Oregon Journal

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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(Be calm, be confident, be cheerful and do unto others as you would have them do unto you.)

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I do not regret having braved public opinion when I knew public opinion was wrong and sure to be merciless.—Horace Greeley.

IF PORTLAND WOULD—

EFFORTS were made to have the late newspaper conference at Eugene indorse the 1925 exposition. But they failed.

There were differences of opinion among the 75 active newspaper men there. Some favored the exposition, even to the extent of having it financed in part by the state at large. But the preponderance of sentiment was against formal participation by the up-state in the form of property levies or gasoline tax. This is made very clear by the fact that all efforts to have the exposition indorsed were defeated by the resolutions committee.

This is a more significant status than was the non-action of the legislature. The opposition of the up-state newspapers is a more definite reflection of the sentiment of the various communities. And it is a far more difficult opposition for the backers of the exposition to counteract.

These things should be considered by the committee that is at work on the problem of financing the exposition. Does the committee think it impossible for Portland to finance the exposition without asking aid from the up-state?

Under the original plan Portland proposed to assume a $4,000,000 expenditure. The people voted more than four to one in favor of a fair on that basis, the up-state to add $2,000,000 more. If Portland was ready to spend $4,000,000 on the plan and voted four to one in favor of it, is that not a guarantee that Portland can do the job alone?

Here is one thing which the up-state communities talk about: They say that practically every resident of the up-state would come to the exposition, and that all the ready money on the outside would flow into Portland. They think this, along with many other benefits, would be sufficient compensation to Portland for its part in bearing the entire cost of the exposition. This is a contention that, along with the psychology that creates it, the committee may well consider.

Nor is it certain that the limit of $6,000,000 set as the cost of the exposition must be adhered to. There are many people who think the figure might be reduced. They argue that it is quite possible to make the exposition too pretentious for the business conditions likely to prevail between the present and the time of the fair.

After all the expenditure of time and money already made, and after the showing in the vote that Portland people want a 1925 exposition, the project ought not to fail. It is certain that there are already activities and enterprises going forward that would not be in motion except through expectancy that an exposition is to be held. It is entirely probable that much of the building activity is predicated upon 1925.

It is not a discouraging thing that some of the plans have gone awry. The great mistake was that up-state delegates who came to the state-wide conference did not know the sentiment of their respective communities, and their reports misled the conference into mistaken action. But one mistake or half a dozen mistakes no more settles an issue than one swallow makes a summer.

It would be a crime for all the patriotic work Mr. Meier and his associates have done to come to naught. It was a sincere effort to give Oregon a higher place in the sun, and it deserves to succeed.

Reared in luxury, when members of the ill-fated house of Hapsburg were thrown out to battle with a practical world, they met with no success. They are scattered over Europe, with little on which to survive. The emperor and empress are trying to add to their comforts by sales of family jewels. Some of the family have written memoirs and attempted literature, but can find no publishers. Some have tried to earn a livelihood by work with indifferent success. Any alert American boy of humblest origin has better prospects than the scions of this former royal house.

HOLD YOUR LIBERTY BONDS

ONE of the outstanding developments of 1921 was the constant rise in the market price of Liberty bonds, the earlier issues now ranging from 94 to 97, and the Victory bonds selling for slightly more than par.

The American people are slowly learning that their government securities are really secure and stable, notwithstanding the manipulation of speculators. This has been a new experience for the citizens of this country, who, before the great war, put their money in everything except government bonds.

While the terrible conflict was upon us, many bought bonds merely as a patriotic duty, and not a few failed to realize that they were doing anything other than making a contribution to help the Washington authorities win the war. Because of this misconception, based on ignorance, thousands of holders dumped their securities on the market when the conflict closed, taking whatever was offered them.

The Journal has from time to time strongly advised the holding of all war bonds unless it were absolutely necessary to sell them, and this advice is still good. Government bonds are the safest form of investment for the small money man or woman. If the government fails they may become worthless—but not otherwise.

In the last year approximately $2,000,000,000 has been added to the market value of these issues, BUT THEIR INTRINSIC WORTH HAS ALWAYS BEEN THEIR FACE VALUE, PLUS THE INTEREST REPRESENTED ON THE COUPONS. Anybody selling them for less has sacrificed money which could, and should, have been retained if possible.

Now that the war bonds are no longer issued, it behooves every citizen to buy what he can of what may be put on the market and also to invest in the treasury certificates which are now available.

The 25-cent thrift stamp and $5 war savings stamp have been discontinued with the first of the current year, but there are still the $1 treasury savings stamp and the $25, $100 and $1000 treasury savings certificates which well enable both children and adults to continue the practice of thrift, which has been increasing steadily for at least two years.

