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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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

Zeal for the public good is the characteristic of a man of honor and a gentleman, and must take the place of pleasures, profits, and all other private gratifications.—Steele.

TAXED TO DEATH

WHEN will we ease up a little in the tax exactions that we pile up on manufacturing production?

We claim we want factories. We tell about the advantage of having them. But the most we do to get them is to tax them. We make them pay a property tax, which includes city tax, school tax, state tax, militia tax, educational tax, port tax, and other kinds of tax. We require of them in addition, a corporation tax, an income tax, war tax and a tax for factory inspection.

After the establishment has paid its property tax like other concerns and individuals pay, special taxes like corporation tax and factory inspection tax are assessed. The factory inspection tax is at high figures, and was apparently provided in some era when it was thought that the way to build up a manufacturing industry was to tax it.

If we want industries in Portland, if we desire factories that will employ labor and convert raw material into finished product, we should at least be reasonable in application of the taxing power. New Orleans built up a great system of industries in a sensationally short time by untaxing the factories altogether for a period of ten years. In Oregon we could encourage manufacturing if we would only relieve it merely of some of the special taxes.

If nothing else is possible, the extortionate figures of the special factory inspection tax could be either reduced or abolished, and general property instead of special property be required to carry the burden.

Newport people are asking the government engineers to recommend a survey of Yaquina bar and harbor with a view to further improvement. They offer to pay one-half the cost of the survey. Their proposal to help themselves should enlist cooperation from the government. What is more, the big timber interests, the lumbering, the dairying, the fishing industry and other interests entitle their harbor to consideration.

FADS AND FANCIES.

THE New York Herald is making a terrible outcry against the public school system because it does not teach pupils to read, write, cipher and spell. The poor little things, says this great daily, have their heads crammed full of fads and fancies worthless in real life." From some other remarks which the Herald makes we are given to understand what it means by "real life" for the ordinary American youth. It is a clerical position in some store or office.

The Herald complains that the proprietors of stores and offices have to dig down in their own pockets and pay for the education of their employes which the public schools fail to impart."

This is saddening but there is historical precedent for it. Employers have always paid for the education of their help. Formerly they did it under the apprentice system. Now they are obliged to take the raw product of the public schools and lick it into shape. We dare say they can afford to do so. Business ought to be able to pay for its human as well as its mechanical outfit.

It is not the purpose of the public schools to provide adept servants for business men. Their purpose is something much higher than that. It is to provide good citizens for the United States. A good citizen can hardly get along without some of those "fads and fancies" which the Herald denounces so bitterly. As a citizen it is more important for him to know a little history than a little arithmetic. It is more important for him to know how to think than how to spell.

The ordinary human being cannot learn English spelling no matter how well and persistently he is taught. We may as well acknowledge the truth and be done with it. Spelling is so complicated, so difficult, so lawless and irrational that it surpasses the powers of all but a few exceptional brains to commit it to memory. The business men who scold because their clerks cannot spell are usually tarred with the same stick. They want the schools to work miracles on others which no earthly power could work on themselves.

Whether city property can be taxed for county road purposes or not is to be tested out in the courts by Mayor Kirkpatrick of Dallas. The question has already been decided in the affirmative in Multnomah county on the theory that if the country is not built up city property will not be worth much.

ANNEX NORTH BANK PORTS

PUGET SOUND interests should withdraw their objections to surrender of ports on the north bank of the Columbia river to the Portland customs district.

Puget sound has nothing in common with the north bank towns. It is openly hostile to the Columbia commerce.

The inconvenience caused Columbia commerce by retention of the north bank towns in the sound district is grist for Seattle's mill. That is why objections urged by Puget sound should not have weight at Washington. They are selfish and unreasonable objections.

As sop to the nine Washington ports that seek union with the Portland district, there is a proposal to put in an inspector at Knappton. Why create a new office at $1000 a year merely to satisfy the vanity of the Seattle district? Are there not enough offices on the United States payrolls now, created, not for real service but to maintain a bungling and unnatural system?

The report of the efficiency board stated that there is too little shipping from the nine north bank ports to justify their transfer from the sound to the Portland district.

If the shipments are too insignificant to justify the transfer, are they not too insignificant for the sound to contend against the change?

