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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A bright and blessed Christmas day,
With echoes of the angels' song,
And peace that cannot pass away,
And holy gladness calm and strong,
And sweet heart-carols flowing free:
This is my Christmas wish to thee!
—Havergal.

CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS is an idea. It is one of the greatest ideas that ever came into the world.

The gifts symbolize it. They are the offering of good will, the testimonial of a kindly heart. They typify the perfected form of human relation.

The Sermon on the Mount is an eloquent characterization of the idea of Christmas. If men could only read it every morning through the year and gradually make its spirit their spirit mankind would come out of the darkness of error and the earth be full of gladness.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy," it says, and how could there be a grander formula of life? And all through the opening sentences in that glorious discourse and on to the end are simple maxims that point mankind to a shining pathway that leads straight to a golden age of earthly happiness and beauty.

If we were all guided by full intelligence and impelled by wisdom, every day in the year would be a Christmas. If men and women rejoiced less in the baubles and vanities, if they were moved less by sordid ambition, if they set less store on the empty rewards that swollen wealth brings, the awful struggle for monetary advancement would be softened and there would be room in human souls for more of the good will of Christmas. And if the gentler influences of that good will were given full play the beautiful hope of a sweeter order in the world would be realized and there would disappear that sinister influence that makes countless millions mourn.

We blind ourselves to the real path to happiness. The mad race for wealth and pomp and power brings nothing but a frantic and selfish greed for more wealth and pomp and power. The golden dollars do not go with us to the grave. The hearse brings all to a common level.

Widely separated as they may be by the inflexible rules of the social order, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, all meet and lie down together in the cemetery. One may have the more pompous headstone, but all face the same eternity.

Greater than all others are the earthly rewards that come to the man or woman whose life is a daily exemplification of the spirit of Christmas. Be it ever so humble there is no home more glorious than that permeated every day with good will, and no life so gladdened as that one that is lived in good will, for in that home and that life there are the beauty and majesty of Christmas.

May the Christmas trees and the Christmas carols and the Christmas reunions of this day impress upon all the wisdom of good will as an every-day rule of action and may it be a day of joy and gladness for all, is the fervent wish of The Journal.

The most forlorn object of the week was the man who put it off from day to day, and, finally, to buy his wife a Christmas present, plunged into the turbulent current of belated shoppers only to lose his nerve and emerge sans present and sans an excuse that his more audacious wife would consider valid.

Speaking of Christmas presents, O. Henry tells of a girl who cut off and sold her beautiful golden hair in order to buy a watch fob for a man who had sold his watch in order to buy her a splendiferous pair of side combs to go with her beautiful golden hair.

THE BEST OF HOLIDAYS

THE wise men who followed a star until they knelt before a manger in Bethlehem gave to the ages their gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

They were guided by the beckoning gleam of the symbol of high ideal. They laid their richest offerings before the humblest shrine this world has seen.

Wise with the wisdom which refutes the savants of materialism they exchanged their property for hope, their jewels for liberty and their incense for spiritual blessing. They gave the goods they cherished and the return outvalued their gifts as eternity outmeasures the passing hour.

They found the spirit of Christmas.

Upon them burst the light which has not since failed to shine upon any man who does as they did.

Christmas has found its best definition, in all the generations of humanity since, when the gift is given without expectation of like return. Tradition and legend join with fact to exalt the giver who has no thought of self and is thereby self-ennobled.

The kindliness which glows in the heart at Christmas time warms other hearts. The invocation of the angels, "Peace on earth, good will toward men," finds its response in the laying aside of ill will and the dropping of disputes. People who as strangers passed each other carelessly during a buried year, become friends.

Grandparents, fathers and mothers, children, uncles, aunts and cousins obey the impulse to unite in family gatherings and to exchange the tokens of affection. The quarrel of yesterday or last week surdenly becomes an insufficient reason for turning the cold shoulder.

Memory, too, has a marvelous power on Christmas to renew the associations of other Decembers. The figures of the past nod brightly in the cheerful rooms of fancy. Friendships are renewed. Romance almost forgotten brings under the arbors of reminiscence, or, perhaps, beneath the mistletoe of persistent fondness, those who in actuality may be separated by thousands of miles and many frost rimmed years.

Struggling humanity finds in Christmas the gladness of heaven's hallelujah chorus, the confidence for better things proclaimed by Him whose birth the day celebrates, and takes from the Christmas spirit the strength which welcomes the ushering in of the New Year.

Christmas is the most blessed of all holidays.

It is not a pretty picture, but the Christmas dinner in some parts of the world today consists of grass and bark, and not enough of that.

