

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED EVERY DAY, AFTERNOON AND MORNING
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OUR PHENOMENAL TRADE
THE United States foreign trade for the last year has increased to \$10,500,000,000 with a balance in favor of this country of \$4,182,000,000.

Our commerce exceeds last year's by \$1,500,000,000 and the balance of trade for the United States has increased by \$1,000,000,000.
We exported \$7,415,000,000 in goods to foreign nations last year and our imports totaled \$3,233,000,000.

In pre-war days England held 45 percent of world commerce, Germany 27 per cent and the United States 12. A survey by the United States grain corporation shows that 90 per cent of the devastated territory of Europe is now being seeded for production next year.

It is America's task to hold the immense foreign trade developed. With European countries transformed from agents of destruction to heavy producers, there is serious question as to whether the United States can maintain the \$4,000,000,000 balance attained during the red riot in Europe.

Uncle Sam's Portland store for the sale of army goods has an excellent system. All purchasers pay cash. Those who carry their parcels home save cartage.

WAGES AND LAND
The statement is that vacant lots in Portland do not readily sell and that prices are not high.

It is probable that unused land and land held for speculation everywhere is likewise of dull sale. High wages cut into the prices of such properties. So does the high cost of materials.

It is the working out of natural law. In the great scheme of things, it was never intended that land should be idle. Land is the basis of life. It is the fundamental of human existence.

It is then abnormal when land of any area or anywhere, capable of production, should be idle. To hold it for speculation is to prey upon the very essentials to human existence, and it is therefore economically wrong.

WHAT BETTER CAUSE?
INSURANCES are given that all contributions to the Emanuel hospital fund will be used in the erection and equipment of the hospital.

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and when the individual can take with him a well deserved tribute for conscientious and valuable service.
As one of the original members of the commission Mr. Thompson had a difficult work in the construction of a state highway department and the establishment of a general highway policy.

It is often said that a man with large private interests can not afford to take a public position, especially when there is no compensation of outstanding citizens. Its supporters are not charging even the campaign expense against the fund. Civic pride is appealed to. Why not respond generously?

Probably the Standifer shipyard whistles never blew so glad a note as when they uttered their call for work Thursday morning. Strikes are expensive to the strikers as well as to industry.

A BUSINESS PROPOSITION

OREGON lies in the path of the national park to park tour. Portland inevitably is a part of the circuit which connects the great playgrounds of the government. The Columbia river highway will be traversed by every motor party which cares enough about Western scenery and outdoor life to undertake the journey as a whole.

Give these assets business consideration, let an expert accountant who understands the values involved analyze them, and the conclusion will be that announced by Harry W. Child, Thomas A. Marlow, T. B. Miller, Max Goodwill and other members of the Montana party which visited Portland last Tuesday.

Investment in roads that will carry auto travelers pleasantly will return highly satisfactory dividends. Local road construction plans that constitute units of the park to park program are imperative. The financing and building of tourist hotels cannot be deferred longer if we actually want tourists to come, and then go away persuading others likewise to come.

The league covenant provides for its own amendment. If there are things about it that are unsatisfactory they can be changed by action of the league council and assembly. If America or any other nation should be dissatisfied with the changes, it can immediately withdraw. Then why harp about alleged defects?

THOSE DAYS OF PICARDY

ALL the Holland shipping, aggregating 500,000 tons, which was requisitioned by America in March, 1918, has either been returned to the Dutch owners or is in process of delivery.

The office of the American mission at Rotterdam, where the business connected with the Dutch ships was transacted, closed the first of this month. A news dispatch states that the Hollanders are well pleased with the terms given by the Americans for the use of the vessels.

Why does he do it? Because it is only by misrepresentation that the Johnson tribe can find a weapon with which to fight the league.
If not, why do they use such misrepresentation as Johnson used in this case?

St. Louis and Southern Illinois milk dealers are facing federal prosecution for serving the people of the Missouri city with an adulterated product. The assurance of the government's pure food laws is that the person or agency vending impure products will be placed in the criminal class on showing of his guilt.

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From the Baker Democrat
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