If they are too insignificant to justify the change, are they not too insignificant to create a new government job at $1000 a year when the change would save the money?

We cannot give our expatriates titles but we can give them opportunity to pay a more generous tax on their incomes for a national preparedness in defense of their American property.

PUSH THE FERRIS BILL

THE Ferris waterpower bill which has passed the house of representatives and gone on to the senate is one of the most important measures ever before congress. It affects the disposition of 30,000,000 horsepower still remaining unappropriated on the public domain. The bill provides that the power sites may be leased to private corporations for a term of 50 years with the right of renewal if everything is satisfactory.

But under the Ferris bill the United States government retains the ownership of the sites. It does not alienate the fee simple. This just provision makes it impossible for the power companies to capitalize the value of the right, as they always do when they procure absolute title. On the value so capitalized they compel the public to pay extortionate rates. This practice has the full sanction of the United States supreme court. Hence if the public ever expects to get reasonable rates for electricity generated by waterpower the fee title to the sites must be retained in the public. This the Ferris bill does while it gives every reasonable opportunity for development and use.

The New York "Nation," commenting upon the Ferris bill, says: "It has been opposed by the western states," and that "the western states" have made certain objections to its provisions. This hardly gives a correct account of the matter. "The western states" have not opposed the Ferris bill. On the contrary the people who constitute those states are largely in favor of this bill or some other that will protect the public rights.

A showy and noisy element in the western states has opposed the Ferris bill but it does not express the views of the great public. What it does express is the view of certain greedy trust magnates, their political hangers-on, and a minority of honest but misinformed people. The arguments which this element advances against the national ownership of waterpowers are justly characterized by the "Nation" as "ludicrous." The grabbers know perfectly well that their arguments are ludicrous but they hope to befog the issue with them and stave off action till some favorable moment comes for their schemes.

A few facts demonstrate pretty clearly why these gentry are shrieking for state ownership. Out of 1,140,000 horsepower generated by water on the lands of eight states they have already grabbed 1,030,000 horsepower and the grabbing has been done "by large corporations." Evidence is constantly coming to light that these "large corporations" are really one big corporation operating under a variety of aliases and disguises, following in this respect the illustrious example of the Standard Oil company.

Moreover, with few exceptions most valuable power sites have been disposed of in perpetuity, and those sites can never be recovered. Little or no provision has been made for public control and for the protection of the people against extortionate rates. Worst of all, every one of these gifts can and will be capitalized at fanciful values and upon this valuation the people will be obliged to pay dividends. Their generous gifts to the big corporations will thus be made a means of oppressing them.

There is one point in the Ferris bill to which senators who care for the public welfare should pay particular attention. A 50 years' lease may be capitalized just as well as the absolute ownership, and upon this lease, granted freely by the public, the public under the supreme court decision may be compelled to pay dividends. This matter should be shrewdly looked after. Corporations renting water powers from the government should be forbidden by law to compute dividends upon the capitalized value of their leases.

Substitutes for leather are being found and by a strange chance some of these substitutes are made into shoe soles as is disclosed this slushy weather.

AMERICANS FIRST

"THERE are certain things we who work may possess which not all the gold of the world can buy; among them are honor, self-respect and loyalty."

These words were used by T. V. O'Connor, head of the longshoremen's union, in publicly commenting on the enormous bribes offered him and other labor leaders as inducements to them to tie up shipping along the Atlantic coast and cripple American export trade.

Confirmation of these proffered bribes by persons acting unofficially or otherwise in the interest of foreign governments, has come from many sources. Samuel Gompers himself, as president of the American Federation of Labor, has publicly authenticated the charges.

In these matters, the leading figures in American organized labor stand out conspicuously in public esteem. Under tremendous temptation, they have proven their title to "honor, self-respect and loyalty," and demonstrated that there are as good Americans inside a worker's blue shirt as in the broadcloth of affluence.

The war to date has cost 26 billions in actual money. That is six billion more than the total investment in American railroads and seven billion more than the entire investment in American manufacturing industry. And there is in addition the loss in dead and mutilated and maimed. What a priceless blessing it is to us that America has remained in peace!

NEVER MORE AUSPICIOUS

THESE are prosperity days for the Oregon farmer.

