

Oregon Journal

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The longer I live, the more highly do I estimate the Christian Sabbath, and the more grateful do I feel to those who impress its importance upon the community.

PORTLAND'S ECONOMIC DEBT

PORTLAND is struggling with an economic debt. It is a heavy burden on the backs of workers. Every city is struggling against such a debt. It is not the tax debt or the bonded debt but the economic debt created by over-capitalization and manipulation of land, often land held out of use.

There is another addition to the economic debt of Portland. The same kind of additions are being constantly made. They have already reached colossal totals and are constantly mounting. Tracts of land are converted into suburban additions. They are subdivided and enormous values injected into them.

These artificial stimulations create a vast artificial structure of over-capitalization. It cannot stand up by its own supports and reactions come. The bubble bursts. Decapitalization takes place. It makes times hard. Sales fall off. Business languishes. Dealers complain. Workers are thrown out of employment. Interest rates fall.

PIECE of land should be bought and sold as simply and easily as a cow. The pomp and parade which surround land transfers have been invented by the lawyers for their own benefit. Every difficulty in the way of the transfer means a nice fee for some lawyer or lawyer's appendage.

MR. WILSON'S VICTORIES

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR justly remarks, speaking of Mr. Wilson at the St. Louis Convention, that "Whatever may have been the capital stock of others, the one thing that recommended Mr. Wilson to the overwhelming majority of his party was his peace record."

The federal reserve act is like an amelioration of the climate. Its effect is gentle and almost imperceptible at any particular instant but it is constant and cumulative. Should our climate change this summer so that hereafter we were to have a little less rain in December and a little more in August nobody would give wild with joy over the blessing.

There was another evil to which we had grown used under our old currency system. It was the "once in ten years" panic that swept over the land. This recurrent panic had been with us so long and so regularly that we had come to look upon its return as we did that of the periodical comets, and just as those bodies seemed to the superstitious to bring plague, pestilence and war in their train, so in sober fact our panics brought ruin to the country.

It is the main function of the federal reserve banks to issue fresh supplies of circulating medium whenever the common banks begin to hoard. The basis of their issues will be, in part at least, commercial paper like promissory notes and bills of lading upon which, in panicky times, the ordinary banks would refuse to lend money.

THE common idea of music study is learning to pound a tune out of a piano. Music, in this view, is not made for the ears but for the fingers. When a young woman has learned to hammer out the Battle of Prague and Silvery Waves she is musically educated no matter if she has not the faintest notion of musical form and meaning.

A writer in Musical America, Harriet Ayer Seymour, condemns this "old idea in music," as she calls it. She is ambitious to replace it with a "new idea." First of all she wants the student "to become conscious of music by listening to it and understanding its laws."

Kansas an excellent example of the working of his theory. In Kansas total abstinence has become perfectly easy because the law has formed a social tendency in that direction. Everywhere else the social tendency is toward drinking.

BEAUTIES OF THE LAW THERE are people who say the world makes no progress. Bernard Shaw is one of them. Other eminent personages are of the same mind. We beg leave to differ with them.

James not being a very trustworthy person, was invited to leave the country by his loving subjects and William was called across the sea from Holland to sit in his vacant place. Naturally a luxurious and a luxurious life ensued to drive William back to his native dikes and make James king again.

questionably does for ordinary persons. It may be different with the Paderewskis. Performing music on an instrument is like composing poetry. Nobody can do it well but a genius. The musical education which seeks to make everybody a performer is as absurd as which tried to make every boy and girl a poet.

THE remarkable discovery has been made that Bernard Shaw is a Christian. The common opinion that he is an atheist, an agnostic or something of that sort, must be revised. His Christianity is vouched for by Mr. Shaw himself. He has just published "Androcles and the Lion" in London with an enormous preface.

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Letters from the People

Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the contributor. Do not desire to have the same published he should so state.

Infantile Paralysis. Portland, July 6.—To the Editor of The Journal—Regarding the so-called epidemic of infantile paralysis now prevailing in New York city, I desire to say that, while the public gets only the allopathic medical side of the case, there is nothing they need fear should the disease appear here.

Newport's Railway Service. Newport, Or., July 7.—To the Editor of The Journal—The Tillamook, Marathed and Seaside are all advertising through the Portland newspapers that they are good roads and that motoring is good.

MEXICO'S FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS. From the Boston Globe. For six years Mexico has been in the throes of a popular revolt as deep rooted as, and even more baffling as to its cause than the great French revolution of 1790.

Seeing America. From the Washington Times. This is going to be a record-breaking year for seeing America. More people are expected to visit the attractions of their own country during the next five months than ever learned of its beauties in a similar time.

THE OLD MAN AND JIM

By James Whitcomb Riley

OLD man never had much to say— 'Cap'n to Jim— And old Jim was the wildest boy he had. And the old man jest wrapped up in him!

JOURNAL JOURNEYS

69--Fishing in Lakes on the Cascades' Crest

Lewis A. McArthur, who knows as much about the geography of Oregon as any man in the state, has written the compiler of Journal Journeys, was asked to tell, "What I consider the best outing trip from Portland."

Uncle Jeff Snow Says: Hank Staplemin was telling me "other day how he most all believed" that he heard a Republican spell-binder say, and nearly got into a political argument because I asked him how he would arrange the place where his brains were supposed to roam.

Stories of Street and Town

Perhaps Wires Were Crossed. PLEAUDE—W. L. "Dad," Kearns, who has done marine to these many years, had a excitement was only exceeded by his happiness at the prospective winning of his bet.

The Once Over

By Edna M. H. The Chant of the Vultures. WE ARE circling glads of the battle, we rejoice in the smell of Fight on in the hell of the trenches; we publish your fame with a cross, as our banner, vast as the sea-hunger gnawing the shore.