

THE EUGENE WEEKLY GUARD AN INDEPENDENT PAPER

CHARLES H. FISHER, Editor and Publisher. Published every Thursday at Eugene, Oregon. Subscription price, \$1.50 per year...

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

As announced heretofore, the Guard of the first of October was compelled to withdraw the offer of the St. Louis Republic free with every cash in advance subscription...

To those who do not wish to take advantage of these clubbing offers we offer the following splendid premium to Weekly Guard subscribers: FOR ONLY TWO DOLLARS we will send the Weekly Guard one year...

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JAPANESE SITUATION AND PACIFIC FLEET

Hero Hobson, of the Spanish war, now a representative in congress from Alabama, sought and obtained a place on the house naval committee, and now he announces that he will devote every energy toward a larger navy, with a special object of securing naval bases and fortifications on the Pacific...

Though it is diplomatically denied that the movement of our fleet to the Pacific has any reference to whatever to Japan, it is known by all who have had access to administration circles at Washington that but for the uneasiness at the growing pretensions and hostility of Japan the fleet would not have been sent...

ler than now, but must be increased in power from year to year. Hitherto the army has required more money than the navy, but the two branches of the service for defense are to change places in relative cost...

GENERAL CONDITIONS UNLIKE HARD TIMES

The news of the day is full of items that contradict hard times stories, says the Eastern Oregonian. In a report from New York it is announced that the United States Steel corporation distributed \$3,000,000 to its superintendents, managers and heads of departments as Christmas presents.

From St. Louis comes the news that more than 3000 men who were thrown out of employment in that city because of the financial stringency, have been ordered back to work.

PARTY LINES WIPED OUT IN STATE AND NATION

The Oregonian has justified its declaration of political independence by asserting that there is no Republican party in Oregon, and who is there to take issue with the Portland daily on this question? Every day adds to the confusion among the warring factions of what was once a Republican party.

On the other hand, what of the Democratic party? Is there anything to it but George Chamberlain, who is the most successful "non-partisan" politician the West ever produced.

The lesson of the present political mix-up in Oregon is plain. Party lines have been wiped out and party organizations broken up because the people are at last awake to the fact that they have been whooping it up, these many years, solely to advance the interests of the politicians.

There is everywhere accumulating evidence that the courts have been and are tainted with the prevailing political corruption of the times. The decision of Oregon's supreme court on the University referendum is an decision of Oregon's supreme court and the Oregonian mentions other corrupt or perille decisions in the following fearless criticism:

WASHINGTON, REAL FATHER OF NEW NAVY

George Washington was the real father of the new navy, says Winthrop L. Marvin in the Review of Reviews. There were other patriotic advocates of a fighting fleet, but to his voice more than to that of any other did the country listen.

Inasmuch as actual delegate getting is the prime essential in securing a national convention nomination for president of the United States—for the votes are what create nominees, apart from popular or party sentiment or newspaper support—there is considerable force in the boast of the backers of Philander C. Knox, of Pennsylvania, that he is today the leading candidate for the Republican nomination because he has more "visible strength" than any other aspirant for the honor.

CORRUPT AND UNFAIR COURT DECISIONS

The conviction of Editor Putnam, of the Medford Mail, of criminal libel, was an outrage against public decency and fair play. Because he dared to denounce a grand jury and district attorney for failure to do their sworn duty, Mr. Putnam incurred the enmity of the official clique in Jackson county, and was found guilty by jurymen so hampered by the rulings of the trial judge that any other verdict was impossible.

Some few entertain the impression that because they registered two years ago that they are not required to register this year. This is an error. Under our present law the voters of this state must register every two years or be required to procure two freeholders to assist them in swearing their votes in.

It was a real treat for the people of Eugene to have the opportunity to hear Kubelick, the people of no other city in Oregon outside of Portland being given that privilege. For bringing the great artist here credit is due Professor Glen, of the U. of O. School of Music, who labored diligently to secure a good-sized audience, in the hope that it would encourage other managers to book star attractions for this city.

Michigan's constitutional convention has taken the preliminary steps toward prohibiting the manufacture and sale of cigarettes in the state, and dealers in "white coffin nails" in adjoining states are preparing to meet a heavy increase in mail orders.

fraud upon the government; the other that employes in dangerous trades can compel workmen to bear all the risks. Two of the decisions came from the supreme court of Oregon. Of these one annuls the sentence of a confessed murderer on a minute technicality of law; the other declares that a leather strap is neither a whip nor anything like a whip.

SENATOR KNOX HAS CLEAR LEAD NOW

Congress should at once start an investigation to ascertain whether the president killed the rabbit, at Pine Knot, in self-defense, or has become tainted with mollicoddilum. Why else should a mighty hunter shoot a rabbit.

