Oregon Daily Journal

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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Freedom in a democracy is the glory of the state, and, therefore, in a democracy only will the freeman of nature deign to dwell.—Plato.

HOME CONTROL OF UTILITIES

CHICAGO wants home control of its public utilities. It is not satisfied with control of its street railway, light and gas by a state commission.

A highly interesting article on the subject, from the Christian Science Monitor, appears on this page. It is in the form of an interview with Professor Merriam, former Republican candidate for mayor of Chicago. Among other things, it says:

Chicago wants to have home control of its utilities. No other great city in this country is particularly concerned about it. New York has a commission appointed by the governor, but it is not a truly municipal commission; nor is Boston active. Chicago, however, is awake to the needs of controling its utilities itself, and is insistent that the legislature pass a home rule bill to this end.

Chicago has no six cent fare. It will never have a six cent fare. On the contrary, on a five cent fare, the city is deriving a heavy revenue from the traction lines from which a great fund is being accumulated.

The better control of the Chicago utilities is consequent from the terrific conflict waged by former Mayor Dunne with the traction managers. It was not unlike the long time struggle waged by Mayor Tom Johnson which resulted in a three cent fare for Cleveland, and which also brought about a model service on the Cleveland street railways.

State control of the utilities of cities is coming to be regarded by experts everywhere with more or less distrust. Though the New York state commission and the Indiana state commission recently made rulings against a six cent fare on the ground that the franchise contracts provided for a five cent fare, economists everywhere are pronouncing in favor of home rule of utilities. Such occurrences as the method by which a state commission in Oregon broke a five cent fare contract and authorized a six cent fare, confirm this idea to have home control of street railways, gas and like utilities.

In Oregon, for example, it was supposed that the home rule amendment made provision for regulation of utilities by cities themselves. Home rule without such power leaves only the shell of home rule. But public service utilities preferred state regulation, and by cunning manipulation legislation was so managed that cities in Oregon are not only denied home rule of utilities but it is declared by the minor courts that the state commission is given power to break a contract for a five cent fare between the traction company and the city government in Portland.

Regulation by the state, of utilities in Portland and Salem and Astoria and all other cities, means that a sheep herder far out on the ranges of Wallowa county exercises as much authority in the regulation of a Portland utility as does the head of a family of seven in this city whose streetcar bill totals $20 or $30 a month. One has no interest whatever and the other has a tremendous interest in what streetcar service shall be and what fares shall be.

Chicago insists, as Professor Merriam says, on home regulation. In time all cities will demand home regulation.

Would that all Ireland could unite on a plan for home rule. But when Belfast will Cork won't and when Cork will Belfast won't. The man who invented the story of the Kilkenny cats told a great deal in a few words.

CREEL'S CRIME

THE vilest sinner in the land can stand on the street corner with the Pharisee and thank the Lord that he is not like George Creel. Mr. Creel's load of shortcomings grows so fast that it will soon look like Mount Everest. It towers into the clouds. His latest transgression is portentously heinous. We shuddered when we perused the account of it. We felt that, whatever our own guilt might be, we were pure as the driven snow beside Mr. Creel.

Feloniously and maliciously and without the fear of God in his heart, Mr. Creel has used "flippant and insulting language" about a congressman. He has reviled the sacred image of Buddha. He has broken the Great Tabu.

Congressman Treadwell is the grand personage who has been blasphemed. Mr. Creel wrote of him that he "could have ascertained the absolute baselessness" of something he said on the floor of the house by using the telephone.

By these words Mr. Treadwell is twice injured. He is injured by the insinuation that he would say anything "baseless." He is injured again by the insinuation that he needs to use a telephone or anything else to complete and perfect his information on any subject whatever. By the grace of the Almighty some congressmen know everything.

We admit the awfulness of Mr. Creel's crime but we wish to put in a plea for mercy for him. In spite of his official position, which, of course, blackens him irretrievably, he is a good fellow. We do not ask Mr. Treadwell to spare his life. That would be going too far. But we do ask that he be shot instead of hanged. Has he forfeited all claim to a soldier's death?

The American landing in Vladivostok will be misrepresented in Russia, but it was no doubt necessary. The stores accumulated there must be protected. The world can not afford to lose either munitions or food with famine facing us. The wild fanatics who mislead Russia will shriek that the Americans have joined the kaiser and the Japanese to put down the revolution. But the impossible will not always gain credence. Sooner or later Russia will come to her senses and American motives will be known for what they are.

JUST A GIRL

"JUST a girl patriot."

That is the signature to a letter which a girl writes to The Journal. Here is something that she says:

I have bought one Liberty bond on a salary of $7 a week, and I am going to buy another one if it takes every cent I own. I can't conscientiously do anything else when my Uncle Sam needs every dollar he can get.