Not only has he rosy prospects for the coming crop of wheat and other cereals but he is today finding sale for his remaining holdings of the 1915 crop at war prices.

On the Portland Merchants Exchange buyers have been vigorously bidding $1.15 a bushel for bluestem with none willing to sell below $1.18.

Not only is the price of wheat reaching new high records almost every day, but for oats, barley and hay the bids of buyers are much beyond the normal.

The hog raiser is also coming in for his share of the prosperity, for prices are showing a very strong trend at recent advances. For finished stock of light weight as high as $7.50 per hundred pounds was paid this week and there is a demand for more of the same quality at as good a price.

The apple grower finds himself in far better position than he expected. Instead of the season closing with profits on the wrong side of the ledger, the average prices obtained have been fairly profitable.

Even the hop grower is inclined to look with more favor upon affairs generally. Recently there has been renewed activity in his branch of trade and prices have shown a corresponding advance.

The potato grower and the onion grower are in very good condition financially with prices advancing rapidly in both lines and the entire country bidding for supplies.

Wool growers have hardly faced so favorable an outlook in a generation. Buyers are already offering to contract at prices two cents above last year's favorable market. For the choicest grade, this would yield a figure of about 30 cents. But growers, realizing that every condition for high prices is in their favor, are making no contracts, expecting better bids at shearing time.

To the farming interests as a whole, the horizon never looked more auspicious.

One form of preparedness is to cultivate better conditions of living.

NOTHING THE MATTER WITH PORTLAND

[The story of a man who sprang to the door and got it wide open while Old Mr. Opportunity was coming up the front walk, is told in No. 50 of the series of Portland success stories. The hero of the story manufactures safes and other contrivances that have for their object the securing of treasure or the safeguarding of society. The years of his enterprise have been few, but its success has been great, with immeasurably greater in prospect.]

AND safes are made in Portland. Not merely shipped to this city "knocked down," but actually made here—from the cheapest grades to the very best, six or seven feet high and broad and deep in proportion.

They are made in the Pacific Coast Safe and Vault company's own building, 130x430 feet in size, two stories and of brick, as nearly fireproof as possible.

It is due to the enterprise of George F. Heusner, well known business man, that Portland has this meritorious industry, and although it is but five years since it opened its factory, it has an average output of $100,000 a year.

The factory building and office is located in the suburb of Kenton, right in a nest of other manufacturing institutions, with railroad facilities at its doors, and with plenty of room for expansion, which it will need from time to time.

ALL PORTLAND CAPITAL.

Every dollar invested in this most substantial enterprise is Portland capital, the greater proportion of it Mr. Heusner's own money. Giving much thought to the proposition, he discerned the necessity of such a plant in this city. He realized that Portland and the tributary region are geographically separated from the safe manufacturing enterprises of the east, and that as this is a section being rapidly settled by newcomers, new business concerns would spring up and, of necessity, these must procure, at the beginning of their career, the very thing he would have for sale. And he realized that new business structures of the up-to-date class would contain many vaults for the accommodations of tenants, and that counties and cities soon would be discarding cells of the cheap pioneer prisons, supplanting them with modern makes, which would be another important source of patronage.

A WESTERN ENTERPRISE.

Much of Mr. Heusner's time is spent at his city office in the Yeon building. He is too busy to spare much of it to the factory office, but his manager, Warren Keeler, hasn't a "blue" hair in his head nor a streak of that color in his vocabulary—when speaking of the company's past business and its present future prospects.

"We make both heavy and light wall fireproof safes," he said to The Journal, "and the quality of our work and our prices enable us to compete with any factory in America. There is nothing strange about this, of course. Our material is procured in the same market, from which all safe makers buy their supplies. It is received by us in the same condition they receive theirs. Our factory, as you may discern, is equipped as perfectly as that of any in the country. Our machine shop, foundry, blacksmith shop, plating plant, cabinet shop, etc., are absolutely up-to-date. In this respect we are second to none. Our force of experienced safe and vault builders are the product of the biggest factories on the continent. They have no superiors anywhere, and though we are not as large as some of the older ones in the thickly populated districts, we are capable of producing, and we can and do produce, a safe or a vault which will stand up with any of them, no matter who are their makers or from whence they come. Our steel vault linings and prison cells are likewise unexcelled. In this line we likewise invite comparison, and to my mind there is no question but Mr. Heusner and his few associates have laid a sure foundation for one of the great business successes of the North Pacific coast."

