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 winter howleth at the gate,
In our hearts 'tis summer still.
—Epes Sargent.

WHY NOT PROTECTED?

TO PROTECT people against losses through such frenzied finance as the wreck of Morris Brothers was the purpose of the 1913 Blue Sky law. Primarily it was directed at bogus mining stock, shoestring orchard companies and kindred use of the corporate entity so often employed in swindling the unwary. Victims of these shady companies in Oregon used to be numbered by the thousand.

For that law another was substituted at a subsequent legislative session. It is a weaker law, but there is strong belief that the case of Morris Brothers was fully covered by it. Bearing in mind that the "interim certificate" is a security that was issued by Morris Brothers, and that it is in the purchase of these certificates that buyers have lost heavily, there is significance in the title to the present Blue Sky statute. Here it is:

To protect the purchasers of stocks, bonds, notes, contracts or other securities; to prevent fraud and misrepresentation in the securing of subscriptions thereto, or in the issuance, transfer, sale, promotion, negotiation or distribution thereof; to define dealers in securities; to provide for the supervision over and regulation of such dealer and such securities by the corporation commissioner, and to provide penalties for the violation of this act.

The act places the issuance of securities under the "supervision of the corporation commissioner." If the "interim certificates" issued by Morris Brothers in lieu of bonds bought is not a "contract" or a "security" as provided for in the above title to the act, what is it? If it isn't under the "supervision of the corporation commissioner," why isn't it? If the corporation commissioner of Oregon did not supervise those certificates, why didn't he?

Section 1 of the act clearly brings the house of Morris Brothers under the provisions of the law. Here it is:

The word dealer within the meaning of this act shall include every person, partnership, corporation or association which is now engaged or which shall hereafter engage in the selling to others at a profit or on commission or in the buying for the purpose or in the contemplation of so selling any stocks, bonds, notes, contracts or other securities of whatsoever kind or character.

To a layman there could be no more perfect description of the "interim certificates" issued by Morris Brothers than the language above. Those certificates were "the selling to others at a profit or on commission, or in the buying for the purpose OR IN CONTEMPLATION OF SO SELLING any stocks, bonds, notes, contracts or other securities."

If law is law and words are words, the corporation commissioner of Oregon should, in the opinion of The Journal, have exercised a supervision over Morris Brothers' interim certificates.

If that is not what is meant by the present law, then, in view of the losses sustained, the confidence impaired and the scandal created, let the coming legislative session write into the act words that will protect people from such things as have happened to the wrecked house of Morris Brothers.

A keen American advertising man might find in Japan the opportunity of his life. The accumulation of merchandise to a value of 1,000,000,000 yen is said to be the contributing cause to business depression greater than the flowery kingdom has known before. Japan probably needs a series of special sales well publicized, even if it involves putting her accumulated goods on the bargain counters of the world.

NOT BY OURSELVES

IT HAS been proposed that our constitution be so amended that war cannot be declared until a solemn referendum has been held. Of course, it is Colonel Harvey's substitute for a League of Nations. But would it, adopted by America alone, be a worthy substitute?

Would we wait for a vote before a gun was fired if an enemy fleet steamed up the Columbia river or the Hudson?

Would we wait for a referendum if enemy troops were landed in California or in Florida?

And, if the referendum therefor were only to be invoked for offensive warfare, pray tell us when any government ever admitted in recent centuries that it was unsheathing the sword for any other but defensive purposes? It is a bungling diplomat indeed that can't explain why an offensive war is in reality raging for the defense of the country.

One of the sweetest fruits of peace is escape from the burden of costly armaments. Even with a referendum a part of the law of the land, could we reduce armaments with every other nation in the world building armies and navies?

There is just one way to stop war and armament costs. That is through agreement of the big nations of the earth to stop them. One peaceful nation does not make a world of peaceful nations.

The English will attempt to harness the tide as its ebb enters Bristol channel from Severn river. A dam would confine the flood and compel it to pass through turbines capable of developing 1,000,000 horsepower, equivalent in energy to 3,000,000 or 4,000,000 tons of coal annually. A small contingency in the scheme is the necessity of securing from parliament the money to build the plant.

FRENZIED GAMBLERS

THE treasury department says a gambling mania is prevalent in the United States. A report declares that "gambling and betting have reached a frenzy never before equaled" in this country. The receipts from the tax on playing cards exceeded $3,000,000 last year and officials of the department estimate that $2,000,000,000 changed hands in games of chance.

