The Oregon Daily Journal

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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

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The wheel of fortune turns incessantly around, and who can say within himself, I shall today be uppermost?—Confucius.

THE OUTLOOK

"AMERICA never was in sounder business and financial condition."

That was the statement of R. H. Bean, New York business man, at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon yesterday. Mr. Bean has been in practically every state recently. His business brings him in close contact with financial, commercial and industrial life. In the strongest terms, he repudiated the oft expressed prophecy that this country faces any kind of financial upheaval.

There never was such demand for raw material, he said. There never was so much optimism in the financial centers. There never was so much of the forward and upward movement in quarters where conditions and relations of human affairs are best understood.

Why should not conditions and prospects be as Mr. Bean paints them? The worth-while world was out of commission for 51 months of war. In the 17 months since the armistice it has done little more than get ready to function again. Production of normal things in that long period was almost at a standstill. Several hundred billion dollars worth of the world's actual supplies were either consumed or burned up in war. Even the forests of Europe were laid low, while industrial plants were worn out by production of war machinery. The coal mines and iron mines were worked to the point where time has to be taken to put them again in normal condition for production.

The one powerful nation left unharmed is America. Its late entrance into the war gave America time to profit enormously. From a debtor we were converted into a creditor nation. We are the one great nation left in position to produce heavily for export. Europe, bankrupt of her best men and bankrupted financially, so bankrupted that Frank Vanderlip says she can never pay her debts, has almost all she can do to provide for her own requirements.

And while Europe is thus impotent, vast areas with hundreds of millions of population over the Pacific are calling for the machines and products of civilization. It will take generations for those primitive countries, now trying to rise in the scale and [illegible] the methods of civilization, to [illegible] supplied with the tools and [illegible]ts and machines with which [illegible] Western methods.

[illegible]at material prizes hang within the reach of America and there is sound reason to believe that her future is to be upward, onward and full of achievement.

Three offenders against public safety occupy the same discreditable status and are frequently the same persons—the speeder, the pistol "toter" and the bootlegger's "angel."

GOOD ADVICE

GEORGES CLEMENCEAU, who has quite a reputation in France, has a theory that everything is safer with its mouth shut than with it open. He demonstrated its correctness on an unlucky crocodile which he met in the land of the Pharaohs. Walking along the Nile, so the story goes, the Tiger of France met a crocodile of Egypt sunning himself on a convenient bank. When he saw the invading Frenchman the reptile opened his mouth very wide, disclosing his gleaming teeth and a good deal of his interior anatomy.

It is not reported whether the resident of Egypt meant to smile or to say something that would be offensive to the dignity of the distinguished visitor. He never had an opportunity to explain, for M. Clemenceau poked his trusty rifle down the open throat and pulled the trigger.

Now the former premier of France, having returned to Paris, relates the incident and adds: "I have always held that reptiles as well as human beings should keep their mouths shut."

In view of the recent overturn of his ministry the Tiger leaves us in doubt as to the application of his epigram. Who does he mean by reptiles, anyway?

St. Johns is a part of Portland with the city's 1,000,000 bushel bulk elevator and $3,000,000 freight and grain terminal almost in its dooryard. It has a financial institution known as the Peninsula National bank which is so enterprising that it publishes at frequent intervals interesting and intelligent comments upon the local, domestic and foreign financial situation. It has a large industrial population, big woolen and lumber mills and the remains of a shipyard. But despite these marks of progress, St. Johns bumps along over streets that would discourage any possible investor in industrial properties from even going to see what the district offers. St. Johns needs a paving campaign.

BUSINESS AND CHARITY

THE business men of Portland and Oregon are engaged in a rather unusual contribution to the solution of problems that have to do with the administration of charity.

A commission appointed by the governor is charged with the duty of devising a method for the coordination of state-wide charity, including the eleemosynary institutions maintained in whole or in part by the state.

The charities, the county commission and the Chamber of Commerce have joined in an effort to reestablish the confidential exchange, as a clearing house of information about persons applying for aid.

At the invitation of the city, the presidents of local civic and business clubs pass upon applications for all drives of general character and recommend whether the permission made necessary under the city ordinance should be granted or withheld.

And the latest step in the direction of system is the plan for coordinating the financing of charities which has been submitted by the presidents of the clubs with the suggestion that all drives for all organizations can and should be placed under one directing board of business men and that but one general appeal should be made during any year.

The state commission has opportunity to perform a meritorious service by properly indicating the division of responsibility between the state, the several counties and municipalities and the privately maintained charities. It ought to be able to show how a vast amount of duplication and overlapping may be eliminated.

