# THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

Published every day, afternoon and morning (except Sunday afternoon), at The Journal Building, Broadway and Yamhill sts., Portland, Or.

Entered at the postoffice at Portland, Or., for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

TELEPHONES—Main 1173; Home, A-6051. All departments reached by these numbers. Tell the operator what department you want.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE: Benjamin & Kentnor Co., Brunswick Bldg., 225 Fifth Ave., New York; 1218 People's Gas Bldg., Chicago.

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

DAILY (MORNING OR AFTERNOON)

One year.....$5.00 | One month.....$ .50

SUNDAY

One year.....$2.50 | One month.....$ .25

DAILY (MORNING OR AFTERNOON) AND SUNDAY

One year.....$7.50 | One month.....$ .65

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

**WOODROW WILSON.**

I never yet heard man or woman much abused that I was not inclined to think the better of them, and to transfer the suspicion or dislike to the one who found pleasure in pointing out the defects of another.—Jane Porter.

## PROHIBITION

THE year 1916 opens with 19 states of the Union living under prohibition. The advance of the dry cause has been steady for the last few years. State after state has begun with local option, secured the abolishment of the liquor traffic in a large number of counties and then passed on to state-wide prohibition. This is the usual course of events.

Communities which once try to do without liquor rarely fail to like the experiment. Sometimes they revert to booze and the open saloon, but not very often. The more common rule is "Dry once, dry forever."

The sweep of prohibition over more and more new territory is one of the great social phenomena of our day. It indicates a deep-seated national repugnance to the saloon and all its works.

The time has gone by when honest observers can believe the fallacy that "prohibition does not prohibit." Statistics show that the internal revenue of the federal government derived from liquor has fallen off considerably in the last year or two. The national treasury expects a greater decline this year and is casting about for ways and means to counterbalance it. This indicates infallibly that the consumption of liquor in the prohibition states is not only decreasing but rapidly approaching extinction. Disinterested observers agree that prohibition laws are as effective as any others when they are administered by honest officials.

That prohibition will be effective in Oregon is entirely likely. The moral sentiment of the state has declared itself strongly against the saloon. The people are determined that their will in this matter shall be respected. No doubt there will be shiftless and evasive officials here and there who will pander and prevaricate. Behind the prohibition law there is a group of high minded, patriotic, and well-informed citizens, including many capable lawyers, who will tolerate no shifts, evasions or trickery. The experience of other states has shown that prohibition laws can be enforced and the moral character of Oregon gives full expectation that in this state the law will be enforced.

A census of Massachusetts shows that state has 65,884 more women than men. This is an increase of nearly 10,000 over five years ago. Nature seems to be working in the wrong direction.

## THE OREGON SYSTEM

THERE was more than one point worthy of consideration in Mr. A. L. Mills' speech at the irrigation congress banquet. Perhaps his most cheerful remark was that "Oregon's credit was first class, as it had no public debt." This first class credit, it is to be remembered, has been acquired under the operation of "the Oregon system." The state has been kept free from debt and the confidence of investors has been won under the direct primary law, the initiative, the referendum and the recall. It seems that Mr. Mills is quite ready to acknowledge the good effects of the Oregon system when it suits his purpose to do so.

But it does not always suit his purpose. In the course of the same speech the eminent banker delivered himself in this wise: "There are men of means who fear Oregon's theories of government." In other words the big capitalists of the country would more readily supply the means to develop our resources if Oregon lived under the old-fashioned system of government. This is Mr. Mills' opinion. It jibes a little oddly with his previous statement that Oregon's credit was first class and that the $18,000,000 of bonds which he wants issued would "go like wildfire." Bonds to promote irrigation projects ought to be issued and there is no doubt that they would go like wildfire. They would be purchased with the greatest eagerness by eastern capitalists in spite of their "fear of Oregon's theories of government."

The truth of the matter is that eastern capitalists have no such fear. They know that Oregon's credit is perfectly good and that the state, as Mr. Mills himself admits, is thriving under the Oregon system. If its credit is ever impaired it will be by the senseless and utterly inexcusable growling of men like Mr. Mills who cannot get over their chronic disgruntlement with popular government. It would be better for them and far better for the state if they would cease their foolish scolding and unite in efforts for the public welfare. There is nothing the matter with Oregon's credit or the Oregon system and no man knows this any better than Mr. Mills.

There is nothing the matter with Portland. The only trouble is with some of the people who live in it. They hate to see any one beside themselves make a dollar. They think themselves reincarnations of the old feudal barons and expect to exact tribute from the surrounding country. With them it is not what will benefit the city and state but "what will bring revenue to me?"

