Oregon Journal

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

[Be calm, be confident, be cheerful and do unto others as you would have them do unto you.]

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There never was a person that did anything worth doing who did not really receive more than he gave.—Beecher.

THE GOUGED CAR RIDERS

A PORTLAND car rider testified at the eight cent fare hearing that 5 per cent of his salary went in payment of car fare.

He told of another car rider whose salary was less than his own, who was compelled to pay out 7 per cent of his salary for car rides.

Yet these men and the shop girls and restaurant women and store clerks and office employes and telephone operators and elevator drivers and window cleaners, and widows supporting a family of children, and all the other thousands on moderate wages and slender wages—they are supplying Portland with its rapid transit system.

They are doing more: They are paying city, county, state, school and an infinite variety of taxes on that system. They are paying for the privilege of laying car tracks in the streets, paying for the tolls on the cars for crossing the bridges, paying for the cost of transportation of the many who ride free on the street cars, paying for paving and maintenance of paving along the car tracks.

It is wrong. Why should these wage workers and breadwinners alone be forced to bear the cost of Portland's rapid transit system when the owners of big office buildings, who do not use the cars, pay nothing?

Since the public as a whole insists that the street car company have a fair return on its investment, since the public as a whole ordains that all the expenses of the company be paid and that in addition there be a reasonable profit to the owners of the system, since the income comes alone from the car riders under the present adjustment, since the public as a whole gets as much or more benefit from the rapid transit system as do the car riders, why doesn't the public as a whole do the fair thing and take off a lot of these charges which the public forces the car riders to pay the public for the public's benefit?

If the car riders would ask for justice, if they would ask for the Portland public to assume some of these unjust burdens, The Journal believes the people of the city would accede to the request.

Indeed, how could they refuse?

The method adopted by the Bethlehem shipyard in San Francisco to keep its employes in a good humor, is to open a store for the sale of food, the employes to pay nothing beyond the first cost of the articles, not even the clerk hire or the wrapping paper. The scheme may work, but some one has to pay all costs, and if the employes don't pay the whole bill it is conceivable they might find the difference blocking the upward progress of their pay checks.

WHAT HO! THE PIPER!

PROFOUND psychological research at Reed college has unearthed a startling discovery. Cockroaches just love to shimmie. Maybe they invented the movement, since no one seems to have come forward to claim its parentage as yet. Dr. Helen Clark, who announces the discovery, does not tell whether her psychological investigations have progressed that far.

But, turning from cockroaches to mice, Dr. Clark informs the world that those incentives of feminine hysterics are expert fox trotters when a tune is whistled in their ears. It is all very astounding and very interesting.

It has long been the inner conviction of many that jazz music is enough to cause suffering mankind to do most anything. But unfortunate humanity, even in the hour of its greatest affliction, has never dreamed that its agony was shared by the humble cockroach and the elusive mouse.

But the discovery might be turned to advantage after all. Reed college, or other institutions which harbor such uninvited guests, might set the music box to jazzing outside the dining room door and lure the dance-mad insects from the salad and the soup. Or, and here we hesitate, the coeds might hire an orchestra and dance the mice to death.

Or, where is the Pied Piper of Hamlin and his magic flute? With him and his instrument attuned to jazz, he might lead the invaders to the nearby lake and let the ladies sleep. But no, wait until Mack Sennett and his dancing girls begin their mystic revels in the adjacent woods and then combine the show. It would be a scream. It really would.

Baptist missionaries are to pursue the wild men of Borneo through the jungles of that far country in automobiles, according to a recent announcement. If they would so hire a few Portland delivery car drivers for chauffeurs there would be no doubt about their ability to bury them, whatever difficulties might arise as to baptism.

A ROTTEN PROPOSAL

"IF THE proposed constitutional provision for the president of the senate to succeed to the governorship in case of death, resignation or incapacity, should be indorsed by the people we will adopt the Bolshevist idea of not permitting the people to have a direct vote," says the Woodburn Independent. It adds:

When a choice of secretary of state is made, the electors also take into consideration the possibility of that officer becoming governor. The president of the senate is selected by a small body of men. It means that a possible governor would be elected by a legislative body.

All the people elect the secretary of state, and as the Independent says, it is with the expectation that the secretary of state may become governor. They thereby have a direct choice on the question of who shall become governor in case of vacancy in the executive office.

They would have no direct choice as to the successor if the Banks-Moser amendment should be adopted. Then the election of a successor would be in the hands of 30 senators. They choose the president of the senate, and the Banks-Moser amendment proposes that the president of the senate, so chosen, shall become governor in case of vacancy.

