THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON .....Publisher

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When You Go Away

Have The Journal sent to your Summer address.

We seldom find people ungrateful so long as we are in a position to render them services.—La Rochefoucauld.

THE M'ADOO ORDER

"IN THE treasury, we have printed and ready to issue, $500,000,000 in currency, which banks may get upon application under the terms of the Aldrich-Vreeland law."

This is a part of the public statement of secretary McAdoo, given to the newspapers yesterday. It is a move to head off any program of Wall Street to tie up money and extort enormous interest rates, as has been done hundreds of times in periods of stress.

It is a new kind of administration of the United States treasury. It is use of that great institution to guard industry, commerce and the people against oppression by the power of money in times of crisis like that now present, as a result of the war clouds hanging portentous over Europe.

It is not unlike the strategy of Lincoln, when the pressing needs of the war made it necessary for him to deal with Wall Street. The great bankers made their terms too extortionate, and Lincoln told them he would issue his own money.

In 1907, when the panic of that year was at its height, New York bankers had nearly all the surplus money of the country in their vaults, and they absolutely refused to surrender to western banks the great sums due them. At the same time, they were extorting an interest rate of 60 per cent on call loans, and were pocketing enormous profits by the process.

Under the McAdoo order, there can be no such extortions. The power of the United States government will be exerted to prevent it. The vaults of the national treasury will be thrown open, and the humblest bank with proper security to offer, will be protected, and the community in which it is located be safeguarded against the loss and stagnation that was not infrequently brought about in former times through personal dominion by a few great financers over the money and credit of the country.

More than ever before, the power of the government of the United States is being exercised in the interest of all the American people.

OUR GREAT ECONOMIST

THE Oregonian says its fight on the rivers and harbors bill is because the measure appropriates too much money. What is the Oregonian's policy as to economy? It advocated armed intervention in Mexico. What would armed intervention have cost?

The estimate of the army chiefs at Washington was that the first move would be to send an army of 350,000 men, at a cost of $500,000,000. The second move in the invasion has never been authoritatively stated.

It would certainly have involved the policing of a hostile country of 750,000 square miles for a period of three to ten years. The ultimate expense could easily have mounted to and beyond a billion dollars.

Because President Wilson did not take this course, the Oregonian cartooned and lampooned him. It called his policy a "spineless" policy. Day by day and week by week for months, it denounced him and calumniated him.

It denounced, ridiculed and excoriated Bryan. It demanded that the army landed at Vera Cruz be hurried on to Mexico, regardless of the cost and regardless of the sacrifice of American lives. It demanded that this half a billion to a billion dollars be expended and that thousands of American boys in blue be butchered in war on the submerged people of Mexico.

Now it talks about economy. It fights the rivers and harbors bill, for "economy". It says the bill appropriates more than $90,000,000, a sum that for the rivers and harbors of the United States outrages its virtuous sense of "economy".

In truth, as it well knows, the bill only appropriates about $54,000,000 outright. The balance of the more than $90,000,000 is made up in continuing contracts like that proposed for the north jetty, and the expenditure will cover a period of years.

Yet, as a virgin and virtuous exponent and apostle of "economy" it opposes expenditure of $54,000,000 to open the rivers and harbors while demanding the expenditure of a billion or so on war and the murder of thousands of American boys in Mexico.

Shucks for such economy!

BUT —

NOT censure, but commendation is what Samuel Hill deserves at the hands of any meeting of good roads men.

Some may differ with Mr. Hill on plans and views, but all have to acknowledge that his enthusiasm and his personal sacrifices for good roads not only in his own state but in Oregon and all states have been and are of inestimable service in spreading the gospel of better highways.

It is not probable that those who differed with him at the Medford meeting view Mr. Hill in any other than the latter light. Nor is it likely that they seriously differ with Mr. Hill on the proposition that until Willamette Valley counties better their north and south bound roads, the Eastern Oregon route will be the more popular route for through travel, because it is better.

Though the route east of the Cascades is through a more sparsely settled and less wealthy region, the roads are naturally smoother, and so long as they remain so, people journeying from Washington to California and vice versa by auto will use them in preference to the Willamette Valley route.

Use of a route is not an issue of names, but an issue of which is the better road, and so long as the jars and jabs from a rough road stir up men's livers and profanity, the great caravan of auto travelers will journey where going is smoothest.

