The Oregon Sunday 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]

Published every week day and Sunday morning, at The Journal Building, Broadway and Yamhill street, Portland, Oregon.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

TELEPHONES—Main 7173, Automatic 560-51. All departments reached by these numbers.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE Benjamin & Kentnor Co., Brunswick Building, 225 Fifth avenue, New York; 900 Mallers Building, Chicago.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By carrier, city and country.

DAILY AND SUNDAY			
One week	$ .15	One month	$ .65
DAILY		SUNDAY	
One week	$ .10	One week	$ .05
One month	.45		

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WEEKLY (Every Wednesday)		WEEKLY AND SUNDAY	
One year	$1.00	One year	$3.50
Six months	.50		

These rates apply only in the West.

Rates to Eastern points furnished on application. Make remittance by Money Order, Express Order, or Draft. If your postoffice is not a Money Order Office, 1 or 2-cent stamps will be accepted. Make all remittances payable to The Journal, Portland, Oregon.

He who climbs above the cares of this world and turns his face to his God has found the sunny side of life.—Spurgeon.

THE MONEY SCANDAL

A SCANDAL has already appeared in the presidential campaign. There are allegations of a prodigal use of money.

It is contemporaneous with the conviction of Newberry and his sentence to two years in the penitentiary for corrupt use of money in the Michigan senatorial election.

It is notable in the latter case that among the convicted defendants is a so-called "legislative agent" who went from New York to help Newberry in the election. What business had a New York "legislative agent" on a salary supposed to be around $50,000 a year, out in Michigan to tell people there what senator they should elect?

The allegations are that the money now in use in the presidential campaign is supplied from New York and other Eastern financial centers. Statements to that effect have been made on the floor of the United States senate. To make such a statement in such a place at such a time and under such circumstances requires an authority and responsibility of information that is scarcely to be questioned.

If it is all true, what is to be inferred? Have the enormous profits of the war made the new crop of war millionaires money mad? Have their enormous gains since the armistice filled the profiteers with the idea that with money they can buy control of the American government and the American people and American affairs?

That is not at all unlikely. Once such elements had a powerful hold on the government of the United States. Theodore Roosevelt in his time did a great deal to focus public attention upon the power of money in government. He pointed to what he called "swollen fortunes and crimes of cunning," and denounced both. In 1912 he led a revolt in his party and headed the Progressive movement. He did a great deal to loosen the hold of the great financial centers upon the affairs of government.

Since that time money has not been able to control elections to any considerable extent. Indeed, in 1916, the West broke away from the East and elected a president without the aid of New York and the great financial states grouped immediately about that imperial commonwealth.

Perhaps the stage is being set now for the profiteers to come back. If the allegations as to money now being prodigally spent in the presidential primaries are true, what else can it mean than that the brigadiers of finance and the privilege hunters and parasites and politicians are to make a desperate effort to gain control of the government and that it will be bought with cold cash if that can be done?

"I could not vote with a party if it were dominated by groups who seek to set aside our constitutional guarantees for free speech or free representation, who hope to establish control of the government for profit and privilege," said Herbert Hoover in a recent public statement. Did Mr. Hoover then see the mobilizing of the forces of profit and privilege for the coming election? Were his words a warning signal to the people and a defy to the groups that seek "control of the government for profit and privilege"? Was this warning declaration the reason why Mr. Hoover was denounced by Penrose?

With their loot in their arms, the war profiteers are now demanding that excess profit taxes be removed. Their propaganda is being spread broadcast throughout the country. The mails are laden with it. Is it the plan to buy the presidency and congress, remove the excess profits tax and then, as usual, compel the great plain multitude of Americans with their mites, to pay for the war? Would not the game be worth the candle since we know that one Portland concern profited so heavily from the war that it paid an excess profits tax of more than $4,500,000 in a single year?

Newberry bought his senatorship while hiding his corrupt operations under a slogan of "Americanism." Beneath a camouflage of high sounding expressions is the black flag of profits and privilege to float over the national capital as a result of the use of money in the coming election?

Not if the American people are given a fair chance to know the facts. The people know that the profiteers will, if they win, get back through control of government thousands of dollars for every dollar of corrupt money they pay out in elections.

Maybe Mayor Baker, now that the milk war has been put up to him for arbitration, knows how the dimpled milkmaid feels in the cold gray dawn of a raw March morning.

