

Oregon Daily Journal AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER C. N. JACKSON, Publisher... Subscription Rates: Daily and Sunday... Classified Advertising Rates...

WASTING THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

DOES anybody think a trainload of gasoline can be hauled 3177 miles at the same cost of operation that it can be hauled only 2048 miles? Just anybody think that the extra haul of 1129 miles would cost nothing? Does that thing was done when the trainload of gasoline was brought into Oregon from Tulsa, Oklahoma. It was routed via San Antonio and Fort Worth through California, 3177 miles, when it could have come via Wichita and Ellsworth, Kan., and thence via the Union Pacific in only 2048 miles.

And extra fuel and oil and repairs were required for each of the 10 or a dozen locomotives and the wages of the 10 or a dozen locomotive crews went on while this extra haul of the gasoline train was in progress. And the same is true of the train crew, of which 10 or a dozen were required in this long and entirely unnecessary detour of 1129 miles. And the same is true of the cars which were hauled an extra 1129 miles and which must now be hauled the entire distance back again in order to receive other consignments of gasoline.

In public business, such wasteful processes would, when discovered, become a public scandal. They would be made the subject of public investigation. In any small private business such a thing as hauling a whole train of cars 1129 miles for nothing, would bring on bankruptcy. No legitimate business of any proportions could stand up under such a system of waste.

Yet we have here in the private management of railroads an actual case of waste as profligate as if the whole cost of the round about haul and the round about return of the empty cars had been dumped into the broad and deep ocean.

And the railroad owners do not pay from their own pockets the money so wasted. The principle is now accepted in this country that the interstate commerce commission shall regulate the railroads and that it must allow them to charge the people a sufficiently high rate on traffic to return a fair profit to the railroad owners. Because of that principle the interstate commerce commission recently authorized the companies to raise the rates an average of about 31 per cent for the entire country, in addition to an advance in passenger rates.

One of the items on which that advance in rates was authorized by the commission was the increase in salaries and wages of railroad employees. That is to say, the principle is accepted that when the expenses of the railroad increase the interstate commission authorizes in order that the companies may have a fair return on the operation of the rail lines.

The people, then, have to pay all the cost of hauling the trainload of gasoline the added and wholly unnecessary 1129 miles over the long and circuitous route from Tulsa via San Antonio, Texas, through California to Portland.

The practice should be stopped. The interstate commerce commission should put an end to it. If the commission has not the power to do so then congress should take a hand. If congress will not act then the people themselves should force out of railroad operation a process that cannot be defended on any pretext and that would not be tolerated in any well conducted private business.

driving in connection with the death of little Donald Harvey, and sentenced him to six months in jail, the maximum penalty. While Ritzman is serving his term he can reflect on how a little caution would have saved a life, and other drivers can see whether they are drifting.

Because a baby runs into the street without looking for automobiles, a driver is not absolved from blame for the simple reason that the baby violated traffic rules. Babies and small children do the unexpected. Motorists must anticipate and be prepared to avoid a fatal accident.

RESCUEFUL FRANCE The recuperative powers of France have always elicited the admiration of the world. After all her destructive wars from the time of the Bourbons down to the disastrous struggle of 1870, the people of the earth have marveled at the rapidity with which the French nation entered and passed the reconstruction period. But never have her efforts been more successful than since the world war.

fact had previously escaped his attention, that no city in the United States made such a shipbuilding record for the government in speed of construction as Portland. He knows that the creation of the new district is intolerable and unendurable to Portland.

But the order establishing the district has nevertheless been confirmed. In maritime circles it is said that the great shipping interests of the country have selected New York, San Francisco and Seattle as "closed ports" for their designing purposes. Portland is an "open port" outside monopolistic control. Portland must fight for any fair consideration from the great shipping interests. But it was hoped that their influence did not extend to the shipping board.

HE DISAGREES A FRIEND of the Journal writes on the other side of the pistol controversy. He says everybody ought to go armed.

