

Polk County Observer
Published Each Tuesday and Friday
Office.....517-519 Court Street
Telephone.....Main 19

BY LEW A. CATES.

Subscription Rates.
One Year.....\$1.50
Six Months......75
Three Months......40

No subscription taken unless paid for in advance. This is imperative.

Entered as second-class matter in the Postoffice at Dallas, Oregon.

TO DEFINE MANN ACT.

An important ruling concerning the real intent of the Mann act, otherwise known as the white slave law, will soon be handed down by the federal supreme court. The particular case in question is that of F. Drew Caminetti of Sacramento, Cal., one of the principals of the famous Caminetti-Diggs case which created much discussion about two years ago.

A good deal of discussion has been carried on over this point and general public sentiment plainly favors the theory that if the so-called white slave law is to be enforced beyond the line of commercialized vice it is a mistake. This is the argument made in the present appeal and it is backed by the claim that it was never intended that this law should apply to individual conduct, where the element of commercialized vice is lacking.

If this contention is upheld by the forthcoming ruling of the supreme court it will silence the strong objections which have been raised concerning the Mann act, while a contrary ruling will undoubtedly renew criticisms of this law and encourage a demand for its repeal or modification. As applied to actual commercialized vice it is conceded this law is a commendable safeguard of public morals, but the use of the law to punish individual cases of delinquency is generally held to be a misapplication of federal authority.

FLAG DAY.

The American people will scarcely need a reminder to convince them that this is a good year to pay particular attention to the observance of Flag Day, the birthday anniversary of "Old Glory," this nation's official emblem, which anniversary occurs on Monday next.

To the American people themselves their country's emblem never seemed more glorious and beautiful than it does at the present time. It is shielding them from vicissitudes, griefs and troubles which are driving other great nations to the brink of black despair and are threatening the foundations of civilization in these less fortunate lands. Surely then, this is a time when Flag day should be widely and thoughtfully observed with appropriate ceremonies—a time when every American citizen should regard his country's flag with new affection, and dedicate himself anew to its devotion and to the protection and preservation of the righteous principles which it represents.

GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

The Washington administration is facing no end of troublesome worries these days, and not the least of these is the financial situation of the government. While general business prospects are steadily improving, the same cannot be said with respect to the financial prospects of the government itself. It is noted, for instance, that while there is a gratifying revival in home trade and industry, and a steadily mounting foreign trade balance which promises to equal a billion dollars a year while the European war lasts, government revenues have fallen

en off until it is conceded there will be a deficit of at least \$30,000,000 at the close of the present fiscal year, with nothing in sight to relieve this condition.

That the president and his cabinet are considerably concerned over this prospect is only natural. At the present time the working balance of the federal treasury is smaller than it has been since the close of the Buchanan administration, being about \$16,000,000. The income and corporation tax, according to experts, will yield only about 70 per cent of what Mr. McAdoo predicted some time ago. The special "war tax" is not returning as much as had been expected. While imports are again increasing, the percentage entered free of duty is larger and the revenue from dutiable articles is smaller than under the preceding tariff. But the expenditures keep up. During April the receipts from all sources were \$17,609,262 less than the expenditures. Compared with April of last year the expenditures increased \$4,406,487, while the revenues decreased \$2,331,765.

The fault lies with the democratic congress which refused to carry out its pledges of economy. They miscalculated the revenues and then added to their predicament by making appropriations beyond all precedent, at a time when every condition in national affairs called for retrenchment and economical conversation of the public revenues.

CONTINUES TO IMPROVE.

That the railroads of this country anticipate a general revival of trade and business is shown by the preparations that are being made to handle an increased volume of traffic. Early in the season some of the larger roads commenced to make inquiries for new equipment in considerable quantities, and since that time there has been a steady increase in the orders placed and contracts made for furnishing such supplies. During the recent month of May the total of such business averaged considerably more than a million dollars a day, which is said to be more than double the equipment ordered for the preceding four months. Not only has this proved directly stimulating to the steel, lumber and several other leading industries, but it has helped to call forth many orders for supplies from other lines of business, whose representatives have decided that if the railroads are thus confident of the future, there is no reason why they should hesitate to make similar commitments.

The business tide in this country, in fact, seems to be swelling and steadily trending toward betterment, and not even the recent uneasiness over the diplomatic situation appears to have materially changed this condition. Much, of course, will depend on how the crops progress, but reports thus far are favorable in the main and nothing short of a serious setback will shake the feeling of growing confidence. Altogether, in fact, trade and financial conditions are fast getting into satisfactory shape, with good promise that the wheels of business and industry will fairly hum before summer turns to autumn. And some of the shrewdest experts continue to tell us that this returning prosperity will last for at least a number of years, and that it will be the best and most general period of prosperity this nation has ever seen.

