LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Comment and Opinion of Journal Readers on Timely Topics of Current Moment Locally, Nationally and Internationally

A Statement of His Position by T. H. Crawford of La Grande.

La Grande, March 4.—To the Editor of The Journal—The interview with me published in the Oregonian of this date is substantially correct, but is somewhat misleading. I desire, therefore, to place my views correctly before the Democracy of the state of Oregon. It is my understanding that neither Mr. McAdoo nor Mr. Hoover is a candidate for the nomination for president. Mr. McAdoo will accept the Democratic nomination if it comes to him voluntarily and unsolicited. Mr. Hoover may accept the Democratic nomination if the principles and platform of the convention meet his approval. Neither one of them desires his name placed upon the primary ballot in any of the states. They both desire the delegates to go to the convention uninstructed and unpledged to any man. For this reason I am against the Oregon Democracy instructing its delegates to vote for any certain man for the nomination for president.

Again, the dominant issues in the next presidential election are not yet made, and will not be made until the conventions meet and adopt their platforms. We fought and won the late war to gain a world peace of justice. We are entitled to the fruits of that victory. The fundamental principle controlling us was announced by President Wilson to be: "That the people of every nation, both great and small, have the inherent right to select their own form of government, make their own laws and control their own internal and domestic affairs without interference by any other nation." This is the fundamental underlying principle of the covenant of the League of Nations. This principle is stated in Article X of the league, as follows: "The members of the league undertake to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members of the league." The Lodge reservation to Article X, as I understand it, repudiates this and says that the United States will not undertake any such obligations. Article X is the very heart of the league. This Lodge reservation cuts the heart out of the league and destroys it. The league is in no sense a super-state. It simply investigates, hears, determines and recommends what ought to be done in certain events in order to put down or prevent war. It leaves to the several members of the league to carry out or not in a constitutional and lawful way its recommendations. It does not impair, destroy or modify our Monroe doctrine, but on the other hand it recognizes it. It does not impair nor abrogate any rights guaranteed by our constitution, or the sole power of the congress to declare war or authorize the use of the military or naval forces therein. It impliedly at least recognizes these rights and powers. No advocate of the league, not even the president, objects to clarifying reservations making these implications specific. I am for ratification of the league with these clarifying reservations. I am uncompromisingly opposed to ratification with the Lodge reservation to Article X. If ratification with these clarifying reservations is defeated, which now seems more than likely, or if the league is ratified with the Lodge reservation to Article X, then the league will be the dominant issue in the coming presidential campaign. I regard President Wilson, William Gibbs McAdoo and Herbert Hoover as three of the greatest patriotic humanitarian statesmen in our country. I heartily indorse the policies of President Wilson, but he cannot, and will not, be a third term candidate for the presidency. If William Gibbs McAdoo is nominated for president he will get my unqualified support. On the other hand, if the league is the dominant issue, and Herbert Hoover approves of our platform and takes a firm stand thereon, and is nominated for president by the national Democratic convention, he will have my hearty support.

Now let me say to the public: I will appreciate your votes at the primary for delegate at large to the national Democratic convention, but don't instruct me whom to vote for as a candidate for president, for I fear I will be unable to carry out those instructions.

T. H. CRAWFORD.

Predicts Wilson's Triumph

Portland, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—The contention in the United States senate about Article X appears absurd. President Wilson can compromise on Article X no more than George Washington could compromise the question of independence, or Abraham Lincoln man's inalienable right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" regardless of "race, color or previous condition of servitude." Under Article X every member guarantees to respect, protect and defend the territorial integrity and political independence of every other member of the league, with all the material wealth, military power and moral force at its command, against the unfriendly ambitions of any warlike neighbor. This is as it should be.

The violent opposition to Woodrow Wilson in so many newspapers is due to the fact that he is the one great moral force which the opposition fears, the one possible candidate for reelection against which they can find no successful rival. I predict: (1) That the present senate will not ratify the treaty; if it does it will be in such a form that Wilson will feel morally obliged to ignore it; (2) that President Wilson will be reelected, against all precedent, at the November election; (3) that his reelection will be his vindication in his stand on the acceptance of the treaty as he presented it to congress; (4) that the constitution will be so amended that hereafter such important matters can be submitted promptly to the people, under a referendum.

Bolshevism, pro-Germanism and outlaw capitalism fear the danger arising from Wilson's moral courage, and have sought and are seeking his physical, mental and political undoing. But "He that sitteth in the heaven shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision," says the Book. Remember, Paul was twice stoned and once left for dead, but he lived to say "I have fought the good fight. I have finished my course." And so Woodrow Wilson, the God-given leader of democracy's forces, will live to finish the grand task to which he has set his hand, into which he has put his whole soul, for which he would gladly lay down his mortal life, to establish that basic principle of democracy in the entire world expressed in the words, "Equal opportunity for all, and special privilege to none."

