represented to the purchaser that the lot was worth all the money paid for the land. At the trial the defendants admitted that the lots were more than two and a half miles from Klamath Falls and behind high hills, and that they cost $2.39 apiece.

A more flagrant abuse of the incorporation function is rarely attempted. A more brazen assault on the real function of a court of justice is rarely made than was the effort to get a second trial in a case so completely proven.

In the motion for a new trial there is full explanation of why Lawyer Fulton recently staged in full view of the jury his pyrotechnic performance for contempt proceedings against The Journal. It was a lawyer's trick to cheat justice.

## A CHILD LABOR BILL

A BILL prepared by the national child labor committee has been introduced into the house by Congressman Palmer of Pennsylvania. It forbids the interstate shipment of commodities produced in quarries, mines or factories where children work more than eight hours a day or before the hour of seven o'clock in the morning or after seven in the evening.

The bill proposes to apply the principle on which the drug and food act is based, that law having established standards which must be met before drugs and food can be shipped from one state into another. It is said that President Wilson takes a keen interest in the bill, this statement finding substantiation in the fact that the measure is backed by one of the president's closest political friends.

Various state pure food laws were ineffective until congress took action under its power to regulate interstate commerce. The federal law says that a state which fails to enforce restrictions against the manufacture of tainted goods cannot ship them into another state. The law is based on sound public policy; it is government's duty to protect the health of the people against the greed of men who would grow rich on impure food.

The Palmer bill is backed by the same logic. It is government's duty to protect the children in states where they are not given adequate consideration. Such a law would prevent industries from going into states which permit the exploitation of children.

The child problem has been difficult of solution because it has been impossible to get forty-eight states to enact identical legislation. Under the laws of commerce, the standard of the least humane is the standard of all, for the products of child labor are shipped from a few into many states. The Palmer bill seeks to establish a common rule such as was established for food products.

## KEEP OUR WATER PURE

AN ACT of Congress expressly forbids trespass on the Bull Run Reserve, whether on roads, trails or other avenues. The measure was passed in 1904 as a means of safeguarding the purity and permanency of Portland's water supply. So long as that statute remains on the books, and it should never be repealed, it is idle to talk about building a road through the Bull Run Reserve.

It is claimed that the proposed Hood River road through Lolo pass would result to a greater or less extent, in polluting Bull Run water, that it would tend to make a pleasure resort in the vicinity of Bull Run lake, and that it would add to the danger of destruction by fire of the Bull Run Reserve forest with consequent weakening of the conservation of the watershed. It is further urged that the road would cut off the water supply from the Clear Fork and Lost creek which Portland will have need of in the not distant future.

Whatever may be the merits of this contention, it is better to err on the side of safety. A quarter of a million people are dependent on Bull Run water, and in time there will be half a million, then a million human beings whose reliance for health and life will be upon the waters that issue from the Bull Run Reserve. In any controversy with the welfare of all these people on one side of the balance and the convenience of a few people over a certain roadway on the other, there can be but one decision—the waters of the Reserve must be kept unpolluted; no step should be permitted that can in the slightest impair the purity of Portland's water supply.

It is idle to argue that there would be no danger of pollution. Wherever human beings go they spread germ life. The very fact that a road is to be built in close proximity to Bull Run lake is to permit people to journey through the Reserve and about the spot whence Portland water comes. It is axiomatic that the plan is full of peril to Portland, and that the road ought not to be built.

## RATES AND REBATES

EASTERN railroads are asking authority to increase their rates five per cent. The request is based on a showing that cost of operation has increased more, proportionately, than revenues, but this contention was given a severe jolt by an Interstate Commerce Commission decision last week in which it was held that the railroads have not discontinued the practice of giving rebates.

The commission found that millions of dollars are paid annually to great industrial trusts of the east by railroad systems in the form of allowances for special services. Industrial lines owned by the large manufacturing plants are not required to pay demurrage charges assessed against small business. The commission says these arrangements with the trusts are unlawful, for they amount to a preference in favor of the trusts.

Great manufacturing corporations having industrial railroads connecting their plants with trunk lines may no longer be exempt from demurrage charges. The commission says such exemptions are nothing less than unlawful rebates, which accrue to the benefit of the industries themselves and give them "undue, unlawful and unreasonable" advantages over competitors.