It ought to be so that every traveler up and down the coast should pass through the Willamette valley. It is one of the beauty spots of the whole world. Its colorings, its meadows, its fields, its hop yards, its homes, its distant mountains, its creeks and rivers with ash and maple and alder thickets along their banks are a summer garden to delight the eye and refresh the soul.

But —.

THE CANAL'S OPENING

SECRETARY GARRISON of the war department has announced that the Panama canal will be open August 15 to the world's commerce carried in vessels drawing not more than thirty feet of water. This means that practically all freight steamers can pass through the canal on the date given if the owners so desire.

August 15 should not be confused with the formal opening date next year, when the canal will be capable of accommodating any ship afloat. The informal opening has been decided upon in order that the canal may be put to practical use as soon as possible.

It is significant that the first ship to pass through will be the Cristobal, a war department steamer. However, the Cristobal is in no sense a warship, but is a carrier of freight and passengers, and is owned by the Panama Railway and Steamship Company, which is controlled by the United States government.

The canal will be an important national asset because of accommodations it will afford warships. But its greater worth will come through the assistance it gives to commerce. For that reason it is appropriate that a freight carrier be the first vessel through the waterway.

AUSTRIAN COMMERCE

AUSTRIA has plunged into a consuming war in spite of deplorable industrial and commercial conditions in that country. Consul General Denby at Vienna reports the facts in Daily Consular and Trade Reports.

Austria-Hungary, says Mr. Denby, was more seriously affected in 1913 by war in the Balkans than any other power not actually engaged. Gold left the channels of trade; the rates of discount reached seven per cent, a rate not known for the previous four decades, and higher than that of any other country in Europe. The number of unemployed grew large, and savings were withdrawn from the banks for daily support. Industry was generally checked; emigration grew and the number of business failures was alarming.

The textile industry of Austria-Hungary has been seriously affected by several years of hard times. In 1913 home consumption reached its lowest ebb, but the mills were kept running on limited output and large amounts of goods were sold at cut-throat prices in Germany, Egypt and Asia.

The total exports of the dual monarchy in 1913, exclusive of precious metals, were $605,659,432, but the imports were $707,900,000, leaving an adverse trade balance of more than $100,000,000, or in excess of 16 per cent of the exports.

An adverse trade balance has been a regular feature for several years. It is attracting much attention in Austro-Hungarian economic circles. Up to 1907, or about the time when Austria began playing her present game of world politics, the dual monarchy's trade balance for more than thirty years was uninterruptedly favorable.

Mr. Denby's report does not indicate that Austria is in condition to engage in an expensive war. But it is possible that Austria hopes to gain in battle what she has not won through patient industry. Time will tell whether a declining nation can build up its resources through violation of all economic laws.

THEIR CLEVER ARGUMENT

THE argument in the state pamphlet by those who are planning to legally establish the assembly in Oregon is very clever.

One of the charges is that the direct primary is expensive. That was the argument used by Dr. Withycombe in his speech at La Grande. Concerning his remarks there, the La Grande Observer, Republican, says:

But he (Dr. Withycombe) did have the grit to call attention to the heavy expense now incurred in holding primary elections and insisted that the people owe it to themselves to form some plan of eliminating the tremendous cost. What the plan should be, he did not advise.

Dr. Withycombe threw light on his plan in his speech at the Civic League luncheon in Portland, where he said:

I went into the assembly in good faith, and ran up against a frame-up, the result of which, you all know. But I believe that, for the sake of clearing the field in advance of the primary, the plan is advantageous.

That is to say, Dr. Withycombe believed in the assembly when he was a candidate for governor before the state assembly in 1910, and he believes in it still. He made this even more clear in another declaration in his speech at the Civic League luncheon. He said:

While I favor the primary law, I believe some system of eliminating candidates should be adopted, such as the so-called assembly of four years ago.

Asked the direct question at the time of this address, "Then you still favor the assembly?" Dr. Withycombe replied, with emphasis, "Yes, I do."

Five days later in a speech at the Pioneer's picnic in Brownsville, Dr. Withycombe reiterated his faith in the assembly as a means of eliminating candidates, and said:

When asked in Portland if I believe in the assembly, I said yes. I also believe in the primary, and I believe we ought to keep on the statute books in this state laws by which it will be made equally important to get together as a party organization. I believe it is just as essential that we have laws for party organization as for any other purpose.

The Lebanon Criterion, which is strongly supporting Dr. Withycombe, quotes him as saying:

I believe in the primary law, and would be favorable to leaving it in its present form, but am in favor of a convention for the purpose of obtaining an expression of the party preference to operate coordinately with the law.