The $1000 limit has been raised to $5000, making the treasury certificates attractive to those who can invest as much in safe, moderately yielding securities. These certificates sell at $20 for the $25 certificate, with the $100 and $1000 certificates selling at $80 and $800. All mature at full value in five years.

The second Arbuckle farce has begun. As before, it will probably turn out that it is the district attorney and the witnesses for the state that will seem to have been the guilty parties. It is not so much the fault of the judicial system as the fickle sense of the sanctity of justice and the importance of law that helps the big ones go unwhipped.

THE HIGH COST OF MARY

THE mathematics of the Chicago Opera company, soon to appear in Portland, is tremendous.

The reckoning showed that the company's expenditures exceed the revenues by more than $600,000. This was due, not to lack of patronage, for the nightly performances were witnessed by packed audiences. The deficit was due to the ponderous items of expense involved in performances on so gigantic a scale.

Here is example of some of the expenditures: Florence Macbeth was engaged at enormous salary to sing a series of roles, but never made an appearance. Lydia Lipkowska was engaged as premier in a Russian opera staged at a cost of $100,000 or so, but the performance was never given. Famous singers were imported from Europe, and though retained for many weeks, sang but once or twice. These were some of the features last season. This year, with Mary Garden still as directress, there is a more economical management, but still with a guarantee by rich backers of a minimum deficit of $500,000.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR WIFE?

HOW much time should a husband give to his work? How much to his wife? Should a man's work and his wife be competitors?

The questions came to the fore the other day in a divorce action. The wife alleged cruelty. But the complaint alleged no indidelity or violence. It charged him with overwhelming devotion to his work.

He went to his duty in the morning as quickly as he could get his breakfast. He hadn't time for those little telephone calls that, during the day, bring happiness to many a homemaker. He was too busy to remind the florist of such events in

her life as birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

Dinner hour usually found him eating down town. Her plans grew cold with her dishes and her heart. There were no movie evenings or vaudeville programs for them. He was too busy to come home. His "overwhelming devotion to duty" kept him at his desk until bedtime.

When he came home at night he was dog tired; too tired, in fact, for little evidences of affection or even for chat about the affairs of the day.

He was jolted when she sued, alleging cruelty. He insisted that he had almost given his very life to surround her with comfort and a share of luxury. But her answer was that she wanted him, not the super-product of excessive devotion to duty. He rebutted that the times are such that a man must give every ounce of energy to his work or lose out. She answered that a crust in a cabin with him offering overwhelming devotion to her was better than neglect in surroundings enriched by overwhelming devotion to duty.

Which was right?

His leg is gone. He tried to board a Mount Scott car before it had come to a full stop. He slipped and the limb was cut off by the terrible wheels. It is the kind of thing that has happened thousands of times and will happen thousands of times more because of the speed at which we are trying to live. Every danger signal warns us to go slower. But we do not heed and have, in consequence, to pay the price in life and limb.

THE WOOLWORTH PLAN

NOW comes a statement from a prominent railroad official to the effect that with the reductions in rates consequential to the relief from transportation taxes the roads expect a more expeditious movement of freight, more travel and greater return to the roads.

It is public recognition by railroad officials that reduced rates produce heavier earnings than rates that serve to drive traffic from the roads. It is admission that the railroads will do better with decreased rates. It is testimony that a greater volume of business even at reduced charges is more desirable from a railroad standpoint than less business at higher rates.

That is the basis on which the late F. W. Woolworth proceeded. He depended on a tremendous volume of business even at reduced margin of profit to bring him earnings. He became a multi-millionaire.

It is the Ford plan. Low priced cars with a small profit margin, but tremendous volume of sales is the basis of the Detroit manufacturer's success.

The same will apply to the railroads. It was proven in the case of the Astoria reductions last summer. It will be proven in the volume of traffic now, even though rates, despite the removal of war taxes, are still near the breaking point.

But it is not profitable in the long run for the railroads to drive wages of employes to rock bottom in order that the stockholders may reap the harvest of the greater earnings from reduced rates. The employes, like the public, are entitled to consideration in the railroad business and distribution of profits.

After six months' work in a blacksmith shop, the former crown prince of Germany is described by Senator Capper's paper as ready to make horseshoes at $19 apiece. It is a far more respectable business than commanding the gray divisions in the bloody assaults on Verdun. In the present mood of the world, indeed, royalty no longer fills a long felt want.

DIRTY FACED CHICAGO

IS THERE another city in the world like Chicago?

A majority of Chicago aldermen frankly admit that they oppose prohibition. The practice of a large proportion of 3,000,000 people is based upon their attitude.

City hall employes have just been arrested, charged with being up to the neck in moonshine deals. The story of contraband booze transported to customers in patrol wagons is now old. Traffic officers on the roads that lead chiefly to roadhouses are said to be unfailing sources of unlawful stimulant for those "on the know."