The decision is one of the most important in many years. It comes at a time when the railroads are demanding a substantial rate increase. It indicates that the railroads can increase their income millions of dollars through economies of operation and especially through abandonment of a policy which gives large shippers material advantages over those not so favored.

These favors to the trusts have imposed a heavy tax on transportation. The National Tube Company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, profited to the extent of $425,000 in 1911. This exceeded the entire operating expense of the plant's railway for that year. Three railroads in 1912 returned more than $2,200,000 to industrial lines.

There is no reason why the railroads should be permitted to do indirectly what they cannot do directly. Rebates are forbidden by law. The law should be applied.

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Carl J. Peterson, a homesteader, writing from Roseburg, says in The Journal: "Lafferty has a bill for the homesteaders. Congressman Sinnott has a bill for the homesteaders. And now Mr. Hawley has a bill for the poor homesteaders. Now if they want to get action, why don't they all get behind the Borah bill which has already passed the senate, is pending before the house, and is a good measure?" Why don't they!

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Ex-President Taft is annoyed by the newspaper comments on his thirty-five pairs of breeches which have been cut down in size to meet his reduced bulk. The Kansas City Journal thinks he has just grounds for complaint, and adds that it is a pretty howdydo if a citizen cannot have a few acres of wearing apparel trimmed out of his wardrobe without the fact being commented on all over the country.

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The brief of Max Cohen, whose case is to be heard in the Court of Appeals in San Francisco this week, insists among other contentions that the convicted Portland lawyer "is the victim of a frame-up." Why not tell the Court of Appeals that Cohen is an angel with wings and a halo? What a travesty is some of the stuff put forth in the sanctuaries of justice!

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Texas has thirteen candidates for governor, and though Texas has three times the area and four times the population, Oregon, from the way in which executive timber is yielding to the pressure of the people, will soon skin her to death in the number of gubernatorial lightning rods.

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A notable feature of the platforms of gubernatorial candidates this year is their great length. Let them go it, however; it's election year and the people are fully resigned and prepared to stand almost anything.

## 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.

### Causes of Distress.

St. Johns, Or., Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Journal—With interest I have read numerous letters recently published in The Journal, wherein reasons were assigned why the "army of the unemployed" and crime are rampant in the land.

I herewith present for The Journal readers the tabulated contents of a report of the department of commerce and labor, for a specified district and entitled, "Immediate Causes of Distress." The tabulated statement here presented appears in Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor, No. 79, November, 1908, page 905, published and approved by the government, and is as follows:

Number of white and negro families receiving aid in 1905, by immediate causes of distress:

| Cause. | White. | | Negro. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Families. | Persons. | Families. | Persons. |
| Accident | 17 | 85 | 38 | 155 |
| Blindness | .... | .... | 4 | 16 |
| Death in family | .... | .... | 3 | 16 |
| Desertion | 5 | 21 | 7 | 24 |
| Incarceration | 6 | 16 | 7 | 22 |
| Insufficiency of earnings | 26 | 126 | 55 | 241 |
| Intemperance | 12 | 77 | .... | .... |
| Lack of employment | 196 | 821 | 201 | 831 |
| Lack of employment, old age | .... | .... | 1 | 3 |
| Lameness | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Loss by fire | 2 | 8 | 3 | 9 |
| Loss of income from roomers | .... | .... | 1 | 3 |
| Loss of money | .... | .... | 1 | 2 |
| Neglect by nat'r'l supporters | 4 | 18 | 7 | 26 |
| Old age | 9 | 11 | 40 | 53 |
| Old age and blindness | .... | .... | 1 | 2 |
| Severe weather | 2 | 10 | 3 | 12 |
| Sickness | 170 | 659 | 355 | 1,081 |
| No good cause | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Total | 452 | 1,860 | 731 | 2,505 |

Sickness leads in the above, and lack of employment is a close second.

That the use of tobacco in early childhood is a great factor in arresting normal, mental, moral and religious development is now generally known and accepted, and that this check in normal development during childhood leads later in life to numerous vices and vicious habits that often develop into real degeneracy goes without the saying. We need better environments for the little ones. We need more up to date methods of instructing the dull.

