

THE JOURNAL

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A SUGGESTION

ADVERTISEMENTS in eastern magazines glowingly describe the lovely time Panama Exposition visitors may have at Seattle, journeying about on the paved roads, viewing Rainier National Park and seeing the sights of the vicinity.

They are an alluring appeal. They must impress the Easterner who is about leaving home for the exposition. They must have an effect in causing him to place Seattle on his itinerary.

The Portland Commercial club has done much and is doing much to direct the attention of exposition visitors to Portland. It is busily working various fields. But so far as known, the Seattle plan has not been applied, and the wonder is, if it is not a case of an excellent "bet" overlooked, as they say in street parlance.

It seems certain that we are going to hand surface our roads by voting the issue of road bonds. What alluring magazine advertisements could be written with the Columbia Highway and the unmatched nature pictures along it as the setting.

What city in the world can offer an illustrated advertisement, founded on fact, so delight the eye and tempt the traveler!

What other city can present attractions just outside her gates to entice the tourist and lead him into an itinerary with Portland on his schedule for a week or several weeks' stay?

It is not too late to undertake the plan. The real pilgrimage to the exposition has not yet begun. The gates to Oregon are closed by war. The globe trotters must come to the Pacific Coast this year to feed their wanderlust and disburse their usufruct.

And while they are in the West, they should be made to see all the West, and to see the best of the West, which is Portland and Oregon.

SEVEN COMMANDMENTS

SEVEN commandments have been issued by the Brooklyn tenement house committee for the protection and guidance of people living in crowded centers.

Thou shalt honor thy neighborhood and keep it clean. Remember thy cleaning day and keep it wholly.

Thou shalt take care of thy rubbish heap, else thy neighbor will bear witness against thee. Thou shalt be in order thy alley, thy back yard, thy hall and thy stairway.

Thou shalt not let the wicked fly breed. Thou shalt not kill thy neighbor by ignoring fire menaces or by poisoning the air with rubbish and garbage.

Thou shalt not keep thy windows closed day and night. Brooklyn has a tenement house problem, the solution of which depends upon observation of these seven commandments.

Portland, naturally the finest residence city in the United States, expects many visitors this summer. They will judge the city largely by what comes under their casual observation. Slovenly dooryards will offend clean streets. One rubbish heap will discount Portland's finest skyscraper.

There will not be many such misadvertisements of Portland. But there should be none. Keep the seven commandments and Portland's visitors will spread the word broadcast.

WATER COMPETITION

CHICAGO dispatch says that railroads running between the middle west and the Pacific coast see the necessity of meeting water competition by way of the Panama canal.

The railroads will appear before the interstate commerce commission April 12, asking permission to reduce freight rates to the level of water charges from the Atlantic seaboard through the canal.

This announcement was made by Edward Chambers, vice president in charge of traffic for the Santa Fs. The proposed reductions would affect the entire trade between middle western and coast states, and would re-establish a competitive market which has been disarranged since the opening of the canal.

Some time ago the transcontinental railroads secured permission to reduce rates so that canal competition could be met. It was shown that water competition had attracted freight as fast west from the Atlantic coast as Duluth. The

interstate commerce commission's ruling was that the transcontinental railroads be permitted to charge more for short hauls to middle western points than for the longer coast to coast hauls. The ruling was demonstration of the water competition as an efficient regulator of freight rates.

But Mr. Chambers' announcement is evidence that the canal has had its effect upon the middle west. Heretofore that section of the United States was able to compete with the Atlantic seaboard for coast business because the freight rates were close to a parity. But now the eastern states enjoy lower rates on many commodities hauled to the Pacific coast than do the middle western states. That is the condition which has upset the competitive market. The middle west is anxious to do business with Oregon, Washington and California, and freight rates are at the foundation of business.

Water competition has accomplished wonders in the short time the canal has been open to traffic. It has reduced transcontinental rates and has besieged the short haul rate.

WHY NOT BEGIN?

IN Portland, we have been assured from time to time that work on various public activities and private projects was to be pushed in order to relieve the unemployment situation.

Many public and private undertakings are pending. If launched at once they would go far to relieve unemployment conditions. All through the winter, it was declared that activity on these undertakings would begin at the earliest possible moment in order to provide work for jobless men.

But many of the big projects are still pending. On one job, fifty men appeared regularly every morning last week only to find that work was not yet ready to begin.

There has been a whole month of beautiful weather. Active operations on almost any project could have been successfully prosecuted during March, so far as climatic conditions were concerned. Meanwhile, the limit to which the unemployed heads of families in Portland can hold out has been reached.