ITS GREAT SERVICE

DO YOU know that the Portland Young Women's Christian Association is a house of friendship for girls of every creed or color?

That no girl is ever turned away for lack of money?

That employment was secured in the past year for 3309 girls and women?

That 7479 girls were housed, 300 of them being without funds?

That 65 transients can be accommodated each night, and that rooms in the association building can be had at 35 cents a night?

That an industrial department was launched last October and that 6743 girls must be reached by this department the coming year?

That the Travelers' Aid secretary served 8857 men and women (elderly or sick) girls and children arriving at Portland railway stations and boat landings?

That the cafeteria serves well cooked, wholesome food at a minimum cost?

Y. W. C. A. girls are learning new meanings of friendliness and new ways of service and cooperation.

Are training for self-support and self-development in Y. W. C. A. educational classes under expert teachers.

Are preparing for a world-wide service in the time of national and world need.

Are being helped to find the work best suited to them and to secure or better their positions.

Are learning to conserve health and strength by sane living, and increase both through systematic exercise.

Are enjoying the swimming pool to the utmost and walking, jumping and diving into it by hundreds.

Are developing team work in self-governing clubs with constructive programs varied according to age and range of interests.

Are finding homes at reasonable rates and vacation suggestions suited to every taste.

Are enjoying the freedom of the library and reading rooms.

Are including Bible instruction, world fellowship and social service in their association program.

Are asking friendly advice about personal problems or are helping "younger sisters."

Are working together on the broad basis of Christian womanhood to realize for all women the ideal of abundant life.

When an organization meets the conditions of the times and progresses with the times, performing a service which is necessary and useful to society generally, it readily receives the support of the community. Almost half a century ago the Young Women's Christian Association sprang into being through the efforts of a small group of women devoted to girlhood. Since that time it has grown steadily, helping the girls of each generation to meet successfully the conditions of the day.

Every organization must perform a useful service if it is to grow, for society will refuse to maintain it if it fails to be useful to society. When an organization has survived and grown for a long period of years, we may be sure that it has won its position by performing a service useful and necessary.

That, in a word, explains the continued, ever increasing growth of the Young Women's Christian Association.

The organization is four fifths self supporting. But there is another fifth. It is the girl, still wholesome and sound, who is without means and must be taken care of by some agency or somebody before she falls victim to the wolves of society.

She is the girl who, if saved, remains a wholesome and cleansing influence, but who, unsaved, may touch destructively and contaminatingly hundreds of lives and bring regret and sorrow into as many homes. If the Y. W. C. A. reaches out and conserves one such girl, how much is the service not worth to many a parent in whose home there is son or daughter ripe to be pulled down to the lower levels of the social strata.

The more saved girls, the more of them that are met when they come to the city and taken into circles where they will be secure from the influences that ever pull down, the more wholesome is the life of a city, the better its social atmosphere and the stronger will be its next generation.

There is no better business proposition than an investment in social welfare. When there is an agency through which you can buy clean living for young people and a safeguarded girlhood, you can find no investment that will pay you and your community better dividends or a larger interest.

The drive for $40,000 which the Portland Y. W. C. A. is to conduct this week is credentialed by 50 years of glorious service and approved by the best impulses in the human heart.

Dr. Geiger, expert from the health bureau at Washington, says he thinks he has trailed botulitis, which we have thought grew in olives, to the humble porker. That ought to help reduce the high cost of pork, as it did the high price of olives.

CONSERVATIVE FIGURES

THE conservative character of estimates made of the revenue to be derived from the gasoline tax for state highway improvement is shown in the report of the secretary of state for the past year. The amount from this source from February 26, 1919, to March 1, 1920, is approximately $391,000. This is largely in excess of the estimate made at the time the law was enacted, which was between $250,000 and $300,000.

The same conditions will be found in the case of the motor vehicle licenses which are overrunning the estimates.

These facts show that no mistake was made in the Oregon system of indirectly financing road construction out of the automobile revenues and give confidence that they can be further capitalized without danger of leading to direct taxation.

In the argument for the pending constitutional amendment to raise the limit of state road indebtedness from 2 to 4 per cent, it will be noted that the amortization table is a very conservative one. Since the registration law was put in effect in 1911 the increase in registrations has been over 30 per cent. If this percentage is maintained the number this year would reach 110,000. But it is noted that the table is based on only 105,000. The same conservatism in making estimates is preserved up to 1929, when the number is placed at 200,000.