If the state would take hold of the unoccupied lands and aid in relieving the congested condition in cities by assisting persons of good intentions to a country home, along New England and Australian methods, the army of the unemployed would grow smaller and the problem of success in life be solved for many. D. C. LEWIS.

### Taxes and Exemptions.

McEwen, Or., Jan. 31.—To the Editor of The Journal—I am in favor of free circulation of initiative petitions. If free, then only meritorious measures will succeed. I have in mind a 2 cent passenger fare for Oregon, and I venture I can make it go on its merit, if I can dig up traveling expenses. The reason it has cost so much to initiate laws has been the fact that most of them were uncalled for. I am also opposed to any law being made by the legislature without being referred to the people, and my reason is that the legislature is made up mostly of lawyers, and a lawyer is no fit person to make laws for the general good of society. They can't tell half the time what their own making means.

Is it not a little strange that though all wealth comes through agriculture and mining, first, yet these interests have practically no say in the making and administration of our laws? And all because of a bunch of parasites called lawyers, who produce nothing but strife and have to be taken care of.

We have had tax laws galore, and I don't see that we have helped matters a bit over the conditions of 20 years ago. I don't know what the law proposed by Mr. Cridge contains, other than the $1500 exemption, but to my mind it would not be much improvement over the present. The assessor is the man to go after. He is the one that says what a piece of property is worth. I claim that land alongside of mine that is just as good should pay the same tax, whether improved or not, and all land of the same character, whether timber or otherwise, should pay alike. Because land has timber on it, it is not less valuable. For example, if a piece of farm land is worth $40 per acre, a piece of timber land that joins it is worth $30 plus the timber. If you assess on this plan speculators will soon let go. If assessors assessed unimproved land at its worth no one would need exemption, and I don't see how we are going to make him do any different under the proposed exemption act.

After all, it's a pretty hard proposition to fill a pocket with a big hole in the bottom of it, and that's our plight. J. L. EDMISTON.

### The Care of the Unemployed.

Forest Grove, Or., Feb. 3.—To the Editor of The Journal—Kindly old "Jeter Fogg" and I would like to know what became of the man with the smallpox(?) who was the means of turning so many men homeless on the street. It seems strange that one person could be the means of creating such havoc in the lives of a thousand people and then drop so suddenly into obscurity. We will begin to think it was a ruse, after all, if we don't get some reports pretty soon. The people of Portland should watch this case closely and insist on uncensored reports daily. It may mean cause for future self-protection if he had the disease, and if not it will clear up a mystery.

I would like to ask what the good church people are doing in this emergency. The only thing I have seen in the papers so far are accounts of St. Patrick's Catholic church, where the good women prepared an appetizing dinner for 150 needy men, and also St. Stephens, that have served one big supper and mean to continue it weekly until the municipal authorities find work for all. Now these are obscure churches to me. Those I hear most about are the White Temple, First Presbyterian, First Methodist, etc. I haven't seen where these rich churches were doing a thing except the First Presbyterian, where they prepared a banquet for the Rotary club, and the hungry men, on a false tip, gathered to participate of it and were ignominiously dispersed by the police upon the request of the committee in charge.

I am afraid after this crucial time some of the churches will stand in as unenviable a position as some of the towns of the valley, chief among which is Albany. This town showed the most merciless inhumanitarian side, unless it was Hillsboro. The report from there reads: "Though the marchers have a place of shelter tonight, they had no food, and with the police guarding the doors and refusing to let the soliciting committee go out they will get nothing until morning.

"The soliciting committee started out soon after arrival but the police returned them to the old engine house. They made no show of resistance when ordered back."

Which latter fact show their spirit is pretty well broken.

I wonder if they maintain a humane society at Albany? Think of men marching all day in driving rain, cold, wet and hungry, and then locking them up without a bite to maintain heat in their bodies, until morning, and then grudgingly giving them sandwiches and coffee and threatening to turn the fire hose on them if they did not leave instantly. I have seen a report since that one of the firemen was discharged for not lending his aid to this outrage. A. J. S.

### Questions Concerning Whiskey.

Portland, Feb. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—In a large whiskey advertisement in the Sunday morning Oregonian the statements are made that "whiskey is the greatest medicine ever invented" and that it is "the only medicine ever invented that has been proved to prolong human life."