## TO THE BITTER END

THERE is little promise of an early peace in the news from Europe.

Prolonged applause greeted the war minister when he declared in the French Senate:

> Eighteen months ago, France wanted peace. Today she wants war most energetically and to that end will use all her resources. Whoever says a word of peace in the streets is considered a bad citizen.

Redoubled applause came from the entire Senate, as the minister concluded, and the whole body arose as a mark of honor. The speech was brought forth by the passage in the Senate of the bill approved by the Chamber of Deputies calling the 1917 class of recruits into military service.

An even more significant evidence of the trend of French sentiment for continuation of the war appeared at the Paris Congress of the French Socialists. Great applause by the 300 delegates was accorded the warlike utterances of one of the chief speakers. His address embodied these policies:

1. No renewal of relations with the German Socialists.
2. No peace at the present juncture.
3. War to the knife as the entente allies are sure of victory and of peace only after victory.

The speaker declared that the present conflict is a war of exhaustion and that the entente allies have a population of 711 millions against 160 millions for the central powers, adding that the resources of the entente powers in agriculture and finance give them further preponderance under the terrible process of settling the war by attrition.

With such a mood reflected by French Socialists, an even more intensified spirit for continuation of the war is to be expected among the other elements of French life. These are straws from the foundations of French society which evidence a relentless purpose to pursue the war to the bitter end.

The close of the year finds general business conditions much more satisfactory than were forecasted a few months back.

## ALBANY'S ENDOWMENT

THE future looks bright for Albany college. With the gift of $50,000 just received from J. J. Hill its endowment amounts to $258,000. This is a comfortable sum. Much may be done with it under judicious management and it is certain to attract new gifts to itself as the years pass. Albany citizens in good circumstances will not feel that it is quite the proper thing to leave this world without a bequest to the college. We dare say the quarter million that it now has will become a full million in the course of the next twenty years.

But with its actual endowment Albany college can make its educational influence powerfully felt in Oregon. It cannot grow into a big institution with its present means but the small college has a place and mission as well as the big one. The intellectual life thrives best, perhaps, when there are not too many students and professors. Scholarly habits develop and the love of history, poetry and philosophy pursues its way unchecked. There is more and sounder thinking in colleges like Albany than in some of the mammoth universities.

A student population may be too numerous for the common good. Among the thousands who gather at Columbia there must be many whose ideals are low and who seek amusement rather than intellectual growth. Sometimes it is to be feared that the weeds out strip the useful plants. Small colleges can practise moderation. Knowing that they cannot teach everything they have begun of late to restrict their work to a few subjects, aiming at thoroughness rather than breadth. This is wholly admirable. There is none too much thoroughness of any sort in the United States.

When we remember that colleges like Albany are somewhat less tyrannized over by the athletic mania than the big universities we preceive another substantial advantage which they possess. Upon the whole, with increasing endowments and increasing public confidence, their situation is enviably hopeful.

Quite likely, the family will think just as much of father if he brings home a juicy beefsteak instead of a joyful jag.

How many bad habits have you submarined?

Goodbye, John Barleycorn.

# THE NEW YEAR IN AMERICA

NOT in decades has the United States entered upon a new year with a brighter outlook.

We have garnered unprecedented harvests. Most things that we sell command unprecedented prices. The dislocations of business brought on by the world war have come to adjustment and trade is gathering an almost torrential force in its flow.

Net railroad earnings increased 169 million dollars during the past year and the roads are just entering a period of extraordinary activity. The mercantile and financial agencies tell of a commercial activity rarely equaled. There are higher wages and more employes than ever before. The great industries swing into the new year with every wheel a-whirr and every machine humming.

We are building ships with a feverish activity. A Portlander bought one in the early stages of construction at a price said to be 33 per cent above the contract figure. There are orders at American shipyards for more than one-third as much tonnage as the whole American aggregate before the war.

As a result of the war, we have become the world's banker nation. Our former debts to Europe on American securities held abroad has been about five billion dollars. Europe flung these securities at us when war was declared, and though the act drove us to the verge of panic, we weathered the storm and began buying. We met every offer with gold or products steadily and in addition, loaned the allies 600 million dollars. The best authorities now insist that our obligations abroad do not now exceed two billions. There is every prospect that even this balance will be wiped out by the time the war ends.

The war has almost certainly drifted into a struggle to exhaustion. A conflict with its tremendous exhaustion of resources cannot continue indefinitely. The weakening process must at last have an end. It is a deplorable consequence, but it remains the fact that the weakening of Europe is the strengthening of America.