Beyond 1929 there is an ultra conservatism in calculation, no allowance being made for any increase in the number of vehicles, which is kept at the 200,000 mark.

Thus it is shown that without providing for an increase that may be reasonably expected a total issue of forty million dollars which will be the limit on a 4 per cent basis of assessed valuation, can be carried and a surplus of nearly four million dollars be left at the end of the bond period after the payment of interest and principal.

If killings go on, present rates of speed in cities will have to be reduced. That will be demanded by the public unless fatal accidents become fewer. Meanwhile, there should be in Portland a larger force of traffic police. The present traffic force is so few in number as to make it impossible for them to control traffic.

A CHANGED COMPLEXION

SEATTLE, Tacoma and the Washington public service commission labor under the delusive conviction that to historicize is to canonize. The rail rate over the mountains between the Inland Empire and Puget sound is historical. Therefore it is sacred. Therefore it should not be disturbed. Such pleasant course of contention will be followed by the northern interests when the interstate commerce commission permits oral argument of the Columbia basin rate case at Washington, D. C., on April 17.

Their briefs and the news reports from Puget sound and the national capital agree that the history of the rate structure which has been assailed by Inland Empire shippers and the upper ports of the Columbia will constitute the chief defense by Seattle and Tacoma, with the Washington public service commission, forgetful of its duty to Eastern and Southern Washington, chiming in on a "me, too" refrain.

From times now historic, Seattle and Tacoma, despite the mountain wall that separates them from the interior, have enjoyed the same rates as the ports of the Columbia. What matter if such a parity was due in the beginning to violation of economic law and a transgression of every rule which declares that the charge for transportation service shall be proportionate to the cost of rendering that service? The wrong was committed so long ago and it has been used to such profit in the expansion of the ports of Puget sound that it would be wrong now to right the original wrong. And when, asks Puget Sountd with shrewd casuistry, did two wrongs ever make a right?

The interstate commerce commission will know "when," and by its decision, rather than by the sharp practice of our northern neighbors, we will be content to abide.

The complexion of the Columbia basin rate case will be seen to have changed not a little when the oral argument begins in Washington. Since the railroads have been returned to private operation, the director general of the railroad administration will cease, for all practical purposes, to be the chief defendant. C. A. Hart, who conducted the railroad administration's side of the action with recognized ability, will appear at the next hearing as counsel for the northern lines. The director general will no longer be represented by or have need of an attorney.

The issue has narrowed, thus, to a direct contest between the northern ports and the railroads on one side and the shippers of the interior and the ports of the Columbia on the other. The modified situation gives the O-W. R. & N. company an opportunity to perform an act of expected gratitude for the region and the communities that made it. The O-W. R. & N. has been appearing as a defendant. It could not better serve its own competitive interests now than to come in as a friend rather than an opponent of the recognition of the water grade.

By eliminating certain Sunday features, five New York newspapers found that in the aggregate they saved more than 325 tons of newsprint paper each week. Nor is it likely that the public missed the parts eliminated. It isn't the bulk, but the character of the contents that makes the paper.

THE ROGUE RIVER ARMISTICE

THE message that amity has been restored between the commercial salmon fishermen and the anglers of Rogue river will affect Southern Oregon much as the armistice quieted the nations engaged in the world war. Since 1877 the controversy between the commercial interests and the sportsmen has waged. It has influenced policies, and policies not only of the Rogue river section but of the entire state. It has divided towns. It has inspired unending flow of militant oratory at public meetings and legislative sessions. It has affected a great tourist and recreational asset as well as an important phase of the commercial fishing industry.

The agreement reached by the sportsmen of Medford and Ashland with Roderick Macleay as chief of the commercial interests seems to have been signed and sealed by the parties at interest. It involves a shortening of the commercial fishing season so that the sportsmen will enjoy more of the silverside salmon as well as the steelhead fishing. All seines and set nets are to be eliminated and use is to be made exclusively of the drift nets. The area in which commercial fishermen will operate at the mouth of the Rogue will be shortened from 26 to 12 miles.

Such a pleasant eventuation of a persistent controversy is, indeed, gratifying, and the acknowledgment from Southern Oregon that President Price of the Anglers' club and President Van Duzer of the Chamber of Commerce are entitled to much credit for the adjustment is an agreeable tribute to citizens who are customarily active in affairs of public interest.

FRIENDS OF THE COW

OREGON dairymen seem to be planning to get more cream for their bankbooks by charging less for the cream in their bottles. It will be a happy condition if it works out that way.