Every city in the country has gambling laws. They are in most instances sincerely enforced. But they don't eradicate gambling.

Perhaps the most effective means of eliminating the social gamblers would be provision for wholesome and attractive amusements. It is a problem of gaining the attention of idle minds and keeping it.

Is there anyone who thinks America will disarm with the other nations of the earth arming to the teeth? And is there anyone who believes Europe will disarm with America building armies and navies? Armament will be universal or not at all.

WHO'S THE RADICAL?

"PRICE fixing by the farmers is a fancy springing from the minds of radicals, and would shatter all the fundamentals of democracy," said the president of the Kansas City board of trade in addressing the National Association of Grain Dealers recently at Minneapolis.

It was proposed at that meeting that the body take action against the activities of professional organizers who are urging farmers to form cooperative societies regardless of the world's supply and demand. Such organizers were characterized by the speaker as a menace to established law.

If price fixing by farmers is a "fancy springing from radical minds," why is price fixing by the meat trust not a "fancy springing from radical minds"? Or price fixing by the oil trust? Or price fixing by the coal trust? Or price fixing by the Chicago wheat pit?

In the price slump, wheat has dropped to almost half its former price. Rates for utilities are going up. Gasoline hasn't dropped. Nothing has approximated farm products in the degree of decline. The farmer is more than "taking his loss."

Isn't it time for the farmer to look about for a means of protecting the prices of his products? Is he a "radical" because, with practically every other industry organized in dealing with him, he proposes to organize in dealing with them?

For 100 years the American farmer has groped along, selling his stuff for whatever it would bring. For 100 years he has kept on producing, buying always at prices fixed by others, selling always at prices fixed by others. When, now, he talks about some plan for better means of marketing his products, such as cooperative organization, he is denounced as a "radical" by this president of a board of trade.

The best thing men of this kind can do is to revise their opinions. The little community out at Weasel Flat may mean nothing to them. The neighborhood about the crossroads store may mean nothing. But the aggregate of such communities mean a lot to the republic. They mean a lot to the American business men and American manufacturing industry.

Adequate prices for what these combined communities sell constitute a heavy part of the buying power of the nation. If those communities are given the "fair return" which we guarantee the public utilities, the American business man will have more customers to sell to and the American manufacturer more consumers with cash in hand to whom to sell his output.

And that is not the biggest fact. Give Weasel Flat and the crossroads communities prices sufficient to live on and have something to spare, and the country boys and girls will stop hurrying into the cities, there to make a precarious living on a daily wage and exist in a hall bedroom.

WHO KNOWS?

IT IS notorious that under a former administration in Portland some patrolmen used to rent rooms and occupy them at the time they were supposed to be on their beats. An alarm clock handy to their beds enabled them to make the required hourly reports to the police station.

Did the public ever stop to think that a patrolman rarely happens along when a burglary is in progress? Did the public ever stop to think that if there is trouble in his neighborhood it is entirely at the discretion of the patrolman as to whether he will go to the scene, or safely hasten in another direction to make sure that no harm happens to him?

Just what chance has a patrolman with three square miles of territory to cover to happen along when a burglary is in progress? And how could he happen along if he were quietly snoozing the night away in a convenient garage or a sheltered nook.

When a burglary is reported at the station, minutes are precious. After looting a residence it is not the habit of burglars to remain long in the vicinity. Of just what value is a patrolman on that beat as a thief-catcher if the station authorities do not know where he is or how to reach him but once every hour during the night? Have the police systems in cities all the niceties of organization and all the devices for dealing with their problems as is the case with modern business institutions? Just what is the situation in this respect in Portland? Who knows?

Sunday night there were eight hold-ups and burglaries in Portland. No crook was caught.

THE PUBLIC'S BUSINESS

IS PORTLAND'S milk commission a public commission or a private commission? The commission, it appears by the statement of its chairman, has been meeting behind closed doors. It is to hold a last hearing on Thursday in a private office before announcing a change in the price of milk.

The fact that the commission intends to direct that a lower price shall be paid to producers and that the dealers shall accept a less price from consumers does not affect the principle involved.

Nor is such a policy to be condoned because the members of the milk commission are citizens whose past records entitle them to a large share of public confidence.

The problem of Portland's milk supply is a public problem. The purity of the milk and the fairness of the price are both matters of public moment. The work of a milk commission is too important to be done in private. No hearing should be held in a private office as long as the city hall is available for such purposes. No conclusion of the commission will be entirely convincing unless attached to it are the data upon which the conclusion is based.