Then, knowing that his intended victim was armed, would not the armed highwayman shoot and shoot to kill on the victim's first suspicious movement? Being always skilled in use of the revolver, would not the advantage all the time be on the side of the desperado?

And, under universal carrying of concealed weapons, would not men in angry controversy whip out their pistols and shoot to kill? That was the practice in the mining camps in frontier days, and do we not all remember the tragedies it led to?

The best minds in the world agree that if all the nations would disarm wars would be much fewer. If we banished the pistol and disarmed the crooks why then wouldn't hold-ups and killings be fewer? If our friend will study the pistol and watch its effects as the Journal has done for years he will ultimately take his stand against arming the crooks and supplying them with abundant ammunition.

COX MEETS TEST ISSUE IS CLEAR

From New York World. Governor Cox has met the issue of the campaign, and he has met it boldly and directly.

He is for the League of Nations—not a league of nations that has no existence except in the minds of partisan politicians—not a league of Nations association or society of nations which is without form and void. He is for the League of Nations that is already established, and which has been given their adherence.

The difference between the Republican candidate and the Democratic candidate on this issue cannot be expressed better than in the language of Governor Cox himself.

The question is whether we shall or shall not join in this practical and humane movement. President Wilson has been elected on the basis of the peace table, entered the league in our name, insofar as the executive authority is concerned. Senator Harding, as the Republican candidate for the presidency, has refused to do so.

There can be no controversy about the meaning of the statement. It is like that. Harding is against the league and Cox is for it.

The governor does not insist that the covenant must be accepted without interpretations. He is in full accord with the platform of his party in that respect. He is willing to accept the vital interpretation that clarifies the obligations of the United States under the league, but he stands firmly against anything that he regards as the vital principle of the league.

That, in reality, was the storm center of the senate controversy. The president was trying to preserve the principle of the league, and the Republicans, including Senator Harding, under Senator Lodge's leadership, were trying to destroy it.

Some time ago The Journal announced the elimination of so-called medical advertising from its columns. At that time the breadth and fearlessness of the policy received praise. The broader policy here indicated was adopted at the same time.

The Journal believes, apart from the ethical and moral considerations involved, in the business soundness of its decision.

Cappers Weekly says there is this difference between sugar profiteers and Jesse James—Jesse had a horse.

PORTLAND OVERRULED DISREGARDING THE INJUSTICE and the impropriety of the action, and disregarding the protest of Portland as repeatedly voiced by the Chamber of Commerce, the United States shipping board has confirmed the order which establishes a new Northwest shipping district of which Seattle will become headquarters.

"PLEASE!"



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COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE Lloyd George is said to be badly in need of a rest. It's all right with us. Let George take it. This constitutes a wife's conversation with her husband who stays around the house Sunday: "Please move; you are in my way."

Woulnd't it be a good plan for aspiring political candidates to line up the support of the motion picture stars? They seem to sway the emotions of a very large following.

The high cost of living is said to be on the down grade, but yet a long way from being brought down to the level of a while for the bump.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town G. W. Hillman, whose father is reported to have discovered Crater lake while searching for the Lost Cabin mine more than 50 years ago, is among the engineers visiting in Portland this week and attending the convention of civil engineers.

Major Carl H. Reeves, superintendent of public utilities in Seattle, and member of the board of public works, was a visitor at the city hall Wednesday, attending the council meeting to discuss the local water supply.

Dr. George L. Parrish, city health officer, has been so far away from Portland for his vacation that it took all the provincial three weeks and then to Portland after surveying plans for a new high school to be built at Cape Elizabeth in the Quinalt Indian reservation.

OBSERVATIONS AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley Che-che-pe-to-gi—Some name that it is the name given by the Indians of the Peace river country to a man who not long ago was a street sweeper at La Grande. I met the man who moves his hair. This man can move his scalp, an accomplishment that used to fascinate the Indians of the Northwest. The man who is in a receptive mood for romance and adventure can usually find it. You would not be apt to pick out the man who sweeps the city streets as the subject for a story, but gold is where you find it and by the same token so is romance.

