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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON .....Publisher

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"No; God is no longer in heaven. He has come down on earth to see
That nothing is wrong with the world he made; the wrong is in you and me.
He meant the earth for a garden spot, where mill and factory stand;
Childhood, he meant for growing time—but look at the toiling hand!
Woman was meant for mother and mate—now look at the slaves of lust,
And the good folks shake their heads and say, "We must pray to God and trust."
God has a billion books of our prayers unopened upon his shelves,
For the things we are begging of him to do he wants us to do ourselves."
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

THE NEW INFAMY

NEW HAVEN manipulations invaded even the inner sanctuary of the United States Senate, and, according to the testimony of Mr. Mellen yesterday, the then Senator Aldrich was primarily instrumental in the sale of the Rhode Island trolley system to Morgan for the New Haven.

In his testimony before the commission, Oakleigh Thorne referred to sums approximating $2,000,000 which went, in the Westchester deal, to propitiate New York politicians who had a "nuisance value." Mr. Mellen told of the $1,200,000 of the money New Haven stockholders spent on Morgan's order in acquiring Westchester stock held by Tammany politicians.

It requires no stretch of the imagination to understand how these persons with a "nuisance value" became possessed of Westchester stock. It requires no gift of prophecy to see that in these transactions, the head of the greatest banking house in America, through his agents, was actually engaged in the bribery of officials and in corrupting the government of the City of New York, and that he did it as trustee of a great railroad property, using the funds of the stockholders for the purpose and without their knowledge.

Mr. Morgan was at the head of banking, railroad, industrial, life insurance and miscellaneous corporations whose combined assets, according to testimony before the senate money trust committee, totaled nearly $25,000,000,000.

It was a personal dominion of the financial world in which the power exercised was greater than that by any potentate on earth.

It was a power able to subjugate business and industry in many branches, and in Mellen's testimony, is laid bare the fact that in the case of the New Haven, these great financiers commanded shameless corruption, controlled the properties for their own sordid purposes, and finally wrecked the property that was in their hands as trustees.

Considering the infamy of it all, how fortunate it is that a new currency and banking law has been put into effect for liberating the money and credit of the country from the control of gigantic financiers, whose degradation of financial affairs in the New Haven is a national scandal.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

THERE are thousands of farmers who cannot go to college, but there is now opened to them a field for opportunity and progress through the Smith-Lever law, recently signed by President Wilson.

The purpose of the law is to establish among the rank and file of farmers the best methods and practices that have been worked out at experiment stations and agricultural colleges. It is to make a practical use of the millions expended yearly by the government in gathering agricultural knowledge.

The measure carries an appropriation that will ultimately reach more than five million dollars annually for the demonstration of efficient farming methods in every agricultural county of the union. Of this fund, which is to be spent under the joint direction of the Department of Agriculture and the state agricultural colleges, ten thousand dollars will be allotted to each state every year unconditionally. The remainder will be distributed among the states on a basis of rural population. In order to receive its apportionment the state must appropriate an equal amount.

These appropriations will inaugurate throughout the country a system of practical schooling in farming. Skilled demonstrators in every county will be at the service of the farmers in solving problems of the soil and perfecting methods for planting, cultivating and marketing their crops.

In the discretion of the state authorities part of the fund may be used for household economics, that the domestic side of farm life may be benefited.

In short the object of the law is broadly educational in all the spheres of rural life.

PULLMAN GENEROSITY

ANSWERING the charge of the California Railroad Commission, the Pullman Car Company says the assertion that it pays its employes an average of only $27.50 a month is "misinformation," and that it actually pays $32.85 per month.

An all too critical world should take note of the company's correction, and spread broadcast the glad news that the Pullman corporation munificently endows its porters with $32.85 per.

Per week, it approximates a magnificent $7.50. Per day, it is a few cents more than a whole simoleon.

Was there ever such boundless generosity! It almost makes every Pullman porter an uproarious captain of finance, rushing madly into the millionaire class. If the company keeps on in its reckless, devil-may-care generosity, it cannot be long until the porters will own the great Pullman business and the present owners be kicked into the street.

The California railroad commission ought to be habeas corpused or be mandamused or be impeached. It has no right to persecute a benevolent corporation like the Pullman company, which is struggling along day by day, trying to make both ends meet, while pouring out its resources to keep its porters in lavish luxury.