Breweries are producing what is declared to be near-beer so near the real thing that a chemical analysis can't detect the difference.

At the same time murder is on the increase. Moonshine murder is getting to be the commonest of crimes. State prosecutors, however, are quoted publicly in declarations that convictions are almost impossible. They say that low morality lowered by moonshine infects juries as well as defendants. Immorality grows with contempt for law. Half-hearted raids always bring in a dragnet full of drab creatures.

The visitor in Chicago notices even an overcrusting of dingy gray on public buildings and business blocks. It looks as if Chicago needs her face washed, a bath and fumigation, both physically and morally.

In other respects Chicago is a great city, as unique in ambition as in contempt for law.

Dartmouth girls were asked to appear at a ball wearing woolen stockings and high overshoes. "We would rather see you warm and pretty than cold and expensive," read the invitation, which frowned upon sheer silk hose and fragile pumps as cold weather protection.

NEW CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE

McCumber's Accession to the Throne of Penrose Is Wormwood to the Political and Industrialist Old Guard—West and South Enjoy the New Situation and Expect Results From It—Line of Further Succession Traces to La Follette.

Daily Editorial Digest
(Consolidated Press Association)

"Probably the most powerful position in congress, and from an economic aspect hardly less important than the presidency itself," is the chairmanship of the senate finance committee. The death of Senator Penrose left it vacant, and the succession, under the time-honored seniority rule, goes to Senator Porter J. McCumber of North Dakota. Thus for the first time in 60 years that important committee will be directed by a Westerner. That in itself a number of writers regard as "not a pleasant prospect for the Eastern states, which pay the bulk of the taxes and which because of their vast industrial and financial institutions are vitally affected by fiscal legislation." But when to this loss of control by the East is added the fact that the Westerner who succeeds to power is, the Hartford Courant (Rep.) asserts, "an acknowledged part of that agricultural bloc that has not hesitated to show that it plans to run the country just as much as it possibly can for the interests of a particular class of citizens," many editors felt that an especially auspicious moment had arrived to break what the New York Times (Ind. Dem.) called "the foolish rule of seniority."

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That practice "has always been fraught with potential dangers of great magnitude," the Hartford Courant continues, and political fortune now "changes the potential to the certain," for, the New Haven Journal Courier (Ind.) contends, "Mr. McCumber possesses no such knowledge of the revenue needs of the country at large, and of its separated revenue producing powers, nor of the national field of human activity and investment as to warrant his selection if the contest was an open one between men of known fitness," and with the New York Herald (Ind.) and others, the Journal Courier maintains that the mantle should have fallen upon Senator Smoot as the better qualified.

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It is not Mr. McCumber's geographical alignment that is worrying the papers and "the old guard" who are fearful of the result of his accession to the finance committee chairmanship, the Chattanooga News (Dem.) thinks, for they "would have agreed to go west, as Greeley advised, if they could have had Smoot instead of McCumber." To the detractors of the North Dakota senator "the catastrophic event," as the Columbia (S. C.) State (Dem.) interprets it, is "for the tariff making committee to have for its head a senator not a 'business man'," and they mean "by business man a senator who knows how to frame tariffs for the benefit of those for whom tariffs are framed." There is still a crumb of comfort, however, which the Springfield Republican (Ind.) hold out to "Wall Street" and Eastern financial interests, for, it points out, McCumber comes up for reelection in November, and "if he should be defeated back home 'Wall Street' could find compensation in the fact that Senator Smoot would succeed him." But the fly in that ointment is that "if anything should then happen to Mr. Smoot, 'Wall Street' would have a fit. The Republican next in line after Mr. Smoot is Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin."

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However, to the Baltimore Sun (Ind. Dem.) "the chief fact about the promotion of McCumber to the vacant chair in the finance committee is that it means a break in the oligarchy whose history has been written by John Sherman, Justin B. Morrill, Nelson W. Aldrich and Boies Penrose. McCumber is not of their mold." This is indeed a significant change, agrees the Memphis News Scimitar (Ind.), which means "transferring the chairmanship from the East to the West; from the representatives of big business to the representative of farming and agricultural interests; from a reactionary to a progressive." The Columbus (O.) Dispatch (Ind.), accordingly finds it "difficult not to believe that the breaking down of the Cameron-Quay-Penrose dynasty must prove a wholesome thing for American political life." And it so happens fortunately, the Grand Rapids Herald (Ind.) remarks, "that Senator McCumber has an unusually splendid equipment and capacity for this supremely important post, and a Western viewpoint, furthermore, will not come amiss, by way of refreshing novelty."

