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### OUR AMERICAN CZARS

The Dearborn Independent seems to think the setting up of czars in America a doubtful experiment—and it is not alone in that opinion. That journal wants to know what has become of the old-fashioned insistence on democracy, on the right and ability of the many to govern themselves. It was not more than a few score years ago that the very terms king, emperor and czar were anathema.

And now we have Czar Landis of baseball, Czar Hays of the movies, and Czar Thomas of the theaters, and the end is not yet, continues the Independent. As far as Judge Landis is concerned, there seems to be no doubt that he czars with vengeance. There is some question whether Will H. Hays' czarism is vocal or operative, and considerable doubt whether Mr. Thomas will be able to inflict much absolutism upon the theater men. But the power of these new czars is beside the question; the point is this: the name is popular and the prerogatives of the "czar" would perform if he performed them are popular.

Real Americans are not prone to favor absolutism. They have abundant though unassuming confidence in their ability to govern themselves and conduct themselves decently while they are governing. That confidence existed in 1776. It existed even comparatively recently. But now persons living in America are submitting without protest, even eagerly, to the absolute decrees of one man.

The only explanation is that the populace has become adulterated, according to Mr. Ford's paper. Today's residents in America include the old stock who knew they could govern themselves fairly and honestly, and a newer stock that can't. The old and dominant stock has been roused as never before by the trend of affairs in this country. They have demanded reform so loudly that their representatives have been placed in charge of reform. Landis, Hays, and Thomas are of the old straight stock and they have been called in to control the movies, the theatre and baseball, three fields which a certain other stock conspicuously befoiled. It remains to be seen whether these men are reformers or "fronts." The American will submit to dictation as long as he is the dictator, but dictators for concealed groups will be found to be the last phase of those groups' will to power.

In removing the office of agents for adjustment of income tax for Oregon and Washington from Portland to Seattle, the internal revenue bureau adds one more to the series of acts by which activities of the government in these two states are concentrated in the Puget Sound metropolis. All the explanations that are offered cannot disguise the facts that the two states together are about 600 miles wide from north to south, that Portland stands about midway of that distance, that the bulk of the population is within easy distance of the line drawn from the Canadian boundary through Portland to the California line and that Portland is more accessible to the people east of the Cascades, in Washington as well as in Oregon. Hence economy and convenience are better served, both for the people and the government, by having federal offices in Portland than by having them in Seattle.—Oregonian.

It is indeed a mystery why Portland and Oregon in general are so completely ignored by the federal government. Of course, if there was a hint of anything of the kind up to the time President Wilson was in office the Oregonian simply told us that the Southerners were running the government and were putting the entire North out of business—and nearly everybody believed it, or pretended to. Charging everything that was not popular up to Woodrow Wilson saved lots of explanation—and it went over big in the Oregonian's editorial pages, being copied with approval by all the little papers of the same class to the intense satisfaction of their partisan readers. Now, however, with Harding and Coolidge on the job, when they are not golfing or taking a vacation, it is indeed, as the Oregonian admits, a mystery why Oregon and its interests are so completely ignored at Washington.

An independent candidate for public service commissioner, T. M. Kerrigan, has been placed in the field against Thomas K. Campbell, the regular republican nominee. Kerrigan also is a republican, it is understood, and was one of the members elected when Buchtel and Williams were recalled. He may be an honest and capable man but we are inclined to think the people will make a mistake if they do not elect Mr. Campbell. For a good many years he faithfully guarded the interests of the public, and it was only when Messrs. Williams and Buchtel came in, replacing Tom Campbell and Frank J. Miller, that the corporations secured control of the body. H. H. Corey, the third member of the commission, having always been ready to rule against the interests of the voters who placed him in office. Campbell, therefore, is a safe man and has had a great deal more experience than Kerrigan, who as yet is untried.

Here is one Oregon newspaper advocating a newspaper strike—and maybe it would not be such a bad idea after all. The Sheridan Sun says:

"The newspapers of the country are treading a thorny path with oasis far between, and are justified in their complaint of the continued high cost of all materials that enter into their business. For a brief spell since the war caused the price of news print to soar skyward the price declined a few cents per pound, but this week notice was issued by the mills that prices were again advanced almost to war time peak. Other grades of paper used in the job offices have also advanced to add to the burden and a strike against the use of paper seems the only alternative to combat the advance."