Herbert Hoover may prove a formidable rival, but when the Democratic convention at San Francisco gets to a final showdown Woodrow Wilson will be selected as the only man big enough to solve the world's present great problems.

JOHN L. SCHUYLEMAN.

Thinks of Lansing for President

Portland, Feb. 14.—To the Editor of The Journal—What kind of man should be president of the United States? This is a problem causing some tall figuring. The presidency is getting to be more and more a business office and less and less a political game. While we need a man of good morals, yet we need one of good business ability and experience in the business of the nation. It isn't a matter of politics so much any more, as all political parties have adopted similar planks in their party platforms. The name of Pershing has been mentioned. Now, there is no question that Pershing is a good man morally, but the common people don't want a warrior for president. Pershing has a lot of good qualities but lacks the experience that would make him a good president. Bryan is another good man, but he made a fatal mistake when he resigned at the most critical time when he was most wanted, and for that reason he couldn't command folks to elect him. A man like Secretary Lansing has had a lot of experience in the business of this country and knows the needs of all other countries, and would be a good man for the job, for whether there is a League of Nations or no League of Nations, this country will be compelled hereafter to deal in a businesslike way with the whole world. I believe Secretary Lansing resigned out of courtesy to President Wilson because he was president and his superior officer, and not because he wanted to shun any duty he owed his country.

And, by the way, I believe the reason Wilson might be considered bullheaded by some was owing to the fact that he could see farther than any of his cabinet, and a man of that calibre is more apt to be determined and appear bullheaded because of his ability to see things as they really are, which convinced him that he was right.

What we want in a president today is one willing to listen to the collective ideas of his cabinet. There are other men that might be mentioned that would make good presidents but, as stated above, we want a man of business ability and a man of experience to transact business of this country, and with the nations of the world—a man of experience and ability, like Secretary Lansing, not a mere politician.

A. J. CLARK.

The Emergency Clause Abuse

Portland, Feb. 25.—To the Editor of The Journal—It is evident that the emergency clause in our system has been abused, and the people have been protected so far by good luck and good-intentioned governors. Such a combination may not always exist. The next session of the legislature may have the combination of a governor standing in with the political big business trust all down the line. Who knows? Why not amend the emergency clause section to provide that the emergency clause can be used only by a three-fourths vote of both houses, and that even then the referendum may be invoked? Ohio requires a two-thirds vote. North Dakota requires the same, but the referendum can be used, in effect, to repeal the emergency law at the next election. Why wait until some valuable horses are stolen before closing the stable door, with legislatures constantly springing "jokes" on the people clad in emergency clause disguise? Here is a chance for some of our numerous patriotic organizations to use the initiative to stop fake emergency schemes at midnight sessions.

GEORGE BYLAND.

Argues for Universal Training

Portland, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—I noticed in The Journal a letter by Owen F. Day about universal military training. I wish to give some facts.

In 1796 Napoleon invaded Switzerland. Having no standing army, Switzerland was unprepared to meet the invasion. The peasantry hurled rocks on the French as they marched through narrow passes, but without avail. In 1815 France, being compelled to withdraw her troops, gave the Swiss freedom. Switzerland inaugurated compulsory military training. Every man, no matter what his trade, became also a soldier.

In 1914 Germany chose to invade Belgium, the unprepared, although a more direct course would have led her through military Switzerland.

On June 18, 1916, Secretary Baker issued his call to arms for the Mexican border. This is what happened. After 10 days of maximum effort the various department commanders succeeded in getting just 12 per cent of the men started for the border. More than 30 per cent of the guardsmen were physically unfit for service. Instead of 144 batteries there was but 70. Instead of 27 regiments there were but eight. The guard was short 29 engineer companies, three signal corps, eight field hospitals, 29 ambulance companies and 79 machine gun companies. Only companies from New York and Oregon had the required number of men, and they, although in summer, had heavy woolen winter uniforms.

And although Mr. Day remembers this campaign, he says we do not need military training.

A. J. ELLISON.

Americanism

Portland, March 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—Regarding Americanism, the views are so diverse that one feels need of getting back to first principles to find the true significance of that much used term. I suppose the cause of the difference in opinion as to what constitutes true Americanism is the difference of ideals in the minds of the people. To me Americanism has always meant the highest service to mankind—a practical application of Christ's teaching in all our national affairs at home and in our dealings with all peoples of the earth. I have thought of it as world wide Good Samaritanism. It seems to have had its inception in this country in the causes which led up to the revolutionary war. Our forefathers were imbued with the desire that this country should be the land where liberty and justice should be realized, and as they planted the seed of truth they prayed that it would germinate and grow into a great tree whose leaves, as it were, would be "for the healing of nations."