Thus, the debts that the war has brought upon the belligerents will mean a tremendous burden of taxation for all the warring peoples hereafter. These taxes must be drawn out of the toil of workers, which means that European production for the next generation, if not longer, will be far more costly than it has been. Heavily taxed production in Europe will be in no position to successfully compete with far lighter taxed production in America. It is one of the mighty and blighting consequences of this war upon Europe which turns to the inevitable advantage of the United States. If, for the next generation, the European worker must carry a huge burden of taxes upon his back, he cannot produce in the open market, at a cost as low as his almost untaxed competing worker in America. This strengthened position of the United States is one of the greatest of the fruits of peace through which this nation has been charted.

Equally important is the fact that every added billion of capital or resource that Europe destroys increases the comparative value of American capital and resource. The known expenditures of Great Britain now approximate eight billion dollars. The figures form the basis for estimating the colossal total that the combined nations have burned up. They reflect the suicide of a continent in men and treasure, and are omen of the greatly heightened comparative strength of the United States.

We deplore Europe's horrible losses and sympathize with her stricken and suffering millions. We commiserate with her people upon the hideous fact that they are in a death grapple. But in the fact that they are at war and that we are at peace, in the awful circumstance that they are destroying while we are producing, there is the inevitable consequence that this country is advanced in position of preeminence and paramountcy in which her future influence must be wholesome and salutary upon the affairs of the world and with tremendous profit in peace and prosperity to all American citizens.

It is thus amid an abundance and strength beyond any that we have known that this country swings off into the New Year. It comes after a period of progressive legislation in which American business has been made more honest, in which the alliance between corrupt business and corrupt politics has been broken up, in which control of American credit and money has been taken out of Wall street and placed in the hands of the American people and in which the power of the few to exercise a financial tyranny over the many has been broken down.

The great prosperity that is spreading over the country is unanswerable proof that reforms giving equal privileges to all instead of special privileges to a few can be safely applied. This realization that we can drive corruption out of business and corruption out of politics without permanently injuring the prosperity of the country is the most reassuring thought and the most delightful contemplation among all the hopeful signs with which we enter the New Year. It is omen to the American people that, by standing steadily for progressive policies and social justice, they can in the end create here a commonwealth of broader justice and more equitable arrangements than has yet been known on the earth.

## NOTHING THE MATTER WITH PORTLAND

[What can be done in Portland can be proved to the point of absolute demonstration by what has been done. Today's article—No. 4 in this series—is concerned with a produce and food products enterprise whose phenomenal growth is the result merely of capital and effort applied to opportunity. Without huge initial capital, without any paternalizing, this business simply has grown. It has had a field. It has had intelligent management. There has been tireless effort, of course. There was capital enough to start with. What more was, or is, needed in Portland, the city with which there is nothing the matter?]

ESTABLISHED in 1895, doing a business of $5,000,000 a year 20 years later, and having a payroll of $180,000 a year, is not so bad for the firm of Albers Brothers Milling company, for be it remembered that 20 years ago Portland's population was less than half that which it is today, and the state was but little known by the general public east of the Rockies.

These figures are not exaggerations, and they serve to illustrate what may be accomplished in "the Oregon country," and its metropolis by those who have ambition, initiative patience and perseverance.

When first established the concern was known as Albers & Snyder. It was an unpretentious affair on Front and Main streets. Its principal product was feed and in a small way the company dabbled in hay and grain. And it still "dabbles" in these farm products, but now by the thousand tons, often in government contracts, and not by the woganload.

BAPTIZED WITH FIRE.

One day the mill was almost swept out of existence by a fire that broke out in the engine room. Its machinery was warped and twisted and its most delicate parts made useless. But this did not discourage Benjamin Albers, managing head of the business. It did, in a measure, dishearten Mr. Snyder, and being ready to throw up his hands, so to speak, he sold his interests to his partners, and immediately thereafter, orders were placed for a complete outfit of cereal producing machinery, and in due time the enterprise, the name changed to that of Albers Brothers Milling company, was in full swing again and bigger and better than ever. The firm then branched out into the making of half a dozen kinds of breakfast foods, as rolled oats, wheat flakes, pearls of wheat, buckwheat and flapjack flour. A live sales manager was employed, business began to boom, the capacity of the mill was inadequate to the demands upon it, and a new location and enlarged equipment were necessary. Waterfront property was secured on the riverfront and Broadway, and a new and much larger building was erected, and here from 150 to 200 men are constantly employed and the Albers Brothers Milling company's products are as well known in the homes of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, California and British Columbia as the "57 varieties" of a noted pickle maker to the readers of streetcar advertising.