The cartoonist, Maurice Ketten, is taking a vacation this month and that is the reason his cartoons, "Can You Beat It?" do not appear regularly. Guard readers will be glad to know they will soon be printed in every issue again; also that the most widely popular of all the comics, "Polly and Her Pals" will be a regular feature in this paper beginning next Monday, August 28.

The red-cedar shingle industry is facing ruin again, so it is given out. No, it is not the tariff and Canadian shingles this time, but patent roofing preparations. Probably if the shingle mills combine had been more reasonable in their prices when it controlled the market it would not now be velping so loud.

That Trotsky is some tough guy. The newspapers have been unable to kill him off after several years of effort, and quite recently a would-be assassin who tried to plug him with a bullet got only his chauffeur.

If your post card don't reach you promptly, remember there are now nearly twelve hundred women postmistresses in the country, and have a little patience.

Babe Ruth has scored twenty-four home runs in spite of Czar Landis.

Think of newspapers in over-taxed Oregon advocating the ship subsidy raid on the national treasury.

The Oregonian sprung an awful surprise on its readers

Saturday. It declared, now that Oleott was the legal republican nominee, it would support his candidacy in preference to that of Mr. Pierce.

## AFTER TEN YEARS

By MARION RUBICAN

### THE FIRST EVENT

Chapter 11.  
 All sorts of things did happen to Patty, and to Millie too, and she started with the arrival of Mr. Granger-Munn.  
 "You need not meet anyone, you know," Patty said the first evening her guest was present. "I've a good excuse for you, because you are not well. I've told everyone that."  
 Munn smiled at her young hostess. Patty thought she had the most wonderful smile in the world, it illuminated her face so. She was actually about 30 years old, and since her daughter's death she had seemed so much older. But when she smiled she was transformed, she was years younger, she beamed scarcely more than 40.  
 "Why shouldn't I meet your friends?" she asked. "I should love it. I like people, as you know."

"Patty looked a little troubled."  
 "It sounds dreadful to say so," she answered. "But, do you know, I'm not sure you are my friends? Either they are different—or else I am. I was born in Wisconsin, and have ever more than 50 miles from it until mother sent me east to college. Now I've come back and these people seem like strangers. I'm trying to make their acquaintance, but over again. I'm trying to make over my ways to suit theirs—I'm afraid they'll criticize me for the differences I know exist."  
 "In Mrs. Munn's eyes there was a mixture of pity and humor as she looked at Patty."  
 "There's nothing to worry him," Patty objected. "His business always runs beautifully, he never has to bother about it. Perhaps Millie worries him."  
 Mrs. Munn's quick intelligence took in more of Millie's problems in a few days than even Millie was aware of. But she said nothing, waiting for Patty to speak. And Patty hesitated.

Meantime the local paper announced that a team of amateur tennis champions from Long Island was going to play the local champions the last week in May.  
 "It seems rather early for a tennis tournament," Patty said, reading the paper. "But quite often boys just out of college make up teams and go about best jakes and stunts and fool about. Perhaps Millie worries him."  
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"Paul Darlington!" she read. "But he's not a college boy, he's 25 at least—that is, if he's the Paul Darlington I know. He lives in the city, he's a lawyer, he's got a car, he's got a house on Long Island." She glanced over at Patty. "You'll meet him," she added. "He's very nice, I think you'll like him."  
 Tomorrow—Patty's Problems

They were in a yacht outside Newport Harbor, a storm came up and the little boat was overturned.  
 So at 20 she found herself facing the sea again, free and childless, with even greater beauty, a keener intelligence and an enormous fortune. In those days she had great gray eyes and silky hair and a skin that was cream and rose. At 30 she found the one romance of her life. She married George, Granger-Munn, and two years later, her daughter Mary was born.

Now, in her fifties, she faced the world alone, again a widow again childless. In her first sorrow she had clung to Patty, who had been her daughter's closest friend at college, and now she was beginning to feel that Patty was almost another daughter. Her hair was absolutely white now, but her eyebrows and lashes were silky and black still, and set off her fine eyes. When she laughed some faint ghost of the old rose color came back to her face again. She still and still and still she carried herself still like a girl, and these days, she dressed entirely in gray, which made her exquisite.