Senator Taylor ("Fiddling Bob") of Tennessee, has so far recovered from his illness that he has put out a newspaper interview, just to let the folks at home know that he is in the game, even if he hasn't made a speech.

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It seems that naval "line" officers are only willing to take orders from the surgeons of the "staff" when they are flat on their backs, while the doctors want to boss all the time and Teddy is backing them. Now congress will sit in the game.

A motor that will propel a submarine a mile a minute is the latest wonder, claimed to have been invented by Hiram Maxim. However, we can't see that it will be put to any practical use, unless he can invent a crew to work it, as men will be likely to object to going at such a speed under water.

There's mighty slim chance that congress will take the president's tip and turn the job of picking out the 4000 employes needed for taking the next census over to the civil service commission. The average senator and representative feels that he needs the pie in his business.

Senator Beveridge's bill providing for a tariff commission of five, with salaries of \$5000, to assist the congressional committee in gathering data for future tariff revision, would be a good thing—for the five men who copped the jobs.

John Barrett, the gentleman who draws a fat salary for being at the head of the Bureau of Pan-American Republics, and spends most of his time in making speeches, approves of the battleship cruise. That ought to satisfy every one.

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Says the Springfield News: "One of the wisest things that Eugene has ever done is the taking up of the building and loan association. A local organization of this kind will help to build better and more substantial homes. Springfield would act wisely to follow this example."

"Necessity is the mother of invention." Georgia already has a substitute for beer on sale—"Jack Frost"—that, according to the local papers, looks like, foams like and smells like lager beer—probably our Oregon "Cincinnati" under another name.

Mrs. Jeffries, wife of the flistic champion, evidently knows her rights and gets them, even when it becomes necessary to lead "Jim" by the ear through the crowded dining room of one of "Frisco's red-light restaurants to do it.

If these evangelists continue their efforts much longer in Eugene, it may be necessary to draw on Roseburg, Salem, Albany and other wicked, unconverted towns for raw material to work upon.

Still, the financial embarrassment of a number of the country's largest diamond dealers is not calculated to worry the few who do not buy diamonds.

Bishop Paddock says God makes millionsaires. Wonder if Rockefeller and the rest of the high finance bunch will not regard that as a reflection on their financial ability?

Colonel Watterson is right. The Democratic party is full of fight, but a lot more discretion will have to be shown in directing the blows to get results.

After all, it is only because of inability to see themselves as others see them that some self-made men continually boast instead of apologizing for the job.

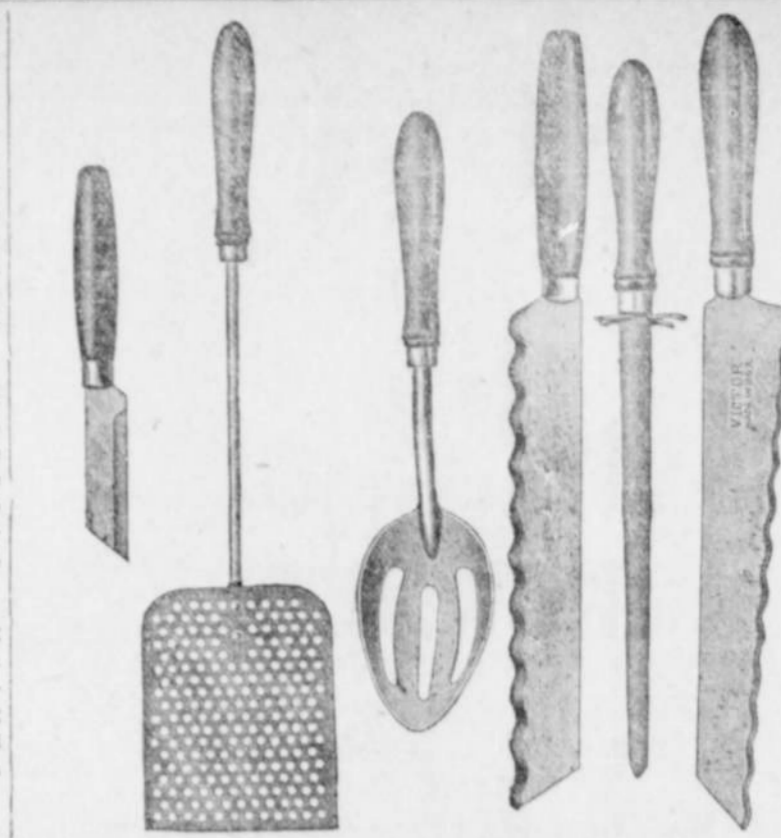
If you happen to have \$75,000,000 not working you might communicate with the government of Prussia, which is in the market for a loan of that size.