It is time, at least, for the public work to begin. The situation ought to be its own appeal. A general sentiment ought to make itself felt, to the end that useless delays be avoided and work, wherever possible, be pushed to the utmost.

The situation as it stands is a powerful argument for voting the bonds for improvement of Multnomah county highways. Multnomah county needs the roads, and the unemployed need the work.

THE FARMER'S PORTION

WHAT interest has the farmer in the encouragement of tourist travel. How is it going to benefit him? Let us see. When the traveler comes to town he stops at the hotel. He pays the cabman for his ride to the depot. He tips the boy that shows him to his room. He goes to the barber shop and gets a shave and a shoeshine.

The tourist is human and he must eat. He goes to the dining room and this is where he meets the farmer who has raised the food the tourist consumes.

The farmer has also produced the food which nourishes the cabman, the room boy, the barber, the waiter and the hotel keeper.

The more tourists there are the greater the demand for the farmer's products, and the more prosperity there is in the farm home.

There is not a vegetable gardener or a dairyman, or a woodcutter, or a fruit grower in Multnomah county who is not directly interested in securing a favorable vote on the road bond issue.

OUR TRADE BALANCE

OFFICIAL figures show that February's favorable trade balance was \$173,604,366. The excess of exports for December, January and February was \$450,087,375. That is at the rate of \$1,800,000,000 a year.

Shortly after commerce with Europe had been re-established, following the first shock of war, it was predicted that our favorable trade balance would exceed \$1,000,000,000 in a year. Then the figure was placed at \$1,500,000,000. Now it is at the rate of \$1,800,000,000, and the indications are that it will exceed \$2,000,000,000, for the monthly favorable balance is increasing by leaps and bounds. The January balance increased nearly \$15,000,000 over that for December, and February gained almost \$30,000,000 over January.

February's excess of exports was nearly seven times the favorable balance of the same month last year, and more than double the next largest February export balance recorded in 1908. What is more, at a time when Europe is placing a high value on gold, that metal is coming to this country in unprecedented amounts. Europe must have our goods, and to get them is sending gold.

What do the figures mean? They mean that the flood of money which Europe is pouring into the United States must be put at work turning the wheels of industry. Already the country is feeling the effect of an insistent demand for

American products. The floodtide of American prosperity within a period of six months was predicted by Secretary Lane at San Diego. He stated nothing but the obvious. The United States will be the world's workshop as well as its granary.

AN UNUSUAL WOMAN

A WOMAN of national distinction is to speak in Portland. Mary Antin is the author of one of the notable books of the day. Her "Promised Land" is a remarkable interpretation of the values and privileges of American life. It vivifies the transplanting of immigrant life to American soil, and with its powerful expression and beautiful diction is a notable document.

Another of her books is "They Who Knock at Our Gates." In its pages, there is an illuminating discussion of American relations to the ex-patriated and other immigrants of the mid world. The book breathes a deep humanism, and a sympathetic sense of human justice not often revealed.

Those who have read her writings realize that Mary Antin is a woman with a message. Her career in its rise from humble origin to a conspicuous position in the literary world of a hemisphere, makes her one of the extraordinary women of her age.

HUMAN EFFICIENCY

FREDERICK W. TAYLOR, apostle of human efficiency and shop management, is dead in Philadelphia. Following close upon a successful fight made in the senate against his system of premiums and bonuses in government arsenals and workshops, Mr. Taylor's death again calls attention to the man's big idea and the reason why it has been opposed.

He proposed and urged scientific management of all industries. His idea was that by making the individual more efficient his earning power would be increased, the output of capital and labor would be largely augmented, and both capital and labor would be benefited. He demonstrated that even in ordinary occupations much time and labor could be saved by proper direction and conservation of the workers. But it was in shop management that Mr. Taylor specialized, applying his ideas especially to high speed tools.

Strangely enough, his system was opposed by the workers themselves. Their attitude was much the same as it was when labor-saving machinery came into prominence, and the argument was the same. If four men do the work of five, then there will be one man out of a job. But that was not the result of labor saving machinery. The machines increased each man's productivity, but they also increased the amount of work to be done. The men have not been thrown out of employment by labor-saving devices. Scientific management will progress in spite of opposition. There is too much work in the world to be done to permit toleration of inefficient methods. Americans don't like to take orders, but they have the example of the Germans, the most efficient people of the world—made so by the fact that they willingly work under direction.

WAR AND GARDENING

THE London Daily Mail is offering prizes totalling \$5000 for the best collections of vegetables at a show to be held in September. The Mail says: The purpose of this effort is to bring before all sections of the community the possibilities of growing much food as possible within the next six months. Food is dear now; in all probability it will be dearer before the summer is over. Everybody who plants vegetable seeds, or within the next six weeks, will be contributing something toward the national food supply and toward reducing the cost of food.