A HERO'S DEATH

PERSONAL stories now coming from Vera Cruz reveal that the traditions of the American navy are being sustained and that in their conduct, marines and sailors have set a standard to be proud of. There are stories of bravery and heroism, stories of restraint under great provocation and stories of the absence of looting and drunkenness, though a captured city was at their mercy.

A story that touches the highest note of individual heroism is that of John F. Schumacher of Brooklyn, a coxswain on the Florida. It is told by a surviving comrade as follows:

Schumacher was known in the ship for a great kidder. He was always joshing and playing jokes. He was in charge of a machine gun and as our boys worked up into the city he kept kidding the others with him, making fun of the Mexicans and telling the boys not to mind the greasers. Well, the first thing you know he gets a bullet slap in the chest. But that didn't feaze Schumacher any. He just laughed and said it didn't hurt. He was sweeping the street then with his gun and kept at it, kidding the boys around him. Then he got a bullet in the eye and that laid him low. But it was an hour and a half before he died and all that while he tried to kid the boys around him.

Just before he died he whispered, "them greasers do grease their bullets, boys, don't they?"

And yet there are some men who value their dollars more than the life of such a man and criticise the administration because it does not rashly engage in a war.

GALLED JADE WINCES

STRONG confirmation that the new tariff law is working well is found in the words of Charles E. Leippe, president of the national association of hosiery and underwear manufacturers.

At a recent convention of the association he said:

Now, when the government sends its people to you tell them they cannot examine your books. Tell them that what your books show is none of their business. When the new tariff bill does get in its effects you will need no bookkeeper to compute your profits. This government is not being run by practical efficient men but by a lot of theorists. It is up to you manufacturers to go out and get into politics and see to it that men who represent you are put in power.

The association adopted a startling resolution demanding that the government postpone the investigations now being made by the Department of Commerce as to the cost of manufacture in connection with present business conditions as the basis for determining the defects in the Underwood tariff bill in its relation to manufacturing.

Much as they resemble them, the utterances of President Leippe are not the words of a soap box orator. An I. W. W. speaker, fresh from Southern Europe and still unnaturalized, would not more strongly advise his followers to be lawless.

Loss of the long partnership with government from which President Leippe and his kind so long and so heavily profited, makes them wrathy at an administration which has taken all the people into the partnership.

BROKEN PROMISES

THE Salem Statesman says:

We will have a legislature committed to economy. We have had them before, within the memory of many who do not consider themselves old. And failed to get economy or anything more than a false article.

The statement is true. So many pledges have been broken that confidence is lost. The legislative body is distrusted.

Sometimes, it is to be doubted if it is always the fault of the men. Of course, most sessions include men who seek election for wrong purposes.

But the system itself, and the processes that have grown up under it, seem to draw members into expenditures of public money out of all proportion to their campaign promises.

The 1913 session, of course, did not try to be economical. It went to Salem more for riot than for reform.

The log rolling, the lobby, the inside committee work, the midnight conferences and the smooth, sleek gentlemen who go to Salem on secret errands are all influences that debauch legislatures. They are among the wheels within wheels in the make-up of the two chambers.

The legislative problem is the big problem in every state. The difficulty in determining just who kills good measures and pilots bad ones through is suggestion of some things that might be done to remedy the system.

HIS MONUMENT

THERE is comment in the papers because Cleveland, Ohio, has not yet raised a suitable memorial to ex-Mayor Tom L. Johnson, who died three years ago on the 10th of last April.

Bronze or marble could add nothing to his fame. Streetcars in Cleveland that carry a breadwinner or a millionaire fifteen miles for three cents are his enduring monument. The dinner pail army whose thousands go to the shops, mills and laundries while the dew is still on the flowers and return at eveningtide, every day, raise to the memory of the dead mayor a monument in thought that no dull shaft can rival.

The whole city has a new way of thinking since Tom Johnson worked out his career. It values men more for what they are than for what they have. Instead of a money-worshipping city it is a city of ideals.

To have achieved these changes is a noble memorial to any man. To do it, cost him his fortune and cost him several years of savage conflict with men who had been his associates and friends arrayed in a fierce warfare against him.

In the end, it brought him the tragedy of a life thread cut before its time. But in the new vision in Cleveland, in the new ideals he gave his townsmen, it was worth all it cost Tom Johnson.

Had he devoted himself to Mammon instead of to mankind, what a loss to Cleveland and how many would ever have heard of Cleveland's greatest mayor?

