

Oregon Journal
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
C. E. JACKSON, Publisher
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call ideal. There must be something wrong with it.
IN THE RETURNS
An outstanding fact in the election returns is the emphatic approval of the president in the West and the heavy vote thrown Mr. Hughes in the states grouped around New York. It is a fact that makes the election one of the most significant in American history.

The upheaval in the West is a near revolution. The overturning of states always heavily Republican and the reduction of majorities in such states as remained in the Hughes column is something the country never saw before.
It is a breakaway of the West from the political thought of the East. It is a declaration of independence by western farmers from the former tyranny of the older states.

It is an eventuation so complete in its manifestations that it remaps the country. The upheaval in such states as Kansas, Utah and Wyoming is epochal. It means that the agricultural portion of America has with common action cut loose from the economic ideals and purposes that have their origin in northeastern America and has entered upon a line of thought at variance with the old thought of the East and Northeast. It has thrown off the leadership of the men who ran the country so long for the exclusive benefit of the New England manufacturers to the long neglect of the farming masses of the West.

The new division clearly locates the origin and home of progressivism in the country. For the first time in history a test of the country on progressivism was presented in the candidacy of President Wilson. His legislative program was an emphasized body of progressive enactments. It was on that legislation that he was given the votes of the western farmers and on the returns from their votes the source and location of progressivism in America is definitely disclosed.

West Virginia with its eight votes appears to be drifting to Mr. Hughes. If it finally makes that alignment, his certain total in the electoral college would be 246, making it necessary for him to secure 20 additional votes to elect.
Neither California alone nor Minnesota alone would elect him, while either would elect President Wilson.

In Minnesota at 11 o'clock today, the Hughes lead had been cut to \$10 and appeared to be disappearing. On the other hand, the Republicans claim that the votes of Minnesota militiamen on the border will be largely for Hughes and can be depended upon to hold the state safely in the Hughes column.

In California, President Wilson has a lead of over 3500 in the latest returns, but against this some heavy Hughes pluralities are expected from Los Angeles county. In their expectations of pluralities in California, however, the Hughes men have been several times disappointed, and the consistent gains for the president seem to augur that he will carry the state, and with it secure control of the electoral college.

A WEAKNESS
DAVID LUBIN says that we reckon the strength of a nation according to the proportion of its farms worked by the owners. The tenant system is a source of national weakness, not strength. David Lubin is well worth listening to on this subject, for he has studied farm problems deeply and pondered them long. He is now connected with the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, but his interest in American affairs is as warm as it ever was.

If the tenant system is a weakness we ought to feel some uneasiness, for it is growing every day in the United States. In some states fully half the farms are worked by tenants. In all parts of the country landlordism is increasing and rent is taking the place of ownership by the man who does the work.

The matter looks blacker still when we remember that most of the rented farms are held on short leases of a year or two. Under this plan the tenant is almost always rack-rented and is in order to escape starvation he is obliged to rob the land of its fertility. He can not afford to make improvements or apply fertilizers. His whole energy is spent in getting as much out of the land as he can and as quickly as possible.

How our growing tenant system works out is faithfully described by Jack London in his "Valley of the Moon," a book which has great sociological value besides being a notable work of fiction. Jack London says that the best practical way for a poor man to get a farm of his own is to begin by renting a piece of land and "looting it." He means that the tenant must take all he can out of the soil and put nothing back. By thus ruining the soil he can often make money enough to buy another. But he leaves desolation behind him.

overhauled as soon as possible. For it appears that 70 per cent of the people who imagine themselves to be free from bodily ailments are in truth subject to the sapping and mining of hidden disease.
It is well known that the diseases of "middle life" are more fatal now-a-days than formerly. Among these disorders are Bright's disease, cancer, brittle arteries and the like. They creep upon us like thieves in the night and frequently their deadly work is half complete before the victim suspects anything wrong. Then he may run to the physician with his plaint but it is too late.

A timely medical examination may prevent all this. Taken by the forelock most of the diseases of middle life are easily curable. It is neglect that gives them their lethal hold on the body. A medical examination, a thorough overhauling, of the physical frame once a year is the new proposal.

A PARTY BREAKAWAY
THE breaking down of the party label is one of the conspicuous facts in the election returns.
In Kansas, Governor Capper, Republican, is re-elected by a plurality of 100,000 to 125,000, while President Wilson carries the state by 20,000 to 25,000. In all the great Republican states of the West, there was a similar smashing of party ties. In Oregon, a Republican plurality in the registration of 112,000 is almost wiped out, which means that 50,000 Oregon electors registered as Republicans voted for President Wilson.

In the state of Washington, there was an even more marked fact that President Wilson carried that state with a plurality reported at 10,000.
In no presidential election have party lines counted for so little, except in 1812, when the abandonment of political affiliations was a revolution caused by a split among the leaders of the same party.

