

THE JOURNAL

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year. People are not drinking as much as in former times. The postoffice department, usually self-sustaining, closed the year with a deficit due to interruption in business by the war.

ONE POINT OF AGREEMENT

HALF the lands in the railroad grant are agricultural. In any plan of disposition, it will be admitted that all such lands should be speedily made available for settlement.

TWO FLAGS

TOMORROW, at Blaine, Washington, on the boundary line between the United States and Canada, there is to be a celebration of 100 years of peace between the two countries.

It is possible in advance to sense the spirit and the exercises. The outstanding thought that all present will acknowledge is the tremendous contrast in national ideals in Europe and the Western Hemisphere.

Even little Roumania with the area smaller than Alaska has a 500,000 men under arms as a peace measure.

On this phase of the grant land issue, there can hardly be debate. Only ignorant and foolish theorists who never saw a log cabin as the shelter of a family in a rude clearing, will dissent from a view that is confirmed and sanctioned by history and experiences of every frontiersman from Daniel Boone to Joe Meek.

The question that remains after that is, shall we all make a strong and united attempt to convert the forest lands in the grant into a great endowment for the Oregon public schools?

THE RIGHT TO RESIGN

A NUMBER of army officers want to resign to accept more lucrative positions with private manufacturers of war munitions.

OUR BALANCE SHEET

PREDICTIONS from anti-administration sources that a government bond issue would become necessary to replenish the federal treasury have been shown to be unwarranted.

BOULEVARD EXTENSION

NEXT week will mark an epoch in the development of Portland's boulevard system. The new pleasure drives are to be thrown open to public use.

manding view of the country surrounding Portland and indicate its magnitude. There is an infinite variety of woodland, river and field.

The most impressive fact of all is that it is within easy access and practically all within the limits of the city.

PORTLAND'S FIRE LOSS

THE aggressive fire prevention movement by Fire Marshal Stevens, Chief Dowell and the officers and members of the fire department is yielding returns. The results are such as to impress Portland people with a spirit of cooperation in the plan for reducing Portland's fire losses.

The fire alarms for June just ended totaled 62 against 129 for June 1914, a decrease of 56 per cent. The 62 alarms for June were the smallest number for any month since March, 1910, and the smallest in any June since 1908.

It is worth their while. Nearly \$2,000,000 worth of Portland property and 16 lives, were destroyed at fires in 1914. The insurance companies cannot restore the lost lives. Insurance companies do not replace the burned wealth.

Portland has produced a woman whose musical genius, voice and energetic studentship, have placed her in the first rank of living artists. Others have wider celebrity, but only a rare few have the power with the human voice to sing an audience into enthusiasm or emotion, or awe as can Miss Kathleen Lawler.

A London newspaper allowed its readers to name a list of 12 Englishmen who could be spared least at this critical time. When the answers were tabulated they showed David Lloyd-George ranking first, Lord Kitchener second, Premier Asquith third and Sir John French fourth.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Discussions in the great of all reformers. It rationally everything it touches. It robs principles of all false sanctity and throws them into the gutter of vulgar and unreasonable. It ruthlessly crushes them out of existence and sets up new conclusions to guide the world.

The London Daily Mail suggests that the British government secure the services of Orville Wright, American aeroplane inventor, to direct the great air fleet Great Britain is mobilizing. He is designated the world's best authority on aeroplanes, which is something of a distinction, coming from the source it does.

These hot days are sufficient test of one's sanity without having to think about the billions Europe is wasting in war and how hard it is to get a dollar.

policy," says General Sapojnikoff, head of the Russian purchasing committee in New York. If the general has really grasped the American ideal he might go back to Russia and give his home government some valuable information about one nation's proper attitude toward another.

It has been suggested that Huerta's only chance to do a little dictating is to employ a stenographer or get a job as an apartment house janitor.

QUARTER-MILLENNIAL OF NEW YORK CITY

THE public-spirited citizens who have been active in bringing about the adoption of the new flag of the city of New York, a flag that is distinctive and carries a specially pleasing savor of history, must have taken great satisfaction in the appropriate and dignified exercises which attended its formal hoisting upon the city hall on Thursday.

It is curious, on the other hand, to reflect how very recent has been the recognition of this kind of "consideration"—indeed, how much of a backsliding took place two or three generations ago. It happens that both of our two greatest Atlantic coast cities exemplify this—Philadelphia, with its gigantic, ugly municipal building blotting out the whole of what had long been a great public square, and New York, with its post-office monstrosity fatally marring its City Hall park.

During the legislative sessions of the present year direct prohibition laws were passed in Florida and Alabama and in the case of the latter the question to the people in the states of Idaho, Iowa, Montana, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah and Vermont.

THE ONCE OVER

THE other night—just before dark—out at Oak Grove—Henry Elker brought over his big White Wyandotte and asked us— "he could leave him—in our chicken yard."

But alongside this amazing development there has been a story of political imperfection and worse, strangely out of keeping with all that glorious accomplishment. Is it not a curious fact that, out of all the energy that has been continuously kept in action, and to which everything around us testifies, there has not been found enough in the field of desiring political effort to prevent our city from having become, and remained for several decades, a byword for misgovernment and political corruption?

Not is it only in the matter of politics that the last half century has furnished such vindication of the true merit of New York, and of American democracy. Five Points, and the tenement region of New York generally, were an awful blot upon the city. We are far from perfect in these matters now; but when it is recalled that New York half a century ago was merely a moderate sized city, one may justly feel keen satisfaction in the fact that the tremendous massing of population that has since taken place has been accompanied not by a deterioration, but by a very marked betterment.

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some about not only without a lowering either of our political life or of the standard of living among the poor, but with a decided rise in both, is surely quite as impressive a proof of vitality and power in the community as are the skyscrapers or the subways or the great financial houses.

If one allows himself to think of the night-haven in New York, it is quite possible to make one's self unhappy. It is altogether idle, of course, to think of what might have been if Manhattan had not happened to be a narrow island; and yet that is the most pressing thought of all.

SMALL CHANGE

Los Angeles Times: With the arrival of the sugar beet, the sugar trust is perking up a bit.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Pro-Chautauque testimony given by the Hon. J. P. S. H. of Chautauque continues to fill the air. Almost every day someone quotes from a lecture "that was delivered."

NATIONAL POLITICS

Philadelphia is being talked of as the convention city for 1916, among the Tory element of the Republican party. The party, however, is a political wise state that Chicago is the logical place. Reactionaries want the convention held in the east in the belief that it will be free from the more progressive influences of the west.

THE LANDS OF CURRY COUNTY

Denmark, Or., June 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—As some newcomers are seeking land, and so some of us are seeking to go, it seems it is not out of place to ask, why not look over Oregon first?

INDEX OF ADVANCING TIDE OF PROSPERITY

Philadelphia, June 25.—Improvement of the industrial situation here is reported by the Philadelphia Record. It brought employment up to the largest total since the European war began.

IMPROVED ON NATURE

"Professor, you seem to be interested in my jelly cake?" "Yes," said the eminent biologist; "you seldom eat such regular and sharply defined strata."

By Fred Keckley, Special Staff Writer of The Journal.

"N. A. Fuller is a pioneer of Alaska having gone to Alaska before it was known that there was gold in Alaska. He went there when Alaska was still definitely called 'Uncle Sam's Icebox.'"

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