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The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette (Dem.) also speaks warmly of the North Dakota senator's qualifications, hailing him as "a man of great experience, of much learning, industrious, cautious, independent, honest, sincere," slowly coming before the country "as one of the really strong men of the senate." But admitting his ability and evidences of "sound statesmanship," the Syracuse Herald (Ind.) still feels that "the influences about him cannot be left out of the reckoning." He is generally regarged as a "strong member of the agricultural bloc," and with his elevation to so important a position in the senate the Newark News (Ind.) considers it likely that "a powerful impetus may be given the whole agrarian program," and what the agricultural bloc wants "is the very antithesis of what the eastern part of the country wants," says the Hartford Times (Dem.)

Mr. McCumber "probably will work for the agricultural interests," the New York Globe (Ind.) concedes, "but there is no reason to believe that he will nourish any more economic delusions than did his predecessors. He may try to give the farmers their innings, and the farmers may be as selfish as the industrialists have been, but it is no longer possible to maintain that one side is intelligent whereas the other is not." In any event, the New York Tribune (Rep.) contends, "Mr. McCumber is not in the inner circle of the farmer group and has not abdicated his judgment as a senator to it or to any outside organization," and while, as the Philadelphia Public Ledger (Ind.) says, "the North Dakotan may think oftener of wheat, hogs, corn and beef than of steel and textiles, he is nobody's radical," and "no sudden break with the past is likely."

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There is reason to believe, the Minneapolis Tribune (Rep.) holds, that "there would be a better general humor in congress and hence more profitable teamwork for disinterested legislation, if the West shared more generously in the chairmanships of important committees," and to this end, as the Omaha World-Herald (Ind.) sees it, "Western and central states have torn a leaf from the book of wisdom of the East. Not so long ago it was the East that kept reelecting its senators and the West that kept changing them. But that condition is changing, and with it the control and complexion of the senate."

Curious Bits of Information

Gleaned From Curious Places

Only one tribe in the South Pacific islands ever rose to the height of inventing armor to be used in their warfare. But even this tribe, the Gilbert islanders, turned out only a few suits, owing to the work entailed in the manufacture. Francis Dickie says, in the Scientific American, that the suits were limited in number, and that every village was the proud possessor of one. At the outbreal

of a conflict between villages, not all the inhabitants went to war, but the most doughty warrior was dressed in the village armor and sent against the champion of the rival place. The brown fabric covering encasing the body and legs, which formed the Gilberts' armor, was made out of coir string taken from the husk of the cocoanut, so closely woven as to make a protection stronger than board, and having greater lightness to recommend it. A further breastplate, invulnerable to any native weapon, was made from the dried skin of the stingaree, or ray fish, which dried as hard as metal. In the last few years peace has settled over the Gilberts and the armor has ceased to be manufactured. The few suits in existence have all been seized by collectors of rare articles.

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.]

TAKES ISSUE WITH "G. R. M."

Opposes the Official Recognition of Public School Dancing.

Eugene, Jan. 16.—To the Editor of The Journal—A writer in The Journal who signs himself "G. R. M." upholds dancing in the public schools, and while he denies a defense of the modern dance, yet it is plain the object is to make the public schools sponsor the dance and help to make it respectable. The same threadbare argument was worn to shreds in trying the "uplift" movement in the attempt to save the saloons. How often we heard it said that the way to handle the liquor traffic was to put good men behind the bar and make the saloon respectable, and surround the traffic with strict regulations in the interest of decency.

"G. R. M." admits the tendency of the modern dance is downward when he says if the young folks can't dance in the public schools they will haunt the public dance halls. He denies—and in this I agree—that the public at large is "dance crazy," and says only a few come under that head. Yet he favors the public at large taxing themselves for the public schools and making it a part of their business to supply and sponsor a decent place for that small "dance crazy" crowd to educate their feet to respond to the sway of the all-alluring jazz.

I am not a Methodist, but have never yet seen or heard of them asking any special favors of the public schools for their children. But they and all other churches have a right to demand that the public schools, which they help to support, do not throw down the bars to every crazy fad that comes along.

I do not pretend to judge as to the righteousness or sin of the modern dance for others, nor have I the ability or desire to draw the line beyond which a free Christian people should go, but I do believe if I were the devil I should rejoice to see our public school houses all turned into public dance halls.

L. F. Wooley.

THE FARM CONFERENCE

A List of Objectives Deemed Essential to Farmers' Relief

Union, Jan. 16.—To the Editor of The Journal—The conference called by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to meet in Washington January 23 will be watched with interest. From time immemorial the farmer has simply been used as bait. Will an attempt be made at this conference to continue to so use him? Of all the agencies of production the farmer is the most helpless. He is made the prey of price gamblers at Chicago, money gamblers in Wall street, and of politicians. It has been, and is now, a part of the program of big business, controlling all three of the above combinations, to line up the farmers on the question of labor "deflation." Big business, with the aid of governmental agencies, has "deflated" the farmer till he is gasping for breath. Now if it can pit the farmer against labor and bring labor to its knees it will have won another big point in its "deflation" scheme. It would seem that the farmer has yet to learn that the steady employment of labor at good wages is one of the main things upon which his industry depends. The laborers of the country are the most liberal buyers of farm products when employed at good wages.