SECOND STORY ETIQUETTE

PORTLAND'S grateful populace doubtless desires to confer some mark of its favor upon the city's polite burglar. He has done much to give his nocturnal depredations the air of an after hours society event. In addition to an uncanny instinct for selecting homes unguarded by the police as the scene of his activities he has gone far to warm by his cordial manner the chill of dread which is really the most feared part of hearing a window jimmied.

Nearly everyone labors under the unwelcome conviction that a burglar wants valuables, but that he desires still more the lives of his victims. Portland's Chesterfield thief has made it quite clear that he desires to break no family circle, and that, in fact, he would feel disagreeably mussed if he should be compelled to spatter the gore of his involuntary hosts upon his clothing and hands. He has made it equally clear that he makes no general application of the point of view expressed by the money lender, who, upon being accosted by a highwayman, pleaded fervently, "Take my life but leave my money."

In so ceremonious a burglar, public spirit must be the accompaniment of an accommodating disposition. Perhaps, when he has brought his career to a successful climax and has retired with his unendangered fortune of watches, jewels and cash, he will be willing to teach the novitiates of his ilk to travel in his footsteps.

He might, for instance, open what would undoubtedly be a most private school in second story etiquette. Each of the graduates would be subject to the revocation of his diploma if he failed:

To wipe his feet carefully before he entered any house.

To notify the occupants of his presence immediately after entry.

To make it clear that life will be taken only in the most painless way and as a last protest against premature use of telephones or firearms.

To remove only such valuables as are disassociated with sentiment and to leave all family heirlooms, gift watches and wedding rings.

Such training in gentility might even render the midnight visitant a welcome source of adventure and the cook would probably be willing to lay out a light lunch to refresh him after his labors.

THE NEW WORLD VS. THE OLD

On One Side, Loud Proclamations That Canada's Protest in the League Assembly Proves All Anti-League Claims—But Pro-League Editors See in It the Best Thing That Could Have Happened.

Daily Editorial Digest
(Consolidated Press Association)

The emphatic protest of the Canadian delegation to the assembly of the League of Nations against the domination by European statesmen who had "stained the world with blood" is a piece of "unfinished business" that the American press is apparently anxious to see completed when the convention reconvenes. To some American writers it is proof positive that the league already has failed and the United States is well out of it. Others feel that Canada's protest explodes the "myth of Britain's six votes" and sounds a clear call to this country to join with the rest of the Western hemisphere in blocking Europe's autocratic diplomats and establishing a democratic association to check war.

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The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (Rep.) believes Canada's action shows that she "indorses the attitude of the Republican party here in the United States when the Lodge reservations were adopted," but Canada made its fight against Article X within the league and "the obstacles which are being thrown in the way of any changes in the covenant being made at Geneva indicate that the United States adopted a wiser course." The Ann Arbor Times-News (Ind.) also feels that the rejection of the league at the polls is now justified and the Wichita Beacon (Ind.) considers that "gradually out of the murk and turmoil of international negotiation and recrimination is merging the fact that the ideals of the Eastern hemisphere and those of the Western hemisphere are irreconcilable." Until this difference is composed, the San Antonio Light (Ind.) declares, there can be no understanding "productive of permanent peace." On the present basis "nothing worth while can be accomplished," the Pittsburg Gazette-Times (Rep.) believes, for "if the entente powers are to control the league, they will control it for themselves and there will be no improvement of conditions."

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That reform of the league can come from within, the New York Evening Globe (Ind.) is certain, and there, it thinks, America should be. "While our so-called 'liberals' denounce and belittle the league because it is 'autocratic,' these men," says the Globe, "are opposing its autocratic tendencies in the only place where they can be successfully fought—at Geneva in the meetings of the assembly. . . . American delegates fighting at Geneva side by side with Rowell, Doherty, Barnes, Motta, Branting and Cecil, might have transformed the spirit of the league in this single session."

The Sioux City (Iowa) Tribune (Ind.) admits that "at first, the Canadians' statement appears to be an argument against the League of Nations and its consequent 'entanglements,'" but finds "on closer scrutiny" that it takes on the guise "of the strongest argument for the league." The Tribune points out that despite our former freedom from "entanglements" we were forced into the last "Europe-made" war and in the light of that experience one is led to consider that "it might have been better if we had had some say as to whether the war should have been started, and now while we are in the throes of the aftermath of the war, is it not more pertinent that we have a voice in the question of the next war?" Without making any comment whatever concerning the duties or interests of the United States in this connection, the Cleveland Plain Dealer (Ind. Dem.) concludes its remarks with this terse statement: "The United States, unrepresented at Geneva, may be gratified that her Canadian neighbor is winning a large and respectful hearing."

