

THE JOURNAL AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER. C. S. JACKSON, Publisher. Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at The Journal Building, Broadway and Yamhill sts., Portland, Or.

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When You Go Away Have The Journal sent to your Summer address.

TURN ON THE LIGHT LONG ago, and many times, The Journal pointed out that there was lack of system in the conduct of Multnomah county affairs.

Long ago, and many times, The Journal declared that loss, waste and extravagance resulted from this lack of system, to the great cost and detriment of taxpayers.

But in the main, these charges fell on unresponsive ears. The public was busy with its private affairs. It had no thought of public affairs.

Now, there is confirmation of all and more than all The Journal brought to public attention. An impartial investigation by two public bodies finds that there is lack of system, that there is waste of public money, that there was purchase of insect poison at \$2 a gallon when it could be bought for less, that more was bought than necessary, that no attempt was made to buy it at a lower figure, and that in general the whole county system is antiquated, ragged, irresponsible, ineffective and very costly.

The folly has gone on for years. Nobody knows how much public money has been wasted in the process. There is no way to find out.

But enough has been gained by the unofficial investigation to warrant a further inquiry. The investigating bodies were without power to compel the attendance of witnesses, and we have the spectacle of refusal by the architects to present information respecting the costly changes and other facts regarding the courthouse. It is a strange pass when the people of a county are not permitted to know what has been done with their money in the building of their courthouse. It is extraordinary when the people are required to foot the bills but are denied the information as to what the bills are for.

It is a good time to have a house cleaning in Multnomah county. It is a favorable time for the citizen to have full and complete information. It is high time for us to unscramble the eggs to insert the probe.

Out of the inadequate information brought out by the unofficial committee's investigation, there is abundant proof that the protests made and many times reiterated by The Journal in the past were authentic and based on disagreeable facts.

Turn on the light? NEED OF A WAR TAX WASHINGTON dispatch says the house ways and means committee has tentatively agreed upon the necessity of a war tax to provide revenues necessary for running the government. Such a tax may not be popular, but it is evident that it must come if the European conflict continues.

There is reason to believe that the deficit in revenues from customs collections will be larger than was estimated at the beginning of hostilities. Curtailment of imports will continue long after the war ends, for Europe will need a considerable time to get back to a producing and exporting basis. Even should England get and maintain control of the seas, there is no assurance that she will resume ocean traffic, that fact will not assure a resumption of importations by the United States on a scale which will restore customs collections.

Europe is engaged in the business of fighting and small attention will be paid to the arts of peace. Production and manufacture will cease and exports to the United States drop away even if ocean lines of travel were opened to the entire world.

The Washington administration has a difficult problem before it. The government has enough money in its treasury to meet expenses for a considerable time, but there is question whether treasury balances should be drawn upon until the necessity for levying a war tax becomes imperative. Higher taxes are never popular, and they are especially unpopular when the

TREACHERY TO OREGON

Still fighting the rivers and harbors bill, the Oregonian said yesterday: But it appears now to be obvious that sentiment of the country will support a reasonable measure, excluding the pork. The amendment of the current bill is practicable.

If Senator Lane and Senator Chamberlain will shift their support of a bill tainted with pork that cannot pass, it will be commended at home.

There is no way to misunderstand these words. The Oregon senators are advised to abandon the pending bill and go over to Burton, Borah and the other filibusters. They are advised to turn their backs on the senators who have consented to the placing of the Columbia jetty on a continuing contract, and make an allowance of more than \$5,000,000 for that work. It is advice by a Portland paper, in spite of the more than \$6,000,000 provided for Oregon in the bill, for the Oregon senators to scuttle the pending measure and join forces with a minority faction who are trying to defeat rivers and harbors legislation.

If Chamberlain and Lane should take such a course all the real friends of a liberal rivers and harbors policy would turn against Oregon. This state would be delivered bodily into the hands of the men who are fighting waterways. Does anybody think for one minute that Oregon can retain its more than \$6,000,000 in the bill if the Oregon senators join forces with Burton who wants the amended bill to provide but \$12,000,000 for the whole country?

The Oregonian says it is fighting the bill on the ground that there is graft in the measure. What part of the more than \$6,000,000 that Oregon is to get is graft? In the bill, as Burton is to amend it, what Oregon appropriations are to be cut out, and what reduced?

The proposed Burton bill would appropriate \$12,000,000 for the whole country. Oregon could no more get \$6,000,000 under such a total appropriation than could Mount Hood be pitched into the Pacific. What part of the Oregon allowance then would the Oregonian eliminate in order to free the bill from what it calls graft? Would it take it all for Portland, or would it leave some for Celilo, some for the upper Columbia, some for the Willamette, some for Coos Bay, and if so, how much?