But sometimes I feel that in these last days our Americanism has become almost a farce. I know of but one public figure who seems to be true to the ideal of Amercanism, and that man is our much persecuted president, Woodrow Wilson. As regards international justice at least, he is hewing to the line.

On the other hand, hysterical profiteers prate about their 100 per cent Americanism—to cover up their robbery. These men have much to say about our American institutions being in danger. The real institutions which they know are menaced and which they are trying to keep intact are not American institutions at all, but corrupt financial institutions, which enable the owners to legally plunder the people.

W. H. BLACK.

For the Love of Humanity

Portland, March 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—I like The Journal for its independent leaning and because it will print editorials and letters from the people that tell the truth and that other papers that are standpat and reactionary (like the United States senate) will not print. I especially liked your words on the presidential voting contest in The Sunday Journal of February 29. I had not voted, but I am for Hoover or some man who is not a chronic office seeker or a hide-bound partisan of any party, but one who loves country more than any party. The actions of the United States senate must make any unbiased man sick. We found it necessary to enter the world war and now let us help to reestablish peace if we have to help give the Turk a severe lesson, too. I think for his long list of crimes it is due him. If the allies do not want to settle the Turk, let the Greeks have a chance. Their army is on the ground and is fresh. And give them Constantinople, if they will keep the straits open to the commerce of the world free of tolls, as a reward. And give them credits and a helping hand into the bargain. Any man who loves humanity must want to see an end put to those horrors.

HUMANITARIAN.

A Drug User's Appeal for Help

Portland, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—I am writing these few lines to you for humanity's sake. I must shamefully confess I have been long a user of drugs of all kinds, for which I have just done a long term in the county jail, and I am writing to explain the conditions I have lived in and what I have seen. You know that the city and the federal government are trying to get rid of all the hopheads by putting them into jail, without the proper kind of treatment. The officials don't realize that when they imprison one of these drug users it is just making 20 other users. I have seen fine, big, young fellows come into the city and county jails on some small charge, for which they may have to serve 90 days or six months. They will come in clean from the drug habit; in fact may not even know what it is to use the needle; but when some of them leave they are full fledged hop users. I have seen at least 20 or 30 go out with the habit of using the morphine and coke snuffers. Officials and parents will do well to think this over. A youth may be a user of this horrible thing unknown to his parents. He may be a user of it in his own home. It is a great pity that these young men become addicted to this awful thing—a thing that probably is unknown to the mothers, wives and sisters who visit them almost daily up in jail quarters. Why is there not a law to compel officers to keep these young men and others away from the users of drugs? Like dangerous explosives, they go off at the first touch of the match. It is the same with these young men—when they get their first shot of dope they feel fine, and when they can't get any more the majority of them will steal or do anything else to get it. They are lost forever, in body and soul. There are more than 5000 persons in this city afflicted with drug habits, and of this number many hundreds are children in schools, who fell into the dreadful habit through careless medical treatment. For these 5000 existence is a living curse. Their days are one long period of empty craving. For them nothing in life really matters except the satisfaction of that inescapable desire.

Many people have the delusion that this drug habit comes as the result of the enforcement of prohibition, but we should know that the drug evil is only a part of the liquor evil itself. Men who have the uncontrollable appetite for strong drink are the ones who in the largest numbers give themselves over to the drug habit. Children born of parents who are afflicted with the craving for strong drink are easily made a prey also to drugs. The whole trouble lies at the door of uncontrolled appetites and passions, and the only remedy for these sin-sick people is proper treatment, not throwing them into some dark jail cell to suffer and get some others except as individual men and women to using it. The human race is doomed learn to know for themselves these horrible truths and the infinite power of help.

R. B. J.

Welcomes a Penitent

Portland, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal—On February 13 the Oregonian published this:

"Multnomah county will have five state senators to elect this year. John Gill is the only member of the Multnomah senate delegation to hold over, with the exception of W. W. Banks, who is a joint senator from Clackamas, Columbia and Multnomah and is generally classified as a Multnomah man because he resides in Portland. The senators whose terms expire are Robert S. Farrell, F. C. Howell, S. B. Huson, Gus C. Moser and A. W. Orton. There is a growing desire throughout the state to strengthen the senate's personnel and to elect broad-minded men who have the best interests of the state at heart. This sentiment prevails in Multnomah county and a number of men prominent in business and public life are being discussed as possible candidates for the five vacancies."