### DARING HIKERS SCALE LOFTY NORTH SISTER

By H. ELMER MAXEY  
 After climbing all three Sisters, the husband mountain and many smaller peaks, exploring lava fields, glaciers, meadows, lakes and forests, the Mazamas ended their twenty-ninth annual vacation in the Cascade range of east Oregon about Sunday. The two weeks outing came off without a mishap and veteran members of the famous mountaineering club declared it was the best outing yet, spent in one of the most wonderful mountain regions of the west.  
 The last official climb of the Mazamas was Friday when the two daring mountaineers scaled the lofty pinnacles of the North Sister and those who had not seen the top of the Middle Sister climbed leisurely to the top. The same route an "outlaw party" of five had climbed the North Sister on Tuesday, the official party, led by John Lee, old time mountaineer, made the successful ascent Friday. Besides Mr. Lee the party was composed of John Scott and Frank Redman of Portland, and W. K. Nevall and Elmer Maxey of Eugene. Mr. Scott, who has the reputation of being one of the strongest climbers in the country, and Mr. Maxey left the party on the great Collier glacier and set a new time record for the ascent of the North Sister. They reached the top in four hours and 15 minutes climbing time. Only 11 people had ever before climbed the North Sister until the Mazamas this year climbed the peak. The first ascent of the mountain on record was August 19, 1910, when a party led by Harley H. Prouty, whose ashes now are in a tomb on the Obelisk cliff opposite the peak, reached the top. With him were H. H. Riddle, Edgar E. Courson, J. M. Stewart, E. Louise Almy, of Portland, and Jack Benefield of Eugene. The peak was sealed again in 1910 when J. H. Weir reached the top on August 29 in 1916.

The 1916 Mazama party sent up a party of four of whom Mr. Prouty was again a member. With him were F. F. and Arthur Peterson and Thomas Jones all of Portland. The difficulty in climbing the mountain lies in the last six or eight hundred feet where a steep, slow flow, overlooking a high precipice must be crossed and then a nearly perpendicular chimney must be climbed to reach the top. Steps must be cut in the ice and a single misstep would hurl the mountaineer to his death hundreds of feet below, in a rocky cavern where his body probably could never be recovered. In crossing this ice flow great caution must be used and ropes are used. As the top of the mountain is continually shifting away there is also danger from above as rocks large and small shake loose from their moorings every few minutes and dash down the mountain to the snowfield glacier three thousand feet below. None of the 10 Mazamas who reached the top of the mountain this year have any desire to repeat the performance. All are agreed that it is the roughest mountain they ever tackled. In leaving the mountain Friday three members of the party were caught in the fog and were practically lost on the Collier glacier. They did not reach camp until nearly four hours after the two who had broken the time record arrived. Some of the struggles in the South Sister party, led by President Richard Montague, were also lost in the fog and had built a lee to spend the night on the mountain when a rescue party located them by firing off a revolver.

Tanned and rugged and in some cases sun burned from the sun's glare on the glaciers but happy the Mazamas broke camp Sunday morning and had six miles along the Skyline trail to the McKenzie Meadows where automobiles were waiting for them. They motored to Eugene where the Portland members took the evening train for their homes.  
 Ninety-eight men and women were on the twenty-ninth Mazama outing and three-fourths of them spent the entire two weeks in camp.  
 Local members of the Mazama party were Bessie Day, Harry R. Yocum, William Moll Case, Emma T. Watson, Agnes Dorothy Campbell, Nellie Holm, Elmer Maxey, Catherine R. Yocum, J. Yocum, J. E. Allison and W. K. Nevall. Inure with Henry Tromp, 21 West 5th. See Ohlsen for U. S. Tires, 71 1/2 5th.

