

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED every day, afternoon and morning (except Sunday afternoon), at The Journal Building, Broadway and 12th Sts., Portland, Or.

Subscription rates:
One year (MORNING OR AFTERNOON) \$5.00
One year (MORNING AND AFTERNOON) \$7.50

Advertising rates:
First class, per line per week \$1.00
Second class, per line per week \$0.75

On the perilous edge of battle.—Milton.

THE HUNT FOR VILLA

WE ARE not at war with Mexico.

Our resolve to capture and punish Villa and his bandits for the murder of American citizens on American soil is not armed invasion of Mexico.

It is the step we take when hostile Indians or outlaws of any sort perpetrate outrages.

Nobody knows where the process will end. Under the American treaty with Mexico, we have the right to go on Mexican soil to capture and punish Mexican bandits.

In these circumstances, nobody knows but that a mere punitive expedition for the capture of the murderers may ultimately develop into a far more serious complication.

The present outrage differs from those that have preceded it. Villa is at the head of a considerable force of armed desperadoes.

He may have been hired by secret interests that want armed intervention, to commit outrages that will provoke the Washington government to a step that may have as its ultimate.

Whatever his mood or his motive or the cause of his action, he is in a mad career of outrage and murder of American citizens that render his apprehension and punishment imperative.

In what he has done and in the menace he has become, there is ample justification for the resolve of the Washington government to hunt him down all with the consent and cooperation of the de facto government if possible, without it, if necessary.

A valuable contribution to the local discussion on rural credits is the article run in sections on the editorial page the past few days of The Journal.

UNUSUAL HOQUIAM
THE town of Hoquiam in Washington, has earned a crown of laurel. Like most towns in this country, it wants a federal building and the congressman from that part of the world made it his particular task to see that Hoquiam's want was satisfied.

But Hoquiam has singularities of its own. It seems to possess that rare trait called public virtue. There was no rejoicing over the appropriation. Because it was too small? No, gentle reader, not because it was too small, but because it was too big.

quism had no use for so much public money. So the citizens signed a protest to their active and efficient congressman telling him that \$50,000 would be enough for their building and that "any more would be pork." Three cheers for Hoquiam. May her noble example spread from ocean to ocean.

When S. A. D. Puter appeared at the grand land committee hearing in Washington, he was compelled in answer to questions, to admit that he is to get a half interest in grant land under certain contracts he has made with claimants. The Journal had testified before the committee in advance of Mr. Puter.

A LIGHT AT HARVARD

HARVARD professor has earned the world's gratitude by discovering a solution for low wages and unemployment. The great man's name is Thomas Nixon Carver. We give all of it so that the people of the country may have a good pig rack to hang their gratitude on.

The professor's reasoning is unimpeachably rigorous. If we pay more for goods it follows that employers will have more money to pay out in wages. And, since their one purpose in life is to pay the highest wages they possibly can, the workers will forthwith see their weekly envelopes bulging with wealth.

But we have never yet been permitted to observe this overpowering eagerness on the part of employers to pay out their last cent in wages. It is a somewhat prevalent habit of most of them to make wages as low as circumstances permit.

If we should all agree to pay the milk trust twice as much as we now pay for each pint, would hired men on the farm be any better off? The trust might pass the new profit on to the farmer and he might conceivably pass some of it on to his hired man.

The Albany Republicans who wired Congressman Hawley to support the administration in foreign complications are Americans first and partisans afterwards.

THE WOMEN WORKER FUS

THERE seems to have been more misunderstanding than anything else between Portland employers and the Industrial Welfare commission. The employers thought the commission was about to impose new and heavy restrictions.

The proposals had not even been presented to the commission. They could not be presented until after extended hearings. At least six months or more would be required for them to even reach the commission.

Nor was there the slightest reason for expectation that all the proposals would be adopted by the commission. The body has been quite moderate in its regulatory processes. The three adjoining states of Washington, California and Idaho each have 48-hour weeks. Oregon's is a 54-hour week.

The commission has proceeded slowly, as it should. Its advance should be rational, and be taken only under conditions that will be fair and just to all parties. And its past policy is practical guarantee that talk meanwhile that the law will be repealed and the Industrial Welfare commission be abolished is not sound judgment.

fare commission with its powers of fixing the hours of women workers. Organizations representing some of the very employers who threaten repeal of the Industrial Welfare commission used the Industrial Welfare commission to beat the eight-hour bill.

And but for the Industrial Welfare commission they would probably have gotten a regulatory law far more drastic than any action the commission will take. A law is inflexible. The commission will listen to reason and to fact, and it is probable that employers would make a serious mistake to undertake abolition of the body.

The Journal's columns are still open to Mayor Albee or any other city commissioner who claims the paper's reports of city hall affairs are not accurate.

A DREAM FULFILLED

CERTAIN gentlemen and newspapers used to highly indulge themselves in criticism of the prison policy of Governor West.

There were 160 idle men in the prison then. There are 400 now. Though only four more convicts were received at the prison the first year of the Withycombe administration than in the last year of the West administration, there are 563 inmates now against 424 when Withycombe took office.

It was 32 years ago, in 1884, that Finke Bros. established their coöperation works in this city.

It is not a corporation, but owned by three brothers, Bernhard, Julius E. and Robert J., the first as manager in Portland, the second conducting the operations of the firm's sawmill at Brookfield, Wash., where their staves and headings are made.

The company has an output of \$35,000 a year, and as it pays \$20,000 of that to employees, of which there are at this time 24, though not always so many, it will be seen that its existence is a decided benefit to the workers of Portland and Flookfield, a town 15 miles up river from Astoria, on the Washington side.

PORTLAND A WOOL CENTER

THERE is a discussion in this page of wool and woolmen by a newspaper published in the heart of the wool country.

The article is from Bruce Dennis' La Grande Observer. It intelligently discusses the segregation and sale of wool in the Portland warehouses, and presents information of much value. It casts a light that makes the article well worth reading.

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PIG CLUBS AND BANKERS

AMONG the peculiar institutions of Oklahoma are the "pig clubs" which the farmer boys have organized. Each boy looks after the diet education of one pig which at the proper time competes for a prize and then sacrifices its life for the welfare of its benefactor.

the stores of Oklahoma City and what is not spent is deposited in the savings banks.

With this fact for a basis, the boys have made an interesting request of the Oklahoma City business men, both storekeepers and bankers. They ask for an advance of \$20 to each boy belonging to the pig club of that vicinity.

There is not much trouble in getting orders," Mr. Williams explained, "but it is hard to secure material with which to fill them. Galvanized iron is a scarce article in the eastern market.

Two groups of busy workers are the subjects of today's discourse. No. 73 on the list, "Nothing the Matter With Portland," and the cooper is celebrated in song and story, and the cooper now to be quoted are men who sing at their toil, for they are prospering, and have won for their work a comfortable living.

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entitled to their earnings." The laborer is worthy of his hire."

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PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE
Fossil bellies its name when it elects a woman treasurer.

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The Once Over

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PORTLAND AS A WOOL CENTER

From the La Grande Observer.

There is another feature that is important to woolmen. When wool is shipped to Portland and stored in the warehouse it adds weight because of the damp climate.

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