It is indeed refreshing to see the old reliable organ of the Republican party come out boldly and declare itself against such state senators as Banks, Moser and Orton, weak sisters. It seems the Oregonian is beginning to see the light at last and to lend its aid toward the purification of its party. In this commendable attempt it is certainly entitled to the gratitude of the citizens of Oregon. These senators must be very undesirable if their deeds in the legislature cannot merit the approbation of the "Tower." The Journal has from time to time mentioned the unsatisfactory record of "Billy" Banks and Gus Moser, but there was nothing but praise for these estimable gentlemen from the Oregonian, and now that nearly all of the voters in Oregon have their minds made up regarding their unfitness for public office, it certainly is refreshing to have the Oregonian confess its inability to stomach such a bunch any longer.

The people at large are fast coming into their own, and this gracious act of the Oregonian quoted above will be hailed with delight by all those who rejoice in even a belated confession of wrong, no matter how painful the operation.

J. A. WILSON.

Wants Government Ownership

Vancouver, Wash., Feb. 15.—To the Editor of The Journal—I am not only in favor of government ownership of railroads but of telephones and telegraphs, and the meat packing industry as well. What I mean by government ownership is for the government to buy the roads outright, the president to appoint five men, the railroad presidents five, and these 10 to select five, and these 15, as a board of appraisers, to appraise the railroad property but not to appraise it at what it is worth today but what it would have junked at in 1917, previous to the government's taking it over. If it hadn't been for the government taking over the railroads when war was declared the kaiser would have eaten that big meal in Paris. The government's operation of railroads during the war is something that every true American can be proud of.

It is laughable to hear a person say the government can't run the railroads. The same people, earlier, said Uncle Sam couldn't run parcel post and federal reserve banks, but he is doing it, with great satisfaction to every person patronizing it. Now is the time for the people to demand government ownership of railroads, not waiting until after March 1. It will be too late then. If the people are foolish enough to let the roads go back to private hands they will be praying for something to eat in less than five years. Another tie up of railroads under private management will stagger this country worse than in 1894. It wasn't the high cost of living then; it was the hard getting of the living. We are not always going to have a workingman's friend in the White House, and we shall greatly miss him when he is gone.

G. W. LOUDEN.

The Nurse Considered

Portland, Feb. 18.—To the Editor of The Journal—It seems that the annual shortage of nurses is again being experienced. Everyone who has ever been a nurse, so-called, whether experienced or not, is being called upon for her services. This leads one to think that one of the most vital fields for women and controlled wholly by them is on a most haphazard basis. The trained nurse registers and takes her turn for work. Much of the time she has no work. Her expenses go right on, and her equipment is expensive. Her services are badly needed occasionally. The rest of the time she is forgotten. Every up-to-date community should have some sort of a nurses' bureau, maintained by public funds, where all practical or domestic nurses could be registered separately and under the supervision of some capable, tactful trained nurse. There are some seemingly gifted practical nurses who sense their grave responsibilities and who, through study of short courses and assisting in sanitariums, have qualified themselves to be very reliable caretakers of the sick. But it will have to be admitted that most of them need supervision. (The doctors are too busy for this.) I myself have never had any trouble working under trained nurses who were sometimes many years younger than myself.

The requirements of a nurse are very strenuous. She is supposed to be very intelligent, sympathetic and tactful. She has to take particular care of her health, and go to amusements a great deal to keep herself in good humor, as otherwise her dull mood reacts on the sick. She has to have almost every virtue, and then, after all is said and done, 15 to 20 years—mostly less—is all the efficient work that can be expected of her, and she winds up her days as a nondescript hasbeen, all for lack of a little organization.

MRS. E. L. HAYS.

Indorses Mr. Edmiston's Views

Portland, Feb. 21.—To the Editor of The Journal—Just a few lines to emphasize the letter in The Journal of February 17, by J. L. Edmiston. Several years ago I belonged to the carpenters' union but I quit them in pure disgust. It was then and is today so saturated with Gomperism that all but about 10 out of 100 were determined to see everything through Gompers' glasses, and his motto always has been and is yet, "Organize to protect yourself but keep out of politics." But Mr. Gompers never was able to explain how they could protect themselves by keeping out of politics. His method has been to organize and then go out on strike. By so doing they invariably have lost more than they have gained. If organized labor had expended as much money, interest and energy along political lines—that is, had a political party of their own and sent their own representatives to congress—I doubt very much if they would need to go on strike today. When I belonged to the union the prevailing sentiment was, "We don't care anything about politics; what we want is conditions." But they failed to understand that Mr. Capitalist was not going to give it to them by mere persuasion or pity. The only way to get it is to compel him by legislation. But that would not be beneficial to Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison, the high up officialdom of the A. F. of L., for it is to their personal interest to get the labor forces organized and then go out on strike.

If organized labor became a political party, with the object in view to secure just, clean and righteous legislation, the chances are 10 to 1 that in 10 years it would not need to strike, nor would need Gompers and his suite either. Also, there are very few real laboring men who would not belong to the party, whereas by striking their organizations lose from 10 to 25 per cent of them every time.