Will someone who has investigated, or who is a chemist or physician, kindly inform me if this statement is true, and state what ingredients in whiskey possess such medicinal and curative properties?

Will someone inform me in what way it prolongs or preserves life?

PERPLEXED.

### Modest Mr. Lafferty.

Portland, Feb. 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—In front of a photographic establishment in Washington, is a large panel containing pictures of the entire membership of the house of representatives. All are plain head and shoulder portraits, with the exception of that of young Abraham Walter Lafferty of Oregon, who appears in the center of the collection with a silk hat, coat thrown over his arm and a jaunty cane. Thus one gets the impression that he is the proprietor of the whole outfit. A stranger passing down the avenue a few days ago, paused in front of the picture a moment and inquired:

"Is it a minstrel troupe?"

READER.

### The Journal's Figures Convince.

From the Newberg Enterprise.

Enshrouded in gloom though Oregon may be on account of the effect of the new tariff on the wool industry, it appears, according to the statistics printed by The Oregon Journal, that last year's Oregon egg crop was of the value of $18,750,000 while the wool product was worth only $2,700,000. The Oregonian should thank God and take courage. All is not lost.

## A FEW SMILES

"Oh, Mr. Smith!" cried the young lady, as she greeted her caller. "So you have been making friends with Fido! And do you think he likes you?"

"Well," said Mr. Smith, grimly, "I don't believe he's quite decided yet—he's only had one bite of me, and he seems to want another."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Jay Green—"I had a ride in my cousin's automobile while I was up t' the city."

Aaron Allred—"Ye did? How'd seem?"

Jay Green—"Wa-al, it felt a good deal like fallin' into a mighty deep well, only ye dropped straight ahead instead o' downwards."

"I see you complain of a sore throat," said the regimental doctor looking at his report as the last member of the sick parade stepped up.

"Yes, sir; terribly sore!" answered the bandsman, huskily.

The doctor examined him carefully.

"Yes, it is rather inflamed," said he. "You had better not strain it in the band. I shall strike you off duty for a week; come to me again at the end of that time, and in the interval gargle with salt and water."

At the end of the week back came the bandsman quite recovered.

"That's good," said the doctor. "You're fit for duty again now, so you can return to your work today. By the way, what is your instrument?"

"The side drum, sir!" answered Tommy, without the flicker of an eyelid.

"I am told," said a beautiful woman to a dub of a man in Bratenahl the other day, "that my lovely cousin, Miss X., has made a deep impression on you."

"Is Miss X. your cousin?" burbled the dub excitedly. "Indeed, she did. She is one of the loveliest girls I ever met. I'll tell you just what kind of a hit she made with me. I met her at the Dashes' dinner, and she sat on the other side of me, and I talked with her the whole time, and I can't even remember who my dinner partner was."

"I thought not," said the beautiful woman, dryly. "I was your dinner partner."

## PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

### SMALL CHANGE

A little snow storm or two doesn't make a hard winter.

The annual series of big-egg stories has begun coming in.

Ah, now comes blessed little February, with two holidays.

The big baseballists are attracting a lot of attention already.

There has been good roads talk only long enough; now for action.

The spring crop of gubernatorial candidates will be embarrassingly large.

Perhaps congress could do no better than to get Secretary Lane to fix up a few land laws, and pass them.

If the world is, and long has been, growing better, what a tough old place it must have been some centuries ago.

A river bar is a thing to be fought and conquered. So is a saloon bar. Some people regard the legal bar similarly.

In an encounter between a policeman and a robber, it is a pity if the policeman doesn't aim right and shoot first.

It won't be long till all able-bodied men can find employment, but there will always be many out of employment.

One high school is going to teach journalism. How many of the pupils can spell or read correctly, or can learn to do so?

Likely enough many of those refugees at Fort Bliss, being fed better than ever before, are glad they had to run from Ojinaga.

Talk of even the best of laws that have been or will be passed materially lessening the cost of living is mostly buncombe. It is a high-cost-of-living time.

### OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Myrtle Point Enterprise thinks it strange, "considering the need of desirable titles, that someone has not written a ragtime song around 'Banon-by-the-Sea.'"