Those two sentences by a girl on $7 a week are one of the most powerful appeals that have been made in the Liberty loan campaign.

"My Uncle Sam" is a dominant thought. Uncle Sam is her Uncle Sam. The United States is her United States. "When my Uncle Sam needs every dollar he can get" this girl is going to buy another Liberty bond "if it takes every cent I own."

This war is her war. The casualty lists are her casualty lists. This cause of America is her cause. She gets but $7 a week, but her thought and her heart and her soul are as big and as broad as her country.

Her spirit is the spirit that makes the soul of Oregon, and the soul of Oregon is a great soul. It put Oregon over the top first in the third Liberty loan and made Oregon first in volunteers, and first in every quota for which there has been appeal.

This is a war for the sanctity of womanhood. It is a war to make the world safe for women. The horrors that have befallen captive women in Belgium and other women who have fallen to the mercy of Hun soldiers have appalled woman to the ends of the earth.

But the savings of $7 a week girls in Oregon are going into Liberty bonds to liberate all womanhood from the horrible standard of morality which Hun writers and philosophers have been instilling into the German mind as preparedness for this war.

"I have bought one Liberty bond on a salary of $7 a week, and I am going to buy another one if it takes every cent I own." It is a message to the women of the world.

It is a message to Uncle Sam.

The Hess case in Colorado exemplifies the cruelty of hurling pro-German accusations broadcast without reason. To a man who loves his country the suspicion of treason is worse than death. Hess loved his country. His neighbors accused him of pro-Germanism. He bought Liberty bonds and then shot himself.

THE DOUKHOBORS

IT IS reported that the Doukhobor colonists in Canada are preparing to go back home to Russia. The revolution has so altered conditions there that they believe they can profitably return. Naturally they prefer to live in a land where their own language is spoken and where their peculiar practices are now likely to meet with sympathy.

They are Christians of the original type. They will not fight. All of them work. Social distinctions do not exist among them. They hold all their goods in common as the disciples did at Jerusalem for years after the crucifixion. "They had all things in common," writes the author of The Acts of the Apostles.

The Canadian Doukhobors have little intercourse with the outside population. They "keep themselves unspotted from the world." No money circulates among them. Everybody has enough food and clothing. Nobody has too much. Their community affairs are decided by initiative and referendum votes at a big town meeting where all have equal voices.

For many years the Canadian Doukhobors were disliked by their neighbors on account of their singular ways of life. They would not drink, gamble or lie. This was enough to give them a bad name. But they did worse. They would not commit any crimes, so that their settlement needed neither police nor jails. The community is rich but the men wear homespun clothes and the women make their own gowns and hats.

Time smooths over all differences. The Canadians have learned to tolerate the Doukhobars. It is said by the Christian Science Monitor that the neighbors are sorry to see them making ready to flit.

Oregon will fly the National Liberty Loan Honor flag. The state was first to make up its quota. The news of it throughout America gives a characterization to this far off Pacific state that should be a source of pride to every Oregonian. Can we not do the same thing in War Savings Stamps? Why not lead in everything?

BETTER PAY FOR POSTMEN

THERE is justice in the claim of postmen for an advance in pay.

Postmen of ten years' service have had an average compensation of $86 a month. The heat of the summer and the cold of winter are theirs to face. Storms are no excuse—the household must have its mail and does have its mail. The postman sees to that.

And the postman has to face the high cost of living just the same as all other people. But no advance of pay has come to him in all these years that prices of food and clothing and everything else have been mounting.

Congress can find ways not only to advance the postman's pay, but it can save much of the money for it by stopping leaks. It can cut to the bone the enormous cost of sending out franked matter. It can save $7,000,000 a year by giving clerks at Washington an eight instead of a seven hour day.

Besides, there are padded lists, padded pay and padded hours in departments of the federal service all over the country. There are favorites, for example, of congressmen, who have had salaries advanced, sometimes as reward for personal and party service. The Journal has in mind a stenographer in a Portland federal institution whose pay is $1400 per year for less than seven hours' actual service, against the $86 average per month of the postmen above referred to.

And there are others.

Mr. Taft's estimate is five million men for our army. Current stories about Germany's exhaustion are fables. The kaiser is still full of fight and he has plenty to fight with. We face a bitter war. To win we must pour out men and money. Bonds must be sold. It is a noble fight and the prize is infinite.

OLD MR. GROUCH

A GENTLEMAN riding on the streetcar to his work the other morning was cheered by the sight of some high school girls who entered at a corner near a grove of cherry trees. On the greensward under the trees some robins were hopping about merrily. The gentleman gazed with delight on the schoolgirls' rosy cheeks. He exulted in the sound of their silvery laughter. He wished he were a boy again so that he might go to school and recite in the same classes with them.