The milk and dairy business has been in a bad way, resultant from many causes. Abnormal feed costs, unusual labor costs, excessive material and machinery prices have run the prices up to the consumers of milk and milk products while at the same time they have narrowed, and, in many instances, wiped out the margin of profit to the producers. Dairy herds have been depleted and disposed of, supply has fallen off, dairymen have become discouraged, and so has the public when it has paid the monthly toll levied on baby's bottle and the butter roll.

Now the dairymen intend, by organization and by systemization of their industry to take up the loose points in their business, eliminate the causes of waste and loss, and, as a result, reap added profit at a less cost to the consumer.

The milk business, they tell us, is a "peak production" business without any present method adequate for the handling of the load, a condition which breeds waste and loss of output during a portion of the year with consequent average loss when the books are closed in January.

Spring time brings abundant pastures and abundant milk supply which the average demand can not absorb. It results in wastage and loss. The dry months of summer and the barren days of winter demand big investment in feed and consequent increase in overhead and operating expenses, spelling loss.

Dairymen are now planning to make provision by which the peak production can be absorbed by canneries, condensaries, and butter and cheese factories, thus taking care of the surplus over and above the normal and consistent demand for fresh milk and cream.

The salvaging of this waste is expected to bridge the difference between profit and loss, and to make it possible at the same time to bring the consumer's cost down for the benefit of the general buying public.

So far as Portland is concerned, however, there is still an angle to the business that the dairymen do not seem to have provided for, and that is the cost of distribution. If statistics previously gathered are correct, it costs more to distribute milk and cream to the consumers in Portland than it does to produce them. A multiplicity of delivery systems, each serving the same territory, cross and recross each other, where some systematized and cooperative plan of delivery would result in an enormous saving of overhead, equipment and operating cost which could well bring profit up and selling price down.

If the dairymen who are serving Portland could evolve a plan that would eliminate that overcost it would go a long way towards closing the gap between prosperity for themselves and contentment for their patrons.

WORK IS A SAVIOR

"Devils of Sloth and Selfish Ease" Thereby Cast Out, and There Are None Worse Than These.

While a man has work to do he is safe against most dangers. Work fills the hours that might be worse than wasted. It is the harmless opiate for sorrow. It is a distraction that, if not overdone, is remedial and merciful. A man who has been long idle can pray for no better fate than to be busy. If he is good for anything, he is made utterly wretched by having nothing to do.

* * *

Much pity is wasted on those who work hard. Hard work is not a curse, but a downright blessing. The workman as he develops skill and science in his craft feels a creative joy in his being and his doing that is a supreme satisfaction. He finds new powers that he did not know he had. The old capacities of which he was aware are expanded and intensified. He learns to do by doing. He constantly surprises himself by an achievement of which he did not know he was capable.

* * *

We have all seen the youthful pilgrim on the way of life who had not found himself. He tried many things and in some perhaps attained a slender proficiency. But nothing quite seemed to suit him. He seemed in danger of squandering his gifts by diffusion. He "scattered his fire." His versatility became almost a curse. Then suddenly he came upon his true bent—he found the thing he could do to particular useful purpose. Thereupon he was transformed. From being the disdainful, doubtful "trifler" he became the specialist, of determined concentration. His objective was fixed and his course was set straight for it. Each day he made progress toward the end in view. He realized at last the purpose for which he was put into the world, and he was happy. Such a man is passing on the salvation he has himself received. His example is a stirring object-lesson. Every strong man raises up a train of disciples whose names he does not know, whose faces he has never seen. They argue: "He overcame privation and discouragement. I can do the same. He worked when he did not feel like it. There is no reason why I should not cast out the devils of sloth and selfish ease, even as he expelled them."

* * *

In determining and then following his own laborious course in life a man is not merely saving himself, but helping to save those with whom his influence counts. Half the time we do better and braver things than we otherwise would because of the influence of one for whom we care. The inspiring incentive has a result that mystifies us, when we thought we knew our own natures so well.

Standing alone in the world, we might fail; but aloneness is one of the impossibilities. We never live to ourselves. There is always a cloud of witnesses, though these may be unseen. They expect something of us, and we are bound not to disappoint the expectation. We know not what shall be the flower and the fruit of the word or the deed of the moment. We only know that we must labor while it still is day, for the sake not of self but of all.

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.]

CALLS 8-CENT CRY A TRICK.