WAR'S HORROR

THE horrors of the Balkan war are bared in a report made public by the commission of inquiry of the Carnegie endowment for international peace. It is a tale of savagery, a tale of atrocities on defenseless men, women and children by Turk, Greek Bulgarian and Servian alike. It is a story of the annihilation of one entire population of 15,960 persons, of the burning alive of men by hundreds, of the violation of widows, of the hanging of women to trees, of the butchery of men in groups of 300 or more and of the gouging out the eyes of babes. Outrages committed on non-combatant Moslems in Macedonia, surpassed the crimes of the darkest ages and barbarous reprisals of Bulgar, Serb and Greek on one another seem incredible if they were not supported by convincing evidence.

Everywhere the commission found desolation, wretchedness and despair.

In commenting on the Bulgarian-Servian country the commission says:

The things we have described, horrible as they are, are evidence of an abnormal condition which cannot endure. The consequences of the recent war economic, moral and social are dreadful enough to justify any honest effort by any person or by any nation to alleviate the really distressing situation.

In its investigation the commission has performed a lasting service in the cause of universal peace and has called upon the civilized world to set a good example to those less advanced by seeking a judicial settlement of international disputes.

FEDERAL CONTROL

THE disclosures being made in the affairs of the New Haven railroad give timely interest to the Rayburn bill for federal control of railroad stock and bond issues, which has been reported favorably by the House Interstate Commerce Committee.

In the report prepared by Chairman Adamson it is declared that the personal punishment provided is the only way to deal with malefactors and those who use the power of their positions as directors to wreck corporations for individual gain.

The director or officer who will swindle innocent investors by unloading on them worthless stocks and bonds is deserving of the most severe punishment.

The bill also contains a provision prohibiting common or interlocking directorates or managements.

This is in response to an almost universal demand. While it may be that railroad men are no longer dishonest and that it is a matter of convenience for the same men to handle various enterprises without having to consult so many people, the fact remains that most of the wreck and ruin has been due to the machinations of a few men who managed many corporations.

If dishonesty has ceased the provision in the law will not hurt anybody, for no man will be punished unless he is guilty. Besides it will serve to restrain any rash man from trying in the future to imitate some of the past exploits of his predecessors. In addition to all this it may be observed that there are more competent men than positions anyway.

The dealings with the devil in connection with the New Haven will have one good effect at least. The administration's anti-trust measures will be hastened.

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.

Proposes Labor Program.

Lents, May 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—There is one sure remedy for present woes among the laboring class. Do we fully understand the entire meaning of the term. I was, not very long ago, reading an accepted jury list, and it was thus: One carpenter, one baker, two clerks, two machinists, one engineer, three drivers of grocery wagons and two laborers. I was some time puzzling over the peculiar distinction in this collection of jury talent, and asked, "Were these men not all laborers?" "Oh, yes," was readily answered, "but not common laborers." Why not? "Oh, well," it was argued, "a clerk who sits in an office and does office work, an electrical engineer, a civil engineer, the captain of a ship, and from the captain on down to the scullion who assists the cook in the ship's galley, each and every one, whether this is called a salary or just plain wage are truly servants of those whom they serve and of whom they receive this salary or wage; from the high priced official to the humblest toiler, all, indeed and in fact, are servants to the money power, which has now become the ruling power of this nation."

For years there have been unions. Engineers of all kinds, machinists, clerks, bakers, barbers, butchers—one may go on indefinitely in enumeration of independent unions, working independently, and they are separately working against a nationalized capitalism with a fragmentary unionism which, thus far, has yielded pitifully meager results. Why, I ask, does not labor arise in its strength and nationalize also. The capitalists have shown us how grand nationalized capitalism can be. Labor outdoes capital in numbers, and it surely has the intelligence. I have read of a navigator who asked a passing ship for fresh water, and the answer was "Dip it up; it is all around you; you are in the outflow of a mighty river." If labor will unite, knit its forces together as thoroughly as have the forces of capitalism, a nationalized unionism will soon arise in irresistible power. When this is done then, and not until then, is there hope. When we have this, if one individual only in this nation wide union shall have been wronged, the echo of that call shall resound until every member shall as one arise and demand redress. What a fearful silence all over this land will surely follow that call. The signal given, every wheel shall cease to revolve, every hammer shall lie idle; in a word, all traffic shall cease, absolutely cease, and the whole world shall see what has never before been seen since the dawn of commerce.

OLIVE EVELYN M'CORD.

Mrs. Duniway Replies to Critics.