The rehearsals of Prof. Alexander's Cornet Band, the American says, show that Sumpter will have a creditable musical organization this summer. Nothing is said about ragtime, however.

St. Helens Mist: In Union county dogs are assessed for about $58 while in Clatsop county the value placed on them is $2. Might be a profitable venture for some enterprising man to visit Clatsop and buy canines for shipment to Union.

From the way Jefferson ladies are registering it doesn't look to the Review as if many of them were opposed to equal suffrage. They are all in favor of good roads or improvements of any description, the Review further says.

Editor Young, formerly of the Sunflower state, says in the Coquille Sentinel: "Having seen the worst that the weather ever does to this section in last Sunday's storm, the Sentinel man is still glad he is here. But those gusts were forcible reminders of former experiences in Kansas."

During the late meteorological unpleasantness Morrow county was a shelter in a time of storm, according to the Heppner Gazette Times, which says: "Morrow county is certainly a favored spot. Storms of wind and rain have been raging in other parts of the state and along the coast this week but the weather here has been balmy and pleasant."

Powell Butte Correspondence Redmond Hub: Bend is crowing over Redmond because Governor West on his recent visit appeared in the former town in a "boiled" shirt, while in the latter he wore a flannel shirt. We're satisfied in our minds had the governor paid Powell Butte a visit he would have come togged out in a Prince Albert, silk hat and patent leathers, in which case both towns would have had our sympathy.

## TAX REFORM IN WESTERN CANADA

John T. McRoy in Harper's Weekly.

Widespread interest has recently developed concerning the application of single tax in western Canada. Its success is one of the bases of a concerted effort to untax industry in New York. It has inspired many a single tax prediction in electorial campaigns last year in Missouri and Oregon. Wherever the initiative is in force the United States has had single tax or quasi-single tax campaigns. It would not be too much to say that Canadian experience is the source from which these hopes have come.

Western Canada seems to show that taxation may become a subject of hope and absorbing interest to the mass of men. It demonstrates truths to the practical man who despises "theory" and "hypotheses."

While no hasty inferences can be drawn from such a consideration, yet one thing is clearly evident—that northwestern Canada possesses some attractions which the United States does not. The contention which is constantly made, that this progress has mainly as its cause the taxation of land values and non-taxation of improvements, is the conception that we are now to analyze.

The country is mainly agricultural, save in British Columbia where lumber, mining and fisheries predominate. However, there is fruit growing in the Frazer River basin. In view of the insistent assertions of Taussig and other orthodox economists that the single tax would work better in towns than in the country, it is interesting that a rural community has been the first largely to apply Henry George's teachings.

The production of grain is the greatest industry of the Canadian northwest. There is, however, a considerable amount of cattle raising. Distances between towns are large, and the farm life is of that lonely American type which will no doubt make for individualism of the most pronounced type.

That the region is developed abnormally is due largely to the alluring appeals of the railroads and land speculators. On account of this, there is an agitation for pure single tax in order to eliminate land speculation and let northwest Canada grow according to its true capabilities.

Taxation in western Canada is more largely under the control of cities and towns than in any state of the American Union. By demonstrating the merit of a certain system, a town becomes the center of a host of nearby imitators. These in turn tend to spread their workable policy over the province. By exempting improvements, for instance, a town encouraged industry and commerce which was an advantage, and other towns were forced to adopt the same policy.

In British Columbia, for local purposes all of the large cities and towns such as Vancouver, Victoria and Prince Rupert, tax land values only. Improvements of any and all kinds are excluded from taxation. The provincial taxes, whether personal property, income or poll, still exist.

The value of land is taxed more heavily in proportion as it is kept out of use. A lot held for speculation is discriminated against by a higher rate. In Alberta and Saskatchewan land value taxation is compulsory throughout the provinces. Neither improvements nor personal property is in any way taxed. Provincial taxes in small degree remain. In Manitoba, land is practically the basis of agricultural taxation. Stock, implements, etc., are not taxed. In Winnipeg the assessment of buildings is only two-thirds that of the land.

