

TALK WITH WEEKLY GUARD SUBSCRIBERS

The publishers of the St. Louis Republic (semi-weekly) have been forced to raise the price of their paper to us (owing to the increase in the price of news paper), and we cannot afford to give it away free with the Weekly Guard. However, we will continue this offer up to October 1, 1907, at which time it will be POSITIVELY withdrawn. All who pay one year in advance up to that time (\$1.50) will receive both the Weekly Guard and Semi-Weekly Republic, but after that date the Republic will no longer be given free.

We shall continue to give the two agricultural papers, however, the Oregon Agriculturist and the American Farmer, the same as in the past.

Our subscribers well know that the Weekly Guard has been greatly improved during the past year, having been enlarged from a six-column, eight-page paper to a twelve-page, seven-column publication—almost double in size. The price of the paper has not been increased, and we feel that we are giving our subscribers the best newspaper in Oregon outside of Portland, and their patronage is proof that they also know it and are appreciative of the fact. The constant raise in the price of news paper, owing to the paper mill combine, is working a hardship on publishers, and our subscribers may help us bear the burden by prompt remittances, resting assured that they will be given just as good a paper all the time as the circulation and business justifies.

Thanking all for their liberal patronage in the past, we are determined to merit your future confidence. CHARLES H. FISHER, Publisher.

BIG CROPS ASSURE CONTINUED PROSPERITY

Supplementing the total and estimates of the government crop report, the New York Journal of Commerce has compiled special reports from 1300 correspondents in the grain belt of the nation, resulting in a showing for August that puts the laugh on all of the calamity predictions made a few months ago when seedling, cultivation and all other work of the farm was delayed by rains and unseasonably cold weather. The Journal of Commerce and the government statisticians agree that favoring August weather, such as now prevails, will bring the crop totals almost up to last year's records.

The outlook for the corn crop is particularly satisfactory. The conditions on July 1 showed that while the growing corn in the great producing belt was generally healthy, it was several weeks late. The condition reported on August 1 is sufficiently gratifying to remove all doubt as to the size of the crop for the present year. Weather conditions in July were particularly favorable for the growing crop which is now, according to reports from the fifteen corn producing states, just about normal. The Journal of Commerce predicts a corn crop of 2,700,000,000 bushels, about equal to the crop of 1905, and exceeded in the country's history only by the bumper crop of 2,927,000,000 bushels last year. The improvement in the condition of the corn is particularly noticeable in Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska, the three states that produce about one-third of the corn of the nation.

The winter wheat harvest is well advanced and in many districts finished. Threshing reports indicate results much better than were expected a month ago, both as to quantity and yield. The average yield in nine wheat states is given to 17.5 bushels, comparing with 16.7 bushels per acre last year. While there has been a slight deterioration in the condition of spring wheat, the estimates place the total wheat production of the country at 650,000,000 bushels, compared with 735,000,000 bushels last

year. This will be a loss of 85,000,000 bushels from last year, but will, at the same time, show a production equalled only five times in the country's history.

These figures correspond with the results of a canvass made among railway presidents and traffic managers of Western roads a short time ago. The consensus of opinion was that the yield would be very large and that the railways would enjoy an enormous business. It was the universal sentiment that nothing but an entirely unusual condition could prevent the harvesting of such a crop as would insure prosperity for all the grain-growing states and those producing textile materials.

Existence of such conditions should do away with all talk of recession of railway business. The roads are crowded with every other kind of freight, and if they have so much to haul from the grain fields they will make a record fully up to that of last year. All over the country there is more business offered than the roads can carry promptly, and in every section the tracks are so covered with loaded cars that movement of traffic is impeded.

Everywhere workmen are in demand at good wages, and the signs of prosperity are apparent in every nook and corner of the land. Wall street flurries no longer worry the country at large, and attract little attention from the multitude of newspaper readers, who are too busy to take more than a passing interest in the conflicts between the bulls and bears of speculation.