Portland, May 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—As I see that my humble, unaspiring name is still being used by my prohibition friends in their many labored efforts to overlook the fact that the demand for intoxicating beverages is the cause of the supply, I wish to call their attention, briefly, to this important factor in the case, which they studiously ignore. One of my prohibition friends thinks it inconceivable that a temperance advocate cannot view the situation from the reverse end of his telescope, and innocently wonders why. He talks about God creating rattlesnakes and vermin, as well as alcohol, which nobody disputes. But he overlooks the fact that the survival of the fittest is the law of nature; and if everybody, or even a minority of the people, demanded the use and maintenance of these creations of nature, it would be as impossible to prohibit them by votes as it is now impossible, for the same reason, to prohibit alcohol. He overlooks the fact that nodoby wants bedbugs when he compares their prohibition to the prohibition of alcohol. But the two cases are not parallel. Let us reason together and see why. The bedbug and rattlesnake are not among the elements of the universe. Unlike alcohol, the universe would exist without them; hence it is possible to exterminate them, though it is not possible to accomplish this feat with votes, no matter how willing the paid prohibition orator might be to attempt it. The ballot, rightly used, is not a weapon of destruction. Intelligently applied to the needs of humanity, it is an instrument of peace, plenty and prosperity. Its use by the mother-half of humanity is the vital need of the times; but its use must come to them through freedom, the very opposite of which is force. The story of the Pisgah mother, recently related in your columns, is a pitiful one; and if prohibition were its cure, nobody could object. But it is not the cure. Self-preservation is its only remedy; and if the afflicted ones are not willing to apply this remedy they should be kept away from stimulants till they are themselves willing to conquer their bad habits. Intemperance, like murder, adultery, theft, robbery, arson, lying, hypocrisy, gluttony, greed, slander, selfishness and tyranny, is a creature of human perversity, controllable by human will. If a man cannot refrain from abusing himself and others by indulgence in these perversities of his being we restrain him by laws, enacted through the aid of votes. But we cannot vote to prohibit all men from living because some men commit murder, nor can we prohibit the existence of sex because some people are prone to break the laws of chastity. This fact applies to every species of intemperance herein enumerated, the abuse of ardent spirits among the rest.

All the early years of my public advocacy of woman's enfranchisement were embittered by the attempts of present-day prohibitionists to prohibit freedom for the mothers of the race. My later years are rendered anxious because of the invasion, by prohibition agitators, in neighboring states, who are arousing ballot armed voters to organize their power to prohibit votes for women. I have no fear of the prohibition craze succeeding in Oregon, because our free women are opening their eyes to the light. One writer well says that Oregon women travel more than the pent-up women of Illinois towns, where fanaticism runs riot in rural communities and prohibition agitators regularly pass the hat.

I feel exceedingly sorry for the self-intoxicated woman who pledges her little all to pay the charges of peripatetic public orators, who apply the wrong end of the telescope of mental vision to her excited imagination, pilfering them instead of the liquor traffic, which, if driven into hiding here and there will never be destroyed till the demand ceases. This demand increases naturally, in proportion to the persecution it meets, the prohibition agitator to the contrary notwithstanding. ABIGAIL SCOTT DUNIWAY.

If and But.

Estacada, Or., May 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—Prohibition always causes distress. If there had been no prohibition in Paradise, Adam and Eve might have stayed there to this day.

Some latter day saint should arise and banish mice and moles and gophers from Oregon. He could probably do it by introducing snakes. There ought to be an appropriation of $100,000 to the agricultural college to endow another extension to increase the supply of serpents. There should be a chair of ophiology or ophisophy. There should be a government hatchery and free distribution of snakes, especially in dry territory.

If Dr. Withycombe would put this in his platform but he won't. If Ella M. Finney would join the Prohibitionists—but she won't. If the Prohibitionists would only vote wet for temperance and a united Oregon—but they won't. If the Progressives would only progress backwards and unite again with the G. O. P.—but they swear they will never do it.

The awful "if" intervenes and the deadly "but" butts in. We are surrounded by "ifs" and tied down with "buts." "If" signifies uncertainty. Whosoever doubts is damned. Whenever we say "if" we are in doubt. Whenever we say "but" we make an exception or prohibition that raises up enemies to confound us. "But" indicates a snake in the grass or a nigger in the wood pile.

I don't know how to fix it unless we call a constitutional convention to reform the language and regulate conversation by banishing "if" and "but" from the dictionary and prohibiting anyone from using them except when prescribed by a physician. There is no use to swat flies and at the same time allow such dangerous words as these to be used indiscriminately by irresponsible parties. That swats the matter. J. L. JONES.