It's a far call from my birthplace in India to Grande Ronde valley, and I have been a good deal of time since that far gone time in July, 1869, when I first saw the light of day," he said. My father was an army officer in India. When I was 4 years old I was sent from India to the home of my former to be educated. When I was 14 my father thought I was well enough to be sent to a school on a stock ranch would be good for me so he found a place for me on a cattle ranch at Elbow, now called Calgary, Alberta. I wanted to be on my own, so I struck out for myself. When I was 19, though I looked several years older, I enlisted with the Northwest Mounted police at Cypress Hill. My job was to look out for the discipline of the mounted police. I put in five years with them. I will never forget my first assignment. It came near being my last. I was sent with an old timer and who knew all the traditions of the force and who would rather have died than bring a smirch on the reputation of the organization. We were after two hours to take them alive if possible, but to get them dead or alive. We followed them for a week or more till we were in a rough, untraveled country, where we lost their trail. My comrade sized up the country and said, They will take one of two passes across the hills. I'll take the one to the right, you take the other one. Keep your eyes open and shoot if you have to. We will meet on the other side of the hills two days hence. Was for me, I'll find you. I think there is but little chance of our running across them, but one of us may locate their trail. They are several days ahead of us.

Olden Oregon

An Early Effort to Secure Prohibition Legislation. An effort was made in the election of 1854 to get some temperance men elected to the territorial legislature in order to secure a prohibitory law. For this purpose a party called the Maine-law party was organized. Candidates were placed in the field, but none were elected. Notwithstanding the opposition to the Maine law an act was passed by the legislature in the nature of a local option law requiring retail dealers, or those who wished to sell less than one gallon, to obtain the signatures of a majority of the legal voters in their respective precincts to petitions praying that licenses be granted.

Curious Bits of Information for the Curious

Gleaned From Curious Places The chief menace to sugar cane in the West Indies is the frogopper, an insect that sucks the sap from the root and leaves of the sugar cane, and that owes its name to its ability to take prodigious leaps. In recent years the insects have multiplied enormously, especially in Trinidad, where their natural enemies—frogs, toads and lizards—have been nearly exterminated by the mongoose originally brought from India to kill the rats and snakes. Wherever the mongoose were plentiful the lizards disappeared. Five years ago a leading planter, after exterminating as many mongooses as possible, placed thousands of ground lizards in his cane fields, with the result that the frogopper has almost disappeared, and the sugar yield is greatly increased and improved.

Letters From the People

[Communications sent to The Journal for publication should be addressed to the editor on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 50 words in length, and should be signed by the writer, whose name is full name, and should be accompanied by a return address.]

TO STOP PROFITEERING Portland, Aug. 10.—To the Editor of The Journal—I understand that the price

The Oregon Country

Northwest Territories in Brief Form for the Busy Reader. The printers' scale at Coos Bay will be advanced August 29 from \$4 a day to \$7.

The increase in freight rates will cost Hood River apple growers approximately \$200,000 a year.

James H. Gwin of Pendleton has been elected supreme master of the Grand Lodge of the state of Oregon.

The Bend Commercial club has authorized an invitation to the Oregon Editor-in-Chief to hold its 1921 convention at Bend.

Medford theatrical interests have invaded Ashland, having obtained an option on a piece of ground on which to erect a building.

The 50-acre farm of George W. Taylor near the state game farm northeast of Eugene, has been purchased by John Haxby for \$20,000.

Burglars robbed the safe of Glover Brothers, Cascade Locks, of \$25 in silver. They entered the building through a window.

Plans were made at Pendleton to entertain 300 delegates to the annual convention of the State Federation of Labor, September 15.

Construction work on the Willamina & Grand Ronde railroad has been suspended because of a shortage of teamsters, who demand \$5.50 a day.

After six weeks of drilling through lava rock, an abundant flow of water has been reached at the new water company's mill in Klamath county.

A 20 per cent dividend is being declared by the Oregon Canning Company. Gross sales of the company in 1919 amounted to \$50,000.

Hop contracts covering the crop from 50 acres owned by J. L. Clark near Sprague have been entered into and filed. The agreement is for four years and the average price is 4 1/2 cents per pound.