SUMMING UP OF RECENT RAILROAD LAWS

In the Review of Reviews for August, Robert Emmett Ireton makes an analysis of the general results of recent railroad legislation which shows that passenger fares were either actually reduced or affected in twenty-one states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. Two-cent rates now prevail in Arkansas, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin; and in Ohio, since 1906; two-and-one-half-cent rates in Alabama and North Dakota; North Carolina has established a two-and-one-quarter-cent rate; West Virginia, a two-cent rate for railroads over fifty miles in length; Iowa, a sliding scale of from two to three cents per mile; Michigan, a two, three and four-cent rate; Kansas, Maryland and Mississippi two-cent rates for mileage books; the railroad commissions of Georgia and South Dakota have been authorized to establish a two-cent and two-and-one-half-cent rate, respectively; and Oklahoma specifies in its new constitution a maximum charge of two cents for passenger fare. Virginia's Corporation Commission has adopted a two-cent rate for trunk roads, a three-cent rate for minor roads, and a three-and-one-half-cent rate on one or to lines. Kansas may adopt a flat two-cent rate on the supposition that what is remunerative in Nebraska should prove equally remunerative in Kansas. Georgia's legislature is still in session and has measures affecting railroads it will enact is yet to be determined.

Some of the state papers are just now discussing the country school teacher problem. Most of these editors, learned as they may be on other subjects, have little real knowledge of the work of the teacher and are therefore able to write voluminously, unhampered by such stubborn things as facts. The editor of the Guard taught school several years and, therefore, has less to offer of interest than these erudite theorists.

Speaking of country school teachers an exchange offers the following which is respectfully submitted as affording food for a little thought:

"Teaching a country school is looked upon by many people as a rather humble occupation to be avoided. In good times, when there is plenty of employment in other fields, it is difficult to get teachers enough of merit to supply the district school. Something in town, even though it yields smaller wages, is preferred. This idea is a mistake. Town life may afford more pleasure and more chances to spend money and to fall into evil ways, but in character building no occupation has proven more efficacious than country school teaching. The pure air and regular hours of the country give physical health and vigor as well as mental strength. More men and women of note in the United States were country school teachers in their early lives than came from any other calling."

BANK WRECKERS SHOULD BE SENT TO PRISON

Of course no panic will result from the failure of the Oregon Trust company bank in Portland. It was one of those institutions, not conducted along legitimate banking lines, organized to speculate with the savings of poor people. Its failure, sooner or later, was inevitable, and that it came as early in its career was fortunate, because it might in time have enlarged its scope of operations until many more individuals would have been fleeced of their savings when the crash did come. The cashier was a real "high flyer," and the other active officials were more interested in get rich quick speculations than in looking after the interests of their depositors, whose savings had been largely gathered up through the distribution of small patent savings banks, scattered over the city by hired canvassers.

WHY GIRLS ARE GIVEN PREFERENCE OVER BOYS

The truth is that the girls are getting the better of the boys in many lines of genteel employment. The boys may complain of this as they will, but the fact stands. The young woman in this, and many other towns after a certain hour are quite as much in evidence on their way to work as the young men; and the man at the window can see that they hold up their heads as if they were ready to meet the world and their employers. They have none of the appearance of having deprived themselves of the necessary amount of sleep, or of carrying a headache along with them. Indeed, on a frosty morning it is pleasant to see how cheeks glow. They are getting the better of the boys because they can be trusted to come to their work in good form. They may not be as strong as the boys, but they take care of their strength. They don't smoke, they don't drink, they don't loaf. Society puts up arbitrary rules for the girls, and they must abide by them or lose caste. The boys are suffered to make their own rules and take the consequences. Many a boy thinks he can be gay and deceive everybody, and he runs along until he loses his job. By that time he is apt to think that somebody has undervalued him, and to look quite past himself in an attempt to locate the guilty party. Business is all the time putting up bars against the gay young man. Positions of responsibility, positions of trust, positions requiring reliability and regularity are being closed against him. He may not see that he is bounced because he isn't honest, for he may be able to swear with clear conscience that he never took so much as a nickel in his life that did not belong to him. But he has taken time that did not belong to him. He has had to be sent for. He hasn't been faithful. He has lied as to why he was out late, and as to where he was last night. He has gone upon the theory that it was nobody's business how he occupied his time outside of business hours. Yet the growth of a bad character, if you are at all close to it, is about as obvious as the growth of a corn field. The prudent business man does not always wait until he has a case in court. He prefers to settle the little things with his employees before they have gone that far. Business is becoming more and more exacting on the point of individual character. It is looking out for integrity, and it is saying that whatever the head of the house is the salary list must be clean. This demand opens a wide door to the girls, and there is only one way in which it can be closed against them, and that is to meet the competition, and by the removal of it through consolidation.