In his strong and unequivocal declarations for the assembly, Dr. Withycombe has created enthusiasm among those who have always been for the assembly, as well as among the hundreds of new recruits who have come to look with favor upon that plan, and all these are backing his candidacy with great devotion.

TEMPERANCE IN IRELAND

ON THE eve of home rule for Ireland there has been launched a strong national movement for better control of the liquor traffic.

At a recent meeting in Dublin under the auspices of the National Catholic Total Abstinence Congress sixty thousand persons were present.

Forty special trains brought temperance advocates from all parts of the country and thousands were unable to attend owing to lack of transportation facilities. It is estimated that nearly forty thousand persons came from the provinces to attend the demonstration.

Three platforms were set up at each of which spirited addresses were delivered and resolutions adopted, calling for legislation and the enlightenment of public opinion on the evils of intemperance.

In beginning with the liquor question the Irish people are striking at the very root of home conditions and the movement is an earnest of their capacity to regulate their home affairs.

The movement also indicates that the Irish mind is not altogether engrossed with political affairs.

THE YEARS LAUGH

THERE was a wedding at Vancouver the other day. The groom was 75. The bride was 72. She had been a widow forty years.

And well as we have loved before,
In Autumn we can love once more,
For the old griefs die and new joys are born,
And always after midnight cometh morn.

WHY SNAKE CHARMERS?

AT ROSLYN, Wash., while the big crowd attending a carnival filled the tent of Myrtle Wilson, a snake charmer, aged 25, she was bitten by a rattlesnake. She survived through a night of great agony, and died the next day. The snake was one of five brought from Texas for use in the show.

Why have exhibitions of reptiles? What is the use of permitting performers to fondle and handle poisonous snakes for the alleged entertainment of a gaping crowd?

It does no good. It teaches no lesson. It conveys no moral. It adds nothing to the stock of human knowledge.

It ought to be prohibited by law. Snake charmers and reptile lovers should be saved from themselves.

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.

Drink and Jealousy.

Portland, July 29.—To the Editor of The Journal.—Mrs. George H. Ayers sarcastically remarks that since the wets have the assistance of certain prominent people, whom she names, they should take a new lease of life, "even though a drink-crazed boy of 16 years of age in Oakland, Cal., did attempt to kill his younthful sweetheart and, failing in this, took his own life."

This 16 year old boy may have been drunk and he may not, but granting that he was drunk, liquor was not the impelling motive for the attempted killing. If the boy was drunk, here, at least, is one instance where liquor probably saved a life, since, if sober, he would surely have succeeded in killing the girl, as the sober ones generally have.

I recall two cases of this kind within the past 18 months in San Francisco, where the youth was sober and the girl was killed in each instance. Whiskey did not furnish the motive; neither was it the cause of this attempted murder and suicide. Rejected love, or jealousy caused by love, was responsible for this tragedy, and is responsible for many very heart rending tragedies every year of the world. If it were not for man's love for woman and woman's love for man, there would be no rejected love and no jealousy, hence no murder and suicide caused by these normal human sentiments gone wrong. God implanted in the heart of man a desire for the good things of this life. That desire, abused, leads to evil, no matter how harmless the thing abused may be in itself.

To be consistent, the prohibitionists should place love under the ban of the law, for when misused it does surely cause an awful lot of trouble.

ADDIE STEADMAN.

Street Obstructions.

Portland, July 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have been reading, with both interest and amusement, the various schemes outlined in your paper, proposed by our ingenious and resourceful commissioners, looking toward improving traffic conditions in the down town business section. The scheme of painting lines at the corner of Fifth and Washington streets appears good—only the white paint hurts my eyes when the sun shines upon it, and I think it should be green, or at least some other color.

It appears to me that one of the first conditions that should be looked into in the interest of us who can't afford automobiles, is to have "faster" sidewalks. By that I mean sidewalks with fewer obstructions such as iron doors with protruding hinges, if they are not open, to stumble on, and that become so slippery in wet weather one is obliged to pass over them most cautiously—as well as sidewalk lights. Perhaps repairing broken or sunken flags of cement sidewalks would also increase the ease of "navigation." Doubtless lowering many curbs would make climbing upon the sidewalks easier, particularly for women and children, at least. (Take a look at the southwest corner of Fifth and Stark streets, for instance.)