There can be no doubt that this policy has immensely increased the quantity and quality of improvements. Building in the towns and country is out of all proportion to the growth of population. Medicine Hat had a 400 per cent increase in 1912. Edmonton adopted the pure land value tax in 1912. The figures for buildings were $10,250,562 for 1912 against $2,197,920 for 1911. Towns of 30,000 inhabitants show as much progress in buildings and improvements as American cities of 200,000 population. The exemption from taxation of business has resulted in industries equipping and improving their plants to the highest degree. Stores are not afraid of being penalized for erecting commodious buildings. It has also reduced the cost of doing business, thus affording an improved service for the same money to the consumer. While the towns will have to slacken this rate of growth one fact seems to be indisputable. It is that unwise taxation has been shown to have more effect in checking building, farm improvements and business than is commonly supposed. And western Canada has proven that by not penalizing industry, it can the better develop and the more effectually serve the people. The poor man who buys a lot in the United States and improves, finds himself confronted by an increased tax. In western Canada this amount every year is saved.

A single case will serve to show the meritorious effect of exempting stock and personal property in that section. A man owning 20,000 head of cattle in Canada told a questioner that he would have been taxed one dollar a head or $20,000 in an American state. That a saving is effected to the consumer by untaxing business stock is clear. The situation almost tempts one to say that the beneficence of exemption of industry has been proved. Perhaps its success may not be so marked in older and more staid communities, but no one can any longer afford to neglect a proposition that has beyond all question "made good" in the region where it has been tried. No party and no body of men in Canada has agitated for a return to the old system.

## LOOKING HALF A YEAR AHEAD

By John M. Oskison.

With the actual arrival of this new year a great volume of forecast was loosed upon the country by financial and business leaders. You have, no doubt, read much of it in the papers.

You must know, from what you have read, that the vast majority of the new year predictions have been optimistic. If I should attempt to make a composite record of the hundreds of well reasoned comments as to what the year 1914 has in store for the man with money to invest, I should think of it as something like this:

The people have been a little more cautious and conservative in business (in the spending of money) than the actual conditions justified. They have accumulated a surplus of money available for investment, and they have readjusted very considerably their habits of living—they have learned to live within their incomes.

No panic has come. Tariff and currency legislation have been enacted without causing any widespread fright or protest. The insurance companies and the banks had a good year in 1913, showing that people generally had confidence in the country's future.

It was only in that form of business in which speculation plays a part that exceptional depression occurred. Too many demands were made for capital to be used in developing new enterprises, where it was inevitable that some risk was involved. People generally grew afraid to put their money in bonds and stocks; and the natural result was that the prices of bonds and stocks fell far below a normal level.

What I have heard and read from the leaders in finance and business indicates that within six months you and I will have lost most of our fear to invest; within that period you and I and the rest of our Americans will be spending more than ever before. And when that condition is known business will increase; the bonds and stocks of the great corporations (the railroads which haul the things we use, and the manufacturers who make them) will assume a greater attractiveness.

It is said that the securities market feels a coming change in business conditions from four to six months ahead of the time when people generally know that a change has come.

So, if these New Year prophets are right, prices of good bonds and stocks are going to go up within a very short time. Do you think the optimists are right? As an investor you ought to decide that point right away!

## Pointed Paragraphs

Most of the golden opportunities offered you will not stand the acid test.

There are several undesirable brands of trust, but trusting to luck is as unsatisfactory as any.

It sometimes happens that a girl who has narrowly escaped matrimony is to be congratulated.

If men were as perfect as their wives expect them to be, the monotony of married life would be debilitating.

## IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley.

Fifty-eight years ago the papers were full of controversial discussion about the death of Peo-peo-mox-mox, the head chief of the Walla Wallas. In those days there were no good Indians but dead ones and the papers advised the settlers and soldiers to kill the Indians first and find out if they were friendly Indians after they were dead.

The Journal recently published an account of the death of the noted Walla Walla chieftain which brought forth the following letter:

Freemont Station, Seattle, Wash.—To the Editor of The Journal—Dear Sir: I notice an article in a recent issue of The Journal, by Fred Lockley, in reference to the killing of Chief Peo-peo-mox-mox, in 1855. As I was one of the guards of this great chief when he was killed, I would like to tell how it was as I saw it. There were six Indians we held as prisoners and there were 12 guards. We started from the Touchet river up the Walla Walla river on December 7, in the morning, and we had a running fight till about 3 o'clock, when the Indians made a determined stand, and were making it hot for us, so the colonel told the guards to tie the Indians and six of us guard them and the other six go into the battle. The Indians refused to be tied so we sent word to the colonel they wouldn't be tied and he said if they wouldn't be tied to shoot them.

