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COST PLUS UTILITIES

The cost plus system has been discredited. Employed in the United States during the war period as an emergency measure, the principle was found to be economically unsound.

Under the plan, unprincipled business men found it to their interest to increase the cost of production. The greater the cost the greater was their profit.

The price of materials meant a great deal of the cost-pluser. The overhead meant something to those who held contracts and were gougers.

last year, in addition to quadrupling its surplus and contingency appropriations. The true plan for utilities is to make national and universal the system that Brandeis applied to Boston gas.

Under little headboards are a lot of them who were gassed in France. All over America are the wrecks of strong men who know all too well what it means when you are gassed in France.

And America is preparing, in the next war to gas, not merely men, but battlehips. When our army planes sail over an obsolete battleship next June to demonstrate that surface craft is helpless under a shower of bombs, the American air service intends also show that a battleship can be forced into submission by the use of gas.

Any kind of gas, the air chiefs say, from the kind that puts men gently to sleep to the poisonous mustard variety and the tear gas from an airplane to fill and smother battleships below and among the sea.

The best chemists in the world are feverishly working to unlock the secrets by which chemical compounds will replace bullets and shrapnel and mere shells in hurrying armies into eternity.

Then "gassed" in France will be but the dead ashes of a dim memory. Gas victims will not be wrecks of men here and there and a few thousand under headboards in France, but in piles and heaps and rows unmatched in the history of the earth, unguessed in the prophecies and dreams of men.

By their unanimous backing of the Community Chest campaign the theatres and motion picture houses of Portland have gone far to recommend themselves to the people of the city.

THE FRENCH POLICY

It is proposed that as a measure of national economy all American woodmen be sent to take a course in forestry in France.

BEHIND every man's success or failure lies a woman, someone has observed. Either because of her inspiration or because he wants to make her regret snubbing him, he succeeds.

Nemesis of Jake Hamon's life. She was the cupbearer of his success, the witch who brewed his poison.

With the blouse gone—the source of its activity—what is to become of the moth with the burned plinths? Movies at \$1000 a week! That sum has been offered the moth to appear on the screen.

Does anyone wish to see the sordid story of Clara and Jake Hamon reenacted? Wouldn't transforming her into a movie queen glorify her too much? Wouldn't such financial success serve to hold her up as a model example rather than as a horrible warning?

The movie men are too prone to seize upon fleeting and noxious notoriety as a means of swelling their profits. It is time that they kept characterizers and sensational characterists off the screen.

STILL DRUNK?

How much of the crime wave is due to America's late debauch of extravagance? How much of tumultuous passion in high places and low was unloosed by that drunken spending orgy?

Some workers with big salaries are often encountered even yet, borrowing money to tide them over. Why should they borrow? Have the extravagances and prodigality of yesterday become habitual to them, not to be given up?

Have all forgotten that it was government money that was supplying the cash in those giddy, golden days and that that supply has since been cut off? Do men and boys and women and girls not realize that the governmental fountains of gold have dried up and that it is only by the most rigid economy that the government itself is able to pay its bills?

Those were evil days—those days when America was intoxicated with its easy money and grazed with a desire to buy costly things. They dragged from its moorings the thing that built up the country—the principle and policy of thrift.

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THE JOURNAL has worked hard to encourage the use of Oregon-made products. It cannot do all. Manufacturers must do something.

WAR WITH BRITAIN?

Anonymous Hint From Abroad Is Viewed as a Warning of the British Foreign Office to the effect that his country and ours are "treading the path that leads to war."

That "anonymous and mysterious warning" from an official of the British foreign office to the effect that his country and ours are "treading the path that leads to war" is not taken very seriously by the American press.

So far as the public knows now the Kansas City Star (Ind.) believes that "there is nothing to justify any such statement" but it is not willing to say that "gives the impression of suffering from a high temperature and a case of nerves."

Most of the papers seek to get back of the "warning" itself and to determine the points of friction. They are insufficiently strained to warrant so extraordinary a position as the British official assumes.

A Matter Largely Overlooked by the Corporations That Get Rate Raises. Portland, March 15.—To the Editor of The Journal—Involving a matter of hundreds of thousands of dollars, the case of the telephone system in this city, nursed by the motherly care of a commission endowed by the state with great powers, has long attracted the attention of other triad ever invested with authority in the state of Oregon.

There is, as the Springfield Republican has said, a "maladjustment" which the two countries are discovering in their relations. "What has happened is that the old system of contact between Great Britain and America have been wrenched and twisted by the war. They now find themselves in touch under strange conditions which are very different from the old ones."

