

# Capital Journal

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"Without or with offense to friends or foes  
I sketch your world exactly as it goes." —BYRON.

## The Power Bills

Two initiative measures have been filed for ballot titles with state officials to be submitted to the people at the next general election to put the state into the business of developing hydro-electric power. One of the measures is fathered by the State Grange and the other mothered by the Portland Housewives Council. Each calls for bond issues for financing to the extent of nearly half a billion dollars, to be expended by commissions named by framers of the bills.

It is surprising to see the Grange, which habitually protests bond issues as a source of taxation, advocating a measure which will not only make for excessive taxation through the usual inefficiency of political control, but eliminate from the tax rolls a large percentage of taxable property, for public owned utilities pay no taxes but on the other hand usually require additional tax levies to foot operation deficiencies caused by low service charges fixed to create popularity.

The "Housewives Council" consists of Dan Kellahar and a bunch of professional political agitators and corporation baiters, skulking behind the skirts of a few women, whom they utilize as a "front" to give respectability to their appeals to the people and secure for themselves plums and power. It would indeed be an interesting development of the times if housewives are to run half billion dollar power projects.

No reason exists for either of these initiative measures. Private capital is developing hydro-electric plants as fast, indeed faster, than the market for power develops. Rates are fixed by the state through the public service corporation so as to yield a fair return upon actual investment, without penalizing the consumer. And every dollar invested means a dollar to be taxed for the support of the state.

## Spuds Soaring

One reason some farmers are not more successful is that they do not exercise ordinary good judgment in marketing crops, do not study market situations and take advantage of conditions. Some sell at the first opportunity, others hold too long.

As a general rule, the economic law of supply and demand governs price. When there is a surplus of production, prices drop. When there is a shortage, prices soar. The extent in either case is measured by the production, though frequently stimulated by speculation.

Some time since it became apparent that there was a country wide shortage of potatoes, due to crop failure in potato growing regions. Then followed winter weather in the mid west, freezing potatoes still in the field. Naturally potatoes are going up by leaps and bounds and will probably go still higher. War time prices are in prospect. Yet in spite of this, the majority of farmers in this vicinity continue to sell at from a half to a third of the prices paid in the Yakima and other districts—and then blame the government because they are skillful in dodging prosperity.

Of course Salem isn't the center of the world's greatest potato district, nor do we grow the finest potatoes on earth, but we produce a goodly quantity of good quality spuds and this is one year they should profit the grower.

## SECOND WIVES

By VIOLET DARE

**A QUIET TURN OF AFFAIRS**  
Marie had not sent Bob Randall her new address. She felt that it would be easier to slip out of her old world and into the new, grubbier one if she broke all the links that had bound her to her former life. Caroline Phillips had gone abroad, and there was no one else who knew her well who would be likely to insist on keeping in touch with her. She had seen only a few of them at Caroline's house party, and had said to them that she had not yet decided where she would live, and that she might go away again; they would take it for granted that she had returned to Europe or gone south, she knew.

They were all drifters, spending only a few months in the various homes that they maintained in New York, or at the big winter and summer resorts. And sandwiching in trips abroad, to White Sulphur Springs, Pinehurst, and other favorite haunts as they did, they would not think it strange that they did not see her. Soon they would take her absence for granted.

Not infrequently she saw former acquaintances as they drove past her on the Avenue; once when she treated herself to a seat at the theater, for a play that she particularly wanted to see, she saw Bob Randall in a box party, given by the Jamisons. There was mention of it in the morning paper. She wondered if he had tried to find her, or had quite forgotten meeting her and begging her to let him know her better.

Their paths might never have crossed again had little Madeline Lindsay not been taken sick quite suddenly with pneumonia. Mrs. Lindsay, who was very proud of the child's beauty, had taken Madeline out one afternoon, and insisted on her wearing a frock and coat that were far too thin for the cold day. Marie had tactfully suggested that Madeline wear warmer clothing.

"She had her beaver coat on every day for a week now, when she went out," she had said, and Mrs. Lindsay had turned on her furiously.

"I am quite capable of dressing my own daughter suitably, thank

you, Miss Lane," she said. "Merely because she needs a fur coat when she walks in the park with you is no reason why she should wear it when she drives in the car with me."