A GOOD ORDINANCE.

The action of the Dallas common council in making it a misdemeanor punishable by fine for youths to "attach" automobiles and coast with their bicycles is commendable. The ordinance is rigidly enforced by the police officers it will unquestionably be the means of saving life and limb, for the practice cannot continue without serious results. Scarcely a day passes that Marshal Chase does not caution boys against attaching their bicycles to rapidly moving vehicles on the public thoroughfares of the city, but without warrant of law he is powerless to stop the dangerous practice. The ordinance in question will have the approval of the council with an emergency clause, and after its adoption offenders will be placed under arrest and made to pay the penalty for its violation.

Under existing conditions there is no law covering this particular phase of "catching onto" vehicles. There is, however, an ordinance prohibiting boys from mounting moving trains within the corporation limits, but even this ordinance is frequently violated. It being impossible for the police to guard all parts of the city simultaneously, this practice is even more dangerous than the one the proposed ordinance contemplates covering, and should be discontinued by the boys themselves as a matter of self preservation.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

The argument that low duties give foreign producers the advantage in our domestic market, because of cheapened labor, has never been refuted. But the effect of the democratic free trade policy is rapidly developing a condition even more to be feared.

The Commerce Reports, and information from other sources, go to show that many Americans are finding it profitable to invest capital in foreign countries with a view to marketing their product in the United States. The erection of dried egg plants in China is an example. The establishment of purchasing and shipping agencies in Canada for cattle is another. Agricultural implements, placed on the free list by the democrats, in an attempt to fool the farmer, are being manufactured in Canada with American capital and sent across the border. The farmer is not getting his



farm machinery any cheaper. The American meat packers operating in Argentina, are finding good pickings in our market, now that meat is on the free list. Many other instances are at hand.

So we learn that free trade not only develops foreign competition but it beckons American capital to foreign climes which, under a protective tariff would find ready investment at home and give employment to American labor, which, in turn, would enhance the power of the American working man to purchase the products of the farmer.

PURCHASING SUPPLIES.

Promiscuous purchasing of supplies for the municipality will be stopped if the aldermanic body succeeds in working out a successful plan whereby all supplies may be ordered through a central purchasing agency. In the recent past it has been customary for every Tim, Dick and Harry to pledge the city's credit for whatever might be required in carrying on improvements and repairs, and oftentimes bills are presented to the council for payment without the endorsement of the person making such purchases, thus forcing delay in liquidating them until such time as an investigation can be made. The system is decidedly lax to say the least, and the contemplated plan to establish a responsible head is merely carrying into effect good business principles.

Individuals having in their employ a considerable number of workmen would not permit such a practice to obtain, and there is no good and sufficient reason why the affairs of the municipality should not be conducted along lines equally as methodical as are those of the individual. Mayor Kirkpatrick, at the session Monday night, suggested that there be a change in this particular, and the matter will doubtless be worked out in a satisfactory manner in the not very distant future.

SAN MARINO JOINS WAR.

Few people in this part of the world probably were aware of the existence of a tiny republic in northern Italy named San Marino. But San Marino has jumped into the limelight by joining the great European war and thereby gets a front page position in the newspapers of the civilized world. We are informed that this little republic although entirely surrounded by Italian territory, enjoys an independent, representative form of government; that it occupies about thirty-eight square miles, making it about the size of an ordinary American township; that it has a population of 11,000 persons, or 6,000 less than the total number of persons residing in Polk county; and that it has an "army" of nearly 1,000, which is a pretty good showing considering the size of the population to draw from, and is also suggestive of the general European tendency to maintain a military force of the largest possible dimensions in order to follow the fashion set by the leaders in this respect.

Of course San Marino has only an indirect interest in the present war. It has no quarrel with any of the belligerents, no ambition for territorial expansion or other so-called war spoils, and no old grudge to settle. But it has been crowded into the war just the same and has made formal declaration against the Austrian government, thereby yielding to pressure exerted by the Italian authorities. The latter feared that Austrian air craft might attempt to take advantage of the neutrality of San Marino, which offered a chance for hostile flyers to cross Italian territory, and a convenient resting place and opportunity to replenish supplies, and then return to their base of operations. To prevent this it was regarded as necessary for San Marino to join the actual belligerents, and this has been done with all the formality usually attending such matters.

Of course the entry of San Marino in the war is not going to prove a deciding factor, nor will it, in fact, make any appreciable difference in the progress of the struggle or its final results. It does, however, add one more name to the number of actual

belligerents, bringing this list up to twelve and leaving it for the next nation to take the proverbially unlucky number "thirteen." Yet it would appear that even this is not going to deter some nation, still neutral, from taking this chance, for several of them already are dilly dallying "on the fence" and apparently are about ready to join the fighters. But no matter what comes now the people of San Marino will feel satisfied, knowing that no one can longer put the finger of scorn at their own little government as being out of style.