It's the fashion in these days to loudly preach against sordid money-getting; also to get all you can. This may be paradoxical, but it is also true.

Judging solely from some of the printed hysteria, it might be supposed that the use of patronage to gain support was a brand new thing in politics.

Mr. Bryan was right in saying that party lines are hanging loosely, but it's safe to say that they will be tightened up ere the dog star reigns.

Since burglars in many cities have taken to burgling in evening clothes,



Above is a picture of the kitchen set which is given away to subscribers of The Weekly Guard who pay \$2.00 a year for the paper in advance. It is a very useful present for the housekeeper.

It is difficult to tell them from the ordinary high brand financiers.

According to a physician, who may know or may only be seeking the advertising the ethics of his profession will not permit him to pay for, the grip is really a "yellow peril," having originated in China, and not in Russia.

Anyway, there's one thing that Pittsburg won't stand for. One of its police magistrates sentenced a masculine "affinity" to thirty days in the workhouse without the privilege of paying a fine and being released.

Some editors are so busy enumerating the qualifications necessary to become president of the United States that they overlook the most important of all—the ability to get the required number of votes.

Politics must surely be mixed in that neck of the woods, when General Grosvenor, former Republican congressman from Ohio, threatens to enter

ter the field as an independent candidate for congress.

What a contempt John D. Rockefeller must feel for F. Augustus Heinze, who is begging to have the measly little fine of \$20,000 imposed by the federal court, sitting at Helena, Mont. remitted.

Democrats in the New York legislature are making it plain that Governor Hughes does not stand as high with them as he did last year.

With neither free drinks nor free railroad passes, political conventions in prohibition states are liable to be dryer than ever before.

When it comes to buying gold bricks, Uncle Sam has the world beat a million or two miles, and he hasn't sworn off yet.

By this time a lot of men do not need to be reminded that the new leaf they turned over looks very much like the old one.



Urgent Need of Currency Legislation.

By Representative CHARLES N. FOWLER, Chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency.

HERE CERTAINLY SHOULD BE SOME REMEDIAL FINANCIAL LEGISLATION, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY WILL BEND THEIR ENERGIES TO THAT END. WHAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH NO MAN CAN ANSWER, BUT THAT THERE IS URGENT NEED FOR HELP NO MAN CAN DENY.

If this government continues its present policy of injecting into the arteries of trade and commerce a fixed bond secured currency—by exchanging securities, by bond speculation, by treasury manipulation, by executive order or by any other form of THIMBLERIGGING—we shall continue to move, but with greatly accelerated speed, toward a commercial crisis COMPARED WITH WHICH THE PRESENT PANIC IS ONLY A PLEASANT SUMMER OUTING.

Our recent condition has been one of REAL PROSPERITY. Our crops are worth about \$7,000,000,000, the products of our mines about \$1,400,000,000, manufactured products about \$17,000,000,000, a total of \$25,000,000,000.

Meanwhile we have had the advantage of an extraordinary consumption of foodstuffs as a result of the Russo-Japanese war, the disturbed condition of Russia has led to a reduced wheat acreage there, a food scarcity prevails abroad, and consequently we are enjoying EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH PRICES. If all this were not true, but, on the other hand, our business conditions had been bad, our crops poor and foreign prices low, IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAVE TRANSPIRED!

Notwithstanding all this and wholly because of the maladministration of our finances we are in a state of PANIC.

We have today in the banks of this country about \$12,000,000,000 of deposits and about the same amount of outstanding loans. Against this fabulous sum the banks hold as reserve about \$900,000,000, or LESS THAN 8 PER CENT. And even of this 8 per cent reserve nearly one-quarter, \$200,000,000, is in bank notes—a mere credit, a mere promise to pay.

Stating it in another way, the reserves held against \$2,500,000,000 of our bank deposits in the United States today are bank notes and not gold, which is admittedly the ONLY PROPER RESERVE in any country with a gold standard.

YET IF WE CONTINUE OUR PRESENT POLICY WHERE IS IT GOING TO END? HOW LONG WILL IT BE BEFORE ALL OF OUR BANK DEPOSITS WILL REST UPON CREDIT RESERVES? THIS IS OBVIOUSLY THE WORST AND WILDEST FORM OF INFLATION.

Yet it is rumored that sheer madness is to follow in a scheme now being wrought out to add to this already OVERWHELMING burden another load in the form of state, municipal and railroad bonds as the basis of our bank currency liability. No one who has studied this question doubts that all of our reserves, whether for deposits or any other form of bank liability, including bank notes, should be gold.