As I came down Washington street this morning I took note of the number of obstructions upon the sidewalk from Eleventh street to Third street, and they are as follows: Lamp posts, 66; clocks, 7; wooden arc light poles, 6; mail boxes, 8; fire alarm boxes, 2; fire plugs, 4. Total, 93.

Our narrow sidewalks and narrow streets are not places for obstructions of any kind, if they can be avoided at any cost. The posts are set some 18 inches from the edge of the sidewalk, which in effect narrows the already too narrow sidewalks by that amount, for traffic keeps within the post lines, as any one can observe.

There are few, if any, cities in the United States where the sidewalks in the congested section are as narrow as they are here in Portland, so why make them appear more so? They are even doing away with lamp posts and other obstructions on broad Fifth avenue, New York, for traffic reasons.

The more rational way of placing our street lights, in the business section, would be from artistic fixtures (not designed by a blacksmith's or plumber's apprentice) attached to buildings, allowing the lights to be suspended near the edge of the walk. Few if any building owners would object to such attachments. However, if any did, they could be very easily brought into line by reminding them that all of them overhang the street with cornices, etc., which the city could demand removed. It would not be necessary to junk the displaced fixtures, since they could be placed in portions of the city where the traffic has not become a problem.

A little ingenuity would find places flush in building walls for fire alarm boxes; also would find less obtrusive places for mail boxes, clocks and fire plugs, as well as doing away with trolley poles.

CITIZEN.

Considers Prohibition a Blight.

Portland, July 30.—To the Edtor of The Journal—So much has been written about the theoretical side of prohibition that I trust you will kindly permit me to present a practical view. Some time ago I visited Oregon City, which was a prosperous city during my 20 years' knowledge of the town. When I entered the city I noticed that everything was very quiet and few people on the streets, where crowds used to gather. The only business that was transacted noticeably was the sale of a few groceries. You could shoot a cannon ball up the street and not hit anyone. Everything was forlorn. I entered a drug store and asked the druggist what effect prohibition had on Oregon City. He told me that prohibition was "worse than suicide." It makes people so stingy that no one will spend a nickel; therefore no business.

Recently I saw a man from Eugene. He said he had tried different kinds of business in Eugene, but could not make a living there. He moved to Portland, and is now doing well. He told me that his lifelong experience was that it was exceedingly hard to make a living in dry territory.

At another time I saw a man from Salem. He told me Salem was a "dead one" since it went dry. Farmers are refusing to buy goods in Salem because of dry conditions, consequently many store rooms are vacant.

Personally, I know that prohibition is very bad; morally, because it makes sneaks and hypocrites out of our citizens; commercially, because it contracts business conditions; economically because it throws so many people out of work. We left Iowa on account of prohibition. We could not make a living after it took effect. After all, the necessities of life do not give work for everyone, and it is the luxuries of every description that keep people employed.

CHARLES H. KING.

Senatorial Candidates.

Portland, July 28.—To the Editor of The Journal—I am a Republican and have a vote here, though a new comer. I was in conversation on the question of senators and I seem to find only a great opposition to R. A. Booth as being a ready-made candidate.

By the way, Jonathan Bourne has been pushed out of the way by the interests apparently back of the candidacy of Mr. Booth. And to many Republicans this ready-made candidate is quite unsatisfactory.

Mr. Booth seems to be supported by the remains of the old gang. I am also told that when popular choice of United States senators was first to be made through the legislature Mr. Booth was one of the select few to refuse to abide by the will of the people. Also, he is a timber baron.

Now, Mr. Editor, will you explain this through your paper, as I am not well enough posted in your local politics and it is my intention to vote regardless of party affiliations, and not for an unfit man, who probably is of the old school of politics.

Again, I was shown an article, entitled "R. A. Booth's Candidacy," in your paper, under date December 11, 1913, and signed by Charles D'Heirry, which corroborates the previous conversation I had with a friend, and also speaks of some questionable timber deals.

As to George E. Chamberlain, I find no fault. I think the people of Oregon should feel gratified in having such an able representative of the state of Oregon in Washington.

I hope you may enlighten me on these two question, and then I will be better enabled to decide whether I shall vote for the Democratic candidate, if the above statements are unfavorable to Mr. Booth.

A REPUBLICAN.

Deplores Mrs. Duniway's Decision.

La Grande, Or., July 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—For 34 years I have been reading the writings and listening to the speakings of Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway. Until very recently I was led to believe that we were agreed on the leading question of the age, prohibition, and it has been a great shock to me in my declining years to see her lining up with the liquor forces in defense of the open saloon.