The two things most needed by the farmer today are a stabilized price for his product at a figure at which he can be assured of a profit, and labor employment at good wages. The interests of the farmer and laborer run together instead of apart. If the farmers' conference at Washington would put the matter up to congress of guaranteeing the farmer a price for his wheat, meats, cotton, etc., at such figures that profits would be assured for the next two years, insist upon the destruction of the gambling wheat and cotton exchanges at Chicago and New York, and put a limitation on the money gamblers of Wall street, something might result to the interest of the farmer. As long as the farmer looks to "tariffs" and money loaning schemes he will be in the "dumps."

With organization and cooperation, the eradication of the gamblers at Chicago and in Wall street, a guaranteed price for a limited time and concessions of time from creditors, the farmer may pull out; otherwise he is practically doomed.

B. F. Wilson.

GAS TAX HAS NO TERRORS

Man Who Drives a Car Figures Fair Advantages Despite Tax.

Linnton, Jan. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—After reading the many letters in your columns regarding the outside feeling toward the 1925 exposition, it can be plainly seen that the authors are hiding behind the curtain of taxation. I wonder if these people have figured what a 2 cent tax on gasoline would mean to them individually? During the past year I drove my car 13,000 miles and I do not believe the average driver will cover more than half that distance. Yes, I drive a Ford and will average about 20 miles to the gallon, which would make my personal fair tax about $13 a year and that of the average driver $3.25.

I am a resident of Multnomah county and as we have gone through the pioneer stage of our paved roads, I am paying a tax on gasoline to finance the roads in outside counties and thousands of other auto owners are doing the same. We also pay a license which is not spent in Multnomah county alone. We are glad to do it.

And why are we paying this tax? So that those who are against the fair can come to Portland in 1925 and enjoy the exposition, which will advertise Oregon and bring new blood, not into Multnomah county alone but to every section of the state and especially to the sparsely settled areas. This alone will reduce taxation.

A. B. Stone.

Uncle Jeff Snow Says

It's somethin' new in court fer a jedge to send a woman to the 'sylum 'cause she has too many children and the neighbor women criticises her housekeepin'. That's what a jedge has done in Idaho. I dunno of any woman with a fam'ly but might git sent to jail if the neighbor women's gossip about her housekeepin' was tuck as evidence. There's a whole lot of American women that'll never go to jail nor the 'sylum fer havin' too many children, nuther.

NOTHING SMALL ABOUT 1921

From the Chicago News

Little old 1921 generously leaves a few
ak crises for 1922.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

The swamping of a liquor craft at the mouth of the river saved a lot of liquor users from the same fate.

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The governor moves to treat drug users, a headline advises. Just what is meant by that word "treat"?

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Chicago jurors are showing a prejudice against janitors. Easy to see that most of them live in apartment houses.

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Anyway, the fresh air fiends are less pernicious in their demands with the mercury near the bottom of the scale.

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Juries, incidentally, are daily proving themselves most disagreeable bodies, if that's what the papers mean when they report "jury disagrees."

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Hay doctrine has been revived by the Far Eastern conference at Washington. But with horseflesh vanishing why concern ourselves about hay?

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Have hope! Saw a woman with a bunch of pussy willows the other day—and the seed salesmen are beginning to talk about radishes and strawberries.

• • •

How sentiment does change. We're now calling La Follette all sorts of fine things, totally disregarding what we said about him in the early days of the war.

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Of course, we wouldn't start an argument with the weather bureau, but we have out private opinion of any bureau that tells us the minimum temperature is 16 degrees above when we know good and well it is 40 below.

SIDELIGHTS

Mothers' Club to Be More Active—Headline in the Cottage Grove Sentinel. That's right; don't "spare the rod and spoil the child."—Benton County Courier.

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The new "Liberty dollar" is to be changed because it "will not stack." So far as that is concerned, we have always had difficulty making the old one stack.—Corvallis Gazette-Times.

• • •

The resolution adopted by the senate majority declares Newberry guilty of bribery and corruption in the election—but good enough to be a senator. Possibly that may be right.—Eugene Guard.

• • •

For a concern that has been definitely "scrapped" by American politicians, the League of Nations shows surprising vitality. Perhaps after all the United States senate is not the whole thing in settling the fate of the world.—Salem Capital Journal.

• • •

The state supreme court of Montana has declared the bachelor tax unconstitutional. Such action is certainly commendable. It is tough enough luck to be a bachelor but to have to pay taxes with that misfortune as the basis of the tax is our idea of "the end of the limit."—Pendleton East Oregonian.

