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America asks nothing for herself but what she has a right to ask for humanity itself. WOODROW WILSON. Millions for defense, not a cent for tribute. CHARLES C. FICKENY.

It will be all the rest of my life a matter of pride that I was privileged to play a part in serving the farmers to be the farmers and to be the farmers.

OUR TRADE TRIUMPHS

THE way to keep American workers employed and American mills busy is to find markets.

The immense increase in our trade with South America is example of the progress we are making in finding markets outside the United States.

Table with 3 columns: Year, Exports, Imports. Rows include Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Remembering that the figures are for a period of only five weeks, it is seen that the totals for a year would indicate enormous gains.

That bureau has experts searching throughout the world for places where American products, farm and manufactured, can be sold.

Co-ordinated with both is the new tariff commission which will find out how tariffs may be best used to aid American business.

Co-ordinated with these three great measures is the new shipping law which will find out what can be done by government and apply the things government can do to stimulate investment of American capital in American ships for helping American business.

And along with these four measures is the federal reserve system under which for the first time in history, American banks are being established in South America, to be the outposts and aids in the sale of American products, farm and manufactured in those countries.

And finally, because President Wilson cooperated with South American governments in dealing with the Mexican problem, and because he counseled with them in framing his Mexican policy, every South American government and every South American nation is friendly to the United States.

And in its stead there is a profound and growing confidence in the purposes of this country. The new spirit of cordiality is a tremendous asset for American lumbermen and all other products and manufacturers in selling their products to our southern neighbors.

American business men, that man is Woodrow Wilson.

THE ECONOMIC DEBT

THE chairman of the appraisal committee of the Realty Board says the Portland school board made a free gift of \$3000 to the seller in the purchase of a parcel of ground, 170 by 230 feet in South Portland.

The ground is at Kelly and Bancroft streets, and adjoins the Holman school on the south. The price the board is to pay is \$12,000. The committee of the Realty Board appraised the property at \$9000.

It is another \$3000 added to the economic debt of Portland. The economic debt is an unseen but tremendously active debt on which interest runs day and night.

It is a mortgage on the toll and resources of Portland, and it is created in the same way the \$3000 has just been added to it.

It is a something-for-nothing proposition in which the public gives something for which it gets nothing back but a mortgage upon the necks of the people of the town.

The economic debt has already been piled up into millions, and by its accretions in interest and newly created debt, the total rises steadily and the interest that must be paid on it by the people increases proportionately.

It is a vicious debt, because it is so invisible, so stealthy and so insidious. It plays a good part in levying that tribute in taxes over which the poor man groans and the rich man weeps.

So long as the school board goes on making "a free gift" here and there of \$3000, and so long as other public authorities follow their example, the public need not expect the cost of government to become a lighter burden.

SAVE THE RURAL CREDITS

THOUGH farmers have petitioned, appealed and clamored for rural credits for many years, and though they have been paying 8, 10, 12 and higher interest rates along with bonuses, commissions and fees, some of the Hughes spellbinders are denouncing the new rural credit system as "class legislation" and as wholly undesirable.

The Waggoner family chose wisely by taking up a donation claim not far from Brownsville. The "claims" in those days were generously large, including as they did a square mile of land.

The measure would create in this country the curse of landlordism, which is the cause and inception of the landlordism in Europe.

If the new rural credits system is to be repealed on the ground that it is "class legislation," is there anything whatever that American farmers are entitled to? Instead of creating landlordism, rural credits by its conspicuous absence, has resulted in so much landlordism that 37 per cent of the farmers of America are tenants.

Mr. Waggoner, whose death has lately been reported, was one of the notable group of writers who have preserved the monuments of our early history. Almost as soon as anybody had settled in Oregon books on its history began to appear, but some of them were marred by a bitter sectarianism.

Later investigators prefer to go to original documents for their facts rather than to such works as Gray's History.

In recent years there has been an agreeable outpouring of books on one phase and another of this subject. Geer's "Fifty Years in Oregon" is one of the pleasantest to read. Mrs. Dye's semi-historical writings are well known everywhere.