Mr. Edmiston is right. Pure, downright stupidity on the part of organized labor is the cause of it all.

C. O. CEDERQUIST.

Indorses Wilson on Fiume

Portland, Feb. 17.—To the Editor of The Journal—President Wilson's stand on the Fiume question is right. By the 1915 pact of London, Fiume was given to the newly-to-be-formed state of Croatia. The Croats, Serbs and Slovenes are by blood, language and traditions one homogeneous nation, with identical aims in their national life. On October 29, 1918, soon after President Wilson's note to Austria demanding self-determination to Jugoslavs, the Croatian parliament assembled in Zagreb (Agram) and severed all the relations with both Austria and Hungary. By December 1, 1918, the unification of Jugoslavs was an accomplished affair, by the proclamation of the union by Prince Regent Alexander. The unification was a step in the proper direction, absolutely vital to their economic and political development. From the Italian point of view the foundation of such a state on Italy's northeastern border is dangerous. Therefore the youngster must be crippled in its infancy, so as to become dependent upon his powerful neighbor. Fiume must be dominated by Italy—Fiume, the only place in all Jugoslavia where water and rail connections with the inland regions meet. Then the Dalmatian islands, 95 per cent Slav, must be taken by Italy, because these islands screen the mainland of the new Jugoslavia.

With the League of Nations in prospect, it is proper to ask why Italy insists on all these strategic points, in spite of their Slavic populations. But, aside from coveting Adriatic territory, Italy wants control over Albania and wants lands in Asia and Africa. Yes, indeed; when we consider all that Italy wants and will want, it would seem the last war is yet to be fought.

A. KOSOVAC.

Recollections of Partisan Rancor

Ashland, March 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—I have read in The Journal a letter on partisan rancor. Its writer wrote the truth. All over the north in 1856 we had "Wideawakes," a Fremont organization. We marched two or three nights each week with black havelock caps and black oilcloth capes, and a coal oil lamp on a broom handle, 200 to 400 marching through the street, then to the court house for a speech. Schuyler Colfax was the "Black Republican" nominee for congress in our district. Candidates made joint speeches at each county seat. At South Bend, Mr. Turpie had the first hour and a half. Colfax followed. Partisanship ran so high that there were five judges on the platform—two Republicans, two Democrats and one nonpartisan. When Colfax was about half through, Turpie sprang to his feet, caught Colfax by his vest and drew a knife. Then the two Democratic judges jumped and caught his arm. My father and both grandfathers were rabid Republicans. It was hard for me to look in peace on a Democrat for 20 years after that time. In 1886 I went to Knoxville, Tenn. I got acquainted with a daughter of a Methodist preacher. I heard her say, "There's two men I'll never marry—a Democrat and a Baptist." In Eastern Tennessee and Kentucky political and church partisanship ran high. Even now she uses rather hard words about a Democrat and a rebel being one and the same. In 1888 I visited the Methodist Episcopal church conference at Cleveland, Tenn. I was sent to Mr. Aiken's home, an ex-colonel of the C. S. A. Sunday I went to their church and wore my G. A. R. flag badge. After I made the closing prayer a young man born five years after General Lee gave up, went to Colonel Aiken and said "That fellow that prayed last was one of those who licked us." Here is the reason the North and South could not agree for 30 years after the war. The Union soldiers went home shouting "We did it." Their kin and best girls joined in the shout. The C. S. A. boys went home beaten, sullen, revengeful, to ruined farms and desolated homes, to begin life's battle all over. Boys and girls born during this time partook of the feeling of father and mother. In the world war sons and grandsons of the Blue and Gray met on the fields of battle in France and learned to respect each other and one country and one flag.

AMOS DAHUFF.

"Biology and Outright Creation"

Hillsboro, March 1.—The Lord says, "Ask me of things to come, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me." From biology we cannot learn that we have passed through two judgments and now live in the time of the third seal (Rev. 6:5:6). Nor does it teach us to heed 2 Cor. 6:17-18 and so escape the next terrible judgment. Where in biology can we find that the "peace" we now enjoy is only a rest affording breathing time for renewed and more deadly efforts? From biology you cannot receive the knowledge that England will bear the last crowned head in Europe, because she holds within her bowels the ark of the house of Israel. Nor how near the time for Shiloh's reign has come (Gen. 49:10). Neither professor of biology nor anyone under the Gentile hierarchy knows how and when God will do His strange work, and bring to pass His strange act (Isa. 28:21). But what is written in Amos 3:7?