The confidential exchange automatically establishes that cooperation which should always obtain between charities. It renders unnecessary any confusion as to whether any needy individual is receiving enough or too much from the various agencies to which he or she has applied. It should result in the printing of a list of approved charities which any business man can consult and to which he can refer petitioners rather than give direct aid in the perfunctory and indiscriminate personal way that pauperizes. It should protect the public and the charitable organizations against exploitation.

When the city refers the applicants for drives to the heads of the clubs it places the question of giving in the hands of those who really represent the larger body of givers who maintain the various institutions and charitable efforts. The action has already had one commendable result. We do not have, as formally, several campaigns for money going on simultaneously.

After an experience in passing upon applications, it is perfectly natural that business men should seek to apply those principles of organization and coordination that would tend to put charity on a business basis. Thus, the project for a "Community Chest" and but one big drive for charitable and civic funds annually.

No impulse of the human heart is more worthy than charity. The desire to benefit unfortunate humanity is nobly born of unselfishness and sympathy. But these facts do not lessen the desirability of business methods in charity.

The best thought and best endeavor in America sustains a loss in the passing of Bishop Matthew Hughes. He had a rich sense of humor and contemplated life in the true fullness of its opportunity. It is highly regrettable that his work in Portland has been cut short by his sudden passing in Cleveland, Ohio, Sunday. But he fell, as all good soldiers fall, at his post of duty and with his banner waving.

NO MILLENNIUM

WOMEN, so Chicago bankers prophesy, are liable to relegate mere men to the kitchen and the scullery in the not very remote future if the male sex does not watch out. The war has given them a taste of power and economic independence never before had and they are loth to let go and return to the pots and pans. Feminine depositors are piling up huge deposits in the aggregate and are hanging onto their outside jobs like grim death.

It may be so and it may come true, for some of the boys. But if it does it will be a sweet revenge. For a long time now crusty husbands have been coming home late and raising Cain because the dinner was cold, the chops were overdone, or the biscuit were burned. Not long ago a bride not far from here went out and drowned herself because the temperature of her coffee had seemed to cool the ardor of the groom.

But when the new day dawns it will be different. Hubby will have to juggle the ham and eggs, brown the morning toast, wash the morning dishes and start the children off to school while his better half hops into the family limousine and beats it for the office, the counting house and the club.

It will be a great system, until the buttons begin to come off and it comes time to do the family ironing. If all that is going to happen we will surely need a League of Nations to keep the whole world out of war.

WHEN LEAGUERS COME—No. 8

WHEN the Non-partisan league was organizing in North Dakota the business men laughed at those who considered it a menace. They scoffed at the country merchants and bankers who were alarmed over the enthusiasm with which the farmers were supporting the program for a farmer political party. But the league succeeded and for four years it has controlled the politics of North Dakota.

When the league began organizing in Minnesota the business interests were unconcerned. They were familiar with the phenomenal growth of the league in North Dakota, but they felt certain it could not succeed in Minnesota because the interests of that state were so diversified. But the league joined forces with organized labor and through the united efforts of producers and consumers, a few months' campaigning resulted in the league electing 40 per cent of the legislature. So strong has the league become since the last election that even its enemies admit its probable victory in Minnesota at the coming election.

When the league extended its operation to Montana the business men were apathetic. They reasoned that while it might succeed in wheat growing states like North Dakota and Minnesota, it could gain no headway in a cattle raising and mining state like Montana. They reasoned that the cattle men had nothing in common with the wheat growers and that the interests of labor were diametrically opposed to the interests of the farmer. They contended that the farmer wanted long hours of employment with low wages and a high price for farm produce, while the laboring men wanted short hours of employment, high wages and a low price for farm produce.

But somehow the farmer, cattlemen and mining workers got together on a common legislative program. Memberships came pouring in by the hundreds and thousands. Knowing of the league's success in North Dakota and Minnesota, business interests became aroused. A special session of the legislature was convened. The direct primary law was repealed and the old convention system of nominating candidates was reinaugurated.

Additional supreme judgeships were created and filled by appointment so that the league could not secure control of that body by the election of new judges friendly to its program for some years to come. But with all these safeguards the league bids fair to sweep the state at the coming election. The high-handed methods adopted by the opposition have caused thousands of farmers and city folks to join forces with the league. The clever plans with which the opposition sought to protect itself will likely prove its undoing.

In Texas, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Idaho and other states similar conditions prevail. Different conditions have been met in different ways, but the league has been successful and its strength is steadily increasing. In Idaho, with only 12,000 members, the league was a formidable factor at the last election, and it will enter the coming election with 35,000 members.