THE MAGIC OF YULETIDE

THE old drama of Scrooge and Marley is today being reenacted a thousand times a thousand in countless lands. It is true, all money chests may not open, but many of them do. All souls may not be relaxed from grim realities, but most of them are. A man or a woman here and there may go his or her way untouched by the magic of the season, but ones wiser than they in the things that ennoble and beautify life can only pity them. In the general overflow of kindness and affection we may well afford to overlook the few exceptions to the general rule.

Truly do humanity's heart strings, like those of the angel Israfel, become a lute during the Yuletide. From them sound the soul-stirring arias of peace and love and good-will. The strain may fade as the season passes, but it never dies; it echoes in our beings long after the music is heard no more.

So, too, does the Star of Bethlehem become dimmer as Christmas goes, but the Magi, the wise men, ever see it.

VIA POSTAGE

LIKE the smile that is worth a million dollars and doesn't cost a cent, the Christmas card, speeded by train and delivered by the mail carrier, who is Santas toiling, pack bearing substitutes, has, perhaps, more power to stir sentiment and bring cheer, in proportion to its cost, than other of the goods of holiday giving.

A foreign postmark on a card of exotic color may apprise its recipient of the fact, not known before, that a former associate is stationed in some old world capital. From a far corner in Florida, and from an old friend lost to sight in years of silence, may likewise come a message, suggested by the magic of the Christmas spirit, that seems almost to speak aloud its kindly remembrance.

Like bright winged birds whose songs are echoed by the straying fingers of rare sentiment on the harp strings of the heart, the missives come fluttering in from many a place, distant and near at hand, where some one has thought in the terms of Christmas and has projected kindness by means of the written word and a postage stamp.

To the small boy yesterday was a day of painfully combed hair, unnatural cleanness of face, and fear that pledges of good behaviour hadn't been kept to the satisfaction of Santa and his parental deputies. But today is a regular day. All a feller has to do is relax and enjoy himself with more of the facilities of fun that he ever dreamed could be put into a whole row of stockings or on a whole room full of trees. As compared with the day before and Christmas, anticipation is a dreary subject and realization is lit with the candles of happiness.

HEART OF THE GIVER

ONE of Shakespeare's characters in "Love's Labor Lost" is made to say: "At Christmas I no more desire a rose than wish a snow in May's new fangled mirth, but like of each thing that in season grows."

Cold and practical indeed would be the world if the giver of every Christmas gift were able to select that which is at the same time appropriate to the season and responsive to the desire of the beneficiary. The indiscriminate selection of gifts is in accordance with the great law of biogenesis. Every animal in its individual development begins where its race began and goes through the same general course of development that the race has passed through.

Our Christmas gifts are but the manifestation of those instincts which have survived the evolution of mankind, the ghosts of dead generations.

To speculate upon the appropriateness or inappropriateness of Christmas gifts is but to indulge in idle fancy. It is not the gift which is of concern. What is of vital moment is the spirit in which it is given. If the gift is but a tribute to an annual custom or the discharge of a similar obligation, it is made only in a spirit of materialism, however well it may accord with the desire of the recipient.

But if there is in it a sentiment of renewed hope, the sad memory of other Christmas days; if it carries a reminder of the rebirth of nature as conceived in the Teutonic forests and apotheosized at Bethlehem; if it is based on good will and peace to men, the rose of May can also reflect the new born light of the cradle and within its petals bear the heart of the giver.

SANTA'S WORK SHOP

THE theory that Western Oregon was the original workshop of Santa Claus is abundantly borne out by the profusion of materials for Yuletide beautification which nature displays in the show windows of every hillside.

To begin with there are Christmas trees, cedar and fir, small enough for a doll's house and large enough for a church. The pathetic spectacle of the ragged child, who looks in from the chill and snow flecked darkness upon a lighted tree prepared for others, strikes a hollow sentiment here. The little tads can go out with a hatchet or a barlow knife and cut their own. When they have abstracted each two or three for mother's critical selection, there are still so many millions left growing by fallen log or in mossy dell that the supply seems unreduced.

For the wreaths that hang in windows to mark the homes where the Christmas spirit enters freely there are the glossy leaves of the Oregon grape and the bright berries that cluster among them. Upon the oaks of the Willamette valley the mistletoe grows in just the clusters that appear best suspended from chandeliers to designate the deliberately accidental trysting stations of young love. The holly and its red fruit are even closer at hand in the trees that dot the lawn of many an unpretending residence.