But the gentleman's joy was a little dimmed by the sight of a contrivance the girls wore on their heads. It was a species of turban, very striking, bearing the legend, "Freshman," or perhaps "Sophomore," as if these lovely young girls had been college students instead of high school pupils.

A shade of sadness drifted across the countenance of the good old man. He felt much as he did one day on the street of New York when he saw a boy 5 years old riding in a magnificent carriage with three footmen to wait upon him and wearing a tall silk hat. "These children," he murmured to himself, "pluck and eat the fruit of life before it is ripe. Nay," he continued, "they do not even wait ofttimes for it to blossom."

When those charming girls go to college, he reflected, everything there will have become stale to them by wearisome anticipation. He feared lest, with all their brightness and fresh youthfulness, they might find their later years jejune because they had rubbed the bloom off by premature imitation.

The gentleman went on to compare those enchanting girls with the children known as "hotel angels." It was not a very gallant thing for him to do, but he told us afterward he could not help it.

The old gentleman wiped a tear out from his eye as the beautiful schoolgirls went laughing out of the car, and prayed that their teachers might, before it was too late, warn them not to devour the fruit of life while it is green and tasteless, but to wait patiently until it ripens.

In schooldays be schoolgirls. At college be students. But do not try to make college life out of school life. The bad little boy who fancies he is "manly" because he smokes cigarettes merely blights what chance he ever had of becoming a man.

APRES VOUS, MONSIEUR

CHARMING compliments have been exchanged between William Howard Taft and Frank P. Walsh.

The two gentlemen represented the general public on a committee appointed to devise a plan to conciliate labor and speed up war factories.

Mr. Taft was chosen by employers, Mr. Walsh by workers. Both performed their duty with exemplary breadth and liberality of sentiment. They now behold one another surrounded with a golden aura.

Mr. Taft writes that he is "personally indebted to all his colleagues, but especially to Mr. Walsh." Mr. Walsh writes that "Mr. Taft is of the very highest type of American manhood."

It is not many years since we were reading that Mr. Taft had sold himself to the Guggenheims for thirty pieces of silver and that Mr. Walsh was a howling anarchist thirsting for gore. Now they toss fragrant bouquets to each other while the public looks on with approval. It is well. Give any normal man a chance to be good and great and he will rise to it. Mr. Taft and Mr. Walsh have had their chance. The country says, "well done."

PUBLIC UTILITIES' PROPER FUNCTION

Chicago Correspondence Christian Science Monitor.

"The tendency today in the municipal regulation of public utilities," observed Alderman Charles E. Merriam of the Chicago city council, professor of political science at the University of Chicago, recently to a representative of the Christian Science Monitor, "is toward service, rather than toward compensation. The idea of compensation—of the traction company or the telephone company paying something to the city for privileges enjoyed—is not held so highly as it was several years ago. As it works out, the compensation may mean simply a tax on the people in higher rates or limitation of service or poorer service. Then there is the difficulty of the administration of the fund created by the compensation, if it goes into a fund. I do not anticipate that Chicago, in taking up the regulation of its utilities companies, the big question immediately before it, will seek an increase in the compensation paid the city, but believe that the regulation will be directed at improvement of the service."

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The amount of compensation paid the city of Chicago by public utility concerns is no niggardly sum. The most notable example is, of course, the traction fund, now totaling, with interest, $18,000,000, so this bureau is informed at the city comptroller's office. The revenue received by the city during 1915 from six public utility companies amounted to $3,882,625.80.

The big questions to which the alderman refers are the fixing of the gas, telephone and electric rates and particularly the determination of a traction building policy to take care of the city's needs today and in the future. Closely associated is the settlement of the gas controversy, concerning $10,000,000 of charges beyond a rate fixed by council some years back, of which the company has offered to pay back one third to consumers.

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The conclusions Chicago is arriving at in dealing with its public utilities are of importance because this city has made some advances in this question of great civic concern. "Chicago has made more progress in dealing with its public utilities than any of the other great cities of the world," remarked Alderman Merriam. "The reason, I believe, is because it has had that one great essential—public sentiment. The city is more interested in the traction and the gas questions than in anything else. Chicago wants to have home control of its utilities. No other great city in this country is particularly concerned about it. New York has a commission appointed by the governor, but it is not a truly municipal commission; nor is Boston active. Chicago, however, is awake to the needs of controlling its utilities itself, and is insistent that the legislature pass a home rule bill to this end."