There is no more promising sign for the future than the refusal of the masses to submit to the tyranny of party leaders. By application of the party lash and appeal to the party sentiment, a lot of political crimes have been committed against the American people. Slavery was tolerated in America much longer than it should have been, because of the defense of it by a political party. It was the various political parties that so long kept America under a rotten financial system that brought on disastrous panics every ten years or so and cost the people untold millions in bankruptcy and losses.

It was the various political parties that acknowledged the disappearance of American ships from the sea but took no step until in the past two years, to put the flag of American merchant fleets back on the seven oceans.

The safest element in American population are those who do their own independent thinking and then vote as they think.
THE murder of words is about as common in the United States as the murder of human beings. Both go merrily on. Laws and dictionaries are equally powerless to stop the crimes. Most of the human slaughter, according to a late census bulletin, comes from the careless or criminal use of firearms which, as we read, "causes more deaths than railroad accidents, and more than twice as many as automobile accidents.

MURDER
THE slaughter of words is caused by our national sentimentality. As soon as the American people have been made aware that some word, like "home," for example, is exceptionally beautiful, full of fine feeling and dear to everybody's heart, they set about ruining it by slovenly usage.

The word "crucified" has for many centuries been confined to one notable event. But of late every man who feels hurt by criticism or abuse shrieks that somebody is "crucifying" him. The late Mr. Feis on an occasion said that people were "crucifying" him when, as a matter of fact, they were doing nothing worse than find fault with his single-tax propaganda. Other and greater men have been much worse treated without resorting to such hysterical language. We beg our kind friends not to misuse the terrible word "crucified." Its associations are too precious and at the same time too awful.

Then there is the word "create." It has come to be almost as useful to unskilled writers as "nice" and "horrid" are to schoolgirls. Almost every active verb in the English language has been replaced by "create." In vulgar usage it means "build, appoint, select, elect, make, nominate, erect, construct, institute, delegate," and a thousand more acts not one of which is anything like the act of creation. Is it not worth while to be more accurate?
THE Well Known Gem.
They sat looking at her engagement ring.
"Did your friends admire it?" he tenderly inquired.
"They did more than that," she returned. "Three of them recognized it."

Letters From the People
(Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender in full, and must be so addressed as to enable the publisher to return the same if necessary. The name of the contributor should be given in full, and must be so addressed as to enable the publisher to return the same if necessary. The name of the contributor should be given in full, and must be so addressed as to enable the publisher to return the same if necessary.)

Discussion is the greatest of all reformers. It rationalizes everything it touches. It robs the world of its illusions and its delusions. It is the only power that can be trusted to lead us to our true ends. It is the only power that can be trusted to lead us to our true ends. It is the only power that can be trusted to lead us to our true ends.

Fire Prevention.
New York, Nov. 4.—To the Editor of The Journal—I note in your issue of October 29 an editorial under the heading "The Peril of our Homes" in which you make forceful comments upon the death of a four-year-old child as a consequence of playing with matches.

Standardizing Merchant Ships.
From Popular Mechanics.
England has drawn upon the United States for many things since the outbreak of the war, and in the process has reached figures that quite dwarf those of the most active periods of peace time. Yet, great as are the figures for these physical needs of war, it is more likely to be found, when a restored peace gives men the time and the perspective to weigh the ponderable with the imperponderable, that the import of American goods into England has been a more potent factor in British industrial mobilization than American machinery and raw materials.

The remarkable British project for building standardized ocean going steamships was decided upon, undoubtedly, after construction of this character had usually been suggested in the United States in the course of the present building boom in ocean tonnage. The significant thing about the British move is that, though they are following an American plan and an American lead, they are in a position, and are undoubtedly resolved, to carry out their plan on an incomparably greater scale than it would be possible to undertake in America for a good many years to come.

In defining standardized shipbuilding one need go no further than to say that it is carrying to freight-steamer construction the same principle that has been applied to the building of a motor car. This would mean that a motor car of 10,000 lbs. weight would be built on a chassis of 10,000 lbs. weight, and that a motor car of 20,000 lbs. weight would be built on a chassis of 20,000 lbs. weight, and so on.

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pair of cylinders filled with oil. They set like the cylinders of an automatic door. The door was closed and the cylinders were filled with oil. They set like the cylinders of an automatic door. The door was closed and the cylinders were filled with oil.

Unnecessary Hysterics.
Reading the frantic exhortations to "prepare" which are emanating in such profusion from the various organs of the press, it is likely to be really terrified until he stops to think that after all the business of the world is merely that of earning a living, and each individual to earn a living. And each one of us keeps pegging away at that and somehow contrives to get on, a little more than 10,000 population than that immediately preceding. And there is no reason to doubt that this will always be so.