Do those who pin their faith on biology know that this planet is hollow, with a ball of fire in its center? That in the millennium this earth will yield increase in abundance, because the waters shall return to where they were in the first dispensation, before the fountains of the great deep were broken up? They shall lodge between the fire and the earth, and the surface shall be nourished by an upward sweat, or dew, as before the flood. Does biology teach that man is composed of three parts, yet one? Does it explain the origin, the function and destination of each one as the Word of God does? Does it tell how Adam was created immortal and fell to the mortal state by partaking of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, causing the juice of the wild grape to course through the veins of his first child, a murderer? Does this science explain the process by which man's blood shall be cleansed from the sourness which has increased, because each generation has sinned after the similitude of Adam, or why evil was created and is permitted to exist, and why man in his mortal state is subjected to angels and God set Satan over His work, a covering cherub?

No doubt biology, as so many other branches of science founded on man's wisdom and fossils, can prove the Bible an unreliable source of information, but with those who know, the truth of Prov. 1:17, one "Thus saith the Lord" has far more weight than the multitude of opinions of all the scholars and critics in the world. One passage inspired by the Almighty is of incomparably more value than a shipload of commentaries.

ISRAELITE.

Wants the U. S. Senate Abolished

Strassel, March 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—The American house of lords, or millionaires' club, has given convincing proof of its utter uselessness and incapacity for constructive work, especially since the arch-enemies of the treaty, and of the country as well, started their pusillanimous tactics of obstruction. The majority of the senators are agreed that the treaty should be ratified, but can't make up their minds over unimportant details, trifling away precious time and putting their own interest and that of their party above that of the country. Senator Johnson, one of the bitterest foes of the treaty and the League of Nations—who, by the way, was a far better governor than he is a senator—is conceited enough to think of having a chance at the White House on account of his obstinate policy.

Monarchical England has deemed it necessary to abolish its house of lords. Why should we, a republic, be afflicted with such a useless and expensive incumbrance? The salaries we pay the senators would be a great deal better applied by ameliorating the lot of our teachers and instructors. Let us pledge our congressmen to abolish the senate, and refuse to vote for those not amenable.

H. SPEISER.

Diamonds and Silk Shirts

Vancouver, Wash., Feb. 19.—To the Editor of The Journal—Under the heading, "The Death Dance," you present an interesting editorial, from which I take the following as a text: "Silk shirts are being bought in Chicago by workmen."

"What if they are? Who should worry? Prior to the sale the workman held the money and the merchant the shirts. After the sale the merchant had the money and the workman the shirts. Such transactions in no way affect the weal of the commonwealth. As a nation we are ignorant of the law of economics. We think of money where we should think of time. Productive work time is the base of all value. The commonwealth incurred no loss through the shirts changing hands. The loss was incurred through the waste of work time in producing the silk and making the shirts. The same regarding diamonds. Once the diamond is mined, cut and set, it matters nothing to the general public whether it is owned by a diamond king or a scavenger's wife. The work time devoted to producing the finished gem has been squandered, spent in producing a thing of no manner of utility.

Now, the hosts engaged in non-productive callings have very seriously lessened the number of producers. Quite naturally, this lessens the volume of necessary product, and as it lessens, its cost does and must rise; hence the H. C. L., which is a tax on every soul throughout this wide land, and a tax through which we, the public, are compelled to pay for both silk shirts and diamonds.

AMOS.

Presidential Inability

Portland, Feb. 25.—To the Editor of The Journal—In the news yesterday I read a statement that Representative S. D. Fess of Ohio wants congress to amend the constitution so as to authorize the vice president to fill the place of the president when he is unable to do so himself. I think there is no need of this. The constitution is very clear on this point, I think. Article 2, section 1, clause 5, of the constitution, says: "In case of the removal of the president from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the vice president." It looks to me like this should cover the whole thing. I have always wondered why we never have heard anything from our vice president while our president was so sick.

W. M. WISE.

The Wonderful Coast Climate

Newport, Feb. 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—In reading of the awful storms in many places, with cold weather, snow drifts piled high, trains stalled and stock suffering, we try to compare it with the lovely weather here at Newport and vicinity; but there is no comparison. No wonder so many flock here to spend the winter in this mild climate and seaside resort. The winter now at an end has been beautiful almost beyond description, as contrasted with it elsewhere. And to show an evidence of the truth of this statement I need only to call attention to a little incident. Our neighbor, W. D. Wheeler, came in from Corvallis in his Ford. He found no mudholes in which to stall, no slippery hill sufficient to check his speed. He rolled triumphantly into Newport at 4 p. m. tday, leading the Corvallis train 4 p. m. today, leading the Corvallis train.

C. D. SMITH.

A new device for dairies can be used as a sterilizer, pasteurizer or refrigerator and can handle bottled milk and implements in large quantities.