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The question of "England's six," put before the country by those opposed to the league and asserting that Great Britain could cast six ballots against our one, is touched upon by several writers who consider that this argument has been answered in Canada's defection. Says the Muskegon (Mich.) Chronicle (Ind.): "The league has not yet vindicated itself, but it has done better than most of its friends expected it would be able to do in the first month of meeting of its assembly in exploding the myths that have been spread about it."

Indeed, the Louisville Courier-Journal (Dem.) believes that, instead of being part and parcel of the old country, Canada now "finds itself more kin to the United States than kin to England," and she is "actually fighting America's battles" at Geneva, "while we are on the sidelines, impotent and helpless, watching our light substitute, Canada, carrying the ball." The Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette (Dem.) thinks the most important thing in the revelation of the Canadian attitude is that "it emphasizes the absurdity of the demagogic assumption that the five self-governing British colonies having membership in the assembly are tools of England." The St. Louis Post Dispatch (Ind.) also welcomes the fact that another "delusion" has been "punctured" and "it has transpired that Great Britain's crafty, diabolical six votes in the league do not exist." The Dispatch proceeds: "The incident amply proves that the free, independent dominions of the British empire are not mere echoes of the central government. The jingoistic Kipling, even, sensed that long ago, with his 'Daughter I am in my mother's house, but mistress of my own!' European or British domination of the league is a bogey which Canada has bowled over."

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The Lincoln (Neb.) State Journal (Ind. Rep.) goes so far as to say that "the six votes, as a matter of fact, are rather inimical to the harmony of the British empire" and "even an anti-British Borah must feel that in abominating the six votes he for once failed to recognize a good thing when he saw it!" Canada's action shows that she is not only "with America," but that our vote should be added to hers, the Wheeling Register (Dem.) declares, because "America, Canada and the New World, asking nothing, seeking nothing, are the only nations that can hold the world to an altruistic course—a course of peace because Europe will trust the West where it will not trust its own parts."

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 BRIDGE OF THE GODS

Here Is One Who Believes There Were Not Only One But Many.

Portland, Dec. 27.—To the Editor of The Journal—Not far from Memaloose island lives Joe Stahl, who was personally acquainted with Frederick Balch, author of "The Bridge of the Gods." I once asked him: "Joe, do you think there was a bridge at the Cascades a long time ago, such as Mr. Balch tells about in his book?" "Oh, no," said Joe; "white man he write um book. He tell um big lie. He catch um hiyu chickimaun. My fader he no see um bridge. My fader's fader, he no see um. No bridge."

And then my good Indian friend laughed the bridge out of existence. But Mr. Balch fully believed there was such a natural bridge, as he often talked with me about his literary work. I am inclined to agree with Mr. Balch and would go him one better. It is probable that there were other bridges, for the bluffs of lava rock on opposite sides of the river match up perfectly, especially near Lyle. The molten lava was poured out like so much batter over the landscape and the river has cut its way through, and often under, the hard crust, which in time would fall. At Memaloose there appears to be the remains of such a bridge. The Indians have a story about a big dam at that place above which the salmon could not go. To remedy this difficulty the fish god was appealed to, who took the matter under advisement. So, when the time came for the salmon to go up the river, they were instructed, when nearing the dam, each to pick up a stone and strike the dam at a certain place. This onslaught had the desired effect, far a hole was broken through and the salmon have ever since passed up the river. As proof of this, the Indians point to a small lake which nestles among the willows on the east end of Memaloose island, as the very hole punched by the salmon, which is now called Lake Lenora.

Now, Memaloose is only one of several islands lined up directly across the river. In low water one of these islands is a small natural bridge under which one might float in a small boat. This shows that lava rock has a tendency to break away from the under side when acted upon by water and frost. I suggest that these broken spans be repaired. Let the white man build a highway bridge over these islands. Mrs. E. B. Hewett, whose home is nearby, has often said that "some time there would be a bridge at Memaloose."

Now let The Dalles and Hood River meet each other halfway and push for the fulfillment of Mrs. Hewett's prophecy. The Yakima highway can reach the Columbia river best at this point and all the towns on the river would share equal advantages and all of the tourists could cross one of the "Bridges of the Gods," and pause awhile at Memaloose.

T. R. Coon.

BOOTLEGGERS AND BOOZE

Views of An Old Soldier on Lawlessness of the Times.