Winans' Good Roads Invention.

Portland, May 21.—To the Editor of The Journal—I am writing you as per your request in the matter of Winans' new road construction invention, which simply consists of roofing the road entirely, preferably with corrugated galvanized iron on iron frame, to insure against fire and for durability. It will readily be seen that by roofing the road and keeping it dry winter and summer, the road can be cheaply built of any kind of dirt and by oiling it it will make a permanent first class road much better for travel than hard surfaced roads and much cheaper, as iron roofing kept painted will last more than 50 years. Not only will this roof be useful for preserving the roadbed, but it will afford comfortable shelter from rain, snow and hot sun. All telephone and electric light wires can be carried in it overhead, making them much easier to keep in order. The roadway need not be more than 24 feet in width, saving much valuable land for right of way. My invention will entirely do away with all macadam or other hard surface material with its attendant high cost and short term of usefulness and disagreeable and harmful solidity. The roofing will not cost more than half as much per mile and will last ten times as long as well as being a perfect protection for travelers against weather's inclemency and a convenience for housing transmission wires.

Yours for new good roads at little cost, WILSON ROSS WINANS.

Follows Political Tips.

Culver, Or., May 18.—Mr. Nusebaper Man—I subbose I haf so much ride to say someding in der nusebaper as udder beoble vat sticks ub by der gonstitdution. I been in dis goundry dirty-dree year. Somedimes I been a Rebubligan und somedimes I been a Demograd. Ven a goot man gomes oud for office on der Demograd dicket I been a Demograd, und if dere don't been a good man on der Demograd dicket, and der vas a goot man on der Rebubligan den I been a Rebubligan. Now I quid dot kind of foolishness. I reat der Oregonian and ven a man gomes oud for office und der Oregonian fights him und say someding bad vor him, den I vodes for such a man begause I now he vas a goot man. Der Oregonian haf no use vor such a man, as likes to stick ub vor everyding dot vas goot und onest.

In dis election I dink I shall vode for Mr. Bennett vor nomination to been governor, but ven der Oregonian say Dr. Smit vas no goot and he don't been onest in brinzible, den I shange my mind, for I dink Dr. Smit must be a werry goot man. Lots of my friends do der same ding. Beoble vas not like der vas ven I gomes to dis goundry. Ven I gomes id been Demograd and Rebublican. Now id been onest man vor office more as anyding else und I dink it vas bedder.

Somedimes I say someding more. Qoust now I quid.

ZACHARIAH SWACKLEHEIMER.

"Work for Work's Sake."

The Dalles, Or., May 19. — To the Editor of The Journal—Again must I differ with you on a few points in one of your good editorials, "Work for Work's Sake," in a recent issue. Don't you think it rather stretching it to class as "work," or even as "labor," the natural causes of the planets' motion, the ebbs and flows of the tides, the coursing of the waters, the sprouting of the seeds? If that is work, man does his share in growing and continuing his species.

Work can be performed only by animals, or by tools, the creation of the animal man. Natural functions are not "work," as the word is ordinarily understood and used. Man's creative actions become work when used to a greater extent than is necessary to satisfy the natural desires or needs of the individual performing them. No domesticated animal works for man from choice; the only excepting example, perhaps, being the dog, and even he is not prone to overdo it.

For instance, one would not call man's eating or sleeping work, not even his preparing his meal or bed. But the moment he does that for another at a price, it becomes work.

The piston rod of progress has been the great inherent desire in man to get as much pleasure and comfort out of life with the least expenditure of effort. And this is the cause of all useful inventions.

No normal person can be satisfied with being compelled to do a thing and to continue doing it for too many hours at a time. Besides, he feels instinctively that he is not working to satisfy his own needs, but merely to load up the market, seldom enjoying even a fraction of the fruits of his toil.

And thus will it continue till society establishes means whereby each individual may find his proper place in this great workshop of ours. Each will then perform that which is dear to him, not merely to produce but for actual social use and no more. Then what we call work will become pleasure. Care and worry will sneak to their graves. Wrinkles and gray hairs, if they come at all, will come 'in their time." The young will have a chance to play, the old to rest, and all to live happy, and what you term "marvelously strange," will die a natural death. Nor is this a mere dream. For look and you'll see that the bill posters of that great day are here already.

WILBY HEARD.