THE COOS BAY COUNTRY

THE invasion of the Coos Bay country by the Portland Chamber of Commerce has assumed a gala aspect which should delight the hearts of all concerned.

to thrive. But good will and kindly understanding must prosper also.

It is well for Portland and the rest of the state to become better acquainted in order to do more business. But acquaintanceship will bring fruits not to be measured in dollars and cents.

Letters From the People

"Discussions is the greatest of all reforms. It rationalizes everything it touches. It robs prejudice of its force and strips it back on its reasonableness. If they have no reasonableness, it ruthlessly crushes them out of existence and substitutes its own for their head."

The Women of Wall Street. Portland, Oct. 12.—To the Editor of The Journal—So long as people in general attend to their own pursuits, whether they be social or commercial, they are not likely to interfere with the private affairs of others.

There will be a few blind partisans, yes; and some who will forget the main issue and go right on debating the point of fact, as if the matter were not a matter of principle.

And while I am at it, I want to thank the Journal for its frequent and excellent labor union editorials. Maybe you don't realize it, but every line you print editorially that gives the "common people" a square deal is a laborer's friend.

Why particularly charge partisan appointment of our foreign service, when it always has and always will be the practice of all political parties? And in what particular instances has our foreign service failed?

Why do you not settling the recent railroad strike by arbitration, when there is no law to compel the parties to do so? If such law is desirable, why has it not been passed during the 44 years of Republican control?

Why claim compulsion of the passage of the Adamson law, when large numbers of Republicans who supported the bill say it was not? Do they lie?

They charge that our national resources are undeveloped. Granted. But what was the Republican party doing in state and national issues?

Why condemn Wilson for not being prepared to enforce his foreign policies? He had just after 44 years' control of the nation.

If a protective tariff insures us economic independence, why has it failed to make us so after 44 years' control? Why do you not demand that we have federal control of railroads, granted. Yet in 44 years of Republican control they failed to enact such laws.

Overwhelming Reasons for Wilson. Portland, Oct. 12.—To the Editor of The Journal—My object in writing these few lines is patriotic one, and that is to urge that you should give credit to the many achievements since the days of Washington to the days of Woodrow Wilson.

Washington, I have carefully studied and compared the achievements of Woodrow Wilson with those of George Washington. I believe that honest Americans, regardless of party, will vote for the man who, in spite of Wall street and other un-American parasites, has kept our feet on the ground in education and civil war at home.

Mr. Wright Makes Denial. Portland, Oct. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—Some one without knowledge of the facts has done me great injustice by stating in the columns of your paper that I was asleep while driving the residence to get the real facts, and I had no chance to give them.

It is not as if I am looking about for petty quarrels with you, but I believe that that sort of quarrel within whose intricacies are written all the texts of the rights of man.

The Untamed No Longer. From the Pittsburg Press. Our big infant territory—Alaska—is getting so very big that it requires constant attention from the federal government.

We pray God it shall not fade. In the heat of a partisan campaign men are falling and recognizing the greatness of our service to the country.

On the Great News Circuit. From the Philadelphia Ledger. One of the features of modern warfare that was not foreseen was that important interviews given out by members of the British cabinet should be carried by the public by the city.

The Worker Knows His Friends. Portland, Oct. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—Nearly 20 years in the labor movement has convinced me that the rank and file of organized labor accepts as a friend any man who subscribes to the policy of "self-respect for the worker."

respect, but there has never been any question among us as to the elevating effect of the study of the history of our country with its leisure for mental and moral as well as physical recreation.

The Typographical union, to which I have the honor to belong, was a pioneer in the eight-hour movement, and its members contributed liberally to the expense of that campaign.

At all events, "the consumer should be spared the war excuse for the high cost of Thanksgiving turkeys. The regularly reduced "shortage" has always worked well enough.

For some unknown reason the various European monarchs have not yet accepted the invitation of the International capital at which they have ordered Christmas dinner.

Stefansson, the explorer, it is reported, went when he was out of the war. And no shame to him. So might any of us if we were required to stand under the entire realization of an over a mile long.