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The Jericho region is supplied with three kinds of water, and this, coupled with the historic fame of the Jordan valley, has furnished a regular outlet for pilgrims to this hot depression nearly a quarter of a mile below the level of the sea.

composed of salt, keratins and yod, drawn from the hot springs which seep in the muddy water of that river. Then, as night rapidly settles in the desert, the traveler tries between the miserable hovels which constitute modern Jericho and diamonds at the feet of the king of the desert, the sheik. Here the water is collected in a large pool, both cold and clear, and few into it and remove forever any lingering signs of the hot and muddy waters of the Jordan.

Letters From the People

The PUBLIC'S LOSING GAME Here Likened to the Holder of a Two-Spot, Facing an All-Trust Hand. Portland, March 15.—The Editor of The Journal—Referring to the discussion of the telephone rates, which seems to be the most important and interesting question before the city council, I have read carefully all statements published pro and con, as well as the statements made by the public service commission and the utility commission.

Which seemingly proves that black is white. The list is at Portland are doctors—no breakfast viands. The state of happiness is profaned by some people who claim to be "the happiest person in the world."

Montie B. Gwyn, who for many years was a resident of Pendleton, where he was a member of the board of directors of the hotel, is at Portland on his way to Boise to Boise, Idaho. "I went to Boise in 1871, said Mr. Gwyn. "That was 50 years ago, and I was the first time I came to Portland was in 1883. I took the stage from Boise to Pendleton, and from there came on to Portland on Henry Villard's special train. I met him at Pendleton and he invited me to be his guest for the trip to Portland. I have spent the winter in Los Angeles, but it is lambing time in my country, so I must get home. I am in the sheep business as well as in the banking business."

L. Paget, banker of Seaside, is a Portland visitor. He reports that the Seaside hotel did a most excellent business during the past winter, more than last year. He says that the hotel is about finished and Seaside is going out of this year's summer resort business vigorously, to make Seaside the most popular resort of the coast.

James E. Tuberton of Flat, Alaska, is at the Multnomah. "Flat is a small town of about 500 people, about 100 miles from Iditarod and about 500 miles from Seward. It is a small town of about 500 people, about 100 miles from Iditarod and about 500 miles from Seward."

George P. Topping of Bandon, at the Multnomah. "I have a ranch in the Spencer Creek district near Eugene, is a Portland visitor. A. W. Oliver of Corvallis is at the Imperial. Victor Seeborg and Mat Sorvan of Astoria are registered at the Multnomah. W. N. Morse of Wasco is at the Multnomah. J. B. Bowen of Baker, veteran publisher of the Oregonian, is at the Multnomah. R. C. Garrison of Prineville is a guest at the Portland. Mr. and Mrs. A. E. McLean of Victoria are at the Portland. A. E. Robb of Hermiston is at the Multnomah. Mr. and Mrs. F. Carmon of Eugene are at the Imperial.

Curious Bits of Information Gleaned From Curious Places The Jericho region is supplied with three kinds of water, and this, coupled with the historic fame of the Jordan valley, has furnished a regular outlet for pilgrims to this hot depression nearly a quarter of a mile below the level of the sea.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says It's a mighty hard job for our preacher to say anything with pep when it is to keep the masses awake and fun enough in it to attract the young folks and at the same time not rile the oldtimers and hardshiners. Rev. Edward B. Snow says that the corners determined to do it, and sometimes he's too peppery, and other times too slow, according to which side jerks on the line, so to speak. He says he has preached the gospel according to the Scriptures regardless of who he had in the pews. He says he has preached the gospel according to the Scriptures regardless of who he had in the pews.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE Only one more week to buy your Easter bonnet. Spring greens appear to be a bit in advance of a green spring.

These "back to the land" advocates should be strenuously supporting the soldier loan bill. While embalming fluids continue plentiful it is probable that wild joyriders will be with us.

Which seemingly proves that black is white. The list is at Portland are doctors—no breakfast viands. The state of happiness is profaned by some people who claim to be "the happiest person in the world."

Ivan Smith of Oneida, N. Y., is a guest at the Hotel Multnomah. He is to make Portland his headquarters and will bring his family here shortly. He is Northwestern sales manager for one of the manufacturing firms of Oneida.

George L. Humphrey of Klamath Falls is at the Imperial. H. L. Stanfield of Stanfield is a guest at the Imperial. Frank H. Shepard of Corvallis is a Portland visitor. C. C. Edwards of Salem is at the Imperial. Fred Harvey of Pendleton is at the Imperial. J. E. Lyons of Coos Bay is at the Perkins. Jake Slovorp of Anchorage, Alaska, is registered at the Perkins. J. C. Bartlett of Ontario is a guest at the Imperial. W. A. Kuykendall of Eugene is a Portland visitor. G. M. Roberts and A. L. Hill of Medford are registered at the Imperial. T. D. Barclay of Pendleton is at the Multnomah. W. R. Scott of the Hub City of the Willamette valley is at the Multnomah. F. E. Ryus of Ketchikan is at the Multnomah.