SOLD IN THE ORIENT AND EUROPE.

Nor are the sales of the Albers Brothers' productions confined to the western section of the United States. Shipments are made to the Orient, Vladivostock and Europe, and in large quantities to South America. Indeed, a lucrative market is found there, and this will continue to expand. Were it not for the present distracted condition of overseas shipping Albers cereal foods would be sold in Europe in great quantities, and Portland would become as famous for this class of foods as Battle Creek for that which declares "there is a reason." It is believed that the Albers Brothers' breakfast foods, flours, mushes, etc., are the equal of any made, one reason for which being the excellent quality of cereals produced in the Pacific states.

In the hay and grain line Albers Brothers do a very large business, buying in large quantities and shipping to all points in the Pacific states, and exporting generously to foreign markets.

NEW INDUSTRIES NEEDED.

The growth of the concern is indicative of that which may be accomplished by manufacturers in many lines. There are openings in Portland for scores of new industries, but there is not room here for drones and fly-by-nights. Substantial institutions will find excellent openings in Portland. They are here in great numbers, and never was there a more propitious time for their establishment. The end of the present European war will mean tremendous business expansion in Oregon. Its timbers will be required to build up the waste places of the devastated regions beyond the seas. Our prolific soils must divide their bounty with the needy of Europe for many years. Their factories destroyed, we must manufacture for them. Our pastures must fatten stock for the consumption of those who have none to fatten, therefore those who take advantage of the offerings of the Pacific coast at this opportune time will, if they attend to business and exercise the same energy as have those who are prospering in Portland now, in due time find themselves possessed of a business and an income that will be their protector and liberally care for them in the years to come.

Albers Brothers have set a splendid example to others; they are workers, producers, builders, cooperators, having no "grudge" or "calamity howl," or lamentation. They simply believe that "there is nothing the matter with Portland, or with Oregon, but plenty of room for other workers, people of industry and enterprise—but none at all for the gambler, speculator, or those who want something for nothing," the parasite, and pessimist, the idle, whether rich or poor. "Get to work!"

## 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.

### Trade Schools.

Portland, Dec. 30.—To the Editor of The Journal—We are hearing a good deal nowadays on the subject of trade schools. All seem agreed that the only line of instruction to be taught is in connection with what are commonly called "the trades," such as electric wiring, carpentering, plumbing, janitor work, and the like.

But to the painter, whose trade is already so crowded that he can barely make a living, to the plumber, who has now a dozen competitors bidding for each job, and to the electrician, who can scarcely show a 5 per cent margin on his year's work if he figures his overhead and a little salary allowance for himself—to these patient plodders there sometimes almost occurs an idea that there is more behind this trade school idea than shows on the surface. Why, they ask, should anyone deliberately rib up a system that has for its sole object filling our ranks and making conditions harder than they are?

But if vocational teaching has come to stay in our public schools, why not spread it around? Why not educate a percentage as job makers? Why train none but job seekers, for job seeking?

The trade school doesn't turn out a master plumber. There are things he must learn afterward. And it is the same with the other trades taught. The pupil gets the rudiments, supposedly to an extent that will give him a measure of independence and increase his earning capacity. Then he rustles for himself.

But what are simpler than the rudiments of medicine? How much real knowledge does it require to understand a very substantial portion of symptoms, diagnoses and remedies? A very limited training by competent teachers would prepare the average boy so he could not only support his mother but prescribe intelligently for her "many infirmities" and those of his neighbor, the plumber and his family, and the electrician; also with profit to himself and at a saving to them. There is no mystery about it except to know how, and there are lots of boys in our public schools who would love learning to do real doctoring, as they loved to "play doctor" as children.

And what's the reason some should not be started on the road to law, right from our public schools, and allowed to practice law just as soon as they learn a few of the simple fundamentals?

What do you suppose would happen if our school board should announce that they were preparing to teach the elements of medicine to the boys?

What do you suppose would happen if our school board should open a law school nights, and the Chamber of Commerce get up a bill for the next legislature permitting a boy with this night sweat legal training to practice in the courts to the extent of his ability?

But under the new plumbing code anyone can tinker up our plumbing or do it for himself and it's all right. The janitor can take a few polytechnic night sweats and doctor the sewer system and lavatories of our public schools and buildings and if a plumber raises a mild protest in the interest of the public health he is promptly told to go plumb to.