Why State Colleges Need Financial Aid

Larger student bodies that entail increased costs of operation and more limited incomes because of the lower purchasing price of the dollar are reasons set forth by R. S. Bean, J. K. Weatherford and Ben W. Olcott, president of the board of regents of the University of Oregon, Oregon Agricultural college and Oregon Normal school, respectively, in their argument in support of the additional millage tax for the support of these institutions, which will be on the ballot at the May election. The text of the affirmative argument follows:

ARGUMENT

(Affirmative)

Submitted by R. S. Bean, president of the board of regents of the University of Oregon; J. K. Weatherford, president of the board of regents of the Oregon Agricultural college, and Ben W. Olcott, president of the board of regents of the Oregon Normal school.

1. Higher Educational Institutions Forced to Appeal for Relief

A financial crisis is upon the Oregon Agricultural college, the state university, and the Oregon Normal school. It is due to causes over which they have no control. Upon this crisis, the joint ways and means committee of the last legislature held a hearing. The committee found the three institutions in desperate need. It found that they should not wait even until next year. Accordingly, it recommended to the legislature an additional levy of 1.26 mills for support, beginning in 1921, and an appropriation of like amount for this year alone. The legislature itself was barred by the 6 per cent tax limitation from making the levy and appropriation, so it referred the bill to the people and directed that two pages be set aside in this pamphlet to explain the facts to the voters. The voters are to decide May 21, and as many of the facts as can be contained in two pages will now be set forth.

2. One Cause of Crisis Is the Remarkable Increase in Number of Students

Since the original millage bills went into effect in 1913, the number of full time resident students at the agricultural college and the state university has increased 150 per cent. At the agricultural college in 1913 there were 1264 fulltime students; there are now 3378. At the state university in 1913 there were 691 fulltime students; there are now 1745. The institutions have tried hard to make income meet maintenance costs in the face of this remarkable growth, but have been unable to do so.

3. Meanwhile Their Income Is Further Reduced by Great Upheaval of Costs

Not only has the number of students increased 150 per cent, but in the same seven years the cost of supplies and equipment has doubled. (Note the true of faculty salaries, which have necessarily been increased very little.) The buying power of the dollar of 1913 is today about 45 cents. The experience of the three institutions has been the same as the experience of every Oregon family. It is as if a family of four in 1913, with an income of $2000, has been increased to a family of 10 in 1920, with an income of $900. And with the attendance one and one half times as great and the buying power of the existing income cut squarely in two, the millage tax revenue has remained almost unchanged.

4. Millage Income Little Changed Because of Policy on Assessed Valuations

The millage tax revenue has stood almost still because assessed valuations in Oregon remain about on the same basis as they were in 1913. It was the expectation of the legislature, of the tax commission and of all concerned, when the present millage support was passed, that the annual rise in assessed valuations would equal increase in maintenance. How conspicuously it has failed to do so is shown by the following table:

1913	$954,282,374
1914	932,413,080
1915	934,495,082
1916	878,783,944
1917	928,605,570
1918	987,533,896
1919	990,435,472

That is, the increase in the state's assessed valuation since the millage bills were passed in 1913 has been 3.8 per cent while the increase in student enrollment has been 150 per cent and the increase in operating costs about 100 per cent.

Further, the number of students described, totaling about 5400 at the three institutions, includes only full time students, and does not include the many thousands who take winter short courses, summer schools, extension classes or correspondence study. All of these have to be financed, however, from the millage tax income, and their number, too, has increased tremendously.

5. When Expressed in Terms of Dollars, Crisis Becomes Apparent

In actual dollars, the state university is receiving only $10,846 more than it would have received in 1913 from the millage tax income, but it has 1054 more full time students. The agricultural college is receiving only $14,462 more, but it has 2014 more students. The normal is receiving only $1445 more.

Had it not been for thrifty and far sighted administration, the three institutions would long before now have been turning students away. A pre-war report of the United States bureau of education gave the average cost per student per year at $325 in the great number of American universities and colleges that entered into the calculation. At the state university this year, however, in spite of the rise in prices, the cost per student is $262, and at the college $180. Even with the new millage bill in effect the cost in Oregon would still be below the average for institutions of similar grade. The annual student cost at the agricultural college, as an example, would still be $70 a year below the annual student cost at a typical group of five agricultural schools in the Middle West and West — those of Michigan, Iowa, Kansas, Indiana and Washington. (Note: In addition, the costs of the five colleges mentioned were taken from a four year period preceding the war, when costs were about one half what they are now.)

6. They Find Themselves Unable to "Make Ends Meet" Any Longer

The state university, agricultural college, and normal have at last "come to the end of their rope." The war piled on burdens that made universities and colleges everywhere stagger. It not only raised prices to the breaking point for them just as it did for every man's household but it compelled them to add branches of study, to intensify their work, to whip up their speed; for few agencies rose to meet the call of the war as did the universities and colleges of the country. The war also showed hundreds of thousands of men the wonderful value of a college education. Nearly 1500 ex-service men have hurried to the state university and the agricultural college alone. Welcome as they were, they have nevertheless helped to create a problem that cannot be met without more aid from the state.