It is a rather significant fact that the people of this country do not hesitate to express their fears of what might happen if congress was in session during a time of critical suspense like the present. There seems to be a universal feeling, in fact, that it is a lucky thing congress is not in session at the present time, and every time there is a hint that congress may be called in special session it is met by a round of protests from the press and the public, with the expressed hope that nothing short of a most pressing necessity will induce the president to take this step, such as, for instance, a plain menace of war with some other nation, which would require action by congress in preparation for national defense.

Ex-President Taft having taken a sarcastic fling at an unnamed jingo, it would not be surprising if ex-President Roosevelt should soon find occasion to make some new reference to mollycoddles and their failings.

It is estimated that John D. Rockefeller will pay about four per cent of the entire federal income tax collected this year. But why should he worry, so long as he has the income?

And now someone has contrived a typewriter for one-armed persons. What is really needed, however, is a typewriter that automatically will spell correctly.

It's a delight to study in a rocking chair, but it's an education to get out and mix up with the world of hard knocks.

OTHERS' OPINIONS.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST BEGS THE QUESTION.

F. Elmo Robinson, the biggest gun of the Christian Science cult, in his attempted reply to my analysis of Mrs. Eddy's mental status and of her make-believe philosophy as promulgated in her book, commits the same unpardonable blunder which Mrs. Eddy committed—unpardonable in a scientist or philosopher. This blunder is known in logic as Petitio Principii. It is popularly known as "begging the question." Mrs. Eddy denied the existence of the human soul, spirit, mind, with its powers of conception, reasoning, and judgment—and now comes F. Elmo with labored argument and reasoning in her defense. And so, like Mrs. Eddy, we find F. Elmo here appeals to his reason to prove he has no reason. When a person reasons to prove he has no reason he begs the question. F. Elmo begs the question. He should attend night school and take a few lessons in logic, before again rushing into print.

Mrs. Eddy flatly contradicted the express teachings of Genesis and the New Testament concerning the real existence of matter—so if matter does not exist there is no such thing as Genesis, or a New Testament, or a material book. Nevertheless Mrs. Eddy appealed to the material book of scripture to prove no material exists—and now comes F. Elmo serenely to her defense—and he also commits the same blunder. F. Elmo appeals to the material volume of scripture to prove no matter exists—so he begs the question.

But F. Elmo is guilty of another blunder in logic. It is known as Argumentum Ad Populum. It is one of the material fallacies in logic. He lauds Mrs. Eddy in life and death (though he does not tell us whether Mrs. Eddy is dead, or only thinks she is dead) and waxes (almost) eloquent over her unselfish efforts to elevate

humanity, etc. So he winds up his rejoinder with this kind of a peroration. This is known in logic as the irrelevant Conclusion. It has no bearing upon the point at issue, but is intended to excite admiration, and prevent dispassionate judgment. But why should F. Elmo know anything about logic—Mrs. Eddy did not. Mrs. Eddy flatly contradicted the teachings of scripture concerning the physical senses. Scripture recognizes their existence and uses. Mrs. Eddy calls them "Error." So she taught that whatever your eye, or ear, or taste, or other corporeal sense reports to your consciousness—all is false, all is "Error." And yet she every day employed her senses in the effort to prove she had no senses—and now again comes F. Elmo and with many blatherings endeavors to prove her dogma. Begging the question is chronic with F. Elmo. Here he is appealing to his senses to prove he has no senses. And is this philosophy—alienists call it lunacy.

And then F. Elmo, with a show of learning, refers to Huxley's words: "After all what do we know of this terrible matter except the name for the unknown hypothetical cause of states of our own consciousness." But F. Elmo was exceedingly unfortunate in quoting Huxley. Huxley recognized the existence of matter, but disclaimed knowing the mystery of its essence. He recognized matter as the basis of all our hypotheses. He even right here recognizes matter as the possible cause of our mental states. While Mrs. Eddy denied that soul, or life, or mind was in matter in any form or sense. She denied that soul was in a material body. Huxley was an eminent biologist and doctor of medicine. If Mrs. Eddy's dogmas are true, all that Huxley believed and taught was false. If Christian Science in its physics and metaphysics and religion is true—then we might as well close our schools and colleges, our churches, and hospitals—for Mrs. Eddy contradicted all the facts and experiences of human existence as set forth in all the physical sciences, and the Christian ethics and religion. She denied the facts of practical daily life—and yet she was compelled to exist from day to day just as though life and the world had actual reality—and here again comes F. Elmo. He boldly assures the readers of The Observer that Mrs. Eddy's dogmas are true. He assures us matter does not exist; and man is only an idea without objective existence; and all our physical senses report to human consciousness is false; and the whole physical creation is unreal. All this is his solemn denial—and at the same time he lives from day to day just as though all were real; and moreover to prove the nothingness of the universe he points to the universe—and so, again F. Elmo begs the question.—Rev. George H. Bennett.

