

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

The Once Over BY REX LAMPIAN

Published every day, afternoon and morning... AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER... C. R. JACKSON, Publisher

Subscription terms by mail or to any address in the United States or Mexico...

America asks nothing for herself but what she has a right to ask for humanity itself.

WOODROW WILSON

Laws are commanded to hold their tongues among arms, and tribunals fall to the ground with the peace they are no longer able to uphold.

WILL HISTORY REPEAT?

ACCORDING to reports, differences of opinion have arisen between the county courts of Marion and Polk counties over plans for the new intercounty bridge which it is proposed to erect at Salem over the Willamette river.

Very likely Prineville still keeps that sign standing by the road, or some new and still more cheerful one to speed the parting guest.

Blue laws of ancient enactment prevent symphony concerts in Philadelphia unless given free.

MOTHER GOOSE REVISED

THE Safety First Federation of America has published a primer for the use of young children who play in the streets.

WORTH THE PRICE

THE Multnomah board of commissioners made no mistake in fixing the road levy at 1.98.

The Columbia River Highway made such a levgy logical. That great causeway is catching the eye of the wander-lust world.

a magnificent highway without other roads to fit. If we pretend to make a specialty of highways, we must go the whole length.

It is worth something to live in such a city. It is worth far more than the slight sum that will be added to the taxes of those who pay.

MANNERS OF THE ROAD

ON THE highway by which motor cars left Prineville for the Dalles there stood a year or two ago a signboard which read "Pleasant journey. Come again."

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of common sense put in. If the children should happen to like the novelty, book publishers might possibly follow the example of the Safety First Federation and before long we might be feeding the little ones on a mental diet that was not wholly warm air and slop.

Fathers are not always indispensable. An eastern man has accepted a sum of money for removal of himself for all time from his son's sight.

DISCONTENT

THE notion that we should have a better government if the right of voting were limited to a few millionaires and their retainers is cherished fondly by a great many people now-a-days.

In the long run the people will by their votes pursue their own advantage and this, in the eyes of special privilege, is the greatest of sins.

No better sermon was ever preached on this text than the one the Vicar of Wakefield delivered to his fellow prisoners in the debtor's jail.

Generally speaking, the decline of navigation lines on inland waterways is due largely to the natural expansion and legitimate competition of the railroads.

It might help but the only infallible way to blind the poor to their condition is to put out their eyes, their mental eyes we mean.

AS COLD AND HUNGRY. If a man is accidentally killed in a factory, or in average industrial occupations, there is provision under workmen's compensation laws for the support of his widow and orphans.

We are more lenient with men who slay a fellow man, and even if set free after trial, they are not obliged to support the widow and orphans of their victim.

Attorney General Brown rules that the Union Meat Company is entitled, under the law, to a five per cent price preference over a Tacoma bidder on meat contracts for Oregon's public institutions.

GOOD ADVERTISING

ADVERTISEMENT writing has become one of the fine arts. No adept in that line dreams now-a-days of offering the public a dish of falsehoods.

force of "understatements." The latest rule in the business is to discard superlatives like "finest," "cheapest," "rarest." Statements are written in the positive degree and the reader is trusted to add from his own imagination the brilliant hues which will cause him to spend his money.

When former President Roosevelt calls President Wilson a Byzantine logothete, he simply means "I do not like you, Dr. Fell."

DECLINE IN TRAFFIC ON INLAND WATERWAYS

From International Marine Engineering. An aptitude of the immense sums of money that have been expended for the improvement of inland waterways in the United States probably in the neighborhood of three-quarters of a billion dollars, the total river traffic of the country has steadily decreased, so that at the present time few rivers are used in anything approaching their full capacity.

Portland, Dec. 12.—To the Editor of the Journal—Your editorial in the Journal of December 11, "The Jitney," contained a phrase that should have been printed in red and scattered broadcast.

Typical. Klamath Falls, Dec. 18.—To the Editor of the Journal—The address of R. A. Ballinger, before the Progressive Business Men's club, in which he scored the Oregon system of inland waterways, is a reminder of popular activity in legislation is repugnant to him.

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"Literary Incompetencies." From the Literary Digest.

"The Year of Wakefield." We have attempted to read at least six times and taken the count in the first round every time.

The decline of river traffic can be laid, of course, to other causes besides the discrimination in railroad rates, although the opposition by the railroads is by far the most important.

Now is the time when small boys with big feet are envied by their companions.

Germany has just finished a \$60,000,000 canal, but you don't hear about "port" accusations over there.

Quite a few married men can sympathize with King Constantine, who is asked to choose between his wife's relations and his own friends.

Irrigation, discussed yesterday at a chamber of commerce luncheon, grows in importance as the New Year approaches, for the time is fast coming when speakers must depend entirely upon water to wet their whistles.

Small Change. Now is the time when small boys with big feet are envied by their companions.

There is no reason why it should not be the same Christmas as well as a merry one.

The presumption is that secret service men prevented elaborate decoration of the presidential trunk.

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