If one would chain rubies and pearls to gleam among the shadowed branches of the evergreen the scarlet hips of the wild rose and the waxen globes of snow berries are to be found in greater abundance than will ever be measured.

And as for the Oregon country as a whole in its relation to the pack that Santa Claus bears, here is that redundancy of production which most inspires the genial saint of the Christmas season to lavish generosity.

As a matter of fact the conviction grows that Oregon is still the central plant of good Saint Nick and all other places are but its branches.

SANTA HAS DAD'S SYMPATHY

DAD and Santa Claus have much in common.

Santa in all the legend of youth is the giver. His panoply of sleigh and reindeer and bulging pack are after all only the machinery of bestowal. His merry smile is his idea of the way a good salesman should promote patronage.

Who ever thought of giving a gift to Santa, who gives so generously?

And Dad, the vicar of Saint Nick, as the husband of the "little woman," the father of the irrepressibles, the son of his parents, the cousin of his relatives—Dad, for that period preceding the holidays which is infected with the Christmas spirit, is the subject of hopes and the object of those delicate attentions which are supposed to stir the essential impulse without which the tree of Christmas would be dark, the stocking empty and the purveyors of gifts bankrupt.

Yet how often Dad comes to Christmas morning, not forgetting but forgotten in the small, bright theatre of pleasure into which his spending, coupled with mother's planning, has transformed the home.

Is Dad miffed? Ask him. He will say that he has one on Santa. The old saint must pass on. Dad has the fun looking on. And thus he gets a gift which, weighed in spiritual scales, is heavier than all the rest.

A Kansas paper extends the compliments of the holiday season to its readers in these words: Sugar is down to 8 or 10 cents and candy is still $1.50 a pound. Fat cattle are 7 cents and beefsteak is 40 cents. Hogs are 9 cents and bacon is 50 cents. Merry Christmas. Peace on earth, good will to men.

HOUSTON'S TAX PLAN

Secretary's Recommendations Arouse Much Protest, Especially in Respect of Distinction Between "Saved" and "Spent" Income—Division on Excess Profits—Call for Government Economies.

Daily Editorial Digest
(Consolidated Press Association.)

Secretary of the Treasury Houston's taxation plan has met with anything but approval from the nation's press. Perhaps the feature that has brought forth the most comment is the proposition of making a difference in taxation between "saved" and "spent" incomes, for, it is pointed out, it would take a pretty fine eye to disclose the varying shades between "investment" and "expenditure." The elimination of the excess profits tax comes in for its share of praise and blame, and there is, of course, a loud outcry against taxes in general with a complementary call for government economies.

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The Minneapolis State Journal (Ind. Rep.) does not think much of Mr. Houston's efforts: "His plans for a multitude of pestiferous taxes," it says, "difficult to collect, burdensome to pay, and deadening in their effects, would, if adopted by the Republican majority, be equivalent to committing political suicide."

On the other hand, "the secretary is doing conscientiously all he can to get a line on wealth and to make it pay what it ought for the support of the government," in the opinion of the Mobile Register (Dem.), and the Oklahoma City Oklahoman (Dem.) believes that the "principle underlying his proposals is sound." But the Pittsburg Sun (Dem.), while it praises the secretary for his frankness, asserts that "enactment of the treasury schedule would result in nation-wide protest that no legislator could withstand." Sooner or later, however, "some of Houston's suggestions will have to be adopted" the Louisville Evening Post (Ind.) informs us.

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The argument for the elimination of the excess profits tax is put forth in detail by the New York Times (Ind. Dem.): "The time has gone by for any argument that the surtaxes and excess profits taxes are unjust, extortionate and a menace to the prosperity of the country's business. They were vicious in theory, they have become unbearable in their application. • • • It is not and can never be true that only those who receive tax bills pay taxes; an attempt to 'punish wealth' by high taxes operates in a large measure to increase the living costs of the people, insomuch that they are far more out of pocket than they would be under a system of taxation which equitably distributed the burden."

The New York Globe (Ind.) answers this argument by calling attention to the fact that the "secondary effect" of a tax is more important to consider than the amount of money that it brings into the treasury, and the "surtax on large incomes, whether administered as an excess profits tax or in some other form, tends toward a more even distribution. Direct consumption taxes and straight percentage taxes on incomes tend, on the other hand, to conserve the present distribution." The New York Call (Soc.) renders a similar verdict in stronger language. The "slaughter" of the income tax is "more potent in principle than in substance," it declares, and with the lopping off of luxury taxes "it hits the small incomes a resounding clout in the ribs."