FOURFOLD PLAN OF WAR TAXES

By Carl Smith, Washington Staff Correspondent of The Journal

Washington, April 13.—Representative Dill of Washington has introduced in the house a new war tax bill, under which the nation's expenses would be paid from four sources.

Retaining the income tax, but increasing the supertaxes as the size of the income increases until it would reach 90 per cent on the excess of all incomes over $500,000 a year.

The excess profits tax to be raised to 80 per cent of the income in excess of the pre-war period, where the net income exceeds $15,000.

A "big fortunes" tax, of 3 per cent of the value of all property held by an individual in excess of $1,000,000, 2 per cent if the property is over $5,000,000.

Finally, a tax on unused land, at the rate of 1 per cent of the value of all land exclusive of improvements or minerals, but with an exemption of $2000. Unused land is defined as land where the assessed value of buildings or other improvements does not equal one third of the value of the land; or, where the land is suited for agriculture, where the improvements do not equal in value one fifth of the value of the land, or of which less than one half the tillable acreage is cultivated or pastured, exclusive of woodlands.

It is provided by Mr. Dill's bill that the big fortune and unused land taxes shall continue during the war, and after the war long enough to pay off the bonds and other debt created by the United States because of the war.

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Payment of income and excess profits taxes in installments is being urged upon congress by many business organizations and by individual business men. Members of the Oregon delegation have received several communications from their home state on the subject.

Commissioner Roper of the internal revenue service in a letter to a member of the house states that he is in favor of making such taxes payable in installments but with one important difference from the idea in the minds of the business men. He says the installments should be in advance and not deferred after the date the taxes are due. Mr. Roper says that in his opinion the needs of the government will not warrant action which will delay the payment of a large proportion of taxes beyond June 30. He would have no objection to a law which would permit payment to be made say six months in advance of that date. He points out that the government has done several things to make easier the way of the taxpayer. It has put out a heavy issue of certificates of indebtedness. It has made several rulings which mitigate severities in the letter of the law. It has just enacted a war finance bill which will aid corporations to pass "tight places" in refunding and other necessary financial operations.

Representative McCormick of Illinois has introduced a bill to permit payment of half the excess and income taxes on June 15 and the second half by October 15. Because of the various money drives for Liberty loans and other war activities, he asserts, the government should follow the example of many of the states in permitting installment payments.

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The house of representatives, upon recommendation of Secretary McAdoo, has passed a bill which will permit national banks to loan more than 10 per cent of their assets to a single person, firm or corporation, if the loan is secured by Liberty bonds. The bill provides for rules and regulations by the comptroller of the currency under which such loans will be made. The bill itself does not limit the amount or percentage of loans that may be made on Liberty bonds to one borrower, leaving this to the discretion of the comptroller.

Secretary McAdoo pointed out that banks are permitted to subscribe for themselves in any amount for Liberty bonds, and many of them go farther than should be asked of them, whereas the customers of the bank would be glad to do the subscribing if they could get money from the bank. The security in either case being the same, said the secretary, there is no logic in refusing to allow the bank to loan more than 10 per cent in one lump, although permitting and encouraging the bank itself to invest in any amount that it can muster.

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 signed by the writer, whose mail address in full must accompany the contribution.]

The Case of the Carriers

Portland, April 10.—To the Editor of The Journal—I notice an article in The Journal entitled 'With Burleson Missing," and another on the same page by Lucia Faxon Additon on "Why a New Postal Law?" In the former a hint of praise is given Mr. Burleson for his business ability to make money for the United States of America—the people. Out of one pocket into another? No. Out of the postal employes' pockets into the $9,000,000 surplus, with all the franked matter thrown in. Lucia Faxon Additon says, "out of the magazine reader's pockets," for the reader pays the increased costs.

As a regular mail carrier for the last 10 years, my salary has averaged $86.66 a month. If $100 is not enough for a police officer or a fireman, how about a government employe who is supposed to be and live as an example to all? I have always admired The Journal for the stand it takes for the worker, and I believe that I voice the sentiment of all the postal employes when I make a request for an editorial on this subject.

While congress haggles over our raise we have been and are still paying the high prices—the six cent fare included—eating barley bread and wearing our old clothes. J. E. ROGERS.

Carrier No. 134.

Mr. Walker on "Olden Oregon"

Albany, Or., April 10.—To the Editor of The Journal—In today's Journal, under the head of "Olden Oregon," mention is made of the first money coined west of the Rocky Mountains; and in Oregon City.

I doubt if there is another person living besides myself who visited the mint, a small frame building standing quite near the bank of the Willamette river in the then Oregon City. Opposite and across the river was Linn City. I chanced in one day and saw them running the gold bars through rollers to give them the proper thickness and width. I am not sure that I saw them actually "stamping" out the coin.

