

# East Oregonian

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at Pendleton, Oregon, by the EAST OREGONIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Phone, Main 11.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, one year by mail ..... \$5.00  
 Daily, six months by mail ..... 2.50  
 Daily, three months by mail ..... 1.25  
 Daily, one month by mail ..... .50  
 Daily, per month by carrier ..... .65  
 Weekly, one year by mail ..... 1.50  
 Semi-Weekly, one year by mail ..... 2.00

The East Oregonian is on sale at B. B. Smith's News Stands at Hotel Portland and Hotel Perkins, Portland, Oregon.

Member Scripps-McIntire News Association.

San Francisco Bureau, 408 Fourth St.  
 Chicago Bureau, 909 Security Building.  
 Washington, D. C. Bureau, 501 14th St., N. W.

Think naught a trifle, though it small appear;  
 Sands make the mountain, moments make the year,  
 And trifles, life. Your care to trifles give.  
 Else you may die ere you have learned to live.  
 —Young.

### THE ARMY OF PEACE.

Digging the Panama Canal is the biggest single task ever attempted in the history of mankind. Even more wonderful than the stupendous physical undertaking is the quiet, masterful way in which the work will be done, showing that man is exhibiting himself nowadays even more grandly in the manner of doing things than in the results which he achieves.

Uncle Sam leads the procession. In this case he is organizing a unique army. In size it may compare insignificantly with the 309,000 troops he had in the Revolution, the 2,772,000 in the civil conflict, or the 274,000 in the fight with Spain, but in most respects it exceeds them all.

It means some 50,000 men under carefully trained commanders, armed with the latest tools and equipped with machinery compared to which mere guns are as simple as Christmas toys.

This army will march into the zone of revolutions which have disturbed the world and work a revolution which will contribute to the world's happiness.

It happens curiously as to date. A hundred years ago—from 1800 to 1815—Napoleon was revolutionizing. He bent the resources and industries of the people to military ends and made Europe a graveyard.

In Uncle Sam's new army human life is the first consideration, and the great purpose is peace; his regiments are more sanitary than sanguinary, and the ammunition boxes, instead of being filled with gunpowder and bullets, carry anti-toxins, antiseptics and quinine.

France constructed the Suez Canal, but at frightful cost of human life and with every form of political and social corruption. It attempted the Panama Canal, but left ruin in every dollar it spent, every spadeful it dug, showing the importance of a big idea without moral support and protection.

In the new army things will be different. The 30,000 men will be equal to any 100,000 in Napoleon's days. They will surpass twice their number in any period of the building of the Suez Canal. They will make very tame the efforts of the French on the Isthmus in all the years of failure. They will represent the best organized and most effective force ever known whether it be in war, in commerce or in industry.

They will meet difficulties worthy of their powers. To dig a canal 49.09 miles from 36 feet depth of water in the Caribbean Sea to 36 feet depth in the Pacific, does not seem such a wonderful feat at first glance, but the work is larger than even the supreme test of faith, for it not only involves the removal of a mountain, but it goes deep below the surface.

There are 43,000,000 cubic yards of earth to be taken from the Culebra cut, and a great dam 2,546 feet long must be constructed across the Chagres river, with foundations 128 feet below the level of the sea, the maximum depth being 310 feet.

Some count the cost as seemingly large. Suez, they say, is ninety miles long, with an investment of \$100,000,000, and that is the most expensive canal ever constructed. Manchester is thirty-five and a half miles long, with an investment of about \$80,000,000, while the Baltic and North Sea Canal is sixty-one miles long, at a

cost of only \$40,000,000. The Panama Canal is estimated at \$184,233,000, including \$40,000,000 for the French concession and property. But that represents construction more expensive than the three great canals of the world all put together.

Pendleton invites the neighboring cities of Umatilla county to join her in celebrating the glorious Fourth. Let us concentrate our enthusiasm in one spot this year.

The first condensed milk factory in Oregon is ready for operations at Hillsboro on June 1. Oregon imported 40 carloads of condensed milk last year, and yet boasted of owning 200,000 milk cows.

The Portland labor unions now say they will not take part in the Roosevelt parade, and the Oregon Daily Journal says the trip down Morrison street will remind the president of the pathless jungles of Cuba.