War is the immediate cause for this effort to encourage gardening. David Lloyd-George has long urged the necessity of getting more of England's acres under tillage, putting the land to use for all the people's benefit. But it required the exigencies of war to bring the fact home to all Britons that an idle acre is a handicap on the nation.

Perhaps the conflict in which Britons that a nation's prosperity is in direct relation to the use it makes of its land. If gardening is good for the people now, why is it not good for them at all times? If larger use of the land will reduce food prices in war time, it will do the same thing in times of peace.

England's problem is but an exaggeration of the same problem in the United States.

THE MEANING OF CELLIO

SPEAKING of the opening of the Cellio canal, the Lewiston Tribune says: If the river towns are sufficiently lively and enterprising, they can turn their new facility to numerous uses in forging ahead and the celebration now in process indicates that they are going to press their advantage to substantial purpose from the time it becomes actually a fact. Kenewick and Pabeo are providing for publicly owned terminals. Walla Walla is preparing to build a paved road to connect with boat lines on the river, and points in Umatilla are agitating a similar program. Lewiston, from the first, has been wide awake to the things an open Columbia would

do for her and for tributary agricultural and manufacturing industries.

The geography of these river cities is their best resource. Access to the river is their greatest power for growth in population, wealth and prestige. A navigable and navigated Columbia is their certain means of securing lessened transportation rates. It is the most effective railroad commission in the world. It is a sure means for getting further congressional aid for canalizing the upper river for navigation, for irrigation and for the development of electrical power and light.

Nowhere in the world has nature done more for a region than for the Columbia basin in its great gift of the Columbia river to the cities and country along its banks. That river is a great thoroughfare of empire. Cellio is a milestone in northwest history.

THE JOURNAL NATIONAL EDITORIAL

HOME RULE FOR CITIES

By ALBERT BUSHNELL HART, Professor of Government, Harvard University.

MOST of the states in the Union are not only divided by lines of race, religion and occupation, but are separated into two widely different populations. Half the people of Colorado, for instance, live in the city of Denver; and the rural members of the legislature occasionally line up against the Denver members.

In North Dakota about five-sixths of the population do not live in cities, and that rural element can entirely control the few cities. In New York state, the boot is on the neck of the city people in the rural counties. In the other foot, for out of nine and a half million inhabitants over five millions live in New York city and two millions more in other cities.

The result is that though all the people in the states are supposed to govern the whole state, each element is constantly making laws for the other. So far as this process means that regular codes should be drawn up for county and village and town government on one side, and for the cities on the other, the reform of legislation from both elements may well provide for the whole state.

In practice the rural communities receive about the kind of government that they desire; their political pickings are small, their salaries are moderate, and the city members commonly let the rural members draft bills for their own government. Hence no state has a strictly uniform system of rural government; counties in North Dakota, and villages in New York, differ much among themselves; and local option laws allow one group of counties to go wet and another to go dry, according to their preference.

The cities fare otherwise. Rural members take a lively interest, not only in the general laws relating to cities, but also in special charters. There is a deep-seated belief in the United States that the intelligent farmer is the wisest voter and the safest legislator in any state matter; and as the cities furnish the greater part of the state taxes the rural members often bleed their richer neighbors for public improvements. Hence we have the amazing spectacle of a proud city like New York, whose charter is dependent on a group of rural members who look upon the city with a kind of hostility. When the abutters on Amsterdam avenue wanted to get rid of the dangerous four parallel trolley tracks on their street, they had to send three carloads of demonstrators to Albany to argue the matter before a legislative committee, which included members who had never heard of Amsterdam avenue. Of course, all the members of the legislature are entitled to take part in discussions of matters of general state concern, but it is preposterous that rural members should add to this general service an active part in the internal government of the cities.

For this confused state of things the cities themselves are partly to blame, because they have the habit of running to the legislature for new laws on every occasion, instead of demanding a greater right to govern themselves in local matters. A happy solution, which has been worked out in several states, is to give to the cities what is called "home rule." Sometimes this means no more than a liberal charter, under which the urbanites make their own decisions on questions of taxation, debt, public improvement and education. By a wider form of "home rule" the legislature draws up three or four types of city government and allows any city to choose any one of those charters.