Farmers are complaining, says the Harbison Herald, of the damage caused by marmots. These pests are particularly causing trouble for those who raise alfalfa.

An eclipse is a person who knows great secrets is Gosnold, which comprises Elizabeth Island, lying between Buzzards bay and Vineyard sound.

One of the most inaccessible towns in Massachusetts is Gosnold, which comprises Elizabeth Island, lying between Buzzards bay and Vineyard sound.

Political mathematicians are somewhat at a loss this year as to the right basis for their computations, because of the vast amount of change for president four years ago, and the difficulty in comparing the three returns with the two returns for Hughes and Wilson this year.

Whether the early returns on the afternoon of November 7 will prove reliable straws to show which the presidential wind is blowing, only subsequent tabulations can prove, but that they will be eagerly seized and made the basis of a vast amount of campaign is to be expected, and the verdict of the little Bay state towns will be eagerly awaited.

know his better than Mr. Wilson, but it is at least possible that he may not. Let him pick up the Tribune this morning and read its account of the president's reception yesterday.

"Everywhere on the streets were heard cries of 'He kept us out of war!'" "Who saved the nation?" answered with shouts of "Wilson!"

This may be very foolish," but it is one of the manifestations of the spirit of American nationality. There are more things in this spirit than are dreamed of in the philosophy of some public men.

From the Port Worth Star-Telegram. "The singularity of the present war is that its origin and objects have never been disclosed.

These are the words of President Wilson at Omaha. When America is asked, "Are you willing to fight?" President Wilson said the answer should be, "Yes," but we are waiting for something worth fighting for."

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PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE Does the baseball fan who talks fluently of the Athletics also speak of the series as a serious matter?

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Rag Tag and Bottaill

Stories From Everywhere. [To this column all readers of The Journal are invited to contribute original matter—short stories, poems, or striking quotations, from any source. Contributions of exceptional merit will be paid for.]

Old Yamhill Good Enough for Him. SOME years ago an angelic woman, conducting services at a country schoolhouse in Yamhill county, Yamhill county is one of the first sections of the Willamette valley to be settled, and it is one of the most fertile districts in the state.

After the choir had sung "Almost Persuaded," the exhorter asked all who wanted to go to heaven to rise. Most of the congregation rose, and said: "If there are any here who would like to go to hell, will they rise?"

From the Prineville Journal. Reading in Prineville we have a man named Hughes, who is an ardent admirer of President Wilson, and a man named Adams, who is an ardent admirer of Hughes.

Totally Lacking in Consideration. From the Springfield Republican. A few years ago, when Bernhard was making a tour of the United States with an unusually diversified itinerary, the public demand for extra editions of his book "The Progress of the Nation" acted on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons as well as on those of Wednesday and Saturday.

From the People's Home Journal. Teacher—If a farmer sold 1470 bushels of wheat at \$1.17 a bushel, what would he get for it? Boy—An automobile.

The Hypothetical Fire Flood. From the Roseburg Review. "In a trial case of a building, members of the local fire department made a "get-away" from the fire hall with the big fire truck in the space of ten seconds.

Too Much to Confess. From the Charleston News and Courier. Confession may be good for the soul, but it's often rough on the reputation.

The Critic Shies. From the Washington Star. Theodore Roosevelt was talking about the public's literary taste.

The Devoicing Element. From the North Plains Optimist. A. K. Reynolds did his best a few days ago to give the North Plains voluteer fire department a job.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says. If the judge speaks on tell'n us how he at one time spoke a word for child labor, and how he spoke a word for sailors' rights, and so on, he will get nicknamed "Alecio Charlie" down to our corner, and then he might as well go and be a professor Wilson and make it unanimous.

Being Glad of Your Job. From the Philadelphia Ledger. It is an excellent sight, that of a man at work with an evident relish for what he is doing, a just pride in the task that is before him, a firm determination that every grain of grain produced leaving his hand shall be as good as he can make it. In business the value of a trade name often lies with general public opinion, which holds the spirit of the hireling but in obedience to an urgent voice within which never let them rest upon a botched and bogged operation.

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