• • •

A few deaths from moonshine liquor in every community will put most of us in a more law-abiding frame of mind, and while that would be drastic treatment, yet it may be the only means after all of really enforcing an act which is a part of the highest code of the land, the United States constitution.—The Dalles Chronicle.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

Mrs. E. E. Howe, now of Mosier but formerly of Portland, is registered at the Portland. Mrs. Howe, whose maiden name was Biles, spent her girlhood at Vancouver and Portland. Her mother came to Oregon in the early '50s. Her father was a famous boatbuilder in the early days of Oregon.

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Grace O. Lund of Tucson, Ariz., is a guest of the Portland and is not complaining of the heat of Portland weather.

• • •

Mrs. Baxter Hutchinson, hailing from Pilot Rock in Umatilla county, is registered at the Portland.

• • •

P. J. Kurtz, well known resident of the Capital City, is a business visitor in Portland.

• • •

Mr. and Mrs. M. B. McKay of Corvallis are at the Seward.

• • •

D. E. Skinner of Tangent is in Portland on business.

• • •

Mrs. F. F. Eddy and daughter of Eugene are at the Seward.

• • •

E. M. Murphy of Bend is at the Portland.

• • •

H. E. Foster of the Capital City is registered at the Cornelius.

• • •

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Davis are down from Lexington on business.

• • •

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Parker of Eugene are guests of the Cornelius.

• • •

Sherford Miller of Richmond is at the Perkins.

• • •

Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Hall of Salem are at the Perkins.

• • •

R. W. Caldwell of Hood River is a Portland visitor.

• • •

G. W. McMillan of Willamina is registered at the Perkins.

• • •

Mrs. I. W. Noble of Canby is a guest of the Perkins.

• • •

C. O. Hawkins of Newport is at the Imperial.

• • •

Oscar Thyholt of Westport is registered at the Perkins.

• • •

F. E. Clark is here from Eugene.

Mrs. L. A. Chapman of Sioux City is visiting in Portland. En route to Portland she stopped at La Grande and visited her sister, Mrs. C. B. Miller.

• • •

J. F. Kinney of Heppner is in Portland to secure medical attention for his little daughter, Ilene, who recently injured one of her eyes.

• • •

Mrs. E. F. Hathaway of Corvallis is visiting her daughter, Miss Merle Hathaway, and Mrs. J. Dickey in Portland.

• • •

Jake Vierow and Al Springer of Lakeside, in Coos county, are at the Imperial.

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P. G. Nagel, long time resident of Pendleton, is at the Imperial.

• • •

Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Rowe of Pendleton are guests of the Oregon.

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F. L. Duncan of Stanfield is transacting business in Portland.

• • •

G. W. Lancester of Bend is at the Oregon.

• • •

H. B. Fogarty of North Powder is transacting business in Portland.

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R. A. Arnold is up from Toledo for a brief visit in the metropolis.

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Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Russell are here from Newberg.

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Mark A. Cleveland is in town from Stanfield.

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A. A. Rogers of Eugene is here on business.

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O. D. Teel and H. M. Moore are down from the Butter Creek country.

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N. E. Dodd of Haines is at the Imperial.

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O. F. Miller of Eugene is in town on business.

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J. E. Cox is down from White Salmon and is registered at the Imperial.

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J. C. French is down from Dufur on business.

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Mrs. S. C. Endicott, society matron of Bandon, is a guest of the Imperial.

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C. W. and F. B. Glenn of Vale are registered at the Imperial.

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J. C. Perry is here from Salem.

OBSERVATIONS AND IMPRESSIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

By Fred Lockley

The beginnings of Oregon's town of Springfield are traced by Mr. Lockley to their minutest sources. It is now a mill town, and so it was at a very early date, shortly after Elias Briggs erected a cabin beside the spring that later gave the town its name.

While I was in Eugene recently attending the convention of the Oregon newspapermen I took a few hours off and went over to Springfield to have a talk with Isaac Stevens. Speaking of Springfield, did you ever happen to wonder why the town was named Springfield? Away back in 1849, when the eyes of the world were on California and its newly discovered gold fields, Elias Briggs took up his donation land claim on the present site of Springfield. He put up his log cabin by the side of a spring in the field, and when he fenced his place into various enclosures he used to refer to this enclosure as "the spring field," and the name is perpetuated in the town of Springfield.

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Mr. Stevens is a typical mountaineer. He is tall and slender. He has a long gray beard and a Southern accent. In answer to my question he said:

"You're right. I was born in Tennessee, but I moved to Missouri when I was a baby. I was born March 7, 1835, which, according to my reckoning, makes me 88 come the seventh of next March. My father, William M. Stevens, and my mother, Hixey V. Jones, were both born in North Carolina. Father and mother with their 10 children started for Oregon in 1847 from Bolivar, Polk county, Missouri. That county has as many square miles in it as the old Oregon donation land claims had square acres—640. A bullseye isn't any more in the center of a target than is Bolivar, the county seat, in the center of Polk county. Uncle Billy Vaughn was the captain of our wagon train. He had gone to Oregon in 1845 and had come back to get his family."