Portland, March 19.—To the Editor of The Journal—J. A. Wilson's article in yesterday's Journal is full of food for thought. I would like to enlarge on it somewhat. I do not believe the Portland Railway, Light & Power company really wants to make the suicidal move to an 8-cent fare, and all this noise about an 8-cent fare is simply to drive the people to compelling the city to take off the bridge tolls, street paving between tracks and free rides for city employes, and when these are granted we shall hear no more of the 8-cent fare. Now I learn it has been stated many times, both privately and publicly, that the Portland Railway, Light & Power company made in 1918 something like a million dollars in profits off the power and light departments, and I have heard no denial from Mr. Griffith or anyone else. I understand both departments always have belonged and now belong to the same company, and no division except for the purpose of juggling the profits. And how? By successfully and systematically milking the carline department, for power and light, clear beyond its income, then yelling bankruptcy, receivership and other calamities unless the company gets more money, and it is not very particular who it gets it from, so it gets it.

W. P. Strandborg, editor of Watts Watt, that great educator of the dear people along corporation lines, comes out in The Journal of March 17 with a long list of cities having over the 5-cent fare, and from it one might conclude that almost every city in the United States had from 6-cent to 8 and 9-cent fares. Now, my son has been traveling most of the time for the last two years over the states south and west of Chicago. Returning from Southern California March 12, he told me he found no street car fares in his travels above 5 cents except in Portland, and many places are using steam generated power, too, though here it is mostly water power. Hence the water got mixed up with the stock, and that kind of water comes rather high as a rule.

C. J. McLain.

U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Portland, March 25.—To the Editor of The Journal—Your issue of March 20 contained an editorial which commended the work of the United States employment service, stating that "the employment department is one of the government's most excellent features," and that "at a cost of $1.34 each, paid by the government, the federal employment service found jobs for more than 6,000,000 men and women."

To clear up a general misapprehension, it may be stated that the $1.34 includes the cost of installing the service. The actual cost of placing each person, excluding the original investment in equipment, would be nearer 34 cents. Had the service been allowed to continue under an economical peacetime basis, this $1.34 would have been materially reduced, as the installation cost would be spread over a longer period.

Owing to the failure of congress to provide funds, this necessary service has ceased active operations, though continuing to cooperate with state and municipal employment systems through one representative in each state and the use of its furniture, equipment and supplies.

In lieu of a federal employment system, it is now up to each state to provide its own system, the appropriation for which will be matched by the federal government should the pending Kenyon-Nolan bill before congress become a law. To this end, the state labor commissioner has been named federal director of the United States employment service, in states which have not already a state system of employment; in Oregon, W. H. Fitzgerald, deputy labor commissioner, being appointed to that position. The most important function of the United States employment service, under these circumstances, will be to maintain a "clearance system" as between the states, in arranging a proper distribution of labor under conditions of surplus or shortage.

L. F. Shinaman,
Assistant Federal Director.

ANYONE UNDER 21 YEARS

Prescott, Wash., March 21.—To the Editor of The Journal—Question: What, according to law, constitutes a minor in a pool hall? Interested.

SIMPLIFICATION

From the Washington Star

Adam was giving the animals their names.

He came to the hog.

"If I hadn't resolved," he said, "to stick as closely as possible to words of one syllable I'd call you a profiteer."

THIS COMPOST

By Walt Whitman

SOMETHING startles me where I thought I was safest;
I withdrew from the still woods I loved;
I will not go now on the pastures to walk;
I will not strip the clothes from my body to meet my lover the sea;
I will not touch my flesh to the earth, as to other flesh, to renew me.

O how can it be that the ground itself does not sicken?
How can you be alive, you growths of spring?
Are they not continually putting distemper'd corpses within you?

Behold this compost! behold it well!
Perhaps every mite has once form'd part of a sick person—Yet behold!
The grass of spring covers the prairies,
The delicate spear of the onion pierces upward,
The apple-buds cluster together on the apple-branches,
The resurrection of the wheat appears with pale visage out of its graves,
The he-birds carol mornings and evenings, while the she-birds sit on their nests,

What chemistry!
That the winds are really not infectious,
That this is no cheat, this transparent green wash of the sea, which is so amorous after me,
That it is safe to allow it to lick my naked body all over with its tongues,
That it will not endanger me with the fevers that have deposited themselves in it,
That all is clean forever and forever,
That the cool drink from the well tastes so good,
That blackberries are so flavorous and juicy,
That when I recline on the grass I do not catch any disease,
Though probably every spear of grass rises out of what was once a catching disease.