Charles Swalley of Bend made a trip the other day to the headwaters of the Umpqua river to search for a rich placer mine. Swalley said he has been to the spot but there were only slight indications of gold.

The Inland Highway association will give a picnic at Manning, in Washington county, August 15. The association is advocating the building of a highway through Forest Grove, Banks, Manning, Buxton, Vernonia, Mist and Jewell.

The Montezuma Packing company has started operations, causing its first vegetables this week.

The 9-year-old son of John Holmberg of Laurel was drowned in the millpond into which he jumped after a fight.

Parso labor organizations are preparing to celebrate Labor day on a larger scale than ever before.

Two children are dead at Parso and another is in a serious condition as a result of eating ground cherries.

Out of 2400 Centrailla voters have registered for the September primary.

While out hunting, Ralph Harrison of Sandy Bend was shot in the shoulder by the accidental discharge of a gun owned by his father.

According to a statement of the state highway department, a total of \$11,775.75 has been expended on roads or contracted for since April 1, 1919.

Dates for the Adams county fair have been set for September 14-19. The program lists the largest number of exhibits. New and large horse barns have been erected in the grounds.

Mrs. W. D. Lyman of the late Professor W. D. Lyman of Whitman college, has been granted a pension by the state. She is the widow of the late Professor Lyman an annuity before his death.

A financial statement of the L. E. W. for the Northwest district has been found in the pocket of Bert Bassett, a logger, in the Middle West and in a suit of clothing. The statement showed that more than \$100,000 had been received during July by the defense committee.

IDAHO J. E. Noddings has been appointed deputy superintendent of public schools to succeed I. S. Johnson in the Salmon river country.

There are still few ad ward hard to get, says Miss Lura Payne, Ad ward school superintendent. There are many vacancies in the Middle West and in Oregon.

The Boise city tax rate for the coming year is 15 mills. The expenditures for the year are estimated at \$2,557,000.

Dr. F. W. Almond of Boise has been named director of the bureau of public health in the Middle West and in Oregon, to succeed Dr. E. E. Laubach.

War has been declared on the pocket gophers in Canyon county by the farmers. They are petitioning the county commissioners for ways and means to carry on the war.

Governor Davis has received a United States treasury warrant for \$3995 in payment of a claim for 5 acres of public lands that had been sold to the state within the state.

The University of Idaho president, to succeed Dr. Lindley W. Fisher, was named Tuesday by the executive committee of the university at a meeting in the Middle West and in Oregon.

C. B. Walker, commissioner of the department of finance, has resigned, his resignation becoming effective August 15. He has been made president of the First National bank of Briggs.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says: This story about a young feller in Seattle ketchin' power over the air sounds fishy to me, but if he can make good on his claim, pore old John D. he'll sure die of a broken heart.

We Don't Have to Take Our Hats Off to Anyone When They Talk About Raising Wheat "I'm a little wearied by all the Washburn, Crosby and Gold Medal comments that Eastern Oregon's wheat is too soft for the finest grades of flour," commented A. G. Clark, who is manager of the Associated Industries of Oregon. "Get over in the Middle West and you'd think to hear 'em talk that they had a corner on the world's available supply of wheat for baking and I'd think that such wheat must come from the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin. At the very least, not 50 cents a bushel and my eyes were so matter is that 1,000,000 bushels of Marquis No. 1 wheat was shipped from Eastern Oregon to Minneapolis out of the 1919 crop."

"The millers there didn't use this wheat for chicken feed or for livestock. They used it in producing their highest quality flour, and they tried to sell it out in their markets under their own brands. To be entirely truthful it was a shortage of the Northern wheat that produced the result of the draft upon our supply was the discovery that No. 1 Marquis was not so good as the Eastern Oregon and Washington is every whit as good as that produced in the regions most noted for its production. We have a surplus of wheat in the state and the wheat grown anywhere else in comparison with our own. Incidentally we ought to put aside this grain rather than produce it. It is only an opinion without the basis of experience or knowledge."