To adopt the amendment, the people must take the power to name a successor out of their own hands and turn it over to 30 senators. The Oregon state senate is usually dominated by a thimblerigging Multnomah delegation.

Multnomah county has so much legislative power that the Multnomah delegation almost invariably dictates the organization of the legislature and with some exceptions, Multnomah county sends to the legislature politicians concerned more with jobs and deals and thimblerigging than with state welfare.

If the amendment passes, Multnomah county politicians will, through invisible government, name the man who will become governor in case of a vacancy, and government by chicanery, inside pull, and political trickery will be the certain result.

The amendment is vicious, is, in fact, a rotten proposal, and the Independent is rendering a public service in making the facts known.

Franklin K. Lane, retiring secretary of the interior, is to step into a $50,000 a year job as manager of an oil company. That ought to keep the home fires burning.

WITHIN TWO BLOCKS

THE snow of Thursday morning fell with little warning. It rendered paved streets almost as slippery as if ice had frozen upon their surface. But despite the dangerous condition an automobile with smooth tires and without chains was observed to dash swiftly west on East Davis street. A Rose City Park car had halted to permit high school students to disembark. They were gathered thickly about the rear of the car. The autoist applied his brakes all too late. Locked and sliding wheels scarcely checked his progress. The school children scattered wildly as the machine, transformed into a juggernaut, bore down upon them.

Luckily no one was injured. There might have been a bloody tragedy.

A block to the east another machine had skidded and was wrecked against the curb. A block to the west a third machine had torn off a rear wheel.

All three were instances of carelessness. It is criminally careless for autoists on slippery streets to disregard the safety of others. Were there less carelessness there would be less need of the accident prevention campaign.

The bordering of highways with trees, each planted in honor of a man who went from among them to war, is the picturesque task assumed by the Tampa, Florida, Rotary club. The trees are to appear on the main roads of Hillsboro county, of which Tampa is the seat. Only the finest sentiment could inspire such work. The Providence Journal speaks of them as "Roads of Remembrance." If the Rotary clubs of Portland, Astoria and Salem adopt the idea why not refer to them in Oregon as "Roads of Honor"?

WOMEN AT WORK

WHO can find fault with the first two declarations by the League of Women Voters?

They are: First, that compulsory citizenship classes be established in all public schools; second, to make possible the naturalization of married women independent of the alien citizenship of their husbands.

Some of the best thinking in the world is done by women. Then there is the woman's instinct, often more accurate than conclusions arrived at through the processes of reasoning.

Voting men have not taken the time from their business to note the bad effects of an undigested foreign mass in our population. They said America is the melting pot, and let it go at that. They thought America could melt everything, only to discover their mistake during the war.

The women, in their first organized utterance, call for education of this undigested mass as a step in making America fully American. Having agreed upon the step, they will work to carry it out. Women are more faithful in their devotion to public welfare than are average men.

Their second determination is to make it possible for a woman who is the wife of an alien to become an American citizen independently of her husband.

Why not? That old absurdity of forcing the wife to be the mere creature of her husband in the matter of citizenship has stood too long. It is an indictment of the statesmanship of men that the provision was not wiped off the statute books long ago.

A Napavine man offers to demonstrate to any unbeliever that his wife possesses the power to make the stars dance in the heavens. Probably, though, the doubters would like to be informed whether she does it with the rolling pin or the potato masher before they consent to attend any demonstrations.

A PORTLAND VISITOR

PORTLAND has a distinguished visitor this week in the person of Dr. Ida Smedley MacLean of London, one of three British women who are touring this country in the interest of a federation of college and university women all over the world.

The purpose of the organization provides for encouraging the interchange of professors, lecturers and students, whether graduate or undergraduate, so that high grade university women from this country may do graduate work in England or Sweden or Poland, as the case may be, so that they may have the advantage of contact with the brightest minds of those countries. The interchange of lectureships and junior instructorships is looked upon as of great educational value. Hospitality for visiting university women or foreign students while in this country is still another object. The trend of all this is obviously toward a closer understanding and greater sympathy among college women, mutual helpfulness and a cementing of friendships between them all over the world.

The formation of a world federation of college and university women is one of the constructive things that came out of the war. Europe was flooded during the war period with American college women. The Smith college unit was the first to go over. It was followed by units from Vassar, Mount Holyoke, Barnard, Goucher and Wellesley and hundreds of college women went as individual workers.

After a trip overseas, Mrs. Alice Lord Parsons, president of Smith Alumnae association, returned to this country with the idea of a world federation and the plan is beginning to take form in the visit of Dr. MacLean and her colleagues, one of whom is in the East and the other in the South. They are gathering all possible information concerning American institutions of higher learning, Dr. MacLean's objective in Oregon being Reed college.