Now I am terrified at the Earth! it is that calm and patient,
It grows such sweet things out of such corruptions,
It renews with such unwitting looks, its prodigal, annual, sumptuous crops,
It gives such divine materials to men, and accepts such leavings from them at last.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

Dean J. A. Bexell, head of the school of commerce at the Oregon Agricultural college, stopped at the Imperial Saturday en route back to Corvallis after spending a week on a speaking tour through Eastern Oregon cities. The dean is urging upon voters the necessity for the millage tax plan of support for the Oregon institutions of higher learning and in the campaign he has just conducted has found encouragement that leads him to declare that the measure will be approved by voters east of the mountains. In Dean Bexell's department at the state college there are some 700 students, as against the handful the school started with not so very many years ago. "There is a growing demand in Oregon," the educator said, "for instruction in the advanced branches of commerce, and the increasing importance of foreign trade makes this demand more than ever impressive." A great many graduates from the O. A. C. school of commerce have forged ahead in the commercial world and are not only to be found in all Pacific coast states, but in many other parts of the nation.

* * *

A. B. Robertson of Condon, where he is heavily interested in the sheep and grain industries, is a guest at the Multnomah hotel. Robertson has just returned from a trip to England that has occupied his time and attention for three months. He visited homeland scenes and friends abroad.

* * *

Likely as not the telephone pole standing in front of your home came from Kerry, Or., and in that event it is very probable that B. A. Eldred of Kerry had something to do with its production—or its transformation, at any rate, from the original state to the present condition. Eldred is a contractor specializing in the production of telephone poles. With Mrs. Eldred and A. C. Burlingham of Kerry, Eldred is a guest at the Perkins hotel.

* * *

Walter L. Tooze Jr., McMinnville attorney, is in the city again, this time stopping at the Imperial, where he has had opportunity to chat with C. A. Herbsman, manager of the Poindexter-for-president campaign, in which Tooze is interested.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Rutledge and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Erwin of Bozeman, Mont., are stopping at the Portland hotel while visiting briefly in Portland. They are returning to Montana after spending a winter vacation period among the palms of Southern California.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. John Burke are going back to their home at North Platte, Neb., after sojourning in California during the winter. They are at the Cornelius hotel. Burke has a brother in Portland whom he had not seen for many years, and a thorough review of the intervening period must be accomplished before the Nebraskans can continue on their way.

* * *

Dr. and Mrs. R. Bilyeu of Albany are guests at the Multnomah while they spend the weekend in Portland. Albany isn't strictly a 9 o'clock town, but Portland offers inducements that even the Linn county metropolis cannot present to the home folk. Dr. Bilyeu is a dentist. From Astoria, Dr. J. J. Pettinger, another of the dental profession, is a guest at the Cornelius hotel.

* * *

Here to attend a conference of Western Union Telegraph company workers, F. H. Blashfield, manager of the company's business at Victoria, B. C., is stopping at the Multnomah hotel.

* * *

President P. L. Campbell of the University of Oregon is a guest at the Portland hotel for the weekend. At the Imperial are Professor and Mrs. Joseph Schafer of the state university community. Both educators find occasion to hold lobby discussions, with the proposed millage tax for educational aid as the subject.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Baker, accompanied by Miss K. H. M. Baker, all prominent in Spokane, their home town, are at the Multnomah. From the same city comes E. E. Ballinger, representative of a Portland farm implement concern in the Washington city. Ballinger is also at the Multnomah.

* * *

J. B. Morrison, rated by his local friends as one of the most extensive wheat growers in Gilliam county, is a guest at the Perkins hotel from Arlington.

IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

[In this, the second installment of his sketch of the career of Mayor George Baker, Mr. Lockley carries his subject forward to the point where he makes and loses $34,000 in one year, at which very interesting point, it appears, the story is "continued in our next." Meanwhile, this present installment is not lacking in record of vicissitudes on its own account.]

"A man can stand missing a few meals if he has to," said Mayor George L. Baker to me recently, "but what gets his goat is to see his women folk having to go hungry. When I was a young man I was in Seattle. I had started a news stand and gone broke. I had tramped all over town trying to land a job without success. I had tackled a contractor several times for a job of sewer digging but had been turned down hard. I watched my chance, picked up a shovel and, dropping into the ditch, I went to work. Presently a foreman spotted me and said, 'Hey, you. Who hired you?' I said, 'Nobody,' and went on digging. He watched me for a while, and said, 'All right; you're hired. I'll put you on the payroll at $2.25 a day.'