Say to the boys for me that it is all right to learn a trade and become a job hunter, but if I had it to do over again, instead of tieing up with the 75 per cent in their search and crowd and fight for work at the lowest possible price or wage, I would have fitted myself for a job maker for the other fellow, among the 25 per cent, and today be advocating trade schools to keep the rank of labor full. In the interest of eugenics, if for nothing else, the children should be taught the highest and best things instead of the common trades.

O. G. HUGHSON,
Secretary Builders' Exchange.

### An Appreciation.

Portland, Dec. 29.—To the Editor of The Journal.—I feel that The Journal is the most reliable newspaper in this city. I feel and I know that others feel the same way—that it has set its standard high above any other newspaper in Portland for truth and veracity. I consider the information it prints authentic and reliable, and its attitude on public questions very commendable. I know that it holds an enviable position in the mind of the public, and is regarded as the champion of their rights. It seems to have achieved something more than financial success, and that is the high regard of the average man and woman.

I am just a painter now, but I have held a good job in the east—and that was court reporter. My earnings whatever they are, go towards educating myself, so that some time I may be able to take a position that commands a good salary. I attend evening schools and hope in time to be able to quit working and take a course in day school.

THOMAS FITZGERALD.

### Question for the State Sealer.

Forest Grove, Or., Dec. 29.—To the Editor of The Journal.—Will you please inform me why the state sealer of weights and measures permits lumber dealers to sell a bill of lumber calling for certain dimensions, and when you tell them there is not a single piece that corresponds with their statements they say it has been dressed down and shrunk from ½ an inch to 2 inches? But they charge you for 12 inch when it is 11. Please state if the sealer is doing his duty. I help butter his bread, as I am a taxpayer.

J. H. VAN METER.

### Pisgah Home Thanks Donors.

Portland, Dec. 30.—To the Editor of The Journal—The Pisgah Home wishes to thank the many firms and people who have contributed so generously to the cause of the down-and-out man the home is caring for at the county. This home has for its aim to care for the unfortunate man, who is destitute, discouraged and, as I said before, down-and-out, provide for him a home and useful employment, make him again self-supporting, so far as this can be done, and remove him into the wholesome atmosphere of the country and away from the city, to the mutual benefit of the city and the man himself.

We have had this colony less than a year and have met with success and approval beyond our fondest dreams. Our work has received the approval of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, the Ministerial association of Portland, the Columbia River Loggers' association, Mayor H. R. Albee, Senator George E. Chamberlain of Oregon, Judge Charles E. Wolverton of the United States district court of Oregon, ex-Governor Oswald West, Judge Gatens, Judge Stevenson, A. L. Mills, president of the First National bank; also of many other educators, professional men, merchants, contractors, lumbermen and many other business men.

The city helps to support this colony; but only in part, and we are still largely dependent on the kindness of our friends for the means to carry on this work. The colony has purchased a 640-acre tract of land 30 miles from Portland on the hill above Scappoose and the land is not all paid for and a strenuous effort was put forth this winter to pay off some of the debt; but the efforts were unsuccessful and we must try again. We must succeed, as failure is impossible, you know. Where there is a will there is a way.

No worker for the colony receives any compensation for his or her work, other than their keep; therefore, the cost of administration is light. Any donation of money, clothing, shoes, food or material will be most gratefully received and you may rest assured that the best possible use will be made of it.

We wish to thank the following firms and people for their generous response: Roberts Brothers, O'Shea Bros., J. C. Ainsworth, Ladd & Tilton Bank, Portland Gas & Coke company, Equitable Savings & Loan association, Wadhams & Kerr Bros., Wadhams & Co., Wiggins & Archer, Cash A. C. A., Lumbermen's National Bank, Warren Construction company, Northwestern National Bank, George Lawrence, Bank of California, The Portland Cordage company, Closset & Devers, Allen & Lewis, Fleischner & Mayer, R. L. Gilsan, Newton McCoy, E. C. Shevlin, The Portland Flouring Mills company, Philip Buehner, Willamette Iron & Steel Works, Blanchard & Clemson, John McCort, John L. Cowan, Portland Fish company, Olds, Wortman & King, Paper Trades association, Norton McCoy, California Trojan Powder company, Maud Ainsworth, R. A. Layton, Z. Swett, J. C. Bayer, California Ink company, Mrs. Chamberlain, Ellen B. Montague, Amon Strayer, Trades association, cash and bundles through Miss Winner of The Journal, Wood, Montague & Hunt, Mrs. W. Stone, Blanch Hart, Albert J. Cook, Harry Hanson, Young People's Christian Endeavor of Millard Avenue Presbyterian church, Gotschall Printing company, Mr. Cornwall of the Timberman, numerous cash donations without names.