THE DAWN?

THE world is facing a new day when the orderly processes of a recognized and central tribunal will weigh the contentions of nation against nation to administer international justice. The habit of a world under arms, with nation standing on defense against nation, with superior armaments and super-cannon as the arbiters of international justice—that habit will pass, if America will function.

International law has been, and now is, an unwritten and an orphan code. Its rules have been based on battleships; formulated and controlled by secret understandings written by ambitious autocracy and hidden in the archives of intriguing diplomacy. Its jurisdiction and its power of enforcement have extended only so far as the aroused conscience of civilization has decreed that certain broad and undeniable principles of universal right were paramount to national desire or contention.

There is offered us a league of nations, a court of the world. Before its bar all the governments of civilization would bring their controversies one with another, there to be considered and adjudicated by a written and definite international code of law.

The world is progressing upward. Since time began to evolve order out of disorder and to sift and preserve the grain of the right from the chaff of the wrong, individual man has brought his controversies before the tribunals of justice there to abide the verdict. That rule, found salutary as between man and man, has been broadened to include the controversies between town and hamlet, state and state, and between the children of a general government and their sovereign parent.

But there we stopped. Nations proud in their power and inherent sovereignty have housed themselves within their own tribunals, wrapped about themselves the mantle of their individual judicature, and have bared their arms to enforce their rights or to determine their differences. They have reached hands of tentative friendliness towards each other, but they were armed hands, half doubled for combat.

But why? Right is right; justice is justice; equity is equity wherever found; is uniform and universal. If man, the unit, may determine his paltry differences with his neighbor and find relief in the ordered courts of law and equity; if towns and states and general governments, the multiples of man, may safely trust their larger affairs to the scales, why not nation and nation, everywhere? It can be, and will be, if America does her part in the day that is dawning.

HARDING CLAIMS COAST STATES

By Carl Smith, Washington Staff Correspondent of The Journal

Washington, Feb. 20.—From the Washington headquarters of Senator Warren G. Harding comes the announcement that delegates to the Republican national convention from the states of Washington, Oregon and California "in the last analysis" will be for Harding for president. This is given on the authority of Colonel Charles R. Forbes of Spokane, who has traveled over the entire United States in the last few months, it is explained. Colonel Forbes, who is described as chief signal officer for the Thirty-third division and an engineer who has been connected with some of the largest work on the Pacific coast, is further quoted as saying that Washington will send a delegation to Chicago controlled by Senator Poindexter, "but when the time comes, Senator Poindexter and his friends will support Senator Harding."

* * *

This from Harding headquarters is in confirmation of reports current for some time that Poindexter has in view the control of the Washington delegation to be swung to the support of some of the leading candidates at Chicago when the time comes to pick the man, and that Harding would likely be his choice. Poindexter has a feud with Wood, and Lowden does not appeal to him, because Lowden approves the League of Nations. Harding is a follower of Lodge on the league and has made it clear that he wants nothing stronger than a devitalized league, if league there must be. He is also of the standpat faction, where Poindexter is now training.

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Just how Harding is to acquire the California delegates from Senator Hiram W. Johnson is not disclosed in the Harding announcement, nor is it stated how Oregon is to be tied up to the Harding kite. These are treated as minor details to be given attention later.

From the Johnson managers a few days earlier came the announcement that California and Oregon would be solid for Johnson and that Washington would go the same way as soon as it had complimented Poindexter, if he was complimented at all. The predictions do not agree, and the Wood and Lowden camps have not yet reported. A working agreement between the Harding and Poindexter forces is suspected, however, and seems borne out by most recent developments, with Poindexter due to reap the benefits that would follow for himself and friends if Harding is "put over."

* * *

The Harding managers also tell why, in their view, a president from the Pacific coast would be undesirable. Colonel Forbes is quoted on this point as follows:

"The West needs transportation and cars, it needs raw materials better distributed and it needs a firm and fair policy toward labor. It needs the support of the East and the Middle West. All these things Harding as president can give, and no man from the Pacific coast can possibly give the West what must come from the East and the Middle West. It would be a mistake to seat a Pacific coast man in the presidential chair at this time, even if we had the votes and the power."

Wealth Flows Into Benton by Way of the Once Meek and Lowly Prune.

One of That Rich County's Prune Princes Relates the Story of His Busy Life.

"Bob" Johnson of Corvallis is a great admirer of Bobby Burns. This is not to be wondered at, for he was born in Ayrshire, nor far from the birthplace of Scotland's beloved bard. When a person says he has lived in Corvallis or is well acquainted there, just ask him if he knows Bob Johnson. If he doesn't, he isn't; for anyone who has lived in Corvallis or is well acquainted there is bound to know Bob Johnson, just as he is bound to know Bert Johnson.