La Grande, Aug. 21.—Hearty applause greeted the announcement at a Pierce-for-governor meeting here Saturday afternoon that a survey of eastern Oregon shows all counties in that section of the state will return a big majority for Walter M. Pierce at the November election. Four times in the past have gubernatorial candidates from eastern Oregon been nominated, only to find that the voters in their part of the state had turned their backs on the nominees. In addressing the meeting Pierce said, amid many interruptions of applause: "The sentiment is strong for tax reduction in all parts of the state. I will do all in my power to hold down expenses."  
 "I will veto every bill carrying appropriations that are unnecessary or exorbitant."  
 "Can we afford it?" will always be uppermost in my mind when considering appropriations. The burden of taxation must be lessened and redistributed."  
 Appropriations Grow.  
 Continuing he pointed out how state expenses had grown since he first entered politics.  
 "Twenty years ago, when I was first elected to the senate, expenses were about \$1,000,000," he said. "When I was again elected to the senate in 1910, this sum had grown to \$2,500,000 and now it is \$4,000,000. Deducting the gasoline and automobile taxes, the expenses are more than \$9,000,000 a year."  
 "Every unnecessary official will be eliminated," he said, "and wherever extravagance is found I will see that this condition is changed."  
 A resolution was passed by the meeting by unanimous vote, putting the members squarely behind Pierce. The resolution says, in part:  
 "We, the members of the Union County Pierce-for-governor club, view with alarm the rapid increase in the rate of taxation for state, county and municipal purposes. Already taxation has almost reached the point of confiscation, and many of our taxpayers are facing bank-

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**DR. GEO. A. SIMON**  
 916 WILLAMETTE STREET OVER LUDFORD'S STORE

ouite and Mrs. Jessie Kelly of Grove, Mrs. Mary Hart of Portland, Mrs. Lolla Stevenson of Astoria, Mrs. Gross have made her home in Grove since the death of her husband. Mrs. Kime was with her mother to the V. R. C. both of which were with the funeral which was Sunday. Mrs. Gross was a devout member of the V. R. C. and the funeral was held at the V. R. C. beside her husband.

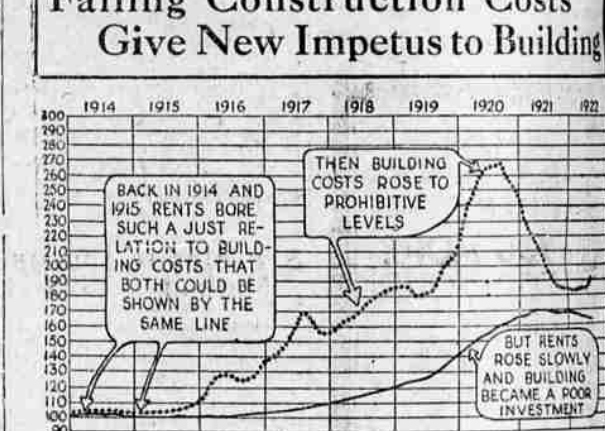
### Over Six Million Dollars Paid to Ex-Servicemen

Salem, Aug. 21.—A total of \$6,000,001 has been distributed out of the bonus fund on August 13, according to a statement prepared by Secretary Kozier today. Of this amount \$4,841,000 went to cover applications of \$1 each for cash bonus payments and \$2,305,000 went to cover applications for bonus loans. Every county in the state is represented in the distribution of bonus loans have been made. All counties of the state with the exception of Grant and Jefferson.

### Body of Mrs. Gross Buried on Sunday

Cottage Grove, Ore., Aug. 20.—Mrs. Jennie Garoutte Gross, who died at the Mercy hospital in Eugene following an operation, was buried in the cemetery here on Sunday. She was born in Ohio, November 1, 1845, she moved with her parents to Iowa where she married John B. Gross in 1875 while he was home on a furlough from the army where he was a soldier for five years, in the Iowa infantry. Eight children were born to this union, four of whom are living, Geo. and Harvey A. Gross of Bandon, Fred of Stockton, Calif., and Mrs. Kittie Kime of Cottage Grove. She leaves but one daughter, Mrs. Lucy Hoyt of California, and eight half brothers and sisters, Roy, Verne, Mark and Alex Gar-

### Falling Construction Costs Give New Impetus to Building



THE building boom that is sweeping the country follows logically in the wake of falling costs of construction. Prevailing rent rates are again bearing a just ratio to the cost of building, and the erection of new stores and residences is once more a profitable investment. These facts are clearly shown by statistical studies recently completed by a group of nationally known economists.

