THE CORVALLIS GAZETTE

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A MEXICAN LESSON.

The advocates of governmental ownership of railways point to Mexico as a practical and satisfactory example of the benefits of such ownership.

They claim too much. The Mexican government does not own the railroads, nor any of them, of the country. It has a ment has long been to promote controlling interest in several of the main railways, but the remaining interest is in private low rates of transportation on hands. The control and oper- their ores, and has employed at on of these roads are thus in low and direct taxation to secure the combined interest of the the mine owner's contribution government representing the in support of the Federal and the people, and of private citizens the State administrations. Purrepresenting themselves. It was suing this policy mining, agriculheld that this arrangement ture, manufactures and other incor orate greed, give them the lowest poss ble rates for trans- ly to the benefit of the country. portation service and at the same time insure private capital a fair and equitable return on its investment.

is the basic theory of those who argue for government ownership of rate?" They are told that it in practice.

must protect the people and it tal it has invested.

own investment. has thus placed two burdens on porate greed.

Ownership, simply a controlling ownership by the governgovernmental stupidity, cupidity

andrapacity. One or more of these elements are sure to be in evidence where control rests on ownership, whether ownership is by the government or by private individuals; nor does a divided ownership either obliterate or minimize such elements.

Turn again to Mexico. The policy of the Mexican governthe mining industry in all reasonable ways. It has given miners would protect the people from dustries have been encouraged, turers, farmers and merchants stimulated and developed great-For some reason the government now requires greater revenue, and it has raised the cally destroy itself, to create a freight rate on the transporta-This is a beautiful theory. It tion of ore. Of course this is it will not do anything of the particular, and one of the best trades that

in this country. But, like the the government simply seeks to theory of free-trade and other realize a fair return on its in- ning amuck among the corporapurely academic theories, it fails vestment. When asked why rates tions and trusts. He is simply, when an attempt is made to put are not raised on other com-

The government expects to mine owners charge that because against the lawless. get, and is just as fully entitled their traffic is heaviest it is taxed, to receive, as fair and reason- and taxed with all the traffic The latest carping at the Presiable a return on its investment will bear, for some hidden reason, as the capitalist is on his. Here since for years there has been we find two considerations in- no complaint by the government boat Master for three months. fluencing the government. It of too little return on the capi-

must receive a fair return on its The situation there has caused characterize the act as illegal.

Ownership | the Mexican socialist to do what presumptive, harsh and unwarhe is little accustomed to dothegovernment when government stop and reflect. It should concontrol places but one-that of firm Americans in the view that protecting the people from cor- control, without any part in ownership, is the only practicable and safe method of protecting the people against the rapacity ment, opens wide the door to of transportation corporations.

SENSELESS CARPING.

The President is made the subject of much misrepresentation and a lot of carping, foolish criticism. Of the first is the hue raised by the monied interest that he is waging an indiscriminate war on all kinds of corporations and trusts, and would surely precipitate a disastrous panic. Wall street tried to make this assertion true, with the result that it only blistered its hands in a fire of its own kindling. Wall street might cause a bad panic, but it was never less able to do so than at present. The country is too healthfully prosperous to be frightened easily by buga-boos. Manufacwere never before so well able to move along without Wall street. It is certain Wall street would have to work hard, and practigeneral panic. For this reason kind.

Besides this the people at large know the President is not runearnestly and courageously enmodities no reply is made. The deavoring to enforce the laws

> So much for misrepresentation. dent was because he summarilly suspended the license of a steam-"Holy horrors!" the fault-

finders cried, and proceeded to

ranted. Usually the navigation laws are administered or execu ted by a cabinet officer through a bureau in his department. This cabinet officer is simply an aid to the executive and is under his direction. Certainly the principal may do whatever he may bid

for six months. What now becomes of the criticism of the President? It is seen to be senseless. The people have confidence in him, in his honesty of purpose, his courage, his independent spirit, his patriotism. He does things-does things that some of his predecessors should have done but never did. This sometimes may startle us but it should not betray us into voicing carping criticism of his acts. Let his enemies, if he have any, misrepesent him; they cannot deceive the people.

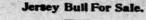
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the year.

having a will to work and excel, to learn the printing trade in the Gazette office. Proper explanation will be given on ap-

plication.



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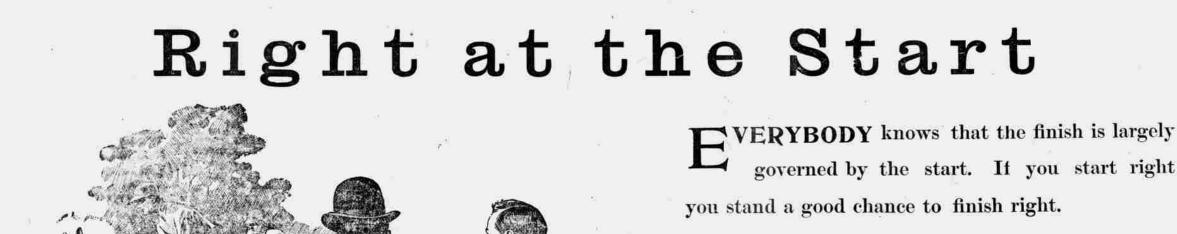
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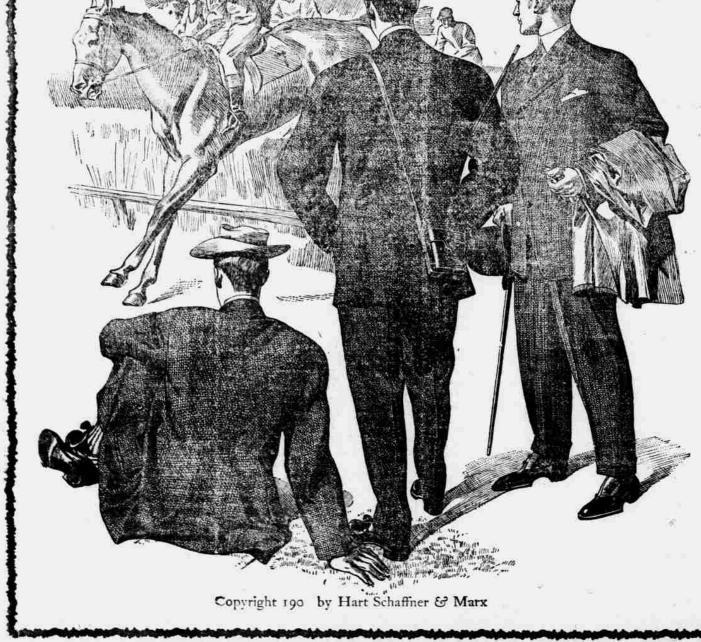
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