Asked by a Journal reporter for "the story of his life," Robert Johnson suddenly remembered that he had to spray his prune orchard.

"It used to be considered a deadly insult to tell a man he was full of prunes," said Mr. Johnson, "but nowadays when you tell a man that, he is flattered. In 1893 I thought I was doing well when I sold four carloads of choice prunes at 3½ cents a pound. Last year I sold my entire pack at 20 cents a pound. This year I will have more than half a million pounds of dried prunes. I expect to get from 15 to 18 cents. If I get only 15 cents that means a check for $75,000, which is not so bad. I have 156 acres set to prunes in my orchard near town. It certainly is a pretty sight when they are in bloom and there is a bit of a breeze. Last year, in addition to evaporating my own prunes, I bought all the green prunes I could get hold of at $2.50 a bushel. At the height of the season we dry 1000 bushels a day.

"Yes, sir; the Cinderella of the fruit family has found her fairy godmother. I made so much money on my prunes at 20 cents last year that I had to borrow money to pay my income tax.

"What's that? You are getting full of prunes and want to know about myself? Well, I was born in Scotland, November 12, 1859. For years I didn't know when I was born, but after I came of age I sent back to Scotland and my relatives looked in the family Bible and sent me the date of my birth. My father, John Johnson, was foreman of an iron mine. You have undoubtedly heard of the Borrowman Brothers, the wealthy iron miners of Scotland. Two of my father's sisters married two Borrowmans, and my father was made foreman of one of their mines. My mother's maiden name was Agnes Hynd. My mother died when I was six years old. When I was 9½ years old father and I came to America. For awhile he worked in the coal mines in Pennsylvania. From there we moved to Iowa, where father took up a homestead. When we had lived on our quarter section six months father died. The court appointed a guardian to protect my interest in the homestead. A neighbor offered to keep me for my board. I stayed there two years—the football of fate. I was desperately lonesome. The nearest kin I had was in Scotland. I don't know why I didn't write to them nor why they didn't write to me. My master had no mercy on me. I got up before daylight to build the family fires; I milked the cows, cleaned the stables, fed the pigs and did the other chores before breakfast. I worked on the farm all day and then did the chores after supper. On rainy days I chopped wood, greased the harness and did other odd jobs. It was all work and no play, and harsh words and poor food in the bargain.

"Here is a postal card I received yesterday from Dr. W. C. Bundy of Modesto, Cal. He is the man that showed me that there is a turning to what seems the longest lane. He heard what a hard time I was having, took compassion on me, and arranged to have me come to work on his farm in Cherokee county, Iowa, at $5 a month. I had to work hard but it was heaven to my former place, for Mother Bundy gave me what I longed for—love, sympathy and understanding. When Dr. Bundy moved to town a year later he no longer needed me, so I rustled a job as printer's devil on the Cherokee Times. I signed a contract with Robert Buchanan, the proprietor, to work three years. I received $75 a year and board the first year, $150 the second, and $250 the third. Eventually I became foreman of the Times at $12 a week."

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.]

Protests the Lawrence Articles

Portland, Feb. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—I am amazed to see in your splendid daily a series of articles by David Lawrence on the Wilson-Lansing incident, a writer as unfriendly to our grand president as a Mohammedan Turk is to a Christian Armenian. I know you would not print such articles about your father, brother or majority stockholder of The Journal. "Can a fountain bring forth sweet and bitter water?" asked the great Master of Nazareth.

The writer to whose articles, entitled "Wilson and Lansing," you give such first page prominence is to be pitied. Trying to dig a pit for Woodrow Wilson, he has fallen therein himself. Trying to demean and belittle that fearless champion of human rights, he but belittles himself in the eyes of all discerning readers. He condemns President Wilson unsparingly because he desired to be alone—alone with his own thoughts, alone with the world's burdens, on his return voyage from France, after months of the most exhausting labors. He raves because President Wilson objected to the presence of a considerable number of minor officials on board the ship that carried him to Europe.

Men of President Wilson's caliber have something else to do and to think about besides bowing to and shaking hands with a lot of people whose greatest stock in trade would be that they had crossed the ocean on the same boat with him, had seen him daily and shaken hands with him.

And as far as Lansing's resignation is concerned, Lansing himself admits in his own letters, printed in full in The Journal, that "ever since January, 1919," he had been conscious of the fact that President Wilson no longer welcomed his "advice in matters pertaining to the negotiations in Paris." And President Wilson himself states in a letter printed in the same issue: "This affair, Mr. Secretary, only deepens a feeling that was growing upon me while we were still in Paris. I felt, and have felt increasingly ever since, that you accepted my guidance and direction on questions with regard to which I had to instruct you, only with increasing reluctance."