The pending bill places the Columbia jetty on a continuing contract and allows \$5,100,000 for the purpose. By the arrangement, United States engineers say the jetty can be completed in three years. If Oregon joins the Burton filibuster and accepts its pro rata cut in appropriations, would the Oregonian have the continuing contract abandoned, and permit the original million for the jetty to stand? Major McIndoe said with an allowance of only a million a year, the jetty cannot be completed in less than six years. In joining with Burton, does the Oregonian insist on the latter plan?

Does any citizen of Oregon think for one minute that the pending bill can be cut from \$53,000,000 to \$12,000,000 without Oregon being forced to make some surrender as abandonment of the continuing contract for the Columbia jetty?

The Oregonian claims there is graft in the pending bill. It is now time for it to specify where the graft is, beginning with Oregon. The United States engineers have approved the entire bill as it now stands with the exception of two small appropriations totaling \$100,000. Are the engineers grafters? Is General Kingman, chief of engineers, a grafter? Is Major Morrow a grafter? Is Colonel McKinstry a grafter? Is the Oregonian the only honest institution in the United States?

The pending bill passed the house at about \$43,000,000. Are the members who passed it by a large majority grafters? All the Oregon representatives voted for it. Are they grafters? Are the members of the senate who are patiently striving to pass the measure grafters?

What is the use of sending men to Washington to struggle for appropriations if men and newspapers in Oregon fight appropriations? Why talk of sending J. N. Teal or any other man, and why send senators and congressmen to strive for waterway appropriations if their efforts are obstructed by such utterances as those of the Oregonian at home?

The editorials of the Oregonian are being used by the filibusters at Washington to help beat the rivers and harbors bill. The Portland Chamber of Commerce has received information from numerous Washington sources that the Oregonian's fight is angering senators in other states and alienating them from support of Oregon projects in the bill. The Oregonian made a bitter attack on a Florida project. It was a project which had the approval of the army engineers who visited the proposed improvement and made a personal inspection.

Sparkman of Florida is chairman of the rivers and harbors committee of the house and Fletcher of Florida is on the commerce committee of the senate. These men will probably be on the conference committee if the pending bill passes. They have been friendly to the Columbia river and to the Oregon projects. But the denunciations by the Oregonian of the Florida project have done much to anger these men. It is one of the handicaps the Oregonian has thrown upon the Oregon senators in their efforts to do service for Oregon. Do Portland and Oregon business men think the Oregonian's fight on the rivers and harbors bill is a good thing for this state?

It is almost unthinkable that an Oregon newspaper would take a course so destructive to the material interests of Oregon. It seems incredible that it would make a fight which must have for its fruit, if successful, the postponement of the completion of the Columbia jetty to a date at least six years hence.

No wonder that all over Portland it is whispered by business men that the Oregonian has gone mad in its craze to elect Booth and defeat Chamberlain. Men are saying to one another every day that the Oregonian is actually trying to beat rivers and harbors legislation in order to be able to say afterward that Chamberlain and Lane are without power in the senate. They are saying every day in this town that the Oregonian is willing to sacrifice all the waterway interests of Oregon in a puny and puerile effort to make campaign flapdoodle for the use of its private candidate for senator.

The Oregonian occasionally throws kisses at the rivers and harbors, but they are the kisses of treachery. It throws occasional kisses at the state of Oregon, but they are the kisses of betrayal.

tax is stamped on each article the people buy. Americans have accustomed themselves to paying their portion of the federal revenues without knowing the amount, and a habit of long standing cannot be changed without causing some friction.

But it is the business of congress to meet the situation frankly and courageously. If a war tax is levied, it will be the business of the people to recognize its necessity, and also the fact that conditions abroad will be to blame for it.

THE DRUG PEDDLERS THERE should be no lagging by Portland authorities in their pursuit of men and women engaged in the drug traffic. If, as has been said, there is an organization engaged in the illegal sale of morphine and cocaine, the members should be put out of business by sending them to jail if that is the only effective means.

In Cincinnati, New York, Chicago and elsewhere vigorous warfare has been begun on the illegal sale and use of habit-forming drugs. Underground systems for the purchase and distribution of opiates have come to light, and in some cities politicians and public officials, druggists and physicians have been found to be participants in the illegal traffic.

The extent to which the drug evil exists is appalling. Only those who come into personal contact with the victims in hospitals, police courts and prisons know the whole truth. It was recently disclosed in New York that the drug peddlers had even marked school children as the victims of greed.