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While Secretary Houston's differentiation between income that is spent and income that is saved, with a lower tax rate on the latter "seems attractive" to the St. Louis Post Dispatch (Ind.), it points out that "enforcement of the tax might be another matter"; furthermore, the burden would fall upon tens of thousands who "are debt-harassed men of large families and incomes less than $5000, to whom the problem of maintenance means a continuous struggle." The Philadelphia Record (Ind. Dem.) considers the plan "interesting and useful" because it would "encourage investment and relieve the stringency in the investment market." But the New York World (Dem.) calls the whole plan "fantastic," and "to put a premium on savings would be to give dishonesty one more avenue of escape and to add to the burdens of investigation and collection duties simply impossible of execution." To the St. Louis Star (Ind.) the program is "one of the political curiosities of the day" the effectiveness of which is doubtful. "In operation the partial exemption of incomes saved," says the Star, "would at least result in a good paper showing of thrift. Every taxpayer would try to convince himself (and the government) that what looked like an expenditure was really an investment. If the law could be applied honestly it would probably prove a real aid to the saving habit."

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The Brooklyn Eagle (Ind.) does not find the report very businesslike: "There would be nothing but added confusion," says the Eagle, "in the proposal that individual incomes be taxed at two rates, differentiating between incomes saved and incomes spent, while the raising of the rate on incomes under $5000 from 4 to 6 per cent would add to the trials of the classes in the community that are suffering most from the present economic strain."

The Springfield Union (Rep.) believes in the equity of a "customs tariff" and makes this criticism of the Houston plan: "The trouble is it would put a penalty on the necessary cost of living—food, clothes, fuel and rent—and thus upon the people who as a rule have small margins for investment, and it would make the burden lighter upon those whose incomes enable them to invest regularly and comfortably."

The fault in the scheme, according to the Cleveland Press (Ind.) is that the new taxes are "imposed with no idea of placing the burden on the shoulders most able to bear them, but upon those from whom it will be most easy to collect," the class that the tax collector has labeled the "easy marks." "The less you make," the Press concludes, "the more they take." The Buffalo News (Rep.) continues this argument by urging substitution of a sales tax on all businesses big and little. "It is all futile piffle," it says, "to talk about placing the burden of any business taxation upon 'those most able to bear the burden,' for, as everyone knows, business taxes of all sorts are passed directly to the consumers, in addition to prices. • • • The sales tax has the advantage of broad distribution, easy figuring and easy collecting."

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The call for a reduction of expenses in running the government comes from a large number of newspapers who emphasize this need and give less detailed attention to the taxes. The New York Evening Post (Ind.) reminds its readers that "the moment when business can least afford to contribute to the cost of carrying on the government is the very moment when that contribution is most sorely needed" and concludes that "we must insist on economy in every department of the government." The Washington Post (Ind.) adds that "if congress enforces a policy of economy, government expenses can be reduced to the point where it will not require $4,000,000,000 a year to meet the fixed charges and pay operating expenses."

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.]

THE CHRISTIAN ANNIVERSARY
Some Reflections Upon the State of the World in Rome's Day, and Now.

Portland, Dec. 25.—To the Editor of The Journal—The Christmas anniversary is recognized by modern civilization as a period for humankind to neglect for a time the shackles imposed upon the soul by the sordid circumstances of mercenary customs and institutions, and to release the more generous instincts, impulses and philosophy.

Some attempt is apparent to commercialize even this reaction, but the institution remains, nevertheless, what it purports to be, a joyful demonstration of human sympathy, accepted by weak and strong, victim and tyrant.

In other years I have joined in the usual expressions of exuberant religious and charitable sentiment. May I be permitted this time to indulge in some reflections on the place of the Christian ethics and era in the political and economic history of the world, from a layman's point of view? Religion and sentiment contribute to the power of the people as sovereign; but as citizens they are subject to the cold power and policies of government. Hence the question: How has Christianity affected citizen and government?

Jesus Christ found the then modern world dominated and enslaved by the Roman empire. The Tarquins and the first empire had been demolished. The republic was fashioned and inspired by the liberal principles of Plato and the Greek culture, but the Roman people were pagan and Philistine, and cared not for the hard logic and cold reason of the Greek philosophers. Ambitious soldiers and political demagogues misled them. The spoils of war and political intrigue and favoritism corrupted them. The alliance between the senatorial oligarchy and their wealthy favorites usurped all power and pandered to the Roman populace by largess from the public treasury in exchange for political support. Wealth became the popular idol, the most repulsive vice and cruelty the popular pastime. Justice and worth retired abashed from the presence of glittering pomp. Greed, gluttony and sensuality paraded as virtues at public feasts. Bribery was more powerful than reason, and intrigue kept public administration in constant turmoil. The army was given precedence over the industrial citizen. The land was held in the tenure of the state, and small tenants so heavily taxed that only the wealthy could hold it. Agriculture languished and the loss was made good by predatory wars.