There you have it in a nutshell. Since Mr. Lansing could not accept President Wilson's view on the treaty, as a cabinet official it was his duty to resign, for no president can do team work with a cabinet that refuses to follow his leadership.

I believe in centralization of authority and responsibility. "Too many cooks spoil the broth." President Wilson lives, moves and has his being in a higher plane of thought than that to which most politicians and office holders are attained. Hence the unavoidable divergence of views on obligations which may be considered either from a national or a moral standpoint.

JOHN L. SCHUYLEMAN.

Advising Street Railway Management

Portland, Feb. 19.—To the Editor of The Journal—The management of the Portland street railway as well as the general public may read, with interest and advantage, last week's Collier's Weekly, and from it learn how to make the institution pay without adding further burdens to the users. Most assuredly increased business obtained by better service in Philadelphia will result in the possibility to meet all claims of stockholders of the Portland railways. Of course if the management here continues to put on more one-man service cars it will no longer be reasonable to seek increase of fares, as the cost of maintenance will be cut down so much as to warrant a return to the legitimate 5-cent fare, as per franchise contract. This will do much to make Portland attractive as a home of those who have heard of Oregon's climate, etc., and will induce workers to build homes here. What say you?

JOHN WILLIAMS.

On Printing "All" the News

From the Banks Herald

Once in a while some newspapers announce that they print all the news, let the chips fall where they may. This sounds mighty fine. The Herald purposely skips many items and fails to see others. If no good can come from the publication of an item which might wring a mother's heart, bring sorrow to some innocent child or wreck the peace of a suffering wife—we don't want that item. Call it suppression if you please; we decide these matters for ourselves, each on its own merits.

Olden Oregon

Notable Character of the Early Days Was a Colored Settler.

The first colored man to settle in Oregon was George Winslow, who came out with the Wyeth party in 1834. Winslow took an Indian wife and settled down with her in a cabin on Clackamas prairie, six miles below Oregon City. He set himself up as a doctor, but was wont to complain that after the Hudson's Bay company brought out Dr. Barclay the latter "bust out his business." Winslow was noted for his active imagination in the story telling line.

Curious Bits of Information For the Curious

Gleaned From Curious Places

Benjamin Church of Plymouth, called the "Miles Standish of the second generation," was the only white man who understood Indian fighting at the time of King Philip's war, and was chosen to take command of the colonist forces. Enlisting some friendly Indians and commanding an additional small force, Church immediately changed the whole character of the war by trailing Philip as a hunter trails a deer, and caught up with him in a swampy region at Mount Hope, where the Indian chief was shot by one of the red men who fought on the side of the whites. Anawam, Philip's most valiant assistant, was captured about two weeks later, the strength of the uprising being broken.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Safety first.

* * *

Saar, Germany, is under martial law. Har, har.

* * *

These cold nights are getting to be somewhat of a frost.

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Chances are that if General Pershing were drafted for the presidency he would not claim exemption, at that.

* * *

We don't know where all the people are coming from but the demand for houses is apparently as great as ever.

* * *

Missionaries are going after the heathen now in flivvers. Thought the sky-pilots were the latest in that line.

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If Lord Reading comes from England as ambassador to the United States, he may be expected to furnish us some good reading.

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Now someone has the daylight saving bug again just as we thought that everything had all been fixed up for an uninterrupted summer.

* * *

The Chinese pay all of their debts at the beginning of their new year, which in itself is something for a lot of other people to think about.

SIDELIGHTS

The man who rents a house in Hood River these days knows what "in again, out again" means, the News declares.

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"Don't think we are not going to get a condensor," challenges the Banks Herald. "Wait until the Dairymen's league sees Banks."

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The west end of Umatilla county is going to have a horse show in the latter part of March or early in April, to be held at Hermiston.

* * *

The Wenaha club, established 10 years ago in Pendleton, has disbanded. Its membership, the East Oregonian says, has included some of the most prominent business men and farmers of Pendleton, and at one time was 55. The number has been so greatly decreased by death or change of residence that the club decided to disband.

* * *

Editor Young of the Coquille Sentinel is notable for his close and accurate weather observations. Here is a recent one: "What with the frost and fog all morning Wednesday it took as much fuel to keep the Sentinel warm as any day during the winter, though when the sun came out in the afternoon it was more like summer and we opened the doors."