A jury in Portland's municipal court has found an attorney guilty of the unlawful sale of morphine. A druggist testified to having sold the convicted man eight bottles of morphine and the same amount of cocaine. The lawyer says he will appeal his case, and until the appeal is determined popular judgment as to his guilt may be suspended.

But the authorities should not stop with one conviction. It is a comparatively easy matter to punish the human vultures who actually peddle such drugs. The warfare should be most vigorous against men who are behind the traffic, men who, for the sake of a few dollars, are willing to wreck human lives and cause untold misery.

CAN IT BE DONE? WRITING from London, H. G. Wells pleads for the absolute prohibition throughout the world of the manufacture of weapons for private gain. He says:

I would carry this suppression down even to restriction of the manufacture and sale of every sort of gun, pistol and explosive. They should be made only in government workshops and sold only in government shops. There should not be a single rifle or pistol unregistered, unrecorded and untraceable in the world.

The Detroit Free Press says that the end of the European war will be the hour for dealing with a curse to civilization: Let the manufacture and sale of the pistol be prohibited by international agreement. It can be done. But will it be done?

Mr. Wells says a world council for the regulation of armaments as a natural outcome of the war depends upon the courage and honesty of men. He insists that trade

SMILES

The nude truth sometimes needs an immunity bath. Why not quit seeking a position and look for a job? Some detectives try to disguise their breath with clove. When a poet gets up in the world he moves down from the attic. How particular is a bald man concerning the care of his hair? The man who marries a pretty girl is apt to get the short end of it if he takes her at her face value.

An engagement may not be as good as marriage from some points of view, but it is a great deal better from some others. One kind of a hopeless fool is the chap who poses as a "good fellow" and spends his money on his friends that he gives to his wife. And many a successful business man can remember when he was a country boy and his old fashioned mother cursed her apron over him and made him churn.

It's "Poor Old Tom" for Lipton, to be sure, but he might be worse off. He might have come on over and won the money and the girl. The girl is broken out just after that, and then his own people might have cared a whoop whether he'd won it or not.

Mark Sullivan in Collier's. The course of congress is cheapness, inefficiency, bumbling, devotion to private and local interests, indifference to the general public good of the nation. The intellectual average of the lower house and of the senate also has become low. The quality of the average congressman is well illustrated by a booklet used as a campaign document by Congressman Charles Gordon Edwards of Savannah, Ga. He is serving his eighth year in congress. As congressmen go, he is not the poorest specimen. Four pictures are inserted in the booklet. One is entitled "Edwards, the Man Who Made It Possible," another "Congressman Edwards, Pleading for Harmony." Some of the things he says to the people of his district are also in the metaphor of pork and pie: "There will be no 'second table' for any country so far as I am concerned." Mark this appeal to sectional prejudice: "Has anyone in this city ever seen an article for worthy Confederate veterans and their widows." But on another page: "Opposed Union pensions by his vote in a speech on the floor of the house."

There are pages and pages of his record in getting pie: "Introduced a bill in the past dozens of southern war-claim bills." "Secured a public building site for Statesboro." "Secured a public site for Waynesboro." "Has helped to distribute latest and most improved cotton and other seed." "Has furnished nearly every rural school in the state with a copy of the United States wall map, in order that the greatest good from these valuable maps would result to the greatest number of children of sending them to the ' favored few'."

And so on ad infinitum. He calls himself "The Plowboy of Tatum," and says of his opponent: "He can't out-grow the county. He reads the newspaper as one of the reasons for reelection that: "He delivered a speech urging that

everybody would be benefited, that voted the saloons out of Oregon City, and the law is as well enforced as any prohibitory law on our statute books. I defy Mr. Cotton to show anyone else until show one instance where a man spent his money over the bar and his family was happier on account of it. I remember a man who spent many thousands in Oregon. I saw more drunk men in one day in a small town where they had a saloon than I have seen in Oregon City since the first of January. There are many legitimate businesses, for even Mr. Cotton knows if a man spends his money for booze the merchants do not get it, and the taxpayers have to pay many thousands of dollars caused by the open saloon. M. YODER.

Scouts "Temperance" Plan. Portland, Aug. 29.—To the Editor of The Journal—Having seen in the columns of a Portland evening paper of Thursday a call to the citizens of Oregon, over the signature of Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway, to give up the idea of statewide prohibition of the liquor traffic and take up "the more sensible idea" of the "real temperance" which has her league representative I thought a word of reply might not be amiss. I am old enough to have carried a musket through three years of the Civil War, and I can do a good deal of talking of what was meant when I was said "A question was never settled until it was settled right." We have been trying Mr. Duniway's plan for about twenty years, and yet we are, according to statistics, drinking more liquor per capita than ever before.