To the West Butteville Lady.

Portland, May 21.—To the Editor of The Journal—If the lady at West Butteville, who desires the establishing of a Sunday school and preaching service will address a communication to Joseph Brock, Sixty-third avenue and Seventy-first street, southeast, Portland, Or., giving name and post-office address, an appointment will be arranged. JOSEPH BROCK.

An Obvious Answer.

From the Baltimore American.

"My theory is that men are what they eat, so we should be careful to select appropriate diet."

"I'm so glad to hear that, Mr. Softy. We have calf's brains for dinner."

A FEW SMILES

"Miss Ethel," he began, "or Ethel, I mean—I've known you long enough to drop the 'Miss,' haven't I?"

She fixed her lovely eyes upon him with a meaning gaze. "Yes, I think you have," she said. "What prefix do you wish to substitute?"

The wife of a wealthy manufacturer had occasion to call in the help of a new floor polisher.

"Do you understand your business thoroughly?"

"All I ask, madam, is that you shall inquire for yourself at my last situation. On the floor of the large drawing room alone five persons broke their limbs during last winter, and a lady slipped down the grand staircase. It was I who polished the floor and the stairs."

Pat was going along a road, and, wanting a match, called at the house of a farmer. The woman who gave the match asked Pat if he wanted work. The reply being in the affirmative, the woman brought him into the house.

"There is a room full of flies, and I want you to kill them."

"Good," said Pat, taking off his hat and coat. "Send them out one by one."

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

A man is never too busy to listen when the lady on the dollar talks.

• •

Soiled children and foolish parents are often found in the same house.

• •

Anyway, a man never sits down on the floor when he puts on his hosiery.

• •

Some candidates wonder why their votes were so few; others wonder why they were so many.

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An evening call is productive of much pleasure—if not when you come, at least when you go.

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Many thousands did not do their voting duty, but if they had perhaps the results might be the same.

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When a man puts both his money and confidence in the wrong bank he subsequently withdraws his confidence.

• •

Perhaps King David revised his statement that all men were liars after discovering a man who never went fishing.

• •

The 57 varieties of successful claimants to the Winters estate may finally get a few dollars apiece, but it is doubtful.

• •

As a rule, the money a man doesn't save by remaining a bachelor would be more than enough to support a wife and 10 children.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Lincoln County Leader believes Toledo "is as badly in need of sidewalks as any town in the world, and perhaps may hold the world's record."

• •

The Coos Bay Business Men's association of Marshfield, which has proved a great success locally, is considering requests to extend the organization to include all other points in the county.

• •

Arrangements are being made for the Better Baby contest to be held in connection with the Rose show at Medford, May 28 and 29. Several handsome cups are among the prizes offered.

• •

At a date in June not yet definitely named, Albany's new public library building will be opened. The Democrat says the building has more than met the expectations of the people and is a structure to be proud of.

• •

"A significant thing about the late primary in Baker county," says the Baker Democrat, "was the absence of personalities between candidates, and this is commendable. Every man ran on his merits and he has no apologies to offer or accept."

• •

Salem Statesman: Members of the Science club recently organized at Willamette university for scientific research and investigation, are writing theses on important scientific and geological topics dealing with present day actions of the forces of nature. Only those of excellent standing in scientific lines are considered for membership and the few passing a rigid entrance test are finally admitted. This is the only club of its nature on the coast.

PIRACY IN THE EASTERN SEAS

From the New York Commercial.

Pirates have captured a Chinese steamer flying the British flag in the China sea and have secured loot valued at $30,000. This reads like a story of the almost forgotten past when pirates infested the seas east of the Straits of Sunda and up the China coast as far as what is now Russian territory. When a mistake in receiving a wireless message thrilled the world with a false report of the probable loss of the Siberia a few days ago correspondents at Hongkong, Nagasaki and Manila referred to the possibility of piracy, but the idea seemed incredible when we read it.

Yet the danger is ever present in the far east. Thousands of alleged fishermen, Chinese, Malays, Japanese and Formosan tribesmen, in those waters are ready to turn smugglers or pirates the moment opportunity serves. They have no more compunction than the New York "gunmen" whose deeds are again being aired in the Becker trial. If men will turn from plundering and pocket picking to murder for a slight inducement in this city we need not be surprised that beach combers become pirates in China whenever they see a prize in the shape of a vessel in distress.