In Washington the league has been quietly organizing the farmers for several months and only recently has it begun its open canvass, yet 37 per cent of the farmers have become members and organized labor and the railroad brotherhoods are supporting it almost to a unit.

In every state which the league has entered it has steadily gained. After securing a foothold it has invariably increased its strength. It has prospered in spite of all that the opposition forces could do. The more bitter the attacks the more rapidly members were secured.

In every state the business men have met the league invasion with high-handed methods. By villification, abuse and threats. In every case campaigns of negation have signally failed. In North Dakota it required four years of fruitless effort to teach the business men that a constructive program was the only method which should be pursued.

The purpose of these articles is to acquaint the business group in Oregon with things and plans as they are elsewhere, in the hope that all groups of life in Oregon may be formed into a harmonious and cooperative whole, rather than have one great group assume control and put into effect a program distinctly inimical to another great group.

AN IMPOSSIBLE POSITION

That Into Which the Treaty Rippers Have Forced America

From the Chicago Post.

The New York Tribune, a newspaper which throughout the treaty controversy has damned the League of Nations with faint praise and given to its critics and amenders every possible encouragement, looking now upon the consequences of the course it has abetted, declares:

"Aloofness is impossible. This is more true now than when McKinley and Roosevelt first said it. Possibly—no one can foresee the future—the influence of this country for good will not be less because informally applied. But the wiser course seems to be to seize the first opportunity, likely to be offered in a little more than a year, to adhere to the league."

* * *

"Aloofness is impossible." The Post has said that over and over again. The policy of continental isolation—of national isolation on a continent which has identified itself with the League of Nations—is one that cannot be maintained. There is no process of insulation or immunization by which the United States can disassociate herself from the influences of world affairs. For good or ill, the destiny of America is inseparably united with the destiny of mankind. We may decline to recognize any obligation for the peace and order of Europe and Asia; we may turn a deaf ear to their troubles; we may refuse to share any of their burdens. All of this will do us no good. We cannot escape.

* * *

Take the question of disarmament, for example. If we do nothing to restore and maintain peace in Europe; if we abide by our decision not to join in a pact for the reduction of armaments; if, for the lack of our cooperation, Europe gradually becomes again an armed camp and the British navy reassumes its task of policing the world's seas—as it must—we face at once the problem of establishing our own land and naval defenses on a basis of individual security against any possible coalition of foes. This means mounting taxation, with no limit in view—the cruel, costly, barbaric taxation induced by competitive armament. The burden of Europe will be upon us in its most deadly form. There is no aloofness can escape that.

* * *

If because we have denied the stabilizing influence of our nonimperialistic and impartial view point to the council of the nations the spirit of anarchy spreads in Europe; if Germany collapses economically and politically; if Poland and the smaller nations fall victim to the rule of disorder, we will feel the pressure of these catastrophes upon our own life. American trade and commerce will suffer. The epidemic of radicalism will spread by printed and spoken word to our own people. The burden of Europe will be upon us in spite of all our resolves and protests.

If in the future, because a League of Nations flouted by America fails in its great purpose, the scourge of war should revisit the world, we will have to fight. It is unlikely that 2,000,000 men will suffice in such event. The burden of Europe will be upon us.

* * *

If none of these things happen; if, instead, the free nations of Europe, bearing the world's burdens unaided, succeed in establishing peace and order and security, it will be established without particular concern for our interests—perhaps in conflict with our interests. In the reconstruction we will have no share, and if we seek to participate in its benefits we will be regarded as interlopers, looked upon with distrust and enmity.

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.]

A TAXPAYERS' CAMPAIGN

Portland, April 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—With an earnest desire on the part of the executive committe of the Taxpayers' Vigilance committee to bring about a condition whereby waste and extravagance in the expenditure of public money will be subverted and at least a semblance of system and coordination established in the various departments of our city and county government, and that the public may be fully advised of the aims of this committee, I, the undersigned, secretary of the committee, have been authorized by it to release to the press the following:

The Taxpayers' Vigilance committee was organized on March 24 by the original "Committee of 100," is to be financed wholly by them, and is to be permanent. Its purpose is to, as far as possible, conserve our tax money and prevent extravagance and waste of the same. It is our plan and hope to awaken the taxpayers to the absolute necessity of defending themselves against the ever increasing inroads of the tax eaters. This can be accomplished only by the taxpayers taking an interest in matters political and through concert of action, placing in public office men of business experience who have the best interests of the community first at heart—men broad enough to disdain the usual "log rolling" of politics and sufficiently experienced in business affairs to handle public affairs along the same lines of efficiency as they would apply to their own business matters. We surely have such men among us and they should be sought out and, even at a personal sacrifice, be urged, and if necessary forced, to permit their names to go on the ballot; and with a unanimity of action we will be able to place them in charge of our various branches of government.