This was in the summer of 1849. The gold used was brought from California by returned miners. On the coins was the profile of a beaver; hence the two sizes—$5 and $10 pieces—were called "Beaver money." Being pure gold, they were more valuable than gold coins with alloy in them, and, being softer than the above, they would the sooner wear away.

Every place of business in Oregon City had its scales for weighing gold dust. The principal stores were Caufield's, in the lower end of the city; Holderness', on Main street, about midway of the city, and also Kilbourne's, near the waterfront. In the upper part of the city were McKinley's, and the brick store of George H. Abernethy, the first brick store in Oregon. The first brick edifice was erected in Linn county on a farm a few miles east of Albany.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Abernethy was by election Oregon's first territorial governor, and under the provisional government.

Also, I would add that during my nearly 80 years in Oregon I have never been elected to a public office above school director or school clerk. Being a party prohibitionist during these many years, I have "stood in my own light," politically.

My father, Rev. Elkanah Walker, and my mother, Mary Richardson Walker, and six of us children, and Rev. Cushing Eells and his wife and two children, were escorted from our Spokane mission (now known as Walker's prairie, 35 miles northwest of Spokane) by Major Joseph Magone and 50 mounted volunteer riflemen, to The Dalles, Or. Thence we came by batteau down the Columbia river and up the Willamette river to Oregon City. Several of the riflemen were oarsmen. We reached Oregon City June 20, 1848, having to leave the upper country on account of the Whitman massacre of November 29, 1847. We lived in Oregon City until October 25, 1849, when we removed to Forest Grove, 21 miles west of Portland. At that date I was nearly 11 years of age. I still distinctly remember much that transpired in Oregon City, and where stood nearly every house in it, and who lived there. In my "Memories of Old Oregon," I mention many of the most interesting events. Some time I hope to have these "memories" in book form, but—largely owing to the high price of printing material—probably not until "this cruel war is over."

CYRUS H. WALKER.

Shipworkers and Street Cars

Portland, April 10.—To the Editor of The Journal—We have just put over a very successful Liberty loan, the principal purpose of which is to furnish the sinews of war to our soldiers and sailors and those of our allies. This it would be impossible to do if it were not for ships. Ships, ships, and then more ships, we are told, if we wish to win this war; not alone to ship men and supplies to Europe, but to relieve the shortage of certain commodities in our own country. We are short of wheat. There are millions of bushels going to waste in Australia for lack of ships. We are also short of sugar. Yet there are millions of pounds on the docks of Java awaiting ships. And still the U-boats are sinking ships, faster than the world is building them. And so it seems to me, and others, that shipbuilding is the principal thing now. All the shipbuilders here in Portland are doing their best to turn out ships as fast as possible, and never complain about being up all night or getting up at 3 o'clock on a wet morning. But they can't walk seven or eight miles to work, and the Portland Railway, Light & Power company certainly tries to make it as uncomfortable for them as it possibly can. For instance, there are some 800 men who work at the North Portland yards of the Standifer Construction company, nearly all of whom take the Mississippi avenue cars and transfer to the stockyard cars at Kenton (two fares). The day shift goes on at 6 a. m. and quits at 2:30 p. m. The street car company knows this, and also knows, almost to a man, how many it has to take; and yet not once a month does a man who lives a short distance from the center of town ever get a seat. Last Saturday, after working all day, and tired, we had to wait at Kenton 20 minutes for a car, and the car I was in registered 93 fares. Last Monday morning it was worse—one car at Kenton to take about 175 men, and 66 of us, after waiting 20 minutes, got a car and arrived at the shipyards 10 minutes late. If there is any patriotism or encouragement to shipbuilders in this kind of thing, I for one can't see it. This is what the working man gets, after being gouged for six-cent fares by the Portland Railway, Light & Power company, with the aid of the obliging public service commission. R. F. KING.

PERSONAL MENTION

Tendency of Times

Cuspidors are decreasing in popularity—or rather, in necessity—according to F. I. Sells, salesman for a Pennsylvania foundry company that manufactures among other things that humble office vessel. "Our sales of cuspidors have decreased perceptibly, and we have sold more cigarette trays during the past year than at any other time," said Mr. Sells. "The only reason I can give is that tobacco chewing is on the wane, while cigarette smoking is growing more popular."

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Gumdrops Recommended

Eat gumdrops, marshmallows and taffy if you must have candy, and save sugar in accordance with the government's war food program. This is the advice of G. L. Watkins, candy salesman, who is registered at the Imperial. "These kinds of candy have less sugar than chocolates and richer sweets," said Mr. Watkins. "Of course we candy men want to sell all of our products that we can, but at the same time wish to save sugar. Gumdrops may not be as dainty and tasty as bon bons, but you'd be surprised to know the small amount of sugar used in their manufacture."