Thanking one and all, once again, we remain most sincerely yours,

HATTIE B. LAWRENCE,
Pisgah Mother.

Board of Directors Pisgah Home:
FRED H. GREEN,
JOHN PEARSON,
JOHN A. GOODELL,
JOHN H. STEVENSON,
J. HUNT HENDRICKSON,
JOHN H. HAAK.

### New Year.

By Harriett Hunt Rich.

The year is dying—
Its hours flying;
And as they go,
The falling snow
In drifts is lying

Our watch we keep
While others sleep;
We hear the bell
That tolls farewell
To feelings deep.

Forget the past,
Now fading fast;
Its pleasures gone,
Why should we mourn?
They could not last.

The new born year,
Behold, is here;
There's work to do
For me and you,
Be of good cheer.

Portland, December 28.

### A Hard Hit.

From the Boston Transcript.

"My wife's been nursing a grouch all the week."

"Been laid up, have you?"

# PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

## SMALL CHANGE

Oh, well, the booze they make these days isn't what it used to be, anyway.

• •

Wonder whether that Coos county rancher who raises watermelons in December keeps a bulldog?

• •

Oregon may yet agree with Mr. Bryan that Oregon loganberry juice, properly made, is a first-class drink.

• •

The kaiser is reported to want peace, but the practical question is, What is he willing to concede to get what he wants?

• •

Perhaps the middle west's chilly weather is explained by Indiana's breezy boom of former Vice President Fairbanks for president.

• •

Rockefeller's Standard Oil stocks have more than doubled in value since his trust was "dissolved" in 1911. There is no getting around it, "Them as has, gits."

• •

Governor Withycombe says he will take a hand in enforcing prohibition unless incompetence or neglect by county officials becomes evident. Should that happen, the governor will have a first-class precedent set by his predecessor at Copperfield.

## OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Sun reports that the plastering work on the new federal building at Medford is well under way, and the work of painting the interior has begun.

• •

The annual correspondence report of Secretary Phillips of The Dalles Business Men's association shows the posting of 18,368 pieces of mail in 1915.

• •

Certain Lane county prisoners have been taken to the county poor farm, where they will clear a 10 acre tract to provide more field space for crops so that the farm may be brought nearer a self-supporting basis.

• •

The Eugene Commercial club has changed its name to the Engene Chamber of Commerce and has voted to adopt the bureau system. Nine distinct bureaus will accordingly handle affairs in future.

• •

Unique society item in Grants Pass Courier: "Mrs. H. S. Prescott on Tuesday afternoon entertained at her home on North Second street a little folks, who in turn entertained the birds and had a merry time of it. The little people made tiny paper baskets, which they filled with crumbs, nuts and bits of apple, and with these and suet balls they trimmed a little Christmas tree, which was put out under the trees for the birds."

# MISSOURI RIVER BARGE TRAFFIC

From the Christian Science Monitor.

The shipping interests of Kansas City and its immediate territory are hopeful that the centenary of the first steam navigation on the Missouri river will see permanently established the big revival of river traffic which for the first half of the last century was the only means of transporting heavy freight. The first steamboat ascended the river in 1819, going as far as the present site of the city of Council Bluffs, Iowa, across the river from Omaha. In 1832 a boat steamed as far north as the mouth of the Yellowstone river, and in 1859 a boat went to the head of navigation at Fort Benton, Mont.

• •

Until the advent of the railroads in the sixties steamboats carried all the freight for these outposts of civilization. The river traffic kept up in a steadily diminishing volume until along in the eighties, when it became practically nonexistant. Two spasmodic attempts to revive it failed because of the practice of the railroads of stimulating trade with rebates to large shippers. With the passage of laws to stop this practice the shippers turned to the river again. There was much discussion, but little progress, until 1909, when the Kansas City Missouri River Navigation company was organized and incorporated. The preferred stock of this company was subscribed by 4220 Kansas City firms and individuals to a total amount of $1,222,000. The form of the incorporation was such as to secure and retain the control of the line in the hands of the merchants and shippers of Kansas City.

• •

The officers of the new boat line laid their plans before the federal government and secured from the men then in charge a promise of government aid in putting the channel of the river, long neglected, in navigable condition. A survey was made and the government engineers recommended that the work be done. It was estimated that the cost would be $20,000,000, distributed over 10 years, or $2,000,000 a year. This, it was said, would give a six foot channel even in time of ordinary low water.