We at this writing have 687 active members exclusive of the original 100 and will not rest content until every taxpayer in Multnomah county has been acquainted with our intent and joins hands with us in this movement as a matter of self protection. The non-taxpayer as well should give this matter thought and heed, as the higher the taxes, necessarily the higher the rentals and commodities of all kinds which the non-taxpayer indirectly pays a tax on.

The Taxpayers' Vigilance committee has established quarters at No. 636 Chamber of Commerce building, from where literature pertaining to tax conservation is being disseminated to its members by mail and will be gladly furnished to anyone who is not a member, by a call at our headquarters.

The original "Committee of 100" is sponsor for the creation of the tax supervising and conservation commission (non-salaried) recently appointed by Governor Olcott. The first report of their findings discloses such a condition of extravagance, waste and general inefficiency in the handling of our tax money as will startle the taxpayer upon reading of same. This report and the comprehensive leading editorials of The Journal and the Oregonian commenting on same have at the instance of the Vigilance committee been printed in pamphlet form for general free distribution. Copies may be had of the secretary, Robert J. Linden, at room 636, Chamber of Commerce building.

Robert J. Linden, Secretary.

Signed statement of Taxpayers' Vigilance committee.

PENSION FOR EX-SERVICE MEN

Portland, April 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—Replying to the letter written by "Ex-Service Man," and published in The Journal of March 29, suggesting correction of my pension plan letter, published March 23, I will advise that all odds, ends, ifs and ands were thoroughly considered before writing the article. Should we consume time to discuss whether this, that or the other ex-service man was earning $10 or $1000 a month; whether he was a soldier in the trench or a sprucer behind a log; whether he returned home in a better or worse condition, I fear the majority of the men will have passed over the great divide into the land of everlasting peace before the much deserved pension is granted. Believing the plan outlined in my former letter was fair to all concerned and none too liberal, I modify same by suggesting a minimum pension of $20 and a maximum of $50 a month. A fair differential can be determined by adding to the minimum the sum of $1 for each month of service rendered. For instance: One month $21, 10 months $30, 30 months or more $50. Considering probable conditions 20, 30, 40 or 50 years hence, this subject should interest all ex-service men and other good Americans desirous of sufficient permanent power to insure safety first.

Thomas E. Word.

THE IDLE LANDS

Portland, March 29.—To the Editor of The Journal—In Oregon we treat manufacturing industries as enemies and fine them like criminals for making use of our products. One woolen mill in Portland is fined over $3600 a year for having raw material on hand, machinery to weave it and buildings to house the same. In contrast with our shabby treatment, Baltimore exempts machinery from taxation; Sydney, Australia, exempts machinery, buildings, stock and finished products. Another contrast is the way we encourage idle landholders to block development. The Corbett block, south of the old postoffice building, is assessed for $421,000 as the value of the bare land. The improvements are assessed at $9900. Imagine a lot worth $421 with a chicken coop on it worth $9.90 and you have the proportion of "improvements." It is said $600,000 has been refused for it. In Canada they would tax that lot 25 per cent more than a lot that was improved and of the same value—the Portland hotel, for instance. Right south of the Corbett block is another block ripe for development, assessed at $262,000, and another residence on it assessed at $9000, in proportion as a chicken coop worth $9 to a lot worth $262.

The only way to get these idle land speculators off our backs is to tax them off with the single tax. There is no other method. To deny this is to equivocate, as did the mass of the politicians and paltering statesmen before the Civil war, with the slavery question. We employ men to travel about the state urging the purchase of home products, and we fine the manufacturer, producer and worker in city and country as enemies, and then wonder why manufacturing folks prefer Baltimore and other sections where they are not fined. And we reward land speculators with light taxes and encourage them in every way we can. Our ancestors indorsed or excused piracy and the slave trade. What will posterity think of us?

George Bylander.

AN ARRAIGNMENT

White Salmon, Wash., April 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—It is too bad that a few men in the United States senate had the power to injure the peace of the world the way they have done, by refusing to sign that treaty. For the people in Europe were looking to our country to help them to peaceful conditions. The damage these senators have done the people of the earth is only equaled by that of the kaiser. And they injured the influence of our country in Europe and all over the earth.

J. H. Law.

A STATEMENT BY MR. SUGIMURA

Portland, April 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—With regard to certain cable reports published in some newspapers, concerning alleged statements of the British sovereign about the peace conference at Versailles, the Japanese government instructs me to say that the statements made in this connection are entirely erroneous and to deny in toto the truth of the same.