Soldiers' Home, Orting, Wash., Dec. 24. To the Editor of The Journal.—Your editorial in last Thursday's Journal entitled "Guilty Money" reveals a very rotten state of affairs, when there is wholesale violation of law. While it is probably true that there is plenty of liquor smuggled in and moonshine made, I doubt if those reports are all true. Some of those stories remind me of the lies whiskey men used to tell about the amount of whiskey sold in Kansas—"more sold and drank than under the license system." I lived there 26 years after Kansas voted dry, and I saw fewer drunken men in all those years than I saw in the town of Orting when the saloons were running, in one month. The soldiers' home here showed what licensed saloons mean to a community and what a difference it makes when there is no liquor to be had. I have not seen an old soldier in the home that has been able to get any liquor around Orting to get drunk on in the last year. Once in awhile they get a few drinks in Tacoma, but rarely; and when old soldiers cannot get it it is no use to send other hunters. But the fact remains that there are a lot of outlaws who do not fear any law. Only a mob can put the fear of God into the hearts of those land pirates.

Between the bootleggers and the divorce courts, in about another generation everybody will do as he pleases and what is right in his own eyes, as they once did in old Bible times. Cut out any more laws till we enforce what we have, would be the sensible thing to do.

S. Van Scoyac.

Curious Bits of Information

Gleaned From Curious Places

The red and white flag of Monaco floats over the smallest nation on earth. The entire area of Monaco is only eight square miles, but, although it is the smallest in area, there are three nations smaller in population. It has 23,000 inhabitants as compared with 5231 for Andorra, 10,716 for Liechtenstein and 11,513 for San Marino. It is a small principality on the Mediterranean sea. The reigning prince was absolute monarch until 1911, when a representative government was set up. San Marino claims to be the oldest state in Europe. It is the next smallest to Monaco in the world. Liechtenstein is a nation of 65 square miles. Andorra, the smallest in population, is also the youngest.

Olden Oregon

Consolidation of Two Southern Oregon Counties in 1862.

Umpqua and Douglas counties were consolidated in 1862. The county seat was fixed at Roseburg. A few years later it was proposed to divide Douglas county. The town of Oakland was anxious to become a county seat through the division. An act was passed by the legislature of 1868 providing for a vote on the question. A majority of the voters decided against the scheme.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says:

While congress is makin' fake tariff bills to put up to President Wilson to veto, the farmers is gittin' down to earth tremenjus fast. Anybody'll note that certain and sundry big trusts hain't beat the farmer and the workin' man to this ball of mud. With wheat b'low $1.50 and hogs at 6 cents you might think the 5-cent loaf and the 10-cent steak was right around the corner, but they ain't come in sight yit.

VALUED ASSISTANCE

From the Washington Star

"Is your boy Josh a help to you?"

"A big help," admitted Farmer Corntossel. "When I go to town I wouldn't know what moving pictures I'd better see if it wasn't for Josh."

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Merchants are now busy familiarizing themselves with the high cost of low prices.—Ashland (Mo.) Bugle.

It used to be politeness for a man to give his seat to a woman—now it is absentmindedness.—Canton News.

The thief who steals a car is never accommodating enough to take the mortgage with it.—Greenville (S.C.) Piedmont.

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Self-determination has brought to Greece the privilege of taking orders from London instead of Potsdam.—Baltimore Sun.

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May it be said to his eternal credit, General Villa was the first of the belligerent nations to disarm.—Knoxville Journal and Tribune.

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One advantage of having so few rights left is that a fellow doesn't have to devote much time to defending them.—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

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For the convenience of bandits, northern Michigan banks without at least one wound stripe should publish the fact.—Bay City Times-Tribune.

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If capital and labor carry things too far, there will be neither an open shop nor a closed shop. It will be a junk shop.—St. Joseph News-Press.

* * *

A Toronto man is charged with setting traps to catch cats. Any man who can catch an alley cat is entitled to the Maltese cross.—Vancouver Province.

SIDELIGHTS

We have never known a community where there is as little interest shown in the public schools as Corvallis.—Benton County Courier.

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That is a vile slander about the shipping board doing nothing. Its annual report covers 200 pages and is neatly printed.—Eugene Guard.

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State taxes in Oregon this year will exceed $9,000,000. What were we thinking about when we used to kick at a $2,000,000 tax?—Eugene Register.

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The way Oregon Jerseys have been producing lately would indicate that the Oregon Jersey breeders know how to pick high producers.—Heppner Gazette-Times.