Madeline had caught cold, and despite Marie's efforts to cure her, got worse rapidly. A doctor was called, but seemed able to do nothing. Madeline was a frail child and had no powers of resistance.

Mrs. Lindsay was thoroughly frightened, and Herbert Lindsay, who was out of town on a shooting trip, was called back at once. He came by aeroplane, and Marie's heart was wrung when she saw how he looked at his little girl.

"She must have expert care at once," he said, quietly. "Who's the best specialist on this kind of thing?" he asked, turning to the family doctor.

Marie did not hear the reply. Madeline insisted on her being at the bedside constantly; she would lie with one hot little hand in Marie's begging for her favorite songs and stories, and quite disregarding her mother. Mrs. Lindsay was jealous of Marie because of the child's preference; she could not bear to have anyone else favored more than she was in any way, and Herbert Lindsay's adoration of the child made it even harder to have Marie displace her.

"Madeline just adores me; of course, she's slightly delirious or she wouldn't act this way," she declared over and over, to anyone who would listen to her. But in that sick room there was no place for the silly, "ivorous woman who had so little time and thought for the sick child until now. Marie, sitting by the bed, sang and told stories till her throat ached and her voice failed; she was worn out when Herbert Lindsay arrived.

"She'll let me stay with her, I think, and you can get some rest," he murmured to Marie in a low voice, when he had given instructions that the specialist decided on was to be sent for. "We'll have another doctor here in a few hours; he's out of town but will come by the sick child brought me. Now—that's it, slip her hand into mine—"

Marie rose quietly, but Madeline cried "Miss Lane" in a perulant

voice, and she sank down in her chair again.  
"It's all right; I'll stay," she told Lindsay, and he nodded to her gratefully, and took a chair nearby.  
They were still there, three hours later, when Bob Randall came striding into the room.  
Tomorrow—When Love is Bitter-sweet.

### NEW INCORPORATIONS

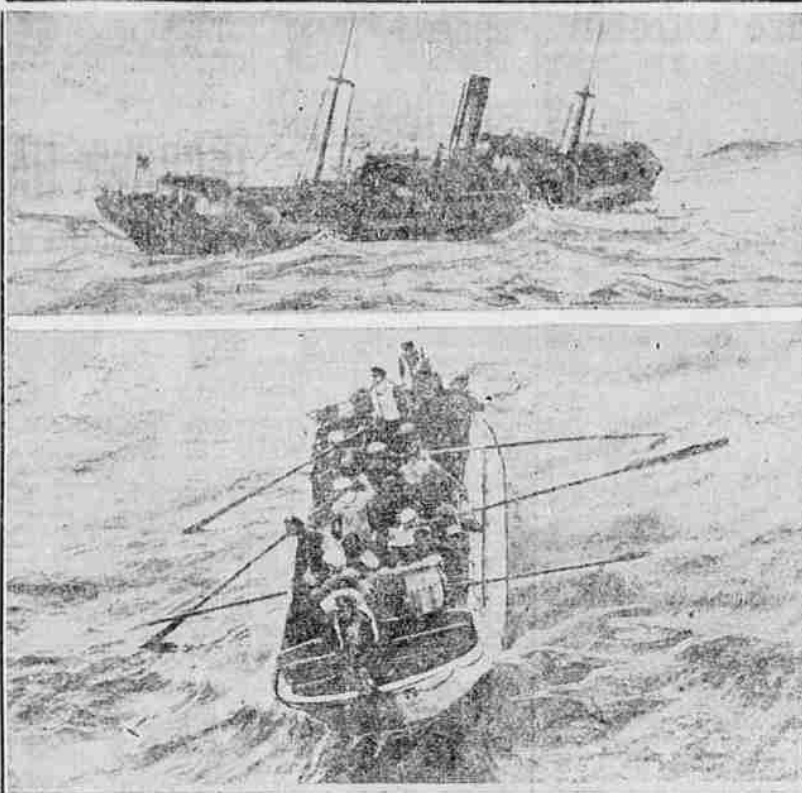
Date-Prune Development company, Portland; incorporators, J. M. Kidd, R. W. Kidd, H. H. Kidd; capital, \$5000.  
Vaughan & Bester Mill & Timber company, North Bend; incorporators, William Vaughan, J. A. Bester, Minnie Bester; capital, \$150,000.

