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America asks nothing for herself but what she has a right to ask for humanity itself. WOODROW WILSON. What gunpowder did for war, the printing press has done for the mind.

FINANCIERS AND OREGON

NEW YORK financiers have plenty of money, but they are not letting Oregon have any of it for investment in public utilities, declares Mr. Talbot on his return to Portland from an eastern trip.

They told me that Oregon is not giving the care it should to the utilities in which they already have invested, and they do not care to risk any more.

Boston and various other cities have 80 cent gas. Portland pays Mr. Talbot's company 95 cents for its gas if the bill be paid by the tenth of the month and more if paid later.

Cleveland has three cent street car fares. Portland pays five cents a ride on its street cars, and is making no protest about it.

In spite of a bad year in which many another business scarcely paid expenses, the Portland Gas & Coke company last year, after starting with a surplus of \$120,434 and paying interest, taxes, operating expenses and making full allowance for depreciation of plant, paid the very agreeable dividend of seven per cent on its \$2,000,000 of preferred and seven per cent on its \$3,000,000 of common stock and had left over a handsome surplus of \$68,865.70.

Its operating revenues were \$1,276,821.27 and its operating expenses \$439,980.69, leaving an operating income of \$732,840.68, which is not bad treatment of the gas utility at all.

If eastern financiers do not want to let Oregon have any of their money for investment in public utilities, Oregon can use her own money for investment in public utilities. Portland has the money and would be a great deal better off if she kept at home the dividends and interest she annually sends by millions to eastern investors.

The tolls on telephones, lighting, power and car fares are the people's tribute to eastern bondholders and stockholders and mostly these tolls are over-large because of over capitalization.

AFTER FOURTEEN YEARS

THE FIRST ISSUE of The Journal appeared 14 years ago today. The paper became a part of the Oregon country March 10, 1902. Until July 19, the publication was under another management. On the 21st, the paper was issued for the first time under the present publisher, and on the 23rd the following announcement was made:

The Journal property has been purchased and has passed under the control of the undersigned, and the paper will be conducted on lines of greatest benefit to Portland, to Oregon and to the great northwest, and in many ways conducted differently, as to men, measures and methods, to those of its contemporaries which follow narrow grooves of newspaper habit.

The Journal in head and heart will stand for the people, be truly democratic and free from political entanglements and machinations, believing in the principles that promise the greatest good to the greatest number—to ALL MEN, regardless of race, creed, or previous condition of servitude.

Exuberant assurances are cheap and empty. I wish to make none. Performance is better than promise; action more fruitful than words. The columns of The Journal from day to day will better reflect the spirit behind the paper.

It has never ceased and will never cease, to be loyal to the people. It has striven assiduously for the greatest good to the greatest number. The intervening years have been years of performance.

From day to day, the spirit of the paper has been reflected in its columns and it has been a spirit of devotion to the advancement and upbuild of the country where rolls the Oregon.

Next Sunday's paper, there will be an illustrated page of interesting facts that will show that The Journal has fought a good fight, that it has kept the faith.

AS NEVER BEFORE NAVIGATION OF the Columbia between Portland and Lewistown was inaugurated by the departure of the Twin Cities Wednesday, and the J. N. Teal is to go on the run next Tuesday.

Every sack of wool shipped from Lewistown or every bushel of wheat shipped from Walla Walla via boat is a declaration of commercial independence.

Every loaded boat that passes up or down the river is one step nearer removal of costly over mountain rates on a water level route.

Every cargo discharged from any steambot at any point along the Columbia is one more unanswerable argument for water level freight rates for water level cities.

So many "letters from the people" come to The Journal and so many of them use unnecessary space that the editors are compelled to cut them. Be brief and incisive in your articles and they will be printed as you write them.

CHARITY A BUSINESS

THE principal occupation of the New York newspapers is to expose the inequities of the state government under which they live.

The latest horror which the New York papers have found to groan over is in some of their "charitable" institutions. These homes, refuges, asylums and the like are all "state inspected" at great expense, but something seems to be lacking with the inspectors' eyesight.

sacred there was a singularly virulent effort to hold a "bloody assize." A Jeffreys was found in a former employe of the coal company and the compliant governor appointed him a special judge to try and convict the strikers.

At Youngstown, the course of justice has taken a new turn. It is not the strikers who have been indicted but the owners.

Every home ought to have a ladder for use in case of fire. And Mr. Owens should get the order to make it, too.

NOTHING THE MATTER WITH PORTLAND

An infusion of that variety which gives life in general has been not the least of the elements that have particularly commended The Matter With Portland to the Journal's readers.

W. HEN Thomas W. Owens, construction engineer, was in Honolulu he was superintending the building of the Pearl Harbor naval station for the government, and, on the side, he declares it one of the most formidable fortifications owned by the United States.

But Mr. Owens is not building fortifications for Uncle Sam any more. He came to Portland, liked the town, bought the business of the Pacific Ladder company at East Eighth and Stark streets, and is vigorously prosecuting the old industry and adding to it so many side lines that, if he keeps up his gait, the original will not be recognizable within a short time.

He has 15 different makes of ladders on his list, to which is added a kitchen ladder-stool, one of the most convenient pieces of furniture one could get hold of.

Mr. Owens makes straight ladders with fir rounds at 21 cents a foot; oak rounds at 26 cents; painter's swinging stage, either kind of rounds, at the same price; extension ladders with fir rounds, 35 cents a foot; oak, 40 cents; three-rail fruit pickers' ladders, 25 cents a foot; window cleaners' ladders, 23 cents; standard step ladders, 25 cents a foot; if longer than 13 feet, 29 cents; common step ladders, 23 cents a foot; iron clad step ladders, reinforced with iron braces and rods under each step, 37 cents a foot; if longer than 13 feet, 37 cents; painters' scaffold jacks, price per foot per pair of jacks, \$1.30.