Why has she put in jeopardy that pure white record made by years of patient labor?

Even though she may be exactly right in the position she has taken on the liquor question, must those who admire her for her years of devotion to the cause of equal rights stand idly by and see men who fought her every effort in the old days use the reputation and good name that she made—in spite of them—to bolster up the lost and hopeless booze cause?

While at Huntington recently I saw three drunken hoboes lying on the cinders in the shade of a coal bunker. One of them was reading aloud Mrs. Duniway's last letter published in The Journal; while the other two applauded. In another town I saw some of her letters pasted on a saloon window. Within the past few months I have heard her name praised in the saloons and passed from one bloated wretch to another. It is sacrilege, profanity.

When words of sophistry from the mouths of brewers, distillers and common bartenders are set to the tone of that voice which has rung clear and true to the notes of justice for the past 50 years, we love her none the less, but hate the more that power that would exploit all human virtue from the cradle to the bier.

In the early days we heard the saloon men and their followers curse the name of Mrs. Duniway, and we learned to love her for the enemies she made; and now, in charity we will say that she knows not what she does.

J. EMIGH.

Censuring Mr. Martin.

Portland, Or., July 31.—To the Editor of The Journal—Here is a sample of prohibition logic from the pen of A. J. Martin: "Every young man taking his first glass of beer or whiskey firmly believes he has sufficient self-control never to become a drunkard. Yet, when the awakening comes, as it inevitably must, it is then too late, as will power has been so vitiated as to be powerless."

Read this with all charity, and you cannot fail to acknowledge that he makes the assertion that every young man who takes a drink becomes a drunkard. George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft and Woodrow Wilson were all young men once, and I doubt if even A. J. Martin will assert that these men never took a drink. Yet, did the "inevitable awakening" find them with will power gone?

Not one-half of one per cent of the men who drink ever become drunkards, notwithstanding Mr. Martin's assertion, and those who do are not the "best of our young men," as he claims, but the worst—the weaklings, extremists by nature, foredoomed to depravity of some kind, and if their besetting sin were not drunkenness it might have been something worse, as stirrers up of strife, advocates of the restriction of human rights, or regulators of the domestic affairs of stronger men.

The same weakness of intellect that makes a man a drunkard may make another believe he has a God-given right to interfere in the intimate domestic affairs of other men.

It would be infinitely better for humanity if this intellectual weakness all ran to drunkenness, because this is often curable, and generally modest, while if it is the other kind it is never curable and always blatant.

ADDIE STEADMAN.

Dog Muzzling.

Portland, July 31.—To the Editor of The Journal—If I am rightly informed there is an ordinance that is supposed to require all dogs running at large to be securely muzzled. But, in fact, I find 75 per cent or more of the dogs at large have no muzzles and most of those muzzled are not safely muzzled. Why is it this ordinance is not enforced? Do they want to wait until we have some deaths from rabies? Or do they want our leading citizens to go to killing dogs on their own hook? It looks as if it is in order for the commissioners to arrange for enforcement.

TIRED ONE.

Missouri will vote on the question of woman suffrage at the November election.

HOO'S HOO

By John W. Carey.

Who holds an everlasting niche in baseball's hall of fame as Mr. Man-Who-Put-the-Curve-in-Uncle Sam's-Own-Game?

Who shown upon the pitcher's mound and plied his trusty flap in days of yore ere Eddie Plank had even hit the map?

Who faced such vets as Cal McVey and George and Harry Wright and Al G. Spalding, A. J. Reach, "Cap" Anson and Jim White?

Who threw no "spits" but almost ha' 'em calling for the cops the day he sprung his brand new line of ins and outs and drops?

Who lives in Massachusetts now and throws with brush and can the latest curves to painters known? That Arthur Cummings man.

A FEW SMILES

During one of the battles in the Spanish-American war an officer was wounded severely in the thigh, and for four or five days several surgeons were engaged attempting to discover the ball. Their sounding gave him excruciating pain. On the fifth day he could bear it no longer, and cried to the surgeons, "Gentlemen, in heaven's name, what are you about?"

"We are looking for the bullet."

"Well, why didn't you say so at first? It is in my waistcoat pocket!"

"Women must consider it a dreadful fate to be an old maid," mused Mr. Chugwater.

"They do, Josiah," said Mrs. Chugwater. "What terrible sticks they sometimes marry to escape it!"