COVER THE COAST TERRITORY.

Asked if the company specialized on any particular make of safes and vaults, Mr. Keeler said:

"We specialize on everything. That is to say, we make special efforts to produce the best possible to make, realizing we have a reputation to create in localities new to us, and to maintain where we are known. Somehow for some reason humanity is prone to look with suspicion upon newly organized industries, distrusting their product, when, as a matter of fact, the opposite ought to obtain, for if ever one would try to excel it is at the beginning. There might be some excuse for carelessness after a reputation is once achieved, but wisdom would repel and rebuke the smallest relaxation of effort to present to the trade the very best article human hands and genius can produce, when that reputation is passing through its formative period.

"A noted Portland physician, in the habit of joining every fraternal insurance organization that came along, once declared the reason he did so was because 'they are best and strongest in their infancy. They have had no death losses to impair their treasury. Get into them while they are young, and if they grow weak with age, take hold of another infant.' I often have had this doctor's advice in mind, though not admitting that our concern ever will be satisfied with anything not the best and most substantial possible to make. But reason tells us that it would be fatal to this young enterprise to let inferior articles of any kind pass from its possession to that of the business man, be he merchant or banker. Naturally we deal with a critical, discerning class. It would be the essence of business foolishness to attempt to trespass upon their credulity, even were one inclined—which we are not and never will be. Our own good name or that of our splendid city never will be thus besmirched by us."

The company covers the states of Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, western Montana, Nevada, Utah and Alaska—considerable territory for a concern so young.

The company employs, on an average, 35 persons, and has a payroll of $35,000 a year, but Mr. Keeler says that with the return of prosperity, now on its westward journey, these figures will be at least doubled. He is not visionary, either. He is a level-headed business man. And he thinks some moments before he speaks.

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.

Andrew Jackson and Protection.

Ilwaco, Wash., Jan. 22.—To the Editor of The Journal—Many articles appear opposing the Republican principle of tariff protection. I would call attention to history which records the fact that our country never has been in control of Democrats denying the unconstitutionality of tariff protection, but that it has seen hard times. We have had Buchanan, Democratic hard times; Cleveland and now Wilson, Democratic hard times.

One of the main issues between Democrats and Republicans today is the tariff question. The Democrats declare such a policy is unconstitutional. The Republicans declare it both legal and beneficial. In their present position on the tariff the Democrats have departed from the teachings of their patron saint, Jackson. While they still have Jackson clubs and invoke his name, they do not follow his ideas. Jackson was a radical protective tariff man, and took a firm position thereon. On April 26, 1824, he wrote a letter to Dr. Coleman, which was published in the Raleigh, (N. C.) Star. This letter appears on page 402 of "American Statesmen," by A. W. Young, 1858, and following are extracts:

"So far as the tariff now before us embraces the design of fostering and protecting and preserving within ourselves the means of national defense and independence, particularly in a state of war, I would advocate and support it." . . . "This tariff—I mean a judicious one—possesses more fanciful than real danger.

"Draw from agriculture this superabundant labor, employ it in mechanism and manufactures, thereby creating a home market for our breadstuffs and distributing labor to the most profitable account; and benefits to the country will result."

"You will at once give home market for more breadstuffs than all Europe now furnishes us. In short, sir, we have been too long subject to the policy of the British merchants. It is time that we should become a little more Americanized; and instead of feeding the paupers and laborers of England, feed our own; or else in a short time, by continuing our present 'policy' "— (Our country then was, as at present, under the control of men with non-protection ideas)—"we shall all be rendered paupers ourselves. These are my opinions, generally, on the subject, and believing them correct, and calculated to further the prosperity and happiness of my country, I declare to you, I would not barter them for any office that could be given me."

Jackson says that if we follow the idea of non-protection we shall all be rendered paupers ourselves. Already, under our present Democratic non-protection rule, more failures have occurred in the United States than at any other time in its history. Evidently Jackson knew what he was talking about, and our present Democrats had better read Jackson before they use his little name.