A still broader extension is the "home rule" method of California, where every city has a right to draw up a new charter within certain limits laid down by the legislature. If the voters accept that charter it becomes the law of the city. By this method Cleveland has received its unique system of cabinet government. The great advantage of all these methods is that they free both the city and rural members of the legislature from spending their time on the minute details of city government and the maneuvers of city politicians. The cities are now great and complicated organizations which can only be carried on by experts. New York city has an income about one-fifth as

great as that of the federal government, and a bonded debt almost as great as that of the United States. The member from Alford or Canajoharie has a right to take part in laying down the general principles on which the metropolitan city should be administered; but he is so much qualified to decide on the functions of New York coroner than he is on the best system of selling fruit cars. The motto of the American people ought to be, "Let every man do his own job!"

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 200 words and must be accompanied by the name and address of the contributor. Contributors who wish to have their names published, should so state.)

"Reason is the greatest of all reformers. It discloses everything it touches. It robs the ignorant of his ignorance, the weak of his weakness, the dishonest of his dishonesty, and sets up its own conclusions in their stead."—Woodrow Wilson.

"Special Road Tax, Not Bonds." Oregon City, Or., March 25.—To the Editor of The Journal.—In The Journal of Monday I read an article from "A Taxpayer," under the heading, "Special Road Tax, Not Bonds." And I will say that I agree with him, word for word. Although I am living in Clackamas county, the principle is the same all over. We ran up against the same thing here last year, and we had to fight hard to beat it. It seems there is a certain class of men in every county that are trying to get the state and county to pay for their roads. It is unquestionably against the interest of the taxpayers, especially where the amount needed each year can be raised by such a small special levy as is the case in your county at this time. The special levy virtually makes the taxpayers the bondholders of the state. A penny saved is a penny earned, you know. Less than a 4 mill levy will give you all the money you need, and if you don't want to use all the money in one year, you can make a fund for the next year. It is as much money as you need and it is the taxpayers have the benefit of this interest, in place of throwing it into the hands of the rich money lenders. It is their love of liberty, the principle of issuing bonds for small amounts that the taxpayers can easily raise themselves.

On Paying as One Goes. Hood River, Or., March 27.—To the Editor of The Journal.—Pay as you go, don't go, seems to me good advice for the people of Hood River. I have just been reading from Collier's: "For generations Europe has been providing us with the capital whenever we wanted to build new railroads, or set up new plants, or open new mines. After this war Europe will not give us any more. Indeed, for the first time in history, the situation will be reversed. We shall have to save not only for our own development, but to lend to Europe as well." Now on the editorial page of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, of March 23, I read, under the caption, "The Emergency Clause," an article of financial responsibility, written by a group of members of the legislature. It is amazing. Appropriations are made right and left without a thought of who is to pay for them. The legislature is following the same lines that have put the state a million dollars in debt for current expenses. The legislature, like many in business or farming, will go in debt, entirely oblivious of pay day.

Would Have Christians Protected. Portland, March 27.—To the Editor of The Journal.—To read of the awful Turks and Kurds in Christian by the cry out against missionary work done by all Christian nations. There is a living disgrace and a blot on any nation not to afford the greatest protection to those that by missionary work are saving souls and becoming Christians. Is it Christianity to convert them for the purpose of "butchery"? Rather let them live out their allotted span of life under the most peaceful ideas, than that they should meet with such a fate. For years it has been a series of butcheries in the Mohammedan countries, and Christianity has let it pass with a few remarks through papers about what has been done, and more missionaries are sent out to get some more ready for the shambles.

It is said Turkey is to be wiped out. They will not do it at once, and save the world from the horrors of the converted to redeem the nation that much quicker?

Home Labor. From the Eugene Register. Several cities in Oregon are taking active steps to induce contractors to employ resident laborers whenever possible. This movement is an excellent one and ought to be widely copied. No city can make a mistake by engaging in such an enterprise.

Transient labor is an evil that in many cases is a necessary one. Many large construction projects make demands that cannot be supplied by the adjacent communities, so workmen are brought in from elsewhere. But that transient employment is an economic evil everyone will admit. It necessitates a roving population, and among those who are transient it discourages thrift and economy and fosters the custom of living from hand to mouth.

Home labor is the best thing in the one in which the most laboring men are permanently provided for, for this means a community of homes and taxpayers. It is the best thing in the one in which the most laboring men are permanently provided for, for this means a community of homes and taxpayers. It is the best thing in the one in which the most laboring men are permanently provided for, for this means a community of homes and taxpayers.

Page Captain Kidd, Boy. From the Lewiston Ledger. "I feel like a Captain Kidd," remarked the guest at a southern winter resort. "I am boarded by pirates," he answered to our query.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

The path to success is paved with good intentions that were carried out. No man ever loved a certain woman. They are all more or less uncertain. But married man's dollars won't last long unless his wife has sense.