The fruits of knowledge were consumed in factional aggrandizement. Slaves captured in war built the great Roman highways, viaducts, mausoleums and coliseums. The process ran to seed, until only slaves did any useful labor, and until the Roman citizen and soldier became so degenerate that the Thracian gladiator, Spartacus, a captive of war, escaped with a handful of followers, and around this nucleus gathered an army of 40,000 slaves, armed with clubs, but against which the Roman armies would not stand. They roamed Italy at will, and at length succumbed to dissension among themselves.

This was the great civilization of the world. When Christ appeared in Palestine He taught no material revolt. "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's," but He implanted in the breast of man the ideal of the brotherhood and worth of man—the rights and value of the weak—that acted upon a servile and Philistine world as a spiritual antiseptic. "Blessed is the peacemaker; of such is the kingdom of heaven." "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." "If anyone shall take away thy cloak, give him thy coat also." "Not a sparrow falls without the knowledge of the Father in heaven." "Come unto me, ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."

These maxims have not yet passed into statute law, but they have inspired the human heart, and produced an energy in the human family, and conserved its forces, and protected its individual units, and influenced its institutions and laws, until the former civilizations, with their servile groveling before brute power, have been swept away as flotsam on an advancing tide.

The lacking strength in mankind is not always to be found among the apparently strong, but may arise unobtrusively from the masses of the neglected and the weak. The practices of the tyrant Nero contributed to his weakness and defeat by the humble, primitive Christians. The development of modern civilization is not due to the conquests of its Fredericks, its Williams or its Napoleons, but to the patient spirit, thought and labor of its Galileans. The lesson that the world needs now is to be learned at the feet of the Sovereign of the meek, whose gentle spirit alone is capable of that highest rule which the world seeks and will not find by groping in the ashes of discredited self-glorification.

J. B. Ziegler.

Olden Oregon

Early Efforts of Baptists to Found Educational Institutions.

The first Baptist school attempted in Oregon was Corvallis institute, which languished immediately after its incorporation in 1856. The following year the West Union institute was established, in Washington county. About the same time a charter was obtained for the Baptist college at McMinnville. A school which had already been founded by the Christian church at McMinville was turned over to the Baptists on condition that a college be maintained. It was a free gift and included six acres of ground and a school building.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

Christmas keeps a-comin' around oncet a year like it's done fer more time 'n some people'd b'leve. Wise fellers has wrote books to show Christmas was celebrated a long time 'fore Jesus of Nazareth blessed little children. The books makes your head ache a-readin' of 'em. But nobuddy can celebrate Christmas proper onless they make some little child's heart glad. Feastin', joy-ridin', goin' to parties and havin' a jineral good time's all right enough, but if some kid ain't made happy by Christmas and you, then it's only half celebrated. Down in Arkansaw my sister Sarey and me one time made a doll outer some gay bits of rags and a corncob and give it to a little gal that didn't have no Christmas. And I can see her glad little face a-laughin' with us yit, and that was over 50 year back at that.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Mrs. Harding looked the White House over pretty thoroughly and it is believed she decided to take it.—Omaha World-Herald.

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Yoncalla, Or., has matriarchal government. Better learn that word; it may be in general use in American cities before long.—South Bend Tribune.

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The squabbling of many a young couple is stopped short by the howl of their offspring. Blest be the cry that binds.—Knoxville Journal and Tribune.

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Prohibition is making a sturdy race of the American people. They can now stand up under drinks that would have been fatal a year ago.—St. Joseph News-Press.

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It looks a long way off, but the time may come when the landlords will ask the government to guarantee the rent from vacant houses.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

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A Democratic newspaper in the South has come to the conclusion that too many Democrats have been married to Republican wives.—Sioux Falls Argus Leader.

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The seismograph at Washington has recorded another earth shock estimated to have been 5100 miles away. Probably it was due to the fall in prices.—San Antonio Light.

SIDELIGHTS

The trouble in many homes is that the Bell telephone directory is used oftener than the Bible.—Salem Statesman.

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Taxation has reached the point where it is the greatest hindrance to investment and development of industry.—Baker Democrat.

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Objections have been filed by autoists against the law proposing hanging for autoists who run over citizens afoot. They favor hanging for the citizen.—Medford Mail-Tribune.