Now if Mrs. Duniway is not too much "obsessed" with her own idea, will she please tell us how much of the money the breweries of the state would give to have her idea adopted in this state and every state now arising to the north of the Yukon and the liquor traffic? F. W. TASKER.

The Blind Pig Question. St. Helens, Aug. 28.—To the Editor of The Journal—In your issue of August 26, evidently takes it for granted that the readers of The Journal will accept my trust as being a thorough attempt to verify his statements. He seems to believe that the blind pig exists in dry territory and not in wet territory, and that as much territory as in wet territory as in wet. Now if Mr. Cotton wants to believe that he is at liberty to do so, but if he wants the readers of The Journal to believe that he doesn't he give proofs? If it is true that blind pigs are not found in wet territory, why is it that Denver, with a population of 100,000, has a list of 102 retail dealers who pay the retail liquor dealer's federal tax? Counting out the stores paying federal liquor tax there are 102 saloons in that wet city. One of the Denver papers published a list of the addresses of 103 of these blind pigs.

Mr. Cotton wants people to believe that Salem, Oregon, uses as much liquor now as when wet, why doesn't he back up his statements with proof? He says that many companies of the amounts of liquor shipped in there when wet and when dry. If he expects to be used as a mouth territory, then it would be reasonable to expect as much drunkenness in dry Eugene as in wet Eugene, or in dry Springfield as in wet Springfield. But into the "dry" report of arrests in such places to prove that there is as much liquor consumed without the saloon as with it.

According to the blind pig operators have no respect for the law. I would not question such a statement but would ask where there is a saloon having no license? E. T. LUTHER.

Coffee and Intoxicants. Ballston, Or., Aug. 28.—To the Editor of The Journal—All your correspondents, both prohibitionists and anti-prohibitionists, have overlooked the greatest and most harmful drink of coffee, and the average family's supply for a week. In 10 pounds of coffee, each person's share of what they drank last year, contained nearly

SMALL CHANGE

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PERTINENT COMMENT ON NEWS IN BRIEF

The Salem Statesman's strategist gives it as his opinion that the Germans took Longway the labor way. A series of aeroplane flights will be an attraction of the Boston fair. The light plane which will be sounded at 8 o'clock p. m. The Gazette Times calls for disarmament of the juvenile powers in Oregon. It says children who own airplanes in any direction regardless of the destruction. Hermiton Herald: This has been the driest season in years all over the country. Thanks to a government bounty on water, we have more water than we have as much water as any year. According to Miltonians who are quoted in the Pendleton East Oregonian, a clever deaf and dumb magazine editor sold the rights to the story of almost \$50 out of Milton in the course of a day and got away without leaving any trace behind.

Drewsey News: The Drewsey Reclamation bill is a complete success. J. L. Sitz president, I. M. Davis secretary treasurer, I. H. Holland, S. Williams and others of the Sitizers broken out just after that, and then his own people might have cared a whoop whether he'd won it or not.

There is nothing so hopeless to an observer of congress as the lack of public information about it. There is literally cried out for a "Time" States which even attempts to give an account of the work of the government at Washington. In London the "Times" and one or two other daily papers give fairly practical and complete accounts of the work of parliament, and this is read each morning by some hundreds of thousands of the people of England. With us congress does not exist in our largest city. The New York newspapers to print an equally complete account of the work of congress would involve prohibitive costs. It is not in our largest city, every other large city, Washington is a city of only about 300,000, of whom about half are colored. It has not enough population to justify the daily printing of a city paper, and an extended account of the work of congress for local consumption only. The result is that daily papers throughout the country, quite naturally expect their Washington correspondents and their expensive telegraph bills to give them primarily that kind of Washington news which is of no interest to the people of the country. The Washington correspondent of the "Times" is a book of reference rather than one to be read.

To anyone who watches congress closely this is all very hopeless. The Congressional Record, of course, is a stenographic report of the debates and acts of congress. If it stopped there, probably it might serve as a somewhat interesting record of the acts of congress and the government.

use in comparison, so as "index number" cannot be taken as a guide to the prices of commodities, but that generally speaking retail prices do roughly and in time follow wholesale prices up and down.

