

THE JOURNAL AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (EXCEPT SUNDAY) AND EVERY SUNDAY MORNING AT THE JOURNAL BUILDING, BROADWAY AND COMMERCIAL STS., PORTLAND, OREGON.

hour recently they began to cough loudly and a few minutes later rose from their seats and tramped out in a body.

GOVERNING FROM AMBUSH

MORE than the required number of names has been secured for the Albee-Decker-Brewster recall.

The petitions have been put in cold storage until candidates can be secured to contest with present incumbents in a recall election.

Any such candidate will have many explanations to make. He will be, from the beginning, on the defensive.

The Journal did not help elect Mr. Albee. But that is all the more reason why it wants him to have a fair chance to make good.

For example, the new candidate for mayor can make no charge of dishonesty against Albee. Nor any charge of misfeasance in office.

Nor any reasonable accusation of sufficient moment to warrant a recall election, and all the turmoil that such an election would mean.

The Journal did not help elect Mr. Albee. But that is all the more reason why it wants him to have a fair chance to make good.

He has done things The Journal would not have done, and omitted to do things The Journal would have done.

But that is no reason for The Journal to want him recalled.

We cannot conduct government if we get up a recall movement every time an official does something which some of us do not approve.

Nor can we get anywhere with government if we start a referendum on every city ordinance with which some of us are not suited.

These foolish proceedings only more and more discourage desirable men from entering public life.

It is getting so in Oregon that the moment a man assumes high public position all the malignity, all the malevolence and all the vials of abuse are uncorked and referendums, recalls and floods of invective turned upon him.

Everybody knows that the mayor and commissioners of this town are trying to do their duty. They are struggling hard to give a proper administration of public affairs.

How wrong it is to cut off their terms without giving them sufficient length of time to show what they can do.

Any candidate who accepts a call to run against the present officials will have all these things to explain.

There are thousands of silent people who are saying nothing, and who will resent the recall on the grounds herein set forth.

They will be on the firing line if the recall election is actually brought.

The best thing to be done with the petitions is to throw them into the river.

The threatened officials were elected by the people to conduct the affairs of Portland.

The unknown and mysterious persons who have financed this recall were not elected to govern the city. But that is exactly what they are trying to do.

And they are trying to do it from ambush.

HIGHWAY ADORNMENT

FOR the same reason that a new suit of clothes calls for a new hat and new shoes, a new roadway demands better houses, barns and shade trees.

The law is a natural one and its operation is seen in the meeting at Medford yesterday of the Women's Club of that city at which was discussed the beautifying of the Pacific Highway by planting shrubbery, flowers and trees along the approaches to the city.

While on this subject it might be timely to suggest that in connection with the Columbia River highway steps should be taken to preserve the scenery from defacement by the advertising vandal.

Signs announcing cures for all diseases and where the best goods can be obtained should not be allowed along the right of way.

THE BANKRUPTCY MENACE

RECURRING deficits in French budgets illustrate, says the London Nation, the morass into which militarism has driven that country.

M. Caillaux, minister of finance, is confronted with the necessity of another government bond issue to meet current expenses, for the deficit on the 1914 budget will be \$120,000,000, which should be added \$30,000,000, which will be raised by a short term loan.

France is approaching a financial crisis, the worst that country has faced since 1871, and militarism is largely responsible for it.

The military establishment keeps 700,000 able-bodied men from gainful occupations, and requires the actual workers to support this vast army.

M. Caillaux is seeking new sources of revenue, and he proposes that the French system of taxation be remodeled.

In a recent speech the minister of finance showed that a Frenchman with a salary of \$300 pays an income tax of 2 per cent, while another Frenchman with an income of \$60,000 pays a tax of less than 4 per cent.

In England the \$860 man pays no tax, while the \$60,000 man pays 10 per cent. M. Caillaux intimated that he would urge adoption of the British system.

The effect of militarism is shown by the national debts of leading nations. France and her colonies, with a population of 93,850,000, has a national debt of \$6,343,208,000, a per capita debt of \$67.65.

Germany's debt per inhabitant is \$75.67; Japan, \$18.50; the United States, \$10.81; Great Britain, \$8.01.

These figures show that three of the nations maintaining great armaments have per capita debts far in excess of that of the United States, while Great Britain's figure is small, only because the empire has a population nearly five times that of any other country.

France will not get out of her financial troubles by increased taxes on her people. Escape will come only when the big leaks are stopped.

A FEW SMILES

An old farmer who had driven into the neighboring village to make a few purchases took back a rather more hard older than was consistent with careful driving.

While going down a steep hill his horse stumbled, fell flat in the road and took place for a moment over the dashboard, then exclaimed: "Git up, you old fool! Git up, or I'll drive right over you!" Everybody's Magazine.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

(Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on one side of the paper, should not exceed 500 words in length and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. If the name is to be withheld, the name should be given in full.)

"Discussion is the greatest of all reformers. It rationalizes everything it touches. It throws them back on their reasonableness. It crushes them out of reasonableness. It ruthlessly crushes them out of their own conclusions in their stead."—Woodrow Wilson.