PRESIDENT MOORE AND HIS PRIVATE FORTUNE

"If I am left alone, unhampered by this threatened arrest and prosecution, I shall be able, within the next 30 days, to realize on the bank's securities to an extent that will permit us to pay off every cent we owe our depositors. I mean every

word of this. And I will make good if it takes every farthing of my private fortune."—Statement of President Moore, of the defunct Oregon Trust & Savings Bank, to a Portland Telegram reporter.

Mr. Moore may be honest and sincere in this statement, but he wants to finish where he should have begun. He is willing to risk his "private fortune" if necessary in order to promote certain stocks and bonds. That is what he should have done in the first place if he had sufficient confidence in these securities to undertake their promotion at all. Instead of that he kept his own means tucked safely away in some bank that he had more confidence in than his own, and risked the money of workmen and women, who had been induced to trust their savings to his keeping.

SCHOOL TEACHING IN COUNTRY DISTRICTS

Some of the state papers are just now discussing the country school teacher problem. Most of these editors, learned as they may be on other subjects, have little real knowledge of the work of the teacher and are therefore able to write voluminously, unhampered by such stubborn things as facts. The editor of the Guard taught school several years and, therefore, has less to offer of interest than these erudite theorists.

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NEWSPAPERS MUST STRIKE HAPPY MEDIUM

A man, who, by the way, is a close and consistent reader of all of the newspapers that he can get an opportunity to peruse, and whose knowledge in regard to general questions and issues of the day is remarkably good for that reason, was heard to complain that the newspapers gave too much space to San Francisco, to the trial at Boise, to the war rumors and to the thousand and one other subjects that make up the news of the day. He thinks that if just about half of the space was devoted to boosting for their communities the newspapers would be the real help. Now there's a lot of truth in what he says.

Discussing a similar point of view a California exchange states that it is probable that such a man would be the first one to criticize the home papers if they took that stand; and he would probably be the first one to make invidious comparisons between the home papers and those from other cities. The issues in the graft cases are teaching great lessons to the people of the country in their settlement. The trial at Boise may be preliminary to the awakening of the people to the fact that the industrial troubles must be settled by the government and the people, and not by the parties to the troubles in a conflict which sets aside and ignores law. The governmental questions are important to people who are desirous of being good citizens.

It is possible that sometimes a little too much is published to suit certain persons on certain subjects; in other cases possibly not enough is published to satisfy them. Wise is the editor who strikes a happy medium. Each one must work according to his own lights.

But when the person referred to suggests the giving of more space to the "boosting" of this section he should consider what the people themselves are doing. Certain men have formed associations and are advertising the county. The press is doing its part. Every news item brims with advertising of the resources and opportunities. Editorial comment has been made at the risk of repetition and attracting the accusation of playing a fast. But still there are some people who think the members of the promotion and publicity committees and the newspapers should do all the work. What are these critics doing themselves?

We hear a great deal about the value of the corn, wheat and cotton crops, but there are others, the fruit crops, for instance. Take the state of California alone, where the estimated value of the orange and lemon crop this year is placed at \$30,000,000, according to the Los Angeles Times. So far this season 26,400 carloads of oranges and lemons have been marketed east of the Rocky Mountains. Of these 23,336 were oranges and 3079 lemons. Based upon the capacity of the cars compared with last season this would amount to over 28,000 carloads, for this sea-

son the cars have been packed tighter, each carrying more boxes than ever before. Approximately one-third received from Southern California fruit goes to the railroads for icing charges at the rate of about \$380 a car, or a total of about \$10,000,000. The other \$20,000,000 is divided between the growers and shippers and for charges of packing and material.