Thanking you in advance for your kind attention to this matter, yours respectfully,

T. Sugimura, Consul of Japan.

Curious Bits of Information For the Curious

Gleaned From Curious Places

The most costly map in the world is one of France, and it is in the Louvre. The groundwork is of polished jasper. The principal cities and towns are represented by precious stones and the names are inscribed in gold. The rivers are shown by strips of polished platinum, and the 87 departments are set forth in a wonderful scheme of blazing gems. This extraordinary map was made in Russia and presented to France by the then czar when the Franco-Prussian alliance was consummated. It is valued at $1,250,000.

Olden Oregon

Later Comers of the Immigration of 1847 Suffered Great Hardships.

Owing to the settlement of the boundary question and the prospect of the enactment of a donation land law by congress, the immigration of 1847 was a large one, between 4000 and 5000 persons. They began to arrive at The Dalles in the middle of August and continued to come until November, when 200 wagons were still on the eastern side of the Cascade mountains. A great deal of suffering and loss was attendant upon the immigration, owing to its size. The grass along the route was exhausted by the cattle of the first companies. This compelled the rear wagons to delay in order to recruit their oxen, and they were overtaken by storm. Sickness attacked the trains and many died from an epidemic of "black measles." Several small companies were attacked and robbed by Indians.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

There's all sorts of lawyers in this world, and some of 'em is honest. A lawyer from San Diego one time offered me $50 if I'd git on the jury fer him, which I did; and when we brought his chap in guilty jist to show him we was honest American citizens and couldn't be bought by no tricky San Diego lawyer, he paid the money 'thout quibblin'. I found out afterwards that his feller wanted to be convicted and sent up to escape bein' took back East to a worse fate.

WITHIN HIS GRASP

From the Home Sector.

The civilianized lieutenant who was the odd male in the mixed veranda party of seven was not getting anywhere near so much attention as the three discharged bucks.

"But, you know," he confided at last to the blondest of the hero worshippers, "I could have been a private if I'd wanted to."

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

They're off at Salt Lake.

* * *

Have you registered? If not, why not?

* * *

It's useless to try to get a spinster of 37 to believe that there's a proper distribution of things in this world.

* * *

The British pound has taken a bound, which after all doesn't make very much difference in our young life. Not at least, so far as we can notice.

* * *

The prince of Wales thought he was appearing in Scotch costume recently, when he wore riding breeches instead of kilts. Well, he's a braw laddie, anyhow, and here's hoping there's nothing the matter with his legs.

* * *

"I see they've sentenced a millionaire to a year in the penitentiary because he rented houses to disorderly people."

"I'm surprised."

"That a millionaire can be sent to prison? It is remarkable, isn't—"

"No; I'm surprised to hear that there still is a landlord who will rent to anybody."

SIDELIGHTS

"It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," says the Hood River News. "The unusual amount of sickness here this winter reminds us that we ought soon to get together on a hospital proposition."

* * *

Drinking fountains are to be installed on the O-W. R. & N. station grounds at Baker by joint action of chamber of commerce and city. The fountains are to be built of quartz from Baker county mines and to be surmounted by brass bowls and bubbling cups. Fine quartz specimens are solicited for this purpose.

* * *

Weather critics of the Coos Bay region get this comfort from the Coquille Sentinel: "Those people who complain about a three days' cold rain here the last of March ought to live for a few months in the East. There, in six or eight states, there were cyclones last Sunday with 160 deaths, a big toll of wounded and property losses of tens of millions. Weigh that against the discomfort of a January rain in early spring and you will understand how light our weather worries are."

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

Spring is manifested in Portland hotels in several ways. Most important, from the business standpoint, is the continued arrival of tourists, many of them en route to their homes from California. The most beautiful phase of spring's advent, however, is the trimmings displayed in the lobbies. Florists, appreciative of the patronage that comes from hotels, vied with one another in sending fragrant Easter bouquets for the decoration of the lobbies. At the Multnomah hotel peach blossoms have been placed advantageously and in profusion. Among the long distance tourists at the Multnomah are Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Bugbee of Indianapolis; Mrs. A. L. Timbie of Wausau, Wis.; Miss Stella M. Loughrey of Atlantic City, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Dunnells, Howell, Mass.; Milton Sturgis, Mrs. Guy E. Sturgis and Mrs. L. C. Troy, Boston.