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Observations and Impressions OF THE JOURNAL MAN By Fred Lockley Included among those who have another week to buy their Easter bonnet are those who have another week to buy their Easter bonnet.

Statistics have been published recently telling what people kill themselves. The number of money, it seems, does not bring contentment nor happiness, since last year 26 millionaires, 23 rich women and 75 high-salaried presidents or managers of big trust companies committed suicide. The Save-Life League is authorized for the statement that 6701 persons committed suicide in this country last year. The reported number is an increase of more than 1000 in a year. Of the 6701 suicides reported for last year, 2694 were women, 406 were veterans of the world war and 469 other persons killed themselves after committing murder. Suicides among children are increasing alarmingly. Of the 787 listed in 1922, 48 were girls. One man killed himself because his wife refused to vote for Cox, another because his new suit didn't fit, and a third because he was tired because her husband could not or would not eat a pie she had baked.

The Chicago Tribune's purchase of a forest of spruce to convert into pulp is the reason for Christopher Marlowe's poem, published in the New York Evening Post, after the manner of Joyce Kilmer. He writes: I think that I shall never see / Aught lovely as a poplar tree. A tree that grows through sunny noons / To furnish paper for the million. A tree whose fiber and whose pits / Will make the paper of Sidway Smith. A tree whose green, toward heaven rises, / Men sacrifice for advertisement. A tree that lifts her arms and laughs / To be made into paragraphs. How evitable is that tree / That's growing up for B. L. T. I.

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief From the Busy Reader. Eight cars of cattle were shipped from the Prineville station Saturday.

A gold storage plant with a capacity of 30 tons is being built at Canyon City. The Canyon City council is now shipping their product by parcel post. The expenditure of \$40,000 for improvement of its water supply is contemplated by the city of Hood River.

A charter has been granted to John L. Karnopp of Portland for a new bank at Prineville. The bank is to be a \$200,000 bank. The election a freewater to authorize a \$100,000 bond issue for street improvements carried by a majority of 55 votes. The Canyon City council is now shipping their product by parcel post.

War on the gray gopher squirrel, one of the worst pests on Lane county farms, is being waged by the United States biological service. The cost of growing wheat in Umatilla county is variously estimated by Portland bankers at \$1.45, \$1.50, \$1.55 and \$2.00 an acre.

On March 25 the Chiloquin district in Klamath county was valued at \$1,000,000. The kind of Products company is signing up a hundred tons of green pod stringless beans for the coming season's use. To prevent the spread of pear thrips, an embargo against importation of fruit from California is being placed by Lane county against Marion county.

There are 30,000 acres in the reclamation project in the Klamath valley. The Klamath Mercantile company, and about 10,000 acres are now under water. Another bank building is being built on the O. V. R. line near Elgin, where the track is under one of arch, rock and trees to be cut through the mountains. A dog, wandering down from the foothills, trotted along the Pacific highway near Medford and frightened by passing automobile, crashed into a wire fence, breaking its neck.

Scarlet fever has broken out at Toppenish and many homes are quarantined. Governor Hart has vetoed the "blue sky" law passed by the last session of the Oregon legislature. Pacific county commissioners have appropriated \$15,000 to complete the road between Astoria and Cannon Beach. Burglars drove a truck to the rear of the Regal Dye works at Tacoma and stole a quantity of clothing and shoes.

Plans are completed for a \$30,000 armory at Puyallup, to include a drill hall, community hall, gymnasium and swimming pool. Tacoma, Olympia and Eastern interests have begun work on a complete new bridge across the mouth of the Clympia to cost not less than \$80,000. Jack Jones, captured last week after a five-day chase, was sentenced to seven years in prison. Men of wearing apparel valued at more than \$5000 were stolen from the Wentworth Clothing company's store at Walla Walla some time last Sunday night.

Recruiting during the last four weeks has brought the enlistment of Washington Coast Guard up to a total of 1668 men and 116 aircraft and reserve corps. Nick Mancoske is in a hospital at Aberdeen, suffering from a bullet wound received when an unknown person shot at the front of a coffeehouse. Miss Birdie Campbell of Tacoma has been named as a delegate to the national professional delegation for appointment as chief of the woman's division of the department of labor. The University of Washington Daily, published by the university school of journalism, is being distributed by wireless in its intercollegiate news service. Wayne I. Brun of the penitentiary has accepted the appointment as superintendent of the state game farm at Hood River, where he will be in charge of the game and fishery department. The school board of Spokane has decided to increase the salary of its teachers on the question of levying a tax of 1 mill to make it possible to maintain the present schedule of salaries for teachers.

IDEALS

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