COMMERCE AND FINANCE, a Wall street organ of immense respectability, occasionally falls into a poetic mood in which it says things strangely at variance with the Wall street code of ethics.

THE paper made the remark in speaking of Miss Edith Kitchin, who has been living for a long time on \$200 a year in a hall bedroom somewhere in New York.

Who is G. J. Gallagher, Portland? And who is Randolph Woolworth, Portland? The Journal wants to know.

TURNING THE TABLES THE tables of justice have been turned in an astonishing way at Youngstown, Ohio.

THE tables of justice have been turned in an astonishing way at Youngstown, Ohio. The reader will remember the strike which happened there not long ago with accompaniments of murder and arson.

Following the famous West Virginia coal strike there was a reckoning of this sort. The strikers were severely dealt with but the armed deputies on the other side who had shot them down with machine guns were not prosecuted.

Following the Rockefeller strike in Colorado and the Ludlow massacre in West Virginia, the

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE The pacifists are forgetting the Boy Scout menace. Another sign of spring: Two men arrested as principals in a baseball game this morning.

W. V. Van Ertin and J. M. Valentine, of Seattle, are busy prospecting about the coast and there is no word as yet of their special search.

Had Congressman McLemore, author of the house "warning" resolution, remained inconspicuous he might have found on forgetting that a year-old debt to a Eugene man. Notoriety is often expensive.

A RURAL CREDITS PLAN FOR OREGON

Having in a first article stated the farmer's loan problem, and having in a second shown the merits of the German rural credit system, today analyzes the rural credit bill introduced in the United States Senate.

Written for The Journal by L. L. Sharp, Chief of the Field Division, United States Land Reclamation Service. I have been closely identified with the agricultural settlement and development of the western part of the United States for my entire life.

While extension of the government's credit or funds should be under one general system, I believe that there should be separate provisions for the leasing of money to irrigation corporations, from that providing for loans to individuals, and for this reason I believe that the financing of irrigation projects should be provided for in a separate law.

My views concerning the organization and financing of irrigation districts are the same as outlined by Judge C. B. Graves of Seattle, one of the foremost authorities on irrigation in the United States.

It would eventually work out by a division of the reduced interest charge between the man who produces the foodstuffs and the man who purchases same upon the markets, and by doing this we are getting at the root of two of the greatest economic problems now confronting this country.

I have in a general way, examined the bill prepared by a committee from the national senate and house of representatives, and introducing a bill for the purpose of rural credits, and with a few exceptions, I heartily approve this measure.

THE question will be immediately raised as to how any rural credit plan is to be financed. First, the bill above referred to provides that the system to be established is to be financed by the government to place the system in operation, and I believe this to be a wise provision.

I sincerely hope that a system of rural credit such as is outlined in the bill introduced by the joint committee of the house and senate will be enacted into law by congress.

The Once Over

TODAY IS THE JOURNAL'S BIRTHDAY. And it's 14 years old—and ought to have a party.

I can see why we can't have it—right here in this corner. —because there's room—in this Haven of Hopefulness—for everybody.

And it doesn't make any difference to me—what you think about the war—so long as we talk about something else. —or how much money you've got. —or how much you need.

—because money doesn't bother me—very much. —That is—I've never been bothered by very much money. —But I'm not qualified—I feel—to talk on the money question.

—And somehow—I don't feel that that it's in my karma—as Julian P. Scott would say—ever to be cured with this war. —And so our party—here today—in this corner—will be strictly informal.

—And everybody else has to pay a few can play. —And we might play the game-out in the tall timber—of the Oregon & California land grant—called Whack-Up-With-the-Railroad.

—And we can't play that—because it isn't fair to everybody. —And of course—Governor Withcombe may get mad—and go home without waiting for the ice cream.

—But we can't help it. —because this is a people's party—minus the whiskers. —and we want all the people—and not just a few—to have a good time.

—And we don't want to pay political Drop-the-Handkerchief. —or Grafters-Wants-a-Corner. —for the same reasons.

—But we can play the grand old game of the Greatest-Good-to-the-Greatest-Number. —because there's a chance to everybody in that game. —And now we'll cut the cake—and give The Journal a thousand years of usefulness.

—And that's the reason—as I see it—that The Journal has grown up fast—in the last 14 years. —It's been useful to the community—and to the nation.

—And I wish there were a paper like it—in every city—in the country. —because —that's of the people—by the people—and for the people—all the time.

The Sunday Journal Have you ever considered the many ways in which the Sunday newspaper serves you and the many wants for the fulfillment of which you depend upon it?

Its news columns supply you with information concerning the most recent events at home and abroad.

Its editorial page interprets current happenings in a manner that invites your serious thought.

Its news reviews of doings of the week in many fields refresh your memory on what has gone before.

Its feature articles, frequently illustrated in an attractive fashion, are a source of information and entertainment.

Its comic section, depicting the antics of familiar characters, is bound to provoke a smile.

You Get All This and More in The Sunday Journal Its business announcements and classified ads are the preferred medium of bringing together buyer and seller.

Conscientious effort is made to understand YOUR demands in a Sunday newspaper and to meet them in full.

Close attention is paid to the arrangements of the several sections for the convenience of the reader.

Cultivate the Sunday Journal. You will find it well worth while.

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