And Josiah rubbed his chin and said nothing.

A junior barrister was hurrying across to the law courts when he almost collided with a cab. The driver, who had pulled up with a jerk, pronounced his opinion in plain English about absent minded people.

"Couldn't you see the bloomin' 'ass?" he asked, with withering sarcasm.

"See him!" gasped the startled barrister, looking contemptuously at the animal between the shafts. Then he stepped onto the curb. "I didn't see your horse when I stood in front of him," he added, "but I can see something when I look at him sideways!"

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Even a rich bachelor may make a poor husband.

• •

Too many people take advice that doesn't belong to them.

• •

There is satisfaction in being able to deceive the deceiver.

• •

Ten men out of ten either have too much money or not enough.

• •

The man who is in pursuit of success should carry no excess baggage.

• •

One boost for every 99 knocks is about the usual porportion.

• •

A woman's husband may be a poor excuse and yet better than none.

• •

It is now the open season for teaching the summer girl to swim all over again.

• •

Passion poets whose thoughts sizzle shouldn't send them to a powder magazine.

• •

Wonder if Huerta left enough money in Mexico City to pay for Villa's $500 bath tub?

• •

There is a large fortune awaiting the man who invents a self-mowing lawn mower.

• •

What some men require is a rubber halo that will fit the morning after the night before.

• •

This is a wonderful age, when even lightning turns in the alarm for the fire that it had started.

• •

A dispatch says that China is in need of American doctors. Evidently China knows where to look for skill.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

A stretch of roadway 280 yards in length on Main street in the town of Banks has been rock surfaced, part of it at the extremely low cost of 10 cents a yard.

• •

The campaign for a big natatorium at Round-Up park, Pendleton, is well under way and the East Oregonian says it seems assured of success. It is proposed to install a heating plant so that the pool may be used the year round.

• •

The Baker Herald proclaims both in and under its largest head type that Baker's prosperity, as shown by every local banking index, is the greatest in the town's history. The deposits increase in one year has been half a million.

• •

North Bend Harbor: The big four story hotel, 100x120 feet and to cost about $75,000, now seems a certainty. The soliciting committee has raised $53,000 and has fully $20,000 in small pledges in sight which have not been solicited.

• •

Cottage Grove's fire chief has ordered a steam whistle for fire alarm purposes, to be installed at the light plant. Part of the money was raised by a collection at a fierce "water fight" with which the boys recently entertained the townspeople.

• •

Appreciation of Oregon uttered by the Lebanon Express: "The hay is being safely stored and the hum of the thresher is heard in the land. Seed time and harvest; how much it means to mankind. Let us be thankful that we live in a country where failure in crop is unknown. Some years are better than others, but we need never fear a failure."

WHAT EUROPE'S WAR WILL MEAN TO U. S.

From the New York Sun.

If Europe is going to plunge into war on any tremendous scale, here is something for Americans to remember at the very beginning. This country is in practically every respect in better shape than any other to meet the shock and stand the strain of such a conflict.

As an argument for peace the expense of war serves its purpose until the clash of arms comes, but if Europe is going to break the peace which it has maintained with so much extravagant waste of wealth on armament there is bound to be a painful realization of the awful price at which such a war is waged. A European war of any consequence will inflict damage outside of Europe. Quite apart from the diversion of funds to the uses of war, all the ordinary processes of international finance and commerce will be thrown into derangement and the dislocation will be reflected in the field of domestic enterprise.

It is just as well to face these facts at once. The business and banking community will be better prepared thereby to deal with the situation if the present European crisis has the worst possible issue.

There are offsetting considerations which must qualify apprehension.

In its ultimate relations anything resembling a general European war would seem likely to guarantee that the economic future will belong to the American continents, especially to North America. The paralysis of European finance and commerce during any such upheaval and their subsequent prostration will leave the way clear for all nations whose energies have not been debilitated and whose resources have not been exhausted by the waste of war. It was in the civil war that American shipping supremacy was lost. As a result of a European war it may be regained, with contributing influences to its recovery provided by the facilities for commercial expansion which the Panama canal and the approaching modernization of the American banking system will supply.

In more ways than one the folly of warfare which Europe has long been threatening to commit and at last seems determined to perpetrate must spell opportunity for the United States. Among other things it is likely to provide a splendid opportunity to extricate the country from a debtor condition represented by the large European holdings of American securities. The Sun believes that advantage will be readily taken by American investors to absorb on their own terms the further sale of stocks and bonds which Europe may seek to make here at the dictates of fear or necessity. If the absorption can be augmented by the purchase of European state funds or other foreign obligations which will place the Old World in debt of the United States, so much the better.