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More than 3000 emigrants came to Oregon in 1845, the year Billy Vaughn, their guide, crossed the plains. One of the parties that started from Independence, Mo., was under command of Presley Welch. Joel Palmer and Samuel K. Barlow, both of whom later became famous in Oregon, were Welch's aides. Another party was captained by Sam Hancock. Several parties started from St. Joe, among them a train of over 50 wagons in command of A. Hackleman, one of over 60 wagons commanded by W. G. T'Vault, and another with still more wagons, whose leader was Sol Tetherow. Billy Vaughn sized up the Willamette valley, liked it, and the following year went back to bring his family out. He started in the spring of 1847 and was selected as captain of one of the wagon trains.

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"Our family spent the winter of 1847 on Mill creek near Salem," said Mr. Stevens. "Father and the two older boys went on up the valley and located a claim two miles north of Springfield on what is now known as the Bird farm. They built a cabin and the rest of us came down and on Christmas day, 1847, we moved in. Father lived on our claim till he was killed, by a stallion, in the spring of 1860. Father was born at Raleigh, N. C., June 27, 1805, so he was 55 when he was killed. Father and mother were married in North Carolina and in 1828 they moved to Tennessee. In 1836, when I was a baby, they moved to Polk county, Missouri. In the spring of 1848 father and the older boys plowed 40 acres of sod with six yoke of oxen and a home made plow. Father was a stockman and had 70 head or more of cattle, not counting his work cattle.

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"When I was about 20 years old I went to the Southern Oregon mines in Jackson county, near Jacksonville. I joined Captain Billy Wilkinson's company in the fall of 1855 and served in the Rogue River Indian war till the early spring of 1856. The next year, 1857, I went to Columbia college at Eugene. This college was founded by E. P. Henderson in the fall of 1856. The first two school buildings were burned down and a stone building was built. The college lived only three years. W. H. Byars, now of Salem; W. W. Fidler, now of Grants Pass; Joe Matlock, Joaquin Miller and a lot of other well known men were students while I was attending the college.

"The next year, 1858, I was married to Careen Worsham. I ran a butcher shop for seven years in Eugene. Later I bought a 1500-acre ranch, called the Cogswell place, four miles from Eugene and ran stock."

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While Elias M. Briggs took up the site of Springfield as a donation land claim in 1849 he moved in 1851 to a place about two miles away so as to be convenient to the ferry which he operated where the steel bridge was later built. Two years later Mr. Briggs and his son built a gristmill, and J. N. Donald ran a store on the present site of the city. W. B. Pengra moved there in 1852. He was born in New York state in 1824, and in 1853 settled on a ranch near Springfield with his brother B. J. Pengra. The following year he moved to Jackson county and erected the first sawmill at Phoenix. He returned to Springfield in 1858 and became interested in the flouring mill and sawmill.

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In 1865 Mr. Pengra and some others bought the Briggs claim and built and operated a woolen mill where the farmers could have their wool carded and, if they cared to pay the toll, could have it spun. The two Pengra brothers bought out their partners in 1872. The first church built at Springfield was the Baptist church, erected at a cost of $1600 in 1871 with Rev. J. C. Richardson as its first pastor. The millrace was dug in 1852 just after the building of the first mill in the forks of the Willamette, which was built by Captain Levi Scott in the fall of 1851. E. Briggs and his son built a sawmill and a gristmill in the winter of 1853.

The prosperity of Springfield now, as in the beginning, is associated with the milling industry.

The Oregon Country

Northwest Happenings in Brief Form for the Busy Reader.

OREGON

A crew of 50 men has been placed at work on the Caves highway in Josephine county clearing away slides.

Mrs. Ann Morgan, a resident of Linn county continuously for 70 years, died at her home in Albany last Friday.

Ordinary soft drinks may be procured in Albany now for 5 cents for the first time since the early days of the war.

Tillamook county has $425,000 available for road improvement and work will begin as soon as weather conditions permit.

A drainage district is being organized just east of Albany in Linn county for the purpose of reclaiming 2300 acres of wet land.

Elizabeth Dorr Gerhard, a resident of Corvallis and vicinity for more than 60 years, died in that city January 14, aged 80 years.

A force of 200 men is being recruited to combat the pine-destroying beetles in the yellow pine forests south of Klamath lake.

Fifty per cent of the jurors to be selected for service during the March term of the Marion county circuit court will be women.

A. S. Mellinger, near Newberg, has 20 acres of bearing loganberries which last year produced more than 80 tons of berries.

The Radio club recently organized at the University of Oregon is busy installing a wireless telegraph plant to take and send news for the Emerald.