It is evident that a change is needed in the naturalization laws of this country, or in the treaties regarding this subject between ours and foreign governments whose subjects take out their papers and become citizens of the United States. It is stated that Italy has issued orders calling all her reserves in foreign countries to the colors, and this call is said to be applicable to all the naturalized Italian citizens in this country under penalty of possible loss of property, or arrest in case a visit to the old home is ever made, if the call is not obeyed. This is not right, and as soon as this war is over steps should be taken that will secure to the naturalized citizen the same immunity from trouble or arrest as possessed by the native born. It is true that the naturalized sons of nearly all the warring nations can be found in the camps or trenches of their former countries, fighting as though they had never forsworn their allegiance, and it is equally as true that one can find native born Americans in some one or other of the armies. These men are as a rule soldiers of fortune, and their enlistment is voluntary, carrying no obligations to their government for protection. It is the mandatory call of a foreign government to the warring citizens of another, that needs attention and revision.—Roesburg News.

It is not unlikely that summer will do more to bring the war to an end than any one could. Millions of men have been slain. Many of the corpses still lie unburied. Those interred are in shallow graves. The poisonous gases generated by the decaying corpses will prove far more deadly than even the poisonous gases of the Germans. The great battlefields—running for hundreds of miles on either front, will become breeders of worse epidemics and diseases than any miasmal swamps. The hundreds of miles of trenches, containing the living and the dead, will be uninhabitable—as fatal within during the hot summer months as they were deadly without during the cold winter season.

The invaders will find the land they have won over corpses as untenable as they made it during the advance for the retreating forces. Conquering hosts will in turn be conquered by their slain victims. As is the case of every war in history, disease will, in spite of the progress of science, claim more victims than strife. As ten have been slain where one was in previous conflicts, the danger is ten-fold, for with the coming of hot weather death will begin his real harvest.—Medford Mail.

Creed to be Laid Aside.

The third annual conference of ministers of all denominations will be held during July in the new administration building of the University of Oregon. Present problems of city and rural churches will be threshed out, these problems being now common to practically all denominations in Oregon. Some of them are: Characteristics of country folk and church work; centralization of country churches, the country church and the city man; the divine element in the reorganization of the country church; religious teaching in terms of country life; interdenominational co-operation; the social survey and the country church. Courses in the University summer school, which will then be in progress, will be open to the ministers, as well as the University library with its 32,000 volumes, to private research.

FOR WOMEN ONLY
Assistance Proffered Them in Entertaining Friends and Acquaintances

Fortunate, indeed, is Dallas this season in being afforded opportunity to secure at home the highest class ice-cream bricks known to the art for either social functions or family use, and that too without having to place an order days or even hours in advance. To the woman who entertains informally, or on short notice, this will be highly appreciated, inasmuch as she may step to the telephone after having greeted her guests and have a choice brick of ice-cream carrying any design, flavor or tint delivered at her door in time to refresh her friends before their leave taking. The Simon pure article, manufactured by one thoroughly versed in the art, is the only product that leaves our place of business, and one trial is sure to bring future orders. Do not delay, but telephone us an order today. Simply designate your color scheme, and we'll do the rest, delivering to your home within one hour after hanging up the receiver.

And remember also that candies, the equal of which line cannot be found in Polk county, and at prices that approach the starvation variety, are manufactured here by an expert candy maker, who has long been engaged in its making and who is the "last word" in that profession. By patronizing our establishment you are building a fence around the home dollar, and aiding an infant industry.

F. E. KERSEY
MAIN STREET, DALLAS.

2 World-Famous Brands

Each the best of its class. 2 splendid grades at 2 different prices.

Old Master and San Marto Coffee

"The Kind With the Flavor"

DALLAS MEAT COMPANY.

BLACK'S GROCERY

We can please you if you want the best

WINDOW AND DOOR SPECIALS

WHILE THEY LAST.

Front Doors—2x10x6x10—1 1/2".....\$3.20
Front Doors—2x8x6x8.....\$3.00
Windows 2x30.....\$1.20
Odd Windows at a Special Price.

Remember that these prices are special to clean up the stock on hand. When the lines are sold the old prices will prevail. Better telephone your order now to 1243.

Dallas Planing Mill



When We Hand You Our Estimates

of the cost of the lumber you require you can depend upon it that the figures will be as low as first-class, well seasoned lumber can be sold for honestly. If you pay more you pay too much. If you pay less you get less either in quality or quantity.

Willamette Valley Lumber Co.