THE THIRD HOME RULE BILL

Portland, March 17.—To the Editor of The Journal.—For the third time in 27 years the English government has tried to pay back a debt to the people of Ireland, contracted through almost eight centuries of misgovernment.

And for the first time it may be said a bill has been introduced for the purpose of doing justice and giving fair play to Ireland.

"All government," said the great Edmund Burke, "indeed, every human benefit and every enjoyment, and every prudent act, is founded on compromise and barter." There is no doubt that in the future flaws may be found in the arrangements of the home rule bill, but it is clear they will arise rather from some difficulty of the political situation than from an honest desire to give the people of Ireland an efficient method of governing themselves.

Premier Asquith has made grave difficulties in a manner that is broad, sympathetic and statesmanlike. A few days ago with an innocent looking concession—the offer to allow each county to reject or accept the bill by a local option vote—he gave the mask off the northeast Ulster reactionists.

They tried to hide under a gigantic bluff; for every intelligent observer of the Irish problem knows that the British government, industrially, financially, and socially, as soon cut itself away from the rest of Ireland and isolate itself in a north-east corner under an unworkable system of government.

It is not alone in Eastern Oregon that systems of auto-truck lines will solve the transportation problem, but in Western Oregon as well.

Not only are auto-truck lines feasible for points now remote from the river, but they could be made of great practical use by points that already have railway connection, for the reason that they will serve as a natural check in keeping down freight rates, and be much more effective than the interposition of state regulation.

Especially will this be true when the Willamette and upper Columbia are fully opened to navigation and the products of the great Inland Empire brought to their banks by auto-trucks.

THE GATENS STRICTURES

THERE has been criticism of Judge Gatens for his strictures at the Lents grange meeting on the Oregon supreme court.

It is claimed that as a judge on the bench he ought not to say anything in derogation of the higher court.

But who should say it? If a layman says it, the usual insistence is that he doesn't know what he is talking about. If a newspaper says so, its motives will often be questioned and its information doubted.

A lawyer hesitates to criticize because it may give offense to the court and cause his cases trouble whenever they reach the higher tribunal. In view of all these considerations, if a judge cannot speak in his mind of a supreme court, who can? If a court is too sacred for its work to be questioned what have we come to but idolatry?

Judge Gatens is not the only judge who has criticized the vice decisions. Three members of the supreme court itself signed the critical dissenting opinion in the case, written by Justice McNary. They were Justices McNary, McBride and Eakin. The dissenting opinion said:

"Unless the principles laid down in the case are overruled by the court, they will remain a fruitful source of embarrassment.

In these words, Justice McNary himself severely criticized the majority opinion. He was right. The majority justices by an indelible decision destroyed all chance of punishing the guilty participants in the vice cases.

It was on the narrowest sort of a quibble that the verdict of guilty against Start was reversed in the higher court. The majority opinion held that the trial judge erred in not instructing the jury to consider the testimony of Earl Van Hulzen as that of an accomplice, a veritable quibble. It held that the testimony of others who told of Start committing similar offenses with them was not compe-

SMALL CHANGE

Miss Spring is wearing of the green, all right.

Young Mrs. McAdoo to be will have to do a lot of smothering.

"Votes for women" has special significance to the women candidates.

No doubt Carranza takes himself to be the world's greatest statesman.

The express companies are doubtless rich enough to retire comfortably.

I. W. W.'s can boast truly of being quite successful—in causing considerable trouble.

This is the time of year when the voters should get their seeds from their faithful congressmen.

Two daughters of a president married by the White House will break all former precedents, but they may be three yet.

From the primaries in April to the election in November makes a campaign as long as to amount to a nuisance.

An all-women church has been founded in Liverpool; the members it is supposed, do not consider men's souls worth saving.

Many people will be obliged to "But those who think for their own good" for their locomotive whistles.

Turning that 400,000 acres of land unnecessarily included in a central Oregon forest reserve over to settlers will also help Oregon some.

There is still some justice for husbands in the land; a judge reduced the alimony to be paid by a henpecked man from \$3 to one cent a week.

WHEN GOETHALS LAUGHED OUT LOUD

By Herbert Corey. Colonel Goethals' photographs show him wearing a smile. Those who do not know him usually feel that smile is a card-indexed affair.

One day he reached one hand into his mental file case and pulled out one smile, and worn that smile conscientiously until it fell to pieces.

"How're you making out at the army house?" "G'wan."

"Fact sixteen of the constitution says that no man shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

Articles have appeared in the papers of this city discussing the question whether or not the Hay-Pauncefote treaty guarantees the same privileges to the United States as the Panama canal.

I have read and re-read that treaty, and it seems to me that in the game of diplomacy the British got the best of us in that deal.

Now comes the question: Shall we as a nation live up to the provisions of that treaty or let advantage of a technicality and repudiate our obligation. Of course some will say we built the canal with our own money and in our own territory and we should run it to suit ourselves, which is exactly what the writer stands for, but he believes in an honor bound to live up to conditions called for in that treaty till its time expires.