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Some things the German manufacturers cannot imitate are loganberries, blackberries, apples and such things as are produced in Linn county.—Albany Democrat.

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It is sad to relate that there is no money in some pockets where there should be some—that some of the boys are wondering what they did with their last summer's wages.—Condon Globe-Times.

* * *

Nothing excites a perfect Republican like the rumor that Senator George Chamberlain will be appointed secretary of war by President Harding. There are two objections to him, the chief one being that he is fitted for the berth.—Medford Mail Tribune.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town.

F. E. Chilton, formerly chief clerk of the Seward, is registered there as a guest. He lives at Denver these days and is a commercial traveler. Oddly enough, he ran across the name on the register of Dr. P. M. Ashley of Centralia, who was a surgeon with the overseas unit to which Mr. Chilton belonged. "I was a member of the Twentieth engineers," said Mr. Chilton. "We ran into hard luck, and the Tuscania, on which I was a passenger, was torpedoed off the Irish coast. I spent 18 months overseas, eight of which were in the hospital. I was wounded in the ribs and received internal injuries from a tree. I was up Arras away on the British front. 'Jerry' came over one night and dropped a bomb. It lit near me and blew me into a tree with such force that I was put out of commission. That German air bomb sure wrapped me around that tree as close as the ivy clings to the oak. Yes, I decided to change my job. I ate so many beans in the army that I felt I knew beans from soup to nuts, so I went to work for Van Camp, selling his brand of beans."

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Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Packer of La Grande are looking over Portland and discovering the numerous points in which La Grande is superior.

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Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Monteith of Albany are at the Seward. The Hub City of the Willamette valley was founded by the Monteith family.

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Norman E. Jackson of Enterprise, county seat of Wallowa county, is at the Multnomah.

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Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Knapp of Newberg, the Quaker City on the banks of the Willamette, are at the Cornelius.

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Mr. and Mrs. M. Kennedy of Ketchikan, Alaska, are spending a few days at the Seward.

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Mr. and Mrs. George H. McDonald, hailing from Pendleton, are at the Imperial.

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James S. Stewart, now of Corvallis and known all over the cow country east of the mountains, is a Portland visitor.

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Walter J. Dames of McCoy is a Portland visitor and is said to be quite a favorite with his namesakes.

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W. E. Straight of Heppner is visiting his oldtime host of the Palace hotel at Heppner, Phil Metschan, at the Imperial.

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A. E. Thompson of Echo and Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Sturgill, from the next door city of Stanfield, are at the Imperial.

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J. H. Fulton of Ashland and T. L. Stanley of Klamath Falls are at the Imperial.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Kay of the capital city are visiting the metropolis.

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R. D. Kennedy of Stanfield is a Portland visitor.

Most Broadway hotel clerks are as wise as a treeful of owls. "Yes, the mail problem is one that requires extreme care, for it is up to us to see that our guests secure their letters promptly and also to see that their mail is forwarded correctly and promptly," said an old time Greeter. "While the mail problem is one that keeps us on our toes, it is nothing to the female problem. Why mothers in nearby cities will let their 17 and 18-year-old daughters come to Portland 'to visit a girl friend' is beyond me. Sometimes when one of these little girls with skirts almost as short as her mother's comes to the desk to register I am tempted to call up her mother on long distance and call her down. Another serious problem is the large amount of mail we have to handle for local people. Business men who do not want love letters from out of town admirers to go to their homes or offices have their mail addressed in care of some of the larger hotels. To tell you the truth, a large number of women do the same thing. Yes, I suppose the world is getting better all the time, but sometimes I am rather doubtful of it."

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G. H. Mallett of Nyssa, in the heart of the one time country of limitless sagebrush but now in a land growing unlimited alfalfa and flowing with milk and honey—if honey can flow—is at the Portland.

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H. H. Hargreaves of Lakeside is in Portland. Lakeside is in the Coos Bay country, in the heart of the inland lake district and in a region where the trout are ever hungry for fly or spinner.

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George W. Mansfield, who does not feel friendly with the voters of Ashland for the way they failed to vote for Medford for the county seat, is passing the time of day with Portland friends.

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A. B. Owen of Paisley, down in the sagebrush of Lake county, is a Portland visitor.

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Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Watzek of Wauna are at the Portland. Mr. Watzek is a lumberman.

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R. B. Miller of Tillamook and A. B. Miller of Prineville are guests at the Seward.

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Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Keeler of Seaside are guests at the Cornelius.

