

THE CORVALLIS GAZETTE

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THE PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

President Roosevelt's annual message was transmitted to both houses of Congress Tuesday. It is a voluminous and exhaustive document, treating mainly of the public measures and needs which Congress has failed to provide effective laws for during all the Presidents' administration. The recommendations made by the President are numerous and, if Congress would enact legislation in accordance with the suggestions of the executive, the entire nation would be much benefitted. Among the most important recommendations are those pertaining to the national control of combinations; the supervision of all railroads by the Interstate Commerce Commission; the limit of the power of injunction and other salutary measures for the benefit of labor; the preservation of forests and all natural resources; the improvement of inland waterways; the establishment of postal savings banks and of local parcels post on rural routes; the Federal control of fisheries; the improvement of the army and navy; the granting of American citizenship to Porto Ricans; the admission of Arizona and New Mexico as separate states and many other sensible suggestions for the good of the nation. It is not at all probable that Congress will do any of the good things recommended by the President for the reason that the time will be spent in a senseless attempt to get even. More's the pity.

THE CHRISTMAS SHOPPER

The Christmas shopper—and that means everyone who has a dollar to spend in the Christmas season—is the annual recipient of abundant advice as to the advantages of early shopping. In a number of cities the promulgation of this advice has taken organized form. We have what are termed "Consumers' Leagues," originating, as we believe, in Philadelphia, the principal purpose of which seems to be to encourage and persuade the prospective buyer of Christmas gifts to buy early and avoid the rush. The advice is positively good. It appeals to the sober common sense of every person; and to accept it and act upon it is demonstrably advantageous to merchants, clerks and the purchasing public. To what extent does it become effective?

This is a question that is best answered by the individual purchaser. It is a question which the individual purchaser should

regard as concerning himself or herself. It really suggests an individual duty and service of self interest that, properly appreciated, would make the advice most effective.

The advantages of early Christmas buying to all concerned have been dwelt upon so frequently and so fully as to preclude the utterance of anything new on the subject. The better service to the buyer from the greater leisure of the seller; the avoidance of the cruel nervous strain and physical fatigue of the time-honored Christmas rush have been forcibly and convincingly presented. But all this goes for naught, unless each person who intends to buy Christmas goods shall consider the counsel as a matter of individual concern. Suppose that we should abandon the idea that the suggestion of early buying was intended for that indefinite aggregation known as the general public, and that we were to consider, each in his individual capacity, that it was meant for us; that the advantage was ours and was worth the while. What would follow? The Christmas holiday, in its practical aspects, would be rationally observed; in most appreciative manner we would do ourselves a benefit and evince our good will toward all others.

THE NEXT GOVERNOR

Prominent Men Mentioned as Candidates.

There is now considerable guessing being done by state politicians as to who will be the next candidate for Governor of Oregon. While the Secretary of State will fill out Governor Chamberlain's unexpired term, in the event of the Governor being elected to the United States Senate, still the next general election is not so far distant and fence building has already been commenced to corral the big prize.

Among the prominent Republicans who have thus far been mentioned for the office are the names of S. L. Kline, of Corvallis, president of the Oregon Retail Grocers' Association; Dr. James Withycombe, of OAC, Corvallis; ex-State Senator C. W. Hodson, president of the Portland Commercial Club; J. H. Ackerman, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; J. W. Bailey, State Food and Dairy Commissioner; Dr. Andrew C. Smith, former State Senator; Thomas Ryan, of Oregon City, and District Attorney George J. Cameron. The Democrats thus far have given preference to State Railway Commissioner Oswald West; Mayor Harry Lane, of Portland, and ex-District Attorney John Manning.

The mention of the name of

S. L. Kline for the highest office in the state is a compliment both to that gentleman and to his home city. Mr. Kline has a wide acquaintance throughout the state and his position as president of the Oregon Retail Grocers' and Merchants Association has brought him into personal contact with the leading business men of the commonwealth. Should he receive the nomination and be elected, there is no question but what he would give Oregon a conservative and business-like administration, while his loyalty to the Republican party is unquestionable.

MONEY FOR ROADS

Precincts of Benton County Raise Special Fund.

The people of Benton county are becoming more and more interested in the vital subject of good roads. This is evidenced by the fact that the various precincts in the county have voluntarily taxed their respective property owners, and raised a special fund from the levy, of \$9,929.74 for the purpose of improving the public roads.

The regular road and bridge fund of the county now amounts to \$15,137.27 and with the special levy referred to will make \$25,067.01 available for road and bridge work.

Last year the road and bridge levy was two mills, but the court this year has under consideration a levy of five mills and this, with the constantly increasing value of property in Benton county, will treble the available road fund and make possible the permanent improvement of the highways.

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Have you tasted this royal fruit? Seeing and tasting it will open your eyes—make you understand why you cannot afford not to have your orchard liberally planted with it. Send us 25 cents today to pay partial express charges and we will send a box of 3 specimens. (No charge is made for the fruit). The 25 cents we will refund on the first order of trees you send us. Write for our Stark Fruit Book which gives accurate information about all varieties worthy of planting—Apple, Peach, Pear, Apricot, Cherry, Berry, Grape, etc., etc.

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