WALTER BABERG.

Sunday Re

Portland, Jan. 26.—To the Editor of The Journal—The following are some of the reasons why the Weekly Rest Day league, representing a number of prominent business and other organizations, advocate Sunday as the common rest day for all lines of business which can stop for one day of the week:

Because it is the American rest day, and the legal rest day of all civilized nations. Our slogan is "America for American Institutions." All the states of our Union except Arizona have enacted Sunday closing laws.

Because Sunday is a non-judicial day, so held by the common law of England and America. To change the day to Friday, as suggested by T. R. Coons in Tuesday's Journal, would cause great confusion to the whole code of jurisprudence. It would put Oregon out of gear with the machinery of the civilized world. Sunday contracts, as a general rule of law, are held illegal.

Because the convenience of business and labor require the Sunday day to be observed by all. It is to the advantage of stores to be open the same days of the week that banks are open. The brick mason and the hod carrier must observe the same day of rest. The proprietor needs a day of rest even more than the clerk or the employe, for his mind is weighted down with the whole responsibility of the business. But the only practical way for the merchant and the grocer and the butcher to obtain a day of rest is to have a law requiring all in the same line of business to close on one and the same day of each week. No sane reason can be given why the common American rest day should not be the rule in Oregon. If some stores are open the law of competition requires all in that locality to remain open doing seven days of work for six days of profit. The right of each to rest demands a law for all.

Because the vast majority of citizens prefer Sunday as their rest day, it matters not whether it be for social or religious or other reasons. The wageearner wants to be at home the day the children are out of school and the wife is at leisure and their friends are off duty. If some of them, perchance, freely and of their own accord, attend a religious service, that is nothing against the public welfare. The bill guards the equal rights of the Seventh Day worshippers. It's a square deal to all.

G. L. TUFTS.

Portland's Trade Opportunities.

Portland, Jan. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—In my opinion the city of Portland has quite sufficient claims to beauty and attractiveness to warrant their being brought to the attention of our friends in the east and across the seas, without resorting to false statements as to climate, and the rendering of a true bill will do far more permanent good to our city than such absurd suggestions as the need of fans in January, or, in fact, any month of the year. Geographically situated as we are, anyone would at once realize such claims as beyond reason.

There is nothing the matter with Portland, climatically or otherwise. The only thing we need is some sudden shock which will wake our business men and merchants from the deep sleep of contentment, to a realization of the wonderful commercial possibilities lying at their door.

After a long residence in the orient, I was shocked and surprised to find, upon my return, that so little is known of the business opportunities in China and farther east, for with the exception of one or two large firms engaged in the export trade, Portland is doing little or nothing in a business way with either the orient or South America, and unless something is done very soon we shall have the satisfaction of seeing Seattle and San Francisco actively engaged commercially with these countries while Portland sleeps on, occasionally waking up to point to our climate.

Let the business men of Portland get behind our chamber of commerce, hold up its hands, listen to it and act upon its advice. After repeated chats with several secretaries of bureaus, I am convinced they are fully alive to the situation. Let Portland business men investigate conditions for themselves, and establish trade relations and a steamship line to oriental ports and South America. The people of the east will sit up and take notice, without invitation.

H. E. CLOUGH.

The Bible and Preparedness.

Portland, Jan. 26.—To the Editor of The Journal—The various letters in the press of this city quoting Biblical passages as favoring preparedness, echoing Roosevelt's method, show to what extremes the advocates of force are driven to justify their doctrine on moral grounds. Anything can be bolstered up with a Bible text, provided we ignore the spiritual implication, as, "The letter of the word killeth, but the spirit maketh alive." So those reading the book in the literal sense find ample material to justify the most fiendish violence in the name of peace.

Professing Christians, however, should confine themselves to the teachings of Christ, where I challenge anyone to cite a passage arguing violence as a means of peace. That his was the message of peace founded on altruism, justice and toleration, is a truism; and that the social and economic teachings of Christ was cooperation, thus guaranteeing peace, is seen in the remarkable action of his disciples after Pentecost, when, having received proof of his continued existence by his inspiring in his followers supernormal powers, as he promised, they took courage and inaugurated a cooperative community akin to modern socialism. "And they sold all their (superfluous) goods and gave them to the poor, but they themselves had everything in common." There is no possible need of war preparations when men demonstrate their faith in human nature by cooperating socially and economically.