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

Caroline Lockhart, author of true-to-life and delightful Western romances, has reserved an apartment at the Cornelius hotel against her arrival, within a week or so, in Portland, where she will spend several days visiting. Miss Lockhart, formerly a Philadelphia newspaper woman, is the owner and operator of Buffalo Bill's former ranch at Cody, Wyo., where she divides her attention between her herds and fiction. Her last published work is "The Fighting Shepardess," to gather color for which she is said to have spent several months in a Wyoming sheep camp. After visiting in Portland Miss Lockhart is going to Los Angeles to arrange for the presentation of a scenario she has just completed and for which, according to her local friend, E. V. D. Paul, $10,000 will be paid by Douglas Fairbanks if that person finds in it what he expects. Paul and Miss Lockhart worked opposite one another years ago as members of the staff of the Philadelphia Press. It was to Miss Lockhart that Buffalo Bill some years ago presented his famous bucking horse "Hell to Sit," which had defied the sticking qualities of a score of Wyoming buckaroos. But whatever the animal's lifting proclivities may have been, it is recorded that Miss Lockhart rode and handled the horse with comparative ease.

* * *

Bend, which has, under the influence of highly developed agricultural resources and equally highly developed logging and lumbering industries, forged ahead to a position among the leading Oregon cities, must have been practically deserted, so far as its leading citizens were concerned, on Thursday. From the Deschutes county city were a score or more of prominent persons, all stopping at Portland hotels. Among them were, at the Imperial, W. Craig Cogner and T. H. Foley; at the Multnomah, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Cooper and O. Lindgren; at the Oregon, . . . and Mrs. Charles Johnson and Mrs. E. B. Reed, and at the Portland, L. O. Taylor, H. A. Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Sawyer and Miss Grace Sawyer. Sawyer is editor of the Bend Bulletin.

* * *

Major Fred W. Sales, who has held the position of room clerk at the Multnomah hotel for the past six months, has resigned to accept a position of a similar nature at the popular Hotel Raddison at Milwaukee, Wis. Sales left for his home town this week. His successor at the Multnomah is Carl V. Jonasson.

* * *

E. T. Reed, who bears the title of editor of college bulletins at the Oregon Agricultural college, is a guest at the Seward hotel while on a business visit in the city. Reed's particular hobby used to be, and to all accounts still is, belaboring the country newspaper editor with happy little stories of state college activities.

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Eric V. Hauser, recuperating from a recent operation, is again a figure in the Multnomah hotel lobby, where his co-workers characterize his illness as "indisposition." While Hauser was confined at the hospital a group of the newsboys who had been his guests at the annual Thanksgiving dinner at which he is host, appeared in the Multnomah lobby with a hopeful bunch of flowers. Presenting the blossoms to Ray Clark, welfare worker at the hotel, the lads declared they had not forgotten their well-wisher and the flowers were a token of their remembrance.

* * *

George Huntington Currey, who does not disguise a letter of his name, is registered at the Imperial hotel, where he expects to camp until he continues on his way to Eugene for the annual newspaper conference that has become an institution with publishers in the state since, as an organization, it gobbled up the old Willamette Valley Editorial association. Currey, whose home town is Vale, is publisher of the Malheur Enterprise, said by some authorities to be the biggest little paper in the best little town in the state. Currey just now wants, more than anything else, a managing editor for the paper whose circulation extends to twice as many people as the town of Vale comprises. Such a managing editor must know, Currey declares, not only what news is and how to write it, but must be as well an advertising and job printing solicitor. After he fills the paper with news and advertising each week and brings in business enough to keep the job presses going the rest of the week the M. E. can have all the time he wants to play the fiddle.

* * *

E. E. Jenkins, assistant Pacific coast manager for the Foundation company, shipbuilders, etc., left the Multnomah hotel Wednesday night, after a brief visit in Portland. Jenkins' headquarters are at Seattle, from where the Foundation company directed, during the war, the operation of three plants building schooners for the French government. The plants were at Portland, Tacoma and Victoria, B. C.

* * *

C. C. Clearwater of Enterprise, county seat of Wallowa county and otherwise notable, is a guest at the Imperial. He promises some day to get acquainted with Eagle Freshwater, who comes down from Olympia, Wash., once in a while, for, it is pointed out, water must be clear and fresh in these perilous days of drought.

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F. D. Burroughs, who is in charge of the freight department office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway at Seattle, is at the Multnomah hotel with Mrs. Burroughs.

* * *

C. B. Clancy, whose hothouses are the source of Salem society's bouquets, is at the Seward hotel while transacting business in the city. Clancy is known throughout the valley for the flowers he produces. Accompanying him is John W. Todd of the Capital city.

IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

[Going into the origins of things, Mr. Lockley finds who it was that invented "bone dry" as a term to describe the status of boozelessness. He then pursues an inquiry that embraces booze and the 29th day of February.]