New banking institutions, new hotels, mills, schools, churches, hospitals and residences; street paving and electric railways,—and yet Eugene has just begun to grow. Her people are waking up and are determined to take advantage of their opportunities. They have taken the advice of an expert, who says: "Either run a town with a vim, or just sell out and loaf. One thing must be done—run the town for all that it is worth, get up steam and keep it up. Do you want trade? Bid for it. Do you want business to come to your town? Encourage what you have. Do you want a prosperous town? Then never permit the jealousies to rule your actions, but work together for common prosperity and mutual benefit."

Reduced to plain English the demands now being made by high financiers through that portion of the press under their control or susceptible to their influence is: Give us immunity for all past law-breaking and license to ignore laws whenever it is to our interest to do so, or we'll plunge the country into a financial and industrial panic. Meanwhile the administration stands pat on the slogan of the masses: "Lock up all convicted law-breakers."

Eugene is not going to have a building boom, but there will be a lot of building done within the next year in order to keep up with the demand for business houses and residences. Keep in mind the fact that Eugene is destined to double in population in three years or less and while building operations may have the appearance of a boom, it will in reality be only a solid, substantial growth.

That it is within the power of the magnates of high finance to throw the country into a panic may be true, more's the pity; but that they will use their power for such a purpose, rather than obey the laws, is inconceivable, not to mention the personal danger in pulling off such a stunt.

The plumbers of Goldfield, Nevada, are striking because they can't get \$9 for eight hours' work a day. This indicates that labor union tyranny is as unjust and unreasonable as capitalization tyranny when it possesses the power to enforce its demands.

The storm-stricken people of the lower Willamette valley would do well to move down to Lane county, where they will be assured that the cyclone and thunder storm will never destroy their property or endanger their lives.

While the race of mowing machines to be pulled off at the Du Page (Ill.) county fair is ostensibly for charity, it may in reality be a training stunt—the harvest team will need a lot of speed to beat out Uncle Sam.

Talk about a financial panic is arrant nonsense. With good crops, high prices and a dearth of workmen, a panic is impossible. To prepare for a panic we must have high crops and low prices for two or three years, and a throng of idle men.

Official announcement has been made that pullianism has been eradicated on the island of Leyte, one of the Philippines, and accompanying it was a naive statement that only four pullianes were now alive on the island.

Why should that Vermillion county, Illinois, man go to the expense of erecting a monument to the memory of a prize rooster, while the emblem of the democratic party remains unchanged?

Lawyer Guggenheimer, of New York, went all the way to Paris to express the fear that the Roosevelt-busters were engaged in a little job of king-making. Better come home, Guggy, and help 'em off.

While there is more or less editorial spluttering on the subject, some serious but the most of it facetious, we haven't heard of any candidate for the presidency advocating getting rid of the Philippines.

No careful reader of recent news could fail to be convinced that there is as much lying in a big strike as in a political campaign.

Even before Harriman confessed that he would like to own all the railroads in the country it was suspected that he had such hankering.

War With Japan Would Be a Crime.

By Admiral BARON YAMAMOTO of Japan.



It is now over fifty years since America first opened intercourse with Japan and introduced us to the nations of the west. We all know what we owe to the United States for the development of our industries and commerce and also for the education of a number of our countrymen. WE ALSO ESPECIALLY APPRECIATE THE SYMPATHY SHOWN US BY THE AMERICANS DURING THE LATE WAR.

Our interests, commercial and otherwise, are so INTIMATELY INTERWOVEN and the cordial relations between us of fifty years' standing are of so firm a nature that I can confidently affirm that THEY WILL NEVER BE DESTROYED by mere trifling incidents.

IT IS TRUE THAT LATELY SOME LITTLE DARK CLOUD DID APPEAR IN ONE QUARTER OF THE SKY, BUT IT IS NOTHING BUT A LOCAL SQUALL AND DOES NOT IN ANY WAY REPRESENT THE GENERAL STATE OF THE WEATHER. AND EVEN THIS SLIGHT CLOUD WILL SOON BE DISPERSED.

By General STEWART L. WOODFORD, Former Minister to Spain.

In the seventy years of my life I have seen two wars brought on by the thoughtless and ill considered action of the newspapers. THOSE WARS MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.

TODAY ALL THE INTERESTS WHICH CENTER AROUND THIS NATION—THE THOUGHTFUL BUSINESS MEN—ARE OPPOSED TO BEING AGAIN DRAGGED INTO A USELESS AND AN UNNECESSARY WAR.