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Pertinent Comment and News in Brief
SMALL CHANGE
King Constantine may be doing right well if he eats his Christmas dinner in the United States.
An Ohio man sent in one day a \$500 legacy, and is now a farm hand. And the boob probably thinks it was worth it.

OREGON Sidelights
A new vault is to be installed in the basement of the postoffice building in Astoria, to provide storage space for public documents pending the construction of a new federal building there.
"Another illustration of the off-putting fact that Condon is booming," says the Globe, "is found in the history of the local freight situation. Monday was the biggest day in the history of the local freight situation. Two hundred and seventeen freight bills were handled in the business office at the depot. Sunday's traffic brought in seven carloads of merchandise."

Close Finishes Rare in Elections
In an editorial in its issue of November 4 the Boston Globe essayed to assess the present campaign in its most striking aspects, to compare the eve-of-election situation with those in previous presidential years, and to estimate the present temperance of the electorate. This article, which is here reproduced, is a most interesting and a view of the dilemma of election day and the delicate balance by which the finality will be determined.

Both candidates and country realize that the election is close. For more than 20 years no contest for the presidency has found the country on the Saturday before election in such genuine doubt as this.
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Rag Tag and Bobtail
Stories From Everywhere
Why Jim Was for Wilson.
The day before election, but before the polls were open, J. E. Davidson has a young son, Jim, who, like his father, has been a staunch supporter of Hughes, but there were some policies advocated by Wilson which particularly attracted him. Jim is going to "dancin' school," along with his little sisters, much to his disgust. It is almost an impossibility to get him to go anywhere but to the dance, and when he has returned he told father that unless they refrained from sending him to dancing school he would change his allegiance from Hughes to Wilson.

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The Alumni Ought to Pungle.
Considering its growing importance as an educational institution, Virgil Vamm suggests that a campaign be started to raise a fund for the purchase of a slightly campus for the electoral college.

Tail Lights for Maud.
Ludicrous as it may seem, necessity has demanded that West Virginia drover equip his mules with tail lights, says Popular Mechanics. Without being facetious, it may not be amiss to point out that in the same way, we are literally the first real tail lights ever used. Some time ago when a number of the man's mules were being driven along a highway at night, a motor car was struck by one of the mules with disastrous results. This caused the dealer to resort to the warning lights so as to avoid similar accidents in the future. The devices, which are identical with those used on many bicycles, are strapped to the mules' tails. When the glare from the lamps of a motor car strikes them, beams of ruby light are reflected. Incidentally, if a mule swings his tail, the warning signal becomes all the more noticeable.

Botanical Treachery.
"Heard about the Kahn alligator 'preen tree' asks the society editor of the Los Angeles Times. West Virginia drover equip his mules with tail lights, says Popular Mechanics. Without being facetious, it may not be amiss to point out that in the same way, we are literally the first real tail lights ever used. Some time ago when a number of the man's mules were being driven along a highway at night, a motor car was struck by one of the mules with disastrous results. This caused the dealer to resort to the warning lights so as to avoid similar accidents in the future. The devices, which are identical with those used on many bicycles, are strapped to the mules' tails. When the glare from the lamps of a motor car strikes them, beams of ruby light are reflected. Incidentally, if a mule swings his tail, the warning signal becomes all the more noticeable.

Might Have Been Lots Worse.
One of the clerks at a weather bureau took upon himself a wife, says the Philadelphia Ledger, and it has been his endeavor to interest her in his work at the office.

Hep to the immortal Bard.
"Do you know," she whispered, "you are the first real actor I ever met. It must be extremely interesting to act the part of Hamlet when the tragedians like Shakespeare and—"

Appearances Are Deceitful.
"Several have joked me," says Editor Ham Kautzman in the Houlton Herald of a few days before the election, "for playing with the band for the night of the election. I had joined the G. O. P. party. Well, nit, but I always made it a point to Samantize the weak and crippled. I rode with Father Hampton in his one-wheeled car. He was a good one. I will ask if I had joined the Catholic church."

A Tonsorial Artist Rebuked.
Halloween night passed off very peacefully compared with other years, says the Lakewood Examiner. A few wagons were scattered around town and Herb Gentry had a gas sign on for the night. A broken sign, otherwise no damage was done.

Uncle Jeff Snore Says.
The hardest job of education I ever seen was old Deacon Jopard with two grandsons trying to make 'em believe they had saw the circus when they saw the parade down to Portland last summer. He was a complete failure, and the congregation would have disciplined him only most of the older ones had been more or less in the same fix. The deacon says a circus is a sinful place; but it is a great temptation to witness the unfolment of the child mind.