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Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kinney of Ilwaco are Portland visitors.

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H. W. Heyser of Wheeler is taking in the sights of Portland.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Fenton, hailing from Alaska, are at the Portland.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Lamport of Salem are registered at the Seward.

* * *

H. J. Marshall, from Goldendale, is at the Imperial.

* * *

S. V. Pattison and W. G. Moore of Heppner are at the Imperial.

OBSERVATIONS AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

[There are people who can see excellence in nothing save "the good old times." Mr. Lockley hangs a sign on this contingent that may be little to their liking.]

"Yes, I am a member of the board of directors of the P. M. C. and O. H. B. club," said a former well known oldtime politician of Portland. "What do the initials stand for? That's easy. 'Portland, Multnomah County and Oregon Has Been club.' Here's our list of prospective members. Whenever we see a man who has lost interest in the public welfare and who sits around carping and criticising the actions of others without being willing to do anything to right the conditions he kicks about, we mark him down as a prospective member. One of the surest signs that a man is eligible for membership is his harping on the 'good old times' when eggs were 10 cents a dozen; when milk was 5 cents a quart; when the butcher gave away liver; when you had to pay the hired girl only $2 a week and she was glad to do the family washing; when women didn't paint and powder, play poker, smoke cigarettes and shimmie, and were good cooks; when men wore whiskers, used bootjacks and chewed tobacco; when you didn't have to tip a waiter the price of a meal, and the hat check holdup artist was unknown; when profiteering, prohibition and suffragetting were unheard of and the price of gas wasn't a vital problem; when men occasionally met death by blowing out the gas and not, as they do today, by stepping on the gas. Yes, sir; whenever you hear a man tuning up the mournful lyre about how good the old times were, he is beginning to petrify and ossify, and he can seek the highest office in the gift of the Has Been club."

* * *

The Kansas Farmer says: Captain Waters was once called to try a lawsuit in a small town not so very far from Topeka. There wasn't much doing and Cap got very lonesome. When his business was finally attended to and he was settling his hotel bill, he said to the landlord:

"I intend, if possible, to come to this town to end my days. I wish to die here."

The landlord was flattered and said: "Indeed, Captain, I am glad that you like our town so well."

"You have me wrong," said Cap. "The reason I want to end my days here is because it seems to me that after a man had lived here a spell death would be a welcome relief. I never saw a town I could leave with so little regret."

* * *

Sam Kozer, secretary of state, is visiting his political and other friends in Portland. Away back in 1890 Frank I. Dunbar was elected recorder of conveyances of Clatsop county. After putting in two terms he was elected county clerk. He hired Sam Kozer because of his beautiful handwriting. When Frank Dunbar was elected secretary of state in 1899 he decided that Sam's handwriting would look good on the state records, and brought him up from Astoria with him. Sam proved to be no clock-watcher, and also proved that he didn't keep in a rut, but was willing to take advice and adopt new methods; so he stayed through the administrations of the various secretaries who came and went with the changing tides of politics, and at last he himself became secretary of state and his long experience in the office makes him eminently qualified to give the people of the state, who pay his salary, efficient service.

* * *

Prior to the war students from other countries went to Germany to complete their education, but the educational ascendancy of Germany passed with the breaking out of the war. Professor S. Matoda of St. Pauls university of Tokyo recently said there are today in the United States more than 8000 students from foreign countries who, returning to their own lands, will carry with them the ideals of the American people.

* * *

The Chinese, who for 30 centuries have dreamed of the past, are waking up to Western business methods, as is proved by the following advertisement, which appeared in a recent issue of the Yi Shih Pao:

"The public is hereby informed that I am 22 years old and a native of Sungkiang, Kiangsu. I was graduated from the Tsing Hua girls high school in the sixth year of Min-kuo.

"I am much intoxicated in Western civilization and believe in the truth that women and men are both descended from the same supreme being, and also have a big idea to remedy this degenerated state of affairs prevail-to-day.

"Matrimony is the human welfare, but being a matter of life-time, it should not be concluded hastily. A good match is to be had only after careful choice. I therefore, for the purpose of effecting one, print this advertisement in the paper. If anybody is a graduate of a primary school, having an elementary knowledge of both Chinese and English, and is not below 28 years of age or above 42 years, and has a position of $40 per month, please apply to Room No. 5 upstairs of Jen Ho hotel for further particulars.—Signed Yao P'in."

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader

OREGON NOTES

Dr. William Long, pioneer physician of Salem, is dead in that city, aged 81 years.