7. Shortage of Classroom Space Is as Great as Shortage of Maintenance Funds

Classroom conditions at college and university are almost impossible. It is natural that they should be when it is remembered that the buildings of 1913 were even then insufficient, and that the number of students has increased 10 times faster than classroom space. Out of the dozens of possible illustrations there is room in these two pages for one or two only. At the university the sciences have the laboratory and classroom facilities sufficient for an institution of about 700, instead of one of 1745. The university library was built when the student body numbered 400, and has study facilities for all at one time. At the agricultural college students are shifted all over the campus to find room at all, then are constantly crowded into wholly unsuitable quarters. The teaching efficiency of the two institutions is fast being broken down by lack of classrooms and laboratories.

8. Salary Conditions Result in Steady Loss of Best Faculty Men

The cost of living has risen probably about 90 per cent in Oregon since 1915. Faculty salaries at university, college and normal have advanced about 29 per cent since that time. The result has been a steady loss to the state from its best faculty material. Teachers cannot be expected to stay on indefinitely out of loyalty when they have to borrow from banks, or dip into previous savings to keep their families supported. At the agricultural college alone there have been 45 faculty resignations since July, 1919. Some go to the branches of industry in which they are specialists, for one of the great lessons of the world war was the unrealized value of the technical training of the university and college professor. Others go to states that have already met the crisis in their higher educational institutions by providing more adequate funds.

Yet it is vitally important that many of these faculty members be kept in the state, and in particular the technical specialists. Professors of agriculture, horticulture, dairying, animal husbandry, education and child study, journalism, commerce, engineering, forestry and such practical branches come to their highest worth in a state only after years of service. New men cannot learn Oregon in a season or two.

9. Why Higher Education Pays in General and Why it Pays in Oregon

Higher education puts dollars into the pockets of thousands of Oregon citizens. The feat of the agricultural college in increasing the grain output per acre has alone added more to the wealth of Oregon for each year than the entire cost of higher education for the same year. So has the work of the colleges in reducing the fruit pests. So has its achievement in raising the egg-laying average and in improving the livestock. In a less visible but no less direct way, the university and the normal are making their contribution of the wealth of the state.

Higher education is a safeguard against anarchy on the one hand, and against aristocracy and reaction on the other. Nearly all the inventions that helped win the war were contributions of college professors or college-trained men. Educated men and women produce more and save more. The arrival in the business and industry world in the last 15 years of a great number of young men of broad university training has helped make America the business and industrial leader of the whole world. It has helped bring the worker and the employer closer together and to improve the social and financial position of the former. Higher education in Oregon has been one of the strongest factors in bringing in settlers to populate a vast region that at the present averages only nine persons to the square mile.

10. What the Effect on Taxes Would Be, If You Happen to Be a Taxpayer

Assessed valuations in Oregon usually vary from one third to two thirds of the so-called "cash valuation," which in its turn is generally lower than the "asked price." A man paying on $1000 of assessed valuation would have $1.26 added to his annual statement. As the prevailing tax levies run, including the special levies for roads and towns and local schools, his increase would usually range from one twenty-fifth to one-fortieth.

That is, it would add from two and one half to four per cent to his annual taxes to have the agricultural college, the university and the normal of his state placed on a footing that would let them remain the equals of the higher educational institutions of neighboring and Middle West states, and make it possible for him to educate his boy and girl at home, without going to the far greater expense of sending them away from the state.

11. If You Were the Person Responsible for Higher Education, What Would You Do?

Imagine yourself to be responsible for the carrying on of higher education in Oregon. The institutions for which you have this responsibility have been created by the people for the education of their boys and girls, for the spread of good citizenship, for educational extension to the state generally, and for the perpetuation of the republic's free institutions.

Suppose that you have been provided by the people with what they expected at the time would be an adequate millage income. Unexpectedly to them and to you, however, the income fails to meet the unforeseen conditions created by a world war. In fact, the income stands almost still.

Meanwhile your costs begin to go up, up, up. They double in seven years. Your dollars become worth 45 cents of their old buying power. Your buildings are depreciating. Your equipment is wearing out.

And, on top of it all, your student enrollment jumps 150 per cent.

21. What Would You Do If These Things Happened to You?

Would you close up your doors? Or would you let your whole educational system break down?

Or would you go frankly before the people, make the facts known to them and ask for the increase in income that has been necessary in every other activity?

If you would do this last, it is then your consistent duty to vote for the higher educational tax act.

(Signed) R. S. BEAN,
President Board of Regents, University of Oregon.

J. K. WEATHERFORD,
President Board of Regents, Oregon Agricultural College.

BEN W. OLCOTT,
President Board of Regents, Oregon Normal School.

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