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Returning From Southland

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Haman, Miss Dorothea Hamon, A. L. Hamon Jr., and Miss Marjorie Du Shayne, all of St. Paul, are registered at the Multnomah. They are returning home after a winter's sojourn in Southern California.

Yakima Councilmen Here

R. E. Hull, C. Joseph Davise, C. H. Shield and H. F. Warnic, the city councilmen of Yakima, Wash., are registered at the Portland hotel. The councilmen are in Portland on business for their city.

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Scatters Bond Purchases

Thomas Gurkie of St. Louis, who is registered at the Benson, declares he has purchased Liberty loan bonds in three cities on the Pacific coast, three in the Mississippi valley and four on the Atlantic coast. He has a display of 10 buttons, not wearing them all at one time however.

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Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Lee of New York are staying at the Portland.

Among arrivals at the Imperial are Verna Randall and Bernice Ely of Kelso, Wash.

Fred Duncan of Marshfield is a guest at the Perkins.

Tom Barker of Los Angeles is registered at the Multnomah.

H. P. Rieske of Astoria is an arrival at the Multnomah.

William A. Aicken of Medford is staying at the Imperial.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Williams of Astoria are guests at the Imperial.

B. F. Lockland of The Dalles is an arrival at the Perkins.

J. A. Skinner of Minneapolis is registered at the Benson.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Again: Hold 'em, Haig!

It's always two-lip time in Portland.

The best we can do is to hope with you that it will be a fine day tomorrow.

Jitneys have nothing in common with ship knees except a similarity in pronunciation.

Labor unions in Spokane are going to have a laundry. To wash the union suits, no doubt.

"The long winter evenings" lack at least an hour of having anything on the long summer evenings.

The difference between a skunk and a Hun is that the skunk won't bother you if you leave it alone.

"Hotel Bar Is Tottering."—Headline. Probably seems to be, anyway, to some of the gentlemen soaks trying to hang onto it.

Inasmuch as the quadrennial crop of gubernatorial candidates has matured, the casuist is minded of his orthoepy. Were the "natorial" prefixed by the spelling "goober," the stigma of peanut politics might be laid.

What a stupendous array of brains and intelligence is represented in the young army of politicians seeking favor at the hands of the dear "peepul"! And what these same "dear peepul" will hand some of them won't be slow.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

The Tillamook Herald is now appearing in linotype type.

Woodburn citizens are subscribing money for a city service flag that will cost $50.

Pendleton's paid firemen are to have $10 a month more salary, as voted by the city council last Wednesday night.

Testing the new auto apparatus, Corvallis' fire department made a two-mile run, made all connections and had water 128 feet in the air, all in just three minutes, 12 2-5 seconds.

A new charter has been drawn for Prairie City and among the changes adopted is the dropping of the "city" in the name of the town and making it just plain "Prairie" henceforth.

Owing to the scarcity of men in Sutherlin, a number of women, the Sun says, are now employed in pruning loganberry vines and in other work usually performed by men, and are making good.

George Holsheime of El Monica, in Washington county, is loser, all in one week, of a fine Holstein cow that choked to death on a potato, and of a brood sow that fell out of a wagon and broke her neck.

The student body of McMinnville college has conferred upon Miss Mae Hansard one of the highest honors within its power by electing her Queen of May day. The annual event has been dated for May 3.

A YEAR OF MIRACLES

From the Philadelphia Evening Ledger April 6

There has been more criticism than commendation in the public comment on the activities of the government since President Wilson signed the declaration of war against the imperial German government a year ago today. The criticism has been wholesome and necessary. It has come from the intense desire of everyone that the whole power of the nation should be mobilized for war at the earliest possible moment. We have been impatient with blunders. We have condemned inefficiency. We have prodded the hesitant and the timid. The flaws have been so evident and conspicuous they have apparently prevented us from seeing the soundness in the work which has already been done.

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The truth is that this has been a year of stupendous miracles. Twenty-four months ago no one believed we could accomplish in 12 months what has been done since April 6 of last year. The suggestion, for example, that a draft law be passed was scoffed at. We said that the American people would not consent to compulsory military service on any large scale. And Germany believed us. She looked with contempt on our military power. She said we were a commercial nation, and so long as we could make money selling munitions to the entente allies we cared nothing for any other war issue. And there were persons here at home who held the view of the Potsdam gang. But we have discovered ourselves in the passing months and we have learned that there are world principles for which we are willing to fight. Our horizon has been broadened and we are now thinking in terms of the brotherhood of a democratic humanity rather than in terms of a narrow continentalism.