A campaign for new members for the Oregon Growers Cooperative association in the Newberg district brought in 55 new members with 160 acres of bearing berries.

Plans have been completed and work will soon start on Seaside's new $70,000 school building, which will contain 16 class rooms and an assembly hall seating 450 people.

On account of the demand for calves from high producing dams, the Tillamook Cow Testing association has decided to pool interests and fix a price on young stock.

More than 50 persons professed conversion during the meetings held recently in the Methodist church at Jefferson under the direction of the pastor, Rev. E. B. Lockhart.

The 35-cent haircut and 15-cent shave have returned to Salem after an absence of several years. A barbers' war at Woodburn has reduced prices to 25 and 10 cents.

Captain Harold G. Archibald, son of O. A. Archibald, vice president of the Albany State bank, has been assigned as instructor in federal artillery courses at the University of Kansas.

Citizens of Toledo have subscribed $25,000 to remodel the big government mill at that place, which, it is thought, will be in operation within a few weeks with 300 men on the payroll. The mill has a capacity of 700,000 feet of lumber a day.

WASHINGTON

Directors of the Broughton National bank at Dayton met last week and declared a dividend of 15 per cent.

As the result of a recent membership drive, Aberdeen post of the American Legion has now a membership of nearly 500.

Members of the Walla Walla Congregational church are planning the erection of a new church edifice to cost $60,000.

Colonel Raymond Hall, veteran of the Civil war and pioneer resident of Washington, died at Northport last week, aged 93 years.

Road work in Spokane county this year will break all records, with $1,250,000 to be expended by the county, state and federal governments.

Fire which broke out in the E. K. Wood mill at Hoquiam Saturday did $5000 damage before it was finally subdued by the sprinkler system.

Explosion of a supposedly empty gas tank Saturday wrecked the East End Welding works at Walla Walla and badly burned William Bond, an employe.

Announcement is made of the consolidation of the Farmers' State bank of Hatton with the State bank of Connell. The merged institution will be located at Connell.

The Union Oil company of California has purchased a tract of 12 lots in Hoquiam and will soon begin work on the erection of a $200,000 structure.

The five and one-half mile stretch of the Pacific highway between La Center and Woodland is said to be impassable for automobiles. The road will be paved early this season.

Unable to survive the shock of the removal of a 71-pound tumor from his abdomen, Albert McIntyre, 52, died in a Spokane hospital Saturday a few hours after the operation.

As an indication of the growth of the Montesano Poultry industry one firm, Pickering & Sons, has taken orders for 20,000 baby chicks for spring delivery, compared with 4500 ordered last year.

Nearly 350 prune growers of the Walla Walla valley met last Thursday and decided to form an organization of their own for the purpose of marketing their own fruit through their own sales agency.

Woodland business men recently subscribed $2000 toward the expense of the spur track from the railway to the Lewis river for the accommodation of the North Fork Logging company and the Lewis River Boom company.

IDAHO

George B. Parker, 60, a farmer living near Indian on the lower Snake river, fell dead at his ranch last Friday.

Burglars entered the State Bank of Middleton a few nights ago and rifled about 40 safety deposit boxes. The loss is said to be slight.

Application for the forming of a rural high school district by Ada county school district No. 11 and two districts of Canyon county has been granted.

A recommendation that the infantry company recently recruited and mustered in at Caldwell be changed to a cavalry organization has gone forward to the war department.

Struck by a coasting sled on which were four boys, and being confined in the hospital two months, Mrs. Ella M. Herman has filed a $15,000 damage suit against the city of Wallace.

Because of the requirements of the Idaho "blue sky" law, the offices of the Lewiston-Clarkston Oil, Gas and Pipeline company have been removed from Lewiston to Clarkston and the business of the company will be conducted from there in the future.

$65,000 FOR BONNEVILLE

From the Astoria Budget

One of the bills passed at the special session of the legislature appropriated $65,000 to repair the storm damage done to the fish hatchery at Bonneville. It was introduced by Representative Hurd of Clatsop county.

While this community has a very direct interest in the hatcheries of the state, it is not amiss to call attention to the fact that the $65,000 could have been better spent in improving the hatchery in this county. Storms are not to be feared here and the proximity to the sea gives the small salmon a much greater chance of life than when they have to come 150 miles down the river.

The Klaskanine hatchery has long been a neglected child of the fish commission but has nevertheless made a record in the hatching and rearing of salmon that challenges the Bonneville hatchery to make anything near the same showing, expense considered.

The Bonneville hatchery is a great show place and as such is a great asset to the upper Columbia highway. The salmon industry would be the beneficiary if the commission would spend less money in maintaining this hatchery as an attraction and more in developing the hatchery of the lower Columbia, which is the logical one for the propagation of the commercial fish.