War between the United States and Japan would be a crime against history. War between us and Japan would be a crime against religion, for in no place in the world is more toleration shown to religions of all kinds, and we have established our religion in the land of the mikado.

War between us and Japan would be a crime against commerce. Between us let there be rivalry, let each do his best, and may that SPIRIT OF FAIR PLAY exist which says let the best man win.

War between Japan and the United States would be against the spirit of the age.

By Viscount AOKI, Japanese Ambassador to the United States.

I have said time and again that THERE IS NO JAPANESE-AMERICAN SITUATION. There exist between the two governments no differences or ill feeling of whatever sort. All this talk of possible trouble between the two nations, so devoted to each other, is a MERE PHANTOM CREATION OF WILD IMAGINATION that ever seems to haunt the minds of irresponsible story makers and trouble hunters.

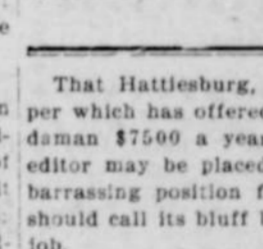
There is not the slightest cause for anxiety in the American-Japanese relations, and if there is any it is not because of the actual existence of any difficulty between the two countries, but because of the dogmatic influence of some UNWARRANTED PRESS TALK that often tends to drive even the calmest temper of the public into a whirl of tempestuous rage.

By Rear Admiral JOSEPH B. COHLAN, U. S. N., Retired.

We of this country are jealous of the friendship of Japan. We discovered it. The friendship which was framed between us even at that time, when hereditary feelings made each of us look upon the other as barbarians, has grown greater as we learned the STERLING WORTH OF THE OTHER.

Japan has even since then been ready to accept and adopt the BEST OF OUR IDEAS, and we have been and are adopting what we think are some of the best of hers. One bad one she has taken from "yellow journal" talk and "faked" interviews.

THAT THIS FRIENDSHIP, FORMED WITHOUT BLOODSHED AND SO BENEFICIAL TO BOTH COUNTRIES, MAY EVER REMAIN FAST AND FIRM IS, I AM SURE, THE PERVENT WISH OF ALL CLEAR HEADED PEOPLE OF BOTH COUNTRIES.



That Hattiesburg, Mississippi, paper which has offered Governor Vandaman \$7500 a year to become its editor may be placed in a very embarrassing position financially if he should call its bluff by accepting the job.

It's mighty lucky for those who do not want war with Japan that Senator Bob Taylor and Representative Hobson, both of whom will take their seats next December, will not be in the same branch of congress.

Eugene's banks are among the most solid in the west, probably because they are located in the most prosperous section of Oregon.

WHAT'S THE SCORE? The shades of night were falling fast When through the village streets there passed A score of people, all who asked: "What's the score?"

The night wore on, the curfew bell began to toll its hoodlum knell, Still up the street was heard a yell: "What's the score?"

Far, far from home in other climes Amid the crash of war at times 'Tis said the soldiers' voices chime: "What's the score?"

Perhaps in that far distant land, Where angels flit on every hand, We'll hear them shout to beat the band: "What's the score?"

—Exchange.

THE CROWN OF LOVE God lead your footsteps in the light, And I am happy, though there be In His good will but Stygian gloom And outer darkness left for me.

God guide you with his tender smile Life's diverse pathway gently down, And I shall not care, though the white I cover 'neath His sternest frown.

So with Love's rose-wrought coronet, Your fair white brow His hand adorns, I know no pang of old regret, But praise Him for my crown of thorns.

—Reginald Wright Coffman.

LIFE Today a bundle swathed in down, Tomorrow, boy like, tanned and brown!

Today, a lover true and bold, Tomorrow, striving hard for gold.

Today, a triumph and a name, Tomorrow, "What is wealth and fame?"

Today the last descending sun, Tomorrow? Life on earth is done.

—Byron Williams.

Simon Klov Dahl states that he has finished his six miles of location west of Eugene for the Siuslaw road, but has not heard anything more from Carver in regard to the matter of further work. He states that the distance to Blachley and that country is nearer to Eugene than to Corvallis.