Christ, asked to use violence to right himself, replied, "I came not to destroy men's lives," while "do unto others as ye would that others do unto you" can hardly be twisted to mean that we would welcome "preparedness" by others, as this implies suspicion, hate and fear. And as the soldier is the basis of "preparedness," we must consider the New Testament's view on this: "And the soldiers likewise demanded of him (John) saying, what shall we do?" John answered: "Do violence to no man, neither accuse any one falsely, and be content with your wages." It is obvious that a wooden man would answer the purpose were no violence to be practiced, while were no country accused of being the enemy of their country, "preparedness" would be unnecessary; and it logically follows that a man who does no useful service to mankind, his wages are ample, no matter how small, and he should be content.

The historian Guizot says: "For 300 years from the commencement of the Christian era, a Christian was never known to fight; when a soldier became a Christian, he abandoned his profession of war."

LOUIS HONSTEIN.

Disagrees With Pastors.

Portland, Or., Jan. 26.—To the Editor of The Journal—Our country is safe. For have not Dr. Loveland, Dr. A. A. Morrison and Senator Chamberlain passionately declared that they and their scions would fight in the defense of our country? We shall, no doubt, see them all in a few days in soldiers' uniform diligently drilling in preparation to repel the coming onslaught.

Although these warlike ministers of the gospel have expressed their contempt for us, a number of us pacificists would be overjoyed to hear a discourse by Dr. Loveland, assisted by Dr. Morrison, on how they discovered that Jesus Christ was the god of war and not the prince of peace.

S. RAXWORTHY.

The One Need of 1916.

From the Boston Herald.

Cannot something be done to stop this terrible war, with its threat to the civilization of the western world? And, then, cannot something be done to organize the nations so that their disputes can be settled in some other way? Here is an opportunity in statesmanship compared with which the discoveries in surgery and sanitation and the inventions in mechanics and applied science pale into insignificance. The world has found a way to get along without religious wars, and without the duel, both of which were long explained as sure to persist as long as human nature remained. In other words, the world has brought to pass changes in what we had been accustomed to regard as inherent in our fallible human nature. We must bring to pass a change in the settling of the disputes of nations if we would have our civilization endure.

An Optimistic Christian.

Lyman Abbott in the Outlook.

I believe, then, that we are not drifting away from the Christ life, but voyaging toward it; that the age busy in doing Christian work is more Christian than the age busy in framing Christian creeds or retiring from the world to meditate on Christian truth. There is less worship of fear and more service of love. We reverence symbols less and spiritual realities more. Our creeds are shorter and perhaps vaguer, but our faith is more vital. Fewer men are meditating on the will of God, but more are doing his will. Fewer men are meditating on immortality but more are living the life that really is.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Have you done what you can for war-stricken Europe?

• •

Why don't preparedness advocates do something to prevent the groundhog becoming scared at his shadow?

• •

Here's hoping those Portland high school students who graduated last night also make good in the school of hard knocks.

• •

President Wilson has started his verbal shelling of the woods, and it is evident he plans something more than a campaign of "nibbling."

• •

The Ford peace tribunal, having decided to learn the causes of Europe's war before attempting to stop it, has mapped out a life job for its members.

• •

T. R. advises boy scouts never to be neutral between right and wrong. But suppose some of them should think wrong what the colonel thinks is right?

• •

President Wilson wants a tariff commission to gather facts rather than to follow any particular theory of fiscal policy. Now watch some of the tariff commission advocates climb the fence.

• •

Wonder what department of agriculture experts who say Willamette valley flax fibre is the best known anywhere in the United States would have to say about flax "experts" at Oregon's state capital.

• •

Dr. Foster of Reed college, who says newspaper critics of President Wilson's foreign policies are often actuated by base partisanship, must have an intimate acquaintance with newspaper critics.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The paving of the fair grounds road and the establishing of a public bathing beach are paramount questions now at Salem.

• •

The Baker Democrat asserts that the winter thus far has caused no loss of stock in Baker county, and none is anticipated. All owners are well supplied with feed.

