

Oregon Journal AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER. C. S. JACKSON, Publisher. Published every day, afternoon and morning (except Sunday afternoon), at The Journal Building, Broadway and Third Sts., Portland, Ore.

WHAT WOULD MR. HUGHES HAVE DONE?

WE HAVE had two years of international crisis. The outbreak of war drove the world to the verge of financial panic. Collection of debts was set aside in Europe. America trembled for days over a deep gulf of financial collapse.

But there have been far greater crises in America during these two terrible years. Frequently a mere slip, a misstep, a wrong move by the head of this government would have involved the United States in the frightful European catastrophe.

In these trying times, Mr. Hughes, disregarding the critical and complicated situation of two terrible years makes a rapid attack upon the policy of the president of the United States toward Europe and Mexico. Making no allowance for the intensity and complexity and stress under which the president was always compelled to act, uttering no word of commendation for anything the president has done.

These patriotic writers in their open letter to Mr. Hughes declare that "generalities are without value"; and that "blanket criticism is worthless." "What we desire to know," they add, "and what it is fair that the electorate should know, are the exact details of your disagreement with President Wilson."

They say to Mr. Hughes: "What has he done that you would not have done, and what has he failed to do that you would have done or proposed to do?" "Honesty and patriotism," they say, "demand that you put yourself upon record in such manner as to permit people to judge you as they are now able to judge President Wilson."

These are perfectly fair questions. They are entitled to equally fair and open replies. Mr. Wilson has answered all of them by his record. Mr. Hughes should answer them by an open and frank statement to the American people of what he would have done and what he would not have done if he had been president.

These are times that try men's souls. Only twice in American history has there been a presidential election under circumstances so fitful and so tremendous, to-wit: in 1861 and 1865. It is a time when a candidate for president must expect to submit himself to the acid test.

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and who suppose the Prohibitionists and Socialists must have squads of the same sort. They never use their brains but go to the polls like "dumb, driven cattle" and perform the will of the party bosses.

These are the voters whom the bosses love, for without them boss rule would expire. The man or woman who has a mind and uses it seldom pleases the party shepherds.

What they want is a voter who either has no mind of his own or who is unwilling to use it if he has one. It is not uncommon to find a perfect specimen of this class.

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 contributor. The name should be the same as that published in the issue.]

Condemns Great Britain. Corvallis, Ore., July 28.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have taken quite an interest in the editorial in the Journal and I am very much surprised to find that there are so-called German-Americans who can express such ideas as those of J. W. Bertsch in last Tuesday's issue.

Penitentiary and Prohibition. Portland, Ore., July 29.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have taken quite an interest in the editorial in the Journal and I am very much surprised to find that there are so-called German-Americans who can express such ideas as those of J. W. Bertsch in last Tuesday's issue.

What Danish West Indies are Good For. From the Kansas City Times. Here's good news for picknickers. The United States has bought the Danish West Indies for \$25,000,000 for the Danish West Indies he will own a practically inexhaustible supply of picknickers.

Highway" Elucidated. Portland, Aug. 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—I in the Journal of July 28, J. Harold mentioned Dr. Loveland's use of the word "highway." I wish to point out a mistake in his article.

A Farmer Answers Railroads. C. R. Cottrell, of Kent, Wash., who is a farmer and incidentally national marketing and rural credits commissioner for the Washington state group.

Boiled Men. IT SEEMS as if human ingenuity should be able to protect the boiling vats at a local meat works so that men need not stumble into them.

The Penn Road. THE great highway to be built lengthwise of Pennsylvania from Philadelphia to the Ohio line will follow the old route of the westward bound pioneers.

Finds Oregon Best of States. Albany, Ore., July 29.—To the Editor of The Journal—Being a subscriber and regular reader of your valuable paper, I read the "Letters From the People" regularly and often to my benefit.

LABOR AND BOOZE. CHILE has made a beginning of prohibition, though some of our more zealous haters of the Demon Rum will not agree that it has gone far.

The Bosses' Delight. THERE are men, quite a number of them, who boast that they never vote anything but their party ticket.

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PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE. The world war is two years old and has cut all excepting wisdom teeth. Looks as though the Beavers may find some difficulty in cutting down Ukes.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS. Expatriating upon the fine garden prospects at Condon this year, the Times says that from all indications the weather should be cheap and abundant in Condon this fall.

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Stories of Street and Town

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Journal Journeys

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