* * *

Appreciative of Oregon's need for outer coatings, Harold W. Barker has come from London to Portland and other coast cities to look things over before he returns to New York to establish the American branch of a London coat manufactory. Barker's house makes a specialty of raincoats, and the new American representative arrived in Oregon in ample time to make sure that at least on the coast there will be a demand for such raiment, even if it does come from London.

* * *

George J. Dickson, prominent stockraiser, whose headquarters are at Prineville, is at the Cornelius hotel. Because it is the nearest city to the geographical center of the state, Prineville likes to boast of being the "heart of Oregon."

* * *

James Dryden, accompanied by Mrs. Dryden, spent Easter Sunday in Portland. They were guests at the Seward hotel. They came up from Corvallis to see how the best eggs in Oregon taste away from their original source. Dryden is head of the poultry department at the Oregon Agricultural college and is directly responsible for the production of the famous "Oregon" strain of laying hens, which have made "300 egg" records time and again.

* * *

Major and Mrs. R. B. Lister and children, together with Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Farve, all of Spokane, are tourists registered at the Multnomah hotel while stopping in the city. Harve is a banker in the Washington city. Another banker at the Multnomah is George McCrosky of Pullman, Wash., home of the Washington state college.

* * *

Gordon J. Taylor, Molalla newspaper man, was in town again Monday. In fact, Taylor arrives at the Imperial almost every Monday to follow up his realty business, which he has established to augment that of being publisher of the Molalla Pioneer, into whose mannerisms he is inducting a son. Taylor likes the real estate and "business chance" game almost as well as he does the business of being a small town editor.

* * *

Portland hotel men, a whole flock of them, were guests at dinner Monday of Phil Metschan at the Imperial hotel in connection with their regular meeting. There is always subject for conversation among hotel men these days and it usually starts when someone asks: "What are we going to do with the visitors who come to Portland in June?"

* * *

Frank E. Gorrell, official of the American Canners' association, is at the Multnomah hotel while here on a business mission. Gorrell's headquarters are at Washington, D. C.

* * *

A few years ago Milton-Freewater was almost as prominent a combination of words as could be found, all because of the thriving fruit industry in that neck of the woods. Today the fruit industry is even more flourishing than it was then, but somehow Milton-Freewater has fallen into disuse, apparently because the two towns choose to fly their own flags and to retain separate identities. From Freewater, Or., comes Stanley Armstrong, who is stopping at the Imperial hotel.

* * *

Wallace Buttrick and Abraham Flexner, registering from New York, are guests at the Portland hotel while they inspect local educational facilities for the purpose of reporting to the general education board of New York. Buttrick, whose home is at Seasdale, N. Y., is president ofthe board and Flexner is secretary. Both are prominent in the educational world and the former is a member of the Rockefeller foundation. Flexner was formerly secretary of the Carnegie foundation.

* * *

A. W. Stone, president of the Hood River Fruit Growers' association, is stopping at the Portland hotel.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Cobbs of Seattle, where Mr. Cobbs is an attorney, are guests at the Multnomah hotel.

* * *

Registered at the Seward hotel are Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Peisker of Regina, Sask.

IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

[The history of a family old and influential in Lane county is here recorded by Mr. Lockley, who goes back almost to the American Revolution for his starting point. The man who narrates it to Mr. Lockley has lived 66 years in Eugene, where he has duly prospered. He makes note of the career of his distinguished brother, the celebrated "Poet of the Sierras."]

George Melvin Miller has lived in or about Eugene for the past 66 years. I spent an hour with Mr. Miller recently and he told me of his own life and of those of many other old timers whom he has known since boyhood.

"My father's name was Hulings Miller," he said. "He was born in Ohio. His father was a Kentuckian whose people came from Scotland in early days. When Governor Shelby of Kentucky called the Kentucklans to volunteer to fight the English in the war of 1812 my grandfather was one of the first to respond. He was killed at Fort Meigs on the Maumee river in Ohio. Father was a little tot at the time and lived with his mother in Cincinnati. My mother's maiden name was Margaret Witt, though her people signed it De Witt. She was born in Indiana. Her people hailed from Yadkin county, North Carolina, having moved there in early days from Berks county, Pennsylvania. They were originally from Holland and as far back as they have records they were Quakers.