* * *

"I worked there until the sewer was completed, drawing down over $60 for my month's work. My father pulled out for Bakersfield, Cal. I went to a boarding house and told them to take care of my mother and the children; that I would redeem them as soon as I had the money. Leaving my mother 'in hock,' I came to Portland. The only job along the theatrical line I could land was cleaning the monkey cage and feeding the animals at Cordray's theatre. I took the job and saved every cent I could get my hands on, to send to my mother. I sure was proud when I got her and the children 'out of hock' and could bring them to Portland.

* * *

"In those days Cordray had a museum, a Strasburg clock and a few animals. The admission was 10 cents, which admitted you to the vaudeville show. If you wanted to take in the melodrama you dug up 10, 20 or 30 cents additional, depending on the seat you bought. My job was that of roustabout in the museum. Soon I was promoted to property man, the hours to be 16 a day and the wages $15 a week. I jumped at it. I took small parts in the show, also. I moved with great decorum, for a quick movement would have broken my trousers, they were so threadbare.

* * *

"When the Marquam opened I was offered a larger salary. I went to Cordray and said, 'I would rather stay with you, but the Marquam will pay me a larger salary.' He said, 'Which means that you want me to pay you more. You are not worth what you are getting now. I can get men with real ability for $15 a week.' I went over to the Marquam, where I drew down $18 a week as assistant flyman. I knew how to handle the hanging stuff, as I had done a lot of that kind of work, so I was made head flyman. I also took a job with the high sounding title of lithographer, which really means bill-sticker and distributor. I went on duty at 8 a. m., getting out the show bills, and worked all day. Then I worked at night from 7:30 till 12:30. The two jobs netted me $75 a week. I had to support my mother, and I was figuring on having a family of my own; hence the two jobs and the 17-hour workday.

* * *

"When I was 22 I married a young lady who lived near our house. We had one child, Mabel Alice Baker. She made good on the stage. She married Russ Ludley and lives here in Portland. Here is a picture of their little boy, Richard, my grandson.

* * *

"I worked for a good many years at the Marquam. Finally they built an opera house for me at Baker City (which has now dropped the 'City'). I put in $3300 of my own money, stayed there a year, and came back to Portland with a 20-dollar gold piece. I had to put my mother 'in hock' again till I could rustle money to pay her board. Lee Pearl, treasurer of the Baker theatre here in Portland, was my partner at Baker. He stayed with it 2½ years longer than I did, and finally reached Portland with less than $20.

* * *

"I had an even $20 when I got home to Portland. Within a year I made $34,000. How I made it and how I lost it illustrates the ups and downs of the theatrical business."

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

A feller come up here to the Corners t'other day from Portland to prove by figgers enough to fill a Bible that the streetcars was carryin' people fer less'n cost. This makes me think of the Hon. Simon Goldstein at Lemmore who run a store fer 35 year and went through bankruptcy four times and was burned out twicet. When he died he was so rich the lawyers fit over his will fer 10 year more

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader

OREGON NOTES

Salem Masons have appropriated $1000 towards the erection of a new city hospital.

Surrounding the town of Shedd are eights boys' and girls' industrial clubs, each of which is active.

Captain C. A. Schetky, U. S. army, retired, has celebrated his ninety-fourth birthday at Hood River.

Mystery surrounds the unearthing of a skeleton near the Ruthton grade on the Columbia river highway.

The Congregational church of Corvallis has pledged $1642 to the Pilgrim memorial fund. Its quota was $900.

Students of the University of Oregon have organized a statewide campaign in favor of the millage tax bill.

The Butler Banking company of Hood River is completing the installation of an electric burglar alarm system.

Oregon has 132 former soldiers, injured in the world war, now training under the act for vocational rehabilitation.

A movement for a social survey of Klamath Falls initiated by the Red Cross chapter has been taken up by the citizens.

For the first time in its history the orchestra of the University of Oregon will make a concert tour during the spring vacation.

Douglas county farmers are putting their farms on a business basis by using the record books put out by the college farm management.

Cecil Brotherton, aged 16, an alleged deserter from the battleship Wyoming, has been arrested at Roseburg and held for the naval authorities.