With this assurance the navigation company went ahead with an exhaustive list of experiments to determine what was the best kind of craft to use on the river. It was speedily demonstrated that the old romantic type of packet boat, with its Texas deck and staterooms, was obsolete. A new type of boat was devised, called the tunnel type because its propulsion power was exerted in the middle of the boat, thus narrowing the beam and decreasing the resistance to the current. The boats are a development of the catamaran and tug. The boats are equipped with powerful engines and carry no freight. The freight is loaded in barges, which are sealed water tight. By this arrangement the boats lose no time while the cargo is being loaded and unloaded. They warp one or two barges to the wharf, pick up two more that have been loaded and start on a fresh trip.

• •

The problem of selecting a type of boat was only one that the boat line officers had to meet. The disuse of the river had resulted in the scattering of pilots, river men and dock laborers into other lines of industry. The landings and terminals which had been used in the early days of navigation had gone into decay or in some cases been appropriated by the railroads. The necessity also was apparent for correlation or connection with the railroads, so that shippers from interior points could transfer their cargoes to the river or vice versa. Warehouses were to be built. Proper loading and unloading machinery had to be installed and numerous other details looked after.

Another thing the river advocates had to do was to convince officials of the railroads that the boat line was needed to take care of the surplus of freight that the railroads cannot handle, a class of traffic that is the least desirable to rail lines. Some progress had been made along this line but the rail officials are not all convinced. The boat men in support of their contention present a circular issued by the Interstate Commerce commission in October of this year which calls attention to the "annually recurring failure of transportation facilities known as car shortage" and points to the fact that evidence is in the commission's possession to show that it is appearing again.

In one place the report says: "If Germany, France or Austria possessed such a river system as that of the United States, with possibilities of being joined to a lake system such as ours, these would long ago have been made the basis of a vast and busy transportation system."

• •

Although the boats have been running under the present company, only since 1911, the increase in business has been marked. The following table shows the steady growth year by year:

| | Tons moved | Total ton-miles | P. C. increase |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1911 ... | 1,084 | 435,728 | |
| 1912 ... | 5,215 | 1,889,467 | 381 |
| 1913 ... | 9,784 | 3,604,316 | 87 |
| 1914 ... | 13,677 | 5,299,062 | 29 |
| 1915 ... | 31,911 | 12,549,893 | 233 |

Kansas City issued $75,000 in bonds to build a modern terminal wharf on the levee. The wharf is 550 feet long and 50 feet wide. It is fully equipped with the latest loading and unloading devices and there is a good warehouse adjoining. It has rented terminals in East St. Louis.

While the boat line quotes rates an average of 20 per cent lower than the rail rates, the projectors of the enterprise point to the fact that the real benefit is in holding down rail rates in general.

The improvement of the river has lent impetus to the towns all along the stream. The number of levee districts increased from 12 in 1910 to 32 in 1913 and the amount invested in these districts was $1,449,090. Many of the river towns reopened their wharfs and are enjoying a renewed prosperity.

# The Once Over

BY REX LAMPMAN

## THE HOME-GROWN MUSE

### The Land of the Real Tobacco Chew.

(Composed by "Pat" and "Obak," and Dedicated to "Cougar" Long of Camp Creek.)

If the folks back east they only knew
That we have the "Real Tobacco Chew"
Right out here where Camp creek flows,
And the big tall fir and cedar grows,
They'd leave those poor old hills of clay,
Roll their blankets and hike away
To a country rich, to a country new,
The land of the "Real Tobacco Chew."

This is the land of sweet content,
Where we raise the garden, make cement,
And now and then we cast about
For steelhead fish and salmon trout;
And we have logging camps and mills,
And a billion trees on the big high hills,
From mountain wells the cool springs flow,
To nourish the vale where the field oats grow.

In the valleys here we find the charms
Of the grazing lands and the dairy farms;
Where we hear the songs of the bees and birds,
And the low of the big, fine dairy herds,
And the hills are filled with golden mines,
As rich in gold as a Lonesome Jew—
The land of "The Real Tobacco Chew."

Here's where a man can earn his duds
By planting an acre of Burbank spuds,
And garner a-plenty to live at his ease
From beans and onions, cabbage and peas;
Here's where the grass forever is green,
And grand old Camp creek flows by serene,
Where a man may pause and dream and rest
On Mother Nature's kind old breast.

This is the land of classic streams,
The favored land of the world, it seems,
Where nature did one glorious morn
Empty the whole of her lavish horn
With a smile of satisfaction—then
She called it the garden spot of men.
The land of plenty, the land for you—
The land of "The Real Tobacco Chew."