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The Oregonian reports a wedding with the information that the feminine member of the new partnership was the bride. Startling, but doubtless true.—Pendleton East Oregonian.

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Anyway, the high cost of dying is going down. A Jersey city concern announces a reduction of $5 in coffins. Many will feel, however, that they cannot afford to die till there are still further reductions.—Corvallis Gazette-Times.

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The epidemic of fund drives is still with us. The latest drive announced is one for the dependents of inmates of prisons, and the newspapers, as usual, are asked to help. One of these days the newspapers will inaugurate a drive for the dependents of poor publishers.—Astoria Budget.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

M. L. Boyd, publisher of the Polk County Itemizer of Dallas, with his wife, his daughter, Jessie, and his mother, Mrs. Mary L. Boyd, is spending Christmas with relatives in Portland. When asked for his card Mr. Boyd tried to sidestep the request, and finally, in a most embarrassed manner, said, "I am so busy telling other people they should have business cards printed that I have not taken time to print any for myself. But let's not talk about unpleasant subjects. Did you know that the Itemizer has been in continuous existence since 1875, making it the oldest paper in Polk county? Glass and Prudhomme, the Portland printers, made their start in the printing business on the Itemizer. Not long ago I installed a new press. The press I had was an old-fashioned flatbed Prouty. It came around the Horn in 1853 to be used on a San Francisco daily. When plans were made to establish a daily paper at Seattle it was purchased and the first copy of a daily to be published in Seattle was printed on this press. In 1882 the Itemizer felt sufficiently prosperous to buy a second-hand press, and bought this one in Seattle. Recently I sold it, after a life of continuous service of 66 years, to a local junkman for $54."

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Charles E. Herron, registering from Anchorage, is in Portland. He is the owner and editor of a daily paper at Anchorage and also of a live daily at Juneau, the capital and metropolis of Alaska. J. T. White of Juneau is taking in the sights of the metropolis with Mr. Herron.

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Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Barbey, with their little one, are at the Multnomah from Flavel, the former port of the two fast Northern Pacific vessels which, during the war were used to transport American troops to France and became known as the "ghost ships."

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H. J. Leaf and family, who live on Coolidge street in Silverton, are at the Multnomah. Coolidge street was named for one of the pioneer residents of Silverton, a boyhood friend of Homer Davenport.

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Japanese bellboys at local hotels are much interested in the news that Miss H. Azuma, the Japanese prima donna, has just arrived in San Francisco and may come to Portland.

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Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Mink, who come from the metropolis of the Grande Ronde valley, are Portland visitors.

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C. E. Talbot of Bull Run is a guest at the Multnomah.

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E. P. Mahaffey of Bend is greeting old-time Portland friends.

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Captain George Knapp, late of the British army, formerly of the Great Western railway, later promoted for bravery in battle in France, awarded a medal for valor in action in Russia, organizer and scoutmaster of the Boy Scouts at Archangel, and now en route to the scene of his labors in Burma, left last night for Vancouver, B. C., to spend the Christmas holidays with friends.

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Russell Hawkins Jr. of Bay City, is spending Christmas in Portland. He greatly prefers his room at the Portland to the room he occupied in a submarine during his service in the navy in the World war. Russell Hawkins Sr. is a lumberman, being president of the Whitney Lumber Company, and his son is a chip off the old block.

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P. L. Sinclair, president of the Southwestern bank, at Ilwaco, is at the Portland. Mr. Sinclair is a member of the Washington legislature and is one of Washington's best good roads boosters. At various times he has had his friend, Sam Hill, go down to North Beach and tell his fellow citizens of the benefits to be secured from good roads.

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W. E. Grace, until recently owner of a drug store at Astoria, is at the Cornelius. Mr. Grace prior to moving to Astoria had a drug store at Baker. He is one of the prominent Masons of the state.

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Miss Uta Tauri, of one of the early Maori families of New Zealand, is a guest at the Cornelius. She will leave for her home in the antipodes early in January.

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John J. Adams, who shows you where to sign your name on the register of the Hotel Pendleton, is seeing how they run their hotels in Portland.

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George H. Durham, no relation to the kind you use when you roll your own, is here from Grants Pass.

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Dr. W. J. Miller and Mrs. Miller of Condon are spending a day or so in Portland.

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Charles Hall, live wire and legislator from Coos Bay, is registered at the Benson.

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Mrs. G. E. Perringer, well known Pendletonian, is at the Benson.

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Dr. Lum Ling of Peking, China, is a guest at the Hotel Benson.

