

**THE CORVALLIS GAZETTE**

Published Tuesdays and Fridays by GAZETTE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

The subscription price of the GAZETTE for several years has been, and remains, \$3.00 annually or 25 per cent discount if paid in advance.

**BOSSSES AND "RED TAPE."**

Too many bosses and too much "red tape!" This is a brief summing up of affairs regarding the commission selected to build the Panama canal. Every member of the commission considers himself the source from whence all knowledge emanates. There has been confusion in almost every instance where the commission undertook to do anything, and all for the lack of a practical man at the head of affairs.

Few, if any, of the commissioners were chosen originally on account of their especial fitness for the responsibilities of such a gigantic task. They originated a system of requisitions and all necessities for work and health passed from one man's hands into another's, and so on, until the man who originally made the requisition had forgotten that he had desired anything, in case that the article ultimately reached him. Should a man's life have depended upon a grain of quinine he certainly would have died for for want of it—for under the commission, that which is necessary today may be expected 90 days hence, or later.

President Roosevelt did all in his power to get the commission cut down to three men, and, from his action, it is but reasonable to presume that one man would have been preferable to him. Where there are a number of men responsible if things go wrong the responsibility cannot be fixed upon anyone, for the simple reason that the blame is shifted from one man to another. The commission has to its credit so far the reputation of having made a mess of things, and there are men to be found who are of the opinion that a part, at least, of said mess might be traced to the door of certain great transportation companies. If such were true, the President would likely be aware of it, or at least suspect it; possibly this idea might have impelled President Roosevelt to come out so strongly in favor of rate regulation of some of these railway companies; who can say?

Be all of this as it may, it is patent that affairs are in a bad way, and men who, by special training are qualified to judge clearly, are not backward in scoring the commission. A leader is necessary and there is talk of placing Major-General E. S. Otis in charge of the building of the canal. It is argued that the work which he did in the Philippines is a guarantee of his fitness for the construction of the Isthmus canal.

On the other hand, it is claimed that President Roosevelt has chosen Horace G. Burt, ex-president of the Union Pacific, to dig the canal, and that Mr. Burt has been offered a salary of \$100,000 per year to take charge of affairs.

The rank and file of the American people chafe at delays, "red tape," and a menagerie of bosses. They want things to be hustled along. Especially do the people of the West want this ditch dug quickly, as they are most interested. It is estimated that ten years will be required to put the canal from ocean to ocean, but without a change from unqualified "chuckle heads" to a man or two in charge of the work, and who are in every way capable, wide awake, full of energy and enthusiasm, and loyal to the trust bestowed upon him, or them, few of us will live to see the day that a ship passed through the Panama canal.

**ABOUT CRIPPLES.**

Begging cripples have been plentiful in this section of late.

A cripple invariably excites compassion, and in this respect it is well that the human heart should be as it is, for, to many unfortunates, the world is a hard place. Many people will contribute to a cripple who is soliciting alms when in reality they, or their families, have real need of the money given away.

In the desire to help some party in more needy circumstances than themselves many of our citizens contribute to those who travel from one section to another, and beg, professionally. If the beggars were always worthy it would not be so bad, but in case they are not deserving how is one to find it out? There are bad cripples as well as deserving ones.

If a man or woman are the victim of an accident whereby they are crippled it seems that if they were worthy they would remain where they were known and, in such event, friends would gladly care for them, or at best they could be cared for through provisions of the state for such cases. But when a cripple begins cruising about the country soliciting he may be worthy or unworthy; you have no means of knowing. Possibly he may rank with the angels, or as one man put it, he may have lost his arm or leg, as the case may be, in robbing a bank.

**HUMILIATED LONG AGO.**

There are indications that ere long Russia will sue for peace. Dispatches from various centers touch on this matter and indicate that the czar will now entertain such an idea, if "humiliation" is not entailed.

The "humiliation" of Russia! Think of it! Clearly, the czar is an imbecile. All Christendom is aware of Russia's impotence in the war Japan is waging against her. Her unfitness on land or sea, in international and internal affairs, has been so glaringly advertised during the past year that she no longer is respected as the power she was once supposed to be. And she doesn't know it—another indication of her weakness. Russia is "groggy." She need not worry about humiliation, as she is generally looked upon as belonging to bygone ages in all her practices. Humiliation! The most humiliating thing Russia has to suffer today is the fact that her people have to bow in submission to a ruler whose sanity might be questioned. And this is letting the "Little Father" off lightly.

**Goming Home.**

We are in receipt of the following from Harvey Sargent, written under date of Mar. 20:

Please change the address of the GAZETTE from Lyle, Wash., to Corvallis. I will arrive in about a week accompanied by my daughter, Miss Nora, who has been traveling as a Fraternal Insurance organizer for the past two years, but is completely tired out and is anxious to visit her childhood home for a needed rest and to visit with old friends and schoolmates. She may organize a lodge at Corvallis.

**Startling Mortality.**

Statistics show startling mortality, from appendicitis and peritonitis. To prevent and cure these awful diseases, there is just one reliable remedy, Dr King's New Life Pills. M. Flannery, of 14 Custom House Place, Chicago, says: "They have no equal for Constipation and Biliousness." 25c at Allen & Woodward, druggists.

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**Our Clubbing Lis.**

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**Notice For Publication.**

United States Land Office, Oregon City, Oregon, February 11, 1905. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the County Clerk of Benton Co., at Corvallis, Oregon, on March 28, 1905, viz:

**JOHN QUINCY RENFRO,** H. E. No. 12873 for the SW 1/4 of sec. 4, T. 11 S. R. 7 W. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Cyrus B. James, of Blodgett, Oregon; Harve Herron, of Blodgett, Oregon; William A. Gelsky, of Wren, Oregon; Alfred E. Duncan, of Summit, Oregon.

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