I wish my folks back east would come
Where the donkeys toot and the sawmills hum,
Where the hayfields wave and berries grow,
And the mountains stand with peaks of snow,
Right here on the "Upper Camp creek," where
We fill our lungs with the mountain air,
As sweet as the nectared drops of dew—
The land of "The Real Tobacco Chew."

### Skookum Still on the Map.

Skookum Correspondence Toledo, Or., Leader.

Skookum has a new mill. It runs steadier than the Toledo mill and its product is used at home without a port tax. The only complaint of the management is that he don't let the cider get "skookum." So we buy our vinegar at Toledo.

Andrew Carnegie has sworn off $5,000,000 of personal property from the tax roll. If he swore more than Skookumites does at its tax roll, Andrew is not so good a Christian as he supposes he is.

Miss Lily Storms transferred her money from the Lisle bank to the Lincoln county bank. It is whispered (but not believed) that one of the younger bankers turned his back to her during the transfer. Both are too polite for that, and the counter is high.

Eighteen of the new Sears & Roebuck catalogues came to the office at Skookum. There is no closed season for suckers. Pearson's says S. & R. escaped paying taxes on a million of stock for years and that would pay for many catalogues. And they are among the chief offenders in the present strike of garment makers in Chicago. But what is that to Skookum if people will live in Chicago and work 12 hours a day for 80c, so long as Skookum can save a dollar on a suit of clothes? We patronize our home stores when we get out of cash and grow over our bills. And if they don't pay good prices for Skookum butter and cabbage we can cuss 'em good.

One stingy Skookum widder has put up a spite fence to shut off a neighbor's chickens from her ground. And she hasn't a chick of her own. You can feed in my field, chickies, and lay there. My kid is a Texas Skookum for finding hens' nests. Be neighborly.

Lincoln county bid in several hundred town lots last summer for delinquent taxes. Why not raffle them off as the women did the sofa pillows? And have every ticket draw a prize. Think what a hundred families in Bay View addition to Tacoma mean; would mean even fifty families in the Fifth addition to Skookum! Against the law? Let him who doesn't break the law cast the first stone.

### The Candid Grouch.

The champion Candid Grouch of the known world is a Dallas, Or., man who mailed this card to his friends on Christmas:

"FORGIVE US OUR CHRISTMASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO HAVE CHRISTMASED AGAINST US."

# Stories of Street and Town

### What'll He Do With It.

CAPTAIN CHARLES W. HELME, commanding battery A, field artillery, was called last Wednesday night to meet the battery sternly drawn up after the quarterly inspection. Captain Lee M. Clark was at the head of the company, and solemnly drew forth a large official document, saying that he regretted to stand between the commander and his men, but duty required that he speak for them on a matter that affected their mutual relations.

Captain Helme looked up and down the line and not a friendly eye appeared to meet his. He set his jaw firmly, straightened up his proud form and prepared to receive a notice of mutiny, request for his resignation or whatever fate might have in store.

The fateful document was handed to him in profound silence. It was a receipt for a latest model, automatic pistol, as a present from the rank and file of the battery as a token of esteem and appreciation. The pistol had not arrived in time to be actually presented on that occasion, and it was decided that the receipt would be a good substitute, especially in the hands of Captain Clark, who loves his quiet joke.

• •

### Would You Call This Vandalism?

THERE is a certain young man in our city who prides himself on being somewhat of a connoisseur.

Some weeks before Christmas he put away for the indefinite future a flask of very rare, old cognac.

It was to lie in the dark until some special occasion when he would bring it forth as a treat, a wondrous treat, for a favored few.

Early last week one of his roommates who is not so much of a connoisseur brought home a toy engine purchased as a gift for a small boy.

It was an engine requiring an alcohol lamp as the medium for raising steam.

The gift purchaser couldn't resist the temptation to try the engine just once before packing it in tissue paper and red ribbon.

He looked all over the place for alcohol, and was not successful. Then he came across this flask of mellow, rare, old cognac.

Its flavor, its bouquet, its age availed not a whit: the cognac went to feed the flame that made the steam that caused the engine to run.

Needless to say, the connoisseur's dream is shattered.

### Of Dangerous Destiny.

"Better keep your head in," cautioned the brakeman to the lank youth, who kept thrusting his head and shoulders out of the window to scan the scenery.

"Huh, I guess I got a right to look out the winder," retorted the passenger.

"Well, you can if you want to," replied the brakeman, "but, if that head of yours damages any freight cars or the iron on the bridges, you'll have to pay for it."