The home mission committee of the Willamette presbytery has met at Albany to prepare its report for the next session of the presbytery.

The Dalles Methodist church is to use a motion picture machine to supplement the regular Sunday night service with educational and religious films.

Orchardists of the Dee flat district in Hood River county will soon receive their first irrigation assessments. For 10 years the system has been self-sustaining.

The price of board at logging camps in Coos county has been raised from 35 cents per meal to 50 cents. An increase of wages to meet the raise will be granted.

A large number of cattle feeders from Umatilla, Wasco, Gilliam, Baker, Wallowa and Union counties are in attendance on the first cattle feeders' conference at La Grande.

Three children, Bessie, Wayne and Irwin Breitenbutcher, of the eighth grade at Ten Mile, Douglas county, have set a thrift record. In three years they have saved $525, which is invested in savings certificates.

WASHINGTON

Five criminal cases are to be tried this week in superior court at Pasco.

Of the 4000 or more voters in Vancouver only 1400 have registered up to date.

The Tacoma Railway & Power company will ask for a franchise from the city which will guarantee a dividend.

Aberdeen now has a total registration of 3020 for the spring municipal election. Of the registrants 1040 are women.

A contract has been let for building five miles of concrete road that will connect Winlock with the Pacific highway.

F. M. Smith, foreman of the Lassiter farm on Eureka Flat, is dead at Walla Walla as the result of an accidental gunshot wound received while hunting a badger.

Walter Wagner, spotting an edger at the Quinault Lumber company, was seriously injured while endeavoring to free a stick which had become lodged in the edger.

The affiliated railroad crafts of Washington threaten to withdraw from the Triple Alliance unless the differences between the labor and farmer groups are reconciled.

J. L. Sloane has tendered his resignation as principal of the Washington school at Centralia. He will be succeeded by Edith Coleman, principal of the Lincoln school.

From 80 to 85 per cent of all the fall wheat in Whitman county has come through the winter in good condition, and present indications are that only about 15 per cent will need to be reseeded.

Chehalis has two more woodworking industries. Jerry Peters has begun operating a shingle mill with a daily capacity of 30,000, and John Kistiuk has arranged to install a lath mill with a daily cut of 20,000.

The fight for the open shop has been brought to a showdown in Yakima. Contractors are putting nonunion men on the jobs, and the union men have walked out on several large contracts. As a result work is at a standstill.

IDAHO

The paving of streets in Twin Falls has been commenced by the Warren Construction company.

Ralph Glasgow of Twin Falls has received the appointment to West Point military academy by Representative Smith.

One of the largest real estate transfers in Southern Idaho is the sale of the Shipman ranch, near Twin Falls, to W. E. Foster for $150,000.

The first radium to be shipped into the intermountain county has been received at Boise. It will be used exclusively in the treatment of cancer.

The affairs of the state fair of Idaho are to be managed in the future by a corporation known as the Idaho State Fair, with a capital stock of $30,000.

Voters of Twin Falls have defeated by a vote of 341 to 277 a proposed bond issue of $25,000 for the purchase and improvement of a site for a municipal park and auto camp ground.

The public utilities commission has ruled that patrons of the Idaho Power company outside the city of Boise must not be taxed for service which benefits Boise citizens alone.

The Journal's Hard Fight for Metered Water Brought Reform

One day a party of city officials visited the headworks of Portland's water system on Bull Run river. It was in the middle of an unusually dry summer. Below the dam there was but the barest trickle of water. The entire flow of the customarily powerful stream was being diverted from the bed of the stream into the big pipe lines that serve as conduits to bring the water to Portland.

And there was not enough water to fill the pipes. There was not more than enough water to balance the immense daily consumption of the thirsty city. There was not enough water to maintain an adequate reserve to protect the city in case of conflagration or to provide against catastrophe should one or both of the pipe lines break.

Yet, on that very day in Portland, unmetered water services were being allowed to run a riot of waste from leaky plumbing, sprinkling devices stealthily operated after hours, and faucets left streamingly open in order to keep the water cool.

It is bad business to juggle with so vital a thing as a city's water supply.

The Journal urged general installation of water meters as a remedial measure. It was urged that waste endangered the water supply and that for reasonable use there was an abundant supply. Entrenched, reactionary newspaper influence fought the proposal. But despite the opposition, and because of necessity, meters are gradually being installed throughout Portland, the large users and the wasters coming first. And those who use water reasonably find that their water bills are less than before.