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Consider what we have done:

Twelve months ago we had an army of 9524 officers and 205,510 enlisted men. Today our army contains 128,801 officers and 1,528,924 men and in a few months we shall have more officers than the total enrollment in the whole army when we entered the war. Within a little more than two months from the declaration of war we had our soldiers in France. They have been going over there in increasing numbers every month. The censor will not permit the publication of the size of our army abroad, but it is known to be numbered by the hundreds of thousands. We have built a great terminal port and extensive supply depots in France ready for the millions of men it is planned to send. We have accomplished more toward the organizing of an adequate expeditionary force than Great Britain did in the same time, and she had a standing army more than twice the size of ours, was used to war and was directly threatened by the German menace.

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The acceptance of the draft law by a nation unaccustomed to war and by a people constitutionally opposed to forced service is such a miracle as the ancient prophets would say was brought about by direct inspiration of Providence. We shall never recover from the wonder of it.

The navy has expanded along with the army. Its personnel has been increased. The number of ships is growing and inventors are constantly at work perfecting devices for destroying the submarines. Our destroyers are actively engaged in hunting down the U-boats and our battleships are guarding the Atlantic lanes over which the transports travel.

An airship building program has been laid down providing for a fleet of machines of various types which will be adequate to all the needs of our forces. In spite of delays and complications, it is moving ahead and the planes will be ready when the men are trained to fly them.

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Shipbuilding plans have been perfected for 10,000,000 tons of new shipping on the ocean. It is expected that 270 steel ships will be completed this year and one shipyard, which will launch its first ship on December 1, is planning to launch a new ship every day thereafter. There is no reason for believing that this plan will not be carried out.

We have raised $3,000,000,000 for war purposes in the 12 months, a sum so vast that it cannot be conceived. More than one half of this amount has been lent to the allies and largely spent here for munitions of one kind or another. And we are planning to raise more billions in the confident knowledge that we have them to spend for war purposes.

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But what has been done is only the beginning. It was known that we could not bring our full force into play in less than two years. The plans have been made, not to produce a great showing at once, but to have an army and ships and airplanes and guns and all the necessities ready by the spring of next year. It was physically impossible to do this sooner. From now on the momentum of preparation will gain in force, and as the months go by we shall begin to see greater results than those that have astounded men who have looked beneath the surface criticism of the past year into the actual achievements.

The nation is united as never before on the momentous issue of winning the war. Labor and capital are working together. Men of all trades and professions are agreed, and when we see what shall have been wrought in another 12 months we shall admit again that the days of miracles are not past.

HOW TO BE HEALTHY

Copyright, 1917, by J. Keeley

LOOKING INTO YOUR EYES—Innermost eye structures hold many secrets regarding the general bodily health. Such conditions as hardening of the arteries or kidney disease may be detected. Syphilis is a malady which makes its impression on the retina of the eye. There is a so-called "diabetic retinitis" or diabetic inflammation of the retina. Leukaemia, anemia and malaria, all of them blood diseases, show retinal changes. Chronic lead and alcohol poisoning may be detected in the eye. When a brain tumor is suspected, what the retina says is of the greatest diagnostic importance. To see these conditions it is necessary to use a little instrument called an opthalmoscope. This enables a medical expert to throw a light deep into the interior of the eye and yet to shield his own eyes so that he may look in. Not only organic diseases but local abnormalities may thus be detected.

Having the eyes looked into at least once a year is a sensible precaution for the prevention, arrest or improvement of systematic eye troubles. Among the causes for rejection of registrants for the United States army, diseases and abnormalities of the eyes furnished the largest percentage.

In the general physical examinations of thousands of industrial and commercial employes and of individual applicants by the Life Extension institute, 31 per cent were found to have faulty vision uncorrected. Forty per cent were found to have kidney disturbances of some kind, and 42 per cent showed arterial changes. These were nearly all young people. Practically 90 per cent of all those examined who were found to have important impairments were unaware that they had anything the matter with them until they were told of their condition in the report of the examination.

Next Monday—Unrealized Strain.

Ragtag and Bobtail

Stories From Everywhere

Cost $200 to Save His Hat

IF YOU are coming back from the bank with a roll of bills in your hand and the wind blows your hat off, says Capper's Weekly, let her go. A storekeeper in Missouri who didn't heed this advice, made a grab for his lid with one hand while he loosened his grip of 595 dollar bills in the other. He saved the hat, but was able to find and reclaim only 395 of the bills.

On Liberty's Altar

Ah, the witchery of her stitchery!
The needle flies so swift
When Ethel hems a handkerchief
To send as loving gift
To one who is "somewhere in France,
Land of war now, once romance.

