

GREEN JOURNAL

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seems to mean that no law for the protection of the people can be enacted as long as the confederated speculators oppose it. They issue their ultimatum in a spectacular raid on the market and congress bows to their power.

Cotton offers just now an attractive field to the speculator. The visible supply in Liverpool has declined to 400,000 bales, against more than a million at this time last year. A cotton famine is in sight with a banquet for the ravens who fatten on human misery.

If the cotton crop of this year is cornered and manipulated by the speculators they can retire from Wall street and live in palaces all the rest of their lives. No wonder they try to terrorize congress. But it must excite their scorn to find the task so easy.

There was a heavy falling off in sinkings by submarines the past week. The number of British vessels of 1600 tons and over-sunk, was 15 against 21 the previous week and 27 the week before that. The number of vessels under 1600 tons was seven the past week against five each of the two previous weeks. Possibly the lowered list is due to the attempt by the kaiser to ambush the American troop ships with submarines sent from the diver zone to lurk in the path of the transports.

THE HANDY-ANDIES

THESE are those who profit highly from preventing the advent of the low freight rates possible through use of barges and boats on highly improved rivers and canals. They want traffic to be moved by rail only. They are the forces who recently demanded a 15 per cent advance in rail rates after getting a similar advance but six months ago and during a period of railroad prosperity never equalled in America or any other country.

Gigantic fortunes have been made in American railroad building. The gentlemen who made them, the gentlemen who are their descendants and their managing men and beneficiaries, want no cheap freight rates on water routes to compete against. They mask their attacks on rivers and harbors bills behind cries of "pork." Some very small-bore, politicians in congress are conscientiously and unconsciously, their Handy-Andies.

Because it is time of war is no argument against improving rivers and harbors. As a war nation, Germany is unparalleled. Cordoned by a mighty ring of steel, backed into a little corner of the earth, driven to desperation by lack of food, burdened with inconceivable war expenditures, Germany is spending every day more money for developing her inland waterways than ever before. New projects are not banned. On the contrary, they are inaugurated and pushed to completion with feverish energy. It is Germany's way of fighting the war to carry everything possible by water and thereby release the railroads for the tremendous emergencies and exigencies of the war.

Yet in America, warned in advance by a perennial and often acute car shortage, knowing in advance, by the acknowledgements of railroad managers that they cannot handle all the traffic, the Handy-Andies of railroad managing men keep up the false cry of "pork" and fight inland waterway improvement in spite of the great German example in transportation efficiency.

The delegates to the N. E. A. convention are arriving. In consequence, newspapers throughout America are carrying a greater number of Portland date lines. The meeting merits a great deal of attention from Portlanders. It is a man-sized event in brains, aims and reputation.

ANOTHER BLOW

QUACK medicine vendors are said to be in tears over the postoffice definition of "alcoholic liquor." The definition is important because it delimits the administration of the law which closes the mails to liquor advertisements. The postoffice defines "alcoholic liquor" as anything that contains alcohol. Thus at one fell blow Aunt Abigail's afternoon stomach draught and Deacon Peleg's morning tonic are stricken down.

Booze, masquerading under the attractive name of patent medicine for weak stomachs, rheumatism, legs and weazy lungs, commonly holds its own long after undisguised tincture has been driven out of the market.

This tenderness for tipples in the form of medicine has often made prohibition a boon to the druggist and everybody else who sells quack nostrums. It is perfectly well

THE MASTERS OF CONGRESS

WHEN cotton prices fell off ten points before the onset of the food control bill the southern senators ran to cover like birds in a thunderstorm. The ten point decline may have been a clever move of the speculators to show their power and frighten the weaklings. If so, it was a magnificent success.

The panic among the senators

known to the initiated that infallible curealls are usually nothing but booze doctored up with a little rhubarb and brown sugar. They can no longer be advertised in prohibition states. Alas and alas, what is "going to become" of our personal liberty?

With the arrest at Scranton of Joseph Graber, an organizer of the L. W. W., charged with being a spy in the employ of the German government, the authorities declare that recent strikes and agitations by the I. W. W. in the anthracite coal regions were stirred up by German agents with the hope of lessening the power of America in the war. The American people will have little patience with this sort of thing. The gentry who foment these disturbances in their war times are in a perilous position.

A SHORT WEIGHT

REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON of Washington opposed the recent Hawley amendment for including \$975,000 for the mouth of the Columbia in the rivers and harbors bill.

A large section of the state of Washington is directly interested in the improvement of the Columbia. The whole eastern and southwestern section is benefited by every dollar spent in improving any part of the river.

A congressman ought to be able to vision what the development of the Columbia and use of it for navigation would mean, even if average men do not. That is one reason why the office of congressman was created and men elected to the position. In his opposition to the Columbia appropriation, Representative Johnson is a short-weight congressman.