In the light of these explanations let us make some comparisons of retail prices based on the "index number" of May 1, 1912, the per capita cost at wholesale of the commodities referred to below. On the same date this year the cost was down to \$118.23, which was 11 cents cheaper than on May 1, 1913.

On July 1, 1912, the figure was \$122.27; year later it was \$116.32, and on July 1 this year it was \$119.71. From these figures you see that living costs reached the high point in this country about the end of April, 1912, more than two years ago.

Now let us compare the quotations of wholesale prices of some of the commodities used in the "index number" during the week ended August 15 this year and the same week last year.

This year, apples were \$1.25 a barrel; last year, \$1.15; beans were \$5.10 a hundred pounds, against \$4; building materials were unchanged, except laths, which were \$4 a thousand, against \$3.50; butter was \$22 cents instead of 20 cents a barrel; this year, coffee at 8 1/2 cents a pound compared with last year's price of 2 1/2 cents; corn was \$1.10 a bushel, against \$1.00; ordinary good butter was cheaper; eggs were a little higher; prunes were cheaper, but nearly all other vegetables were higher. Wheat a pound higher; winter wheat flour was \$4.90 a barrel, instead of \$5.40, last year's figure; lumber was generally cheaper; metals were cheaper; beef was \$7.00 a hundred pounds, and live hogs from \$7.70 to \$9 a hundred pounds.

Here are enough examples to show that the "index number" will record an advance over the last one I have received, the \$119.71 for July 1, this year. Yet the increase in the "index number" of many of them will be only temporary.

47 one-fifth grains daily of a known deadly poison. Prohibition advocates, ministers, devout church going people, and millions of others who believe in the excesses of others, must have their coffee, and even parents are such slaves to the habit that they will see their children addicted to the use of it without remonstrance. The drunkard, when sober, will offer the most abject apologies for his condition when drunk, while an opium fiend will advise strongly against the use of it; while a coffee drinker will urge everybody to drink coffee.

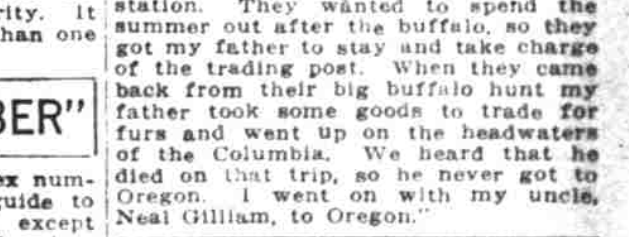
W. C. T. U. women unthinkingly and unknowingly will make strenuous efforts to keep people from drinking beer or wine, and offer instead a far deadlier drink, coffee; and many would fight for their coffee harder than an anti-prohibitionist for his beer or wine. C. A. BALL.

Who sent an ultimatum to his majesty the czar, and when he failed to toe the mark let loose the dogs of war? Who got the bug 'twould be great sport to make all Europe brace, and so stirred up another row with next-door neighbor, France? Who tired of life's monotony and yawning and said, "Oh, hum," sent his troops across the line to scrap with Belgium? Who kicked the British lion in the ribs and pulled his tail and roused the Bull in dudgeon high to hit his blooming trail? Who undertook, in other words, "some job" to tie the cat's paw, well known world-at-large? That Kaiser Wilhelm man.

On the Trail. Kansas City, Mo. "Do you think that man going along with his head in the air, sniffing with his nose?" "Yes; I know him; he's a fellow who believes in taking in the good, pure ozone." "No; he's hunting for a motor garage, I believe."

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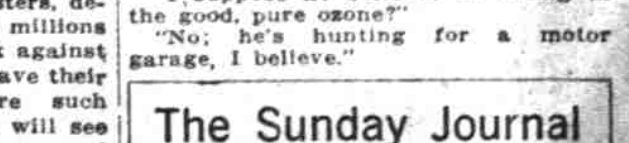


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Who sent an ultimatum to his majesty the czar, and when he failed to toe the mark let loose the dogs of war? Who got the bug 'twould be great sport to make all Europe brace, and so stirred up another row with next-door neighbor, France? Who tired of life's monotony and yawning and said, "Oh, hum," sent his troops across the line to scrap with Belgium? Who kicked the British lion in the ribs and pulled his tail and roused the Bull in dudgeon high to hit his blooming trail? Who undertook, in other words, "some job" to tie the cat's paw, well known world-at-large? That Kaiser Wilhelm man.

On the Trail. Kansas City, Mo. "Do you think that man going along with his head in the air, sniffing with his nose?" "Yes; I know him; he's a fellow who believes in taking in the good, pure ozone." "No; he's hunting for a motor garage, I believe."

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