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M. Seymour of Roseburg and W. R. Coulter of Baker are at the Multnomah.

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F. A. Vincent of Pendleton is a guest at the Portland.

OBSERVATIONS AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

[Definition of democracy is Mr. Lockley's theme today. He quotes a vigorous writer whose views fortify his own, that democracy is not a definite code to be enforced, but a principle to be translated into action in and through whatever codes there are to be.]

We talk a good deal about liberty, freedom and democracy, but very often our talk is of the flag-waving kind and we do not translate our conversation into deeds. Just what do you mean by democracy? Is it the right to do as you please regardless of the rights of others? Frequently those who preach democracy most noisily fail to practice it or even understand it. Not long ago I ran across a discussion of democracy which is worth studying. You may not agree with all that the person I quote says, but to form correct conclusions we must study a question from every side. A. S. Hoffman is talking. Here is what he says:

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"Underneath all the present world turmoil lies one general movement, one big motive—mankind's still half blind insistence upon attaining the real democracy it has not yet attained. This resistless force must follow one of two paths—the path of force or the path of lawful democratic methods.

"Force is essentially autocratic or inevitably becomes so, and democracy is gone when any autocratic minority controls a people, whether the minority is labor or capital, a king or a demagog. You can not best advance democracy by violating it.

"In this and in most other countries there already exists lawful democratic machinery which, however imperfect, can, if used, effect what changes are needed and desired. The people have the lawful power, if only they can be roused to use it.

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"The trouble is that both those using or advocating force and those advocating lawful democratic methods forget the great fundamental truth that democracy is not a form of government, a piece of machinery, but a state of mind, an attitude and practise of a people. Democracy can not suddenly be created by either a revolution or the lawful passing and enforcement of a thousand laws. Democracy is a growth, and it must be a growth in the minds of the individual citizens themselves. The only possible way to get this growth is education.

"You cannot reach a goal quickly unless you know what the goal is. You cannot get democracy quickly unless you know exactly what democracy is. We don't know. We have a general idea, but no definite, exact, fundamental standard to apply as test and measure of every concrete issue. Such a standard is possible; for all of us, however we seem to differ, are aiming at the same fundamental thing.

"The need is to formulate that standard and then, with it, educate the people, our individual selves, into the growth that is democracy. In no other way can we get democracy that is sound and that will abide.

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"One confusion must be cleared away at the start. Thanks to the war, we have seen autocracy prove itself bad but efficient; have seen democracy prove itself good but inefficient. The obvious solution is a strongly centralized government with power delegated into the hands of a few administrators, thus gaining efficiency, but making it soundly democratic by holding these administrators of delegated power inexorably responsible and responsive, always, to the fundamental power of the people. Centralization alone means autocracy. Direct control by the whole people means not only inefficiency but chaos—is, indeed, physically impossible; even our approximations of it have proved inefficient.

"It is easy to centralize. The task is to build up into a living thing the people's fundamental control.

"First, create the machinery, and the machinery includes—no matter how little we may like some of them in themselves—such things, in one form or another, as the initiative, referendum and recall, direct responsibility of cabinet officers, government ownership of public utilities, government control of distribution and prices of food, fuel and other vital necessaries (which cannot be controlled by the people as a whole until put under the control of the people's agent, the government), minority representation and, most emphatically, widespread civil service reform (so that the vast army of public officials under the chief administrators may not be made a tool for these few against the people).

"The first thing a democracy should teach is democracy. And the teaching must be deliberate, organized, systematic.

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"This is not a matter of theory and academics, though sound as such. It is a matter of cold, hard, relentless necessity. A man is blind or a fool if he cannot see in the world's present turmoil and upheaval, change and reconstruction looming over us like the curling crest of a great wave about to break. The avalanche of a fuller and more real democracy is half-way down the hill. There are but two paths it can follow. If it is not to follow the path of violence and chaos, then the other path must be cleared for it. The only way to clear that other path is to build, and as quickly as possible, lawful democratic machinery for the expressing of the fuller democracy's will. And the only way to make that will the real voice of real democracy is by the systematic teaching of what democracy really is and by systematic education into the habit of mind and the living practice that are democracy."

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader

OREGON NOTES

Citizens of Dallas are attempting to secure a free mail delivery service.

Berkley Walker has purchased and assumed control of the Wallowa County Reporter, published at Enterprise.

Oil and gas of a superior quality have been discovered on the Jay Manning ranch in Klamath county at a depth of 1595 feet.