We boys began to prepare to shoot and one Indian, not Peo-peo-mox-mox, drew a dirk knife from his legging and began to strike right and left. He cut one man over the eye and a man by the name of Mitchel Ingrim struck the Indian on the head and killed him. Peo-peo-mox-mox was shot down but not killed. He tried to get up so a guard shot him through the back. Four others were killed and one, a boy 18 or 20 years old, was saved. I tell you it was a hot time for a little while. I expected to see some of our own men shot.

It is a shame the way our boys mutilated the chief's body after he was killed. One of the surgeons cut off the chief's ears and put them in a bottle of alcohol as a trophy. Allow me to add that I don't think now that our colonel ought to have kept the chief and the other Indians as prisoners. They came to us under a flag of truce and according to all the rules of war ought to have been allowed to go back to their wigwams.

MARION PHILLIPS,
Indian war veteran.

The causes leading up to the Indian war of 1855 are not well understood. History has much to say about the war itself, but you will find but brief mention of the real reason that led to the Indians taking to the warpath. George Collier Robbins, one of the early day business men of Portland, and at one time mayor of Portland, in speaking of the matter some years ago, said:

"Congress made an appropriation to build a military wagon road from the headwaters of the Missouri river to the Columbia river. The construction of this military wagon road was under the charge of Lieutenant John Mullen. The Indians were employed in gathering cattle for the workmen as well as for the military escort. The Indians called the 'bullwhackers' or teamsters, 'Gee-haw-whoa-buck' men.

"Governor Stevens of Washington territory was ex-officio superintendent of Indian affairs. He appointed two of the teamsters who had worked under Lieutenant Mullen on the wagon road, to office, appointing one of them, J. Bolan, as sub-Indian agent with headquarters at what is now Wenatchee. Shortly after his appointment, the Indians sent a delegation to Father Pondoga, a Catholic missionary, asking him to use his influence to have Bolen removed. They said their squaws and young women were afraid to go out picking huckleberries as Bolen had assaulted several of the young Indian women.

"'Why does the Great Father at Washington insult us by sending a "Gee-haw-whoa-buck" man to be over us? Our young women are afraid to leave camp while he lies in wait for them,' they said.

"Father Pondoga wrote to Bishop Blanchet at Fort Vancouver. Bishop Blanchet reported it to Governor Stevens. Governor Stevens wrote to Agent Bolan telling him of the charges and asking for an explanation.

"Bolan called the chiefs together and said, 'If you try to make me any more trouble I will have the soldiers come up here and punish you.' The chiefs called their people together and held a council. A delegation was sent to Father Pondoga asking him to send word to Governor Stevens that if the agent was not removed within 30 days they would kill him.

"Governor Stevens sent word that he could not take action without more information. Shortly after this another outrage occurred upon one of the Indian girls. The Indians killed Bolan, mutilated him and burned up his dead body.

"Troops were sent out to punish the Indians. They were defeated and many of the soldiers were killed. Oregon was asked to raise volunteers and at once raised a regiment. The Wenatchee Indians sent runners to all the Columbia river tribes, most of whom rose. Runners were also sent to the Klamath Indians and the southern tribes also rose and the war was on."

## The Ragtime Muse

### Suburbanite's Fancy.

When Gabriel blows his trumpet
I hope he blows it loud
Because I'll have to hump it
Through that commuter crowd!
I hope he blows it early;
It gives one needless pain
To raise a hurly burly
And then to miss the train!

The code—I'll surely know it,
If it's like that in town.
To go up, twice he'll blow it:
One toot means "going down!"
And for my rolls and butter
I hope they'll let me wait,
Or cross words I might utter
There at the pearly gate!

I often sit and ponder
On what I ought to wear;
I hate to go—well, yonder,
So clad that all will stare.
I'm not sure where I'm going;
However, at the worst,
There's comfort still in knowing
'Twill not be Lonesomehurst!


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