The chart shown above demonstrates graphically the reasons back of the \$2,000,000,000 building shortage which the country is now beginning to make up with new construction. At the end of 1914 the costs of building began to soar. Rents rose, too, but not fast enough to offer a fair return on the price of new buildings. The erection of stores and residences became a poor investment. Few persons were willing to risk their capital in ventures offering no prospect of adequate dividends. This condition continued from 1915 until almost the beginning of this year.

The "peak" of construction costs came in 1920. For purposes of comparison, the price level of 1914 is placed at "100." It will be noted that the curve in 1920 approached "270." In other words, work that had cost \$100 in 1914

### A ONE MAN FIRE DEPARTMENT



Herbert J. Hopkins, engineer of the San Francisco Fire Department has invented this new hoisting apparatus for fire ladders. The new apparatus will lift any size ladder on any size truck. The apparatus is placed on any size truck and can be put in place by one man in a well as the larger apparatus.

## PARAGRAPHS

By Robert Quillan  
 The greener the pitcher, the greater the wind-up.  
 At any rate, the railway labor board knows how an empire feels.  
 Bottles won't be the only empty things in the basement this winter.  
 This row in Kansas may indicate nothing more than a second volume of "Henry and Me."  
 The nuts protected by the tariff are not the only nuts connected with that measure.  
 It's carrying democracy a little too far when every second-rate team has a home run king.



Animal instinct seems much less wonderful when you see a dog howling about a mule's hind leg.

The industrial combatants seem determined to fight it out with this lynx if it takes all summer.

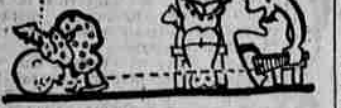
Of course nobody knows the exact location of hell, but we appear to be headed in the right direction.

In weather like this it is difficult to sympathize with the poor in Europe who have no clothes.

And so a meat diet is making the Japanese soldier taller. That's odd. It keeps us short in this country.

It is a terrible strain, this contest between miners and operators. And this one between Williams and Hornsby.

The Russians may be on short rations, but at least they are not required to listen to a saboteur while eating.



Speaking of dismal failures, there's the mother's effort to speak sweetly to an impudent child when company is present.

You never get the full meaning of efficiency until you observe a small boy placing himself around ice cream cones.

A coal shortage will work great hardship on the neighbor. He won't have any ashes to sit when our clothes are on the line.

Love is the quality that persuades a wife not to admit, even to herself, that her husband is no smarter than he ought to be.

They say our present coal supply will last four thousand years, and it appears likely that the public's patience will, also.

The reason great men were greater in the old days was because they didn't give so much anxious thought to space on the first page.

## RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason

**LIFE'S ROAD**  
 Along life's road I bear my load, which chafes my jaded shoulders; with little rest I travel west among the stumps and boulders. Sometimes I shed some tears, but by weariness I'm so tired, when the trip's a bore, my legs are sore, where country dogs have bitten. The night is dark and I must park my person in a stable, and ere I sleep I sometimes weep as fiercely as I'm able. The night is damp and I must camp where rain and thunder pound me, the night is cold and I must fold a burlap sack around me. And such is life: its storm and strife give me the penguin wiles; a thousand groans, a thousand moans where two kick round like fillies. Now comes a knave with hand made grave, he's strongly recommending; he says, "Lie here, and all your fear and grief will have an ending. This grave," says he, "I guarantee to finish all your troubles; just climb right in, and woe and sin and care will flow like bubbles." "I want no tomb," I say, "my gloom is merely grand stand playing; I'll bear my pack along the track, the sunshine on me playing. Men frown and scowl, their boot and heels denouncing life's dark journey, but they all balk when salesmen talk of lots in churchyards ferdy."

**KLAN INSURGENTS ACTIVE**  
 Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 21.—Acceptance of leadership of the insurgent forces of the Ku Klux Klan throughout the country was announced here today by G. B. Kimbro, Jr., of Houston, deposed grand golem of the invisible empire. Kimbro declared that he would fight with Edward Y. Clark, imperial wizard, pro tem, and his associates, had been removed from this office. The movement, starting in Tennessee several weeks ago spread to 25 states, Kimbro claimed.