From time immemorial piracy has been the chief occupation of the savage coast dwellers of those regions. They have always been Ishmaelites, at war with the rest of the world, and they regard the loot of vessels in distress or weakly manned as their proper perquisite. In this they are not singular, for it is not so long ago that even on the coast of England vessels were lured on the rocks by false lights, a crime no less foul than outright piracy. This world wide tendency to robbery on the high seas called for the most extraordinary measures of repression and the international laws against piracy are today exceptional in severity and in the manner of enforcement. Commanders of all warships have jurisdiction and war against piracy is waged without quarter.

Steam sounded the death knell of piracy on the high seas, where once the black flag with its skull and crossbones flew in every quarter of the globe. In the old days of sailing vessels the pirates had some chance, because they could go ashore anywhere for water and they could provision their ships by capturing others or by taking small, undefended coast towns. But they cannot get steamships fast enough to escape pursuit by cruisers and gunboats. Even if they could get a fast steamer they could not coal it without entering regular ports. That is why the black flag has disappeared from the high seas. Potential pirates are plentiful enough, but their occupation is gone.

Macao, a Portuguese settlement near Canton, has been the clearing house for pirates' loot and other illegitimate trade for centuries. In this moral pest hole of the far east Chinese pirates can buy arms and sell plunder, and the great powers have never been able to get Portugal to reform these conditions. The most degenerate class of Europeans have had control of its iniquitous traffic for four centuries and Macao stands today a witness to the truth that honesty is the best policy. For centuries the Portuguese held the only trading posts open to Europeans in the far east and they would have become centers of world-wide commerce, such as Hongkong and Singapore now are, had those in control known enough to encourage legitimate trade instead of acting as "fences" for pirates. Since Great Britain took Hongkong the guns of its cruisers have closed Macao to pirate vessels of large size, but the trade in loot still goes on there.

Previous sporadic outbreaks of piracy along the China coast have been suppressed by the joint action of Great Britain and France. China is unable to clean up her coast at present and the great powers will do it for her if the situation is serious. News spreads in a mysterious way in the far east and this successful act of piracy will be known and may encourage other "fishermen" to take up their ancestral trade again.

WHAT DIVIDENDS ON PUBLIC UTILITIES?

By John M. Oskison.

One of the problems state commissions for the regulation of public utility corporations—street railways, lighting plants, etc.—have to tackle is to determine a fair rate of earnings on the stock. Naturally, the companies as well as investors are deeply interested.

More and more the state commissions are tending to fix six per cent as a fair rate. They argue that because the state takes a hand in running the companies, fixing rates to be charged consumers, insuring the companies against destructive competition, and supervising their issues of stocks and bonds to prevent "watering," the securities put out by them have become so standardized that the investor ought to be willing to accept a return of six per cent on his money when he exchanges it for public utility stock.

In contrast to the commissions' usual view, there is another. It is that the average public utility has to go through a growing stage, when earnings amount to very little, when dividends are not paid at all or paid at a very low rate. The head of one of the big groups of public service corporations said the other day that he thought eight per cent ought to be allowed.

In making out his case, this man cited the company which operates rapid transit tunnels under the Hudson river between New York City and a number of New Jersey cities. Of these tunnels he said:

"They have done wonderful things for New Jersey. Their erection was a great public service. Yet it took millions to build the tunnels, and since their erection investors have been having decidedly lean years, with a prospect of more lean years ahead before even six per cent will be reached."

Mr. McCarter, from whom this quotation is made, thinks that legislation limiting the returns on public utilities stock to six per cent may drive investors away from such stocks, and so retard development. He points out that the two commissions which control public utilities in New York state spend $3,000,000 a year (five per cent on $60,000,000); if the net result of their work is to retard development, the cost of supporting them is too great.

As I understand the commission control idea, investors will not vote for its removal. Commissions may slow down the financial and physical development of the big companies; but for the average investor that would be regarded as a safeguard of his interests. Made safe, such stock is a good investment when it pays six per cent.

IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley.

"After reaching New Orleans on our way to Mexico," said Alonzo Perkins, a Mexican war veteran living in East Portland, "we went into camp awaiting orders.

"Our captain, T. L. Dickey, who had failed to secure command of the regiment, lost interest in the company and turned the command over to First Lieutenant E. S. Holbrook. At first he was very popular, but he soon had few friends in the company, as he did not look out for our interests as did the other company commanders.