Wilson and Bryan are the two men in the right place and the honor of the nation is at stake. The United States will not only in the matter of the Panama canal, but also of the many momentous questions of the day. For it must be understood that the government called upon to solve greater problems than existed a decade ago and it requires wise and careful statesmen to guide the ship of state to a safe harbor.

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DOLLAR AND A HALF DAY

Portland, March 17.—To the Editor of The Journal.—In last Friday's Journal there was an article on the unemployed at the Gipsy Smith auditorium, stating that the men there don't want work. Now, to any fair minded employer, does \$1.50 per day seem reasonable when they have to pay 25 cents per meal, which amounts to \$5.25 for one week, leaving them \$3.75 for one week's work, out of which they have to pay for their rent, and for their clothes, and for their family expenses when they are out of work?

It is such wages that account for the large number of men there cannot pay for their night's lodging when they are out of work. If employers would only take into consideration the amount of money it costs for their own employees to take care of themselves, willing to hunt anything from a rabbit to a tramp, and with a mania for shooting a wet nose in his master's eye, and a month's operation of the sort at all. They wheeze and slobber and snarl. The more highly bred they

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If you are an investor known to possess money which isn't working, you are going to be approached with financial propositions of exactly the same character. Take certain issues

ment" as the leading plank of a candidate's platform is an insult to the intelligence of the voters and stunts the progress of the opposing candidates. It is an indirect charge that those now in office do not try to enforce the laws and an implication that all others seeking office do not intend to obey or enforce the laws.

Every candidate who is in that self-righteous holier-than-thou frame of mind should be repudiated in the primaries by the voters of each party.

W. H. ADDIS.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

Friends of the Bandon public library are planning to give a dramatic entertainment some time in the last week of April.

The Yoncalla Times has emerged from an eclipse and is henceforth to be published by George W. Bradley, Jr., who pledges himself to stay on the job.

The Astorian asks if it is not quite time to be thinking of not only one cleanup day in Astoria, but of several such days.

Sherwood is soon to see its post-office housed in separate quarters in a new building, for which plans are being made. The annual income of the office is \$1400.

The Business Men's club of Canby has taken up a large tree planting project. It is proposed to plant the best trees, arborvitae, in the Willamette valley.

Lakeview Examiner: Spring "has come" and the fish are biting. Quite a few of the speckled beauties are being brought to town from the creeks on Slush, and it is reported that some of the best of the season are from the streams on the west side.

Wheeler's rapid progress has carried the town to a point that makes pertinent this interrogatory, in the Reporter: "How about the fire department in Wheeler? Wouldn't it be in order to start a movement to perfect the fire department of this kind at the earliest moment?"

Robert Templeton, just three months less than 30 years old, is employed as a farm hand on the ranch of Charles Crouch of Haynes Inlet, according to the Coos Bay Times, and is said to be one of the best of the season. He has saved his money and is financially independent.

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IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley. "Just after the Civil war mother sold 150 acres of her \$30 acre for one acre and took out title \$1600 in carpenter work," said Miss Ella Talbot of Portland.

"Mr. Fort built a house for mother in Portland 4th Second street, between 1st and 2nd streets. Mother kept her 220 acres, but it was quite a care to her, when the Portland cable road was built she agreed to take stock in it and pay for the stock in land. They sold her land so low, however, that she borrowed the money on the land and paid for her stock in cash. The cable road went into the hands of a receiver. The hard times of '92 and '93 came, and they foreclosed on our place, securing a deficiency judgment of \$3000. You see the Dekum bank made the loan and the rest of the family out two grand-children in a bad place themselves, and in fact the bank itself failed shortly after this. Before this mother had bonded 130 acres of her 220 acres for \$200,000, but being unable to raise a small amount of money they took the whole place for a loan which was not a tithe of the value of the property. Before this, however, mother very judiciously sold the 130 acres for \$100,000, now the heart of Council Crest, to C. Neal for \$25 an acre.

"It was he who made the first improvement on Council Crest. He cleared the timber on the top of the hill and put out an orchard and built a house. He then bought 20 acres more, which included practically all of the present Council Crest. He was very judicious in his investment. He mortgaged his 30 acres for \$1000 to put into a paper called the Temperance Star. The Temperance Star set, or it failed, and he lost his money, or something happened to it, so that Mr. Neal lost his \$1000, and the mortgage was foreclosed. He lost his 20 acres on the top of Council Crest. He was very judicious in his investment. He mortgaged his 30 acres for \$1000 to put into a paper called the Temperance Star. The Temperance Star set, or it failed, and he lost his money, or something happened to it, so that Mr. Neal lost his \$1000, and the mortgage was foreclosed. He lost his 20 acres on the top of Council Crest. He was very judicious in his investment. He mortgaged his 30 acres for \$1000 to put into a paper called the Temperance Star. The Temperance Star set, or it failed, and he lost his money, or something happened to it, so that Mr. Neal lost his \$1000, and the mortgage was foreclosed. He lost his 20 acres on the top of Council Crest. He was very judicious in his investment. He mortgaged his 30 acres for \$1000 to put into a paper called the Temperance Star. The Temperance Star set, or it failed, and he lost his money, or something happened to