The blow cannot fall with so much crushing force on an economic situation which sums up almost two years of financial liquidation and accelerating trade and industrial contraction and depression. Moreover, it is now seen that much of the world's decline in business and values in recent years was, instinctively or otherwise, by way of making ready against precisely such a dreadful emergency as has arisen abroad. To some degree, indeed, the costs of a European war have already been borne in those troubled years when money was being forced out of the channels of peaceful activity to augment European central reserves that would be required to stand the strain of war.

Outside the area of hostilities, the people of the United States are additionally fortunate in that American values and enterprise are not in a vulnerable state of expansion if the storm of war is to break over Europe. Inherently sounder and stronger from an economic point of view than those of any other country, values in the United States have been placed on a sound basis by the tests of worldwide disturbance and the adversities of domestic politics which have searched out weak spots in the financial and business structure and compelled a reduction of inflated commitments in all the avenues of economic endeavor.

The agriculture promise of the year is excellent. The foreign market for our crops will be vastly enlarged because of a European war. American merchants and manufacturers should have command of a tremendous export market for goods and commodities customarily provided by Europe, and if we are not mistaken American bankers will be able to furnish the credits that must go along with them. The country as a whole has an immense amount of capital awaiting employment.

After all, the worst may not happen abroad, but if it does, we are confident that the American people can cope with its difficulties courageously.

"BABY BONDS" FOR THE BEGINNER

By John M. Oskison.

Do the average advisers concerning investments "shoot over the heads" of the average American of thrifty habits?

Before you read any further write and answer that question. Send your letter to me in care of this paper. I'm very much interested in what you believe. Tell me about your own case—your investment experiences and needs.

"Buy good bonds," is one of the axioms of the investment adviser.

"Good bonds are for the rich buyer," says the small saver.

"No," protests the adviser, "you can buy 'baby bonds' which are just as good and sound as the thousand-dollar pieces."

"Show me!" challenges the small investor.

Challenged, the adviser runs over the list of $100 bonds which any one may buy, and produces such as these:

City of San Francisco 5s to yield 4.50 per cent; New York city 4s to net 4.20 per cent; Province of Alberta, Canada, 4½s to yield 4.63 per cent; Virginian Railway 5s at par; American Telegraph and Telephone convertible 4½s to yield 4.60 per cent; Laclede Gas Light first 5s at par, and Portland (Ore.) Railway, Light and Power 5s to net 5.25 per cent.

All of these bonds are well known to investors who are used to studying the bond markets. In buying them in $100 pieces you will pay just a little more for them than if you bought them in $1000 pieces. That's because they are in better demand.

Any investment banking firm will enlarge the list of "baby bonds" I have printed here. Such a house will naturally prefer to sell you the bond of a bigger denomination—any merchant would rather sell you much than little.

But remember, if you have only $100 to invest, that nowadays you can get the same quality of security and the same efficient service from bond sellers as the man with $10,000.

Is this bit of counsel "over your head?" Maybe there's no one in your town to advise about or undertake to buy "baby bonds" for you.

IN EARLIER DAYS

By Fred Lockley.

Pioneers of the late fifties who came to Oregon via the Isthmus of Panama make frequent reference to disturbed conditions on the isthmus on account of operations of General William S. Walker, the American filibuster. On June 10, 1855, Walker, with 58 fellow Americans, arrived in Nicaragua from San Francisco.

Three days after his arrival Walker got busy. He took ship for Rivas, which was held by the Legitimists. On June 25 the Americans, with their allies, the native troops, captured Tupa, and four days later they attacked the strongly fortified town of Rivas. The 58 Americans were supported by Colonel Ramirez, with several hundred Nicaraguan troops. The Legitimists had over 500 troops behind the walls and barricades, and, unknown to General Walker, they had Colonel Arguello with a body of troops from San Juan del Sur nearby as a reserve force.

Walker with his Americans, charged the barricades. The native troops under Colonel Ramirez retreated in disorder, leaving Walker with his handful of men to fight the troops that outnumbered them ten to one within the walls, as well as the force under Colonel Arguello, who attacked them in the rear.

Corral, with 1000 Legitimist troops advanced from Granada to attack the Democratic capital, so Walker hurried back to its defense. His presence with his Americans caused the Legitimists to change their mind about attacking the place.