A squash weighing 181 pounds is on exhibition at Albany. It was raised by John Reddy, who lives eight miles east of the city.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the residence of Otis Engle at Molalla, with an estimated loss of $3000. There was no insurance.

Pomona grange of Linn county is behind a movement for legislation requiring farmers to destroy Canadian thistles before they bloom.

The condition of Umatilla county's 200,000 acres of winter wheat is 100 per cent, according to a recent report of the bureau of crop estimates.

B. F. and Roy Mershow and George Beeney have opened a candy factory at Medford and will do a wholesale business in Oregon and California.

Practically 10 miles of paving has been laid out of Corvallis on the Benton county highway. The paving plant has closed down for the winter months.

A carload of hogs shipped to Portland by the Lane County Shippers' association brought only $9.50 to $10.25 per hundred, the lowest point of the year for fancy stock.

A new variety of wheat, particularly adapted for raising in Oregon, and of excellent milling qualities, has been developed by John Sprolek of Malin, Klamath county.

The Crown-Willamette Paper company announces that it will resume operations near Seaside in the near future. This concern employs in the neighborhood of 500 men.

Small sales of wheat are being made daily at Pendleton, but the volume of purchases is confined chiefly to rather small amounts. The price paid of late has averaged $1.40 a bushel.

Declaring in their complaint that Union county financially is unable to proceed with road work, William R. Jasper and Walter M. Pierce have enjoined the county court from contracting two pieces of road recently advertised.

WASHINGTON

More than 2,500,000 trout of different varieties were planted in the lakes and streams in Chelan county during 1920.

One Clarke county crop will not be fully harvested this year, various sections reporting that many acres of potatoes are yet undug.

Pullman Agricultural college is asking for an appropriation of $68,000 to replace the five farm buildings destroyed by the cyclone last summer.

Costello Brothers' store at Everett was held up last week by a highwayman and robbed of $375 while hundreds of persons were passing the store.

Total deposits in the state banks of Washington have decreased $19,489,969.26 since a year ago, according to a statement issued by the state bank examiner.

Because the expenses of the company have increased 254 per cent in two years, the Wenatchee Valley Gas and Electric company is seeking an increase of 22½ per cent in rates.

Becoming despondent over the business outlook, C. C. Manley committed suicide at Toppenish by drinking chloroform. An open purse with $44 in change lay beside the empty bottle.

Yakima is facing a distressing problem of providing work for many families. Out of 76 men, with 146 dependents, who applied for jobs in one day, work could be found for only eight.

Heart disease, superinduced by moonshine whiskey, is believed to have caused the death of John Phillips, aged 58, a miner, who was found dead Monday night in a lodging house at Cumberland.

Plans for the building of a woolen mill in Spokane to manufacture the wool produced by sheepmen of the Northwest are now being made through the National Non-Partisan league of Washington.

Immediate construction of the new $300,000 unit for the Northwestern Power and Manufacturing company's plant on the Elwha river, near Port Angeles, has been ordered. A camp of 50 men has been established.

The body of C. Donnell, aged 65, who disappeared from Hoquiam December 3, leaving a check of $450 made out to his brother, was found lying on the tideflats near Grays Harbor City. It is believed he threw himself in the bay, where he was drowned.

IDAHO

Sam Redhart, a well-to-do Nez Perce Indian, was shot and killed near Orofino by James Moore, a relative, who mistook Redhart for a deer.

Fire attacked the Ilo opera house at Craigmont, resulting in practically a total loss to the building, valued at $12,000, and a $20,000 stock of general merchandise.

Lewiston hardware dealers are planning an organization of hardware dealers in the Inland Empire to be a subsidiary of the Pacific Northwest association.

It is estimated that a million tons of hay will be moved out of Idaho in the next few months as the result of the order of the interstate commerce commission reducing freight rates.

The new $100,000 Morning club house, built at Wallace by the Federal Mining & Smelting company for its employes, was opened last week with appropriate exercises. More than 1200 guests were present.

Pocatello bankers have taken the initial step which guarantees the successful completion of the American Falls reservoir. They have subscribed $175,000 of the sum necessary to buy the dam site and take care of the preliminary work.

KNOW YOUR PORTLAND

The Portland milk commission will hold a hearing Thursday morning preliminary to announcing reduction in the price of milk.

Before it begins its deliberations, the average citizen may be interested to know the proportions of the milk supply business of the city.

Dr. D. W. Mack, chief dairy and milk inspector, estimates that Portland consumes 25,000 gallons of milk a