Ada Wallace Unruh is one citizen of Oregon who is not worried because the nation has gone bone dry. Ex-Governor Oswald West is another. These two had a lot to do with Oregon's being bone dry.

Recently the papers carried the story that the origin of the term "bone dry" as applied to prohibition was from the fact that Sheriff John Bone of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., enforced the prohibition laws so strictly that his county was termed "bone dry" and the use of the term had gradually spread all over the United States. Mrs. Unruh wrote me that she did not believe the "bone dry" law was named for Sheriff Bone, but that the term was first used by West, while governor of Oregon. I wrote to ex-Sheriff Bone, who had moved from Sault Ste. Marie to Tampa, Fla. I also wrote to the district attorney at Sault Ste. Marie. They write me that the story that "bone dry" came from Sheriff Bone's regime was a facetious story written by some imaginative reporter, and that Oregon's governor is credited with originating the phrase.

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While investigating the subject I had occasion to look up the word that is in everybody's mouth—booze. I said the word was in their mouths, not the booze itself. I was somewhat surprised at the origin of the word. The original term for the Jamaica rum of commerce was "rumbooze." In course of time this was shortened to "rum," the "booze" being dropped. Rumbooze was a clear, white liquor made by fermenting and distilling the refuse from cane sugar or from a low grade of molasses. The word "rumbooze" carries one back farther—to India and to Holland. The word "rum" comes from the gypsy, or Romani, word "rom," and means "husband." "Rom," in turn, comes from a Hindustani word which in its turn comes from the Sanskrit "domba," meaning "of low caste." The latter part of the word, "booze" is a corruption of the verb "bouse," which is a form of the old Dutch word "bousen," to guzzle. Who would ever suppose when we refer to a man as a "booze" fighter that we are calling him a "low caste guzzler," and that we are using classical Sanskrit and old Holland Dutch?

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Do you know the legal qualifications for a voter in Oregon? I had occasion to look up this matter recently. We take our language, laws and customs largely from England. We say a man attains his majority at 21, or that 21 is the legal age for a voter. We get this directly from the old English law. Blackstone in his Commentaries says a man child attains his majority "on the day preceding the twenty-first anniversary of the person's birth." This is leap year. There are 29 days in February. A good many people in Portland and in Oregon were born on a February 29. If you follow the letter of the law a person born on February 29 would not be able to vote until the day before he has had 21 birthdays. As he has a birthday only once in four years, then he could not legally vote till he was 84 years old; so a lot of people born on February 29 have, according to law, been voting illegally. Though Blackstone takes no note of the fact, nevertheless these people born on February 29, if challenged at the polls, can get by successfully by referring the election judge to a ruling on this very subject made by King Henry III, in 1236. His statute is termed "De Anno et Die Bissextile," and reads as follows: "The king unto the justices of the bench. Greeting: Know ye that I take away henceforth all doubt and ambiguity that might arise hereupon. The day increasing in the leap year shall be accounted for one year, so that because of that day none shall be impleaded, but it shall be taken and reckoned of the same month wherever it groweth, and that day, and the day next going before, shall be accounted but for one day, and thereupon we do command you that from henceforth you do cause this to be published afore you and so observed. Witness myself at Westminster."

All of which sounds as clear as mud, but what King Hal is trying to say is that if you are born on February 29 that is to be celebrated for your birthday during leap year, and on all other years you are to count the last day of the month, or February 28, as your birthday.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

Things is got to a mighty bad pass when a patriotic millionaire can't spend $800,000 or so to git 'lected to the U. S. senate 'thout a jedge and jury pokin' into it and makin' out like he'd orter be put in the penitentiary 'stid of in that millionaires' club in Washington. Taint no wonder Jonathan Bourne, who spent a few dollars in the good old days to git there, is a-hollerin' his best, with two big printin' presses goin' night and day about the awful condition this country is in.

The Oregon Country.

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader.

OREGON NOTES

Inspection of the several companies of the Oregon National guard has commenced with an inspection at Ashland.

The drugstore of Sears & Kerr at Lebanon has been robbed of a large quantity of druggists' material and novelties.

The Spaulding mill at Salem is planning to enlarge its box factory and make other improvements at a cost of $300,000.

A new bank has been organized at The Dalles with a capitalization of $200,000, subscribed exclusively by local capitalists.

Mrs. Frances Chapman of Hood River was fatally burned following an explosion of coal gas in the cook stove. She was 69 years old.

Seventy-four witnesses have been summoned at Eugene for the trial of Martin A. Clark charged with the murder of Charles T. Taylor.

The suit against Clyde T. Bonney, principal of the Antelope high school and former school superintendent of Wasco county, has been dismissed.