On September 3, Gardiola, with 600 men of the Legitimist troops, attacked Walker at Virgin on Lake Nicaragua. Walker had 45 Americans and 75 native troops. Walker was struck in the throat with a spent ball and bruised; three or four of the Americans were wounded, a few of his native troops were killed and over 60 of the enemy were left dead on the field before they decided to retreat.

On October 3, Colonel Charles Gilman, who had seen service with Walker, arrived from San Francisco with 35 Americans to reinforce Walker. General Walker, encouraged by these reenforcements, marched to Virgin's bay and in pressing one of the transit company's steamers into his service he went to the vicinity of Granada, the enemy's stronghold, and on October 13 he captured the enemy's capital. He also captured officials of the Granada government, and, much to their surprise, did not stand them up against the wall to be shot, as was the custom of the country.

Within a few days Walker was joined by a new party of Americans from California consisting of 60 picked men under Parker H. French and Colonel Birkett D. Fry, a Mexican war veteran. Soon General Corral sued for peace, and on October 23 he met Walker and terms were agreed upon. Peace was declared, and General Walker was made commander of the army of Nicaragua.

Walker within four and a half months had gone far. He made Corral, his former antagonist, minister of war, so as to heal all wounds of former bad feeling. Within two weeks Valle, one of Walker's officers, intercepted dispatches from Corral to General Zatruch and General Gardiola, who had fled to Honduras, asking them to raise a force to drive Walker out and overturn the new government. Corral was tried, convicted and executed on November 9.

D. Buenaventura Salas, a Democrat and a friend of Walker, was made minister of war and on the following day the new government was recognized by the United States.

By March, 1856, Walker had enlisted over 1200 Americans in the army of Nicaragua. Costa Rica declared war against the "filibuster government," as they termed it. Walker enlisted a company of Germans under Schlessinger and a company of French as well as a company of Cubans. He gave a franchise to a necessary transit company, which upset Cornelius Vanderbilt's monopoly of the traffic across the Isthmus. This brought down upon him the wrath of Vanderbilt.

From now on Walker's star began to wane. His German troops were defeated by the Costa Ricans. This led him to dismiss all troops who could not speak English. Soon his army was reduced to 550 Americans. In a battle at Rivas he attacked with his 550 Americans about 3000 Costa Ricans who were behind entrenchments and Walker lost 120 of his men. The enemy lost over 600 of whom more than 200 were killed. The Costa Ricans retreated to their own country.

Walker was made military dictator. He declared for a provisional government and made his friend, D. E. Ferrer, president. Soon Nicaragua had three presidents; Walker was military dictator at Granada, Rivas the deposed president at Leon, and Estrada in the mountains at Samoto Grande. Walker antagonized all his native friends by making English the official language of Nicaragua and declaring the estates of all revolutionists forfeited.

The next year saw Nicaragua bathed in blood. The Americans fought to the death but were overcome by the mere mass and weight of their opponents. After repeated but fruitless victories the Americans were wiped out and Walker's dream of conquest was over.

Walker was captured by Captain Salmon, a British naval officer in charge of the "Icarus," and by him turned over to the Honduras troops. On September 12, 1860, at Truxillo, Walker was marched to the Plaza de Armes and stood against the wall and shot by a squad of native troops. At the age of 36 he met his fate firmly and bravely.

The Ragtime Muse

Lots of Danger.

Gliding o'er the waters blue
In his swift but frail canoe,
Billy Perkins went with Sue—
Sue was rather haughty.
He besought the radiant miss
For a teeny-weeny kiss
(Some young men are just like this
Though, of course, it's naughty).

Sue refused him, please take note,
Struggled, overturned the boat
(Dangerousest craft afloat!)—
That was some disaster!
Sue, remember, couldn't swim,
And her chance seemed pretty slim,
But she got a hold on him
Like a sticking plaster.

Billy Perkins rescued her;
She said: "Thank'ee kindly, sir!"
(Still a-sticking like a burr),
Billy Perkins tarried.
"Sweetest girl I ever met,
You are now my one best bet!"
Danger? She has got him yet!
Yes, those two are married.

A Sun-Power Engine.

The Philadelphia inventor of a sun-power engine which is working successfully in Egypt, has figured that it would be necessary to cover but 20,250 square miles of the Sahara desert with the engines to obtain as much power as the world's coal supplied in 1909.