Portland is after the scalp of Cowgill, the pitiable tool of the corporations, who is using what little ability he has, to defeat the interests of East-Oregon, his chosen home. The Board of Trade has a committee on his trail.

The May number of the "Hakawin," the high school journal, is out and is the most attractive number yet issued. A glance at the pages of this little publication, is sufficient to convince any candid person of the excellence of Pendleton high school methods and it should be a stirring appeal to the taxpayers of this district to further increase the scope and conveniences of this splendid public institution.

Last Saturday the Oregon Daily Journal printed the first issue on the new press. The number was the most attractive newspaper ever issued in Oregon. The head is changed somewhat from the old style and the quality of the paper was much better than has been in use. The colored headlines and colored lines in the large display advertisements made the Journal the triumph of newspaper making in Oregon. The news service will be gradually increased as the facilities for handling it is extended, and the Journal is in Portland to stay. Its advertising patronage and the increase of its subscriptions, are phenomenal. The Journal is only 14 months old, yet has a firmer grasp on the reading public and advertisers of Portland than its proprietors expected to gain in five years.

### SOUND THE ALARM.

Delay and defeat the building of the portage road by the state, the opening of the Columbia river to navigation, is the cry! The effort is being made to create sectional jealousies, to turn the people of the different sections against the project by using the referendum as a club, while selfish interests direct the wielding of it.

Brazen voiced agents are being sent out over the state to secure signatures of voters to referendum petitions with this end in view. Why? Because the sum appropriated by the last legislature is to be used to the freeing of the river above The Dalles to navigation.

If this money was certain to be wasted, as is alleged; was inadequate in amount for the purpose, there would be no cry against the expenditure by the parties at interest, but since it is to be spent resultfully and with full fruits to the people of the great Inland Empire, to those of Portland and the rest of Oregon, the hand of Esau appears to direct affairs while the voice of Jacob is heard.

### ABOUT THAT COAT

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It would not do, you know, to have the Columbia river open. To hurry forward that enterprise is a crime, in the eyes of those profiting from present conditions, and the people—a certain number of them—are to be used as cat's paws to save the corporation's chestnuts from the fire.

Those interested in this movement against the portage road, against the opening of the river, are like the cuttle fish, busy inking the waters in which they are swimming, so as to blind those most vitally concerned in making this great waterway free in this decade. Those behind the movement even go so far as to deny any connect with it; in fact, pretend to be ashamed of the "dirty work" being done, and yet it is self-evident that the braying against the portage enterprise would not be kept up a minute by those who are playing the part were it not for the sinews of war supplied so mysteriously and yet so freely.

Shall the shackles and thongs remain forever on our limbs, and the crown of thorns upon our heads, put there by these time-servers, just because we will not rise to that pitch of energy and independence which must possess free men and a free people before they can value their liberties, exercise their rights and build a great city and rear a great state?

Those who sit by in silence while the shackles are being welded tighter and tighter, while trade that belongs to Portland is being diverted to other points, and against natural provision, deserve to be in bondage forever; deserve to hear the braying of the hired wild-asses, who sell their birthrights to corporate interests for barely a mess of porridge; deserve to occupy the rear ranks in the march of development and progress in this Almighty endowed Oregon of ours.—Oregon Daily Journal.

### A "GRAND OLD MAN" OF MAINE.

Alonzo Garcelon, of Lewiston, who 25 years ago became governor of Maine by a curious political accident, was 90 years old on Thursday.

He is still in such vigorous health that, instead of sitting in a rocking chair to receive the congratulations of his neighbors, he went down to New Orleans to attend a convention of physicians and surgeons.

Dr. Garcelon ranks with ex-Chief Justice Peters among the grand old men of Maine, being loved by all men, regardless of politics, and he is 10 years older than the venerable Bangor jurist.

When he was born, in a log house at Lewiston Falls on the Androscoggin, there were but seven houses where now stands the prosperous city of Lewiston. He at first desired to become a civil engineer, but was dissuaded from that idea, on the ground that there never would be any railroads in Maine worth talking about, and so he studied medicine instead at Bowdoin College and in Cincinnati. He was graduated from the Western College at the head of his class and came home to practise his profession in Lewiston.

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The Oregon Daily Journal can be found on sale at Frazier's book store.



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