Nothing more startling has appeared than is the news that two nests of German submarines were lying in wait and attacked the American troop ships on their way to France. Only on inside information transmitted in some way from America to Berlin with fore-hand knowledge of the departure of the ships and the route they were to take, could the attacks have been made. Who are the traitors, and where are they located?

A SUGGESTED PAGEANT

NO DOUBT Professor Horner's notion of a historic pageant to celebrate the charms and beauties of the old Vancouver life will strike many minds as a desirable thing. Professor Horner is not the first to mention it, but his talk on the subject came at a happy moment and may bear fruit. In the days which he would depict in the pageant Vancouver was a British town under the domination of a capable British governor, Dr. McLaughlin.

The annual routine of life there was extremely picturesque, as anybody may convince himself by reading the lively descriptions of it in Mrs. Dye's books. The departure of the laden canoes for the posts in the far interior, the return with cargoes of furs, the mingled company of French Canadians, Indians and Englishmen would furnish plenty of material for a pageant in the hands of an expert in such matters.

It is regretted by many that the Rose Festival does not give us a pageant connected with the early history of Oregon.

What better material to work into a pageant can be found than the scene at the adoption of the provisional government when Joe Meek enacted his dramatic part? We know the critics maintain that Joe never did anything of the sort, but when a historic pageant is under consideration we should say unto the critics "avaunt." The Joe Meek story is worth a dozen of them and all their works.

It is reported that the suggestions were well received by leading Vancouver people. Perhaps something will come of it in due time. A successful pageant requires capable management, literary ability and artistic sense to compose the scenes. We dare say all this can be found in Vancouver.

During June, 282 German airplanes were shot down against 110 allied machines for the same period. War in the air is as vital as war on the surface of the sea and land. Wilbur Wright perished without living to behold the tremendous bearing the invention of himself and brother was to play in human affairs.

MUZZLING MUZZEY

JUDGE McCAMANT'S strictures on Muzzezy's American History have led us to give that book a reading. We must thank the judge for the pleasure we got from it. The history is sound, impartial, well-informed and up to date.

The judge raised a question about the date of the battle of Antietam. Muzzezy says that inconclusive affair happened on September 16. Macmaster and Thomas say the date was the seventeenth. So there is ground for a pretty controversy. Judge McCamant offers to leave the question to arbitration.

We think he is too generous. The dates of history are matters of judicial opinion, not mere questions of fact for a jury or for arbitrators. The judge should set

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 200 words, and should be accompanied by the name and address of the contributor. We do not wish to have the same name published in several statements.)

Dairy-Bred Beeves

Corvallis, Or., June 29.—To the Editor of The Journal—I wish to speak of the serious damage to auto tires caused by crushed rock being applied as dressing on our highways. This rock is also lost off wagons and trucks hauling for private parties. I have mentioned this subject to many, but find no "checkbox" that exactly shows the real cause of their heavy tire bills. Those who do not believe this statement and have driven their cars a few hundred miles will find that exactly what they think is causing the change in their minds after a careful investigation of this subject. Clean off your tires. Make an exploring tool of strong wire, and test the grooves of the tires. You will find that many of them extend to the fabric, which is the very life of the tire. Water, dirt, and mud matter work their way into these cracks and cause the fabric and what is known as blisters. Soon a new tire must replace the one that is ruined. No tire dealer can afford to guarantee tires under the present conditions, unless he doubles the price, and well he may. I have a careful study of the subject and have been a careful driver. I have decided that riding over a hole in the road is not an expensive thing for me. Why not use sand as dressing? It is cheap and efficient.

J. W. SPEAR.

The Biggest of the Big Guns

It is not easy to understand what the power of a gun really is—its penetrating and destructive power. What we call a 15-inch gun—which means one whose muzzle or hollow part is 15 inches in diameter—will have a shell right through a plate or wall of the hardest steel 12 inches thick seven miles from the muzzle. The power of the largest of our naval guns is made by the German howitzers or 15.5-inch guns—such that one of their missiles cracks open a steel and concrete fort. There are 15-inch guns—naval guns and army or land guns. Because they can be manipulated more easily than those of a ship, land guns are the greatest distance from the front. I am fully aware that there is agitation at present for laws to prevent the killing of calves of this kind, but it is not a matter of food conservation standpoint. If a farmer had a mowing machine which was so poor that it was costing him more in repair and waste of time than the investment, he would not hesitate to sell the machine. It is the same with these calves. They are worthless for beef purposes, for the reason that the food which they will consume, if they are raised, will be worth more than the beef which they will produce.

B. L. POTTER,
 Professor of Animal Husbandry.

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— A Sick Autocrat

From the Tacoma Tribune

Constantine, former king of Greece, is reported to be sick. He has gone to a sanatorium and is recovering. The official record given is that an old wound is troubling him. More reliable information is to the effect that his ex-majesty has been so sick by his nerves are all upset.