See the speeding knitting needle,
In the hands of Genevieve;
She is knitting sweet romances,
I can very well believe;
Will she fold them in the box
For her lover, with these socks!

How the loving fingers linger
In the gauze so lily white,
As Mary fashions bandages
For our boys who bleed and fight
In the trenches over there—
Death and carnage everywhere!

—Calvin Goss.

Cove, Oregon.

Needed a Bookmark

It was a Kansas soldier boy, Capper's Weekly says, who wrote home to his mother that he had so many blankets on his bed that he had to use a book mark to see where to get in.

The Congressman

He yearned to sit in congress
And so we rushed him through,
So there he sits; and, really it's
The only thing he'll do.

—Philadelphia Evening Ledger.

The Sugar Hog

"A little more sugar, please," a customer asked a waiter when served with but two cubes of sugar with his coffee.

"Sorry, but we can only serve two lumps with each cup."

"Then give me another cup of coffee."

And the customer took the additional lumps, sweetened the first cup of coffee to his satisfaction, and left the second cup untouched.

You're Entirely Welcome

"Can you lend me a cup of sugar, an egg, a piece of butter and a——"

"Certainly! Wouldn't you like to take home some of our gas to cook it with?"

The Liberty Bond Alphabet

(Third Installment)

S is for serve, self-denial and save,
Strike with your might, and our flag shall still wave.

T is for tomorrow, which for you may ne'er shine,
Do it today. Sign your name on the line.

U means united—to stand or to fall,
Uncle Sam needs you. Respond to the call.

V is for victory, sure to be won
When every person his duty has done.

W is for war. It is no parlor game,
Win it with money, or weaken with shame.

X is for Xmas, the season of cheer,
Help Santa bring us success yet this year.

Y is for you—not for some other fellow,
Show that your blood is red and not yellow.

Z is for zenith, which means the tip top,
On to the goal. Buy and buy, and don't stop.

—Mrs. C. I. Snider.

179 Willamette boulevard.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

The Lord destroyed Sodom with fire from heaven, accordin' to Scriptur, but it allus appeared to me that that was not the only way peoples reached destruction for their sins. Some of 'em seemed to wither up with dry rot in spite of plenty all around 'em.

Nothing the Matter With Portland

By H. S. Harcourt

Fifteen men and 35 women are paid $2800 a month in the paper package factory and printing office at Holladay avenue and East Twenty-fifth street. Annual output is $190,000 to $200,000 a year. Sales extend to all important centers of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Nevada and California. The building in which the plant is located stands by the track of the O-W. R. & N. company, is three stories, 100x100 feet, and one half is occupied by this institution. A printing press, large enough to print a sheet the size of a bed blanket, is in operation, and smaller ones suitable for labels or any class of printing required on paper boxes up to the size of suit boxes. A dozen or so other machines, peculiar in construction, are seen, among them a huge one for making corrugated pasteboard. It runs at moderate speed, fed from three rolls of paper. It corrugates one of them, and this is sandwiched between the others, and all three are pasted together as one board. It is the center sheet which constitutes the "spring" in the finished product, making it valuable for shipping boxes containing breakable articles. It is a perfect shock absorber and is made single or double face—that is, it may have the heavy cover paper pasted on one or both sides, as necessary.

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"To meet hurried calls for any of the numerous articles we make," says Frost V. Simpson, superintendent of the factory, "we are compelled to carry a stock of supplies of the value of $60,000 to $80,000. And we are compelled to buy this straw paper in Indiana, as it is not made on this coast. All other material is native of Oregon. Consumption of corrugated paper is rapidly increasing, however, and no doubt in time western paper mills will manufacture it. Here we produce many kinds of corrugated board, some so strong that it stands a pressure of 80 pounds. This makes a container for even hardware, and for live chicks and hatching eggs boxes it has no equal. Being much lighter than wood, it saves in shipping charges and is largely supplanting wood. These long boxes you see are for the Portland Broom company and used for brooms. We manufacture hundreds of articles, and the number increases as rapidly as their merits become known."

Tomorrow: Article No. 80 of this series, "P. Sharkey & Son."

War Information Complete—Accurate—Official!

Prepared by the Committee on Public Information, and to Be Obtained, for the Most Part, Free.

The government of the United States, that the people may know the truth about the war and war operations, is issuing a series of publications of the very highest value to all patriots.

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In this space from day to day the subject matter of these pamphlets will be indicated, and the prices of the few not sent free will be stated. But in any event, nothing need be sent for postage. They cost the reader either the bare price stated, or nothing at all.

"The Nation in Arms"

Contents: Two addresses, by Secretaries Lane and Baker, showing why we are at war. These are among the most forceful and widely quoted speeches the war has produced. 16 pages.

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