Initiative petitions for a constitutional amendment extending the terms of sheriffs, clerks, surveyors, etc., to four years are being circulated in Eugene.

H. L. Lea, secretary of the state fair board, has announced definitely that he will not be a candidate for secretary of state in the Republican primaries.

The city council of Marshfield has called a special election to vote on the question of donating a five acre tract to the Sisters of Mercy hospital site.

William Ritchie of Corvallis, head of the Western Oregon Land Development company, was found dead in his office. Death was due to a stroke of apoplexy.

Ed Wright, secretary of the public service commission, has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for county attorney of Union county.

Theodore Roth, a Salem merchant, has been elected president of an organization composed of Salem, Sublimity, Mehama and Stayton, for cooperative buying.

A stock growers' association has been organized at Gold Beach, Curry county, for the protection of farm animals from predatory animals and to secure better prices for stock.

Canby schools have reopened with a large attendance. Several weeks ago there were over 200 cases of influenza which necessitated the closing of the school for two weeks.

For several years coyotes have menaced the sheep business in Curry county. Petitions are being circulated to induce the county court to offer $100 bounty for coyotes and $10 for wild cats.

WASHINGTON

Fresh egg storage men at Chehalis are making strenuous efforts to force February prices to the bottom by cutting prices.

A movement has been started at Vancouver to secure a paved highway to the boundary of Mount St. Helens national park.

Governor Hart has issued a proclamation urging assistance to the war department in the stimulation of recruiting for the army.

Major Hugh Caldwell was high man and James Duncan, labor candidate, second in the race for nomination for mayor at the Seattle primary election.

Clyde Martin and family of Aberdeen are going to India, where he has a three years' contract with the British government to open up some timber tracts.

Patrons of the Toledo school district will be asked at the annual school election next month to authorize an additional 10 mill levy for school expenses.

The three I. W. W. members convicted at Prosser of criminal syndicalism have been sentenced to terms of from six months to one year in the penitentiary.

Members of the Grays Harbor county Republican central committee will call a convention April 17 to select 30 delegates to the state convention at Bellingham, April 27.

Owing to greatly increased costs, the paving proposed between Winlock and the Pacific highway at Cowlitz store has struck a snag. The lowest bid is $45,000 above the estimate.

Owing to the fact that terminal arrangements have not been perfected, the electrified service of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul system will be operated into Tacoma only.

The commissioners of Cowlitz county have decided to recruise at least a part of the timber in the county. The cost estimated at from $50,000 to $125,000 will be met by a bond issue.

A jury composed of eight men and four women has been impaneled at Seattle to try William Pat Daly and his mother on the charge of killing Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Bryan last October.

IDAHO

Chief George Peo-Peo-Talkt of the Nez Perce tribe, over 70 years of age, is receiving treatment in the Lewiston hospital for a fractured arm which was kicked by a horse.

Twenty-three candidates were inducted into the Lewiston lodge of the Knights of Columbus last Sunday. The ceremonial was in charge of degree teams from Portland and Lewiston.

In view of protests made by several American Legion posts the design for the county memorials will not incorporate the likeness of any individual soldiers of the state as originally intended.

Suit has been brought by a number of Cassia county farmers against the Twin Falls Land & Water company to collect damages for alleged crop losses because of water shortage. Approximately $200,000 are asked.

State School Lands Brought Back to People Through The Journal's Efforts.

Had Oregon school lands been administered for the support of the schools and the benefit of the public it is probable that the tax imposed upon the people of the state today for school purposes would be little or nothing. But there was a period in the history of Oregon when the education of the children was secondary. The public domain was looted for the profit of scheming and selfish individuals and organizations. The fight against land frauds was one of the first campaigns undertaken by The Journal. The efforts to obtain the restoration of school lands believed to have been fraudulently secured by Miller and Lux, or the Pacific Livestock company, is a case in point. It was no easy task to induce tardy officialdom to do its duty in the matter of prosecution. The first complaint was that the livestock company had used dummy entrymen, and the amended complaint charged that the entries involving many thousands of acres of Central Oregon lands had been forged. The action resulted in a compromise, which called for the return to the public, for the benefit of the schools, of some 9000 acres of the best lands near Burns, Or. It was also agreed that other large tracts of land would be subdivided and opened to settlement. The story of the sustained effort to restore to the public its property in the Miller and Lux case is dramatic but it dealt with sordid attempt at spoliation of the public. Before The Journal entered the newspaper field of Oregon the theft of public lands was apparently one of the least difficult of rascally performances, but since The Journal came to the Oregon country it is significant that under its insistence official laxity has been changed to activity and effort has been resultful in bringing the offenders to book.