It was a revelation to Constantine to find out by actual contact with his subjects that he was not a despot, but that the world in general thinks of him. The neutral and usually good tempered Swiss have mobbed him when he is abroad and he is a despot, and nothing but hostility or coldness wherever he turns, in any part of the civilized earth, except in the central empire. And even the Germans will not let him have any "dead end" and Constantine shows little indication of any "leak" in his policy.

Constantine had realized sooner the strength of the allied cause and the fervor of freedom that prevails in all lands uncontrolled by the Hohenzollern. He had had a different ending. His experience ought to be a profitable lesson to such monarchs as still cling to their jobs.

PERSONAL MENTION

N. E. A. Delegates Arriving
 Visitors to Portland for the National Education association convention have been arriving slowly for the past week, a considerable number arriving Thursday. The Hubert Hotel is the headquarters for the convention, and most of the leaders of various delegations are registering there. Among those to be seen are J. H. Coombs, director of the National Education association, with Mrs. Coombs, and Miss Irene Selby, Frances Cave and Miss Irene Selby.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Spencer of Chicago are at the Portland.
 J. W. Siemens is in the city from Klamath Falls and is registered at the Imperial.
 Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ames of Spokane are at the Oregon.
 Mrs. Harry Tasset of San Francisco is registered at the Washington.
 Mr. Laidlaw and Miss Margaret Laidlaw are at the Perkins in San Diego.
 Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Van Pinski are registered at the Portland from San Francisco.
 R. W. Martin is at the Imperial from Eugene.
 Mr. and Mrs. W. Ireland of Hillsboro, Or., are at the Oregon.
 Captain C. V. Doyon of the Twenty-second regiment of C. M. O. is at the Hotel St. Louis.
 P. Q. and L. A. Gonneville of Los Angeles make a party at the Multnomah.
 Mr. and Mrs. George L. Perkins of Salem are at the Imperial.
 W. A. Mead of Seattle is staying at the Imperial.
 Mrs. A. A. Peters and Miss Ellen P.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Anything so rare as a day in June is a day in July—in Oregon.

Conversation at meals is excellent for the time of year. It has nothing to do with the weather. It is to be hoped Tommie and Polliu will be able to get our national game on its feet. It is not a national game of luck getting our national game on its feet.

A school of housekeeping is to be established at Athens. It is evidently to be a school of housekeeping with a school of throneeping.

The vacant lot farmer who once thought lawn mowing was about all that human nature could endure may now look back as upon happy days.

There "Old Abe" the noted war eagle of the city war, alive today he could have the time of his life among the acrobats somewhere in France.

When our boys get into the trenches and get a coldier across or if the Boches, chances are they won't stir up old acquaintances to start a list.

"Don't hesitate when you encounter 'Czechs' in the news dispatches. Call them 'becks' and they are exactly what they have always been, too—the Hapsburgs."

William Thaw is doing good service in going down Germany. He has been the most Harry ever brought down by Stanford White and the number of the Thaw millions.

If the Kaiser has a secret griev it must be that Switzerland has no navy for him to send to the bottom of the sea that does not wash the shores that Switzerland hasn't got.

THE KAISER'S PERILS—ONCE AND NOW

From the New York Evening Post.

It is not necessary to speak of the harm which the revolution has done to the campaign plan of the allies. We overlook the far reaching gains. We have fallen into the habit of assuming that if the Russian armies had delivered their attack this spring the war would have been won. That is more speculative than the usual wild brag, although they would win no prizes for size in competition with the most two weeks.

Pat O'Flaherty, very palpably not a prohibitionist, was arrested in Arizona recently, charged with selling liquor in violation of the eight year law. Pat, says Everybody's, had an impressive defense. His counsel, in addressing the jury, said:

"Now, gentlemen of the jury, do you honestly think that if the defendant had had a quart of whiskey he would sell it?"

The verdict, reached in one minute, was, "Not guilty."

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From the New York World.

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The formal discharge of the receiver of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway company restores the property to its original owners. For 15 years it has passed through the hands of stock jobbers into the possession of a defrauded public, only to finally bring up in a bankrupt court. How Rock Island, one of the richest and most prosperous of railroads, was looted by a conspiracy of gamblers, speculators, and swindlers, who have since then loaded their hundreds of millions of worthless securities upon unsuspecting investors, is a sad story. It is a story of the how the greed of a few great property, freed at last of all dishonest incumbrances, returned by the operation of an efficient receiver to the hands of the people who rightfully belong to it. It has cost the owners of Rock Island a great deal of money to ransom their railroad, and the public has paid dearly for the "leak" and the "leak" in the securities that had nothing behind them, but if the experience gained shall make such buccanering impossible hereafter, it may be worth the price.

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