• •

The Lebanon Farmers' Cooperative Exchange has been incorporated, with the stated objects "to buy and sell, store, manufacture and transport agricultural products and farm supplies."

Farmers of Umatilla and Morrow counties are reported by the Echo News to be succeeding well in poisoning rabbits, under the cooperative plan of providing a $500 fund by each county cooperating, and the state of Oregon.

• •

New bylaws providing that the name Eugene Commercial club will be changed to Eugene Chamber of Commerce, and systematizing the operations of the chamber by a division of the body into nine bureaus, have been adopted by the club.

• •

"The sea gulls," says the Gardiner Courier, "are living upon the small, unfortunate birds that attempt to fly across the river and, through weakness, happen to fall into the water. The unfortunate bird no more than touches the water before it is pounced upon by a gull coming from some direction, and apparently the gull swallows the bird alive. It would be hard to estimate the number of birds which have fallen into the river and thus been devoured by the rapacious gulls."

WOULD TRADE PASTURE FOR COW

From the Salem Journal.

Secretary of Agriculture Houston says there is a gigantic water power trust. He also says that 42 per cent of the total water power of the United States is in Oregon, Washington and California.

Nearly half of this 42 per cent is in Oregon, which is credited with all the way from 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 horse power. It is presumed that Secretary Houston knew what he was talking about, and had evidence of the existence of such a trust, else he had not made the assertion.

However, it matters little whether there is such a trust now or not, for if there is not, it will be but a short time until it is. There is too much money at stake in the water power to be overlooked by the exploiters for any great length of time.

The best evidence that there is such a trust is the fact that a hard fight is being made by someone to have the bars taken down and the waters of the coast turned over to the exploiters who talk so glibly about conserving our resources by using them, who want all government control taken away from the lands so they can get at the water without let or hindrance.

• •

Whence, and why this sudden interest in the water powers of the west when just now there is no use to which the power could be applied?

It is not manufacturing companies that desire to utilize the waters that are making such an effort to secure the water powers. Who then is it and what is it wanted for?

The answer is easy! It is wanted by exploiters who by getting control of the state's vast water powers can with little or no cost to themselves turn them over to capitalists as an investment, worth in the not very remote future untold wealth. They have no practical use for these powers, no business that requires their use, no intention of doing anything with them except to sell them and put countless thousands of dollars in their pockets.

True, these powers are going to waste now; for the only way to conserve water power is to use it, and when it is not used it is dead waste. Will it be any different when the exploiters get possession of them? Will these now wasting waters be put to any useful work? Will there be mills built or factories? Are there any such factories now awaiting permission to utilize these water powers?

None that anyone has heard of.

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The power now going to waste belongs to the people. Once the exploiters get the ownership of it, it will go to waste, just the same until some manufacturing industry wants to use it, when the exploiter will get in his work and levy unholy toll on those who would put it at work.

The water power should be available for those who have use for it in some tangible industry, and the law should provide for its use by such without unnecessary annoyance, on the payment of a reasonable compensation for it.

The people own the water powers now; when they turn them over to those who are so anxious to have them put at work, they will find they have traded their pasture for a cow.

The Once Over

BY REX LAMPMAN

For Your Scrap Book.

This strange will is said to have been left by a young lawyer who died several years ago in the ward for the insane in the almshouse of Cook county, Illinois. The will was found in his coat. On a resolution of the Chicago Bar association, the document was sent to probate and so was spread on the records of Cook county:

I, Charles Lounsberry, being of sound and disposing mind and memory, do hereby make and publish this, my last will and testament, in order, as justly as may be, to distribute my interest in the world among those succeeding me.

That part of my interest which is known in law and recognized in the sheep bound volumes as my property, being inconsiderable and of no account, I make no distribution of this in my will. My right to live, being but a life estate, is not at my disposal, but, these things excepted, all else in the world I now proceed to devise and bequeath.

Item: I give to good fathers and mothers, in trust for their children, all good little words of praise and encouragement and all quaint pet names and endearments, and I charge said parents to use them justly, but generously, as the needs of their children shall require.