"To me New Orleans was a wonderfully fascinating and interesting city. I explored it thoroughly. On one of my jaunts I happened to arrive at the public slave auction while some slaves were being sold. This was the first time I had seen men and women sold so I stayed there until all the slaves had been sold. There were quite a number sold. One, I remember, was a comely looking young negro woman nursing a baby that seemed undisturbed by the fact that his mother and himself were changing owners.

"One incident of the sale I will never forget. The auctioneer put up a beautiful young girl, apparently white. If she had lived in my state, Illinois, no one would have suspected she had negro blood in her veins. A man near me, faultlessly dressed and looking well-to-do and prosperous, was very, very uneasy. The bidding for the fine looking young slave girl lagged. He eyed the bidders anxiously and finally said: 'It is a damned shame! My own flesh and blood is being haggled over like that.' I could hardly believe my ears, though I heard him say it. After the auction I asked one of the officials of the auction if it were true. He said: 'Yes, she is his child by an octoroon, so that she is his daughter as well as his slave. He was on his way to Texas with his family, his household goods and his slaves. He got into a crooked game, the gamblers got all his money, and as he is stranded he had to let his slaves go on the block.'

"To a New Yorker like myself who had been taught to revere Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison and men of that type, selling one's own flesh and blood didn't look good.

"Orders came at last for us to go aboard the transports for La Vaca. All the transports were sailing vessels except one steamer, the J. M. White. Each sailing vessel took two companies, and this crowded them pretty well. Company K and my company had been the last to march from camp. Company K was commanded by Captain Moore and our company by Lieutenant Holbrook.

"Our company, with Company A, had been assigned to a three-masted brig, the field officers and many of the commissioner officers were on the steamer. Captain Moore did not think the men should be crowded, as they would be with two companies to the boat. As we stood there Colonel Hardin come down the gangplank from the steamer and, walking up to Captain Moore, said in a stern voice 'Captain Moore, I command you to march your men aboard the transport at once.' Captain Moore looked at him coolly and said: 'I'll be damned if I do.' Colonel Hardin made a quick move toward Captain Moore, caught his sword by the hilt and took it from its scabbard. He turned to our company and said: 'Lieutenant Holbrook, detail two of your men to arrest Captain Moore and take him aboard the J. M. White.' He then turned to Lieutenant Elliott of Company A and said: 'Lieutenant, march your men aboard the transport.'

"Company A marched aboard and our's followed. We were greatly crowded. Water for our 180 men was dipped up from the mouth of the river and placed in newly made cypress barrels. The water contained the sewerage of every town along the Mississippi and its tributaries. The heat of the sun seemed to rot it so that by the second day you had to hold your nose to be able to take a drink. It smelled so terribly. Nowadays people would die of typhoid if they drank such water, but we didn't know anything of typhoid then, and so it didn't hurt us.

"That trip was a trying one. Below decks was like a furnace, and on deck we had no shelter from the blazing mid-summer sun. For 36 hours we were becalmed; the sails hung limp and listless and the water was as smooth as a millpond. We nearly melted away, we sweat so. We could hardly stand it to drink the stinking water, but we couldn't stand not to. We crossed the gulf, landed on Texas soil and started on our march for San Antonio de Bezas."

The Ragtime Muse

Getting Results.

All the world is full of chatter;
Morning, noontide, evening, night,
Words that make a frothy batter
Pour upon us, left and right.
Each man's tongue will go on clacking
Almost to his latest breath,
Meanwhile instances are lacking
Where one thinks one's self to death.

Thus in chaos do we dabble,
But we get no good result;
Out of all the ceaseless babble
Comes no lasting thought or cult.
Each man builds about his ego
One prodigious, wordy fence;
On, submerged in gossip, we go
At the cost of common sense.

"We will talk ourselves to glory!"
Is the motto of the day;
Not a very likely story!
Glory doesn't come that way.
Order and concerted action,
Though the babblers scoff and balk,
Yet will come—but through the fraction
Of mankind that does not talk!

Pointed Paragraphs

Patience may be the lazy man's only virtue.

• •

Most men are industrious from necessity.

• •

An easy way to borrow trouble is to lend money.

• •

Woman is better at driving bargains than nails.

• •

The uncertainty of lovey is one of life's sure things.

• •

Woman's crowning glory seldom looks it in the early morn.

• •

But the man who restricts his joy riding to street cars doesn't have to worry about punctures.

The Sunday Journal

The Great Home Newspaper, consists of

Five news sections replete with illustrated features.

Illustrated magazine of quality.

Woman's section of rare merit.

Pictorial news supplement.

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