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"I was the only child of the family born in Oregon. I was born on our farm near Coburg, May 17, 1853. Coburg was named by Ananiah Lewis, an early settler there, for his native village in Wales. There were five children in our family. John D. was the eldest. He was born in Indiana. Cincinnatus Hiner was next. We never knew whether he was born in Ohio or Indiana, for he was born in a covered wagon as my people were traveling from Indiana to Oregon and they camped just about on the state line between Ohio and Indiana. Mother gave him his middle name, Hiner, as a mark or regard for a Dr. Hiner, a country doctor, whom they called to attend her when he was born. Mother always called him Nat, but the rest of us and his school mates called him Hiner. Later, when he began to write poetry, he took the name of Joaquin Miller. In California they call him the Poet of the Sierras. James Henry Blair Miller was the next child and then came Ella. Ella married John L. Luckey here in Eugene. Jim and I are the only ones of the family left. Jim lives at Albany. John, my eldest brother, went back to Philadelphia to attend college and learn dentistry. He graduated, got married and, just as he had started practice the Civil war broke out. He enlisted as a 100 days man, for they thought the war wouldn't last over 100 days. He was in 11 battles during the first 100 days. His health broke, and he died of consumption.

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"When my grandfather was killed father was taken by a family of Quakers. He imbibed their doctrines thoroughly. He never fired a gun in his life. He was trustful and unworldly. He never struck one of his children, as he did not believe in physical force as a method of settling disputes. He was a very lovable man, greatly esteemed by his neighbors, whose disputes he was always called upon to adjust. He was a school teacher but was always called Squire Miller or Judge Miller. He was a justice of the peace and was called upon very often to marry couples. He was a natural student and a great reader. In the manner of the time he wore a full beard with clean shaven upper lip. Mother was of sandy complexion and had auburn hair. She was very active, a good housekeeper and a famous cook. Our house was beside the old Territorial trail from Salem to California, so we put up travelers.

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"My people came to Oregon in the fall of 1852. They had planned to come in the late '40s, but father signed a note for a man and it took several years to get out of debt and gather enough money to buy an outfit to cross the plains. When they first came they wintered near the Looney place, near Jefferson. My earliest recollections are of a large and comfortable log house with a large fireplace over which my mother was bending much of the time, cooking. I never think of my babyhood without smelling the delicious aroma of the Bellflower apples mother used to keep under the bed. Shortly after father took up the place he brought a backload of small fruit trees from some neighbors and set out an orchard. We had apples and many kinds of cherries. I was the first person that ever sold cherries from a wagon in Eugene. We sold Kentish, Royal Anne and May Duke cherries, as well as vegetables from door to door.

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"Father was very successful in raising sheep. He and mother went to the first state fair at Salem and paid John Minto $50 for a lamb, which they brought home with them in their buggy. It was a pure-blooded Merino and from this buck father raised some grade Merinos. He usually had a band of about 600 sheep on our place. He raised flax and mother made all our own cloth from flax or wool.

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"I went to the country school till I was well advanced and then to the Christian college at Monmouth, now the state normal school. The president was T. F. Campbell, whose son, P. L. Campbell, is now president of the University of Oregon. About 1872 I went to school to J. W. Johnson, president of the state university here in Eugene. I taught school for a while near my birthplace at Coburg, and then read law with Judge J. J. Walton. I was admitted to the bar in 1880 and moved to Independence, where after a year I starved out and came back to Eugene and got work on a farm. In 1882 I opened a real estate office here, which I have run ever since, selling over $4,000,000 worth of property during the past 38 years. I have bought and resold 520 pieces of property of my own. On May 20 I married Lizzie Maud Kanoff. Her maiden name was Cogswell. Her father, John Cogswell, was one of the old settlers in this county. She wrote under the name of Lischen M. Miller. She was one of the founders of Drift and later she helped start the Pacific Monthly. During the past few years I have devoted much of my attention to putting the town of Florence on the map as Lane county's logical gateway.

* * *

"Father lived until February, 1883. For the last 20 years of her life my mother lived with Joaquin at his home on the heights near San Francisco. She was 91 when she died. Joaquin was the only one of us to write poetry. He was always different from the rest of the family. He couldn't stand restraint. He loved to be out of doors. He was a fine horseman and a crack shot with both pistol and rifle. He saw a lot of the world in his time."

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader

OREGON NOTES

Steps are being taken to rebuild the burned out business section of Cove by the Woman's Civic Improvement club.

Polk county will vote in May on the question of levying a special tax each year for the support of a county fair.

Carle Abrams of Salem has received notice of his appointment as colonel of infantry in the reserve corps by the war department.

The Phez Farms company of Salem has planted 1,000,000 strawberry plants and is beginning to set out 400 acres to loganberries.

Edward Stocker of Newport has announced his candidacy for the nomination of assessor, Lincoln county, on the Democratic ticket.

John Baker has filed an application for a place on the Republican ballot as candidate for district attorney of Hood River county.

Rural telephone lines in Hood River county are in a bad condition as a result of a gale Friday night which prostrated many trees.