Item: I leave to children inclusively, but only for the term of their childhood, all and every flower of the field and blossom of the woods, with the right to play among them freely according to the customs of children, forbidding them at the same time against thistles and I direct that to children living on the banks of the brooks and the golden sands beneath the waters thereof, and the odors of the willows that dip therein, and the white clouds that float high over the giant trees.

And I leave the children the long, long days to be merry in a thousand ways, and the night and the train of the Milky Way to wonder at, but without, nevertheless, to the rights hereinafter given to lovers.

Item: I devise to boys, jointly, all the useful, idle fields, all pleasant waters where one may swim, all unoccupied hills where one may coast, and all streams and ponds where one may fish, or where, when grim winter comes, one may skate, to hold the same for the period of their boyhood, and all meadows with clover blossoms and butterflies thereof, the woods with their appurtenances, the squirrels and the birds, the echoes and strange noises and all distant places which may be visited, together with the advantages there found. And I give to said boys each his own place at the fireside at night, with all pictures that may be seen in the burning wood, to enjoy without let or hindrance, and without any incumbrance or care.

Item: To lovers I devise their imaginary world, with whatever they may need as the stars of the sky, the red roses of the west, the bloom of the hawthorns, the sweet strains of music and august else that they may desire to figure to each other the intelligence and beauty of their love.

Item: To young men, jointly, I devise and bequeath all boisterous and inspiring sports of rivalry, and I give to them the disdain of weakness and undaunted confidence in their own strength. Though they are rude, I leave to them the power to make lasting friendships, and of possessing companions, and to them, exclusively, I give all merry songs and grave choruses to sing with lusty voices.

Item: And to those who are no longer children, or youths, or lovers, I leave memory, and bequeath to them the volumes of the poems of Burns and Shakespeare and of other poets, if there be others, to the end that they may live over old days over again, freely and fully, without fear or diminution.

Item: To our loved ones with snowy crowns, I bequeath the happiness of old age, the love and gratitude of their children until they fall asleep.

One Way That Time, Which Is Said to Be Money, Is Dissipated.

(F. N. S. in Detroit Times.)

"Num——ber, pleeeeeee."
"Main 2532."
"M a——in threeeeeeee twooooooo threeeeeeee twooooooo."
"I will ring them a gain."
"I will ring them a gain."
"I will ring them a gain."
"I will ring them a gain."
"Be pest your num ber and I will ring them a gain."
"Main 2532."
"M a——in threeeeeeee twooooooo threeeeeeee twooooooo."
"The line is big zzzzzzzzzzz."

This is leap year. Now you dear old girls just jump whenever the magnetic spirit moves. I have my arms all spraddled out to catch you, so you won't fall and bust your belts.—Houlton Herald.

The Sunday Journal Magazine

A section of entertaining features of wide appeal profuse in illustrations.

FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Wahkeena Falls in Mantle of Snow
—By Fred H. Kiser.

A full front page photograph. The second in a series that depicts Oregon's scenic resources. Each one is well worth preserving.

Vista House for Crown Point

An article in which are set forth the purposes of a memorial on the most sightly spot along the Columbia river highway, illustrated by a half page illustration showing how the Vista House will appear when erected.

The Message of the Stars

Forecast for February by Frank Theodore Allen, director of the Astrological Research Society, based upon the aspects of the planets on the occasion of a most notable eclipse of the sun.

Filmland's Modern Aladdin

An engaging story for the movie fan by Louella O. Parsons which recounts the resourcefulness of Willie Love, a mere youngster, who plays an important part in bringing success to unusual pictures.

How I Entered the Movies

Ruth Holland tells how she began her career in filmland.

For the Housekeeper

Dorothy Dolan's page of helpful suggestions on various topics of vital concern to the housewife and mother, prepared by women well qualified to handle the subjects assigned to them.

The Bloom of a Peach

"Do not wear powder like a coat of mail," warns Lillian Russell in her beauty chat, "but dust it on with fingers light as any fairy's." A page of equal interest to matron and maid.

For the Boys and Girls

Another series of amusing cartoonagrams by Charles A. Ogden, "The Mirror of Matsuyama," by Georgene Faulkner, "The Story Lady."

The Sunday Journal

Complete in four news sections, magazine and pictorial and comic section. Five cents the copy everywhere.

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