Notice of an increase in capital from \$15,000 to \$30,000 has been filed by the Summa Tire Company, Inc., of Portland.  
Willott Hydro Health Resort company, Portland; incorporators, Franklin T. Griffith, J. U. Campbell, M. G. McGorkle, John Manning, H. E. Irvin; capital \$400,000.

Tillamook County Bull association, Tillamook; incorporators, Carl Haberlach, Amanda T. Haberlach, Edward S. Betteker; capital, \$10,000.  
Helmeck Hydrostatic Motor company, Baker; incorporators, C. E. Helmeck, Henry B. Sook, James H. Nichols; capital, \$1,000,000.

Merchants' Credit association, The Dalles; incorporators, N. A. Benn, J. R. Docherty, John Brier and others; assets, \$150.  
Pacific Boiler company, Portland; incorporators, H. M. Reynolds, H. K. Mead, Dan Davies; capital, \$5000.  
A permit to operate in Oregon has been issued to the A. J. Lindeman & Hoverson company of Wisconsin, capitalized at \$2,000,000. G. E. Bahr of Portland is attorney-in-fact for Oregon.

## Seamen Saved as Ship Sinks



Here is the S. S. Ignacio Florio, Italian freighter, foundering in mid-ocean as the President Harding raced to her rescue. In the tempestuous seas, a lifeboat from the American liner went to the rescue of the crew in the rigging and saved twenty-eight men.

## Better Health - Longer Life

GORGAS MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

By Dr. Alice G. Bryant (Boston, Mass.) Member Gorgas Memorial Institute.  
Heating the home is a world-wide question. It demands the attention of both city and country dwellers. The subject is as old as when man first learned to make fire. No one escapes the ill effects of unscientific heating and ventilation. This whole question is usually human. "It is not enough that houses should be built, but they should be built well as to health."  
Human indoor dwellers have a great deal to learn about heating during the winter season when closed windows are in evidence. It is not a slave to the thermometer. It does not tell the whole story. Science today links temperature control with humidity control and velocity of air current. Dust is a menace. Air-borne germs do not exist, but dust-borne germs do exist. Humidifying the air reduces the dust.  
Many of our modern dwelling-houses, more especially our city apartments, carry no higher than 20 to 30 per cent humidity, or even a lower humidity. They vie with the Sahara Desert, or even surpass it, for the Desert's humidity averages about 20 per cent.  
The humidity records for classrooms in a northern city high school building in winter were very much worse and there was no provision for humidifying the air. Result was a very bad effect on the comfort, ability for work and the behavior of the pupils.  
"Winter house-warming brings an increase in respiratory troubles, and in so-called "common colds." Physicians know that such conditions, often repeated, develop into more serious troubles and they may be a factor in producing deafness. Human beings constantly produce and give off heat. The atmosphere must not be too hot or too humid to interfere with the process. They must not serve as humidifiers.  
House contents, walls, floors, ceilings, plants and air lockers absorb large quantities of water, and moisture condenses on window panes and cold surfaces. Many revelations of air occur in a room in a day and moisture is needed. The central heating system may function with full water requirements, but failing to do so, numerous kinds of devices may be used.  
The hot-air furnace should have a water reservoir in the air jacketed dome. With hot water or steam heating systems, pans of water are often placed on the radiators and their efficiency increased with the use of electric fans. These pans of water which serve as humidifiers should have a broad surface of water exposed with a rapid renewal of air over the surface of the water. In an ordinary sized house not one or two quarts of water, but 10 to 15 or more gallons of water should be evaporated daily.  
We cannot afford to disregard the forecasting of correct air conditioning for indoor dwellers. It is a study in preventive medicine—"Better Health" movement which the Gorgas Memorial Institute knows will continue to pay you big bonuses in health.

### DUMB DORA



By Chick Young

### BRINGING UP FATHER



By George McManus

### BARNEY GOOGLE

Barney Thought He Was Cured



By Billy De Beck

### MUTT AND JEFF

Jeff Is Aggravated by An Experience in a Paris Bar

By Bud Fisher