The state public service commission will conduct a hearing at Florence April 12 on the application of the electric light company to increase rates.

Assessed valuation in Marion county will be increased 10 per cent this year to offset the removal of automobiles and mortgage notes from the tax rolls.

If the state engineer approves plans, work will be started this year on the $50,000 drainage project of the Klamath drainage district containing 20,000 acres.

Rooms in private houses are being listed at Hood River in anticipation of an over crowded condition during the Shriners' imperial session at Portland in June.

Lester I. Heyman, accused of having obtained $15,000 from the First National bank of Ontario, has been placed under $5000 bonds to await the action of the grand jury.

Final decision has been reserved by the public service commission in the matter of the application of the Central Oregon Irrigation company to raise rates pending an opinion of the attorney general on the jurisdiction of the commission.

WASHINGTON

As a result of the carpenters' strike, three large construction jobs are tied up at Spokane.

The state veteran welfare office found employment at Aberdeen for 73 ex-service men during March.

The state industrial commission is in session at Yakima hearing complaints of employers and workmen.

A very substantial increase in strawberry acreage is being made in the White Salmon valley section.

Trial of E. B. Ault, editor of the Seattle Union Record, has begun at Seattle. He is accused of criminal libel.

A large buoy used to mark the entrance to Grays harbor has been torn loose by the storm and picked up near Hoquiam.

At Walla Walla four and six feet of snow are reported from Toll Gate and Big Meadows, with snow showing clear to the foothills.

The Hoover presidential club of Seattle has decided to remain nonpartisan, notwithstanding Hoover's alignment with the Republican party.

An alleged I. W. W., supposed to be Ole Hanson, wanted in connection with the Armistice day murders at Centralia, has been arrested at Ellensburg.

George F. Christensen, Democratic state chairman, has appointed an advisory committee to suggest a platform to be adopted by the state convention at Spokane May 17.

Owing to the defeat of the proposed bond issue for the purchase and development of parks, the Yakima park board will not attend the meeting of park commissioners at Bellingham.

The Everett Central Trades council has offered a $2000 reward for the arrest and conviction of persons responsible for the lynching of Wesley Everest, an alleged I. W. W., at Centralia.

Skookumchuck grange of Tenino has unanimously adopted resolutions opposing the triple alliance. The grange also went on record as opposed to boycotting any store which does not employ union labor.

According to President Hannaford only 725 of the Northern Pacific Railroad company's refrigerator cars out of a total of 4600 are now on the company's lines. The others are scattered all over the country.

IDAHO

Drills are boring through lava rock near the Nampa natatorium site where it is thought natural hot water will be struck.

Farmers of Dingle, Bern and Lanark have asked the Utah Power & Light company to build transmission lines to connect up their communities.

The Equitable Trust company of New York has filed 76 foreclosure suits in the federal court against settlers on the Twin Falls Oakley Land and Water tract.

According to advices received by the weather bureau, irrigation prospects for the coming summer look more favorable, owing to the great rainfall of the present month.

The College of Idaho, at Caldwell, is one of the three institutions in the Inland Empire selected for the training of home and mission fieldworkers in the interchurch world movement.

The Journal Unremitting in Insistence That Public Safety Be Assured

There have been campaigns in behalf of the public safety and the general welfare which The Journal has waged for weeks, months and even years. The pure milk crusade, for instance, began in 1909 and was carried on unremittingly practically until 1912, and it has never been viewed as a completed work. The public docks campaign began in The Journal in 1905 and as the years go by it merely seems to grow more intense and with this characteristic—that where people of Portland in the beginning were doubtful, there is now in this city a majority of about 5 to 1 for any proper measure of port improvement. Other extended efforts include good roads, waterway transportation, ship lines, reclamation, against public land frauds, for enactment and enforcement of the law against carrying revolvers, for the prevention of traffic accidents—the list is long, but it is not the subject today.

On Sunday last, an editorial appeared in The Journal suggesting that parking be prohibited on the paved portion of the Columbia river highway. An accident had occurred, involving destructively several machines, because two machines had parked opposite each other on the strip of pavement 18 feet wide. There had been similar accidents.

On Monday morning the Multnomah county commission unanimously adopted a regulation requiring that any vehicle which parks along the Columbia river highway must have all four wheels off the pavement. The direct incentive for the beneficial action was The Journal's suggestion. Commissioners Hoyt, Holman and Muck also took the position that similar parking regulation should apply to all the other paved highways of the county.

The Columbia river highway will be safer in future. The prompt action by the Multnomah county commission is an evidence of the aggressive public spirit as well as of the sense of official responsibility of its members.