Enterprising citizens of Boardman, Morrow county, are negotiating to establish a ferry across the Columbia river at that city.

Four boys whose ages range from 14 to 19 years are in the Lane county jail, charged with the burglary of several stores at Cottage Grove.

The fourth annual automobile show of the Pendleton Automobile Dealers' association will be held in Happy Canyon March 10, 11 and 12.

Bobcats are having a hard life in Lane county this fall, bounty on 17 of their hides being claimed at the clerk's office in the last few days.

More than 19,000 head of beef cattle have been shipped from Klamath county since September 1, and 4000 head still remain on the feeding grounds.

W. L. Rayborn has completed his potato harvest on Weston mountain. He has the largest crop in the county, having dug and pitted 2700 sacks.

Mining men of Eastern Oregon, at a conference at Baker to devise means of meeting present conditions, adopted a new wage scale providing for a general reduction.

There are 7½ feet of snow at Anna Spring camp in the Crater National park, which is four feet more than there was at that point at the same time last year.

The Delta Shingle company at Florence has shut down its mill and logging camp while the capacity of the mill is being increased by the addition of another machine.

Silverton wants an armory building. A large delegation of citizens went to Salem last week to urge appropriation of $10,000 county funds, to add to the city's appropriation.

On account of the success of the state hatchery established five years ago at Tidewater, the plant has been enlarged to handle 15,000,000 eggs in place of the 11,000,000 handled last year.

The plant of the Charles K. Spaulding Lumber company at Salem has closed down indefinitely. The four logging camps of the company are also closing down, throwing 400 men out of employment.

WASHINGTON

Total tax levy of Chelan county amounts to $1,382,157, an increase of 40 per cent over last year.

Expenditures by the Libby, McNeill & Libby company cannery at Yakima last season exceeded $600,000.

More than 1200 carloads of potatoes will be carried over the winter in pits or other storage in Yakima valley.

The city commissioners of Walla Walla have passed an ordinance regulating the sale and quality of milk.

An enlarged, permanent home for the relief of negro girl strangers entering the city has been officially opened at Seattle.

Business men of Aberdeen are raising a fund of $2500 toward recruiting membership for a coast artillery company in that city.

According to United States reclamation service engineers, construction on the Sunnyside project will be commenced at an early date.

Plans are being made by the Yakima Trades and Labor council to establish a soup kitchen in that city for the relief of transient workers.

A statement of the prices of 20 staple articles of food, shows that they are about 38 per cent lower than they were in December, 1919.

Three negroes have been arrested at Seattle and identified as highwaymen who have been holding up residents of that city during the past few weeks.

Two policemen of Seattle have been discharged for soliciting and accepting a bribe of $10 from the landlady of a hotel which they claimed was disorderly.

John Madison Dennett, aged 83, president of the Dennett Milling company and a pioneer resident of Tacoma, is dead in that city after an illness of a week.

A Business Girls' club has been organized at Okanogan with the particular object of eventually overcoming the housing problem by erecting a girls' home.

Chief of Police W. E. Rowell of Bellingham was struck by an automobile as he alighted from a streetcar, bruised badly about the body, and suffered an injury to the head.

The body of Elias Haley, 51 years old, who lived on a ranch near Old Hartford, was found when neighbors called at the house a few days ago. He was alone in the house when death occurred.

IDAHO

The state land board announces that state land sales during November amounted to $237,477.42.

Fire near St. Joe destroyed 70 tons of hay, nearly the entire crop of the Wrieton-Rosenberry company.

Fifteen thousand dollars was the result of a sale recently held at Payette of 69 head of thoroughbred Jersey cattle.

The Morse dry goods store at Shoshone was entered by burglars Friday night. They carried off goods valued at $1000.

According to a statement of Robert N. Bell, state mine inspector, Idaho will have a mine research station at Montpelier.

There were 77 fires discovered and extinguished in the Boise forest during the last season, and the cost of extinguishing them was $11,519.61.

Ghouls abroad in Boise have stolen recently no fewer than six of the crepe streamers which undertakers place as a badge of sorrow upon the doors of those who are bereaved.

Senator-elect Frank R. Gooding announces that he will carry his tariff fight to the United States senate, and will leave Idaho about January 1 for that purpose. He will also champion lower freight rates for the western country.

KNOW YOUR PORTLAND

Santa Claus is the most unstatistical gentleman in Christendom.

All his agents, the merchants, can say about the extent of his holiday business in Portland is that the value of the jewels, the gold and silver, the tableware and cut glass, the writing materials and toys, which went into Christmas stockings and upon Christmas trees was more than $1,000