Our idea of a martyr is a man who poses as a good example in a small town. Sweet are the uses of audacity—when a brave young man and a kissable girl meet. A wise man may not know much, but he is wise enough to keep others from knowing it.

A man smokes or drinks because he wants it, but if he loves it's because some woman loves it. Even people who wish to be on a cash basis want to place themselves there. They don't want the grocery store to do it.

It may be better to lead the procession than to follow it—unless the leader happens to be a black wagon with glass windows. The average telephone may be used 13 per cent of the time, but of course families who have no grown daughter in the home fall far below the average.

A boy need not hope to be able to manage a business when he grows up. He can manage his own affairs, but to manage his parents when he is small. No matter how ugly a baby is, you needn't be afraid to tell the mother the truth. It is an encouraging opinion. She will not think you are joking.

Baker Democrat: The opening of the Cellio canal on the Columbia river, which is to occur early in May, is an event of supreme importance to the inland empire and northern Idaho, western Washington, and northern Oregon people are going to appropriately celebrate it. Extensive plans for celebrating are now fully under way, and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people will attend the ceremonies at Umatilla and The Dalles. A delegation of Baker county people will attend without doubt.

Vancouver (Wash.) Sun: The Washington legislature this season was a fight from start to finish. Not a fight for the people's rights, needs and interests, but a fight between the legislative body and the governor. The recent state supreme court decision on the emergency clause, which was a victory for the governor, came out ahead. The state supreme court has stopped the legislative juggler with the emergency clause. No one objects to the clause, but it is a dangerous one when it is attached so as to prevent the people getting a whack at the bills which are passed for the purpose of putting the governor in a hole, then it's a bad thing and bad politics. The people have a pretty good idea of what they want.

Tacoma Tribune: While angry belligerents, irritated by our middle-of-the-road neutrality, are snarling at Americans for not taking sides, and

that they will do better. Here is some evidence: Railroads are perhaps the largest customers of the steel plants; and a single recent week brought forth news that the mills in the Chicago district of the United States Steel corporation were operating at 70 per cent of capacity, an increase of 15 per cent in 10 days.

The American Steel & Wire Co. at two Illinois plants, had taken on between 500 and 600 new men, and a night shift was being organized. Two steel companies at Youngstown, Ohio, were back to normal in output, and a third was about to reopen; 600 more men had been taken on at Lorain.

Another blast furnace was opened back at the Gary works of the Illinois Steel company. In the Pennsylvania coke region, some 40 additional ovens were lighted within a few days; and so on, and so on.

These are signs that mean something for the steel industry. The country is about the best business barometer we have.

Dividend losses, comparing March, 1915, with March, 1914, were apportioned about \$20,000,000 to \$24,000,000; for March, 1914, the dividend payments totaled \$44,556,000—a loss of \$10,196,000 due to the reduction or passing of dividends on the stock of many corporations this year.

Bond issues, far better this year than last. Interest payments this March approximate \$62,100,000 against \$57,600,000 in March, 1914. An increase is due to new bond and note issues.

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OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Central Point's council has decided to meter the city's water consumption. The meter will start with an order for 100 meters.

Salem Statesman: The new band of the Salem street car employees is fine. The boys look the part, and they play the part well, too.

"Make your reservation for the Cellio trip," it will be a novel trip and the celebration will be historic.

Canby citizens have organized a library association. The association has taken steps toward the formation and equipment of a public library. Quarters, rent free, have been provided.

Many owners of dogs at Eugene have decided to campaign between now and the city election in April, against the existing ordinance that forbids owners to leash their dogs.

The independent expresses the hope that the Cellio canal will be opened by March 20, and may prove to be but the forerunner of many subsequent events which they will become a regular feature.

Dallas Observer: There is in the Dallas city park a poplar the circumference of which is 10 feet. The measurement is accurate. There are a considerable number of poplars in the municipal plantations. The poplars are of a variety of sizes, and the school continues to grow.

In view of the high school building drive, the committee on the Times says: "It has been figured that a modern high school building is the need of the hour. The present school building is almost new, it is barely large enough to accommodate the present pupils, and the school continues to grow."

Penitentiary East Oregonian: "Every time the warden of a state prison gives the signal for an execution all the citizens are murderers." This declaration was made a few days ago to a New York audience by Thomas Mott Osborne, warden of Sing Sing. The statement is from a man who knows considerable about the criminal class and the proper methods of dealing with it. The love of liberty is equaled only by their sense of human brotherhood.

And Belgium, stirred by its foes and ignited by the news of its contribution, are going to appropriately celebrate it. Extensive plans for celebrating are now fully under way, and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people will attend the ceremonies at Umatilla and The Dalles. A delegation of Baker county people will attend without doubt.

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